



News Release

GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WESTCHESTER COUNTY EMPHASIZES SAFETY FOR JULY FOURTH WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS

(White Plains, NY) – In the bright sun next to the Saxon Woods Pool, Westchester County Executive George Latimer, along with Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler, Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Commissioner Kathy O'Connor, and Public Safety Lt. Charles Geraci, gathered to share top tips for celebrating the Fourth of July and the summer season safely.

WATCH THE NEWS CONFERENCE HERE:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qLVtXx9nADU>

Latimer said: "We want you to have fun, but be safe. Summer in Westchester County is a time to enjoy the beautiful parks, vibrant communities and exciting events we have to offer. Listen to the professionals when it comes to sun and water safety, also make good choices when it comes to driving and boating. We can have a fun and safe summer together."

Jenkins said: "Our goal is for Westchester residents to have a holiday weekend filled with joy, fun, and unforgettable moments for all the right reasons."

Amler said: "Staying safe this summer means taking extra precautions, whether you're enjoying the water, spending time in the sun or preparing food. Remember to swim only in designated areas, keep a close eye on

children, apply sunscreen regularly, stay hydrated and follow proper food safety practices. Let's make health and safety a priority so everyone can enjoy a fantastic summer season.”

O’Connor said: “By keeping safeguards in mind, everyone can enjoy a fun and safe Fourth of July and summer. Westchester County parks truly come alive during the summer, offering a perfect backdrop for family picnics, hiking adventures and water fun. Our parks are an ideal destination for everyone looking to enjoy the great outdoors, and we invite you to explore and experience them safely this season.”

This July 4th weekend, Westchester County Police will conduct increased DWI enforcement on the roadways to keep motorists safe. In addition, the Department’s Marine Unit will increase its patrols on the Hudson River and Long Island Sound due to an anticipated increase in recreational boating traffic.

Cooking Tips

- For a safe cookout, hot dogs and chicken should be cooked to an internal temperature of 165 degrees, ground beef to 160 degrees and pork to 150 degrees.
- Barbecue can be checked with an NSF certified thermometer.
- Salads that contain mayonnaise or eggs, such as macaroni, potato salad and coleslaw should be kept on ice in a cooler until it’s time to eat.

Sun Tips

- Use sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or more, reapply it every two hours and after swimming, and apply repellents to avoid mosquito bites.
- Drink plenty of water and take breaks in the shade to avoid heat exhaustion.
- Wear a hat and sunglasses and avoid the midday sun.

Water Safety Tips

- When outdoor plans include a pool, beach or lake, it is especially important to designate an adult to watch over the children.
- Always stay within arm’s reach of infants or toddlers in or near the water.
- Floats, inner tubes, water wings and pool noodles are no substitute for adult supervision.

Amler said: “Lifeguards are there to watch the water, but drowning can happen in seconds, so adults must always be on the lookout for the safety of their children.”

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