

For Sidewalk Repairs, Who ya gonna call?

Call Sidewalk Savers™!

Case History 40723: Crack Sealers - Reynoldsburg, Ohio 23-JULY-2004

The following is an example of a residential driveway apron repair where the cost for repair is a mere fraction of the cost for removal and replacement of the concrete block.

The costs for removal and replacement for this site were estimated to be \$506.20, which, by itself, is a relatively minor and tolerable expense, except that the major portion to be removed and replaced (\$320.00) was the apron which was actually in very good condition.

The complete concrete Apron Block as shown in **Figure 1** was to be removed and replaced rather than simply repairing the crack. A crack which probably occurred shortly after initial installation as there was no vertical dislocation of either section.

Careful inspection indicated that the apron had cracked a few inches from the groove which was actually designed to be the fracture point on such a driveway, as the initial installer had known that this would be the thinnest, and therefore, the weakest point of the apron. He was *nearly* correct.

The question, however, is why would a city require excessive spending for replacement of concrete which could be inexpensively repaired in a matter of minutes? The only logical conclusion is that they were unaware of the “Crack Sealer” option.



Figure 1: Driveway Apron at 7190 Anne Ct.

A close up view of the defective section in **Figure 2** shows the offending crack and actually shows how thin the crack is relative to the design groove or compared to the junction line, filled with gravel and debris between the apron and the gutter.



Figure 2: Zoom View of Crack and adjacent Design Groove.

CRACK SEALER: In order to effectively repair this crack, it is necessary to increase the width and depth of the crack so that a mix of Portland Cement and fine gravel, similar to the material in the adjacent sections, can be used to re-seal the crack.

The ideal tool for this operation is the Crack Sealer Wheel as shown on a Jepson™ Grinder in **Figure 3**.

The “Dust Muzzle™” and plastic Cover Plate is shown connected to the vacuum hose which connects to the Love-less Ash™ Drywall Vacuum Unit to contain and control the dust at the point of generation.



Figure 3: Crack Sealer Wheel with Dust Muzzle

The Crack Sealer Wheel has a “V” shape to produce a “V” shaped groove which is 0.500” wide and approximately 0.600” deep, as this has proven to be sufficient width and depth to allow strong bonding of the new concrete to the existing freshly ground concrete.

The Actual V-Groove Grinding is shown midway through the Crack Sealer operation in **Figure 4**. It is



also noteworthy that the operator is wearing protective Gloves, Respirator, Safety Glasses, Hearing Protection, a single Knee Pad for comfort, and is capturing the dust with the Dust Muzzle into the Triple Filtration Drywall Vacuum system.

Figure 4: Midway through Crack Sealer operation.

A view of the finished Groove is shown in **Figure 5 and Figure 6** which also show the alternative Crack Sealer Blade which has V shaped segments for freer cutting action and longer cutting tool life.



Figure 5: V Shaped Groove with Crack Sealer Segment Blade shown.



Figure 6: Finish ground Groove

Following the grooving operation, which actually took less time to do than to describe, the groove is ready to be flushed with water and patched with the Concrete mix as described earlier. The final product, prior to drying appears as shown in **Figure 7**.



Figure 7: Final View of Patched Groove

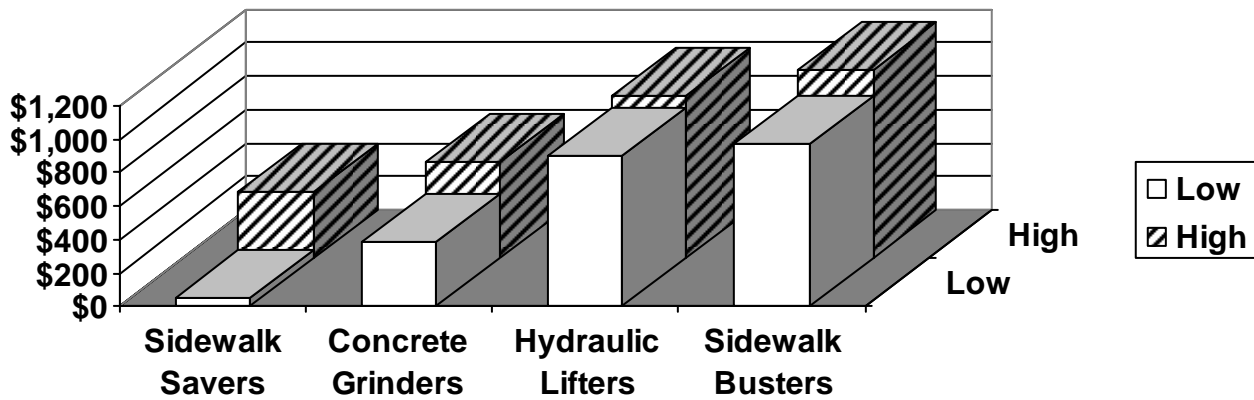
The final clean up will be done with a wire brush after the patch has dried for 48 hours.

Sidewalk Savers™ & Crack Sealers

Just like the Sidewalk Savers' Solutions, the Crack Sealer 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% 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.

Sidewalk Restoration Costs



Call now for specific cost details or for a Quote on your specific requirements:

Sidewalk Savers™!

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