

# Quality Care For Kids

A newsletter for Scott County Child Care Providers

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Call your Child Care Nurse Consultant if you have any questions about child health and safety, or any special training needs



## Water Safety

So far this year there has been over 150 drowning deaths of children in the United States. According to a 2015 Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) study:

- Drowning is the leading cause of death for young children ages 1-4.
- 87% of drowning accidents of children younger than five occurred at a home.

What can you do as a child care provider to prevent child drowning? Provide direct supervision when children are in or around water. Empty all buckets, bins, pails, bathtubs and water play tables immediately after each use. Remember to drain all standing water.

Always look in the pool or water first if a child is missing.

**Most young children who drowned in pools were last seen in the home and had been out of sight less than 5 minutes.**

If you have a pool or spa multiple levels of protection are needed. DHS requires that all pools must be either covered with a safety cover that meets the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specifications or be enclosed with an approved fence that is at least 4 feet high, non climbable, and flush with the ground. Fence gates should be self-closing and self-latching. Install door and window alarms.

Have a poolside phone for emergencies and have rescue equipment readily accessible. If children will be allowed to use the pool written parent permission is required. Child care staff should complete American Red Cross or American Heart Association CPR training for infants, toddlers and children.

For more information contact your local Child Care Nurse Consultant or go to

[www.poolsafely.gov](http://www.poolsafely.gov)



## BACK TO SCHOOL

It's that time again for kids to head back to school. As children are seen by their primary health care provider for well child health appointments, immunizations, screenings and dental check-ups it's important to obtain updated health documents for your child care health records. Healthy Child Care Iowa (HCCI) has downloadable forms such as the child health exam form, medication form, asthma action plan, and child injury/incident report forms. Go to [www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci) and click on "Printed Products Download". Children in your care who have special health needs should have an Individualized Health Plan (IHP). Contact your local child care nurse consultant for assistance.

In Iowa, all children enrolled in child care are required to have a "Certificate of Immunization" on file in their child care health record. If a child is exempt from immunizations, a "Certificate of Immunization Exemption-Medical" or "Certificate of Immunization Exemption-Religious" must be on file. Exemption forms have recently been updated June 2015 and are two separate documents. Previous versions of the immunization exemption form that are already on file remain valid. If you have questions or need immunization forms contact your local child care nurse consultant.