

Florida Swimming Pool Association 2555 Porter Lake Drive, Suite 106 Sarasota, FL 34240 Find a Florida Pool Pro

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## FSPA PROMOTES NATIONAL WATER SAFETY MONTH

(SARASOTA, Fla.) April 24, 2017 – There are more than 1.2 million pools in the state of Florida. While that access can be seen as a great luxury it also poses great risks. Florida loses more children under the age of five to drowning than any other state annually. There were 73 child fatalities in Florida due to drowning in 2016; children under the age of three represent 70% of that number.

May is National Water Safety Month. The Florida Swimming Pool Association (FSPA) is joining thousands of organizations all over the country in educating the public on swimming pool safety. Let's work together to inform and educate on water safety and prevent drowning.

FSPA wants everyone to make a SPLASH this summer:

S- Supervision. Everything can change in an instant and children should never be alone in the pool. P- Protection. Install certified safety pool covers for the when the pool isn't in use. Don't swim without safety covers on drains, suction fittings and jets. Pool fences and locks are great preventative measures. L- Lessons. You are never too old to learn how to swim and children can learn to swim as early as six months old. Swimming lessons are the only safety device that travels with your child.

A- Action. Have an emergency plan in place and respond quickly. CPR is an invaluable tool. S- Safety. Create a set of pool rules for your children and guests. Make sure your children understand the

rules and have a conversation about safety.

H- Health. Always use the restroom before getting in the pool and always remember to wear sunscreen.

FSPA urges everyone as we enter the warmer months to find swimming lessons in their local area. Organizations such as the YMCA, The Red Cross, ISR, US Swim School Association, and Swim America are just a few examples of organizations that offer lessons. Some schools even offer free lessons to families who qualify.

For more information please visit our website, <u>www.floridapoolpro.com</u>, or contact Kelsey Azadian.

The Florida Swimming Pool Association is a trade association for the pool and spa industry in Florida. There are approximately 700 member businesses in 16 chapters across the state. Members are required to abide by a code of ethics and to be properly licensed and insured. FSPA provides the industry with access to continuing education courses, information on current trends and issues, an arbitration program, and government relations representation.