

LEED COUNCIL FOCUSES ON A MEMBER: GABRIEL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Gabriel Environmental Services
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Gabriel Environmental Services is a multi-disciplined environmental consulting firm founded in 1973. Since Gabriel's founding with only three employees, they have grown to become one of the largest and most respected environmental firms headquartered in the Midwest.

The company performs Phase I Environmental Site Assessments to wastewater consulting and monitoring at manufacturing plants. Gabriel has the technical skills and expertise that are right for their clients. Gabriel is the only area firm that has the internal capabilities to evaluate soils, water, *and* air quality, as well as having their own full-service lab to perform analysis. By keeping virtually all work in-house, their clients win with work done efficiently, timely, and professionally, without the added hassle and costs of working with subcontractors.

The company was started thirty-five years ago by John Polich, President. He started testing chemicals in the bathroom of his apartment. These days in order to respond to the needs of their clients, Gabriel employs over 50 staff members. These individuals include engineers, chemists, geologists, hydro-geologists, and technicians with many years of experience and training in a broad scope of environmental management and laboratory analysis.

Wastewater Services



Gabriel's 2,000+ clients are located throughout the Midwest, and include Fortune 500 companies, financial institutions, major developers and real estate organizations, manufacturers, hospitals and health care organizations, government entities, and educational institutions. Two of their clients, A. Finkl & Sons and Horween Leather, are located in the Elston Corridor Planned Manufacturing District and are LEED Council members.

Industrial Services



Gabriel always seeks to add lasting value with every project they work on. They are not satisfied with “band-aid” solutions – their recommendations work to achieve the best long-term outcome. With Gabriel, their clients can always be assured that they are getting the best value for their money. Gabriel works aggressively to ensure that all of their data and reports stand the test of time.

Over the years Gabriel Environmental Services has received many awards. Gabriel is proud to be a six-time winner of the City of Chicago Landscape Award including 1st Place for Commercial Landscapes in 1999, 2002, 2004 and 2006.

Although the company is a success it still had obstacles while growing. John said, “During the mid 90’s many companies closed in the city of Chicago due to the changing economy and competition, but Gabriel Environmental Services survived because we were able to adapt to the changes that were present and compete. The company is in a great location and there is a large clientele scattered throughout the city. One thing that can be improved is the traffic congestion and gridlock near the Kennedy Expressway.”

Laboratory Services



Lead, Asbestos, and Mold Services



Gabriel Environmental Services is currently working on completing a SBIF (Small Business Improvement Fund) application to install solar panels (photo voltaic and solar thermal) on the roof and a SEER “14” rated HVAC system. The SBIF can fund up to 75% of eligible costs

of a project. John is interested in increasing the available money for companies through the SBIF program and has asked the LEED Council to lobby for this increase.

As a good place to have lunch, John listed several recommendations in the following order of preference:

- 1) **Goose Island Brewery**
- 2) Uncle Julio’s
- 3) Northside (on Damen; north of North Avenue)
- 4) Stanley’s Market

Thank you Gabriel Environmental Services for being a supporter and may you have continued success improving the environment!