# Grounds/Outside

Congregational Worksheet on Accessibility

for greater inclusion for Disabled UU’s

Full participation in all aspects of congregational life for people with disabilities is the aspiration for UU congregations. This is a big undertaking and one that is ongoing. **Accessibility is only one part of this, but it is essential. Here, we cover one of the many areas within congregational accessibility.** As new technologies emerge, this list will change. Additionally, the brief accessibility checklist is not complete or specific to you. This checklist is meant to start the conversation. Your building, grounds, or policies are unique to your congregation. We encourage everyone to participate, either through a survey created for your congregation, or helping with or giving input, on accessibility projects.

Each worksheet has four sections and should be revisited for updates.

1. Links to EDUCATIONAL RESOURCESwith detailed information.
2. CHECKLIST:
   1. Check **Yes or No** as it applies at this moment even if you have plans to add this accessibility in the future.
   2. Mark **NA** if it does not nor ever will apply. For example, an elevator would never be installed in a single-story building with no basement.
   3. In the **Action** column, note what needs to happen next. Does another committee need to be involved? If so, what committee? Would this item be best handled by someone on the staff? Use the **Notes** for additional space.
3. SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER poses questions to start conversations on dismantling ableism in your congregation.
4. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES are articles, blog posts, activities, and other information that is current and will be revised every three months.

# Grounds/Outside

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| Educational Links: Humans Outside <https://humansoutside.com/2020/09/4-ways-to-create-welcoming-spaces-for-disabled-outdoor-users/> Accessible Sidewalks: Pedestrians who are Blind <https://youtu.be/Clg1KJd_e0k> | | | | |
| Checklist: | Yes | No | N/A | Action |
| 1. Is there clear signage that directs members and visitors to accessible entrances? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Are routes of travel stable, firm and slip-resistant? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. If applicable, is there a policy to remove snow? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Do curbs on the route have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Is there an accessible playground? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Is the memorial garden accessible? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Are trails, picnic area, bonfire and other outdoor locations accessible? |  |  |  |  |
| Notes: | | | | |
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Some things to consider: Have you ever checked out the ground below your feet? What is it made of? Does it make you feel safe? If this question has never crossed your mind, why or why not? This booklet, [*Accessibility Guidebook for Outdoor Recreation and Trails*](chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/viewer.html?pdfurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.fs.usda.gov%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2FAccessibility-Guide-Book.pdf&clen=18397891&chunk=true), contains all kinds of information on making your outdoor space accessible. This website, [Let Kids Play!](https://www.accessibleplayground.net/?doing_wp_cron=1646414610.6798019409179687500000) has resources on building accessible playgrounds for kids. And if you want to find one to visit one, they have those resources to!

## Additional Resources:

Accessible Community Gardens <https://vcgn.org/vcgn2020/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/AccessibleCommunityGardensGuide-GrassrootsGardensofBuffalo.pdf>

Accessible Play Spaces <https://www.rickhansen.com/sites/default/files/2020-03/sch-35913-guide-creating-accessible-play-spacesen2020web.pdf>

Helping Disabled People Find Belonging Outdoors

<https://www.wta.org/news/magazine/features/helping-disabled-people-find-belonging-outdoors>

Outdoors for Everyone? Why We Need Better Access <https://blog.nature.org/science/2018/11/07/outdoors-for-everyone-we-need-better-access/>

We welcome your feedback and additions to this form: [aim@uua.org](mailto:aim@uua.org)