

Case Study

Towson University Playground



Details

Location: Towson, MD

Description: 1,920-square-feet of Safari Ultra

Project Needs

Soft, safe surface for children to play

Quality

Easy to repair and/or replace, as needed

Wide variety of pattern and color options

Project Benefits

Attractive

Durable

Eco-logical

PlayGuard Provides a Safe Surface on Rooftop Playground at Towson University



Towson University, located outside of Baltimore, Md., is one of the nation's best regional public universities, offering more than 100 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs in the liberal arts and sciences and applied professional fields. With special education being such a popular program for undergrad and post graduate students, the University has some buildings specifically dedicated to autism, such as the Towson University Center for Adults and the newly created Institute for Well Being.

“The Institute for Well Being was located off of Towson’s campus, it was just added,” said Eric Black, a sales representative with Playground Specialists, Inc., based in Emmitsburg, Md. “The University renovated the building, and they wanted to have a playground for children. There isn’t much around the building – we couldn’t install a playground in grass – so we performed a rooftop installation. It was our first rooftop playground, and it went very well.”

Playground Specialists, Inc. installed 1,920-square-feet of PlayGuard safety surfacing on the Andrea B. Sherwin Playground. Manufactured in the U.S.A. by Ecore, a company that transforms reclaimed waste into performance surfaces, PlayGuard tiles are designed to reduce the risk of serious injury associated with falls from playground equipment. Any design inspiration or playful color scheme can be implemented with PlayGuard’s custom color and logo capabilities.

“Obesity is a problem, and kids need exercise,” said Black. “We designed an inclusive playground that has independent fitness stations. Tiles and certain colors were used to show the kids pathways. For example, tan is land and blue is water.”

Towson selected PlayGuard’s Safari Ultra Tile, which is manufactured with a proprietary process that molds a dense performance rubber and EPDM wear layer to a footed recycled rubber base. The result: a durable, sustainable, and attractive playground surface.

PlayGuard’s Quad Blok interlocking system was installed underneath the tile. Unlike labor intensive poured-in-place systems, Quad Blok modular connectors feature precisely located openings that interface with the corner leg understructure of PlayGuard tiles. The connectors are quick and easy to use without adhering to or causing damage to playground substrates, and they allow for the removal or replacement of individual tiles with minimal disruption and labor. In addition to being easy to repair and replace, PlayGuard is also simple to clean, requiring virtually no maintenance.

“Towson liked the color variances and the architect liked how the design was going to work,” said Black. “If they ever have to pull the tiles up, it won’t damage the design or look.”

