

# Walk of the Town



Walker Industries

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## Walker Carbon Action Team Moving Ahead to 2012

As the debate on climate change continues to heat up, there is one thing that remains certain - most Canadian businesses do not know what their actual Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions are. Well, Walker isn't like most Canadian businesses.

**Enter the Walker Carbon Action Team.**



The Carbon Action Team (CAT) is a group of employees that represent all of the Walker group of companies. Their mandate is to help employees understand the concept of GHG emissions and accurately calculate the carbon footprint of the Walker group of companies by 2012. "Carbon footprint" is a commonly used term to represent ones impact on the environment in terms of how much GHG emissions are produced as a result of its activities.

As the old saying goes, "You can't manage what you don't measure". So, the CAT is beginning to work with employees to understand and measure things like Walker's electricity, diesel, gasoline, natural gas and water/waste water usage. This is a daunting task but Walker employees are not strangers to stepping up to a challenge, especially when it means creating a safer, healthier, enjoyable and more sustainable place to work.

Once the carbon footprints of companies have been determined, employees can then identify opportunities to reduce the footprints. In most cases, these reductions will result in actual cost savings, increased operating efficiencies and in some cases, a more valuable product. CAT has already received lots of creative questions and ideas from employees on how to reduce Walker's carbon footprint.

Now that word is catching on, lots of employees are curious to know what both their personal and company's carbon footprint is. If you want to know what your personal carbon footprint is, take the one-minute test below:

[www.zerofootprint.net/individuals/one-minute-calculators](http://www.zerofootprint.net/individuals/one-minute-calculators)

Stay tuned for updates on the Walker Carbon Action Team!

Darren Fry, A.Sc. T  
Business Manager

**CHECK OUT  
our new & improved  
Walker website**

[www.walkerind.com](http://www.walkerind.com)

## YOU'RE INVITED Open House and Operations Tour



**Walker Industries**  
2800 Thorold Townline Road, Niagara Falls  
Saturday, June 12, 2010 from 9:00 am to noon  
**LAST TOUR LEAVES AT 11:30 AM**

- Come and see how the Walker quarry, landfill and composting facilities work.
- See how landfill gas is harnessed and used as renewable energy.
- Learn how Niagara's wastewater treatment biosolids are processed.
- Find out about how wax and asphalt emulsions are made and used.

## TOUR SPACE IS LIMITED

If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Teresa Page  
905-680-3731 by June 8th

## upcoming events

Holiday Christmas Reception  
Wednesday, December 8, 2010  
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm  
Niagara College Culinary Institute

## EMPLOYEE PROFILE



### Geoff Boyd Niagara Biosolids

Geoff Boyd has been a valued employee of Niagara Biosolids for 3 years. He started out as a plant operator and has worked his way to Plant Manager. Geoff is not new to the waste industry as he worked as a chemical technologist prior to coming to NBLP.

Geoff, originally from Ottawa, ventured to Niagara to attend Brock University where he obtained his Bachelor degree in Earth Sciences. While at Brock, Geoff met his wife, Kylie and together they settled in St. Catharines. Geoff and Kylie have two beautiful daughters, Madelaine, age four and Cecelia, two, with a baby boy due in May.

Geoff is an active member of the Joint Health and Safety Committee, always displaying his commitment to our superior safety culture. Geoff is also a member of the Carbon Action Team (CAT) at Walkers, assisting the team in examining the Greenhouse gas emissions from Niagara Biosolids. Once this assessment is complete, all Walker companies will be evaluated and the carbon footprint will be calculated. With their findings, the Team hopes to develop ways to reduce the impacts of Walker Operations.

With safety as a #1 priority, and his knowledge of environmental science, Geoff is a great asset to Walker Industries. You can meet Geoff at our open house in June.

Taylor Webb  
Operations Assistant



## WELCOME Senen Salacup

Senen Salacup joined Walker Industries on February 1, 2010, as the Associate Director of Environmental Performance. Senen was recently with SkyPower Corp., a renewable energy company, and zerofootprint.net, a non-profit, carbon footprint reduction/offsetting organization both based out of Toronto.

Senen has a Masters degree in Marine Biology from the University of the Philippines, and has extensive environmental and natural science experience in consulting, government and the private sector in Canada, the United States, and in the Philippines.

He is an avid baseball/softball fan, and spends his leisure time watching and, when he has a chance, playing the game. He also enjoys swimming and SCUBA diving. He is married to Rosalee, and has 2 children: Russell, who is 6 years old, and Stephanie, who is 7 months old.

Please join us in welcoming Senen to our team.

