Hollister School District

Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
Tire-Derived Product Grant Program

CalRecycle
FY 2009/10
GRANT #
TDP9-09-0012

Background

The Hollister School District (district) was awarded $25,970 to install soft rubber matting, composed of 100 percent crumb rubber, derived from recycled California tires as a play surface under kindergarten and preschool play structures located at Sunnyslope Elementary School and R.O. Hardin School in Hollister, California. The playgrounds were previously surfaced with shredded bark, which represented a safety and cleanliness hazard for young children. The district planned to use 62,348 pounds of rubber mulch which would divert 14,585 passenger tires from landfills, create a safe environment and educate students about recycling.

Grant Project Goals

The primary goals of the project were to:

- Resurface playground areas within the district utilizing rubber bark to ensure the safety of children.
- Divert 14,585 passenger tires.
- Use crumb rubber from California passenger tires for playground re-surfacing projects.

Outcome and Accomplishments

- The project was completed on schedule.
- Spent $25,916 of the $25,970 awarded funds to resurface the playgrounds with rubber bark.
- Diverted 14,833 of the proposed 14,585 tires from the waste stream.
  - Sunnyslope Elementary School (north/south kindergarten areas): 10,833 tires
  - R.O. Hardin School (kindergarten and play areas): 4,000 tires
- A total of 178,000 pounds of rubber bark was installed, with a cost per tire of $1.75, covering a combined surface of approximately 8,900 square feet.

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Challenges

The installation phase at the proposed district sites became more of a challenge due to staff turnover and layoffs. As a result of these shortfalls, there was a delay in starting the projects resulting in a modification to the original proposal. However, the district was able to adjust timelines and continue with the modified projects in order to meet program requirements.

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

After installation of the crumb rubber material, there was a misunderstanding on cosmetic attributes of the product such as the initial odor, initial heat affects, etc. As a result, the district had to educate all affected staff prior to installation on the attributes of the crumb rubber material.

It was important to have staff redirect and focus on the implementation of projects by modifying the project when necessary and adjusting timelines.

Snapshot

Grant Program: Tire-Derived Product Grant
Grant Program Website: http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Tires/Grants/Product/default.htm
Grant Number: TDP9-09-0012
Grant Type: Tire-Derived Product
Year Awarded: 2009
Funding: Awarded $25,970 spent $25,916
Grant Manager Contact: Noel.Davis@CalRecycle.ca.gov