



# connexions

Large Firm Resources. Personal Attention. <sup>sm</sup>



ROWE's project for the City of Alma includes cost-saving LED lighting purchased from a Michigan supplier.



Work on this project in the City of Gladwin costs less due to low bids and 40 percent forgiveness on a DWRP loan.



ROWE and NJB Architects, Inc. completed this park master plan with funds from the Rotary Club of Flushing.

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## Accomplish More with Less Money

How would you like to complete \$5.5 million worth of projects with \$4 million? It's not just a dream for city officials in Ithaca.

Ithaca officials planned to use \$4.1 million in bond funds to complete five projects, but low bids allowed them to complete more than double that number of water and wastewater system evaluations, replacements, and upgrades.

Other Michigan communities are striking more items off their "to-do" list than originally planned, due to the favorable bidding climate, cooperation, and other efficiencies.

The City of Gladwin was able to accomplish more with less for other reasons than just low bids. Assisted by ROWE, the city applied for Drinking Water Revolving Funds (DWRP), knowing there was a good possibility American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds would create loan forgiveness opportunities. To apply, their elevated tank, well modifications, and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) projects had to be designed and ready to go. ROWE ensured they didn't miss the opportunity. In the end, the city was granted 40 percent loan forgiveness on their DWRP payments. Coupled with low bids, the city is now able to complete an additional transmission line project to loop the water system and improve reliability.

Friends of the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail saved \$150,000 after bids came in low for

paving a seven-mile trail segment. They were able to do several additional trail projects. From savings on other projects around the state, they were also able to get additional enhancement funding.

Cooperation makes a big difference. The City and Charter Township of Flushing and the Flushing Community School District, pooled their funds for ROWE to complete a recreation plan for the entire Flushing area. The Department of Natural Resources and Environment requires such a plan for grant eligibility.

Service organizations often seek ways to help the community and may have funds government organizations lack. When Rotary Club of Flushing members approached City of Flushing officials with an interest in doing a project, they discovered a master plan was needed for the city's Riverview Park. The club provided funding for ROWE and NJB Architects, Inc. to complete the plan.

Don't forget that little things add up. ROWE included LED lighting in projects designed for Union Township and the cities of Flint and Alma. It will save these communities an estimated 50 percent on energy bills. Due to the lifespan of the bulbs, replacement parts will not need to be purchased as often and public works staff will spend less time maintaining the lights having more time for other tasks.

For additional ideas on doing more with less, contact Jack Wheatley, PE, at (800) 837-9131 or [JWheatley@rowepsc.com](mailto:JWheatley@rowepsc.com).

## ROWE Leads in MDOT Design/Build Highway Projects

To assist in meeting tight deadlines required for federal stimulus funding, MDOT has used design/build as a procurement method. Out of the four highway design/build projects MDOT has recently awarded, ROWE was part of a selected team with Interstate Highway Construction for three:

- I-69 in Lapeer and St. Clair counties (\$38 million construction cost);
- I-475 from I-75 to I-69 in Genesee County (\$19 million construction cost); and
- I-94 in Jackson County (\$44 million construction cost).

ROWE's large staff, experienced with MDOT design standards, has enabled MDOT to meet the challenging schedules to secure stimulus funds for these projects.



The I-69 design/build/finance project was completed in 2009.

## Community Education Series Continues in October

Since 2007, ROWE's certified community planner, J. Douglas Piggott, AICP, PCP, has presented free education seminars in the spring and fall. The two-hour sessions provide planning commissioners, elected officials, government administrators, and community planners with valuable information on everything from zoning law changes to sample language for ordinances.

The next seminar is tentatively scheduled for October 27 and 28, 2010 at The Rowe Building.

Check [www.rowepsc.com](http://www.rowepsc.com) for more information as topics are developed.

Mark your calendars now. You won't want to miss it!

## ROWE and Staff Honored for Accomplishments

Since September 2009, ROWE, its certified planner, and several projects have won awards. Following is a list of these accomplishments.

- American Society of Civil Engineers-Michigan Section Quality of Life Award:
  - *Southern Links Trailway, connecting Columbiaville, Otter Lake and Millington*
- Michigan Association of Planning Exceptional Contributions Award:
  - *J. Douglas Piggott, AICP, PCP*
- American Concrete Pavement Association Divided Highways Gold Award:
  - *I-75 from Birch Run Creek to Bridgeport, Saginaw County*
- American Concrete Pavement Association Municipal Streets and Intersections Silver Award:
  - *Kearsley Street Reconnection, Flint*
- Genesee Regional Chamber of Commerce Green Business Award
- Michigan Concrete Paving Association Design Excellence Award:
  - *I-69 Design/Build/Finance Project in Lapeer and St. Clair Counties*
- American Public Works Association-Michigan Chapter Public Works Project of the Year - Environment Category:
  - *Footing Drain Disconnect, City of Davison*
- American Public Works Association-Michigan Chapter Public Works Project of the Year - Transportation Category:
  - *Shepherd Street Reconstruction, City of Charlotte*



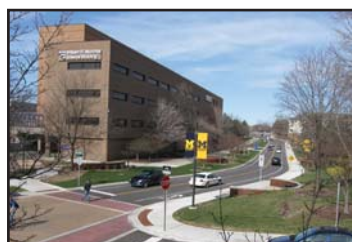
Piggott



I-69 reconstruction



Shepherd Street reconstruction



Kearsley Street reconnection



Southern Links Trailway

# ROWE Helps Clients Reduce Wastewater Costs

Efficiency improvements are on the minds of many community leaders as they work to trim budgets.

