

# PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

## Introduction

Because use and environmental factors as well as materials vary, every playground is different. It is imperative that those responsible for maintenance of the playground understand the maintenance requirements necessary to keep it safe, attractive and to extend its useful life. It is the responsibility of the playground equipment manufacturer to provide instruction as to how the equipment is to be installed and maintained as well as to provide a general guideline as to the frequency of those procedures. It is your responsibility as owner to establish a frequency schedule for each playground and to follow the manufacturers recommended procedures. Landscape Structures' "A Guide to the Frequency of Inspections" will be helpful but not the only criteria in establishing your frequency schedule.

The accompanying inspection report has been computer generated for your specific playground. Keep one set of sheets as your original to make additional copies as needed. Fill in the park name, inspectors name, date, time and inspection schedule (Inspection: 3 of 2008). The inspection report identifies the major components of your structure that can be keyed to the accompanying plan. A column also indicates how often the procedure should be performed (2 indicates that procedure must be performed at every second inspection, 10 every tenth inspection, etc.) and another indicates what your findings were. The procedures manual shows how to perform the procedure and how your findings should be recorded. The last space is also used to identify any action you have taken or that will be taken on or before your next inspection. Once you have become familiar with the maintenance procedures and how to record your findings, the inspection report is the only sheet you will need for your inspection. An example of a completed report is shown on the back of this sheet. If you need additional space to report your findings or action taken, use the back of the same sheet. Once your inspection is complete and all necessary action taken, file your report in the back of this binder.

Protective surfacing throughout the fall zone must be maintained at a thickness or depth sufficient to meet ASTM F1292 standards (Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment) at maximum fall heights for equipment installed above the

surfacing. If you have not purchased your protective surfacing from Landscape Structures, we have made the assumption that you will be using a loose material such as sand or wood chips as your impact absorbing system. To keep it in conformance with the ASTM standards, this type of material requires substantially more maintenance than a molded synthetic surface system. Organic materials can absorb moisture, compact and decompose all of which will reduce the effectiveness of the system. The inspection report shows expected operations and their frequencies for common materials. Your specific material may vary. The edger retaining this material must not cause a trip hazard - it should be obvious and visible.

So that the same format can be kept for all products within the playground, space has been left on the inspection report where additional products can be added. When adding products, make sure you keep the same type of records as have been suggested herein.

It is important that you recognize the severity of the potential hazard that may be found upon inspection. In some cases, you may have to close the playground until repairs are made. These hazards will most likely be the result of vandalism - assuming proper maintenance has been performed.

The owner has the responsibility to certify/qualify those performing installation and maintenance services. This can be done by attending a Landscape Structures maintenance seminar and/or by attending various industry association meetings on the subject.

If replacement parts are required, they can be ordered from your local Landscape Structures representative or the factory. Part numbers and descriptions can be found on the back of the installation instruction sheets provided in this binder.

**POOR  
MAINTENANCE  
IS  
THE**

**MAJOR  
CAUSE  
OF  
AT  
LEAST  
40%  
OF  
ALL  
REPORTED  
PLAYGROUND  
ACCIDENTS**

# Reading The Maintenance Procedures Sheets

Indicates the frequency that these items should be inspected, i.e.: 1 indicates inspection everytime, 10 indicates every tenth inspection. These numbers are repeated on the inspection report.

Indicates the part to be inspected and how to do it. The part is repeated on the inspection report.

PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

Cozy Coaster™ Slide

■ Fasteners 1  
Tighten attachment fasteners. Replace if cracked, deformed or broken.

■ General Materials/Finishes 1  
Refer to the General Cleaning/Repairing Instructions found in the "WeeVos Playground Maintenance Sheet."

■ Crossover/Slide Footer/ Stair Rail (Powdercoated) 2  
Replace if welds are cracked or the unit is deformed or pitted with rust. Repair damaged powdercoating per instruction sheet.

■ Handloop (Powdercoated) 2  
Replace if welds are cracked or the unit is deformed or pitted with rust. Repair damaged powdercoating per instruction sheet.

■ Handbar/Footer (Powdercoated) 2  
Replace if unit is deformed or pitted with rust. Repair damaged powdercoating per instruction sheet.

■ Ball Clamp (Powdercoated) 2  
Replace if unit is deformed or severely pitted with rust. Repair damaged powdercoating per instruction sheet.

■ Slide/Stairs 2  
Replace if Slide or Stairs are cracked, brittle or seriously discolored.

■ Concrete Footing 10  
Shovel away protective surfacing and part of subsoil to inspect. Replace footing if it is cracked or not tight around post or subsoil. Add protective surfacing if footing is not covered with at least 10" of material.

