

Water Watcher Card

Copy this page, *cut out the water watcher card*, laminate with contact paper, attach to lanyard or shoestring. **Take to the pool, river, lake, beach, and anywhere where kids are in or near water.**

What is the Water Watcher Card?

Waterloo Fire Rescue endorses the use of the **Water Watcher Card**. The **Water Safety Campaign** was **created by** Safe KIDS Worldwide in 2007 in response to accidental deaths of children by drowning. As pools open their doors around the country this Memorial Day, Safe Kids Worldwide is offering a tool to help parents keep kids safe in and around water this summer.

Drowning deaths among children ages 14 and under increase 89 percent in the summer over the average annual monthly rate, with 64 percent of all children's drowning deaths occurring in the summer months.

The Water Watcher Card is designed to be passed between adults taking turns acting as the Designated Watcher of children in and around water.

Here is how it works:

- The Water Watcher Card is free and simple to use. Active supervision requires that the adult responsible for children not be engaged in any other poolside activities, including talking and reading.
- In set intervals, 15 minutes at a time is a good starting point, the person holding the Water Watcher Card becomes the “designated watcher” and must keep his or her eyes on the children.
- After 15 minutes the card is passed to another adult, who then becomes the “designated watcher.”

