

# TERMINOLOGY

*The following is a short list of terms used in the asphalt industry. For a complete list of terms, visit the Asphalt Institute at [www.asphaltinstitute.org](http://www.asphaltinstitute.org).*

## **AGGREGATE**

*Hard, inert material, such as gravel, crushed rock, slag or crushed stone, used in pavement applications either by itself or for mixing with asphalt.*

## **ASPHALT CEMENT (AC)**

*A mixture of crude petroleum used for paving, roofing, industrial and other special purposes. Now more commonly referred to as asphalt binder.*

## **ASPHALT CONCRETE**

*A mixture on asphalt binder and aggregate thoroughly mixed and compacted into a mass.*

## **ASPHALT PAVEMENT**

*Hot mix asphalt over supporting courses such as asphalt concrete bases, crushed stone, slag, gravel, Portland Cement Concrete (PCC), brick or block pavement.*

## **ASPHALT PLANT**

*A manufacturing facility that produces hot mix asphalt paving mixtures*

## **ASPHALT RUBBER BINDER (AR)**

*Recycled ground tire rubber is added to conventional asphalt cement. Roofing shingles may also be added to the asphalt cement.*

## **CRUMB RUBBER**

*Asphalt rubber binder with a consistency ranging from coffee grounds to peanut butter*

## **HOT MIX ASPHALT (HMA)**

*High-quality, thoroughly controlled hot mixture of asphalt binder (cement) and well-graded, high quality aggregate, which can be compacted into a uniform dense mass.*

## **HOT MIX ASPHALT (HMA) OVERLAY**

*One or more courses of HMA over an existing pavement.*

## **MAINTENANCE MIX**

*A mixture of asphalt emulsion and mineral aggregate used in relatively small areas to patch holes, depressions and distressed areas in existing pavements.*

## **PAVEMENT BASE**

*The lower or underlying pavement course atop the subbase or subgrade and under the top or wearing course.*

## **RECLAIMED ASPHALT PAVEMENT (RAP)**

*Pulverized excavated asphalt that is used as an aggregate in the recycling of asphalt pavements. Factory-rejected roofing shingles can also be added to RAP.*

## **RECYCLED ASPHALT MIX**

*A mixture produced after processing existing asphalt pavement materials such as shingles and rubber.*

## **SHEET ASPHALT**

*A non-porous material used in reservoir liners and landfill caps.*

*Sources: Asphalt Institute, National Asphalt Pavement Association*