

Civil Air Patrol

Performing Missions For America



101 Critical Days of Summer

**U.S. AIR FORCE
AUXILIARY**

*Col Lyle Letteer
CAP National Safety Officer*



101 Critical Days of Summer



- ◆ Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend
 - ◆ “Critical” because many lose their lives
 - ◆ More activities mean more risk
 - ◆ More risk means more injuries
 - ◆ Safety = Planning with knowledge of the past and making choices that prevent mishaps
 - ◆ Some risk is necessary for a meaningful life
 - ◆ Must weigh benefits and costs of each risk

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Vehicle Safety



- ◆ As a result of 6,000,000 car accidents in the US each year
 - ◆ 3,000,000 will be injured
 - ◆ 42,000 will be killed
 - ◆ The leading cause of fatal mishaps during this period
- ◆ Contributing factors include: Fatigue, alcohol, drugs, speeding & not using seatbelts
- ◆ Survival plan:
 - ◆ Insist on seat belt use
 - ◆ Don't drive impaired
 - ◆ Plan your trip
 - ◆ Inspect your vehicle
 - ◆ Don't speed (or go too slow)
 - ◆ Don't tailgate



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Water Safety



- ◆ Each year in the US,
 - ◆ 3,500 drown
 - ◆ 4,500 injured while boating
 - ◆ 700 killed while boating
- ◆ PFDs could reduce fatalities 90%
- ◆ Contributing factors include: alcohol, lack of PFDs, horseplay, and underwater obstructions
- ◆ Survival plan:
 - ◆ Use a “designated Captain”
 - ◆ Don’t overload the boat
 - ◆ PFDs on weak swimmers
 - ◆ Explore water/feet first
 - ◆ Keep throwable PFD nearby
 - ◆ Use the engine kill switch



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Weather



- ◆ Weather Dangers

- ◆ All Thunderstorms are dangerous
- ◆ Lightning kills more people each year than tornadoes
- ◆ Hailstones can fall at speeds in excess of 100 mph
- ◆ Stay inside when storms are approaching
- ◆ Listen for information on Watches and Warnings



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Summary



- ◆ The goal is *FUN* this summer!
- ◆ When someone is injured - it stops being fun!
- ◆ Make your own luck by managing risks
- ◆ Have fun by being careful out there!



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