86-Year-Old Reinforced Concrete Pipe Re-Installed

**Solutions:** Re-installed RCP further extends its service life with the addition of two precast end walls

When Calumet County planned to raise the Hwy 114 culvert grade prior to repaving, project leaders were thrilled to learn they would be able to re-install the existing 86-year-old reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) into new bedding on the updated grade. While it is unique to uncover and reinstall the same construction materials for a project, RCP has an inherently long service life and built-in strength.

Despite being manufactured in 1933, almost a century ago, the concrete pipe was well-preserved, maintaining its structural integrity through heavy rain events over the years. The Calumet County Highway Department determined the pipe could continue to be used with the installation of two new end walls. The department contacted County Materials to manufacture and deliver the two end walls that would extend the service life of the RCP.

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The project began by unearthing the existing concrete pipe. Crews exercised caution while removing them, being careful not to disturb their end joints. Once above ground, the pipe was cleaned to look like-new and joints were wrapped in filter fabric to prevent dirt from penetrating the drainage system. Once re-installed, the end walls were set, concluding the two-day project.

County Materials was contacted to supply the new end walls for Calumet County for this historic pipe re-installment. The reuse of the existing RCP and installation of concrete structures is saving the county substantial dollars compared to alternative construction materials. RCP is known for its prolonged service life compared to alternative materials, and the Calumet County culvert re-installation proved why RCP is a product that exceeds expectations.

To learn more about using County Materials’ Reinforced Concrete Pipe for your next project, contact us at (800) 289-2569.

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