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WeeVos  
Document #1 6540200

Title of sheet.

Common terminology corresponding to installation instructions.

Drawing of typical details or full component.

Sheet #

# Completing The Inspection Report

Indicates the date the playground equipment was installed.

Product to be inspected.

Indicates how often these products are to be inspected.

Name of person, agency or company that originally installed the equipment.

What you found and what you did about it.

Inspection Report

Location Bucks Lake County Park Inspector John Smith

Date 8-07-2008 Time 2:00 P.M. Frequency of Inspections monthly

Installation Date 1-02-2008 Installer Bob Johnson of Play Productions

PRODUCT: <u>Cozy Coaster Slide</u>	
No Action	
Checked	<u>Stairs</u>
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

PRODUCT: <u>Toasty Box</u>	
No Action	
Checked	<u>Yes</u>
Repaired	<u>Chipped Paint</u>
Replaced	
Notes	

PRODUCT: <u>Boppity Bridge</u>	
No Action	<u>OK</u>
Checked	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

PRODUCT: <u>Woo Pig Climber</u>	
No Action	
Checked	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	<u>Replaced Post</u>

PRODUCT:	
No Action	
Checked	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

Keep one copy of this form as your original to make copies as necessary.

# PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

## A Guide to the Frequency of Inspections

Enter the factor points in the right hand column that best describes the conditions at the playground.

It is estimated that at least 40% of all accidents on public playgrounds could have been prevented if a good preventative maintenance program were in place. A good program establishes a frequency of inspections that are commensurate with the use and environmental factors unique to each play area. Some playgrounds will require daily inspections while others in the same area may require only bi-weekly inspections. The deterioration and/or wear of various play components can be predicted when certain factors are known. On the other hand, vandalism has a major influence on the frequency of inspections but is not as predictable.

The following guide utilizes the most common use and environmental factors that will influence your schedule. Each factor has been weighed as to its importance and influence on the schedule. Local conditions may include other factors, and in some cases, may affect seasonal adjustments to the schedule. Experience is your best guide.

	Factor Points
High - 10 pts. Moderate - 5 pts. Low - 2 pts.	_____
High - 10 pts. Moderate - 5 pts. Low - 2 pts.	_____
Preschool - 1 pt. School Age - 3 pts. All Ages - 2 pts.	_____
Loose Material - 18 pts. Unitary Material - 3 pts.	_____
Painted Steel - 4 pts. Plastics, Aluminum, Galvanized Steel - 2pts. Stainless Steel - 0 pts.	_____
Moving: Gyro Twister, PodStomper etc. - 8 pts. Static: Non-Moving Climbers - 2 pts. Both - 8 pts.	_____
None - 0 pts. Moderate - 2 pts. High - 5 pts.	_____
None - 0 pts. Moderate - 1 pt. High - 2 pts.	_____
Low - 1 pt. Moderate - 2 pts. High - 4 pts.	_____
	_____

See back to determine frequency of inspections.

# PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

## Your Total Points

50 or More
40-50
30-40
Below 30

## Recommended Frequency of Inspections

Daily Inspections	High Frequency
Weekly Inspections	
BiMonthly Inspections	Low Frequency
Monthly Inspections	

### NOTE:

For your program to be effective, the inspectors must be properly trained. Call the equipment manufacturer if you are uncertain as to how a particular component should be inspected and when it should be replaced.

Keep this worksheet with other documentation on this playground.

Date

Person Completing Worksheet

Name/Address of Playground

Recommended Frequency of Inspections:

High Use Period

Low Use Period

# PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

Graffiti cleaner will work on most surfaces. Follow the directions on the bottle.

Generally speaking, the longer the stain has been on a product the harder it is to remove.

## ■ Poly Parts

Apply graffiti cleaner to affected area. Follow the directions on the bottle.

## ■ Powdercoated/Digifuse Parts

Apply graffiti cleaner to affected area. Follow the directions on the bottle.

## ■ Permalene Parts

Apply graffiti cleaner to affected area. Follow the directions on the bottle.

## Cleaning Instructions

Prior to applying graffiti cleaner to affected area, test cleaner in an inconspicuous location to verify it will not damage the surface/coating.

