

# **Recycled Products**

## Company:

Rubberecycle (Lakewood, New Jersey) www.rubberecycle.com

# Product: Playsafer rubber mulch

Recycled Content: 100-percent recycled shredded tire rubber

#### Target Market:

Public and private playground construction

Rubberecycle's Playsafer rubber mulch is a playground cover made from shredded tire rubber, which comes in five different colors, depending on one's playgroud cover coloring needs. Though not independently tested by *Resource Recycling* staff, the company touts the material's impressive shock-absorption test results – safe from up to a 12-footfall, says Rubberecycle, three-times that



of a three-centimeter rubber mat and more than double that of fine or coarse sand. In fact, the Playsafer material meets the latest Consumer Product Safety Commission safety guidelines, as well as ASTM playground safety standards F-1951-08 and F-1292-04.

Perhaps it was the perceived safety of the material that drove President Barack Obama to choose the material (kept in its pen by Rubberecycle's Rubber Curb product) as ground cover for the White House's first playground (pictured). There's no word, however, on whether Sasha and Malia are throwing themselves off the top of the structure to test the material's softness.

Ever the controversial substance, shredded tire rubber opponents have made hay by the president's choice to install the rubber mulch, with both sides pointing to studies that have found the material to be healthy or unhealthy, respectively. See "Picking Up the Crumbs" in the April 2009 issue of *Resource Recycling* for more details. Company: Polly Products, LLC (Mulliken, Michigan) www.pollyproducts. com

## Product: Polly Play open hexagon youth table

Recycled Content: Table and seat surfaces made from 100-percent post-consumer HDPE

Target Market: General consumers



Polly Products manufacturers an expansive list of products, all of which incorporate recycled post-consumer plastic, including benches, picnic tables, bike racks and trash receptacles.

A kid-sized version of the company's open hexagon line of tables, the surfaces of the 115-pound Polly Play youth table are molded in-house from 100-percent post-consumer high-density polyethylene and secured by stainless steel fasteners. Manufactured with an overall perimeter of nearly four-feet, the table's top surface measures 29 1/8-inches wide and 25 1/4-inches long, while the seats, at a height of one foot, measure 5.5-inches wide and 15 5/8-inches long. Able to seat six, the overall height of the product measures in at 19 7/8-inches tall.

Polly products developed the Polly Play youth table, as it does with all of its other products, with safety in mind. Thus, the table does not splinter, is non-toxic and includes no paint to peel. Available in six different colors, including black, brown, cedar, green, grey and weathered, all colors are added during the molding process.

Company: Bark for Peace! (Austin, Texas) www.barkforpeace.com

## Product: Toss-n-Tug dog toy

Recycled Content: 100-percent recycled wool

Target Market: General consumers and wholesale pet suppliers



The Toss-n-Tug doggy pull toy is made from wool sweaters and rugs purchased second hand from thrift stores by the Bark for Peace! Folks. After purchase, the wool items are soaked in distilled vinegar, as a mold- and scent-eradication agent, and washed in gentle soap. The sweaters and rugs are then cut into strips and braided and knotted to make the pull toys.

Bark for Peace! plugs the natural quality of wool, noting that the material is gentler on canine gums than the standard-issue rope or braided chew toys. The company also sells doit-yourself kits, with strips pre-cut and fit to be tied. As the BfP folk sign all of their missives, "woof! woof!" Indeed. Reprinted with permission from Resource Recycling, P.O. Box 42270, Portland, OR 97242-0270; (503) 233-1305, (503) 233-1356 (fax); www.resource-recycling.com.