

Tips for Recognizing Person Drowning

Did you Know?

Person swimming does NOT appear to be in distress!

Fact: Person cannot wave

Fact: Person (physically)
cannot call out for help

Fact: Person cannot answer
"Are you alright?"



Signs of a person drowning while swimming:

Head low in the water, mouth at water level

Head tilted back with mouth open - appears to alternate between sinking below and reappearing above the surface

Eyes glassy and empty, unable to focus

Eyes closed

Hair over forehead or eyes

Not using legs - upright (vertical) in water

Hyperventilating or gasping

Trying to swim in a particular direction but not making headway

Trying to roll over on the back

Appear to be climbing an invisible ladder with extended arms vertical
(involuntary reaction - see picture)

Tips for Rescuing Person in Water

(thrashing and yelling for help)

If in a boat or onshore:

Use rope that floats and life jackets to create life line by tying a life jacket to rope and tossing

If a person is in the water and the boat is out of control save the person and let the boat either flip or run aground

If rescuing from a boat, turn off boat motor before bringing distressed person to side of boat



**And parents - children playing in the water
make noise. When they get quiet,
get to them and find out why.**