Safe Outdoor Environments Checklist for Infants and Toddlers

**Equipment Spacing:**
- Fall zones extend at least 3 feet on all sides of equipment.
- Play structures with surfaces between 18 inches and 32 inches high are spaced at least 3 feet apart.
- Fall zones do not overlap the fall zones of other equipment.

**For children under age 2:**
- All climbing equipment is less than 32 inches high.
- Ramps are provided instead of ladders.
- Spiral slides (if used) are less than 360 degrees.
- Swings have full bucket seats.
- The flat exit region of slides is 7 to 10 inches long and the exit height is 6 inches or less.
- All play surfaces over 18” high have protective barriers around the platform.

**For all children:**
- There are no entanglement hazards: protruding bolts or open S-hooks on swings.
- Openings in guardrails, ladder rungs, fence slats, and other spaces measure less than 3.5 inches or greater than 9 inches.
- Moving pieces of play equipment (seesaws, bridges) do not have accessible moving parts.
- There are no sharp points, corners, or edges on play equipment or other objects in the space.

**Outdoor Activity Areas:**
- All toys, equipment and materials are in good repair and are nontoxic.
- The playground meets all Consumer Products Safety Commission standards for equipment and fall protection surfacing.
- There is adequate fall protection surface under the equipment (sand, mulch, etc. is replenished; rubberized surface is not torn, no holes, etc.).
- To prevent injury from falls, climbing equipment is the proper size for the children using it.
- Climbing equipment is in good repair. Broken equipment is off limits. (Equipment is sturdy and properly installed; broken equipment is not used until repaired.)
- There are no broken riding toys, sand or water toys, balls, equipment, etc. (Any work requests have been submitted to management and items are repaired in a timely manner.)
- Glass doors are clearly marked (at child’s eye level) to avoid accidental impact.
- The fence is in good repair with no safety hazards. Panic hardware is operable.
- There is no trash, litter, weeds, animal waste, or debris on the grounds (outside trash cans have lids and are emptied at least weekly).