

TEMPLATE

For

Child Care Outdoor Space & Equipment Safety Check

This resource is intended for child care licensees as a template for creating a child care outdoor space and equipment safety checklist. The template should be adapted by licensees to address the individual outdoor spaces unique to every facility. Licensees are encouraged to decide which areas should be checked on a daily, monthly or annual basis.

The Child Care Licensing Regulation – Director of Licensing Standards of Practice – Safe Play Space December 10, 2007 requires that Licensees ensure the safety of the outdoor play spaces and equipment through regular inspection, maintenance and repairs. The Standard also requires that Licensees keep a log or record of all inspections, maintenance and repairs. You can download a copy of The Director of Licensing Standards of Practice – Safe Play Space at:

<http://www.vch.ca/environmental/licensing/>

Licensees may also wish to maintain an equipment file that includes such items as the manufacturer or supplier of the playground equipment and resilient surfacing, the Facility Safety Inspection Log Book, completed Facility Safety Check Lists and the name and contact information of (Municipality or School District) persons responsible for public outdoor play areas that are used by the facility.

Child Care Outdoor Space & Equipment Safety Check

Fencing / Barriers

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials
	Fencing – in good repair, no protruding nails, gate lock intact, hinges solid, wood surface smooth, no sign of rust.			
	Fence post and poles are secure.			
	Gates are secure and in good repair			

Resilient Surfacing

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials
	Resilient surfacing is in good condition and covers the area under and around swings, slides, climbing structures.			
	Resilient surfacing material is appropriate for the fall height of the equipment.			
	Resilient surfacing is maintained according to manufactures directions			
	Resilient surfacing is clean and free of hazards			

Climbing Structures

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials
	Overall structure is in good repair, S-hooks are completely closed and all hardware is tightly secured.			
	Overall structure is free of entrapment and pinching hazards.			
	Slide is securely anchored and there are no gaps between the platform and the start of the slide.			
	Painted surfaces are intact			

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Climbing Structures continued

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials
	Steps and ladders are secure and in good repair			
	Ropes and cables are secure and in good repair			
	Surfaces are non-slip when wet			

Swings

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials
	Frame is securely anchored in the ground with concrete covered appropriately			
	Chains are secure and in good repair			
	Seat surfaces and harness is in good repair			
	S-hooks completely closed and parts lubricated			

Sand Boxes

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials
	Frame or enclosure is in good repair			
	Sand is clean and free of hazards			
	Sand is not compacted or hard			
	A protective cover is available and used			

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General Environment

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials
	A fall zone is maintained on all sides of equipment such as climbing structures, slides or swings			
	Play areas and pathways are free of tripping hazards such as loose materials, sand or pea gravel			
	Trees, shrubs are pruned to eliminate hazards			
	Equipment such as riding toys, buggies etc. are in good repair			
	Drainage is in good repair			
	Public space (if used) is free of hazards			

Records & Supervision

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials
	Log book is maintained of all inspections, maintenance and repairs			
	Playground supervision is monitored to ensure safety			

Other:

Date of Check	Item	Action Required	Date Completed	Staff Initials