

# Welcome to the Webinar

## Standards and Considerations for the Accessible Design of Outdoor Play and Recreation Destinations

Presented by:



The Session is scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Audio and visuals are provided through the online webinar system. This webinar includes real-time captioning.

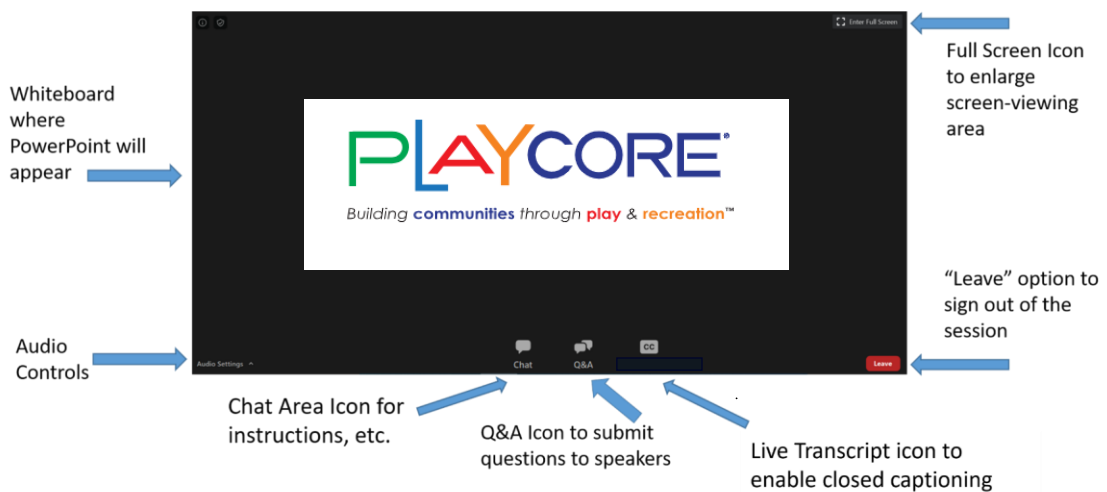


**Jennie Sumrell**  
Community Outreach Director  
*PlayCore/CORE*  
(Moderator)



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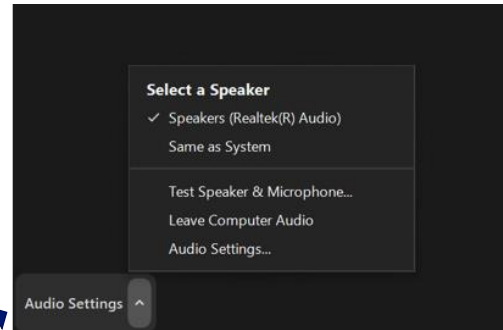
## ZOOM Webinar Interface



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## Listening to the Webinar via Your Computer

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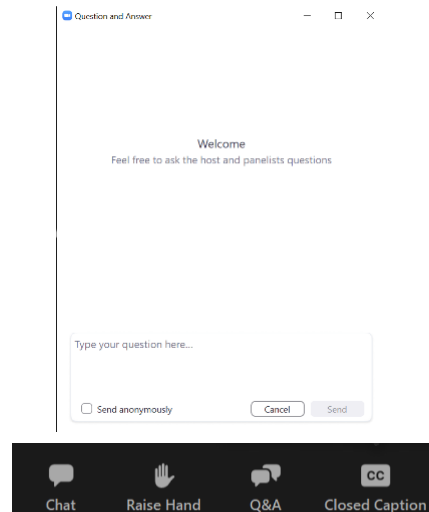
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## Submitting Questions

- Questions should be submitted via the **QUESTION AREA (ICON)**. You will have the option to submit your question “anonymously”
- **Please DO NOT** submit questions in the Chat Area. We will not be monitoring it for questions.

**Please refrain from submitting any commentary, responses, etc. via the chat area.**

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## Technical Assistance

If you experience any technical difficulties during the webinar:

1. Send a private chat message to the Host in the Chat Area. You can select via the drop-down menu in the Chat Area.

OR

2. Email: [core@playcore.com](mailto:core@playcore.com)

To: All panelists ▼

Your text can only be seen by panelists



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## Welcome to the Webinar

### ADA Standards and Considerations for the Accessible Design of Outdoor Play and Recreation Destinations

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Community Outreach Director  
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(Moderator)



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CORE

## CORE | RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Our Research Institute is comprised of leading experts, universities, and research centers who are committed to help us investigate, discover, and translate information that informs all of our services. Through our trusted partnerships, we publish field-tested best practices across a variety of play and recreation disciplines.