Alison Braithwaite  
Director, Environmental Performance

## Quarry Update

The crushing plant was shutdown the month of March for annual maintenance. During our shutdown, we installed a new primary vibrating screen to eliminate plug ups from wet material on the stationary grizzly bar setup. We also did repairs on all our crushers, screens and conveyors. The shutdown gave us time to rebuild our haul road at the extraction face to make it straighter and more level for the haul trucks.

Our annual safety start-up training was also completed, it included updates in environmental and operations training for all employees.

A good start to the spring leads us to believe that 2010 may be a busy year. With the government stimulus dollars, funding numerous local infrastructure projects.

Projects we're supplying are: Kalar and Montrose Roads; Queen Street rebuilds in Niagara Falls; and Prideaux St. in NOTL. Other projects currently on the go are the 'Boys and Girls Club of Niagara' on McLeod Road; the new Lowes store south of McLeod Road; the Niagara Falls Convention Center; and the new Niagara Falls 4-pad arena set to open this July.

We purchased a new 2010 Tamrock Pantera Hydraulic Rock Drill. It was delivered just in time to start production after our maintenance shutdown. This updated machine will help us with a more accurate drilling and blasting program.

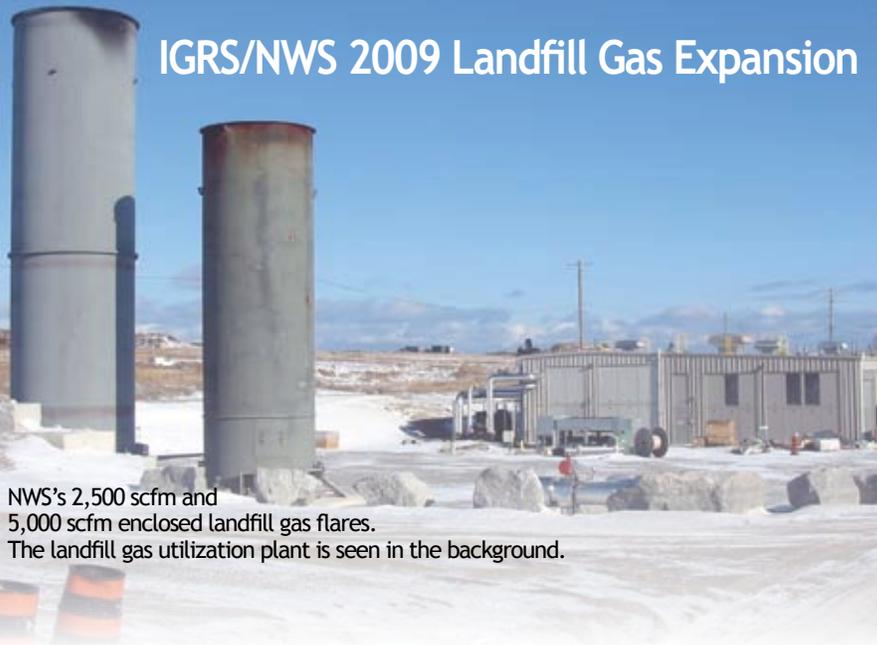


The asphalt plant has been up and running as of April 5th. It also expects to be fairly busy this year. We are starting to see a rebound in the private sector market with several local paving projects on the go. We made several small changes to the plant during the winter shutdown. The changes improve our safety and operating efficiencies.

We look forward to realizing the benefits of these changes in better customer service and product quality.

Ed Lamb  
Director, Aggregate Operations

## IGRS/NWS 2009 Landfill Gas Expansion



NWS's 2,500 scfm and 5,000 scfm enclosed landfill gas flares. The landfill gas utilization plant is seen in the background.

Integrated Gas Recovery Services Inc. (IGRS) and Niagara Waste Systems Ltd.(NWSL) teamed up in 2009 for site improvements at the East Landfill, Landfill Gas Utilization Facility. The improvements consisted of the installation of a second enclosed landfill gas flare. Also, the S5 surface water pond (which batch discharges non-contact storm water from the south end of the landfill to 10 Mile Creek) received a major upgrade. It was re-contoured, an updated outfall was constructed and the spillway was relocated.

The addition of the new flare increases NWS's ability to control odour and landfill gas emissions from the site. NWS now has a total landfill gas flaring capacity of 7,500 standard cubic feet per minute (scfm) which is amongst the largest in Canada! When operating the flares at full capacity, it is equivalent to running 50,000 back yard barbeques all at the same time!

The flares are only operated when landfill gas cannot be used for energy purposes at the nearby AbitibiBowater papermill in Thorold or onsite at the East Landfill Electricity Generating Facility.

Construction started in mid 2009 and was completed in January 2010.

Darren Fry, A.Sc.T  
Business Manager

## University of Guelph and Niagara Waste Partner in Research!



sizing plot 2



plots trimmed



alfalfa and oats

Niagara Waste has been working with the University of Guelph over the past three years in studying the ability to establish meaningful crop growth on completed areas of the East Landfill.

