

DC Water Safety Day

Deanwood Community Center

May 21, 2011

DC Parks and Recreation and Potomac Valley Swimming Presents its 2nd Annual Water Safety Day Celebration at Deanwood Community Center

Washington, DC– Mark your calendars! DC Parks and Recreation is teaming up with Potomac Valley Swimming and USA Swimming to present its 2nd Water Safety Day at the Deanwood Community Center located between 49th and Quarles Streets, NE DC across from the Deanwood Metro Station. This is a partnership between DC Parks and Recreation, Navy Seals and Potomac Valley Swimming. The event will be held on Saturday, May 21st from 1-4pm. This event is free and open to the public.

The Water Safety Day program will feature a **FREE Navy SEALs Mental Toughness and Fitness Challenge** presented by Voices Media Group for young adults and fun-filled water and non-water activities for both the experienced and non-experienced swimmer. The event will have hands on activity event stations, set up where families can enjoy and learn about fun water related activities, basic swimming skills, the importance of water safety equipment use and boating. Additionally, along with stations in water, the Water Safety Day Celebration will include several educational booths and entertainment geared toward educating the public about how to be more water-conscious. All activities are designed for various ages of different swimming skill levels.

This event is aimed to address for the needed of educational programs to reduce the amount drowning in the community. A recent Red Cross survey shows that almost half the adults surveyed on water safety say they've had an experience where they nearly drowned. It is important to learn the basics of water safety, good swimming techniques, and how to use water safety equipment properly. Nearly six out of 10 African American and Hispanic/Latino children are unable to swim, nearly twice as many as their Caucasian counterparts. This study was conducted by the Make a Splash anti-drowning initiative by the University of Memphis.

For additional information, to reserve a booth to market swim related products or become a sponsor of The Water Safety Day Celebration, please contact Miriam Lynch at 703.409.9962 or via email at miriamlynch@yahoo.com