

# ***Civil Air Patrol***

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*Performing Missions For America*



**101  
Critical  
Days of  
Summer**

**U.S. AIR FORCE  
AUXILIARY**

*John Tilton  
CAP Safety Officer*

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# 101 Critical Days of Summer



- ◆ Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend
  - ◆ 25 May (4pm) through 4 Sep (7am)
  - ◆ “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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