

Community Action of Southeast Iowa
HEAD START

PLAYGROUND SAFETY CHECKLIST

Playground location: _____ Ages of Users _____

Inspected by: _____ Date: _____

GENERAL HAZARDS		
	Safe	Unsafe
No sharp points, corners or edges on any playground equipment		
Wood parts are smooth with no splinters		
All corners, metal and wood, are rounded		
No protrusions or projection allowed that is capable of entangling children's clothing.		
All anchoring devices are installed below playing surface		
No rocks, roots and other protrusions from the ground creating tripping hazards.		
Metal slides face North or are in a shaded area.		
Slides are located in an uncongested area.		
No spaces or gaps between platforms and start of sliding surface.		
Handholds are provided at slide entrance.		
All slides have an exit region.		
Slide exit edges are rounded or curved.		
Equipment shows no sign of corrosion, rotting, rusting, splintered wood, or peeling paint.		
Openings do not allow head or body entrapment (Interior opposing surfaces to be less than 3 ½" or greater than 9")		
Footings are stable and buried below ground level or covered by protective surfacing.		
Fasteners, connecting or covering devices are not removable without use of tools.		
Platform design allows for drainage.		
Elevated surface more than 20" high has guardrails.		
Top surface of guardrail is 29" high and bottom surface no more than 23" above platform.		
Elevated surface more than 30" high has protective barrier.		
Top surface of protective barrier is 29" high and non-climbable		
Climbing devices offer an easy way out.		
Steps or rungs are evenly spaced.		
When risers are closed, treads of stairways and step ladders do not allow accumulation of water and debris.		

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS		
	Safe	Unsafe
Playground is separated for age groups.		
Playground is fenced.		
Surfacing material is in good repair.		
Sandboxes are covered when not in use.		
Toys and equipment are put away when children are not on the playground.		

SURFACING		
	Safe	Unsafe
All equipment, stationary or temporary, has a fall zone of a minimum of 6' in all directions from the perimeter of equipment.		
Slides have a minimum of 6' Use Zone with an additional no encroachment zone extending from the exit of the slide.		
Surfacing provides accessibility to the disabled.		

USE ZONES FOR EQUIPMENT

- Use Zone:** an area under and around equipment where surfacing is required. 6 feet in all directions from perimeter of equipment is minimum fall zone requirement.

To be completed October, January and April
 Copy to Site Book