

# *If Your Child Wanders Away* **CALL 911** *Don't Delay!*



*Call 911 first, THEN search water.*

People with autism and other developmental disabilities are at an increased risk of wandering away from safe supervision. It's also common for people with autism to seek out water—such as ponds, creeks, lakes, pools, and canals.

**71% of wandering deaths are due to drowning**

**SECONDS COUNT.** If your child or loved one wanders off, call 911 first! Then search nearby water.

The more information you provide to dispatchers, the faster they can help. Follow their instructions and remember, even while they are talking to you, help is on the way.

 **Stay Calm**  **Listen Carefully**  **Give Information**  **Follow Instructions**

# If Your Child Wanders Away **CALL 911** Don't Delay!



Why call 911 BEFORE anything else?

The police have the resources to find a critically missing person faster than you can alone. The longer a person is gone, the wider the search area becomes. Seconds make a difference in safely finding a missing loved one and bringing them home!

This Public Service Campaign is brought to you by the **Maryland Autism Coalition**:

