

The Pools Will Open May 22nd

Both of the Longwood Pools will open on May 22nd. They will be open weekends through June 3rd, and both pools will also be open on May 31st—Memorial Day. The Pool Hours and the Pool Rules are included in this Cardinal and may be found on the website.

Greater Houston Pool Management, Inc., (GHPMI), will manage our pools again this year. GHPMI offer a variety of programs at the pools. For a detailed list of these programs please visit GHPMI at www.takeaswimlesson.com for classes, and www.haveapoolparty.com for pool parties. Additionally, GHPMI may be reached at 713-771-7665 or visit them online at www.greaterhoustonpool.com. The Pool Committee welcomes your comments and concerns and can be reached by calling Carolyn Gandy at 281-373-9781.

Let's start the swim season off on a positive note by providing some valuable safety reminders from GHPMI. ***It is very important to remember that ultimately you, as the parent/guardian, are the first line of defense for a safe trip to the swimming pool. It is imperative that your non-swimming or newly swimming children are always within an arms length of a parent/guardian.*** With your support, we are confident that the 2010 swim season will be a safe and positive experience for all.

- Parents must closely supervise their children at all times. Remember, it only takes seconds for a child to drown.
- No diving is allowed. Nearly 90 percent of all spinal injuries occur in the shallow end of the pool.
- Breath holding games can be very dangerous and may cause cardiac arrhythmia or seizures. Games like who can hold their breath the longest and swimming the longest distance underwater should be avoided at all times.
- Don't allow children to play with or around the main drain. The main drain suction can be very powerful and has been known to cause severe injuries and in some cases death.
- The safety of a child in the baby pool and the spray park is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. The lifeguards will always enforce the pool rules throughout the facility, but children who cannot swim must have an adult within arms reach at all times. The same rule applies even if the child is wearing a floatation device.
- Define a safe zone for your children where they can always touch the bottom. One of the most common saves a lifeguard must make is when a swimmer strays to an area that is too deep for them to stand.
- Access rules to the facility will be strongly enforced and are the responsibility of each member to understand and follow. It is a very awkward and uncomfortable situation for everyone when a lifeguard must ask a member to go back home to get the appropriate slide card. If you do not have a slide card, the Amenity Registration and Indemnification Form and instructions are included in this Cardinal.
- Remember that there are several different types of people who like to use the pool throughout the summer. Both young and old, everyone wants to have a good time.
- If you should ever have a question about the pool rules, ask a lifeguard or manager. It is better to be safe than sorry!
- Help educate your community members and their guests on water safety. A team approach towards safety will offer a safer swimming environment.