

# HIRING A CAREGIVER

## WATER SAFETY CHECKLIST

FOR PARENTS

Use this checklist as a guide to consider water safety when interviewing a caregiver for your children.

### SHARE HOW TO PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN

#### IN THE HOME

- Re-latch locks on all toilets to make them inaccessible to young children.
- Keep safety locks on all bathroom doors latched.
- Always remain with the child at all times while they are in the bath.
- Put all bath toys away; do not leave them near the tub or toilet.
- Drain all sinks and tubs when not in use.
- Consistently use safety locks and alarms on doors leading to outside.
- Review your displayed emergency plan and contact information (phone & address).

#### AROUND THE HOME

- Ensure all fences, gates, doors, and windows are securely latched.
- Follow all family pool/water rules.
- Demonstrate use of all provided water rescue equipment.
- Keep children away from pool and spa drains at all times.
- Put all pool toys securely away after swim time so they are not left in or near the pool area.
- Share your pool safety plan with your caregiver if you have a backyard pool.
- Share information about the water features near or around your home (water fountains, ponds, reservoirs, lakes, streams, creeks, etc.)
- If a child is missing, check all water features first.

#### OUTSIDE OF THE HOME

- Always communicate any plans for taking our child(ren) around water when leaving the home (such as water parks, other backyard pools, rivers, parks, splash pads, fountains, community pools, and recreation centers).
- Use the provided appropriately fitted life jackets (USCG approved) for boating or any activity around natural bodies of water (i.e., fishing on docks or piers, etc.).
- Seek locations where lifeguards are present.
- Ensure you follow all 5 Layers of Protection.
- Review their certification in CPR with rescue breaths and how to call 911.

Discuss and follow all 5 Layers of Protection. Visit [NPDA.org/layers](https://www.npdpa.org/layers) for additional information.



# WATER SAFETY CONTRACT

WELCOME TO OUR HOME!

In our house, we prioritize drowning prevention methods to keep us safe from aquatic injuries. In the US alone, drowning is the single leading cause of death of children ages 1-4. This is why we are adamant about water safety precautions.

## WATER SAFETY PLEDGE

### CAREGIVER

- I have visited <https://ndpa.org/layers>, watched the video, and learned about ALL 5 Layers of Protection.
- I have been given instructions on each of the 5 Layers of Protection and how they apply in this home.
- I am aware of the importance of water safety and promise to make it my top priority during swim and non-swim times.
- I am aware of all exterior water features near or around the home (like pools, spas, fountains, ponds, creeks, rivers, reservoirs, lakes, oceans, etc.).
- I know and understand the water competency levels of each child in the household.
- I will remain distraction-free and actively supervise at all times while children are in or around water.
- I understand that Supervision around water is Close, Constant, & Capable.
- I am certified in first aid and CPR with rescue breaths.
- I have added the address to my phone in case of emergencies.
- For toddlers and young children, I understand that most drownings take place during non-swim times when children aren't expected to be near water.
- I will check the pool fence, gate, and door locks before and after swim times.
- I will put all pool toys away in designated areas after we are done with pool time.
- I understand the risks and precautions in this home and am prepared in case of an emergency.
- I will not take the child(ren) to any activity involving water without the express permission of the parent/ guardian.
- I have discussed and understand the following water safety plan and rules with the family:

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Caregiver Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

