



CASE STUDY

Garden Spot Village

Lancaster, PA

Products Installed

- Forest Rx

Project Needs

- Safe
- Easy to Install
- Durable

Product Benefits

- Ergonomic
- Acoustic
- Slip Resistant

Forest Rx Provides a Safe, Acoustic, and Ergonomic Solution for Residents and Staff

About the Project

Garden Spot Village, a continuing care retirement community located in rural Lancaster County, Pa., has been in operation since 1996. Skilled nursing and expanded personal care services have been in operation since 2001. In 2006, Garden Spot Village became an early adopter of the Household Model of skilled nursing, when they added two 16-bed households and renovated their existing skilled nursing building into two households for a total of 73 beds.

“Residents are at the center of what we do,” said Rebecca Weber, NHA, MS, and Director of Healthcare Services. “This is called person-centered or person-directed care. We allow residents to manage their own day. One example is allowing residents to sleep until they are ready to wake. This starts everyone’s day off right! We value the person.”

“It’s very easy to keep clean. The staff likes the floor, because it’s resilient. It’s also easier for residents, who are in wheel chairs, to roll around and it makes it easier to move furniture.”

So, when Mark Huxta, Director of Sales for Healthcare, approached Garden Spot Village in 2015 to see if they would be interested in trying out a new surface they were testing, along with the Center for Health Design as a Pebble Project, the retirement community was on board.

“Mark contacted us, and said he had a product that was great for residents that were at risk for falls,” said Weber. “We talked about it, and agreed to have two rooms done. We had the carpet taken out.”

The surfacing that was installed is Forest Rx, a patented floor that uses itsTRU™ technology to fusion bond 5mm of recycled rubber to the back of a vinyl surface, Forest Rx. This surface is unique, because Forest Rx has been tested for G-Max using Clegg Machine protocol.

A conventional mathematical formula is often used to convert Clegg test results to ASTM F355 result for comparison purposes.



Using this protocol to compare traditional healthcare flooring products, Forest Rx demonstrates up to a 35.5% reduction in impact acceleration. The result: this surface reduces the risk of injury from a fall, which may also reduce unbudgeted and non-reimbursable treatment charges.

“The people living in these rooms are frequent fallers,” said Weber. “Despite many interventions, we could not keep them from falling.”

Per its person-centered care model, in addition to protecting its residents from serious injury, the Forest Rx at Garden Spot Village is attractive. “I like the look and so does the staff,” said Weber. “For the home-like environment that we try to achieve, the floor has worked very well. It’s very easy to keep clean. The staff likes the floor, because it’s resilient. It’s also easier for residents, who are in wheel chairs, to roll around and it makes it easier to move furniture.”

Gail Ulrich, a Nurse’s Aide at Garden Spot that is on her feet all day agrees. “The surfacing is very comfortable,” said Ulrich. “You can feel the padding underneath it, when you walk in from the bare floor onto this type of surfacing. It relieves your knee pressure.” Forest Rx also provides sound reduction.

“It has been quieter than normal, said Ulrich. “I think the extra padding underneath it helps.” And she’s right. The rubber backing isolates sound and vibration, making Forest Rx as quiet as carpet!

With all of these benefits, Weber is confident that if Garden Spot Village has any surfacing needs in the future, Forest Rx will be considered. “It is very warm and inviting,” said Weber.