



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 23-015

**RECOGNIZING MAY 2023 AS NATIONAL WATER SAFETY MONTH
IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Snohomish County is home to many rivers, lakes, and streams in addition to Puget Sound; and

WHEREAS, residents and visitors to Snohomish County utilize these waters for recreational purposes, especially in the heat of summer; and

WHEREAS, while water recreation is a great pastime, water, especially moving water, is inherently dangerous with risk of drowning; and

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), drowning is the leading cause of death for children ages 1 through 4 years old and is the second leading cause of death for children ages 5 through 14 years old; and

WHEREAS, National Water Safety Month is recognized each year in May to highlight the importance of safety when in or around water; and

WHEREAS, locally, YMCA of Snohomish County recognizes National Water Safety Month by prioritizing education and equipping the community so that everyone can be safe in and around water; and

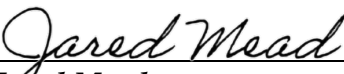
WHEREAS, YMCA of Snohomish County is hosting the following events and programs to promote water safety:

- May 6 - First-ever Operation Swim event in partnership with the Coast Guard Auxiliary and local fire departments in recognition of National Water Safety Day. This free community event will focus on water safety education, including boater safety, proper sizing and wearing of lifejackets, outdoor swim safety, and more. Participants will receive one-hour of education and then the pool will be available for open swim.*
- In 2022, they served 16,035 children in group swim lessons. In 2023, they're projected to serve over 24,000 kids.*
- The YMCA of Snohomish County sponsors the "Make a Splash" program, a free program for 3rd graders to learn how to swim. This program serves all 3rd graders in the Stanwood School District and four elementary schools (with plans to expand to a 5th school) in the Everett School District.*

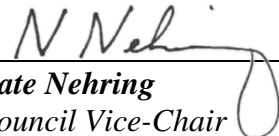
- Every year in June, all six Snohomish County locations offer Safety Around Water, a two-week program for children to learn essential water safety skills. Safety Around Water is open to all kids ages 3-12 and free for children on free and reduced lunch or qualify for YMCA financial assistance.
- In partnership with Everett Public Schools, Seattle Children's North Clinic, and Puget Sound Taxpayers Accountability Account (PSTAA) grant program, the Everett Family YMCA is providing free swim lessons to Madison Elementary Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) students, filling an identified need to support water safety for local students and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize May 2023 as National Water Safety Month in Snohomish County. All residents and visitors of Snohomish County are encouraged to practice water safety when recreating in or around water and families are encouraged to participate in water safety classes and swim lessons for youth to be best prepared for water recreation this summer.

APPROVED this 3rd day of May, 2023.




Jared Mead
Council Chair



Nate Nehring
Council Vice-Chair




Sam Low
Councilmember



Megan Dunn
Councilmember



Strom Peterson
Councilmember

ATTEST: 

Elena Lao, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Council