

Welcome to The RidgeRock

As part of Walker Aggregates' commitment to being a good neighbour and keeping local residents informed about news of our Ridgemount Quarry operations, we are launching a newsletter called The RidgeRock.

This newsletter will be published twice each year and distributed to neighbours of our Ridgemount Quarry site, local politicians, other government officials and agencies with an interest in our quarry operations.

In the newsletter you will find news about our Ridgemount Quarry operations,

special projects, events, our employees and customers. We will also include significant news from our other Walker Aggregates operations, and from our parent company Walker Industries Holdings Limited.

Our company philosophy is to be a good neighbour, employer, supplier, customer and corporate citizen – respecting the interests of our communities and the environment, and supporting important community initiatives.

If you have any questions about our Ridgemount Quarry operations, I invite you to contact our superintendent Angelo Bevilacqua at 905-680-3760 or via email at abevilacqua@walkerind.com.



Ken Lucyshyn



Ken Lucyshyn
Vice-president,
Walker Aggregates

Walker Purchases Two Windsor Area Quarries

Walker Aggregates last fall purchased two quarries near Windsor, Ontario.

"This acquisition gives Walker a footprint in the aggregates business in southwestern Ontario," says Ken Lucyshyn, the company's vice-president responsible for aggregates and construction. "We are looking to grow our aggregates division by acquiring new businesses and expanding our existing ones. We're interested in pursuing opportunities which allow us to expand geographically or replace depleting aggregate resources."

Amherst Quarries is a family business, and has been owned by three generations of the Smith family. Established in 1959, the company has two large quarries – one south of Windsor and another in the town of Amherstburg. These quarries supply stone products to customers in Essex County and southwestern Ontario. Approximately 25 employees work for the company.

While Walker will take over ownership of the company, it will remain operating as Amherst Quarries.

– Continued on back –

Ridgemount Quarry Update

No blasting or crushing is expected at the Ridgemount Quarry during the 2013 season. The temporary crushing plant, which was being operated by a subcontractor to Walker Aggregates, was disassembled and removed from the quarry earlier this year.

"We are only shipping now, when there is a demand for our products," says quarry supervisor Angelo Bevilacqua. He says there should be enough processed stone at the quarry to last through this year's construction season, which will be an average one in terms of quantity of material shipped. Most of the orders are for construction, road work and sewer work in the areas south of Niagara Falls, in Fort Erie and east to Port Colborne.

There is ongoing property maintenance at the site, and the Paint Shop is busy. The shop paints all of Walker Aggregates equipment in the Niagara area. New machines purchased this year – including loaders and pick-up trucks – are now being painted in the Walker blue and yellow colours.



The Ridgemount Quarry Paint Shop has been busy this spring, painting equipment in Walker's distinctive blue and yellow colours.



Where the Rock Goes

Dominion Road Paving

Aggregates extracted from Walker Aggregates quarry operations in the Niagara region are used for various projects in the peninsula – including the construction of roads, schools, hospitals, homes and businesses. This construction activity contributes to the social and economic wellbeing of our community.

In this and every subsequent issue of The RidgeRock, we will feature a project which uses aggregate from Walker’s Ridgemount Quarry.



Aggregates are often used in projects to replace, repair or upgrade aging infrastructure. Stone from the Ridgemount Quarry was used in a road resurfacing project completed earlier this spring along Dominion Road in Fort Erie.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

A Win-Win Relationship with Cotton Inc.

The best business relationships are the reciprocal ones – relationships where the parties are both each other’s customers and suppliers. That’s the case with Cotton Inc. and Walker Aggregates.

Cotton was established in 1979 as a

concrete forming company, based in Niagara Falls. Over the years it has grown to employ some 170 staff, and provides excavation and trucking services, in addition to forming and pouring concrete foundations for residential and commercial buildings.

One of its landmark projects was the foundation work for “The Lofts,” seven, five-story student residences at Brock University last year.

From the very beginning the company has turned to Walker’s Niagara quarries – Ridgemount, Vineland and Walker Brothers – to purchase its aggregate products, from driveway stone to stone used in the manufacture of concrete.

“They are a very loyal and valued customer,” says Walker’s marketing manager Frank Hurkmans. “As our businesses have grown, the relationship becomes more important.”

Cotton’s trucking and equipment manager Joe Ruggi concurs. “The reciprocal business makes the difference; that’s what keeps us loyal to Walker,” he says. Joe notes that Walker hires Cotton to truck asphalt for its Norjohn Paving division.

Cotton also uses Walker’s Niagara Falls landfill to dispose of construction and demolition wastes.

Both companies also share similar values – to be the very best in their industries, operate in an environmentally friendly way and give back to the communities in which they operate.



Cotton Inc. cement and pump truck operators John Hill and Larry Leveille on the job at a new subdivision in the area of Lundy’s Lane and Kalar Road in Niagara Falls.

Employees Turn Down the Heat for Sweater Day

Employees of Walker Aggregates joined in the first of several challenges marking the 10th anniversary of Walker Industries innovative EARTH 1st Program by participating in National Sweater Day.

