

Protecting Our Children

Home Playground Safety

(NAPSA)—Backyard playground safety is no accident. Nearly 47,000 children will be treated at emergency rooms this year due to home playset-related injuries.

While backyard play sets are great for kids' physical and social development, when the equipment is improperly designed and constructed it can put kids in danger. To help parents create a safer environment for their children, Swing-N-Slide, the leading manufacturer of play set equipment, has put together these safety guidelines:

- Parents should supervise at all times and instruct children.
- Surface and shock-absorbing surfacing material should extend out from slides and swings.
 - Use sturdy lumber.
 - Select age-appropriate play activities and accessories.
 - Remove strings from children's clothing and never allow children to attach dog leashes, hoses and jump ropes to the set.
 - Frequently inspect the play set to ensure proper surfacing and anchoring.
 - Select a play set that separates play zones to avoid collisions.

For a complete play set safety checklist, visit www.playsetsafetycheck.com.