



Vineland Quarries Update

Full production at the Vineland Quarries started up again in March with a steady season of work expected as a result of demand for stone for local construction projects. Meanwhile, rehabilitation efforts continue in areas of the quarry where mining has ceased, with soil being brought in to be laid against the quarry walls and floor, in preparation for landscaping.

The soil usually comes into the quarry along Cherry Avenue. As a result of some concerns expressed by neighbours about muddy road conditions, a "mud mat" was installed just off the roadway late last year. This mat is comprised of stones for trucks to drive over, to loosen dirt from their tires. Also, a decision was made to not bring soil onto the quarry site from Cherry Avenue during wet conditions, but to use Victoria Street instead. In these instances, mud is routinely scraped from the quarry roadway and the road surface washed down by Walker's water truck.

A Donation to Local Charities

A Vineland Quarries employee is one of the winners in a lottery that Walker Industries runs every December. The company provides 15 prizes of \$1,000 and \$500, totalling \$10,000, for employees to donate to the charities of their choice. Secondary plant operator Jamie Little won \$500. He donated half to West Lincoln Community Care and the other half to Community Living of Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln.



Local boy scouts joined Vineland Quarries employees to clean up garbage along roadways near the quarry on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22, 2017.

Recycling and Reducing Environmental Impacts



Stockpiles of old asphalt and concrete prior to being crushed and used in new construction projects.

When it comes to recycling, Walker Aggregates is doing it in a big way – at a rate of about 70,000 tonnes per year in Niagara alone. This isn't just the blue box type of recycling that most homeowners know about. It's the recycling of concrete and asphalt, and part of a core philosophy of Walker's business practices – sustainability.

"It's very important to us to recycle aggregate materials," says Niagara sales manager Shea Gordon. "This venture demonstrates the Walker commitment to higher environmental performance as part of our EARTH 1st focus of finding ways to reduce our impacts."

The company's contracting customers bring torn up asphalt and concrete from construction sites to be stockpiled in the Niagara quarries. Walker then crushes the materials and resells them for use in new projects. As examples, the crushed concrete could be used as a granular base in road reconstruction projects and the crushed asphalt used for farm laneways. The recycled asphalt product creates less dust than gravel, and is less expensive than laying down a layer of fresh asphalt.

Walker has been recycling concrete and asphalt for more than 20 years, and is a founding member of Aggregate Recycling Ontario, an organization that promotes the use of recycled aggregates in new construction projects as a substitute for primary aggregates.

While initially slow to catch on, the market for recycled aggregates is steadily growing. The Ontario Ministry of Transportation encourages the use of recycled products in its road works, and municipalities across the province are becoming more accepting of them in local infrastructure projects.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Persevering With Faith and Fortitude

Jim Lamothe's strong faith and devotion to family have helped him with some challenging family health issues over the past several years. First his beloved wife Linda passed away in 2011 after a five-year battle with cancer. After a time, Jim found a new love in a friend named Gloria, and the two were married. Two years ago, Gloria was also diagnosed with cancer, albeit of a different type.

Jim is a loader operator at the Vineland Quarries, where he's been employed since 1993. He has managed to both work and accompany his wives to medical appointments as a result of Walker allowing him to work half days when needed. Jim says he appreciates his employer's understanding and support.

While the countless visits to cancer clinics and hospitals for tests, surgery, treatments and doctors' appointments have been difficult, "This time, there's a better prognosis," he says. "Gloria and I walk the journey hand-in-hand with each other and with God, one day at a time."

Jim says he loves his job at Walker Aggregates.

"It's not like coming to work at all," he explains. "I get to work outside, the guys are decent and I make a good living. What more could you ask for?"

Jim loads trucks with aggregates leaving the quarries for local construction projects. It's a job that's more demanding than it may seem.

Both the truck drivers and the scale house operator tell Jim how much material to load into each truck and how to distribute it. Different trucks need to be loaded differently, as do the different



Jim Lamothe and his wife Gloria enjoy short road trips on their motorcycle.

types of stone the quarry produces. "It's very challenging," he says.

