



Public Playground Safety Policy Statement

Chico Area Recreation and Park District Public Playground Safety Policy

In the continuing effort by the Chico Area Recreation and Park District (CARD) to provide quality, well-maintained, clean, and safer parks and facilities for the public, CARD has developed the following standard operating procedures to protect and preserve its unsupervised public playground facilities and its users. This program may only be accomplished through a commitment to a public playground safety program that assures that every attempt will be made to eliminate playground safety concerns while not totally eliminating the element of risk, which is an essential part of any successful children's play and learning environment.

All playgrounds shall be designed, installed, inspected, and maintained in substantial compliance of current CPSC Guidelines and ASTM voluntary playground safety standards. To guarantee the continued success of this program, the following guidelines will be adhered to by all CARD departments and staff:

- All playgrounds will be subject to the playground safety program guidelines
- All equipment shall be installed according to manufacturer specifications.
- CARD shall provide reasonable resources to ensure prudent and timely inspections and repairs as determined necessary by the playground safety program.
- All play equipment shall be inspected, repaired, and maintained by CARD's employees or independent contractor on a regular basis, with the necessary written documentation.
- All playground equipment purchasers, installers, inspectors, and maintenance employees performing repairs shall be trained in accordance with CARD's public playground safety training program, in order to maintain the playground equipment in substantial compliance with the current standard of care.
- All equipment shall be purchased and certified in writing to the International Playground Equipment Manufacturers Association (IPEMA)* certified playground equipment program or any other third party certification program with adequate product liability insurance, so long as it is in writing from an authorized manufacturer's officer.
- All new play areas shall meet the minimum DOJ 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

This Playground Safety Policy is subject to review and revision as required.

**IPEMA Certification-Third party voluntary certification program of a manufacturer's compliance with the current ASTM Standard.*