Ready-Mix Concrete Helps Local Growing Farm Meet Environmental Regulations

**Project Details**

**Project Name:** Fustead Holsteins  
**Location:** Wausau, WI  
**General Contractor:** BUG Decorative Concrete  
**Project Engineer:** MSA Professional Services, Inc  
**Product Manufacturer:** County Materials Corporation  
**Date:** 2019-2021  
**Key Products:** Ready-Mix

**Solutions:** Ready-Mix concrete pad acts as a barrier between silage leachate and nearby waterways, reducing agricultural runoff pollution.

Similar to other major industries in the United States, agriculture is upheld to environmental regulations and requirements put forth to reduce the transmission of emissions and pollution into the air and nearby waterways. In Wisconsin, farms of 1,000 livestock or more are required to operate under a Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit. Set forth by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Wisconsin DNR), this permit, enforced under NR 151 Standards, requires farms of significant size to take extra precaution and alter their operation to mitigate runoff pollution and reduce environmental impact on waterways.

As Fustead Holsteins, a 110-year-old dairy farm in Wausau, WI, began to approach 1,000 livestock, farm owners knew it was time to upgrade the operation. The largest area of concern was the farm’s silage pit that was used to store corn feed for the cows. Silage began to increase as the farm continued to grow, which prompted farm owners to seek a proactive solution for the accumulating leachate runoff. Per Wisconsin DNR recommendations, the farm prepared to install a 4.6-acre concrete pad that would act as a barrier between the leachate and the water table.

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BUG Decorative Concrete was contracted to pour the oversized concrete pad in 800-cubic-yard increments between 2019 and 2021 using County Materials’ Ready-Mix to get the job done. The size of each pour was substantial and required the precise coordination of County Materials’ Ready-Mix Truck Drivers to ensure a successful, timely delivery. The completed 7-inch depth concrete pad will span 4,500 cubic yards.

This agricultural application focuses on meeting environmental standards using an environmentally conscious solution. County Materials’ Ready-Mix is approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service and meets all specifications put forth by Midwest Plan Services and the American Concrete Institute. Because of concrete’s prolonged service life, manufacturing and installations emissions are reduced compared to alternative materials that require maintenance and re-installation over time. In addition to meeting industry standards, County Materials has an extensive history of providing agricultural customers with specific mixes that meet the unique needs and challenges of each individual project.

To learn more about using County Materials’ Ready-Mix for your next project, contact our Dispatch Team at (715) 845-2100.

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