

MEETING: Drowning Prevention Coalition of Central Arizona General Membership meeting

Date: September 11, 2008, SRP Project Drive building

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDEES

Mike Tellef	No	John Harrington	Yes	Jay Arthur	No
Tim Flood	Yes	Tiffany Isaacson	Yes	Linda Kirby	No
Lori Schmidt	Yes	Lisa Kutis	No	Tracey Brown	Yes
Ed Swift	Yes	Michelle Long	No	Robin Wright	No

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

None

AGENDA	DISCUSSION & ACTION
Welcome and Introductions	Meeting began at 1:45 pm. Lori welcomed guests, thanked them for attending. All present introduced themselves.
Guest speaker - Pool and Spa Safety Act	<p>Lori introduced Mike Long, with Association of Pool and Spa Professionals, to discuss the Virginia Graehme Baker Safety act, which goes into effect 12/20/08.</p> <p>The act addresses drains in pools and spas, and requires ANSI approval of drain covers, which meet the specifications laid out in the act. The first part of the act addresses covers made for both residential and commercial use. This is the only portion of the act addressing single family residence use.</p> <p>Potential injuries include hair entrapment, limb entrapment, body suction entrapment, evisceration and disembowelment, and mechanical entrapment. (Jewelry, etc.)</p>

The second part of the act addresses public pools, meaning any pool in use for more than one residential dwellings, or is open to the public. (ex: apartment complex, HOA pool, etc.) This portion of the act requires safe covers (as described in the act) and safe drain systems.

Regarding definitions, if a pool has drains less than 36" apart, from the center of the drain, these will be considered a single main drain. Single main drains must have newly approved ANSI covers, and a "Suction Vacuum Release System." (SVRS)

Note: City of Fountain Hills requires both ANSI covers, and SVRS's in all settings, residential and commercial. County will not. This will vary by region. The Consumer Product Safety Commission enforces the act and levies the fines.

Mike recommends calling a professional pool company to inspect covers, drains, and see if the system is in compliance with the act. This adds another layer of protection, and the pool industry is actively working to ensure compliance.

In order for pool covers to comply with the ANSI regulations, the cover must:

- Be within the safe "lifetime" listed on the cover, because ultraviolet light will degrade the cover. Through testing, time standards have been established. Five to seven years is the standard.
- Date must be molded into the cover, not a sticker.
- Date must be visible when installed.
- ANSI/ASME logo, which is like a UL approval.
- Must meet rated capacity, which will vary depending on location. (Floor or wall, single or dual suction.)

APSP is providing classes on an ongoing basis to increase education about this issue and compliance with the act. Pool builders have become aware of these regulations in the last six months, so recent installations should be double checked to make sure the covers have the correct construction, and moldings. Compliance in the industry has been good.

	<p>In a residential spa setting, owners are encouraged to purchase covers that comply with ANSI regulation. In some cases, the drain will need to be modified to fit a new cover. In a commercial setting, spas are required to also have SVRS.</p> <p>Lori asked, in settings outside the US, for example Mexico, what should parents be aware of. Mike explained that the power of the pump can be so strong as to cause injury. He advised that consumers should look for more than one main drain, and properly attached and maintained covers which are separated.</p> <p>Tim advised he had a recent inquiry about incidents, and he knew of none here locally. There were incidents elsewhere, but Arizona seems to have made sound installations.</p>
NDPA update	
Website update	
Drowning trends	
Membership	
Financials	
Roundtable	
Next meeting	10/9 is the next meeting, at 11:30. This may need to be moved but we can discuss via e-mail. Tiffany will check PCH as possible location, reservation may be in place.
Adjournment	Lori adjourned at 1:10.