



Striving Towards Excellence

Philippians 3:14

How Safe is Your Playground?

Inspection and Maintenance Tips

With summer in full swing, your playground is probably getting a lot of use. To ensure it continues to be kid-friendly and stands up to weather-related wear and tear, it's a good idea to regularly inspect equipment and surfaces. When inspecting your playground, be on the lookout for the following red flags. If you spot any, pause playground activity until problem spots have been fixed and equipment is safe to use.

Sharp points, edges and corners. All metal or wood corners should be rounded, and wooden equipment should be smooth and free of splinters and cracks.

Rust and peeling paint. Paint, galvanize, or otherwise treat metal playground equipment to prevent rust; be sure the finish you choose does not contain a harmful amount of lead.

Loose parts. If you can easily loosen or remove protective caps, fasteners and connectors without a tool, you need to address the problem ASAP. Likewise, equipment and parts – handrails, guardrails, protective barriers, and ladder steps and rungs – must be sturdy and secure.

Large openings. Check the openings at the top of slides, between platforms, and the distance between ladder rungs – nothing should measure between 3.5 to 9 inches. This distance creates an entrapment hazard.

Broken glass and other dangerous debris. Make sure trash receptacles are easily accessible.

Protrusions or projections that could catch on children's clothing.

Tripping hazards like exposed concrete footings, tree stumps, and rocks.

Hard, compacted surfaces like asphalt, concrete, soil, grass, and turf. Shock-absorbing cushioned surfaces can prevent injuries – or lessen the severity of injuries – when children fall. Examples include a 9-12-inch layer of wood chips, mulch, sand, or pea gravel, or a surface made of safety-tested rubber/rubber alternative.

CHUPP AGENCY UPDATE

The first half of 2018 has brought with it many positive changes for Chupp Insurance Agency. We welcomed two new agents to our staff to help primarily with our church clients. Kameron Mills resides in central Michigan and will be working with church and non-profit clients in the area. Tim Riley lives in southern Michigan where he will be serving church and business clients. You can read a bit about each of them below:

* Hello! My name is Kameron Mills. I enjoy meeting with pastors and helping them secure proper coverage for their church's ministries. I also work with pastors to establish safeguards for their church property and most importantly for their people. Pastors are passionate about what they do and the people they serve which makes working with them both valuable and fulfilling. In my free time I have two passions: spending time with friends and staying active outdoors. When those two things happen simultaneously it's a great time! I do my best to live one day at a time and take life one mile at a time. The future is in God's hands and I have learned there is no better place for it.

* Hi, my name is Tim Riley. I find enjoyment meeting new people and helping them protect their organizations. I have been married to my wife Cindy for 46 years. We have two sons and 4 grandkids. My hobbies are fishing, repairing old tractors, and playing games with the grandkids. My favorite thing to do is take a pontoon ride on the lake with Cindy while the sun is setting.

We are excited to have Kameron and Tim on board at Chupp Insurance. We hope that you have the pleasure of working with them soon.



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PROTECTING YOUR PEOPLE

E-mail Address Request

Do we have correct e-mail addresses for your ministry contacts? Send them to audra@chuppinsurance.com so we can keep you informed and up to date with news you need to know.

Vehicle Safety and Survival Kit

In event of an accident, emergency, or other problem encountered on the road, having the proper safety equipment in a vehicle can help minimize dangers, treat injuries, or keep the situation from becoming worse.

If your church is transporting members on an extended trip, here is a list of recommended items to include in a safety and survival kit.

- Accident reporting forms
- Duct tape
- Communication devices for use between vehicles (such as cell phones or two-way radios)
- Emergency phone numbers (including road service, church, pastor, etc.)
- Emergency cash (about \$20)
- Fire extinguisher (dry chemical)
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Jumper cables
- Maps and/or compass
- Non-perishable foods
- Plastic bag for sanitation
- Rags and towels
- Small tool kit that includes such things as pliers, wrench, screwdriver, pocket knife
- Warning reflectors or flares
- Blankets and/or sleeping bags
- Empty gas can
- Extra quart of oil
- First-Aid kit
- Insurance information
- Lighter and waterproof matches
- Necessary medication
- Paper towels and toilet tissue
- Radio with fresh batteries
- Spare tire and tools to change a flat

Summer Specific Items

- Engine coolant
- Sunglasses and a hat
- Plastic trash bags for wind protection
- Sunscreen for body and lips
- Bottled Water
- Hand cleaner

Heat-Related Illnesses

Summer may be the best time of the year, but it can also be the most dangerous. Heat-related illnesses occur when the body is unable to cool itself through sweating alone and is losing more water and salt than it is receiving. You can significantly lower the risk of illness by learning to recognize the signs and symptoms of common heat-related illnesses and how to address them:

Dehydration → *Signs/Symptoms:* dry or sticky mouth, thirst, irritable or cranky behavior, headache, dizziness, cramps, fatigue, infrequent urination **What to do:** Have the person sit in a cool or shaded area and drink fluids.

Heat Exhaustion → *Signs/symptoms:* dizziness, headache, heavy sweating, cold and clammy skin, weakness, cramps, nausea and/or vomiting, fast and/or weak heartbeat, fainting **What to do:** Lie the person down in a cool location and apply cool, wet cloths to as much of the body as possible. If possible, replace tight clothing with loose and light clothing, and if vomiting continues, seek medical attention immediately.

Heat Stroke → *Signs/symptoms:* red, hot and dry skin, temperature above 103 degrees F, confusion, convulsions, fainting and a rapid and/or strong pulse. **What to do:** Call 911 immediately as heat stroke is a major emergency, move the person to a cool environment and reduce his or her body temperature with cool cloths or even a bath. DO NOT give the person fluids.

Provide safe summer events by setting up hydration stations, making sure shade and/or air-conditioning are available, and having a well-stocked first-aid kit on hand.



Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.

Luke 12:27