

The Catholic Mutual Connection

Best Playground Practices

Many of our parishes and schools are fortunate to have playground equipment and spaces for children to use – which is great, because outdoor play helps kids get the exercise they need and improves focus. While recess can be as important to learning as all the other R's (reading, writing, 'rithmetic... and, of course, religion class), it's also a time when the risk of accidents and injuries can increase. The good news is that many playground injuries are avoidable with



the proper planning, installation and maintenance of the space and equipment, as well as continuing education for students and their teachers, parents and other supervising adults on safe usage. In order to ensure that your playground areas meet all safety guidelines, we invite you to watch and share our new training video [Keeping Kids Safe on the Playground on CMGConnect](#). You can also learn more about safe playground [surfacing](#), and [age-appropriate equipment, signage and fencing](#) in our CARES library.

Safety Tip

Are you ready for storm season? While we can't prevent the heavy winds and lightning that often accompany dramatic spring and summer storms, we can reduce the risk exposure by ensuring that [lightning protection guidelines](#) are followed for both people and property. Also, it's a good time to brush up on some [facility management tips](#) for the aftermath of a storm.

Festival Smarts

For many parishes, festivals are one of the most anticipated events of the year. But they're also among the most challenging. From money handling, to food safety procedures, to outside vendors, to rides and equipment, there are a lot of moving parts and each one involves potential risk exposure. That's why we've developed an extensive festival training curriculum on [CMG Connect](#), as well as parish festival [guidelines](#), a [best practices checklist](#), and a [vendor agreement template](#) in our CARES library.



Connect with CMG Connect!

We are constantly updating our helpful trainings on CMG Connect to ensure that CMG members have the information they need to minimize their risk exposure and keep the members of our Church family free from harm. Please don't forget to check [CMG Connect](#) regularly for timely new content... and please don't hesitate to share it with others who would benefit from the information.

To view this newsletter on our website, please click [here](#).

For more helpful information, please visit the Catholic Mutual Group [newsletter archives](#).