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Make sure your Swimming Pool and Spas are Safe

With the weather warming up, now is a great time to check that your home swimming pool or spa is compliant before the holiday season starts.

"Many residents across the Shire have swimming pools and spas in their backyards and it is important that owners take responsibility to ensure that their families and friends are safe when cooling off," said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor Councillor Ambrose Doolan. "Residents should know that faulty pool latches and propped open gates are the primary risk factors in serious incidents at home pools, so now is the time to double check your barriers are safe."

"This is a reminder that unfortunately accidents and tragedies do occur and we all need to play a part in minimising this risk. Let's be proactive before the summer weather hits and check the compliance of your own backyard swimming pool," said Cr Doolan.

Private swimming pools or spas are required to have safety barriers around them and ensure that children are supervised. Barriers are needed for in-ground swimming pools, aboveground swimming pools, indoor swimming pools, portable or inflatable pools and spas.

To help residents comply the NSW Government has a number of <u>Self-Assessment</u> <u>Checklists</u> available on the NSW Swimming Pool Register to ensure that your pools Child Restrain Barrier do meet requirements.

"Community members can follow a simple check list to ensure the safety of family and friend would like all of our community members to stay safe, so please do the right thing and ensure you check to make sure your swimming pool is safe," concluded Cr Doolan.

For more information on swimming pool compliance and for self-assessment checklists, visit www.swimmingpoolregister.nsw.gov.au.

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