

# Drowning – The Silent Killer

*If you're not within arms reach of your child, you've gone too far!*



## Supervision Statistics

### Do you know where your children are?

- 42% of all private pool drownings were of children between the ages of 0-12.
- 26% of all bathtub drownings were of children between the ages of 0-12.
- 51% of all drowning victims were not being supervised. Of these victims, 82% were children between the ages of 0-12.
- 30% of all victims drowned when there was a momentary absence of supervision. Of these victims, 94% were children between the ages of 0-12.

*These drowning statistics are based on Lifesaving Society research from the past ten years.*

For more information, contact:



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## Most Drownings are Preventable.

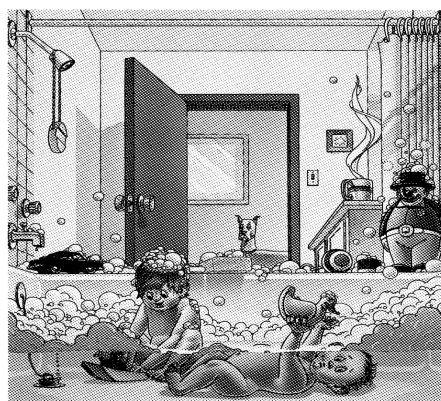
➤ Almost 500 Canadians drown each year, with children under 10 being the second leading cause of preventable death. Drownings involving children are avoidable if caregivers take precautions.

## Drowning is a silent killer and can happen in seconds.

➤ Drowning victims rarely call or wave for help because it takes everything they have just to get a breath of air. Drowning can take as little as 10 seconds and occurs in bathtubs, wading pools, wells, even buckets.

## Most toddlers drown in backyard pools.

➤ Their natural curiosity of water means children have a high risk of drowning anytime they are near water. Don't be distracted by a ringing phone, a doorbell or another child!



**BE WATER SMART**  
LIFEGUARDS CAN'T SUPERVISE  
YOUR BATH TUBS – YOU CAN!

*Never leave children alone to play around water.*

## PREVENT A DROWNING:

### Make sure everyone meets the Swim to Survive standard.

➤ Roll into deep water, Tread Water one min, and Swim 50 m.

### Designate a backyard pool lifeguard.

➤ An adult should always supervise children who are using a pool. If you must leave for even a moment, pick another adult to replace you or close the pool.

### Restrict access to water- Lock it up.

➤ Backyard pools need to be surrounded on all sides by a 1.8m tall fence, with a self-closing and self-latching locked gate. Drain bathtubs, empty unattended wading pools, AND buckets of water.

### Keep safety equipment around the pool.

➤ This includes a cordless phone, reaching pole, ring buoy or other floating objects that are easily held. Put lifejackets on children at all times!

### Be vigilant and stay tub-side.

➤ Many children who drown do so because caregivers lose sight of them, or become distracted. All it takes is "just a moment". Stay until all the water is drained and you have removed your children from the tub.