

Executive Order 2020-37 allows the re-opening of all children’s play areas, including playgrounds that are owned and/or operated by public or private organizations. As with all other matters concerning COVID-19, the responsibility of slowing or stopping the advance of this disease is a responsibility shared by all, including facility owners and staff, and playground equipment users.

These guidelines were developed based upon social conditions and other information concerning COVID-19 as of May 29, 2020. The health and safety measures outlined in this plan were formed utilizing CDC and SCDHEC recommendations at this time. It is recognized, however, that the information and circumstances concerning COVID-19 remains fluid and variable. Therefore, these guidelines are subject to change in correspondence with new knowledge of COVID-19 or changing social conditions.

Playground owners or operators should establish routine cleaning and sanitizing schedules for all playground equipment. Playground owners or operators should also, as much as possible, monitor playground usage and encourage adequate social distancing and other safety measures.

However, the State recognizes that it is not feasible to clean or sanitize playground equipment between individual users, nor is it feasible for all playground equipment use to be monitored on an ongoing basis. However, a regular schedule for cleaning and disinfection is recommended.

Therefore, the State recommends the installation of signage at each playground or play area location, notifying users of the potential risks and recommended safety precautions they should take before, during and after the use of playground equipment.

Below is an example sign with recommended language. Playground owners or operators may impose additional safety measures at their own discretion.

—Example Sign—

USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

**Parents, by allowing your kids to use this playground,
you assume all risks associated with the COVID-19 virus**



Additional Guidelines for Playgrounds During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Guidelines are updated frequently to align with modifications from the CDC and executive orders.

The CDC does not recommend the use of playgrounds at this time.

The best way to avoid COVID-19 is to practice social distancing of six feet or more. This may be difficult to do on a playground, especially with young children.

Playgrounds are not routinely cleaned or sanitized. Studies have shown the virus can live on surfaces, including wood, plastic, rubber and metal, for varied lengths of time.

If you choose to use the playground, please follow the guidelines listed below:

- To the greatest extent possible, practice social distancing of 6 feet or more from individuals that do not live in your household;
- Only interact with people in your household;
- Wear a facemask at all times while on the playground (do not use on children under two years old, people with difficulty breathing, or people who cannot remove the mask themselves);
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth or nose;
- Have kids wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or longer before and after playground use;
- Use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol before and after use and frequently during play, if soap and water are not available;
- Do not use playground equipment if others are already using it;
- Remain courteous and respectful of others at all times;
- Consider bringing your own disinfecting wipes to disinfect hand-hold surfaces prior to play.

DISCLAIMER: The information provided in this document is for general informational purposes and to help you make informed decisions. Notwithstanding any and all Federal and State requirements, re-opening and resuming activities are at your own discretion.

Although all information in this document is provided in good faith, we make no representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, regarding the adequacy or completeness of these guidelines.

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