



*Office of the Mayor*

# **P** r o c l a m a t i o n

---

**WHEREAS, Deer Park has an abundance of bayous, wetlands and parks; and**

**WHEREAS, Deer Park residents enjoy boating, swimming and leisure time at our City/County's pools and open bodies of water; and**

**WHEREAS, Deer Park residents tend to be at higher risk of drowning when water recreation opportunities are plentiful; and**

**WHEREAS, the number of drowning fatalities in Houston/Harris County continues to be a concern every year (20 in 2010, 12 in 2011, 14 in 2012, 15 in 2013 and 10 in 2014) highlighting the fact that water safety education needs to be consistently marketed. Drowning is the leading cause of injury death among children 1-4, the second leading cause of unintentional injury death in ages 1-24, and third leading cause for ages 1-64; and**

**WHEREAS, these tragedies result in emergency room care costs ranging from \$5,000—\$40,000, long term care costs averaging \$120,000 a year and lifetime care costs up to \$5 million; and**

**WHEREAS, investing in drowning prevention saves lives and eradicates acute health care costs for near-drowning victims; and**

**WHEREAS, residents and their communities are encouraged to take greater responsibility in drowning prevention by advocating safe water practices, implementing preventative measures, and choosing to use Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices; and**

**WHEREAS, most drowning fatalities are preventable, and all the Deer Park drowning prevention & water safety awareness agencies/groups, through community awareness and education, are committed to changing residents' behaviors and risk factors associated with drowning fatalities.**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the City of Deer Park City Council that April is recognized as**

**“April Pools Water Safety Awareness Month”**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Deer Park to be affixed hereto this second day of March, Two Thousand and Fifteen, A.D.**

**Jerry L. Mouton Jr., Mayor  
City of Deer Park, Texas**