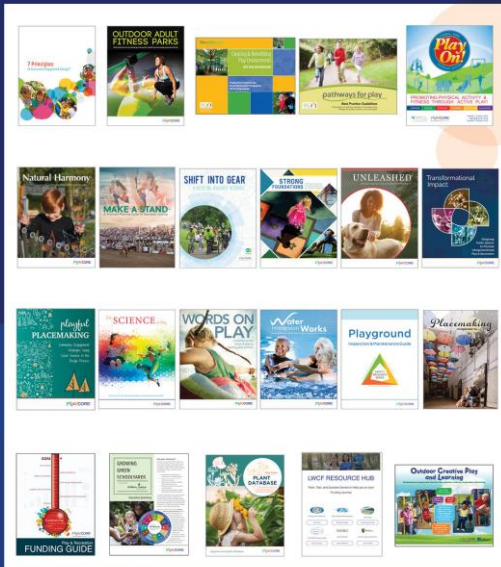
**Connect & Collaborate:** [playcore.com/research](https://playcore.com/research)

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## CORE | RESOURCE LIBRARY

www.playcore.com/resources

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## CORE | RESOURCE LIBRARY

CORE's Resource Library is a collection of evidence-based publications including best-practice design guides, planning tools, advocacy tools, case studies, and standards-based curriculum. Every resource is fueled by the research from our Research Institute, time-tested, and put into practice by organizations around the world.

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SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

CONFERENCES

LUNCH & LEARN EVENTS

VIRTUAL LEARNING EVENTS

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## CORE | PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HUB

CORE's Professional Development Hub combines research and resources to offer world-class learning opportunities where professionals can share learnings and earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) through a variety of tailored events and diverse topics.

Learn & Earn: [education.playcore.com](https://education.playcore.com)

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## Steps to Receive Continuing Education Credit for Webinar

The screenshot shows the CORE Professional Development Hub website. The navigation bar includes links for Home, Profile, My Dashboard (circled in red), CORE Resources, FAQs, Cart, and Back to PlayCore.com. The main content area features a welcome message, a search bar, and a list of events. The event titled "Live / ADA Standards for the Accessible Design of Outdoor Play & Recreation Destinations" is highlighted. Below the event details, a section titled "Obtaining your CEU credit" lists three steps: Step 1: Complete ADA Standards Survey, Step 2: Complete ADA Standards Quiz, and Step 3: Download ADA Standards Certificate. Arrows point from the steps to the right-hand list of instructions.

1. [education.playcore.com](https://education.playcore.com)

2. Go to My Dashboard

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## CORE | DATA SERVICE LAB

We are passionate about raising national awareness and helping local communities share the positive impact they're making on health and wellness. Through our National Demonstration Site Network, these sites can participate in ongoing data collection and receive reports measuring their impact on the community's vitality.

Demonstrate Community Impact: [playcore.com/nds](https://playcore.com/nds)



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# ADA Standards and Considerations for the Accessible Design of Outdoor Play and Recreation Destinations

Presented by:



**Bill Botten**  
Accessibility Specialist  
*PlayCore*  
[bill.botten@playcore.com](mailto:bill.botten@playcore.com)



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## Learning Objectives

1. Outline at least two minimum standards for accessible play areas required under the 2010 ADA Standards.
2. List at least three key considerations to create accessible routes to and within play and recreation destinations.
3. Evaluate a variety of park amenities and identify barriers that may restrict people with disabilities from being able to fully participate in the provided recreational opportunities.
4. Identify two helpful resources to obtain additional information or to utilize when evaluating new and existing play and recreation environments.

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## Who is being excluded?



### “Who is being Excluded”?

This is the question to consider when creating inclusive outdoor recreation experiences for everyone to participate and enjoy. The process must start early in the planning, designing, and programming of these unique spaces. Choose inclusion over exclusion!

— Bill Botten, Retired U.S. Access Board,  
Inclusion Specialist, PlayCore Consultant

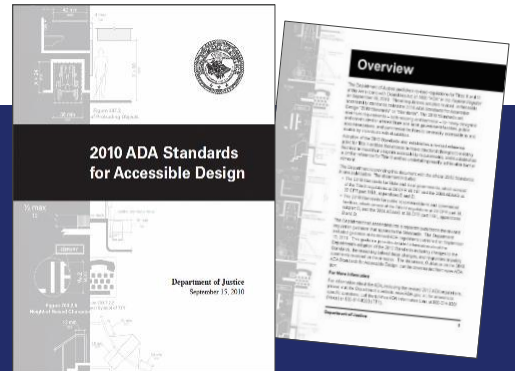
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# Americans with Disabilities Act

The ADA is a federal civil rights law that provides protections to people with disabilities to ensure that they are treated equally in all aspects of life.

