

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

May 2016

Drowning Prevention

Throughout the summer season, many Californians enjoy activities involving swimming at a pool, river, waterpark or beach. Careful vigilance can prevent tragedy, especially drowning.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, ten people die from unintentional drownings every day. Drowning is a leading cause of injury-related deaths among children ages five and under. Additionally, children who survive a near drowning incident often suffer permanent brain damage.

Knowing how to prevent drowning is a critical step in keeping children safe and helping them live to their full potential. I urge Californians to enjoy the summer fun, but to follow safety steps, such as constant supervision of children in and around water and the protection of fences, latches, poles and personal floatation devices.

Sincerely,