The 550-plus employees across Walker Industries' divisions were asked to wear a warm sweater on February 7, 2013, when the temperature in all of the company's buildings was lowered by two degrees. "We encouraged staff to find wacky, funky and wild sweater, toque and scarf combinations," says Alison Braithwaite, the company's director of Environmental Performance.

Members of the communities in each of Walker's operating locations were also encouraged to become involved. "We asked our customers, suppliers, friends and neighbours to lower their heat and put on their favourite sweater to take action against climate change and work towards a sustainable future," Braithwaite says.

If every Canadian lowered the heat by just two degrees this winter, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 4 megatons.



Woodend Campus Gets a Makeover

About a dozen Walker employees last fall donated their time and efforts to sprucing up the Walker Living Campus at Woodend, at Taylor Road south of Glendale Avenue in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The work included a cleanup of the grounds around the campus and painting a meeting room in the former Thomson House residence.

The work was done under the company's Together We (Walker Employees) Can (Care About Neighbours) program. Through the program, the company provides employees with two paid days per year to work on community projects.



EMPLOYEE
PROFILE

Wayne Eggleton with his 1923 T-bucket street rod.

Wayne has a Passion for Motorized Vehicles

Wayne Eggleton is one of those guys who really likes working on motor vehicles – whether it's sanding heavy quarry equipment in preparation for painting in the Ridgemount Quarry Paint Shop, or tinkering on his 1923 T-bucket street rod at home.

Wayne joined Walker in 1977, first working on a road crew with Norjohn Contracting. He left the company for five years and has been back for the past five, working in the Ridgemount Paint Shop. The shop provides body work for the heavy equipment for all three of Walker's Niagara Quarries – Ridgemount, Walker Brothers and Vineland.

"I really like working for Walker," Wayne says. "Everybody gets along with everyone and it's a good working atmosphere. Plus, I like doing what I do."

When he's not at work, Wayne can be found working around the house he built in Ridgeway 15 years ago, which he shares with his girlfriend Sandra. He also takes his street rod to car shows about once a month during the summer season. He has made a number of modifications to the car since he purchased it 30 years ago.

"I'm a workaholic," he says. "I like to always keep busy."



Walker staff apply a fresh coat of paint to the meeting room at Woodend.

Walker Wins Endangered Species Award

Walker Aggregates is the recipient of the 2013 Industry Leadership Award from the Ontario Endangered Species Act Conference. The award comes as a result of Walker's work to supplement and complement the ongoing work of the Ontario Badger Recovery Team.



Walker Aggregates' operations manager Frank Kielbowich accepts the 2013 Industry Leadership Award for the company's work in helping to achieve reproductively sustainable and secure populations of the American Badger throughout its range in southern and northwestern Ontario.

"Your firm provided support for the provision of a comprehensive overview of known habitat/biological needs, ecology, threats and knowledge gaps for the species," says Tom Hilditch, chair of the province's Species at Risk Program Advisory Committee.

"You also supported the provision of quite innovative outreach products including iPod GelaSkins, badger caps and fridge magnets in recognition of efforts to reach a younger audience to inspire them to contribute to badger conservation."

It's estimated there are fewer than 200 adult badgers in Ontario, mostly in counties along the north shore of Lake Erie. Because of this, badgers were given legal protection as an endangered species in 2001. A conservation effort began in 2009, and Walker has provided significant financial support to the Ontario Badger Recovery Team since then.

The award was presented to Walker during the conference on April 8, 2013.

Walker Adds a New Company to its Portfolio

Walker Industries Holdings Limited added about 100 new employees to its payroll last fall with the purchase of Organic Resource Management Inc. (ORMI). It became part of the Walker Environmental Group (WEG) division under the direction of Vice-President Mike Watt.

ORMI's core business involves collecting non-hazardous, liquid organic wastes from more than 8,000 customers, including restaurants, grocery stores and other food processing facilities. The waste residuals are taken to ORMI's facilities for processing, and then used in on-farm anaerobic digesters to create green energy for Ontario's power grid. ORMI is Canada's largest grease trap servicing company, with facilities in Toronto, Woodstock, Ottawa and Vancouver.

"The purchase of ORMI is part of Walker's plan to expand into organic waste processing and create a national footprint," Watt says. "ORMI's values are complementary to those of Walker, with strong environmental performance, standard of operations, regulatory compliance, safety, and employee and community relations."

Walker Purchases Two Windsor Area Quarries – continued from front –

Like Amherst Quarries, Walker Industries is a family business. Established in 1887, the company has been owned by five generations of the Walker family. The Walker group of companies includes aggregates, construction, emulsions, environmental project management, waste management, renewable energy projects and green building. More than 400 employees work for the Walker group of companies. It is one of the largest private sector employers in the Niagara Region.

Walker Aggregates has 10 other pits and quarries in the Niagara, Simcoe and Grey County areas.

Photo: The McGregor Quarry near Windsor, Ontario.



Walker Aggregates Inc.

Ridgemount Quarries
2009 Ridgemount Rd, Stevensville, ON
L0S 1S0
905 382 2041

QUARRY MANAGEMENT

Angelo Bevilacqua
Quarry Superintendent
905 680 3760
abevilacqua@walkerind.com

Frank Kielbowich
Operations Manager
905 680 3673
fkielbowich@walkerind.com

www.walkerind.com