Under the ADA, the 1991 Standard for Accessible Design was the first accessibility standard.

The 1991 Standard was revised and replaced with a more comprehensive standard- the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design which included specific provisions for recreation facilities, including play areas, for all new construction and alterations after **March 15, 2012**.



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## State and Local Government Facilities (Title II)

- Title II of the ADA prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in all programs, activities, and services of public entities.

- **It applies to all state and local governments**
  - Including public schools, community parks, recreation center parks, state parks, and many more.

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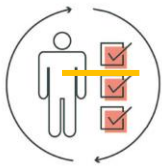


## Parking

- ☑ More than the minimum required accessible parking spaces that include van spaces with wider access aisles and appropriate signage.
- ☑ Parking areas conveniently located to create an accessible route to the park entrance(s).



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## Pathways

- ☑ Firm and stable surface materials along accessible connecting routes (concrete, asphalt, or boardwalk preferred).
- ☑ Accessible routes connect buildings, facilities, elements, and spaces on site.
- ☑ Railings and edge protection on routes with running slopes greater than 5% or where there is a drop off.



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## Playgrounds

- ☑ Robust assortment of activities that thoughtfully meet the physical, social-emotional, communication, sensory, and cognitive needs of all people, including those with disabilities.
- ☑ Go beyond the minimum ADA Standards for Accessible Play Areas to meet the 7 Principles of Inclusive Playground Design, the only evidence-based design best practices for inclusive play environments. Visit [playcore.com/inclusion](https://playcore.com/inclusion) to request the design guidebook.

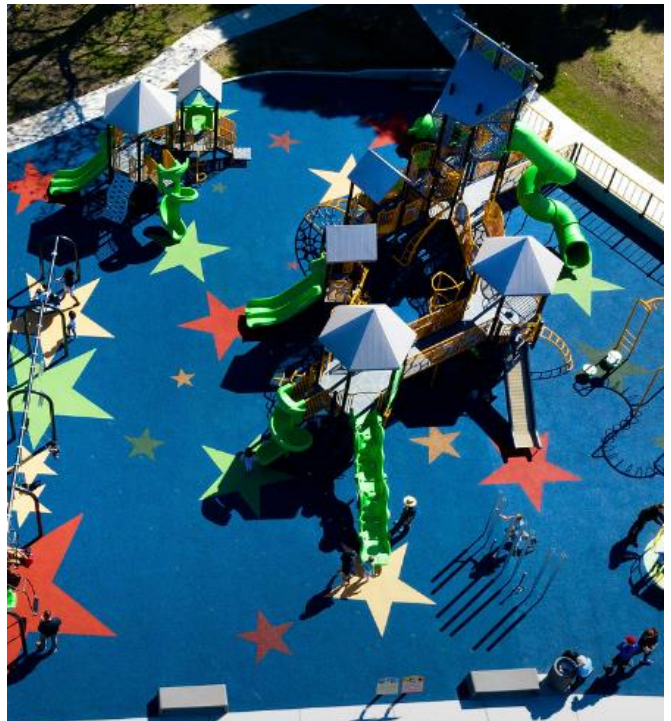


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## Playgrounds (cont.)

- ☑ Selection of playground equipment that has intentionally been designed to provide additional gross motor and fine motor supports for more active, independent play.
- ☑ Accessible routes to, around, and on the play equipment, using accessible safety surfacing and accessible ramps.



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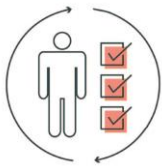


## Ground Level Accessible Route Connections in Outdoor Play Areas

- ☑ At least one of each type of play component.
- ☑ Running slope/cross slope
- ☑ 60" minimum width
- ☑ Firm, stable, and slip resistant
- ☑ Openings
- ☑ Changes in level
- ☑ Vertical clearance



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## ADA Standard for Elevated Accessible Route

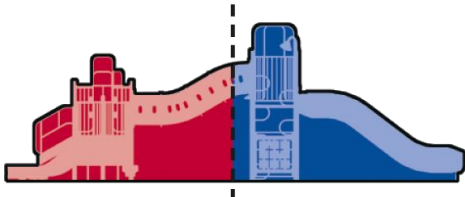
- ☑ Connect to at least 50% of elevated play components.
- ☑ Ramp or transfer access?



