Back-to-School Best Practices

It's back-to-school time again and that's got us thinking about... recess! Not only is it something we truly miss about our own school days, but it is also a time when a lot of accidents happen. You can help protect students from these playground calamities by following our Playground Maintenance Checklist.

While you're on our website, consider reviewing our School Safety Resource Manual, a comprehensive guide to everything you need to know to have a safer -- and potentially less costly -- school year.

If you don't have a school on your property but you do offer religious education and other youth programs, please take a few moments to read our information about Fire Drills, which are crucially important exercises for anyone who is spending time in your building -- even if it's just once or twice a week.

In schools, every classroom should be equipped with some type of communication service, such as a cellular telephone, intercom or two-way radio. A list of emergency numbers should also be posted in every room of the school, so it can be immediately accessed in case of an emergency.

Don't Take Ladders Lightly

Whether it's hanging banners, cleaning out gutters, changing light bulbs or the many other tasks, large and small, that require us to "step up" to keep our facilities in tip-top condition, pulling out the ladder can often be a daily occurrence. In fact, we use ladders so frequently, it can be easy to forget that they are potentially as dangerous as they are useful. As we begin a new school year, it's a great time to re-familiarize yourself with our Ladder Safety Tips to ensure a fall-free autumn.

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