Beyond being green, pervious pavement is an alternative to the dangers posed by retention ponds

The safety factor in pervious concrete

Retention and detention ponds have been the focus of safety issues for a number of years. For instance, in Indianapolis, Indiana, from 2006-2010 a total of 13 people died in retention pond drownings. The victims ranged from the elderly to college students to young children. Some were the results of cars driving into the ponds and others were the results of people wading or falling into the water. As the safety of these ponds comes into scrutiny, one question keeps coming to the forefront: Is there a way to control water runoff and provide a safe environment?

One answer is the use of *imix Eco Pave* pervious concrete over the top of a retention basin. In this way, land typically set aside for storm water runoff can be used for parking lots. By design, pervious concrete is mixed with little or no sand. The result is concrete full of voided space between the coarse aggregates in the mix. Water runs through the voids. The water is then stored below the concrete in an aggregate base until it infiltrates back into the soil. This can greatly reduce or eliminate the need for an open pond. Active mitigation systems can be designed to handle the same amount of water as a storm water retention or detention pond. IMI provides an online calculator to help determine the size of such a system. You can access it by clicking here.

For more information on pervious mitigation flood control systems, click here.

Want to learn more? Watch our video on *imix Eco Pave*, click here.