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Green at PARE:

Featured Project: Stillwater Mill Auxiliary Parking Lot

PARE's Transportation Group designed a porous asphalt parking lot for the Town of Burrillville, Rhode Island. The site was previously undeveloped, with flows from the site eventually discharging into the Clear River. PARE designed the porous pavement and with the help of a grant from the RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) the lot was constructed. The design of the porous asphalt pavement system was done through coordination with the RIDEM, the Town of Burrillville Public Works Department, and the University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center.

The Geotechnical Division provided construction observation and testing during the construction to ensure the final product was constructed as designed and provided the necessary infiltration. Compaction testing of subbase materials, infiltration testing of subbase materials, and monitoring of the placement and compaction of the hot mix asphalt pavement were some of the construction monitoring services that were performed.



Green Lingo: Biofuel

Biofuel (per Wikipedia) – A term given to harvesting energy from biomass (biological material from living or recently living organisms). The significance of biofuels is that they do not produce any more carbon dioxide than they consume, as such they do not contribute to global warming. Two common biofuels include bioalcohols and biodiesel.

Bioethanol is an alcohol made by fermenting the sugar components of plant materials and is made mostly from sugar and starch crops. Ethanol can be used as a fuel for vehicles in its pure form, but it is usually used as a gasoline additive to increase octane and improve vehicle emissions.

Biodiesel is made from vegetable oils, animal fats, or recycled greases. Biodiesel can be used as a fuel for vehicles in its pure form, but it is usually used as a diesel additive to reduce levels of particulates, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons from diesel-powered vehicles.

Biodiesel conversion kits for diesel engines can run from several hundreds of dollars to several thousand. The United States produces in excess of 2.9 billion gallons of waste vegetable oil annually. For more information on conversion kits visit www.greasecar.com.

Green Product of the Month: White Roofs

Dark-colored surfaces absorb solar radiation instead of reflecting it back out into space. When solar energy is absorbed by a dark surface, it is reflected back at a lower wavelength, which cannot pass through greenhouse gasses and gets caught in the atmosphere. This contributes to a heat-trapping effect within urban areas, as well as global warming on a larger scale. By reflecting sunlight at high frequency, white roofs can reduce the amount of energy trapped in the atmosphere by greenhouse gases, while reducing energy consumption (and cooling costs) during warmer weather. A variety of white roofing materials, specialty paints, and coatings are now available.

Green Current Events: Boston GreenFest

Save the Date: Thursday-Saturday, August 18-20 - Boston City Hall Plaza

Boston GreenFest is touted as the region's largest multicultural environmental festival. Highlights of the festival will include:

- **The One Gallon Challenge**, a "race" using ultra economical vehicles going 111 miles from Northampton, MA to Boston City Hall Plaza's *GreenFest* on the energy of one gallon of gas.
 - **EcoQuest: A Citywide Scavenger Hunt**
 - **GreenFilmFest**
 - **EcoCafé, EcoGallery, and EcoBazaar**
 - **Green Fireworks and Light Show**
-And much more.

Head for the Future at

GreenFest

August 18-20, 2011
Boston City Hall Plaza



Check out the following website for more details and updates.

<http://www.bostongreenfest.org/>

Boston GreenFest is organized by the Foundation for a Green Future, Inc.

Have you worked on a Green Project lately? We'd like to know!

Contact a member of the Sustainable Design Committee about your recent Green Project.

