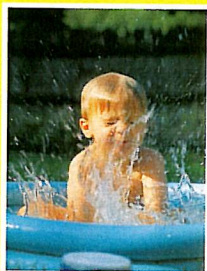




# Splash!

A quick swim can hit the spot on a hot summer day. As backyard pools increase in popularity, please take some time out to think about pool safety.



1. Contact your local municipality to ensure that you meet all by-laws before installing and filling a pool. In many municipalities, inflatable pools are covered by the same bylaws as in-ground and above-ground pools.

2. Build a fence surrounding all pools, including inflatable pools, with a self-closing and self-latching gate. Make sure other accesses to the pool, such as patio doors, are locked.

3. Use a solid safety pool cover or a pool alarm as added protection. Kids can be adventurous!

4. Do not use solar pool covers to prevent children from falling into pools.

5. Remove or lock steps or ladders leading to above-ground pools when the pool is no longer in use.

# Darling News

Darling Insurance Realty Ltd.

SUMMER 2007

## Trampolines

Jumping on a trampoline is fun and exhilarating. It also offers good exercise and best of all, it doesn't look like it involves a lot of skill! Unfortunately, fun can occasionally result in injury. The vast majority of trampoline related injuries occur between the ages of 5-14 and most are caused by inappropriate or unsupervised use. The main causes of injury are: colliding with another jumper, landing improperly while jumping or doing stunts, falling or jumping off the trampoline. **What can you do to prevent injuries? Here are some easy steps to follow:**

- ◆ Set rules. Explain the rules to everyone who come to jump on the trampoline, and allow only one person at a time on the trampoline.
- ◆ Always supervise children while they jump on the trampoline. Make sure fences and doors that lead to the yard and trampoline are locked. This may help prevent children from jumping on the trampoline when you are not there to supervise.
- ◆ Do not allow children to do somersaults on the trampoline. This could lead to head or neck injury. Tell them to try to stay in the center of the trampoline when jumping.
- ◆ Put a safety net around the trampoline. This may help to prevent falls, but do not depend on it to prevent accidents.
- ◆ Use a safety pad. Make sure that the springs, hooks, and frame are covered by a cushioned safety pad. Inspect the cover often to make sure no rips or metal parts are showing. Also check often for broken parts and disconnected hooks.

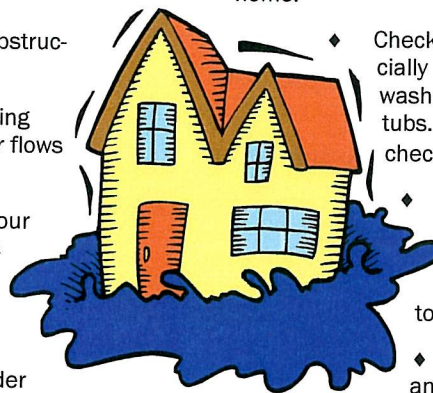
Source: Gore Vision April 2007

## Water Damage Prevention

Here are some tips on preventing water damage in your home:

- ◆ Keep floor drains clear of obstruction.
- ◆ Ensure there is proper grading around your home, so that water flows away from the building.
- ◆ Replace worn shingles on your roof, and be sure eaves troughs and downspouts are securely installed and directing water away from the building.
- ◆ Install a sump pump; consider a battery operated back-up sump pump and install an alarm on the sump pump to warn of failure.

- ◆ Install a backflow valve in drains and sewage connections to prevent water from entering your home.



- ◆ Check water hoses regularly, especially connections to dishwashers, washing machines and laundry tubs. Watch for signs of wear and check for tight connections.
- ◆ When leaving a building for periods of more than three days, shut the water off or arrange for a reliable person to check your home daily.
- ◆ Store important documents and irreplaceable personal objects, (such as photographs), where they will not get damaged.



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## Identity Theft

Every year, thousands of people are victims of identity theft. While recent developments in telecommunications and computer processing make it easier for companies and consumers to reach each other, they can also scatter your personal information more widely, making life easier for criminals.

Identity theft is the unauthorized collection and use of your personal information, usually for criminal purposes.

Your name, date of birth, address, credit card, Social Insurance Number and other personal identification numbers can be used to open credit card and bank accounts, redirect mail, establish cellular phone service, rent vehicles, equipment, or accommodation, and even secure employment.

### How to Protect Yourself:

- ◆ Minimize the risk. Be careful about sharing personal information.
- ◆ When you are asked to provide personal information, ask how it will be used, why it is needed, who will be sharing it and how it will be safeguarded.
- ◆ Some insurance companies now offer Identity Theft Endorsements to help offset expenses associated with identity theft. Call us!

◆ Be careful what you throw out. Burn or shred personal financial information such as statements, credit card offers, receipts, insurance forms, etc.

◆ Notify creditors immediately if your identification or credit cards are lost or stolen.

### Useful Contacts:

Equifax: (877)323-2598 [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

TransUnion: (877)525-3823 [www.tuc.ca](http://www.tuc.ca)

PhoneBusters: [www.phonebusters.com](http://www.phonebusters.com)

**E-mail your Account Representative by using the following format for our staff's e-mail addresses:  
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