

Making Your Child Care Centre a Healthy Environment



A Fact Sheet for Child Care Operators and Staff

York Region Community and Health Services is mandated to inspect all child care centres to ensure compliance with food safety regulations, infection control and safe water standards. This fact sheet is provided for information and guidance to child care centre operators.

Play-Pools

- York Region Community and Health Services does not recommend the use of play-pools for children, especially for those children that are not yet fully toilet trained
- Play-pools can act as a source of infectious disease transmission
- Sprinklers, hoses or individual water buckets are safer alternatives
- If play-pools are being used, they must be the small fill-and-dump-pools, which may be easily emptied by one or two persons (e.g., small, hard plastic pools)
- Play-pools are to be filled with potable water and emptied after each use
- Once emptied, the pool must be cleaned and disinfected using a low-level disinfectant. Follow the manufactures recommendations for dilution and contact time
- Diaper use is not recommended as they are not leak-proof. In addition, diapers swell and become very heavy, thereby creating a safety risk for the child. If a child in diapers is permitted to use the play-pool, they must wear a water-proof pant that prevents leaks
- Should a fouling occur, children must be immediately removed from the pool. Remove any solid matter (use disposable gloves if required) and dispose of it in a sanitary manner. Wash hands. Empty water, clean pool with a detergent and then disinfect the pool with a high-level disinfectant solution. Follow manufactures instructions for dilution and contact time

Remember to play it safe in the sun, *slip* on a shirt, *slap* on a hat and *slop* on some sunscreen!

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For more information, please call
York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653 TTY: 1-866-252-9933
www.york.ca

 York Region