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## 19 or Less Elevated Play Components

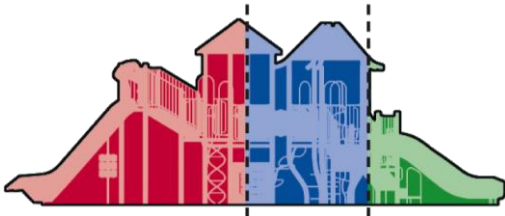


- Connect to at least 50% of total elevated play components.
- Elevated accessible components may be accessed via transfer or a combination of transfer and ramp access.



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## 20 or More Elevated Play Components



- Connect to at least 50% of total elevated play components.
- 25% of the total elevated components must be accessible by ramp.
- The remaining 25% (or more), may be accessed by either transfer or ramp.

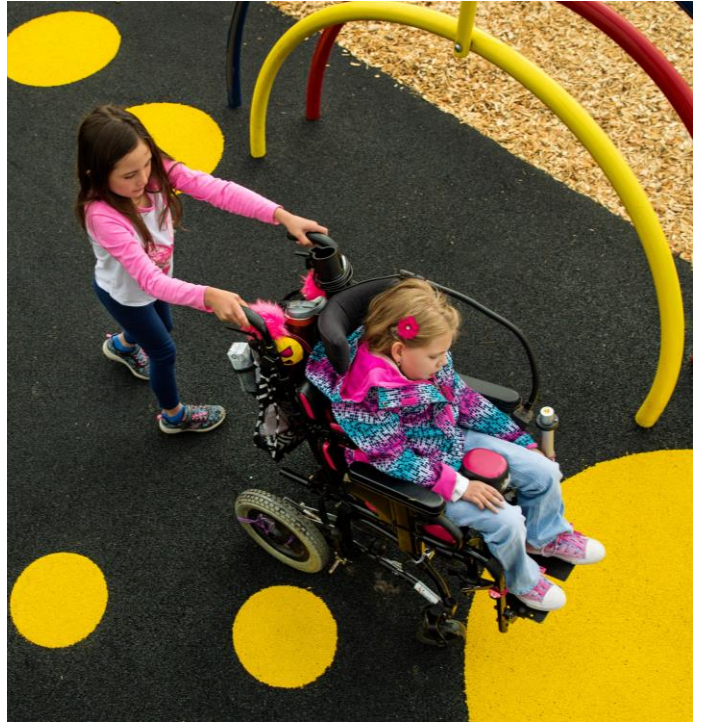


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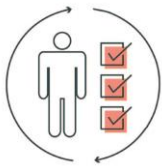


## Surfacing

- ☑ Unitary, fall attenuating safety surfacing, such as poured-in-place rubber or turf provides the most consistent surface for accessibility in play and recreation environments.
- ☑ Various surface materials, textures, or colors to provide cues to help visually organize the environment so that it is easier to navigate and understand.



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## Surfacing Referenced Standards

- **ASTM F 1487-01** - Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Playground Equipment for Public Use.
- **ASTM F 1292- 99 or 04** - Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surfacing Materials Within the Use Zone of Playground Equipment.
- **ASTM F 1951-99** - Standard Specification for Determination of Accessibility of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment
- Use of "Equivalent facilitation" for more recently published versions of these standards



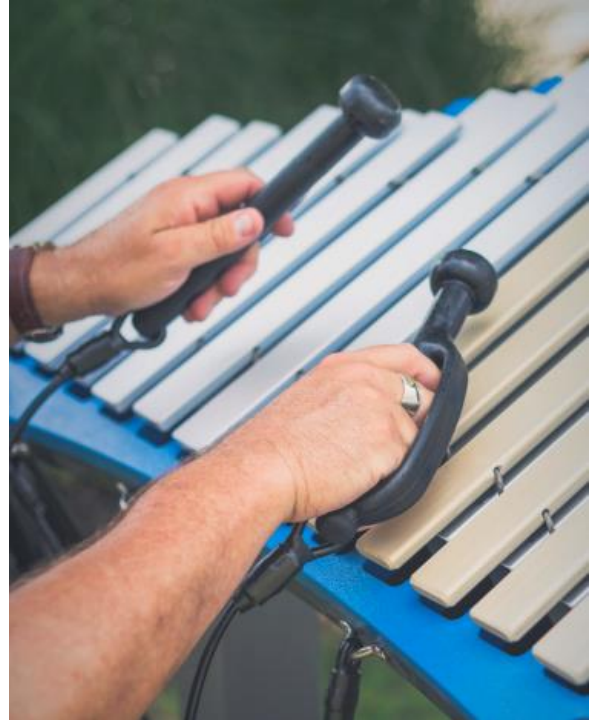
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## Site Amenities: Musical Instruments

- ☑ Musical elements installed on an accessible route with a hard surface, and at an appropriate height so that individuals of various sizes and individuals using wheelchairs can comfortably approach and reach the activity.
- ☑ Adapted mallets to promote independence and usability for individuals that need additional fine motor support.



