

## IRISH WATER SAFETY PRESS RELEASE

18<sup>th</sup> August 2015

## Lifeguards rescued 173 swimmers last month.

Lifeguards rescued 173 casualties from our beaches, rivers and lakes last month, that is 240 less than last July confirming the poor summer we are having.

There were 278 children lost and reunited with their parents. There were another 8,665 accidents prevented by the proactive actions of our lifeguards.

The CEO of Irish Water Safety, John leech is urging the public to use the Local Authority manned lifeguarded bathing places to ensure there are no swimming tragedies before the children return to school. Swim between the flags and please take heed of the advice given by the lifeguards and always supervise your children, lifeguards should not have to spend time searching for children.

The CEO is also warning the public that the seasonal weather and sea conditions has brought potentially dangerous jellyfish to some of our beaches. The Portuguese man o 'war has been reported on Barleycove Beach, Co Cork and the Lions Mane jellyfish has been reported on a number of beaches on the west and east coasts. For information on jellyfish and treatment of stings visit <a href="http://www.iws.ie/beach/jellyfish-safety.321.html">http://www.iws.ie/beach/jellyfish-safety.321.html</a> . There will also be a risk to the public of being stung by weever fish over the last weekend of the month due to the full moon and the associated spring tides.

		from		Lost	Advice	Accident	
County	Rescue	Craft	First Aid	Child	Given	prevented	Other
Carlow	0	0	28	0	160	0	0
Cork	13	6	224	9	4879	1625	10
Clare	16	16	214	16	2284	1134	56
Donegal	0	0	57	8	3348	1189	0
Dublin	1	4	157	15	854	525	35
Dun							
Laoghaire/Rathdown	1	0	8	0	40	8	0
Fingal	2	1	39	4	1180	177	6
Galway	3	2	86	0	737	114	263
Kerry	10	29	137	16	1213	427	281
Kilkenny	6	1	300	0	1454	600	1
Limerick Co.	0	23	19	1	81	36	0
Louth	0	0	12	0	196	34	8
Mayo	4	10	49	3	6514	1875	10
Meath	0	0	6	0	17	13	4
Roscommon	0	0	55	0	210	5	0

Rescued

Sligo	0	12	4	1	288	167	143
Tipperary	0	0	0	0		1	0
Waterford	3	0	36	1	2165	633	259
Wexford	1	0	55	8	210	44	48
Wicklow	2	7	130	196	8755	58	77
Total	62	111	1616	278	34585	8665	1201

Details of our lifeguarded waterways at <a href="http://www.iws.ie/bathing-areas/map.372.html">http://www.iws.ie/bathing-areas/map.372.html</a>

## In Marine Emergencies, call 112 and ask for the Coastguard. **Enquiries:**

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