

Quarry and Pits Update

It's been a busy time at Walker Aggregates' Edgar Pit this spring, with the installation of a new wash plant and the hiring of three new employees. The wash plant replaced an older plant that had been used for the past several years. According to superintendent Ryan Dosch, the new plant will use less water to wash the aggregates, keeping them drier and easier to load into trucks. The new employees are replacing those who have been transferred to the company's new, expanded Duntroon Quarry, which is gearing up production for the season.

Also at the Edgar Pit, Peter Clement has been promoted from loader operator to production supervisor.

Both the Edgar and Anten Mills pits are expected to produce and ship the same amount of sand and gravel this year as last, most of it to be used for pre-cast concrete, asphalt and road reconstruction projects.

The new wash plant being installed at the Edgar Pit.



Over at the Severn Quarry, 2016 is gearing up to be as busy as 2015, with the stone being used in the high level of construction occurring along the Highway 400 corridor, north of the GTA. Superintendent Roger McGillvray reports that production began earlier than usual this year, so that inventory could be built up for the season. Normally the quarry shuts down for winter maintenance for two months. The time frame was shortened to five weeks this year, and the mild winter meant that production could begin in late January.

A new Volvo articulated off-road truck was purchased for the quarry last fall. This truck is used for stripping the overburden from the rock to be extracted. It replaces the equipment the company had been leasing in the past.



A new articulated off-road truck is being used to strip overburden at the Severn Quarry.

Save the Date for Our Summer BBQ!

Friends and neighbours of the Severn Quarry, Anten Mills Pit and Edgar Pit are invited to our annual summer BBQ and quarry tour. The date is **Wednesday, August 17, 2016** from 4:00-6:30 p.m. in the Severn Quarry shop at 2646 Nichols Line, Orillia. Buses for the tour and blast load at 4:30.

Please RSVP to Rosemary at 705-445-2300 ext. 4223 or rackermann@walkerind.com

We hope to see you there!!

Collingwood Site Remediation



More than 4,000 tonnes of sand fill from the Anten Mills Pit has been used to replace contaminated soil on the property of a former gas station on Hume Street in Collingwood, so that the site can be used for a new purpose.



Where the Rock Goes

CUSTOMER PROFILE

A Track Record of Growth for Family Business



Driver Bill Laughlin, of Darren Neil and Sons Excavating, delivers a load of stone to an asphalt plant in Midhurst.

Darren Neil and Sons Excavating has grown a lot in the 13 years since it was established, mirroring the growth of Simcoe County. Based in Stayner, the family-run company was established by Darren Neil, and employs his mother Debbie in the office, sons Brett and Braeden, and more than 25 other employees.

Darren Neil and Sons Excavating is an excavating, haulage and landscape construction contractor. Its project work includes excavations for basements and home additions, and backfilling, trenching and driveway construction. Centrally located in an agricultural area, it also provides grading, drainage and other services to local farmers, as well as subcontract work on local road projects. With more than 20 trucks on the road, the company also provides haulage services to local road and reconstruction projects.

Darren sources stone from all of Walker Aggregates' Simcoe operations – the Severn Quarry, Anten Mills and Edgar pits, as well as the Duntroon Quarry.

"We've never worked with a better company," Darren says of Walker. "They've been fantastic and their people are excellent. They are always accommodating to us."

Two Awards from the Aggregate Industry



One of Walker Aggregates' general managers, Frank Kielbowich (right), accepts a Progressive Rehabilitation Award from OSSGA president Steve Bisson.

Two of Walker Aggregates Simcoe operations have received major awards from the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (OSSGA).

The Severn Quarry has received a Community Relations Award, given to quarries that demonstrate leadership in promoting good neighbour relations, community involvement, education and industry awareness.

The quarry is closely connected with the community through open houses, barbecues, the Skipping Stones newsletter and its Public Liaison Committee. Employees are involved in local Santa Claus parades and road cleanups. As a courtesy to its neighbours, the quarry has installed covers on its primary screens at the processing plant to minimize noise and dust.

The Anten Mills Pit received a Progressive Rehabilitation Award for its work to rehabilitate 2.3 hectares of land on the site with the view to protecting the endangered Eastern Whip-poor-will. The project has involved spreading topsoil over the mined out area of the pit, and planting native grasses, ferns and stumps to create habitat for the birds. The rehabilitation efforts are continuing on the northwest side of the pit.

