



Water Safety

We live in an area surrounded by water, giving many opportunities for exciting water activities. Summer brings thoughts of sun, beaches, and relaxing with friends and family.

Help keep the waters in and around Enumclaw safe and enjoyable by enhancing your awareness of water safety and practicing several simple safety tips.

Tips to help prevent drowning:

- Lakes and rivers are particularly dangerous in May through June. Beaches do not have lifeguards yet and rivers are colder, swifter, and generally more dangerous than in the months of July and August. If you want to swim in the spring, choose a pool that has lifeguards.
- Raft only with a professional company and always wear a life vest.
- **Know the water** - Washington waters are cold enough to cause hypothermia even on the hottest summer day; hypothermia will weaken even the strongest swimmer.
- **Know your limits** - drowning often happens when a person tires while swimming not necessarily because a person does not know how to swim.
- Never dive or jump into unfamiliar water.
- **Wear a life jacket** - when swimming anywhere without lifeguards or whenever you boat, jet ski, go tubing, or other water sports. By law, children ages 12 or younger must wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket or vest on all vessels less than 19 feet.
- **Always avoid alcohol when swimming or boating.**
- Keep children within immediate reach when you are near any type of water.
- If you own a pool, be sure your family knows and observes all safety rules.