



RUBBERSIDEWALKS, INC.

CASE STUDY: *Michigan State University; East Lansing Michigan*

Michigan State University ("MSU"), a leading university based in East Lansing, Michigan, has one of the country's largest and most tree-friendly campuses. MSU has set clear goals to reduce its environmental footprint.

MSU's Physical Plant Division ("PPD") provides and maintains MSU's environment, which includes all roads, bridges, walks, terraces, and ornamental pools. Paul Swartz, PPD's lead arborist, is charged with the upkeep and preservation of all the trees on MSU's campus. His responsibilities include ensuring the safety of area trees by conducting site inspections prior to any construction.



The Problem:

The Scottish Pine tree roots that lined a path to MSU's Boyd Resident Hall created a tripping hazard. Originally, this path had been covered in wood chips, but the slope of the path resulted in erosion of these wood chips, which further exposed the tree roots. So, PPD's arborists contacted Dennis Hansen, Senior Landscape Architect, to examine solutions to this problem. Ideally, Dennis wanted a paving material that would stabilize the hillside, provide pedestrian safety, and be **"SPARTAN GREEN."**



The Solution:

The picture to the left depicts Rubbersidewalks™ as well as the aluminum paver restraints that were added during the installation. The paver restraints and connecting dowels between the pavers created a stable, monolithic structure, thereby solving the erosion problem described above. The flexibility of Rubbersidewalks™ provided two additional benefits: pedestrian safety and reduced maintenance costs. Because Rubbersidewalks™ are made from 100% waste tires, they were entirely consistent with MSU's goals of reducing its environmental footprint.

"When I started searching for the right material I was interested in using a sidewalk material that was made from recycled content. I found Rubbersidewalks™ and was happy to learn it also had a LEED rating."
Dennis Hansen, Senior Landscape Architect

For more information, please contact:

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