Niagara Waste has now entered into a second phase, which will last over the next two years. The new study will take the lessons learned from the initial work to a full scale operation. It will cover an area of approximately 17 hectares (170,000 square meters) Much greater than the four small scale plots that were originally used in the study.

The 2010 / 2011 study will also assess the effectiveness of mixing on site soils with leaf and yard waste to manufacture a suitable growing medium.

At this point Niagara Waste is looking to plant a crop suitable for bio-fuel use (miscanthus) along with a forage crop (mixed hay and/or winter wheat) to determine the best economically viable option for long term planting on top of the East Landfill's footprint.

Stay tuned for future agricultural reports on the landfill's newest operation!!



alfalfa



Tim McVicar  
General Manager - Operations  
Walker Environmental Group



# IMS Compost North Pad Clean Up UPDATE

We would like to thank you, our neighbours, for your patience with our work to address our odour issues.

2009 was a challenging year for our compost employees. A lot of hard lessons were learned and a stronger team with refocused energy has emerged. They have made tremendous progress with the North Pad clean up and we would like to thank them for all their hard work and dedication.

With the challenges of last fall's odour issues IMS decided to stop processing North Pad compost materials and wait for colder temperatures. During that time, better options were developed to manage the materials and a layer of finished compost and woodchips was placed over the piles to act as a biofilter. As soon as the biofilter layer was placed over the piles, odours came under control.

In January, the cold temperatures also lowered the temperature within the piles making them more stable. On January 10, 2010 the decision was made to proceed with the clean up of the North Pad beginning with

the most mature piles. In order to efficiently manage the material, a night shift was added between 10 pm and 5 am, Sunday to Friday. Weather conditions, wind direction and the potential for off-site odours were closely monitored by IMS employees with the clean-up work being adjusted accordingly.

Specialized "cold weather" equipment (Star Screen) was rented to screen material and create finished product. The work was done very carefully with the large piles being aerated and formed into smaller windrows. The smaller windrows were then carefully turned to complete the composting process. The finished product was screened and shipped out to our existing customers. With the approval of the Ministry of the Environment, a small amount of material considered to be too odorous to process and was disposed of to landfill.

Currently IMS is screening and selling finished compost product from the clean-up process and will continue until all the material is gone.

Alison Braithwaite  
Director, Environmental Performance

**Gardens need a lift?  
We've got you covered  
at Land Cover!**



Now in our fourth season of operations, we have a variety of mulches, soil, stone and compost ready for your lawn and gardens! We're conveniently located just south of the Residential Drop-Off, open Monday through Saturday, 8am to 4pm. For more information, check out our website [www.landcover.ca](http://www.landcover.ca) or call 905-680-3059.

## Tire Recycling Program



As of September 24th, 2009 the IMS Residential Drop-off accepts used passenger and light truck tires (no rims) free of charge as part of the Ontario Tire Stewardship Program (OTS). The industry funded organization, incorporated under Ontario's Waste Diversion Act, is designed to divert scrap tires from landfill and incineration. This program makes it easy for residents to get rid of their old tires and provides them a piece of mind that their tires are being recycled. The used tires are recycled into items such as rubbermats or rubber products used in making playgrounds, hockey rinks and rubber automotive parts. Since IMS became a registered collector, they have received and recycled over 2, 200 tires!

Taylor Webb  
Operations Assistant

## WEEE at the IMS Residential Drop-Off Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

IMS is once again making an effort to divert waste from the landfill. They became a registered site under the Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) in June of 2009 and have since recycled over 110 tonnes of waste electronics. OES is a non-profit organization, implementing the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Program Plan (WEEE) under the Waste Diversion Act. In Ontario, there are more than 91,000 tonnes/year of electrical and electronic equipment available to be reused or recycled. According to the Province, only about one-quarter is being currently managed properly.

The program recently began their 2nd phase of diversion, now accepting items such as cell phones, cameras, video cameras, radios, speakers, etc. These items, in addition to the WEEE Phase 1 materials (computers, monitors and peripherals) are accepted free of charge at the IMS Residential Drop-Off. For more information on the WEEE program and acceptable materials, check out: [www. http://www.ontarioelectronicstewardship.ca.](http://www.ontarioelectronicstewardship.ca)

Your participation will also increase the diversion rate of materials from landfill, conserving landfill space and will help support the environment.

Taylor Webb  
Operations Assistant

## PUBLIC LIAISON COMMITTEE



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Suggestions and comments are always welcome. Please contact: Teresa Page 905 680 3731 [tpage@walkerind.com](mailto:tpage@walkerind.com)

