

# SAFETY - YARD SAFETY

In addition to safety rules for backyard swimming pools, in-ground or plastic wading pools, it is important to observe safety rules using other backyard equipment as well.

1. Keep children away from lawn mowers in use.
2. Make sure the area you are mowing is clear of stones, rocks, sticks, and other debris that could fly up at you as you mow.
3. Store gas for your mower in a safe place and away from curious children.
4. Do not let children ride with you on a riding mower.
5. Turn off the mower and wait for it to stop completely before you remove the grass catcher.
6. Learn to identify poison ivy and avoid it. Teach children to stay away from it also.
7. If you have a swing set in your yard, be sure it is sturdy and in good condition.
8. Make sure the swing set is appropriate for the size and weight of your children.
9. Be sure all play equipment is stable on the ground.
10. Avoid play equipment with open “s” hooks or exposed screws or bolts.
11. Avoid equipment with parts that could pinch or trap parts of the body.
12. Surround the play equipment with a soft surface like wood chips, mulch, sand, etc. Consult manufacturer’s instructions for recommended materials and depths and maintain the surface you put down regularly.
13. Supervise children on play equipment.
14. Follow good sense regarding heat and sun safety rules.

Note: Play equipment rules apply to the neighborhood playground also.