While he recently celebrated his 60th birthday, he's not particularly looking forward to retirement, despite the wear and tear on his body from the rough ride in the loader. "I'd like to work as long as I can," he says.

During his time off the job, Jim enjoys working on computers, doing projects around the house, Bible study, attending church and working on extreme dot puzzles. He spends most of his time with Gloria, and the two take short road trips on his Harley Davidson motorcycle when she feels up to it. In the past they've been part of the massive contingent that makes its way to Port Dover for the regular Friday the 13th Harley bikers' reunions.

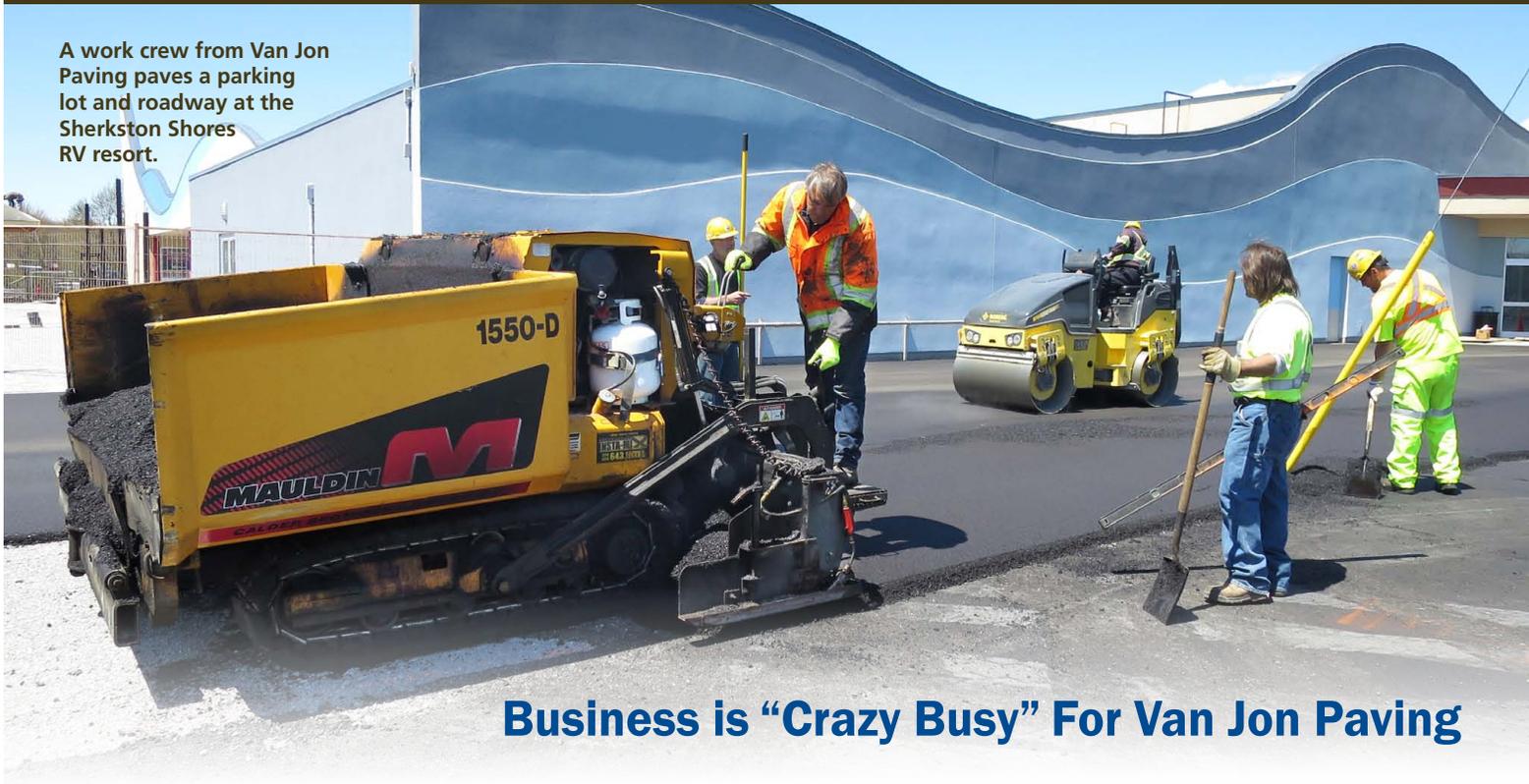


Helping Out the First Responders

Many of the lands that Walker purchases to grow its operations have homes and other buildings on them. Some of the homes are rented for varying lengths of time, while others have damage too expensive to repair. In the latter case, the company offers the buildings and nearby property to local fire, police and K-9 units for training purposes. In the photos above, a local fire department set fire to a home and then extinguished the blaze (left), and a SWAT team from the Niagara and Buffalo police practiced responding to a hostage situation (right) on another site.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

A work crew from Van Jon Paving paves a parking lot and roadway at the Sherkston Shores RV resort.



Business is “Crazy Busy” For Van Jon Paving

If there was any doubt that the effect of skyrocketing Toronto home prices is spilling over into the Niagara Region, Devin Vanderlaan says his family business is proof of that. “We’re crazy busy this year,” says Devin who, together with his parents Bill and Carol, is an owner of Van Jon Paving.

By the end of April, Van Jon Paving already had work booked into August. The company provides paving services for new subdivisions, commercial and industrial parking lots, municipal projects, and small private roads and country lanes.

The home building and renovation business, along with good economic

activity in Niagara, is causing the paving company to consider adding an extra work crew to its current complement of 10 employees.

In 1981, Bill and Carol started a small enterprise in Welland sealing driveways. They have since grown their business to the point where they’re now taking on large paving projects.

Van Jon Paving sources stone from all of Walker Aggregates’ Niagara quarries, and asphalt from the Vineland and Walker Brothers operations. The company is one of many in the region that rely on Walker for its products.

