

Maimonides Children's Hospital

Brooklyn's *Only* Pediatric Trauma Center

Water Safety

Swimming & Boating Safety

- "Open water" means any ocean, sea or lake. Teach children about the hazards that are different from pools, such as limited visibility, sudden drop-offs, uneven surfaces, and undertow. When swimming in these areas, choose a designated swim area with a lifeguard present and be careful to watch for boating lanes.
- Children should never swim unattended and should have an adult "Water Watcher" present at all times.
- Young children and those who cannot swim well should have an adult within arms reach.
- Swimming lessons are a fun activity that will help your child be safe in the water their whole lives, but remember, even children who do know how to swim should be supervised.
- Children should wear a properly-fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved life vest when on a boat or participating in water activities.

Home Water Safety

- Always watch children when they are in or around water. Stay within arms reach of young children.
- Keep toilet lids closed and locked, and keep bathroom and laundry room doors closed.
- Ensure that kiddie pools, buckets, and tubs are drained as soon as you are done using them. Store anything that can collect water upside down.
- Home swimming pools should have a fence that is at least 4 feet tall surrounding it with safety gates that close and latch on their own.





Learn CPR and basic water rescue skills to ensure you know how to respond in an emergency.

For Injury Prevention Information
Call 718.283.2828 or email injuryprevention@maimonidesmed.org

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718.283.7500