



Winter 2009

Concrete deterioration the focus of winter meeting

By Ann Gryphan, Essie Kammer Group

The regulatory community in Wisconsin continues to circulate emails showing photographs of deteriorating concrete septic tanks in northeastern Wisconsin. You can find some of the photos being circulated reprinted inside this newsletter.

The Wisconsin Precast Concrete Association recently met with Department of Commerce staff to explore different options for dealing with the issue. The Department recognizes that statewide code changes might not be appropriate to address the issue, as it appears to be isolated to certain regions of the state. As a first step, they are seeking data from manufacturers that have tanks installed in northeast counties of the state to identify or rule out problems with the concrete manufacturing process.

The WPCA is bringing together industry leaders who have experience with concrete deterioration to speak at the WPCA Winter Convention on January 11-12, 2010, at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in Madison. They include:

- Michael Schmalz, who has been employed by Alberta Wilbert Sales, a precast concrete manufacturer, for 18 years, and will share his company's experiences with concrete deterioration occurring in Canada.
- Jean MacCubbin, of the Wisconsin Department of Commerce.
- Sam Lines, technical sales engineer with Concrete Sealants, who has written articles about concrete corrosion.

- Laurent Bonafous of Axim, who performed testing on a tank in question earlier this year.
- Brian Cunningham, who will speak about Sauk County's POWTS inventory program and resulting steel tank replacements.

We also will have other representatives from additive companies in attendance to answer your questions and also will be sharing articles on corrosion with people in attendance.

This will be a very important meeting and we hope all precast concrete manufacturing companies in Wisconsin will be in attendance. We will continue to discuss ways we as an industry would like to see the corrosion problem addressed—hopefully in a way that will be acceptable to regulators without being costly or requiring sweeping reforms. We have reached out to companies that are not currently WPCA members in the hopes that they will attend and consider joining our organization. Tank corrosion is something that will affect all manufacturers and therefore we need everyone's input.

There is still time to sign up for the winter meeting. Please just call the WPCA office at (608) 256-7701 or visit our website, www.wiprecast.org, to download a registration form. This is definitely an event you won't want to miss!

We will once again be holding board elections during this event. If you are interested in running for a position, please let us know.

2009 WPCA OFFICERS

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In the news: Malibu bans septic tanks

Water officials have banned septic tanks in parts of Malibu, California, ending years of wrangling among surfers, environmentalists and residents in the celebrity-filled community. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board has agreed to ban the tanks in central and eastern Malibu. Businesses were given until 2015 and residents until 2019 to hook into a central sewage system. Surfers and environmentalists have said for years that raw sewage from septic tanks has polluted Malibu shores, including Surfrider Beach. Residents said a sewage system would prompt widespread development in the rustic area. The city was incorporated in 1991 specifically to stop construction of a county sewer line. The shift to a sewer system comes at considerable expense. Residents in affected areas would be required to pay about \$500 a month to cover the cost of hooking into a central sewage system, according to the city's projections. And businesses would face payments of up to \$20,000 a month.

Welcome, new members

We'd like to welcome our newest associate members.

Gerdau Ameristeel

Contacts: Jon Rundell, Mark Robers and Steve Ahles, (800) 852-7719

About Gerdau: Gerdau Ameristeel is the fourth largest overall steel company and the second largest minimill steel producer in North America

Website: www.gerdauameristeel.com

ConShield - FHAA

Contact: Jeff Fischer, (630) 377-2226

About ConShield: ConShield is a liquid additive for concrete and repair mortars for the prevention of Microbiologically Induced Corrosion (MIC) in sanitary sewers.

