



Whereas, Exercising water safety measures can prevent drownings and water-related injuries and ensure that fun does not unnecessarily turn into tragedy; and

Whereas, Individuals who plan to be near any water source - particularly near pools, rivers, and the ocean - are urged to exercise water safety measures recommended by the American Red Cross, the Journal of the American Medical Association, and the American Medical Association; and

Whereas, The recommended water safety measures include, but are not limited to, taking a boating course to learn about navigation rules, emergency procedures and the effects of wind, water conditions and weather, developing a float plan so that anytime you go out in a boat you would give a responsible person details about where you will be and how long you will be gone, learning how to swim if you intend to play or work around water, wearing a properly fitted Coast Guard-approved life jacket when boating and fishing, never mixing alcohol and swimming since alcohol impairs your judgment, balance, and coordination, affects your swimming and diving skills, and reduces your body's ability to stay warm, always practicing the "buddy system" and never swimming alone, swimming only in supervised areas, always obeying all rules and posted signs and entering feet first into water if you do not know the depth, paying attention to local weather conditions and forecasts and stop swimming and boating at the first indication of bad weather since water conducts electricity, not taking chances by over estimating your swimming skills, swimming only in designated swimming areas, never leaving a child unobserved around water including bathtubs and sinks, and knowing how to prevent, recognize, and respond to emergencies; and

Whereas, The Council of the City of New York believes that the month of June 2003, and the month of June of every year thereafter, should be designated as Water Safety Month to serve as a reminder of the vital importance of water safety as we approach warm weather months; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York recognizes the month of June 2003, and the month of June of every year thereafter, as Water Safety Month in the City of New York and urge all New Yorkers and visitors, who plan to be near any water source, to apply water safety measures to prevent drownings and water-related injuries.

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