Several Michigan communities are cutting costs by reducing the volume of storm water they transport and treat within their wastewater systems. ROWE aids clients in varying degrees – from merely assisting public works departments in identifying potential problem areas to conducting an entire infiltration and inflow (I&I) analysis and developing a reduction plan. ROWE also helps numerous communities prepare grant applications.

I&I can seriously impact the efficiency of the treatment system and may significantly increase operating expenses. Impacts of excess I&I include pump station capacity issues causing system backups, decreased sewer capacity, and frequent sewer cleaning due to soil and root deposits.

ROWE has special equipment to aid in sewer system evaluations. The company has two liquid power smokers that fit over manholes and use blowers to quickly and safely move smoke through sewer systems. The smokers help workers locate such costly problems as broken pipes, sags in the line, and inter-connects between the sanitary and storm sewers. ROWE's QuickView Inspection Camera can also be used to identify inter-connects between the sanitary and storm sewers. The camera can extend into a pipe 20 feet below street level and, depending on the pipe, its narrow-beam lamps can record images as far away as 200 feet.

In this area, ROWE has assisted various communities, providing such services as the following.

- **City of Davison:** flow monitoring, funding application, and administration of \$1.543 million Strategic Water Quality Initiatives Fund (SWQIF) loan to disconnect footing drains in 300 homes.
- **Cities of Clio and Swartz Creek:** flow monitoring and system analysis.
- **Village of Vernon:** flow monitoring, funding application, and administration for \$2.6 million Rural Development loan and grant for system improvements.
- **City of Alma:** flow monitoring, home inspections, smoke testing, and sewer videoing to complete system analysis and prepare State Revolving Fund (SRF) and SWQIF applications.
- **Grand Blanc Charter Township:** flow metering and analysis, funded with \$1 million S2 (SRF/SWQIF) grant; prepared application for SWQIF funding to complete footing drain disconnections.
- **City of Flint:** smoke testing, sewer videoing, and system analysis to begin process of system evaluation, project prioritization, and to determine potential funding sources.



*Depending on the type of pipe, ROWE's QuickView camera's narrow-beam lamps can record images of 50-200 feet and a depth of 20 feet without requiring staff to enter confined spaces.*



*ROWE uses smoke testing for many purposes, such as locating cross-connections between the storm and sanitary sewer systems.*

## Did you know?

### *ROWE's Services and Equipment Includes:*

- Smoke testing equipment and procedures;
- QuickView Inspection Camera for sanitary and storm mainline inspections;
- Data recording and seasonal flow rate analysis;
- I&I analysis and reduction plans; and
- Hydraulic modeling.



*A contractor works in the front yard of a Davison home, connecting the homeowner's footing drain to the storm sewer system.*

# Staff Updates

## New Associate Named

Henry B. Horton, PS, was named an associate in January. Horton joined ROWE in 2001 and is director of survey operations at the company's Lapeer office. He earned a B.S. in land surveying from Michigan Technological University in 1995, and an A.A.S. in civil engineering technology from Michigan Technological University in 1993.



Horton

## Engineer Becomes LEED® AP Registered

Project Engineer Stacie A. Tewari, PE, has earned the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional designation.



Tewari

LEED is a nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings.

Associates are shareholders in the company, participate in management of the firm, and evaluate and contribute to company objectives and the long-range goals to improve the quality of services provided to clients.

## Engineers Earn PE Licenses

Project Engineer Michael A. Royalty, PE, Assistant Project Engineer Matthew J. Seitz, PE, and Assistant Project Engineer Timothy M. Bradshaw, PE, passed Michigan's *Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam* this year, earning Professional Engineer licenses.



Royalty



Seitz



Bradshaw

## Surveyors Further Their Education

In 2009, surveyors earned Professional Surveyor licenses in Wisconsin, North Carolina, and Colorado: Survey Project Manager John H. Rauser, PS (Wisconsin); Project Surveyor Aaron F. Leach, PLS (North Carolina); and Project Coordinator James J. Fink, PLS (Colorado).



Rauser



Leach

Assistant Project Surveyor Jonathan H. Rick, PS, CFedS, earned certification as a Bureau of Land Management Federal Surveyor.



Fink



Rick

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