Website: www.conshield.com

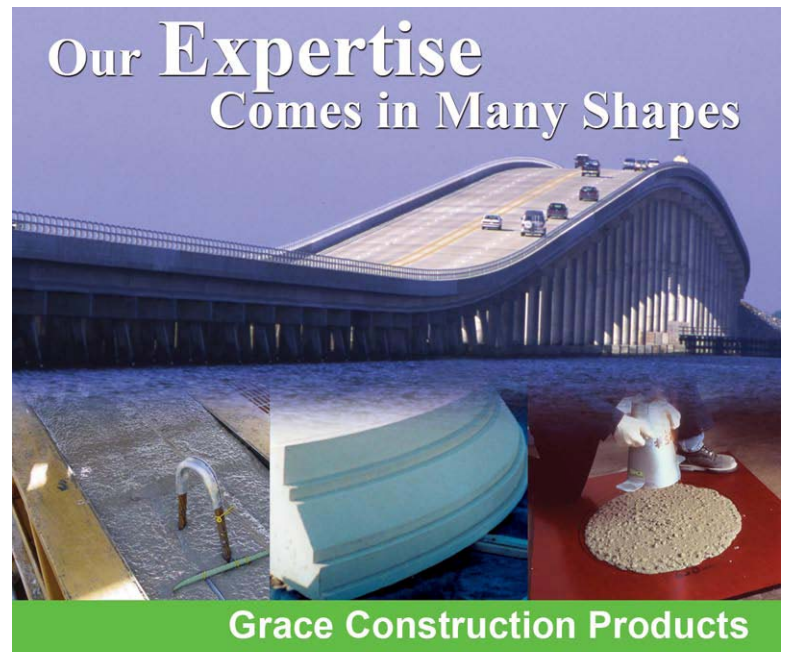
Sanitary Permits Issued

County	2008	2009	Difference
Adams	237	219	-18
Ashland	73	57	-16
Barron	228	180	-48
Bayfield	161	133	-28
Brown	150	131	-19
Calumet	68	40	-28
Chippewa	291	246	-45
Clark	121	85	-36
Dodge	163	102	-61
Door	445	475	30
Fond du Lac	144	124	-20
Grant	143	203	60
Green	96	105	9
Green Lake	68	58	-10
Iowa	62	58	-4
Iron	46	50	4
Juneau	130	91	-39
Kenosha	70	58	-12
Kewaunee			-25
LaFayette	43	41	-2
Lincoln	204	160	-44
Manitowoc	239	208	-31
Marathon	213	246	33
Marquette	99	82	-17
Oconto	259	219	-40
Oneida	431	379	-52
Outagamie	127	226	99
Ozaukee	98	78	-20
Pierce	78	49	-29
Polk	189	132	-57
Price	99	96	-3
Racine	93	71	-22
Richland	52	82	30
Rock	127	96	-31
Rusk	114	92	-22
Sauk	227	188	-39
Shawano	161	115	-46
Sheboygan	181	109	-72
Vilas	449	394	-55
Walworth	156	138	-18
Washburn	221	158	-63
Washington	195	147	-48
Waukesha	309	248	-61
Waupaca	166	142	-24
Waushara	157	129	-28
Wood	207	169	-38
Average			-22

Sanitary permits for 2009

At left is the data from an informal survey of Wisconsin counties on sanitary permit numbers comparing 2008 and 2009. Some of the numbers are through September, but most are of the date of reporting. Some reports include renewals and transfers as well as reconnects and some do not, so it is not a scientific survey, but you can see the overall trend of a decline in sanitary permits in most counties. Sizeable increases in permit numbers for the following counties can be attributed to new programs.

- Grant County: First year inventory
- Marathon County: New real estate transfer program
- Outagamie County: First year inventory



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Examples of tank deterioration in Door County



- Photos provided by Door County Sanitarian's office



1999 At-Grade FS (Top photos)

- taken from inside dose tank looking upstream at middle wall
- a close-up from the other side of that wall, no filter, no baffle, and the wall falling apart

1993 Mound FS (Photo at left)

- From inside the dose tank side looking upstream

1999 At-Grade GA of a different tank manufacturer (located just down the road from the last 1999 AG site)

- From inside the dose tank side looking upstream and a baffle that's barely hanging on
- Looking at outlet side of dose tank wall, with force-main outlet visible, as well as the gravel in the wall



Member news: Frank Mader passes away

LA CRESCENT, Minn. — Frank D. Mader, 86, of La Crescent passed away at his winter home in Mesa, Ariz., on Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009. He was born in La Crosse on Nov. 2, 1923, to Dominic and Edith (Moos) Mader. Before the war, he cut ice from the Mississippi River and then enlisted in the Army, Americal Division, serving in the Pacific during World War II. Returning home, he married his sweetheart, Dorothy, just 22 days later after being separated for over 21/2 years. They were married for 64 years. After the war, he started with Peo-

ple's Ice and Fuel, then ran the West Channel Concrete block company. He partnered with his brother-in-law to form Wie-Mar Concrete Products in the mid-'50s. Then, in 1965, he founded Crest Precast Inc., which his sons now own and operate. He was a charter member of MOSTCA and WPCA, and was a longtime member of NPCA and WOWRA, the industry associations. The funeral was held Nov. 24 in La Crescent, Minn. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred and will be donated in Frank's memory.

WPCA 2009 year in review

The Wisconsin Precast Concrete Association has been working on a number of issues during 2009 on your behalf. They include:

PROMOTIONS

Applied for and received \$10,000 grant money from the Great Lakes Cement Promotions Association/Portland Cement Association to promote the precast concrete industry in Wisconsin. The money was used to:

- Maintain the new WPCA website. This website has received more than 7,000 hits since its creation in 2008.
- Had exhibitor booth at Wisconsin Onsite Water Recycling Association (WOWRA) trade show in January 2009.
- Had exhibitor booth at the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association convention in April in Milwaukee.
- Have a series of ads running in the bi-monthly Badger Builder magazine promoting precast concrete manufacturers in Wisconsin. Will continue through January 2010.
- Have ads running in monthly WOWRA newsletter during 2009.

LEGISLATIVE

- Protected funding for the Wisconsin Fund grant

Key items to watch for 2010

- The 2009-10 legislative session continues through May 2010. More than 1,000 bills will likely be introduced in the Legislature this session, which we will be monitoring.
- The high-speed rail project between Madison, Milwaukee and Chicago is in the works and the WPCA continues to communicate with officials about the project and resulting jobs for precast concrete manufacturers.

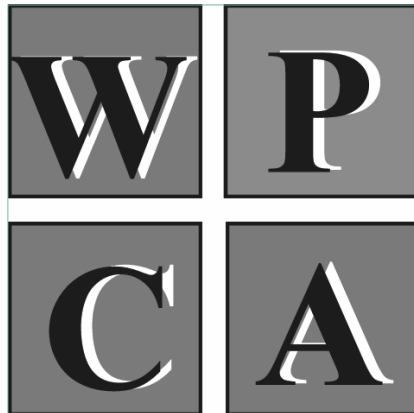
program. Despite looming budget deficits, this fund saw only a 6% cut in this biennium's state fiscal budget.

- Weighed in on a new state law that expands the definition of plumbing to include stormwater systems.

REGULATORY

- Continue to have meetings with county and state regulators about the issue of deteriorating concrete septic tanks and how this can be addressed without sweeping reforms.

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