

# Benefits of Recycled Rubber



## ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Recycling rubber tires means that millions of scrap tires are no longer dumped in landfills, or left illegally in sensitive habitats. Instead, more than 90 percent of these tires are being recycled and reused annually. Recycling saves impressive amounts of energy, which ultimately reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Using recycled rubber in molded products, for example, creates a substantially smaller (by a factor of up to 20 times) carbon footprint as compared to using virgin plastic resins.

## ECONOMIC BENEFITS

In addition to being an environmental steward, the recycled rubber industry is an economic leader and job creator. According to a 2015 study, the rubber recycling industry generates more than \$1.6 billion annually in economic activity. This includes, providing nearly 8,000 good-paying jobs (direct and indirect) in all 50 states which generate more than \$500 million in employee wages and \$182 million in federal, state, and local tax revenues.

## EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY THROUGH DESIGN

Recycled rubber is being used by manufacturers in a wide variety of applications. Manufacturers prize scrap rubber as a raw material for its cost and energy savings. Here are some industries that are innovating with recycled rubber:

- Infrastructure
- Medical
- Agriculture
- Playground Surfaces
- Sports
- Home & Garden

# 90%

Tires are recycled and reused annually

# \$500M

In employee wages are generated by the recycled rubber industry

# 8K

Well-paying jobs are generated by the recycled rubber industry