



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**  
**Building and Energy**

Dear building industry stakeholders

## New flyers for owners and occupiers of properties with swimming pools

Building and Energy has produced flyers to educate and alert owners and occupiers of properties that have swimming pools.

***Do not pin the gate open*** emphasizes the importance of not propping the pool gate open. It also reminds the reader of the responsibility of pool owners and occupiers in keeping their pool barrier well maintained, and ensuring the gate is always self-closing and self-latching.



In the report *A 10 year analysis of drowning in toddlers aged 0-4 years in Western Australia*, the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia (RLSSWA) identified that the most common access point used by a young child to gain unsupervised access into a pool area was the gate. Further, the Ombudsman WA also found that the gate is the primary area of non-compliance.

**Local governments may want to consider distributing [this flyer](#) as part of their pool inspection program or include it with their annual rates notices.**

***Danger – Swimming pool under construction*** highlights the importance of ensuring safety around the pool while it is under construction. It encourages the property owner to think about the safety of young children and to discuss this with their pool builder.

The RLSSWA found that in the period between 2001 & 2018, over 13 percent of toddlers who fatally drowned in a home swimming pool, died in a pool that was either under construction or that had a short-term safety barrier.

**Permit authorities may want to consider including [this flyer](#) with swimming pool building permit correspondence sent to property owners.**