5 Things to know

About Healthy Swimming in Montana

1

200 ill People

Hazards are in the water.

Protozoans like Cryptosporidium and Giardia can be found in natural water or get introduced by an ill swimmer. In 2016, nearly **200 ill people** were infected in Montana.

Drowning can occur around water.

2

14 Drowning Deaths

Montanans get sick and injured.

In 2015, **43%** of those infected with Cryptosporidium and **59%** of those infected with Giardia reported recreational water use prior illness. Nearly 70% of them had contact to natural waters, like lakes and rivers and 23% swam in pool or hut tubs. More than **28%** of the illnsesses occured in July.

In 2015, **14** people died due to drowning in Montana, most of those occurred in natural water.

3

Challenges.

Protozoans can form cysts which can be resistant to chlorine and and may remain infective for **2-6 months** in a moist environment.

Improperly secured or operated pools can lead to accidents.

4

788 Pool & Spa Inspections

Inspections.

In 2016, **788** pools and spas were inspected in Montana by environmental health specialists to make sure the chemical levels are appropriate and physical barriers exist to make sure the pools are safe to use.

5

Swim smart!

Only swim when you are healthy, so others don't get sick and shower before entering the pool.

Supervise young children around water at all times.

Montana Infectious Disease System 2015, Montana Vital Statistics Unit: Deaths records 2015, Pool Inspection Records 2016

MONTANA DPHHS
Healthy People. Healthy Communities.
Department of Public Health & Human Services