

Sport Ramps

In July 2016, the Community Standards Bylaw (CSB) was amended to address noise related to sports ramp activities. The CSB sets sound limits for daytime and night-time and prohibits certain activities after 10 p.m., including use of sports ramps.

Tips to reduce noise

Generally most home sport ramp surfaces and frames are made from wood. When built using noise-reducing methods, wooden surfaces and frames may produce less noise compared to other materials and are generally lower in cost and are fairly easy to maintain.

- 1) Ensure the riding surface is smooth
 - Smooth transitions between ramp surfaces or topsheets will avoid the noise that can occur when wheels pass over a gap.
- 2) Close-in the back and sides of the ramp with plywood
 - Sound is vibration and an enclosed ramp muffles sound by reducing areas where sound can exit.
- 3) Staple carpet or carpet underlay to underside of ramp
 - Lining the underside of the ramp with soft material will dampen noise produced by the ramp while in use.
- 4) Place shock absorbing type of material (rubbers strips, tar paper, etc.) between the first layer of sheeting and the layers underneath
 - Not only will this add some rain protection but it will reduce vibration and noise during passes on the ramp. Additionally, a thick riding surface helps dampen the sound.
- 5) Fill the area under the curved ramp (known as the transition) with material such as thick foam
 - Adding mass inside the ramp will assist in reducing noise while in use.
- 6) Use a thick plastic coping, or if using metal coping, fill it with sand or concrete and block the coping pipe at both ends.
 - This will reduce the 'pinging' noise that can occur when skateboards go over metal coping.
- 7) Use a skateboard with softer wheels while using a backyard ramp
 - A softer wheel produces less noise over any cracks in the ramp.