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## Site Amenities: Communication

- ☑ Opportunities for visitors to communicate through pictures and/or symbols that are easy to recognize, paired with the written word, and are organized using color-coding to represent different parts of speech.
- ☑ Communication boards installed on an accessible route with a hard surface, at an appropriate height so that individuals of various sizes and individuals using wheelchairs can comfortably approach and point to or gaze at picture symbols.
- ☑ Printed communication boards for download or available to check out for visitors and/or their caregivers to use in preparation for and during their visit.

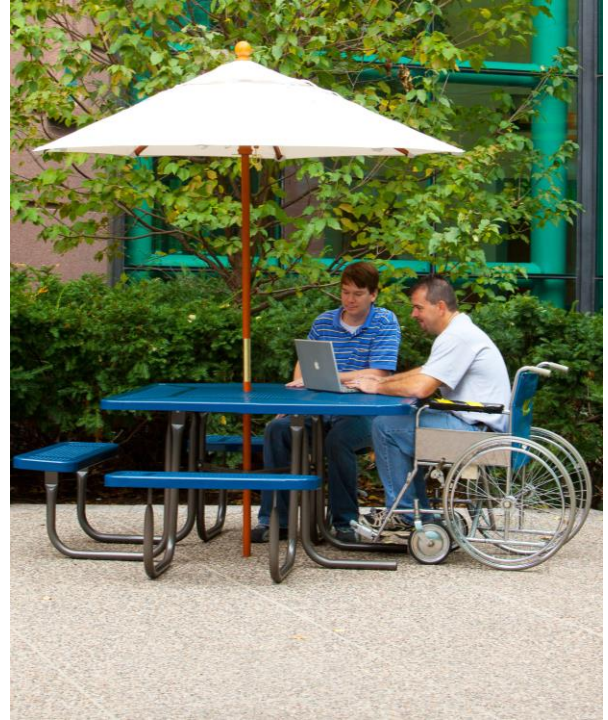


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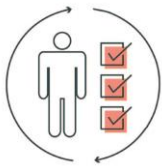


## Site Amenities: Picnic Tables

- ☑ Tables positioned on an accessible route and protected from weather by using shade or shelters where possible.
- ☑ Wheelchair spaces integrated into picnic tables which allow space for multiple individuals that use mobility devices to comfortably gather at the same table and offer choices of where to sit.



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## Site Amenities: Benches/Sitting Areas

- ☑ Adjacent accessible wheelchair spaces/areas near benches with a firm and stable surface.
- ☑ Shade trees or shade structures surrounding seating areas to increase comfort.
- ☑ Back and armrests on benches when possible.
- ☑ Benches with charging ports for personal electronic devices and mobility devices.



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## Site Amenities: Shade and Shelter

- ☑ A combination of integrated shade (manufactured) and natural shade (tree canopy) offers relief from elements and increased comfort.
- ☑ Shade shelters and pavilions on an accessible route and provide a firm and stable surface throughout.



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## Site Amenities: Accessible Toilet and Bathing Facilities

- ☑ Accessible sink(s) with touchless operation.
- ☑ Paper towel/hand drying features within accessible reach ranges.
- ☑ Family/Unisex restroom with at least one adult size changing table.
- ☑ Signage with Braille characters and raised pictorial symbols at toilet room doors.



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## Wayfinding

- ☑ Accessible visual signage that identifies accessible routes and facilities within the site.
- ☑ Picture symbols to identify equipment with raised images, words, Braille, etc.
- ☑ Bilingual options on signage, QR codes with videos, or options to download in different languages.
- ☑ Section 508 compliant detailed website information about the park and inclusive features.
- ☑ Tactile 3D site models where possible.
- ☑ Various surface material textures or colors to provide behavioral cues and help visually organize the environment so that it is easier to navigate and understand.



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## Site Amenities: Drinking Fountains & Water Bottle Filling Stations

- ☑ A wheelchair accessible and a standing height drinking fountain provided at each location.
- ☑ Stations to include accessible features such as switch/bar or automatic touchless sensors.



