

County of Tioga  
EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Almost 1,000 children die each year from unintentional drownings; and

WHEREAS: More drowning deaths occur in open bodies of water like lakes, ponds, rivers and oceans, than in swimming pools each year; and

WHEREAS: 14 – 18 year olds account for half of all drowning deaths for those 18 years old and under; and

WHEREAS: Males under 18 account for 80% of open water fatalities in children; and

WHEREAS: For every one drowning death for those under 14, there are five emergency department visits for nonfatal drownings; and

WHEREAS: Hidden hazards of open water include dangerous currents, sudden drop-offs, limited visibility, and unknown depths of water; and

WHEREAS: Most importantly these deaths are preventable. Tioga County Public Health asks that adults watch kids while they are in or around water, teach kids how to swim in open bodies of water, and use life jackets appropriate for a child's weight and water activity; therefore

The TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, County of Tioga, does hereby proclaim the month of July as:

**DROWNING PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH**

And urges all residents to use extra caution while enjoying water activities this summer.

DATED: July 10, 2018

  
MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR  
TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

