

## BERLIN, MD – Rubberized Walking/Jogging Path

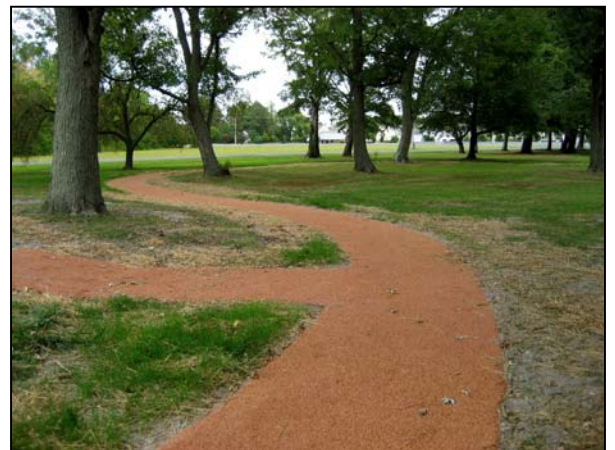
After several years of great anticipation, construction of a rubberized walking/jogging path at the Stephen Decatur Park in the [Town of Berlin, MD](#) has been completed. The park is [located on Tripoli Street](#), at the intersection of MD Rt. 113. The two month project, which demonstrates the beneficial use of scrap tires, began in late May and was completed by late July 2008. Funding for the project was provided by the Maryland Department of the Environment through the [Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund](#). Total construction cost of the project was \$248,733.



After the soil was excavated, there were several steps involved in constructing the path. First, a minimum 4" depth of stone was laid in place and compacted, which was then covered by a minimum 2" layer of asphalt binder, followed by a minimum 1" layer of recycled rubber tire material, and completed by the placement of a minimum 3/8" layer of colored [EPDM](#) material. The recycled tire material used in the construction of the path is equivalent to 2,944 passenger tires. The stone and asphalt base has a minimum width of 6' and the rubberized path has a minimum width of 5'. Several drainpipes were installed to allow natural flow of stormwater. In addition, two asphalt equipment crossings were constructed to allow heavy trucks and other equipment to cross the path without damaging the rubberized material. Details of the rubberized surface can be found on the [Sureplay International Rubber Surfacing, LLC](#) website, who was the subcontractor that installed the rubberized path. The general contractor for this project was Mike Davidson Excavating, LLC, located in Goldsboro, MD.



The walking/jogging path is a great addition to the Stephen Decatur Park. It provides a great opportunity for folks of all ages to get outdoors, enjoy the park, and to exercise in a clean and safe environment. The benefits of a walking path constructed of recycled rubber tire material, versus the standard asphalt pavement, is that the rubberized material provides a "cushiony" feel, reducing stress on the joints, back, and feet. Many users of the path have already stated that the walking surface is "comfortable," "forgiving," and "easier" to walk on. One user stated that the softer surface allows her to walk longer distances. The Berlin Parks Commission is exploring the possibility of adding several fitness stations along the path's route, which would add yet another benefit to the park for the enjoyment of its residents and visitors.



For more information on this project, or to learn about other scrap tire demonstration projects MES has managed, contact [Todd Zeigler](#) at (410) 729-8524.