



Includes detailed information and recommendations for all stages of the process, from initial concepts through installation, and ongoing maintenance.

- 3** What is an Inclusive Playground?
- 4** Physical Accommodations/Compliance
- 5** Engage and Integrate
- 6** Promote Inclusion
- 7** About May Recreation
- 8** Contact Us



WHAT IS AN INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND?



in•clu•sive \in-'klü-siv, -ziv\ *adjective*

The simple definition of inclusive, according to Merriam-Webster:

- covering or including everything
- open to everyone: not limited to certain people
- including the stated limits and everything in between

With inclusive playgrounds, the objective is to include everyone. They are thoughtfully designed to provide a safe place where children of all abilities can play together and are developmentally appropriate for children with and without disabilities.

An inclusive playground takes away the barriers to exclusion, both physical and social, providing a “sensory-rich” experience for all.

ENSURE ADAAG COMPLIANCE

PHYSICAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodating physical disabilities is one component of an inclusive playground. This includes compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADAAG) while utilizing play equipment that complies with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines (CPSC). Key points to consider here include:

- **Surfacing Options**
- **Play Equipment Access**
(Transfer Point and/or Ramps)
- **Layout of Play Equipment**

As of March 15, 2012, new and renovated playground surfaces must pass ASTM Standards for impact protection (F1292) and wheelchair access (F 1951). It's imperative to have barrier-free access to public play areas in order to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.

Your playground design expert can help ensure that you are within the guidelines, installing elements such as:

- **Plastic ramping system**
- **Ground-level play activities** —
ADAAG requires a specific number of accessible ground-level play components based on the number of elevated play components in your play area.

You want your playground to be accessible and enjoyable for children of all needs, and it's important to plan ahead to ensure it's built that way.



"You want your playground to be accessible and enjoyable for children of all needs, and it's important to plan ahead to ensure it's built that way."

ENGAGE AND INTEGRATE

ENGAGING

Inclusive playgrounds provide a number of different opportunities for children to explore. They encourage physical activity, integrate all the senses and promote social development through play. Consideration in your project design should be given to all three aspects.



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

- Sliding
- Balancing
- Climbing
- Jumping
- Swinging
- Running



SENSORY SYSTEM

- Sight
- Smell
- Hearing
- Touch



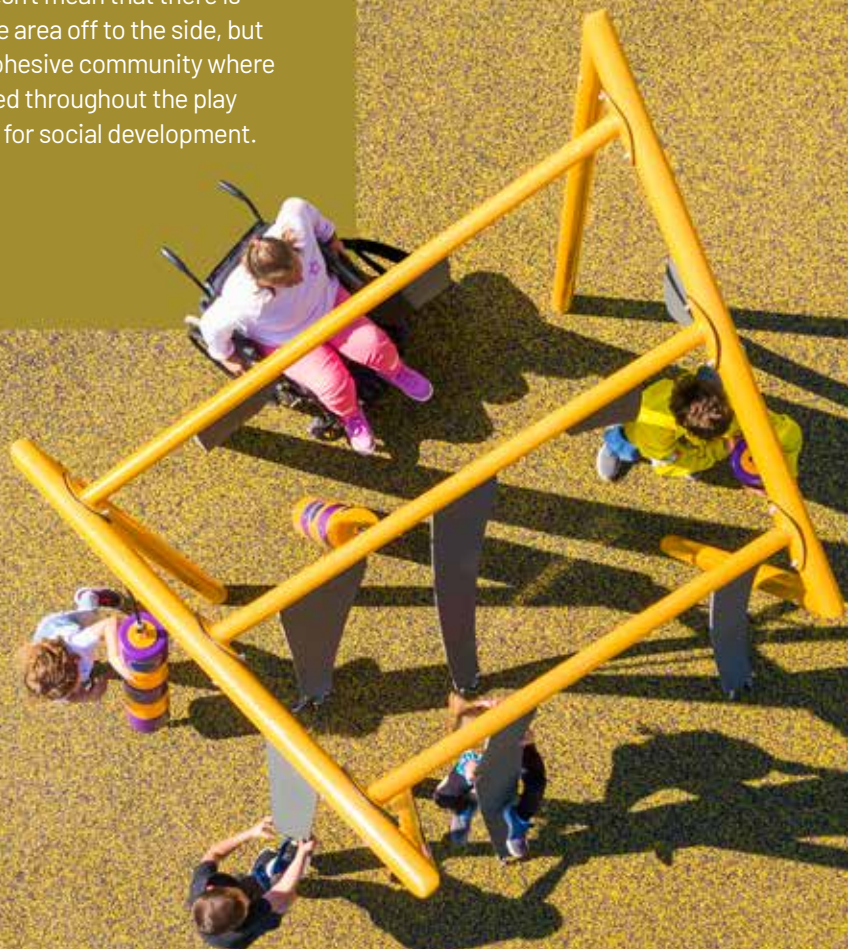
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Imagination Play
- Sharing/Cooperation
- Group Behavior

