

Rip Currents

FOR A FUN BUT SAFE TIME AT THE BEACH, TEXAS SEA GRANT WANTS YOU TO KNOW ABOUT THE DANGER OF RIP CURRENTS. THESE POWERFUL CURRENTS OF WATER CAN PULL EVEN THE STRONGEST SWIMMER OUT TO SEA. THEY OFTEN FORM AROUND MAN-MADE OBJECTS LIKE JETTIES AND PIERS. PASSING SHIPS IN THE MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL, ESPECIALLY OFF INDIAN POINT, CAN ALSO CAUSE STRONG CURRENTS THAT CAN CAUSE DANGER.

IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT, STAY CALM. DON'T TRY TO SWIM STRAIGHT TO SHORE. IF THE RIP CURRENT IS WEAK, SWIM PARALLEL TO SHORE UNTIL YOU ARE OUT OF THE CURRENT. IF THE CURRENT IS STRONGER, FLOAT WITH IT UNTIL IT DIES OUT, AND THEN SWIM DIAGONALLY TOWARD SHORE.

THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY KYAK STATION AND THE TEXAS SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM – COASTAL SCIENCE SERVING TEXANS.

For more information, contact:

Rhonda Cummins

Coastal & Marine Resource Agent for Calhoun County

Phone: 361-552-9747

email: rdcummins@ag.tamu.edu