

SAVE THE DATE

Vineland Quarries Holiday Christmas Reception

Wednesday, November 21, 2012 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Twenty Valley Golf & Country Club

Quarry Update

Start up was two weeks early this year for the Vineland Quarry. The mild winter and early spring weather meant that construction projects began sooner than usual, which resulted in the quarry resuming production on March 22, 2012 instead of the scheduled April 6th.

Over the winter, repairs and upgrades were made to the quarry's plant and equipment for general maintenance and to increase operational efficiency. The Vineland Quarry also purchased a new haul truck and shipping loader.

We are expecting a very good year for 2012, with concrete stone being shipped to new markets - including Oakville, Brantford and Cambridge - because the quality of the stone in Vineland is superior to that of most other quarries in the Golden Horseshoe area. It is better able to withstand the freeze-thaw cycles of typical southern Ontario winters.

The annual Scouts cleanup of the property around the quarry took place at the end of April, which is always a highlight of the spring season for the Vineland staff. As is the case every year, the staff hosted a barbecue for the scouts and made a donation for each bag of garbage collected toward the maintenance of the scout hut on the quarry property.

In other news, during the annual general meeting of the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association in February, Vineland Quarry was honoured with a Community Relations Award. The award recognized the company's work on its dust and noise control measures, neighbourhood relations, and its donation of stone and funding to various community causes.



Paving is a Family Affair for Circle P

After working in construction for 52 years, Dwight Phibbs says retirement is on the horizon. Dwight is president and owner of Circle P Paving in Stevensville and a customer of Walker Aggregates. He says he will soon be looking for the next generation to take over control of the business so that he and his wife Martha can relax and enjoy some leisure time.

Dwight started working for a local contracting company as a bulldozer operator at age 16. He purchased one-third of the company, later sold it, took a break and started Circle P Paving with Martha 33 years ago. He bought a paver, tractor, trailer and dump truck, and then had three or four employees. Now, more than 30 people are employed at the company during the busy summer construction season.

All three of Dwight's children work for the company. Rick is operations manager, Jimmy is production manager and Penny is office manager. "Most of the time, everyone gets along," Dwight says with a chuckle.

The majority of Circle P Paving's customers are municipalities, and the company is now working to install asphalt at a sewer project in St. Catharines, and repairing and resurfacing a road project in Niagara Falls. The company has purchased stone, asphalt, and tar and chip products from Walker since its very beginning.



Dwight says that what sets Circle P Paving apart from its competitors is a combination of price, quality and reputation. "We're sticklers and try to do the work right," he says. "Everybody in the world will know about it, if you don't do a good job."

EMPLOYEE PROFILE - "Shirley" the Face of Walkers to Many

For the dozens of truck drivers who come to the Vineland Quarry every day, Shirley Rempel is the face of Walker Industries. For the past 15 years, she has worked full-time in the Vineland scalehouse, and had previously been employed for two years part-time at all three Walker quarries in Niagara, as well as assisting staff at the head office.

Shirley says she loves the fact that she lives about two minutes from the quarry and doesn't have to dress up to go to work. She especially likes the camaraderie amongst her fellow quarry employees and truckers. She recalls having a good laugh with one trucker about five years ago, who had excitedly told her that he believed someone had shot at him on his way into the quarry, and that he had ducked in his cab to avoid the bullet. Shirley had to explain the presence of a propane fired cannon - or "bird-banger" - that had been set up in the neighbouring vineyard to scare away birds that might otherwise dine on the grapes.

Despite her cheerful, good nature Shirley has had more than her share of life's troubles. Her husband became a paraplegic in 2002 after falling from a tree while trying to construct a hunting platform, and then her son Kevin was also paralyzed four years later as a result of a dirt bike accident. She had to modify her home for wheelchair access and take time away from work to be a caregiver first to her husband and then to Kevin. In 2007 her husband passed away.

"Walker has been so good to me over the years," Shirley says, noting that she was able to take time away from work to deal with her family crises. "They are just an excellent company to work for and I'm very grateful to them."

















Walker is a Leader in Aggregate Recycling

Walker Aggregates Inc. is one of the founding member companies of a new organization formed to promote the use of recycled aggregates in construction projects. The organization is called Aggregate Recycling Ontario (ARO), and its goal is to eliminate the large piles of concrete and asphalt removed from demolition sites and road reconstruction projects by re-using these materials.

"There is an immediate crisis in the GTA surrounding recycled aggregate," said Adrian Van Niekerk, chair of ARO. "Recycling yards are filling up to capacity with broken concrete and asphalt, yet not nearly enough is leaving the site to be used again in new construction," he said. "Some facilities have had to close their yards to new deliveries, because there is just no more room," he added.

Nearly three million tonnes of recyclable concrete, asphalt and aggregate that have been recovered from GTA construction sites now sit in piles to be processed. Although the Ontario government,

through the Ministry of Transportation, and some municipalities have been leaders in using recycled aggregates for years, many municipalities' specifications do not allow recycled aggregates to be used in construction projects. Processed properly, these aggregates meet all performance requirements and provide a suitable alternative to primary aggregates which come directly from pits and quarries. Using recycled aggregate is also environmentally friendly in that it keeps these materials out of landfills and cuts down on the demand for primary aggregate from pits and quarries.

Walker's aggregate sales manager Frank Hurkmans is a director of the ARO. He says Walker has been accepting recycled materials from torn up roads and demolished buildings for more than a decade at all three of its Niagara quarries. The company resells on average about 95,000 tonnes of recycled concrete and 15,000 tonnes of recycled asphalt each year. Most of the customers are local municipalities, and private sewer and water main construction companies.

Remembering Our Annual Holiday Christmas Reception Wednesday, November 23, 2011 at Twenty Valley Golf & Country Club Hosted by the Vineland Quarries Public Liaison Committee







Walker **Aggregates Inc.**

Vineland Quarries P. O. Box 100, Thorold, ON L2V3Y8 905-227-4142



Alison Braithwaite, Director **Environmental Performance** 905 680 3769 abraithwaite@walkerind.com Evan Bartfai Quarry Superintendent 905 562 4163 ebartfai@walkerind.com Teresa Page Administrative Assistant 905 680 3731 tpage@walkerind.com



