



Media Release

Residents urged to not use ‘Out of Service’ playground structures

September 11, 2020 – When the Town of Midland was permitted to move into Stage 3 of the Ontario Government’s recovery framework in mid-July, many playground structures and equipment in Town parks were opened for public use. However, due to safety concerns, several playground structures have been cordoned off using snow fencing to prevent these structures from being used.

“An extensive inspection of our playground structures and equipment was completed earlier this summer, and while many structures were able to be reopened when Stage 3 arrived, several were found to be in need of repair and/or removal and are considered ‘out of service’,” said Dylan Flannery, Manager of Operations. “Unfortunately, over the course of the summer the snow fencing around some structures has been continually removed by park patrons in an attempt to use the unsafe structures.”

A report went to Council in August outlining the inspection results, and efforts are currently underway to identify which structures can be repaired, which structures will be removed, and what may replace them.

“We understand that this may be a frustrating inconvenience, however we ask that residents respect the fact that these structures are not safe for use. Even if the structure looks safe and was used last year, circumventing or removing the fencing will put themselves and those who may use it afterwards at risk,” added Flannery.

Many playground structures/equipment are in service and available for use at Bob Merkley Park; Cook Drive Park; Griffin Street Natural Park; Harbourside/Rotary Park; Little Lake Park; and Regent Park.

Playground users are reminded that these structures are not sanitized, and that physical distancing must be practiced when using them. Signage is posted at all structures advising of this.



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