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## Safety Inspection Lands Local Daycare \$1,500 Swing Set!



Playgrounds are the most common and widely used recreation facilities in Island communities. They provide countless hours of enjoyment for our children to develop mentally, socially and physically. However, just like any other man made structure, the equipment can become unsafe if not inspected carefully.

The Canadian Standards Association [CSA] developed a nationally recognized standard for children's play spaces and equipment. This standard helps reduce the risk and severity of injuries.

Recreation PEI offers at no charge, CSA inspections to small communities and daycares,

During the past year Active & Safe PEI has performed 29 inspections province wide - an average increase of over 25 from previous

years. How has such an increase in safety practices been reached? As an added incentive to increase safety inspections every playground inspected in 2012 was entered in a draw for a new piece of equipment.

Henderson Recreation Equipment Limited, who believes in playground safety, generously donated a brand new swing set valued at \$1,500.



**Henderson**  
recreation equipment limited

Recreation PEI is pleased to announce that the draw for the Swing Set has been won by Precious Lambs Early Years Centre in Summerside.



Owners/Operators, Kevin and Catherine MacKinnon-Stetson, celebrate with their daughter after winning a Henderson swing set Equipment swing set from Active & Safe PEI.



Recreation PEI would like to thank Henderson for their help in making Prince Edward Island a safer place for youth to play and grow. Henderson's commitment to safety and generosity does not stop there; they will continue to support the Active & Safe PEI Project in 2013 by donating another great prize!

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# Children in Nature PEI Website Resource



In 2011, with funding from the IWK, Recreation P.E.I. partnered with the City of Charlottetown and developed the Children in Nature P.E.I. program. This is a nature-based active program that was created to inspire children and youth to be active and enjoy nature by providing them with the opportunity to visit their local parks and natural areas.

Participants are introduced to local flora and fauna and take part in fun and engaging activities that encourage them to grow into individuals who are comfortable in nature; are aware of their impact on the environment; understand important nature-based themes; and develop a love and compassion for nature and physical activity.

The program goals are to:

- encourage children/youth to be active in nature
- teach children/youth about nature:
  - how to enjoy and respect, play and protect
- learn about flora and fauna
- spend unstructured time, giving children/youth the skills they need to be active on their own
- encourage recreational opportunities that are readily available and free
- introduce children to

Nature and physical activity are the basis of this program. With each lesson, a game or interactive activity accompanies it. The idea is to introduce young Islanders to and educate them about various nature topics relevant to P.E.I., while they participate in a variety of activities and games that disguise learning.

Children in Nature P.E.I. is set-up in to several modules that are based on the four seasons. The modules are a guide for teachers, coaches, parents, leaders, etc., as they work to connect their



children/youth to nature. Information and resources are provided with each module for the educator to refer

to or supply to their students as needed. All participants are encouraged to be active outdoors all year round, to go outside rain or shine, and get connected with nature.

If you would like to learn more information on this program please visit

[www.childreninnaturepei.ca](http://www.childreninnaturepei.ca) The program is sponsored by



TD Friends of the Environment Foundation



## Brookvale Provincial Ski Park



At Brookvale we offer a host of winter activities for you to enjoy.

We have 2 sites located 1 km apart on Hwy 13 in Brookvale, PEI.

Our Alpine (down hill) site offers skiing and snowboarding for all ages and we also sell private and semi-private lessons thru the Brown's Volkswagen Snow School located on site at the Alpine location. The lessons cost extra but are well worth the price to make your day a more enjoyable one. At our Nordic (cross country) site we have cross country skiing, biathlon, snow shoeing and tubing. Both of our sites offer a complete line of rental equipment if you don't have your own equipment and to access our sites you must purchase a lift or trail ticket. .

Our typical season is from Christmas time thru till the end of March Break. Complete details can be found on our website [www.brookvaleskipark.com](http://www.brookvaleskipark.com) and we also have a facebook page called "Brookvale Provincial Ski Park". We have a brand new twitter account to which our handle is @SkiBrookvale as well.

Brookvale Provincial Ski Park recommends wearing helmets for skiing and riding. Skiers and snowboarders are encouraged to educate themselves on the benefits and limitations of helmet usage. The primary safety consideration and obligation under the Alpine Responsibility Code is to ski and ride in a controlled and responsible manner.

Once you have your gear and are suited up to hit the slopes or trails we recommend

familiarizing yourself with the site so that you know which trails/hills are appropriate for your skiing/riding level. Paper maps with hills level descriptions and trail lengths are available at the main office and rental shops.

There is cafeteria hot food service available at the Alpine site the hours of operation are the same as the hill hours of operation.

There is no alcohol served at either site and alcohol and drug use is strictly prohibited.

