Important to be smart while playing on Lake Tahoe

If you're a first-time visitor to the cold waters of Lake Tahoe, be aware that the possibility of becoming hypothermic while involved in water activities is greater here than in warmer climates.

The combination of high altitude and cold alpine water may quickly fatigue a swimmer or water sporter.

Also remember, anyone under 12 years of age is required to wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket while boating on the lake. You must also carry enough life preservers on board for everyone.

- Sallie Ross-Filgo, South Lake Tahoe Fire Department