



FAMILY SAFETY & THE LAW



June is National Great Outdoors Month: Are You Prepared?

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There are many ways to spend family time outside. Trips to amusement or water parks and camping can be wonderful adventures! But bringing children to crowded public venues or remote locations also poses unique safety challenges. According to Safe Kids USA, nearly 8,000 children under the age of 14 seek emergency room treatment each year for injuries involving thrill rides. In honor of National Great Outdoors Month, this column provides suggestions for keeping kids safe so you can all enjoy yourselves!

Water/Amusement Parks

- Point park employees out to kids so they know who to go to for help.
- Bring current photos of kids in case you're separated.
- Read and follow the rules of the rides — they exist for a reason.
- Teach kids to stay seated and keep their limbs inside the car at all times. Fasten any safety bars and belts.
- Tie back long hair, avoid long


necklaces, purses with long straps, and anything that could be caught in equipment.

- Don't put a tired or crying child on a ride. When kids are stressed, so are parents...and that's when accidents happen.

Camping/Wilderness Trips

- Don't go alone.
- Tell someone your plans: where you're going, who you're going with and when you plan to return. If you change your plans, let someone know.
- Learn basic first aid. Bring a first aid kit with you and include a whistle.

If you follow the rules and use common sense you're doing your part. Likewise, it's the responsibility of park management to ensure that rides and grounds are properly maintained for the safety of the community. If you believe an injury was sustained because of a violation, call us immediately.

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Commit to Quit: Don't Text and Drive

Andrew Finkelstein is Managing Partner of Finkelstein & Partners Personal Injury Attorneys. The firm has a "Commit to Quit Don't Text and Drive" program and encourages you and your teen driver to take the pledge not to text and drive.

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