

THE PROJECT

Milton Academy, located eight miles south of Boston in Milton, Mass., was founded more than 200 years ago. The school was established as an independent college preparatory facility for grades K-12, with a goal to help students embrace a world larger than the one they know, broaden their grasp of that world and deepen their understanding of themselves.

In an attempt to keep all aspects of the school intriguing including the playground, Milton Academy decided to expand the area with new equipment. The current playground equipment was only three years old, but the principal and assistant principal wanted to provide a new play experience for students in grades K-5.

THE PROCESS

After making the initial decision to expand their playground area, Marshall Carter and Rosalie Tashjian, principal and assistant principal of Milton Academy's grades K-8, contacted their local Landscape Structures sales representative, Nancy White, at O'Brien & Sons, Inc. They invited her to a meeting with the playground committee where the committee discussed the qualities they were looking for in playground equipment.

In this discussion, the playground committee mentioned that they were interested in playground manufacturers that use recycled or eco-friendly materials. Nancy explained that recycled materials are only part of a much larger sustainability picture—Landscape Structures addresses sustainability through people, products, processes and programs. Landscape Structures' culture of continuous improvement, the company's partnership with Global ReLeaf®, which involves planting trees to offset the amount of carbon dioxide emitted in the manufacturing of each playsystem, and a decade of ISO 14001 certification for their commitment to environmental stewardship all address sustainability beyond recycled materials.

THE RESULT

O'Brien & Sons was awarded the playground project at Milton Academy, and they successfully installed a Landscape Structures' PlayBooster® playstructure for ages 5 to 12. Milton Academy's creative new playstructure includes a Tunnel Slide with View Tubes, Escalator™ Climber, Star Seeker Climber, Chimney Climber, Summit Climber™, Trapeze Horizontal Ladder and Overhead Parallel Bars.

Along with Landscape Structures' commitment to sustainability, Milton Academy connected with their partnership with the Global ReLeaf program. The school is proud that their playground purchase is carbon neutral due to the 12 trees Landscape Structures planted to offset the carbon dioxide emitted during its production. Milton Academy displays an educational sign at the site of the playground that recognizes their participation with Landscape Structures in the Global ReLeaf program.

Schools like Milton Academy that are interested in purchasing environmentally-preferable products, and that qualify for the U.S. Communities contract, can purchase from Landscape Structures and avoid the time consuming bid process. U.S. Communities is a nonprofit that assists local and state government agencies, school districts, higher education, and nonprofits in reducing the cost of purchased goods. By working with Landscape Structures through their U.S. Communities contract, you get the convenience of easy, time-saving access to great prices for quality products.

