

## Outside Safety Issues

### What to look for:

1. **Swings / Tire Swings**
  - ♦ Are chains & hooks worn or rusted?
  - ♦ Are seats cracked with exposed metal?
  - ♦ Are they secured to the ground?
  - ♦ Is there a safe landing area?
2. **Slides / Merry-Go-Rounds**
  - ♦ Is there cracking or rusted metal?
  - ♦ Is it secured to the ground?
  - ♦ Are the handles smooth?
  - ♦ Is there a safe landing area?
3. **Climbing / Crawling Equipment**
  - ♦ Is the wood cracked or splintered?
  - ♦ Are joints secure & tight?
  - ♦ Are there any sharp edges?
  - ♦ Are they secured to the ground?
  - ♦ Is there a safe landing area?
4. **Fences**
  - ♦ Are chain links rusted, loose or broken?
  - ♦ Are there missing planks?
  - ♦ Is the height a minimum of 4 feet?
  - ♦ Are the latches secure & child proof?
  - ♦ Are there exposed nails?

## Inside Safety Issues

### What to look for:

1. **Carpeting / Throw Rugs**
  - ♦ Are they unraveling?
  - ♦ Are they wrinkled?
  - ♦ Do they have a non-skid bottom?
2. **Outside Doors**
  - ♦ Are the locks above a child's reach?
  - ♦ Do they have an exit/entrance buzzer?
  - ♦ Is there NO direct entrance to a pool or retention pond?
3. **Shades / Blinds**
  - ♦ Are there looped cords?
4. **Childrens clothing**
  - ♦ Are all the drawstrings cut?
5. **Childrens cubbyholes**
  - ♦ Are these neat and orderly?

## How to Make It Safe

### What should be cleaned & sanitized daily:

1. Childrens cubbyholes
2. Play Blocks
3. Tables & Chairs
4. Plastic Toys
5. Diaper Changing Areas
6. Eating Areas, Counters
7. Handwashing stations
8. High Chairs
9. Sleep & Play Mats

### Acceptable Sanitizers:

1. Bleach mixed with water  
- 1 cap full to 1 quart of water.
2. Antibacterial cleanser



## How to Make It Safe

### Outside Landing Areas:

- ♦ 9" of compressed fill will provide safety
- ♦ 12" of uncompressed loose fill should be used if your equipment
- ♦ Is up to 8' in height.

### Inside Areas:

- ♦ Cut cords off mini-blinds
- ♦ Make sure child takes home his/her sippy cup as you are not equipped to wash or sanitize them.

### Safety Checklist

1. **Cribs** - slats no more than 2 5/8" apart, mattresses are to fit snugly.
2. **Bedding** - Mattress should be firm and flat with no pillows or comforters.
3. **Playground Surfacing** - at least 12" wood chips, mulch, approved rubber or rubber-like materials.
4. **Playground maintenance** - check regularly.
5. **Safety gates** - potentially dangerous areas.
6. **Window blind and curtain cords** - Be sure miniblinds and venetian blinds do not have looped cords.
7. **Clothing drawstrings** - Be sure there are no drawstrings in childrens' outerwear. Snaps, zippers, velcro should only be used.
8. **Recalled products** - Check the recall list regularly at: [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)



## Plan Reviews

Any additions, changes in capacity  
may require plan reviews

**Food Service Area:** \$35.00  
**Facility Area:** \$30.00

**NOTE:** No food can be prepared other than snacks. No hot cereal, or canned food can be prepared. Food service in daycares must be reviewed to determine necessary equipment to perform food preparation safely and according to the Florida Administrative Codes.

The "basic definition of food preparation is: Changing the consistency of a food product. (Example: adding water to a DRY cereal, putting peanut butter on celery. etc.)

Remember, if you have a septic tank, the size of that tank and your property controls what you can do in your facility. You may be asked to have the size of your system verified to determine what you can do.

Due to the complexity of the Food Service Rules in the Florida Administrative Code, it is necessary that each case be reviewed individually to determine equipment needs to meet those Code requirements. **THIS MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO THOSE CHANGES.**



## Basic Food Service Requirements for Day Care Facilities

Please contact your health department at  
the following numbers:

**Daytona Beach:**  
(386) 274-0694

**Russell A. Miller**      **Greg Thomas**  
(386) 274-0697      (386) 274-0702

**DeLand:**  
(386) 822-6250

**George Alford**  
(386) 736-5158

**For more information on Day Care  
inspections please contact:**

**Russell A. Miller, R.S., MSEH**  
Institution Coordinator

Volusia County Health Department  
Environmental Health  
1845 Holsonback Drive  
Daytona Beach, FL 32117

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# DAY CARE SAFETY



*A quick guide to  
help you keep your  
facility safe!*

