# CONCRETE IS FOCUSED ON A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Environmentally friendly. Reduce, reuse, recycle. Sustainable. We're sure you're familiar with these words and phrases. They've become a big part of how we approach new construction. But they're also words that apply to the production of ready mixed concrete. You see, concrete producers of all sizes are taking steps to reduce their carbon footprint and have been for some time.

Below we'll review – at a high level – some of the ways ready mixed concrete producers are accomplishing their goals of creating a greener workplace and community.



#### **GREENER MATERIALS**

We're not only talking about greener cement. We're also talking about materials that can be used in place of or in addition to cement such as slag or fly ash. Both help to reduce carbon while increasing durability and performance.

#### **USING LESS WATER**

**NOW TO BE CLEAR :** 

Water is a key element of concrete. And thanks to various water reduction technologies, concrete producers have a wide array of additives they can add to their mixes that reduce the amount of water needed.

### **CAPTURING WASTEWATER**

Washout systems help capture wastewater and concrete washout materials. This allows concrete producers to recycle the water and prevents chemicals that are harmful to the environment from contaminating the groundwater.





### **RECYCLING PROGRAMS**

Yes, it's exactly what you're thinking. Plastics. Paper. Aluminum cans. The same items you recycle at home are those that concrete producers are focused on too. And just like you, recycling programs at ready mixed plants help limit the impact on the environment.

## **RECYCLING RETURNED CONCRETE**

What to do with concrete that came back to the plant? Well producers have a few options, but commonly crushed concrete is used as a base for roads, parking lots, and driveways. In some instances, concrete producers may take remaining concrete to create precast blocks.

This is just a snapshot of what ready mixed concrete producers are doing to reduce their impact on the environment. And there are new technologies in the works that will further these efforts. Interested in learning more? We encourage you to reach out to your local ready mixed concrete producer!



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