
BY JUNE 5... THE FOLLOWING NEW VIDEO CLIPS WILL BE POSTED ONLINE AT THE NOAA RIP CURRENT WEB SITE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:  

HTTP://WWW.RIPCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV

...NEW FOOTAGE OF RIP CURRENTS...PROVIDING PERSPECTIVES FROM THE BEACH AND FROM ABOVE THE BEACH...INCLUDING A DEMONSTRATION OF HOW AN INDIVIDUAL CAN ESCAPE THE CURRENT AND SAFELY RETURN TO SHORE.

...A WAVE BASIN DEMONSTRATION OF RIP CURRENTS.

...NEW ANIMATION DEPICTING RIP CURRENTS AND HOW TO SAFELY ESCAPE THEM.

...NEW INTERVIEWS WITH A NWS METEOROLOGIST AND A COASTAL SCIENTIST.

ACCORDING TO IAN CROCKER... FOUR TIME OLYMPIC MEDALIST FOR THE U.S. SWIMMING TEAM...A RIP CURRENT IS ONE COMPETITOR ALL SWIMMERS SHOULD AVOID CHALLENGING. FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE SEASON... IAN IS SUPPORTING NOAA/S/ PUBLIC EDUCATION EFFORTS. HIS RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT IS ALSO POSTED ON THE NOAA RIP CURRENT WEB SITE.

RIP CURRENTS ARE NARROW CHANNELS OF FAST MOVING WATER THAT PULL SWIMMERS OUT TO SEA. PANICKED SWIMMERS FAIL IN TRYING TO COUNTER THE CURRENT BY SWIMMING STRAIGHT TO SHORE...PUTTING THEMSELVES AT RISK OF DROWNING BECAUSE OF FATIGUE. LIFEGUARDS RESCUE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE FROM RIP CURRENTS IN THE U.S. EACH YEAR... BUT IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 100 PEOPLE ARE KILLED BY RIP CURRENTS ANNUALLY.
TAKE THESE TIPS FROM THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TO HEART:

- CHECK ON SURF CONDITIONS BEFORE YOU LEAVE FOR THE BEACH. MANY COASTAL NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ PROVIDE A DAILY SURF ZONE FORECAST THROUGH THE SWIMMING SEASON FOR THEIR AREA. FOR A LIST OF WFOS PROVIDING A SURF ZONE FORECAST GO TO /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/MARINE/FORECAST.HTM#SURF

- NEVER SWIM ALONE AND TRY TO SWIM NEAR A LIFEGUARD.

- IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT DO NOT FIGHT THE CURRENT. SWIM IN A DIRECTION FOLLOWING THE SHORELINE. WHEN FREE OF THE CURRENT... SWIM AT AN ANGLE...AWAY FROM THE CURRENT...THEN TOWARDS SHORE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE NWS RIP CURRENT PROGRAM... PLEASE CONTACT:

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NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENTS ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE

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