

PLAYGROUND MULCHING

Gallaudet University

Challenge: Improve the safety and appearance of the University's playground and zip line area, and overall safety by laying down 110 TONS of mulch.

Solution: This case study depicts the different steps followed to complete this project from the beginning until its completion. The whole project took 6 days involving site survey, miss utility approval, excavation, liners allocation, mulching, cleaning up and lawn restoration.

Location: Washington, DC



Founded in 1864, Gallaudet University (GU) is a federally chartered private University for the education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

located in Washington, DC, on a 99 acres campus, being the first school with this specialty in the world, adjusting programs and services to accommodate students with special capabilities.

This case study depicts the different steps followed to complete this project from the beginning until its completion.

STEP 1 – Site Survey

A survey of the lot was required to inspect the Zip Line games, wood-base structures, ground condition, and existing fence. It was important to understand the ground limits of the construction and mark the perimeter for the excavation area.

STEP 2 – Approval from Miss Utility, DC

Utility location is the process of identifying and labeling public utility mains that are underground such as lines for telecommunication, electricity distribution, natural gas, etc.

This approval procedure is very important because it ensures any unwanted damages or service disruption. In addition, it improves the safety for our staff during the excavation and the construction process.



STEP 3 – Excavation & Dispose of Several TONS of Soil

The crew had to dig about 6” in depth using for the most part steer skid loaders (commonly referred as Bobcats). Our crew removed close to 40 TON of soil. The picture on the right shows our operator using a bobcat S-185. Soil was hauled away and properly disposed away from the University campus. The soil removed was reused for other future projects.

This task was the most challenging since it took several days to be completed.





Step 4. Commercial Grade Liners Installation

Once the ground was prepared and leveled, the next step was to lay down thick commercial-grade liners along the recently excavated area.

Liners were placed as shown to prevent any unwanted grass or weed that could potentially grow back to the surface.



Step 5. Mulching

Our landscaping crew spread and leveled 110 TONS of shredded wood carpet mulch as shown in this picture. This is a special outdoor mulch ideal to be used as a playground since it is safer and heat resistant.

Moreover, this type of mulch helps prevent injuries to adults and children and it is a great way to protect students from harm when using slides, swing sets, zip lines and any other playground equipment.



Step 6. Clean Up and Lawn Restoration

Once completed the next and final step was to do a full clean-up to restore the damaged lawn area caused by the skid loader tracks.

For your landscaping design projects, like the one described in this case study, please do not hesitate to contact us (703) 491-1462 or at Contact@Commercial1Services.Com.

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