

## STRONGSVILLE FIRE and EMERGENCY

### SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

### Drowning Prevention

#### **Drowning Is a Leading Cause of Death for Children in the United States**

- Ten people die each day from unintentional drowning, and on average 2 of them are under age 14.
- Drowning is responsible for more deaths among children ages one to four than any other cause except birth defects
- Drowning is the leading cause of death in autism for children and adults.
  - Children with autism spectrum disorder are 160 times more likely to experience nonfatal and fatal drowning than their typically developing peers.
- For every child who dies from drowning, another eight receive emergency care for nonfatal submersion injuries. ([click on link for more statistics](#))
- Among those 1-14 years old, drowning is the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death behind motor vehicle crashes.
- Those 5 to 17 years old are more likely to drown in natural water, such as a pond or lake, where 87% drownings in children 1–4 happen in swimming pools.
- After pools, bathtubs are the second leading location where young children drown. However, buckets, bath seats, wells, cisterns, septic tanks, decorative ponds, and toilets are also potential drowning sources for infants and toddlers.

#### Activity safety



Never swim near a boat, marina or boat launching ramp.



Always use U.S. Coast Guard-approved life safety jackets.



Adults need to stay with children when they are around water.