



# Asphalt Pavements

## Incorporating Recycled Materials



Asphalt pavement is **America's most recycled product**. The industry has been a constant innovator in finding ways to make its products more environmentally friendly – from reclaiming old asphalt pavements and rejuvenating their component parts for use in new pavements to incorporation of recycled materials.

A wide range of waste materials are now incorporated into asphalt pavements, including ground tire rubber and slags, but the **most widely used in Colorado are reclaimed asphalt pavements (RAP)**. The use of recycled materials saves about 50 million cubic yards of landfill space each year.

However, **asphalt pavements are not linear landfills**. Good engineering design is required to assure long-life pavements. Incorporating other waste products such as glass, plastics, roofing shingles, etc. require significant additional time and resources to study material performance. Municipal agencies typically don't have the resources or need to evaluate incorporation of new waste products.

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