



Connexions

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Infrastructure Improvements Achieved with \$700K in Tire Grants

Big pot holes in some Michigan streets will no longer be filled with the tire of an unfortunate driver unable to swerve and avoid the hole, but with asphalt made of recycled tire material.

Three mid-Michigan communities will be able to complete \$1.3 million worth of local street and parking lot improvements with the assistance of six grants from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Scrap Tire Market Development program. ROWE is assisting the Village of Birch Run and cities of Clio and Swartz Creek with their grant applications and construction. The grants provide up to a 50 percent match, making a big difference in the amount of work the communities can afford: a total of 23 streets and two municipal parking lots. Improvements not only make residents happier, it eases the municipalities' budget woes and lessens their liability concerns.

Don't want to miss these grant opportunities? Email us at nbrand@rowepsc.com so we can add you to our email list and alert you to announcements about new funding options.



Pictured are before and after views of streets rehabilitated/reconstructed with the grant. **Call Lou Fleury, PE, at 800-837-9131 to learn more about how the Scrap Tire Grant may help your community.**

Despite Additional Sewer Work, Romulus Project Stays on Schedule



Pictured above is the 0.68-mile completed project.

As ROWE continues to expand its client base in southeast Michigan, staff performed construction engineering services for the City of Romulus' Tobine Road that tripled the amount of sewer installation originally planned while carefully coordinating with residents and staying on schedule.

Tobine Road, between Shook Road and Wick Road, includes homes, a church, and a school. ROWE ensured all people affected were kept abreast of the project's schedule and progress with personal visits and fliers. The project also included:

- Hot-mix asphalt base crushing, shaping, and resurfacing
- Drainage improvements
- Permanent signing
- Pavement markings

ROWE is continuing its relationship with the city by providing construction engineering on another road project in 2014.

ROWE Lends Skills to North Carolina Veteran's Affairs Project

ROWE is part of an exciting project to construct a 25,155-square-foot laboratory and pathology building on the W.G. Hefner Veterans Affairs (VA) medical campus in Salisbury, NC.

Over the years, the existing hospital's growth resulted in space limitations that caused laboratory services to be spread out throughout the building. The new building creates dedicated workspaces for laboratory personnel, includes space for advancements in technology, and provides the opportunity for staff to work together in a team atmosphere.

We are honored to be part of a project that will benefit our nation's veterans and those who serve them.

ROWE worked with the design team and VA staff to develop alternatives for locating the building on the campus while minimizing the impacts to the veterans and personnel. Our responsibilities for the project include site grading, storm water design, sanitary sewer and water service design, shop drawing review, construction consultation, land surveying, and landscape architecture design. Along with the building, the site includes a parking lot and loading dock.

The project team is led by Accord Architects and Engineers and includes RPA Design, PC, Health Education and Research Associates, Inc., and DWG Inc. Consulting Engineers.



Pictured is a concept developed for the center's entrance. Construction is slated to begin in 2014 and the project should be complete before or during 2016.



Retaining Wall Puts Sparkle Back in Historic Downtown Riverfront

This summer, residents and visitors to the City of Adrian, MI's Comstock Park were able to enjoy the aesthetically-pleasing view of a safer retaining wall and re-shaped bank along the River Raisin. ROWE was responsible for the concept, permitting, design, and construction assistance for replacement of the 39-year-old wall that measures 500 linear feet. The modular block system used to replace the wooden wall not only provides the city with long-term durability and easier maintenance, but also received recognition from *CPI Magazine*, a concrete industry magazine published in six languages and distributed worldwide. The material used complements a historic fieldstone wall onsite, which was partially rebuilt.

The project also included improvements to an artesian well on the bank of that portion of the river. The well's outlet to the river was previously uncontrolled, an issue now corrected, and has a walkway over it so children can interact with the water. The area is now accessible to people of all abilities.

Terraced seating was created on the bank that makes mowing grass on the slope easier and opens new programming options at the park.

ROWE worked with city personnel and coordinated work with contractor L.J. Construction in a team effort to overcome various challenges. The result is a jewel the city will enjoy for years to come.



Above, the new wall with the artesian well shown on the left.



Above, the old wall; below, the new wall.



Surveys for Large Project Completed On Time Despite Short Schedule

When the deadline was shortened for a project encompassing 40 miles, ROWE surveyors rose to the occasion and completed the expansive project on time.

Five of ROWE's Mt. Pleasant staff, two from Grayling, and five staff from Air-Land Surveys (a ROWE company) performed topographic mapping along the roadways in Gladwin County with conventional and aerial surveys during a span of six months, which is one month less than the original schedule. Consumers Energy is installing a new gas main in the residential area, which will provide citizens with a convenient and less expensive energy source than the propane currently used in the region.

The surveys began in February and ended in July. Seven hydrographic

surveys were completed at proposed sites for gas line bores under Secord Lake and the Tittabawassee River. Five were performed by drilling holes in the ice on Secord Lake. One of the Tittabawassee River hydrographic surveys was performed while the spillway at the Secord Dam was closed and the water level in the river receded enough to wade the river and obtain the river bottom cross section needed. The other Tittabawassee River hydrographic survey was performed by taking the required soundings from atop each side of the M-61 bridge over the river.

Among other tasks, the surveyors had to determine approximately 40 miles of platted and statutory road rights-of-way.

Staff Updates

New Associates Announced

Three ROWE employees have been selected to join the company's group of 11 current associates.

- **Gregory N. Lemke, CP**, joined Air-Land Surveys in 1986, which became a ROWE company in 2003. He earned an A.A.S. in photogrammetric mapping from Ferris State University and works in ROWE's Flint, MI office. As a project manager, his responsibilities include generating mapping quotes, developing and implementing new mapping techniques and procedures, and scheduling mapping projects.
- **Jonathan H. Rick, PS, CFedS**, joined ROWE in 2005 after earning a B.S. in surveying from Michigan Technological University. As a project manager in ROWE's Flint, MI office, his responsibilities include overseeing the completion of projects that include control networks and topographic, ALTA, cadastral PLSS, and Global Positioning System surveys.
- **Aaron F. Leach, PLS**, joined ROWE in 2007 with 14 years of land surveying experience. He earned an A.S. in land surveying from Paul

Smith's College. As a project surveyor, he oversees survey projects performed out of ROWE's Myrtle Beach, SC office, which include construction staking, as-built, boundary, and topographic surveys, and control for aerial photogrammetry.

Assistant Project Engineer Promoted

Troy R. Grunder, PE, has been promoted to project engineer. He is a member of ROWE's Civil Utilities Division in the Mt. Pleasant, MI office. Troy earned a B.S. degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University. He assists with site development, road design, and infrastructure development for various municipalities.

Assistant Engineer Joins ROWE

Brian M. Sarkella, EIT, joined ROWE as an assistant project engineer in the Special Services Division in the Farmington Hills, MI office. He comes to ROWE with a B.S. in civil engineering from Lawrence Technological University and three years' experience with bridge scoping and reconstruction; intelligent transportation system inspections and management; and soundwall rehabilitation and construction.

For questions about these projects and more, contact Director of Corporate Marketing Jack Wheatley, PE, at JWheatley@rowepsc.com or (800) 837-9131.

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