

Free Swimming Lessons for 200 Children

Together the Water Safety Council of Fresno County and the City of Fresno Parks, Recreation & Community Services Aquatics Program provided free swimming lessons for children who may not otherwise have been able to afford them.

This summer a total of two hundred swimming lessons were offered at five sites. The project was made possible by a \$2,000 donation from the Water Safety Council. This is the third successful year of this effort. To extend the reach of the program, the City of Fresno offered lessons at a reduced cost (from \$20 per child to \$10) which doubled participation to 200 children.

Why Swimming Lessons Are Important

The National Safety Council reports that drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury and death of children ages 1-14 years. Near-drowning injuries, chiefly brain damage, can be devastating to children who survive being submerged in water. Swimming lessons for children dramatically reduce the likelihood of drowning.

Businesses, individuals and community groups are invited to participate in the 2008 summer swim lessons

scholarship program. Call the District at (559) 456-3292 if you are interested in becoming a sponsor.

The Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District is a founding member of Water Safety Council, which has been educating adults and children about water safety since 1982. Outreach efforts include an elementary school curriculum, free water safety presentations for child-care providers and parents, and swim lesson scholarships for children.

Visit www.watersafe.org to learn more about the Water Safety Council of Fresno County.

Kids enjoying supervised recreation swim at the City of Fresno's Frank H. Ball Community Center, one of five sites



Photo courtesy of the City of Fresno

where free swim lessons were offered this summer.

Emergency Communications Get a Boost



The District Board authorized the installation of three data communication antennas on the District's 170-foot radio tower. The installation project was part of the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). UASI is administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and uses federal funds to reduce area vulnerability by