

A Xerxes® Project Profile

Water Tanks & Wet Well for rural pharmacy Innovation is necessary in areas without public water systems

Rural communities in some parts of the United States don't always have public water systems in place. And as development in rural America increases, this presents a challenge, especially for large projects that are required to have their own standalone, fire-protection water supply. Today, more and more commercial and residential building designers are looking for safe, reliable and cost-effective systems for the storage of fire-protection water in their projects.

A recent example of how Xerxes Corporation can be part of the solution to this challenge is a CVS/pharmacy store built in late 2006 and early 2007 in Glocester, which is located in the north-west corner of Rhode Island. This store is one of more than 6,200 stores CVS/pharmacy has in 43 states.

For both the project engineer, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB), and the tank installer, New England Retail Construction, the Glocester pharmacy was their first experience with Xerxes.

When the project engineer, Brian Murphy of VHB, drew up specifications for the new CVS store, he specified fiberglass holding tanks and a fiberglass wet well. This was the first time Murphy specified fiberglass tanks for a project. Murphy is in the Rhode Island office of VHB, which is based in Watertown, Massachusetts.

"We were looking at different options," says Murphy. "We looked at concrete and various other materials. We were looking for something that could be easily installed." The information he had about Xerxes and its fiberglass tanks and wet well led to his decision to go with Xerxes products.

Xerxes tanks are known for their ease of installation. Constructed of long-lasting, rustproof fiberglass, they are durable yet lightweight, which makes them easy to ship, handle and install. One of the major



factors in Murphy's decision was "the tight site, close to two acres. There wasn't a lot of room to put an enormous tank and concrete needed to be one large box,"

explains Murphy. Xerxes provided "the convenience of having different sizes of tanks that could be connected," he says. Putting a pharmacy in an area that didn't



have sewer and water was challenging in a site with “little room to manipulate the parts,” Murphy continues. The CVS project required a 50,000-gallon-capacity system for nonpotable fire-protection water.

To fill that order, Xerxes Corporation shipped two made-to-order 25,000-gallon fiberglass tanks. The two 10-foot-diameter single-wall tanks were to be used in conjunction with a 4-foot-diameter, 1,500-gallon fiberglass wet well. Rather than putting a pump inside the building, it was considered preferable to have a wet well at the tank installation site. “For what we were doing, it worked out very well,” says Murphy. “We were able to provide the water storage required in a minimal footprint.”

This was also the first experience with fiberglass tanks for the project’s installer. In the past, “I’ve ordered heavier concrete tanks,” says Gary Smith of New England Retail Construction, based in Fall River, Massachusetts. Smith was impressed with how quick and easy the installation was. “With labor getting more and more expensive, it’s really important to get things done as quickly as we can. Everything went really well,” he adds.

VHB’s Murphy and Smith both concur that they got the support they needed from Xerxes and its representatives. “Chuck Krouse was very helpful,” says the project engineer when referring to the Xerxes sales representative with Eastern States Associates. “He gave us great direction and let us know what could and could not be done,” says Murphy.

New England Retail Construction’s first experience with fiberglass structural products has left Smith with “absolutely no reservations” when it comes to fiberglass rather than concrete. “I’m impressed with Xerxes and their products.” When asked if this experience makes him want to work with Xerxes and order Xerxes products in the future, his answer was unequivocal, “Sure!” he exclaims.

“There are lots of rural areas that don’t have town water. So when projects require sprinklers and fire-protection water, this is a great way to take care of that need.”

— Chuck Krouse of Eastern States Associates, Inc.



Project Profile

Application

Site

Location

Installer

Engineer

Tank Manufacturer

Rural Pharmacy Tanks and Wet Well

Fire-Protection System

CVS/pharmacy Store

Glocester, Rhode Island

New England Retail Construction

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

Xerxes Corporation

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