



For Immediate Release

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## County Executive Ed Romaine Reminds Parents and Guardians of Pool Safety

### *Startling rise of avoidable deaths from pool drownings*

**HAUPPAUGE, NY**— As Suffolk County sees a rise in the number of deaths from swimming pool drownings, Suffolk County Executive Ed Romaine urges parents to follow prevailing safety standards around swimming pools.

“Please take some time this season to learn about pool safety,” said Romaine. “It could mean the difference between life and death.”

According to [stopdrowningnow.com](http://stopdrowningnow.com):

- 88% of drownings occur with at least **one adult present**.
- **3,500** will die as a result of drowning this year.
- Drowning is the **#1** cause of accidental deaths for children between the ages of **1-4 years** old.

To help reduce these numbers the American Red Cross recommends:

- always keep an eye on children in the pool.
- staying within arm’s reach of younger children.
- Installing a primary barrier and/or secondary barrier to prevent entry to the pool.
- removing the ladder for an above ground pool when not in use.
- enforcing safety standards:
  - No running around the pool.
  - Only dive where appropriate.
  - Swim with a buddy.
  - Swim sober.

Suffolk County provides CPR lessons to those interested. Please contact (631) 852-5080 for more information.

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