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# RISKAlert

May 2017

## Safety Tips for Inflatable Play Equipment



The use of inflatable play equipment (air-filled structures designed to be jumped on, such as "moon bounce" or "spacewalk" equipment) increases at this time for end of the year events and during the summer when camps are operating. It is a good time to review some of the safety best practices regarding inflatable equipment.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (USCPC) reports that between 2003 and 2013 there were an estimated **113,272 emergency room-treated injuries** and **12 deaths** associated with the use of inflatable equipment. Sixty one-percent of the injuries occurred to the 5-14 year-old age group. Most injuries occurred away from the injured person's home.

### **The following safety guidelines will help to ensure a safe event.**

The most important safety factor when dealing with inflatables is the WIND. Check with the rental firm providing the device for the maximum safe wind speed for safe operation of the inflatable device. Inflatables should come with a label containing safety information about set-up and assembly. Many manufacturers have a maximum rating of 15 miles per hour (MPH). Wind speeds above this rating require use of the device to be discontinued. As a point of reference - when tree tops begin to sway - wind speeds are around 15 mph. On humid days, thunderstorms with wind gusts can "pop up" quickly - be alert for changing weather conditions and respond appropriately.

[Click Here For a Full List of Safety Tips](#)

**Have a Safe and Happy Summer!**

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