**Currently smoking is permitted no closer than 15 ft from a doorway and not at all in the lift area but next season 2013-2014 the entire sites will both be smoke free.**

Alpine Main Office: (902) 658-7862

Email: [brookvale@gov.pe.ca](mailto:brookvale@gov.pe.ca)

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# SkateBoard 101 by Neil Kinsman



The following information is drawn from a collection of articles written by the

“Skaters For Public Skateparks (SPS)” organization. SPS is committed to ensuring that the path to a successful skatepark is available to skaters everywhere, and it is their goal that the information provided through their organization gets it done. Their compilation and presentation of material has taken years of preparation and experience. You

may reach them at [skateparkinfo@gmail.com](mailto:skateparkinfo@gmail.com) or through their website at [www.skatepark.org](http://www.skatepark.org)

It’s been said that “If you do not have a community Skatepark, then your whole community is one” Philosophically, skate boarders are to skating as hockey players are to hockey, or soccer players are to soccer. Different kids will have different interests and talents, so we should encourage all of them to pursue and enjoy their sport whenever possible. And, if we build arenas and soccer fields, ball diamonds and pools, why would we not consider a much less expensive skatepark?

Skateparks for many of us, are scary and unfamiliar territory, so we are out of our comfort and knowledge zones and perhaps feel less comfortable talking and dealing with their intricacies. All the more reason to listen to end users and the expert designers to ensure your park reflects local needs, not our shortcomings!

For an overview of the styles and sizes of skateparks, to provide a better understanding of some of the options available check out the full version of the this article on our website [www.recreationpei.ca](http://www.recreationpei.ca)

## Baseball Field Maintenance Clinic May15th, 2013



The City of Charlottetown Parks and Recreation would like to invite you to attend

an interactive open house on baseball field maintenance at Memorial Baseball Field in Victoria Park, Charlottetown.

City Parks staff will be on site to share potential solutions for maintenance and safety for baseball fields on Memorial Field baseball diamond. This lit baseball field has a long history in Charlottetown and was upgraded for the Canada Games in 2009 and has an irrigated, grassed infield. On display will be:

Maintenance equipment including a 3 wheel groomer, pull behind groomer, ball mix screener, overseeder, aerator and mowers Maintenance materials including ball field soil amendments for drying up fields and softening hard clay fields, clay bricks for the pitcher’s mound and home plate, infield material

Tools and equipment including batter’s box outline frames, assorted drags, edge cutter, line marker, tarps, rakes (assorted), line sprayer, string line, tamper. Come out and paint a line, use the edger, or try the 3 wheeler. Check out the infield material and ask questions or share stories about the maintenance of your own home fields.

We look forward to meeting with you and developing a stronger support system for

all Island ball field maintenance staff. Interested attendees should meet at the Victoria Park maintenance shed at 1pm on Wednesday May 15<sup>th</sup>.


Please rsvp to Nancy McMinn, Parks Superintendent, City of Charlottetown- [nmcminn@city.charlottetown.ca](mailto:nmcminn@city.charlottetown.ca) by May 1.






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Helping Islanders Get  
Active and Stay Healthy

Recreation PEI, Inc is a not-for-profit volunteer driven organization. It primarily is a community/facility based membership of those who have an interest in delivering and promoting recreation and physical activity.

- Helping communities be healthier and active
- Educating program and facility leaders
- Promoting risk management for programs and facilities

#### Tobacco Free Outdoor Recreation Facilities Program.

For a presentation on tobacco free policy development or implementation in your community call:

Coordinator Frank Morrison at 902-672-2567.



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## Covering your outdoor pool – good idea or bad idea?



For small municipalities, camp grounds, parks and communities pools can be an expensive facility to maintain throughout the summer months. These organizations are always looking at ways of saving on operational costs so they can continue to offer a place for their customers to swim & enjoy the summer months. A

pool cover is a cost-efficient way of cutting down on maintenance, chemical consumption, and assists in providing a clean environment for your customers to enjoy a swim. Below are some reasons to invest in a properly fitting, pool cover for your outdoor pool:

1. **Slowing down evaporation** - With the sun beaming down on your pool all day, a pool cover (when the pool is not in use) can conserve water and cut down on the amount of pool water that is evaporating.
2. **Cuts down on Chemical use** – Using a pool cover reduces a pool's chemical consumption by 35-60 percent.
3. **Helps the Swimming Pool Retain Heat** – Covering a pool at night will help to retain heat and keep your pool warm for your customers.

Hint: For solar covers the “bubble” side should always be down to allow more surface area of the cover to touch the water and the smooth side facing up is much easier to clean leaves & debris off of.

4. **Keeps leaves, twigs & debris out** – By placing a cover on your pool it will keep leaves, twigs and debris out of the pool and help to reduce the amount of skimming and vacuuming your staff have to do to continue to offer a clean & enjoyable facility for your customers. Submitted by Adam Ross



Recreation PEI would like to thank all the , Delegates Presenters and Exhibitors who made our Feb 20th 2013 Conference and Tradeshow a Success.



## Protecting Playground Fun

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