INTEGRATED

A true inclusive playground doesn't mean that there is special equipment in a separate area off to the side, but rather a space designed as a cohesive community where play opportunities are integrated throughout the play environment. This is important for social development.

- Gathering Areas
- Music Ensembles
- Freestanding Play Activities
- Play Structure Components



Just as the name suggests, inclusive playgrounds have another mission that goes beyond the physical accommodations and specialized equipment. These playgrounds do so much for the community. They educate and bring families and people together. They stress the importance of inclusion in everyday activities, no matter the ability level. They prove that kids of all abilities enjoy exploring, learning, interacting and having fun together. They stress compassion and, well, inclusion of those who are different from you ... that's a lesson that benefits us all. Apply this concept when choosing the following:

- **Shade Structures**
- **Drinking Fountains**
- **Benches/Tables**
- **Litter Receptacles**

ABOUT MAY RECREATION

May Recreation Equipment & Design is a top supplier of playground equipment, shelters, playground safety surfacing, splash pads, site amenities, and related products in Northeast, East, and Southeast Texas including the Greater Houston Area.

With over 30 years of experience in public and private projects, May Recreation prides itself on bringing projects in on time, on budget, and beyond our clients' expectations. If you're in the process of designing a playground, May Recreation can work with you to bring your vision to life.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:



Project design assistance



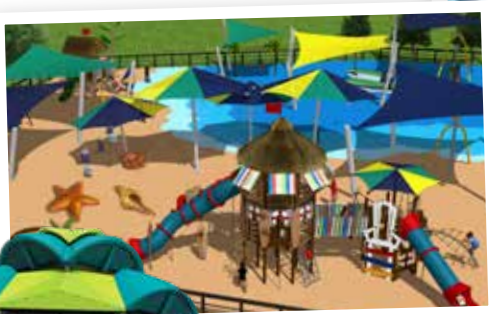
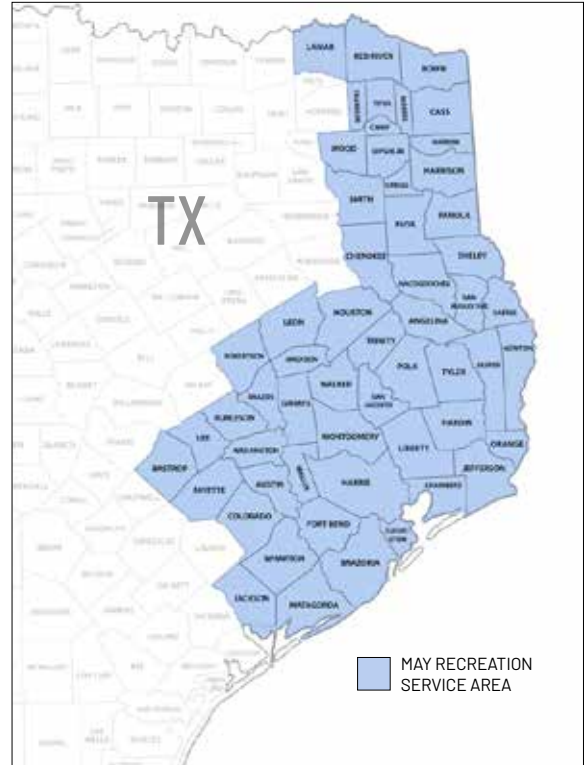
Financing options



CAD design capabilities



Installation of most products



"It is a happy talent to know how to play."

– Ralph Waldo Emerson



If you'd like to learn more about Inclusive Playgrounds or discuss designing one in your community, feel free to contact us today.

HOUSTON, TEXAS

800-964-6301 Toll-Free • sales@mayrecreation.com

www.mayrecreation.com

