



Recycled Rubber Treewells

"For years I've been looking for an alternative to a metal grate. I wanted something with more give and rubberized material has that."

Dan Hardgrove, Deputy Director Public Works

Location: San Fernando Rd., Glendale, CA



Vendor: United Sports Surfacing of America

California tires diverted from landfills: 1,100

Overview: In 2010, the City of Glendale's Public Works Department (Public Works) installed sixty 4' x 6' treewells made from recycled tire rubber. Public Works had been looking for a low cost, sustainable alternative to metal grates. The problem with metal grates is that as urban trees grow, metal grates cut into the trunks and create structural problems to the trees.

In 2010 Public Works started surrounding each tree well with a seamless, porous and resilient surface with traction and color retention. The base layer is constructed using 100 percent recycled tire granules. As the tree expands the surface can be cut to allow for tree expansion.

Year installed: 2010

Benefits:

- Less expensive than metal tree wells
- Easy to install