

CASE STUDY



PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name:

Bluemound Road Business

Location:

Pewaukee, WI

General Contractor:

TMS Landscape

Project Engineer

Richard Gerdman

Product Manufacturer:

County Materials
Corporation

Date:

2017

Key Products:

Rib Rock Landscape Block
with Dry Stack Texture

Rib Rock Landscape Block Provides Time and Costs Savings with Tightened Construction Schedule

Solutions: Oversized landscape block meets shortened construction schedule while reducing labor cost.

Hilly lots require additional planning during development to ensure changes in elevation will not impact the structural integrity of the buildings and structures placed on them. As this commercial lot was developing, the business owner, who has background in infrastructure and construction, saw the need for a Segmental Retaining Wall (SRW) to hold back the earth in an effort to prevent washouts and costly property damage. With time and costs savings as top priorities, the business owner contacted County Materials to find a solution that could be implemented quickly with minimal disruptions to business.

County Materials representatives evaluated the property's slope and determined oversized Rib Rock Landscape Block were best suited for this application's challenges and needs. Rib Rock units are designed to provide enhanced structural integrity because of their weight, interlocking design, and fewer joints than traditional SRWs. While joints themselves do not diminish strength, they allow greater opportunity for water to penetrate between the units and freeze. As water freezes, expands, melts and condenses, SRWs may shift and impact the wall's stability. With the business located in Wisconsin, a state prone to freeze/thaw cycles and extreme winter weather conditions, project leaders preferred the larger, heavier Rib Rock units over traditional block. Each Rib Rock unit weighs 1,800 pounds compared to traditional units that range from 30-100 pounds. The significant size difference is also advantageous from a time and cost savings perspective, as it requires less units to cover more square footage. With these benefits in mind, the project owner specified Rib Rock Landscape Block manufactured by County Materials in the project's design.

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Within two weeks of coordinating the project, Rib Rock units began arriving on site ready for installation. Rib Rock block was installed using a smaller team and less materials than traditional practices, yet the process was faster and reduced overall project costs. For this commercial application, over 2,000 SF of Rib Rock Landscape Block with Dry Stack texture was used to achieve a refined, modern aesthetic. Rib Rock units are also available in Rough texture for projects that require a more rugged, subtle stone appearance.



Rib Rock Landscape Block proved a reliable solution for this business owner, who was able to meet the desired timeline at a significant cost savings. Concrete landscape products have a prolonged service life of up to 100 years that can be achieved with minimal maintenance, allowing property owners to see a return-on-investment.



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