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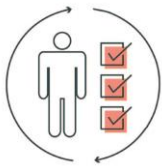


## Site Amenities: Adult Outdoor Fitness Parks

- ☑ Universally designed equipment that provides individuals using mobility devices the opportunity to engage in aerobic and muscle strengthening activities alongside others.
- ☑ Accessible routes of travel to and around the equipment and include safety surfacing when appropriate.
- ☑ Signage with simple graphics and verbiage for instruction or QR codes to provide video instruction.

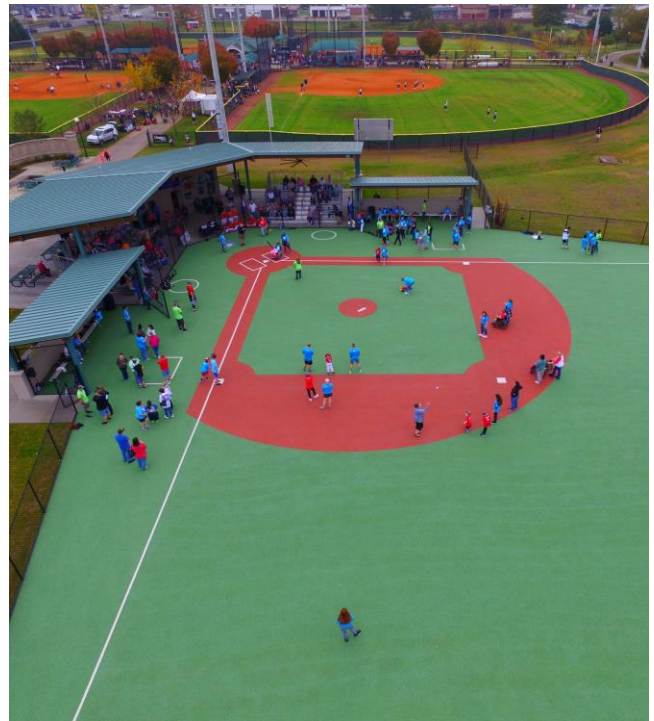


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## Site Amenities: Universal Fields

- ☑ Each area of sport activity connected with at least one accessible route.
- ☑ Unitary surfacing on fields that permit wheelchair access and play.
- ☑ Wheelchair accessible dugouts with a wheelchair space adjacent to team benches.



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## Site Amenities: Bleachers & Spectator Seating

- ☑ Wheelchair spaces integrated within each spectator seating area.
- ☑ Circulation paths are behind the designated wheelchair spaces to avoid obstructing the view.



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## Site Amenities: Customer Service Areas

- ☑ Wheelchair accessible sales and service counters no higher than 36 inches.
- ☑ Accessible point of sale systems.
- ☑ Condiment stations within accessible reach ranges.
- ☑ Menus with large print, pictures, and Braille.



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## Site Amenities: Aquatic Play Environments

- ☑ Aquatic access wheelchairs of varied sizes for adult and child visitors are available to use.
- ☑ Changing/bathing facilities include an accessible changing bench.
- ☑ Showers provide a handheld shower device and a shower bench for transfer in each accessible shower.

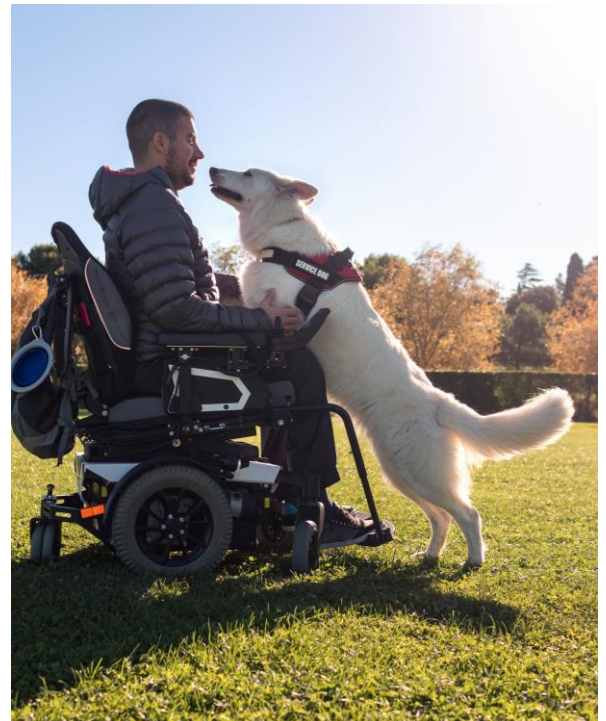


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## Site Amenities: Dog Parks & Pet Amenities

- ☑ Pet waste, water stations, and gate latches are positioned at an accessible approach, reach heights, and operation for individuals using mobility devices.
- ☑ Accessible route and surface to and throughout that connects elements and spaces in the environment.



