

PARKS & RECREATION: MAKING SWIMMING SAFE & FUN FOR ALL

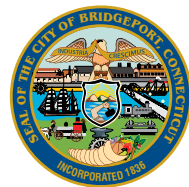
The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act authorizes the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to manage the Pool Safely National Public Education Campaign and the Pool Safely Grant Program, which aims to help prevent the drowning and drain entrapments of children in pools and spas. It provides state and local governments, such as park and recreation agencies, with assistance to implement enforcement and education programs.





The City of Bridgeport, CT received a Pool Safety grant to create a city-wide water safety awareness program and to provide:

- 1) **Trainings** through the Bridgeport Health Department to over 50 enforcement officials from Bridgeport and the region to ensure safety of public pools and compliance with state regulations;
- 2) **Swimming lessons** and **first responder safety demonstrations** to over 130 Bridgeport children ages 5 to 12 and their families; and
- 3) **Safety lessons** through a week-long water safety camp focused on classroom activities, water swimming instruction and first responder interaction – the ABC and Ds of water safety – adult supervision, barriers around water, water safety classes and drain safety.



In an effort to support local programs, such as the City of Bridgeport's Water Safety Awareness Program, that are empowering youth and preventing the incidence of drownings,

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) asks Congress to:

- Provide **\$5 million in FY19 appropriations** for the CPSC's Pool Safety grant program
- Allow national youth-serving provider organizations, with significant presence in all 50 states, to assist in the dissemination of grant funds to local communities, establish a set a national best practice standards, and develop a national water safety plan.

Questions? Email NRPA's Senior Government Affairs Manager, Kate Clabaugh (kclabaugh@nrpa.org)