The awards review panel was comprised of judges from outside the aggregate industry – including representatives from Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Cornerstone Standards Council and the Ontario Ministry of Resources and Forestry. The awards were presented to Walker Aggregates at the OSSGA Annual General Meeting in Niagara Falls this past February.

Getting the Job Done at the Edgar Pit

Calvin Bailey describes his job as one where he “does a bit of everything” at Walker Aggregates’ Edgar Pit. Technically, he operates the crushing plant but also helps out with other chores on the site, which only employs about 17 full-time people. In the winter, this can involve plowing snow, repairing machinery and organizing the shipment of product to customers.

Calvin has been an employee of Walker for nearly 13 years. Previously, he spent 15 years working for a construction company that had its own sand and gravel pit. When the pit was sold, Calvin soon found himself out of work and joined the team at the Edgar Pit.

“I love the job and really enjoy my work,” he says, adding that Walker is a good company to work for, and offers good wages and benefits. “We all get along well,” he says of his fellow employees.

Calvin’s shift runs from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m., but over the summer months, the hours



Calvin Bailey at home with his 1971 Dodge Demon.

are from 5:30 a.m. until 2 or 2:30 p.m. During his time away from work, he goes hunting in the fall and takes his muscle car, a 1971 Dodge Demon, to shows throughout the province. His wife Brenda typically joins him on these car show

excursions. “We just go for the fun of it,” he says. “It’s a social thing.”

The couple have four sons and nine grandchildren, who they typically visit with on Sundays.

An ‘Egg’citing Experience for Isaac

A seasonal slowdown in his work environment turned into an enlightening experience this past February for Isaac Pelissero, a labourer at Walker Aggregates’ stone quarry in Vineland, Ontario. With the quarry in the slow part of the production cycle, Isaac decided to take on a volunteer project for a month, teaching workers at an orphanage in Swaziland how to become egg farmers.

The opportunity came through the Egg Farmers of Canada and the International Egg Foundation, which are co-sponsoring the egg farming project. Isaac’s dad is an egg farmer in Smithville and vice chairman of the Egg Farmers of Canada, and Isaac himself has been helping out on the family farm since he was five or six years old.

As part of an effort to make the orphanage self sustaining and provide employment for local villagers, a farm has been created on the site, including a barn to house 2,500 chickens. Malnutrition is a major concern in the tiny African country of Swaziland, and eggs provide an excellent source of protein. HIV and AIDS is another major concern, with Swaziland having the highest rate of the disease in the world, killing people who’ve left behind hundreds of thousands of orphaned children.

Before travelling to Swaziland, Isaac had only travelled to other parts of Canada, and as far as Florida in the U.S. “It was a very big culture change,” he says of his experience.

“I am much more humble now and appreciate what we have in Canada,” Isaac says of his experience teaching local villagers to become egg farmers. “This opportunity has made me think in a much less selfish way about what I do with my money and my time.”

For more information about the Swaziland egg farming project, or to make a donation, visit eggfarmers.ca/heartforafrica.



Isaac Pelissero plays with two of the children living at the Project Canaan orphanage in Swaziland.

Severn Quarry Holiday Reception 2015



Friends and neighbours of the Severn Quarry, and Edgar and Anten Mills pits, shared some good cheer with Walker staff at the PLC Holiday Reception at the Stone Gate Inn last November.



Severn Quarry
2646 Nichols Line
Orillia, ON L3V 6H3
705 689 6800

www.walkerind.com

Edgar Pit
1540 Line 7 North, RR #2
Oro Station, ON L0L 2E0
705 487 2380

Anten Mills Pit
4436 Horseshoe Valley Rd. W.
Minesing, ON L0L 1Y0
705 726 6597

QUARRY MANAGEMENT

Roger McGillvray
Superintendent
Severn Quarry
705 689 6800 ext. 222
rmcgillvray@walkerind.com

Ryan Dosch
Superintendent
Edgar and Anten Mills Pits
705 487 2380
rdosch@walkerind.com

Rob Fyles
General Manager
Simcoe Region & GTA
705 443 1614
rfyles@walkerind.com

 Printed on paper containing 100% post-consumer fibre