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## Temporary Events and Facilities

- ☑ Accessible temporary connecting routes to elements and spaces with a firm, stable and slip resistant surface.
- ☑ Accessible portable toilets.
- ☑ Accessible parking.



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## Take Aways



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## Useful Resources



### U.S. Department of Justice

Implementing regulation and additional requirements

Requirements for existing facilities –  
Title II & III

(800) 514-0301 (voice)

(800) 514-0383 (TTY)

[www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov)



### U.S. Access Board

2010 Accessibility Standards for new construction and alterations

(202) 272-0080 (voice/TTY)

(202) 272-0081 (FAX)

[ta@access-board.gov](mailto:ta@access-board.gov)

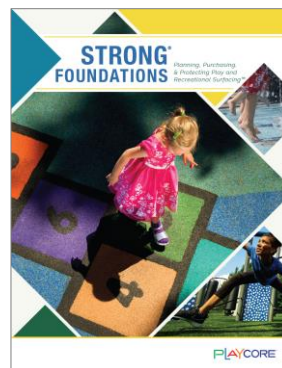
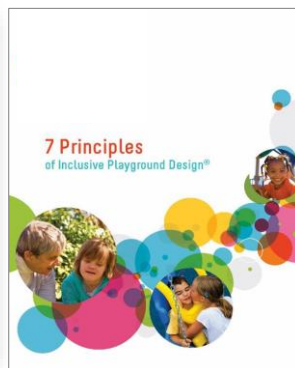
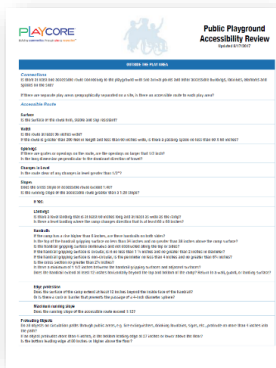
[www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov)

**PLAYCORE**

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## Useful Resources

(Available in the learning system under handouts)



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# Inclusive Features to Positively Enhance Park Experiences for All Visitors

In order to create inclusive community park experiences, considerations must include the needs of the whole environment and the whole community. Use this comprehensive park checklist to thoughtfully create a welcoming atmosphere and outdoor play and recreation destinations that are more usable, by more people, to the greatest extent possible.



## 1. Parking

- More than the minimum required accessible parking spaces that include van spaces with wider access aisles and appropriate signage.
- Parking areas conveniently located to create an accessible route to the park entrance(s).



## 2. Pathways

- Firm and stable surface materials along accessible connecting routes (concrete, asphalt, or boardwalk preferred).
- Railings and edge protection on routes with running slopes greater than 5% or where there is a drop off.



## 3. Surfacing

- Unitary, fall attenuating safety surfacing, such as poured-in-place rubber provides the most consistent surface for accessibility in play and recreation environments.
- Various surface materials, textures, or colors to provide cues to help visually organize the environment so that it is easier to navigate and understand.



## 4. Playgrounds

- Robust assortment of activities that thoughtfully meet the physical, social-emotional, communication, sensory, and cognitive needs of all people, including those with disabilities.
- Go beyond the minimum ADA Standards for Accessible Play Areas to meet the 7 Principles of Inclusive Playground Design™, the only evidence-based design best practices for inclusive play environments. Visit [playcare.com/inclusion](http://playcare.com/inclusion) to request the design guidebook.
- Selection of playground equipment that has intentionally been designed to provide additional gross motor and fine motor supports for more active, independent play.
- Accessible routes to, around, and on the play equipment, using unitary safety surfacing and accessible ramps.



## 5. Wayfinding

- Accessible visual signage that identifies accessible routes and facilities within the site.
- Picture symbols to identify equipment with raised images, words, Braille, etc.
- Bilingual options on signage, QR codes with videos, or options to download in different languages.
- Detailed website information about the park and inclusive features.
- Tactile 3D site models where possible.
- Various surface material textures or colors to provide behavioral cues and help visually organize the environment so that it is easier to navigate and understand.

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## 6. Site Amenities

### a. Accessible Toilet and Bathing Facilities:

- Accessible sink(s) with touchless operation.
- Paper towel/hand drying features within accessible reach ranges.
- Family/Unisex restroom with at least one adult size changing table.
- Signage with Braille characters and raised pictorial symbols at toilet room doors.

### b. Picnic Tables:

- Tables positioned on an accessible route and protected from weather by using shade or shelters where possible.
- Wheelchair spaces integrated into picnic tables which allow space for multiple individuals that use mobility devices to comfortably gather at the same table and offer choices of where to sit.

