

For Sidewalk Repairs & for Precision Adjustments and Finishing, Who ya gonna call?

*Call Sidewalk Savers™!*

---

**Case History 40629: Gutters - Demo** - Columbus, Ohio 29-JUNE-2004  
Precision Adjusting Gutters on Limberlost Court

The following is an example of “Fine Tuning” or “Precision Adjusting” a residential Gutter where the cost for the adjustment is a mere fraction of the cost for removal and replacement of the entire gutter system. Even if the Gutter were completely re-poured, the slope for this particular residential street was so slight as to make it likely that the problem would continue to exist even with a newly poured Gutter.

Although this was not our first choice for a Demo-Site for the city of Columbus, OH, we welcomed the challenge. We pre-viewed the existing problem areas and determined what special equipment would be required. Of course, mops and sponges were needed to clean up the sitting water prior to actually surface grinding the high points on the concrete. The key tool for planning the job was a 36” long Level and several permanent ink markers to mark and prepare the surface for grinding. The object of the exercise was to help eliminate the puddles and resulting algae which were accumulating in the gutters as a result of a combination of the neighbor’s sump pump and the high spots in the gutter. An additional level in the 48” or 60” length would have been helpful if this type of operation is likely to be performed on a regular basis, due to the very minor overall slope of the gutter.

The overall view of the home on Limberlost (After Grinding) shows that this is certainly not a problem with an older decaying neighborhood. No indeed, this was clearly a problem of ponding in the gutters as caused by the irregularities in the “as poured” surface of the relatively new concrete gutters.

The Following pictures show the gutters prior to grinding. The Ponding is due to unevenly poured concrete.





Ponding in Gutters due to uneven Concrete.



**THE PROBLEM:** The particular problem in front of this residence might seem to be of little significance to a casual observer, but there is really no need to tolerate such annoyances when

we have such a wide array of Diamond Grinding and Sawing tools available for “fine Tuning” the existing concrete products. A typical operator or D-I-Y home-owner could make the required repairs in less than 3 hours.

**PRE-TREATMENT & MEASUREMENT:** Prior to the actual Demonstration, it was necessary to build a temporary Dam on the gutter to allow the site to be cleaned and dried . The Level and Markers were then used to identify and mark the high spots along the length of the Gutter so that grinding could proceed smoothly once the demonstration started.

**The TOOLS:** The Tools included a Jepson 7” Grinder equipped with a single row Diamond Cup for higher removal rates, a 4.5” Jepson Grinder equipped with a single row diamond cup for fine tuning the edges, and a third grinder which was equipped with a Crack Sealer Wheel that would eventually come in handy for grinding a V-notch in the Iron Sewer to permit proper drainage. Each Grinder was equipped with a Dust Muzzle to collect the dust at the point of origin and feed it through a hose to a Loveless-Ash Fine Particle Vacuum System.





The Diamond Cups as well as the flexible dust containment system, the Dust Muzzle, are shown in the adjacent photographs.

**AFTER GRINDING:** The results following the Grinding operations are shown below:

The High section at the right edge of the property has been ground down to eliminate the ponding as is seen in the adjacent photograph where the water flow has been reduced to a uniform stream.

The Main Length of the gutter shows the series of Bumps which have been smoothed as well as the adjustments to the gutter/curb junction to eliminate the water ponds. The resultant surface is as strong or stronger than the original surface



since the grinder can easily grind through the stone aggregate where necessary. This particular characteristic of the stone aggregate is best seen later in this report where the actual Sidewalk Grinding was done for the home owner who had been so nice as to allow us to use her house for our Demonstration..



The overall appearance of the home and the neighborhood was enhanced by the relatively simple concrete grinding process, using tools and equipment that is well within the reach of the typical homeowner or can be rented from the local hardware stores.

As mentioned earlier, the Ground Aggregate can be seen in the following picture where a 1/2" surface offset was ground to a 1:2 ratio as prescribed in the Access Board for compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. The entire Sidewalk can be power washed following the grinding operation in order to match the color of the freshly ground surfaces, although many people find this step to be unnecessary.





## *Sidewalk Savers*<sup>TM</sup>

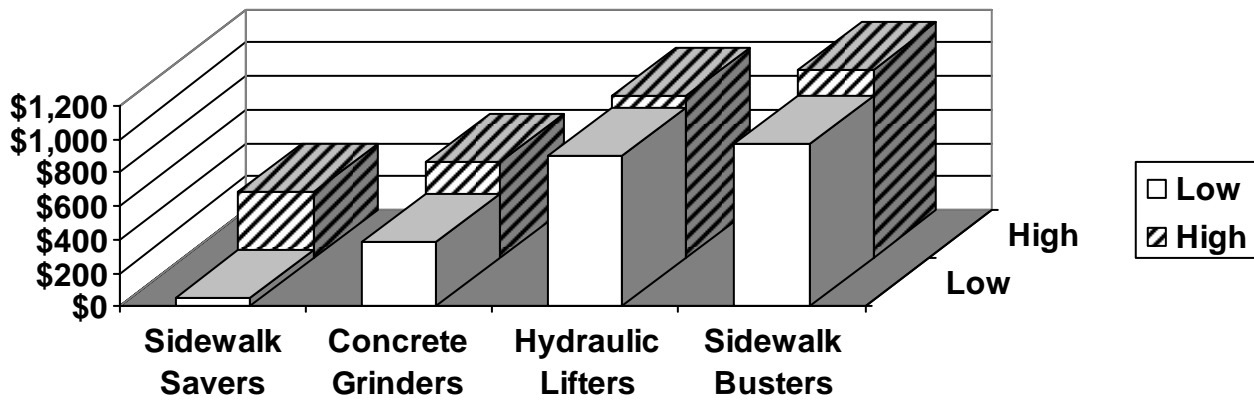
Just like the Sidewalk Savers' Solutions, the Gutter Fine Tuning process represents a simple, low cost option for repairing rather than replacing concrete blocks on sidewalks, driveways, gutters, as well as patios, porches, and even basement or garage floors. The cost savings for this operation would typically be as much as 80% to 90% of the cost of replacement, well worth the home owner's serious consideration.

Now, when homeowners see that they need to repair or replace their Sidewalks at a cost of \$200.00-\$250.00/block or perhaps are contemplating spending \$300.00-\$360.00 for a Driveway Apron Block, they will know that there may very well be a lower cost solution.

---

Training Classes and Operation Manuals are available for both Operators and also for Entrepreneurs who are interested in expanding this service into a small business, creating jobs within the communities wherever sidewalks need to be properly repaired and maintained.

## Sidewalk Restoration Costs



---

By: Roy A. Wagner

*Sidewalk Savers™!*

886 East College Ave.  
Westerville, OH 43081-2505

Tel: 614-882-0499      Fax: 614-899-0993  
e-mail: [rwagner@sidewalksaver.com](mailto:rwagner@sidewalksaver.com)

website: [www.sidewalksavers.com](http://www.sidewalksavers.com)