

**P**eople drive cars even though there are accidents every day. You simply take precautions and wear your seatbelt. The same goes for home pools. With proper safety measures in place, you and your family can enjoy endless hours of safe pool fun. Much attention has been devoted to the dangers of suction drain entrapment since the passage of the federal Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act in 2007. The dangers of entrapment are significant, and anti-entrapment drain covers should be in place, but drowning presents an even greater risk as the second leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 5 in the U.S. Statistics from both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Consumer Product Safety Commission show that hospital treatment for near-drowning is required for thousands of children each year. With the right steps, drowning is preventable. Parents watch their children, especially during the toddler stages -- but it's impossible to watch them every second of every day, and a couple of seconds is all it takes for toddlers to come into harm's way. There are times when a parent is distracted by cooking, doing laundry, checking email, taking a shower or other routine activities such as answering the phone or front door. Ultimately, kids are drawn to water like a magnet. It's vital to have layers of protection in place between your home and pool. Studies in areas where isolation fencing is mandatory, such as Western Australia,

have proven that isolation fencing saves lives. Isolation fencing separates the pool from the home, either surrounding the pool or enclosing all doors leading from the home, to protect children who get out the door from moving beyond the patio. For above-

# Pool Safety Measures Ensure Safe Summer Fun

ground pools, a smaller fence and gate surrounding the steps or ladder can prevent toddler access. When a child gains unauthorized access to a pool and drowns or suffers permanent injury, it's a terrible tragedy. It can also be a liability issue when the injured party is a visitor. You can improve the safety and security of your pool or spa with isolation fencing with self-closing, self-latching gate hardware by D&D Technologies.

"D&D's MagnaLatch is the No. 1 selling child safety gate latch in the world," says D&D Technologies' Senior Vice President Jim Paterson. "Unlike common gravity latches, MagnaLatch has a built-in key lock, eliminating the need for a separate padlock. It won't jam, is self-latching and vertically and horizontally adjustable. Our gate hardware is formed of super-



Without a fence around the pool, a child can slip into the water and drown without a sound.

► Please turn to page 14

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

## One Stop Shopping for Your Backyard Oasis

Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Aquatics, Pond Fish, Gardening Tools, Gifts and Flower Arrangements

Join Our T-Shirt Club! and Save 15% when you wear it into our nursery!!

Making appointments for landscape consultations.



Amherst Garden Center & Flower Shop, Inc.

John Cochran, Owner

305 Route 101, Amherst, New Hampshire 03031  
603.673.3008 • 603.673.6224 fax  
www.amherstgardencenter.com

Open Daily



We've Teamed Up with Amherst Earth Products to Serve You Better!

## Amherst Earth Products

Quality Earth and Landscape Materials at Wholesale Prices to the General Public

- Hemlock \* Hemlock Blend \* Double Dark Pine Blend Bark Mulches \* Sifted Top Soil
- Composted Garden Soil \* Driveway Stone
- All Types of Stone & Fill \* Driveway Binder
- Natural Round Stone \* Compost

We've Teamed Up with Amherst Garden Center & Flower Shop to Serve You Better!

VISA MasterCard 15 Old Nashua Road 672-0050 Amherst, NH DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

### "Your Brick Walkway and Patio Specialists"



- Brick walkways & patios
- Granite steps
- Irrigation systems
- Retaining wall systems

23 Years of Beautifying Yards in the Souhegan Valley

Customer Pick-up or Delivery Available

**LaPLANTE**  
TRUCKING & LANDSCAPE  
SINCE 1978

Bobcat Rentals  
4hrs. w/  
operator  
\$250

15 Old Nashua Road 672-0057 Amherst, NH