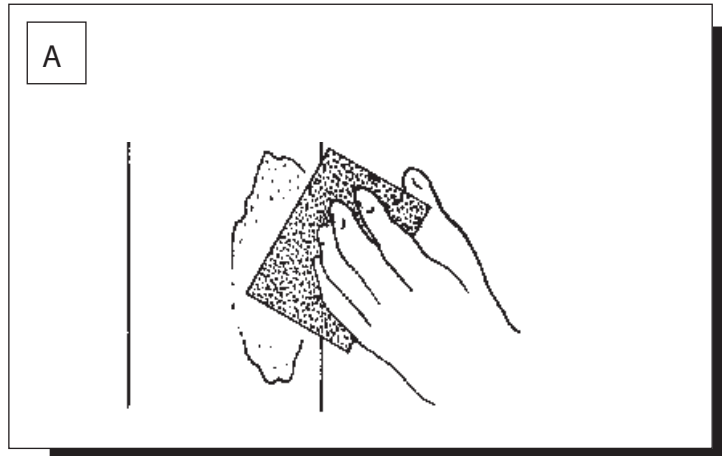
# PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

## Repair of Powdercoating

Equipment Required:  
Maintenance Repair Kit

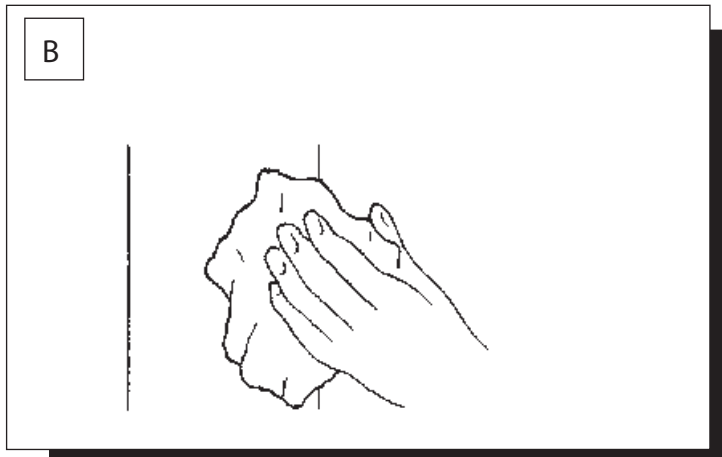
### ■ A

With emery cloth sand area to be repaired until all rust is removed. Be sure to rough and feather edges of surrounding powder coated area with 400 grit sandpaper until smooth.



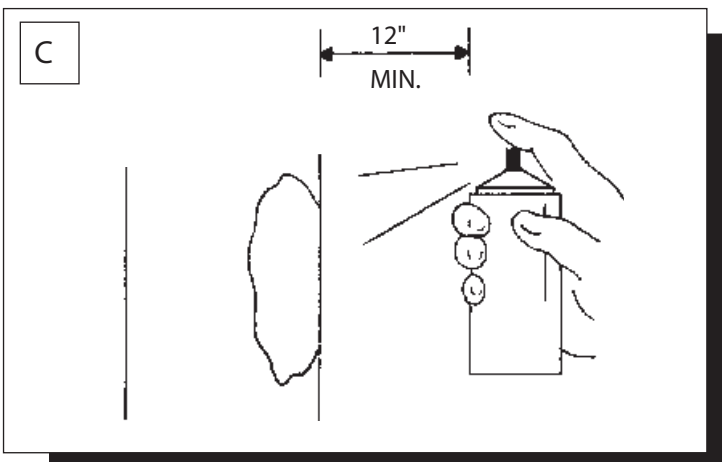
### ■ B

To help assure best results be sure areas to be painted are clean and dry. This can be accomplished by using a cloth dampened with rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol or water.



### ■ C

Protect adjacent areas from overspray, if necessary. Apply a minimum of 3 light coats of primer (supplied). Allow to dry 'to the touch' between coats. Lightly sand with 400 grit sandpaper, then wipe with clean cloth. Use same method to apply a minimum of 3 light coats of paint. Be sure to allow areas to dry 3 of 4 hours before use. (Drying time will vary)



NOTE: Be sure to hold spray can 12" - 14" from surface.



Delano, MN 800-328-0035

# Inspection Report

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Inspector \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency of Inspections \_\_\_\_\_

Installation Date \_\_\_\_\_ Installer \_\_\_\_\_

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PRODUCT:

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

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PRODUCT:

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

---

PRODUCT:

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

---

PRODUCT:

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

---

PRODUCT:

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	



Delano, MN 800-328-0035

# Inspection Report

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Inspector \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency of Inspections \_\_\_\_\_

Installation Date \_\_\_\_\_ Installer \_\_\_\_\_

**PRODUCT:**

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

**PRODUCT:**

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

**PRODUCT:**

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

**PRODUCT:**

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	

**PRODUCT:**

No Action	
Cleaned	
Repaired	
Replaced	
Notes	