In addition to what Devin says are the paving of “1,001 driveways,” the company has paved parking lots at a variety of well-known Niagara businesses and tourism sites.

Despite a full schedule of jobs for the coming year, the Vanderlaan family is reluctant to expand their business very much. “My dad and I sell the job, and then we are on the job,” Devin says. “We like to be on the ground at all times to ensure the project is done right.”

It’s this dedication to high quality work that has ensured the ongoing success of Van Jon Paving for more than 35 years.

Azure West Housing Development in Grimsby

Approximately 12,000 tonnes of stone from the Vineland Quarries is being used for the site servicing and road works in the Azure West housing development on Winston Road near Casablanca Boulevard in Grimsby.



Where the Stone Goes

Wrapping Up for Charity

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, Walker Aggregates' head office employees offered gift wrapping to shoppers at Fairview Mall in St. Catharines, in exchange for a donation to The Arthritis Society.

Among the participating employees were (from left) Teresa Pierobon, Alanna Walker, Nicole Cathcart and Lisa Reesor.



Quarries Honoured with OSSGA Industry Award

The Vineland Quarries have been honoured with a prestigious industry achievement award from the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (OSSGA). The quarries received a Community Relations Award at the OSSGA's Annual General Meeting in Ottawa last February.

The Community Relations Award recognizes quarries that have demonstrated leadership in promoting good neighbour relations, community involvement, education and industry awareness.

"The employees at Vineland Quarries are pleased to be part of – and to support – the Vineland community, and they work hard to be considerate of our neighbours. This includes devising ways to reduce noise and dust, working with the local scouts group to clean up nearby roadways and supporting community charities," says Walker Aggregates executive vice-president Ken Lucyshyn. "I'm so proud of the work they do and to receive this prestigious industry award on their behalf."

The OSSGA is a non-profit industry association representing more than 280 sand, gravel and crushed stone producers, and suppliers of industry products and services.

Public Liaison Committee Holiday Reception 2016



Neighbours, friends and employees of the Vineland Quarries gathered for some holiday cheer at McGregor's Pub & Grill in Vineland last November.



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