

SUSPENSION



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

GALE R. BURSTEIN, MD, MPH
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

July 25, 2019

Hon. Stefan I. Mychajliw
95 Franklin St.
Room 1100
Buffalo, NY 14202

RE: Lead Paint on Parks Equipment

Dear Comptroller Mychajliw:

I am writing in response to your letter from earlier today regarding lead testing results for Erie County parks playground equipment. After Mr. Scott Kroll from your office informed me of possible unpremeditated lead paint on county playground equipment on July 16th, I immediately directed a lead program sanitarian to conduct an inspection of not only all playground equipment but all habitable structures in the park's system.

On Monday an inspection of the largest park, Chestnut Ridge, was completed with Akron Park following on July 24th and Emery Park being inspected Thursday July 25th. Any pieces of equipment with lead contamination that are found have been slated for removal.

Please be aware that most lead poisoning in children occurs through repeat exposure and consumption, particularly in children under 24 months of age. Chipping and peeling lead paint and paint dust in pre-1978 homes is the primary source of lead poisoning in Erie County, and to date, the Child Lead program has not discovered any incidences of lead poisoning related to lead exposure from any county facility, including our parks system.

Sincerely yours,

Gale R Burstein, MD, MPH, FAAP
Erie County Commissioner of Health

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GRB/bqs

CC: Erie County Legislature
Mark C. Poloncarz, County Executive
Mr. Greg Olma, Deputy Parks Commissioner