

FINAL REPORT

2000 BUY RECYCLED GRANT CYCLE

TOWN OF HOPE MILLS

JUNE 9, 2000 - JUNE 30, 2001

CONTRACT No. H01002

1. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

The grant allowed the Town to purchase 8,000 pounds of 3/8" crumb rubber that was placed under our playground equipment at our Municipal Park. The rubber helps to prevent injuries on playgrounds because when children fall on the rubber it has a cushiony feel and it's like falling on a mattress. For example, if a swing chain snaps/breaks the fall would be more cushiony and the fall would be harder falling on sand/mulch. As time passes the sand/mulch forms a hard surface and the crumb rubber will continue to stay soft. The rubber was put down November 2, 2000 and have no reported injuries. Our main objective is to keep the playground equipment safe for children to play on.

Also, with the grant we were able to purchase a recycled desk with a center drawer and right pedestal for the Public Works Secretary. Since the cost was lower at the time of purchase we were also able to purchase a recycled storage bin with a lock. The secretary's position was a newly created position and she uses the storage bin to store office supplies for the department. According to the secretary, you cannot tell that the desk has been recycled and is holding up very well.

2. ASSESSMENT OF ADHERENCE TO CONTRACT SCOPE OF WORK (OR MODIFIED SCOPE OF WORK IF NEGOTIATED).

The Town purchased what was on the contract and used for what it was intended.

3. EVALUATION OF SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT(I.E., DID THE PROJECT MEET ITS GOALS).

The crumb rubber has stayed in place under our playground equipment for one year. We have had no reported injuries. In the past, we had purchased sand and mulch and would have to do this about every three months. The sand/mulch would get kicked out of place, holes underneath the swings and bottom of slides, and would require constant maintenance. The staff for the Parks & Recreation Department has stated that the rubber crumbs are still in place and requires little maintenance. The advantages of using the crumb rubber is that kids can bounce back after falling and eliminating bumps, bruises, and possibly broken bones. Also, the rubber is a cleaner surface. Parents do not have to deal with wood chips/bark and sand in childrens clothing and shoes.

The recycled desk and storage bin is a Steelcase Revest and has a 10 year warranty. The quality of the office furniture is just as good as anything you could buy that's not recycled. The Indiana Desk Series that most of the office staff is currently using has a 10 year warranty.

4. DESCRIPTION OF UNANTICIPATED EVENTS (NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE) IN CONDUCTING THE PROJECT.

We had no unanticipated events negative or positive. Everything went very smooth.

The desk was a lower price at the time we placed the order and able to purchase a storage bin.

**RECYCLED DESK
W/CENTER DRAWER
& RIGHT PEDESTAL**

**NON-RECYCLED DESK
W/CENTER DRAWER
& RIGHT PEDESTAL**

**\$1,316.36 - Purchase Price
Savings of \$477.64**

\$1,794.00

5. DESCRIPTION OF WHAT YOU WOULD DO DIFFERENTLY IF YOU COULD DO THE PROJECT OVER AGAIN.

To of been more familiar with the different recycled items the Town could purchase therefore receiving a larger grant amount.

6. DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM RESULTS. DISCUSS HOW THIS PROJECT WILL INFLUENCE PURCHASING DECISIONS MADE BY YOUR AGENCY IN THE FUTURE.

Since I have been involved in this recycling grant I have learned about the different items the Town can purchase recycled. The recycled rubber chips purchased for our playground equipment was from tires out of our local landfill. I have also, been able to recognize when other organizations are using recycled products which gives the Town ideas. (Have seen rubber chips used in flower beds, recycled park benches, picnic tables.)

As part of the grant, the Town has adopted a recycle policy as part of our purchasing procedures.

7. DESCRIPTION OF ANY MATERIALS DEVELOPED AS A RESULT OF THE PROJECT (E.G., BROCHURES, FACT SHEETS, MAILINGS, OR OTHER DOCUMENTS.

The Town invited the local press to attend the October, 2000 Board Meeting. We had the staff writer to publicize that the Town of Hope Mills is involved in recycling and encourage the public to do the same. I have pictures in my office for the public to see what items the Town purchased with the recycle grant.

We have ordered a new postage machine and will have the logo "recycle" to print on all of the envelopes sent out of our office to encourage recycling.