

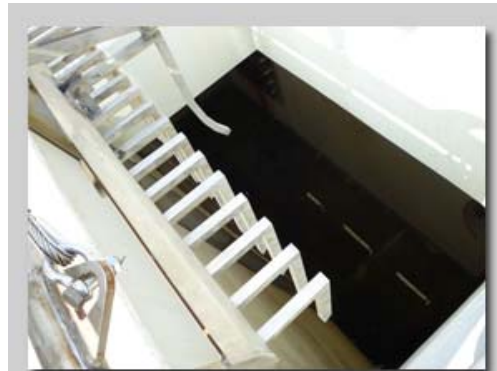
THE CUTTING EDGE

Grunau Metals takes out the trash!

If you're a Wauwatosa resident or commute through the State Street area there, chances are you have wondered what's being built next to the Menomonee River at 59th & West State Street. This site is home to MMSD's recently completed 220 million gallon pumping station that is meant to prevent rampant flooding and property damage the area saw in 2010.

When Mother Nature unleashes rain of this magnitude, not only do SUV's get washed away, but so does all of our trash. When this trash builds up, it impedes the flow of water through the system, which is the very problem Contractor CD Smith and Engineering firm Kapur & Associates Inc. called on Grunau Metals to solve. Grunau Metals was tasked with fabricating and installing a trash removal system loosely based on diagrams of a similar project. According to Paul Smedberg, Project Manager for CD Smith, "Grunau's people created much of the detailed engineering drawings for the job along the way".

Along with various hand rails and fall protection, Grunau Metals designed, fabricated and installed all the stainless steel components of the trash removal system that's comprised of large rakes with teeth on a track system. These rakes get lowered 60 feet down into the sewer on each of the 5 pumps. The teeth on the rakes fit between grooves in metal grates built into the sewer pipe that catch any debris getting washed down the sewer. The project took about 6-8 months to complete and Smedberg noted it was "100% on time and on budget".



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Grunau Company, Inc. 1100 W. Anderson Ct., Oak Creek, WI 53154
Phone: (414) 216-6900 or (800) 365-1920 Fax: (414) 768-7950 | [Contact us](#)