### c. Benches/Sitting Areas:

- Adjacent accessible wheelchair spaces/areas near benches with a firm and stable surface.
- Shade trees or shade structures surrounding seating areas to increase comfort.
- Back and armrests on benches when possible.
- Benches with charging ports for personal electronic devices and mobility devices.

### d. Shade and Shelters:

- A combination of integrated shade (manufactured) and natural shade (tree canopy) offers relief from elements and increased comfort.
- Shade shelters and pavilions on an accessible route and provide a firm and stable surface throughout.

### e. Drinking Fountains and Water Bottle Filling Stations:

- A wheelchair accessible and a standing height drinking fountain provided at each location.
- Stations to include accessible features such as switch/bar or automatic touchless sensors.

### f. Universal Fields:

- Each area of sport activity is connected with at least one accessible route.
- Unitary surfacing on fields that permit wheelchair access and play.
- Wheelchair accessible dugouts with a wheelchair space adjacent to team benches.

### g. Customer Service Areas:

- Wheelchair accessible sales and service counters no higher than 36 inches.
- Accessible point of sale systems.
- Condiment stations within accessible reach ranges.
- Menus with large print, pictures, and Braille.

### h. Bleachers/Spectator Seating:

- Wheelchair spaces integrated within each spectator seating area.
- Circulation paths are behind the designated wheelchair spaces to avoid obstructing the view.



### i. Aquatic Play Environments:

- Aquatic access wheelchairs of varied sizes for adult and child visitors are available to use.
- Changing/bathing facilities include an accessible changing bench.
- Showers provide a handheld shower device and a shower bench for transfer in each accessible shower.



### j. Dog Parks & Pet Amenities:

- Pet waste, water stations, and gate latches are positioned at an accessible approach, reach heights, and operation for individuals using mobility devices.
- Accessible route and surface to and throughout the environment.



### k. Adult Outdoor Fitness Parks:

- Universally designed equipment that provides individuals using mobility devices the opportunity to engage in aerobic and muscle strengthening activities alongside others.
- Accessible routes of travel to and around the equipment and include safety surfacing when appropriate.
- Signage with simple graphics and verbiage for instruction or QR codes to provide video instruction.



### l. Musical Instruments:

- Musical elements installed on an accessible route with a hard surface, and at an appropriate height so that individuals of various sizes and individuals using wheelchairs can comfortably approach and reach the activity.
- Adapted mallets to promote independence and usability for individuals that need additional fine motor support.



### m. Communication:

- Opportunities for visitors to communicate through pictures and/or symbols that are easy to recognize, paired with the written word, and are organized using color-coding to represent different parts of speech.
- Communication boards installed on an accessible route with a hard surface, at an appropriate height so that individuals of various sizes and individuals using wheelchairs can comfortably approach and point to or gaze at picture symbols.
- Printed communication boards for download or available to check out for visitors and/or their caregivers to use in preparation for and during their visit.

## Special Events & Programming:

- Activities located on accessible routes and with accessible surfacing.
- Accessible portable toilet facilities and parking at temporary events.
- Sign language or bilingual interpretation at special events.
- Special events designed and marketed to ensure people of all abilities can play and interact meaningfully.
- Adaptive equipment such as all-terrain wheelchairs, adaptive swing harnesses, adaptive switches for play panels that offer switch capability, and adaptive sports equipment available for visitors to check out or to use during programs/events.
- "Sensory Kits" that include noise cancelling headphones, fidget toys, communication boards or picture symbols, or other adaptive tools available for visitors to reserve/check out.

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## Steps to Receive Continuing Education Credit for Webinar

The screenshot shows the CORE Professional Development Hub interface. The 'My Dashboard' link in the top navigation bar is circled in red. The main content area features a live event titled 'Live / ADA Standards for the Accessible Design of Outdoor Play & Recreation Destinations'. Below the event title, a section titled 'Obtaining your CEU credit' lists three steps: 1. Complete ADA Standards Survey, 2. Complete ADA Standards Quiz, and 3. Download ADA Standards Certificate. Arrows point from these steps to the right-hand list of instructions.

1. education.playcore.com

2. Go to My Dashboard

3. Complete Survey  
Complete Quiz

4. Obtain CEU Certificate

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## Resources

- Questions? [core@playcore.com](mailto:core@playcore.com)
- Education [education.playcore.com](https://education.playcore.com)
- Resources [www.playcore.com/resources](https://www.playcore.com/resources)
- Newsletter [www.playcore.com/newsletter](https://www.playcore.com/newsletter)
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