



NEWS RELEASE

JEFFERSON PARISH, LOUISIANA

JEFFERSON PARISH IS GOING GREEN IN GRAND ISLE

July 20, 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Each year thousands of people flock to Grand Isle to fish, camp, and enjoy the incredible beauty of the island.

Councilman Ricky Templet and Parish Engineers were tasked with the challenge of improving the 3 acre parking area near the pavilion in Grand Isle. There are many events that are held in the pavilion, and only parking space available is a field. When it rains, visitors often get their vehicles stuck in the mud.

Concrete and asphalt were considered for this project, but there is no concrete plant on the island and the cost was estimated to be \$1.5 million.

Councilman Templet immediately began researching options and discovered GrassGuard. GrassGuard is a new "GREEN" technology known as grass reinforcement mesh.

GrassGuard is a safe, viable, eco-friendly and economical alternative to concrete and asphalt. Jefferson Parish made the decision to go green and did not pave paradise, resulting in a \$1.2 million dollar savings over concrete.

The Grand Isle GrassGuard project is under consideration for Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) credits by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). LEED credits are defined by storm water treatment and management, the use of recycled materials, reducing impervious cover and promoting onsite filtrations which eliminate contaminants and returns rainwater back to the aquifer.

GrassGuard HDX, provided by Industrial Fabrics Incorporated, was supplied to the Parish through a public bid process. The product was installed in 6 days, just in time for the 2017 Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo scheduled for Thursday, July 27th thru Saturday, July 29th, 2017.

