



PRESS RELEASE

12th June 2014

Friday the 13th Full Moon Warning HOT WEATHER MOOD MASKS THE DANGERS OF DROWNING

Hot weather often lulls people into a false sense of security that will place lives at risk this weekend at beaches, rivers and lakes. Knowing the dangers will reduce the chance of drowning tragedies that average five per fortnight.

Rip-Currents – the tidal influence of a full moon on Friday 13th June will cause stronger than normal rip currents this weekend. It will be the first outdoor swim of the year for many people unaware of the dangers of swimming in open water. To escape a rip current, never swim against this narrow current of water flowing away from a beach. Instead, swim parallel to shore, out of the narrow current, then swim back to shore at an angle.

Lifeguards – swim at the lifeguarded waterways listed at www.iws.ie.

Lifejackets – When boating, wear a correctly fitting Lifejacket with a crotch strap.

Stranding – the tidal influence of a full moon on Friday will expose greater areas of beach, increasing the risk that walkers will be stranded by a fast incoming tide.

Supervision - Children are curious about water therefore it is critical that adults supervise children at all times.

Don't Delay - Call 112 and ask for Coast Guard.

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