



An introduction for management on providing access to beaches and water recreational areas

Some key considerations when planning access to beaches, water playgrounds and other recreational water areas are:

- Provide clearly signed accessible parking as close to the facility as possible.
- Provide a firm, continuous path free of obstructions and without steep slopes from parking to the main entrance point of the recreation facility and throughout the facility.
- Provide a unisex accessible changeroom to allow people to privately change and transfer into a beach / pool wheelchair if required.
- For beach, river and lake access which has sand to the shoreline, have available for loan a wheelchair which can be immersed in water and wheelchair tracking down to the waters edge; or a beach wheelchair that can traverse sand.
- Provide an accessible pathway to spectator areas, plus shaded seating areas and an accessible drinking fountain.
- Provide an accessible path of travel to jetties and ferry terminals.
- Boardwalks can overcome problems of traversing rough, uneven, sandy terrain.
- Reeded decking of boardwalks and jetties requires the slats to be run perpendicular to the direction of travel.

- Provide easy to read directional signage to all facilities and attractions.

More information

- The Independent Living Centre of WA (ILC) provides information on equipment that will assist people with disabilities participate in recreational activities. Contact them on 9381 0600 or by their website www.ilc.com.au. Additionally, they have available a publication, *GuestAbility* which provides additional access information.
- Sport and Recreation Victoria, *Sport and Recreation, Access for All*. Villamanta publishing Service Inc (Melbourne).
- For information on accessible sailing contact Sailability at www.sailability.org