

# Grove Terrace

## Application

250 cubic yards of EPS 15 was used as retaining wall stabilization fill along Grove Terrace road in Dubuque, Iowa.

## Project Details

Spring 2008, heavy rains caused the retaining wall along Grove Terrace road collapse, causing limestone blocks to tumble into the roadway below, resulting in the closure of West 11th Street. Engineers selected Geofoam for its high compressive strength and because it had already been used in newly constructed areas of West 11th Street.

The limestone blocks were restored and used in the construction of the new retaining wall. This was the first time the design team had worked with Geofoam. As a result of the project's success, two other retaining walls have been fixed using Geofoam as the retaining wall's stabilization fill.

Geofoam has been used for over 30 years in the construction industry for its light weight, high compressive strength, predictable material behavior and ability to reduce lateral or bearing loads. Other fill materials such as foamed concrete, waste tires, soil, woodchips or wood fiber have higher densities but are variable in their makeup, have limitations in handling and can be weather sensitive, requiring staged construction, preloading, surcharging and draining.

## Geofoam

### Grove Terrace

- Dubuque, IA
- Fall 2008
- Geofoam Retaining Wall Stabilization Fill
- 250 Cubic Yards

### Engineer

Robert Schiesl  
City of Dubuque

Dennis Waugh

IIW Engineers & Surveyors

### Contractor

Mike Portzen  
Portzen Construction



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