



Solar Decathlon CRETE House

Members of the Washington University of St. Louis Solar Decathlon team decided to take a non-traditional route for their entry into the 2017 competition by utilizing precast concrete. Traditionally, wood or steel are used for the building, but not in this case. The Solar Decathlon, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, features energy efficient homes powered by the sun.

Wieser Concrete’s Roxana location manufactured a specialized gutter system for the CRETE House. The collected rainwater is used by the hydroponic gardens outside of the house. We manufactured 12 pieces to make six gutters that extended horizontally from the house then went vertical. In addition, we helped install the pieces for preliminary set up. The contest took place in Denver, CO from October 5 – 15, 2017, where it was open to the public. WASH U CRETE House placed 2nd in the architecture category.



Photo Courtesy of Michael Chino

While Wieser Concrete donated time, labor and materials for the gutters, several other precasters throughout the Midwest did the same for other key components of the house. This project was a great way to show the durability, resilience, and sustainability of precast concrete in a unique way.

Prior to the start of the gutters the WASH U team toured our Roxana facility to see some of the products we produce and the various components that go into precast. Thank you to the WASH U Team for allowing us to be a part of this innovative project!



Photo courtesy, Jack Dempsey, US Department of Energy

Safety Improvements

This year safety has incorporated the Smith System for our drivers. This course teaches the drivers the top “5 Keys” to successful driving using the hands on approach. Before the manager rides along with the driver, the driver takes a written examination. Then the instructor discusses the “5 keys” to each driver.

Wieser Concrete has had a great year in safety. We increased our Captive annual insurance inspection score to an overall 93%! Hard work by all employees to stay safe while working. This safety culture change that is happening can also be validated by the 10% decrease in lost hours due to injuries. We look forward to continuing this decrease and keeping our employees healthy.

The Smith5Keys.

- Key 1 Aim High In Steering.**
- Key 2 Get The Big Picture.**
- Key 3 Keep Your Eyes Moving.**
- Key 4 Leave Yourself An Out.**
- Key 5 Make Sure They See You.**

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Overview

We hope 2017 was a good year for you and your family and wish you the very best in 2018! We also want to thank you for being a valued Wieser customer in 2017.

Along with the usual residential septic tanks, bunker silos, box culverts, slats, manure storage units and bridges that we do in a typical year; here are some of the more interesting projects that we came across this past year. 2017 started off busy as we were setting building walls in the snow for Dahl Subaru in La Crosse, Wis. We worked with all types of buildings this year, from fire halls to meat markets. Wieser Concrete donated their time and talents, along with the materials, for the first bathroom and concession stand at Plum City High School. We also helped make a concession stand and bathroom facility a reality for the Wisconsin Dells School District this past summer. We proudly manufactured and installed tanks, as well as an electrical control building, for the City of Afton's onsite system. This system is the largest of its kind in the state of Minnesota.



WI Dells Building



Plum City Building

This summer our Roxana location built an office addition, in which the stamped precast walls that they manufactured themselves were set in one day. If you're in the area stop in and check it out.

We provided over 200 precast paving slabs for Interstate 94 near Hudson that now carry thousands of vehicles per day into and out of the Twin Cities metro area. By using precast they were able to remove the failed pavement and install the precast slabs and open the road for traffic the next morning eliminating daytime lane closures and the traffic jams that they cause.



A unique project we were involved in was to construct 3' thick precast walls inside of an existing building designed to contain radiation for Phoenix LLC in Monona, WI. The blocks were installed by our crews in less than a week.

The Maiden Rock location is rounding out the year by adding a new concrete batching system in the manhole plant. Four new hoppers will feed into a conveyor that is housed inside of a precast concrete box culvert tunnel.

Blocks as walls for Phoenix

This year we added a few more tradeshow to our 52 show schedule. As we've expanded more into the hog slat market, you can find us at Minnesota Pork Congress in January. We'll also be first-time exhibitors in February at the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, KY. Come on out and say hi!

Lastly, a big congratulations goes out to the founders, Joe and Mary Wieser, as they celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary this year.



Wishing you and yours, a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Water Challenges with Septic Tanks?

What is the attraction to northern Wisconsin?? Many people agree it's for the beautiful lakes. Well if you're the homeowner it is what everyone has dreamed of having in their backyard. If you're a septic installer, high water tables can cause issues and make a job challenging.

Even though our standard low profile tank is only 43" to the inlet, many contractors were asking for a holding tank with a lower inlet that was also heavier to offset the uplift forces caused by high ground water.

Our solution was to produce a 2000 Gallon tank with a 34" inlet and a total weight of almost 24,000 lbs. Providing precast solutions for our customers is what we are proud to do.

