

# Watch Kids

## Around Water

### Safety Tips for Day Care

#### Swimming Pools

(at and away from your child care operation)

- ◆ Above and in-ground pools must meet the same safety guidelines.
- ◆ A certified lifeguard must be on duty at all times.
- ◆ All caregivers (counted in ratios) must be able to swim and ready to rescue a child.
- ◆ Two life saving devices must be available.
- ◆ Caregivers must be able to clearly see the entire swimming area.
- ◆ The bottom of the pool must be visible at all times - no swimming in lakes, ponds, etc.
- ◆ Children must not be able to reach pool chemicals, pumps, or machinery.
- ◆ Swimming pools must be well maintained and drains covered with grates in good repair.
- ◆ You must be able to immediately shut down the pump and filtering system when a child is in the pool.
- ◆ No furniture or equipment that a child could use to scale a pool fence or release a lock.
- ◆ Pools at daycare centers and other licensed school age programs must have fences at least 6' high with self-closing, self-latching gates that are locked when not in use.
- ◆ Pools at home-based daycare must have fences at least 4' high with self-closing, self-latching gates and locked when not in use.
- ◆ Caregiver ratios for water activities are based on the youngest child in care.

#### Wading Pools (2' of water or less)

- ◆ Wading pools must be drained and sanitized daily after use.
- ◆ Wading pools must be stored so they do not hold water.
- ◆ Wading pools must be stored out of the children's reach.



[WatchKidsAroundWater.org](http://WatchKidsAroundWater.org)

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

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