



# Sharks & Public Safety

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New York's beaches are part of a natural ecosystem that contain some risks for people. In the ocean, this includes interacting with sharks.

It is impossible to eliminate risk, but here's how to minimize interactions with sharks and reduce overall risk:

- Stay out of the ocean at dusk, night or dawn
- Avoid areas with schools of splashing fish or diving seabirds.
- Avoid murky water.
- Swim, paddle, or surf in groups.
- Avoid areas with seals.
- Swim where your feet can touch the bottom.
- Follow lifeguard instructions.

## **In the event of a shark bite:**

- Call 911 or tell someone to call 911
- If you have first aid training, try to stop any bleeding until help arrives.
- If you are not directly caring for the injured, seek out first responders to help.
- Stay out of the water.

Learn more at:  
[on.ny.gov/sharks](https://on.ny.gov/sharks)