Revised ADA requirements

Title III (Private Industry) – Title III prohibits disability discrimination by any place of public accommodation (commercial facilities). Examples of Title III entities include a place of recreation, a place of education, and a place of lodging. To read more about these new requirements on access to swimming pools, wading pools, and spas go to https://www.nsaa.org/nsaa/members/govt/ada/ada-pools.pdf.

Safety tip: Lightning strikes

Every year an average of 73 people are killed and over 300 are injured due to lightning. Risk of a lightning is greatest during the summer months, and if you hear thunder, you’re already within the range of a possible lightning strike.

People at greatest risk of being struck by lightning are those working outside. When you first hear thunder or see lightning you should stop your activities and seek shelter. Avoid water, high ground, open spaces, light poles, metal fences, trees, and tents. In a forested area, pick an area of dense growth and crouch down in a baseball catcher’s stance with your hands on your knees. If you are with other people, stay 15 feet apart.

A building usually offers good protection. Stay away from windows and doors. Don’t use the telephone or other electrical appliances, including the computer, as a lightning strike can conduct through these devices to the user.

An excellent shelter is a fully enclosed metal vehicle with the windows completely shut.

If you see lightning strike someone, immediately call for medical assistance. If possible, move the victim to a safe location because lightning can strike twice at the same place. Make sure the person is breathing and has a pulse. Stop any major bleeding and if the victim is not breathing, begin CPR until help arrives.

For more information, contact Helen Richards, 800-528-7730 | helen.richards@wellsfargo.com

Swimming pool safety

Swimming pools are the fastest and often the most entertaining way to beat the heat during the dog days of summer. July is a good month to remember how important safety precautions are for all swimming pools, especially those frequented by children. Several ASTM standards for swimming pool, spa, and hot tub safety have been developed in the hopes of reducing unintentional drowning and other accidents.

First is ASTM F2518, which addresses the hazard of unintentional or unsupervised entry of young children into the water of pools, spas, and hot tubs. Fences and alarms are often noted as important safety devices for pools. ASTM F1908 provides recommended minimum requirements for various types of fences for residential outdoor swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas, while ASTM F2208 covers devices that provide for rapid and automatic detection and alarm in cases of unintentional entry of a child one year of age or older into the water of swimming pools or spas. For above-ground portable pools, ASTM F2666 addresses hazards such as childhood drowning, sanitation, electrical safety, and entrapment for portable pools for residential use. While constant adult supervision remains the best way to keep children safe in swimming pools, ASTM standards are another way to promote safety and prevent accidents.