

Are Wooden Play Structures Safe For Our Children?

Play structures made of chromated copper arsenate (CCA)-treated wood, also known as pressure treated wood are raising concerns. Chromium, copper and arsenic can leach out of CCA-treated wood, and have been found on wood surfaces and in soil near the wood. The risk of illness from these chemicals is low and there are precautions parents can take to reduce their children's exposure such as:

- washing hands after contact with CCA-treated wood
- using an oil-based sealant on an existing CCA-treated wood structure, re-applying every one or two years

School boards have recently taken steps to use alternatives or to coat existing structures made of CCA-treated wood. For more information, call 311 or visit www.toronto.ca/health (see A-Z index, Wood-pressure treated).

Last updated August 2010

Call **3•1•1**

toronto.ca/health

 **TORONTO** Public Health