



June 30, 2020

Preliminary Guidelines for Re-opening of Playgrounds and Recreational Equipment

On June 26, 2020, Governor Murphy's signed EO 157, which states under item 14: "Effective at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 2, 2020, playgrounds, including playgrounds at pool facilities, are permitted to be open to the public."

The following guidelines are provided to assist NJIIF members with their playground reopening process. In the event the NJ Department of Health or other recognized authority issues guidance on this subject following the date of this bulletin, said new authority will prevail where the terms are in conflict. NJIIF Risk Control Services at PMA is available to assist all members with this process.

- Inspect your playgrounds and recreational equipment for damage or vandalism and complete repairs or maintenance as needed prior to opening. A few items to review are:
 - Ensure surfacing material, whether wood chips, rubber chips or a composite material is maintained or repaired to provide the impact attenuation appropriate to your play equipment.
 - Ensure all bolts and connectors on the play equipment are in place and secure.
 - There is no damage to play equipment from vandalism or wear and tear.
 - Remove temporary barriers at the time prescribed.
- Post signage at each playground and on the Town website noting at a minimum the following:
 - Warn that the playground equipment is not sanitary and may be a source of exposure to COVID-19 and other viruses.
 - Require six feet of spacing between individuals.
 - Wear masks where possible.
 - Bring and use personal sanitizer for children's hands before and after play.
 - No one who is positive for COVID-19 or in contact with a positive person for 14 days shall be allowed on the playground property.
 - Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Consider sanitizing/disinfecting playground equipment daily.
- Existing restrooms should be limited in occupancy and sanitized at opening, midday and late afternoon. Soap and running water, along with hand sanitizer and/or sanitizing wipes should be provided in restrooms. Where possible, non-contact activators should be installed on toilets, soap dispensers and faucets.
- Total capacity of playgrounds should be limited to 50 percent capacity.