

Water Activities Checklist

Summertime often means fun in the sun — and in the water. If your church is planning a trip to a local pool, lake, or river, make sure that you follow these guidelines:

- o Never leave a child unsupervised around water.
- o Never allow participants to swim alone.
- o Only allow participants to swim in areas supervised by a lifeguard.
- o Participants should understand their responsibility to read and obey all signs.
- o An adult experienced in CPR should be present at all activities involving children and water.
- o Children should be tested on skill level. Inexperienced swimmers should explore no deeper than waist-deep, and non-swimmers should be required to wear personal flotation devices.
- o Stop activities at the first sign of bad weather.
- o A safety inspection should be completed before the use of watercraft.
- o Do not allow the use of personal watercraft, such as jet skis.
- o Never combine events that include alcohol and water activities.
- o Do not allow head-first diving at pools, lakes, and rivers.
- o When boating, leave an itinerary with someone at the church; include the route, expected time of travel, and mobile phone numbers.
- o Do not fish where you swim. Lost hooks can endanger swimmers.