

# THE RISK OBSERVER

FOUNDED 2006 — VOL. CLXI

PROFESSIONAL UNDERWRITERS

DAILY 5 CENTS, SUNDAY 15 CENTS

## PLAYGROUND INSPECTION CHECKLIST

PLAYGROUND SITE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE INSPECTED: \_\_\_\_\_

Thorough inspections of the playground area and equipment should be performed frequently and regularly. If repairs cannot be made immediately, equipment should be removed from service until repaired.

Following are the **Public Playground Safety Checklist** guidelines as developed by CPSC:

- Make sure surfaces around playground equipment have at least 12 inches of wood chips, mulch, sand or pea gravel, or are mats made of safety-tested rubber or rubber-like materials.
- Check that protective surfacing extends at least 6 feet in all directions from play equipment. For swings, be sure surfacing extends, in back and front, twice the height of the suspending bar.
- Make sure play structures more than 30 inches high are spaced at least 9 feet apart.
- Check for dangerous hardware, like open "S" hooks or protruding bolt ends.
- Make sure spaces that could trap children, such as openings in guardrails or between ladder rungs, measure less than 3.5 inches or more than 9 inches.
- Check for sharp points or edges in equipment.
- Look out for tripping hazards, like exposed concrete footings, tree stumps, and rocks.
- Make sure elevated surfaces, like platforms and ramps, have guardrails to prevent falls.
- Check playgrounds regularly to see that equipment and surfacing are in good condition.
- Carefully supervise children on playgrounds to make sure they are safe.



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Playground Condition Inspected	Date Inspected	Comments	Recommended Action	Date Completed
Loose, damaged, unsecured or missing supports, anchors, or footings				
Exposed footings				
Loose or missing nuts, bolts, or other connectors				
Broken or missing rails, steps, rungs, or seats				
Bending, warping, rusting, or breakage of any component or component part				
Sharp edges or points due to wear or breakage				
Deformed hooks, shackles, rings, and links				
Lack of lubrication on moving parts				
Exposed mechanisms such as joints or springs that could result in pinch or crush injury				
Splintered, cracked and deteriorated wood				
Cracks or holes in surfacing materials				
Trash in area, particularly glass or cans, litter, animal excrement				
Tripping hazards from roots, rocks, or ruts				
Poor drainage areas				



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Playground Condition Inspected	Date Inspected	Comments	Recommended Action	Date Completed
Broken equipment				
Rusted metal equipment				
Protective surface depth at least 12 inches and in good condition				
Evidence of vandalism				
Worn swing hangers and chains				
Exposed screws, tubes and bolts have protective end caps				
Slip resistant materials in good condition				
Chipped or peeling paint				
Lead paint				
CCA-treated wood				



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