



OUTSIDE SAFETY REMINDERS

All children MUST go outside each day, weather permitting. Refer to the Wind Chill and heat Index charts in Chapter 5 for “weather permitting” recommendations.

Suggestions for working with parents who forget to bring appropriate clothing:

1. Have a second adult caregiver watch the children who will be staying indoors.
2. Inform parents that their child’s activities for the day may be restricted if they do not have appropriate clothing; boots, mittens, etc.
3. Have extra boots, coats, mittens, etc., for all ages so that all of the children will be able to go outside.

WADING POOLS, FOUNTAINS, HOT TUBS, SPAS, ETC.

Wading Pools and Swimming Pools:

There are special rules for each. Please see the separate packet included in this section.

Fountains, Hot Tubs, Spas, etc. are considered “standing water” and are **hazards**. They must be made inaccessible to children.

REMEMBER: A child can drown in as little as one inch of water.

GARAGES

If children have access to your garage, whether it is to get riding toys out or come into the house after playing outside then all toxins, tools or any other hazardous materials must be inaccessible.

FENCES AND LOCKS

May be required if you live near:

- Railroad tracks
- A busy street
- Water
- Machinery hazards

Locks will be required for water hazards, i.e., pools, hot tubs, etc. Providers should discuss their individual circumstances with their licenser to ensure that requirements are met. Check with your city/township for their specific ordinances.

WATER HAZARDS

The following are water hazards and must have a fence to prevent access or to be made inaccessible to children in some manner. Fences must be:

- 48 inches high
- Securely installed to prevent children from getting to the water hazards
- Fence gates must be locked to prevent access to the water hazard



A **lake, pond, creek, ponding basin, or standing water** within 200 feet of the edge of your property

A **decorative pond or water feature** in your yard



In an **above ground swimming pool** is a minimum of 48 inches high, and **has rigid sides that will not bend**, then it will not need a fence if the ladder is removed so that children have no access to the pool. **If the sides are less than 48 inches, a fence must be around the pool to prevent access.**



Inground pools must be fenced and gates locked.

Buckets and pails. Never use open buckets as a diaper pail or leave open buckets containing liquids where children can reach them. If bucket is outside be sure it is not stored open so that it will collect rainwater. These pose a drowning hazard.

