



## Bath Plant

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# Concrete Connection

## Newsletter

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### Lafarge supports: history and community

Lafarge is more than just making cement. The Bath Plant also lays a foundation for community support.

#### Fairfield-Gutzeit House

For the second year in a row, the Bath Plant has donated \$2,500 towards the ongoing preservation of Fairfield-Gutzeit House in Bath. It's one of the oldest houses in the region, built by United Empire Loyalist brothers William and Benjamin Fairfield in 1796.

"It's an important landmark to the community and it's in our community's best interest to preserve this history," says Stacy Daicar, who serves on the Bath Plant's community development and enrichment committee.



Fairfield-Gutzeit home, 2006

Fairfield-Gutzeit House had many uses after leaving the family hands in the 1860s, even serving as an American fishing lodge. The estate was re-acquired in 1938 by Dr. William Gutzeit and his wife, Mabel Fairfield Gutzeit, great-granddaughter of William. She bequeathed the estate to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission in the early 1960s.

The well-preserved house is open for daily tours (Wednesday to Sunday) from the end of June to September.

#### Hospice & Community Living

The Lennox and Addington Hospice organization and Community Living Lennox and Addington held their annual fundraising gala in February and Lafarge was recognized as one of the major corporate sponsors - the Bath Plant donated \$2,500.



Lennox & Addington Hospice Gala. Pictured (L-R) are Barb Fabius, Lori Morris, Doug Anderson, Peggy Sunstrum and Marg Baldwin

## The Simple Act of Planting a Tree - Lafarge Tree Planting 2006

A big thank you from Lafarge to our community partners – together we planted over 21,000 trees in May, 2006!

So, who are these partners?

### **Forest 2020 (15,000 trees)**

Natural Resources Canada's Forest 2020 program is a government initiative to help the Canadian government reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions. The credits gained from the tree planting are donated to the Canadian government to help Canada meet the Kyoto Protocol. This year, approximately 15,000 trees were planted in various parcels of Lafarge property adding to the over 26,000 already planted by Forest 2020. This initiative also helps the Bath Plant convert old agricultural fields into forests for future generations.

### **Trees for Peace (2000 trees)**

This program is a community organization that creates tree-planting partnerships and promotes youth in action. The



Local youth with Trees for Peace.

Trees for Peace program is in its 7<sup>th</sup> year and for Lafarge this marks the third year the Bath Plant was involved with the program. This year Trees for Peace brought in approximately 70 local area elementary school students to help plant over 2000 trees.

### **Limestone Public School (500 trees)**

The Bath Public School's Grade 4 class of Mary Van Bahl planted trees and spread seeds adjacent to one of the ponds on the Lafarge property. The seeds planted were a mixture of wildflowers and a wildlife foraging mix which included clovers and other nutritious plant food for local wildlife. The mixture of seeds contains many plants and flowers that these animals commonly use for food.



Mary Van Bahl's Grade 4 class.

### **Kingston Scouts (2500 trees)**

The Kingston area Scouts planted over 2500 trees around the perimeter of a past agricultural field and seeded inside the field with native wildlife foraging mix. The weather wasn't



Kingston Scouts undaunted by the rain.

perfect but it didn't deter the Scouts who showed up in rain jackets with shovels in hand, ready to plant trees!

### **Napanee Beavers and Scouts (1000 trees)**

The Napanee Scouts and Beavers visited the Plant looking forward to planting over 1000 trees on a large parcel of land near the plant. The black flies held off helping the Scouts and Beavers accomplish their goal.

Unplanted trees were provided to plant employees, and others were donated to the Bath Public School to plant in other locations. This year was the most successful tree planting to date, with over 350 local area residents and plant employees participating.



Two Napanee Beavers planting trees.

Hospice is an organization based in Napanee whose caring and dedicated volunteers provide support for individuals facing life threatening or terminal diseases, and bereavement support.

Community Living provides support to people with developmental disabilities.

Stacy explains: "It's extremely important for us to play a large role in the community. It's a cooperative role to support their programs."



A Bath Plant donation of \$500 was also received by the Lennox and Addington Community Volunteer Centre to assist its summer musical theatre, training, youth at risk and job placement programs.

### **Community Volunteer Centre**

A large cast of local children and youth take part each summer in the Lennox & Addington Community Volunteer Centre's musical theatre program. This year's group of tomorrow's stars will take the stage the first two weeks in August at the Lennox Community Theatre in Selby to perform Cabaret 5: A Tribute to Broadway!

This is one of many programs offered by the CVC (a registered charity) in the Napanee area. Other services include an employment and life skills training program for young adults facing barriers to employment; volunteer recruitment and referral services for non-profit organizations in the area; and a one-stop location for community members to find out the many volunteer opportunities available in our area.

The Bath Plant's annual donation budget is about \$50,000. Stacy says the committee accepts written funding requests from local organizations. Other examples of donation dollars at work include; Bath Canada Day fireworks and local United Way campaign.

## **Exciting News!**

In April, 2006 Lafarge's Ravena plant in New York received its permit to use scrap tires to fuel its kiln. New York now joins Michigan, Ontario, Quebec, Pennsylvania, and Illinois among Great Lake States and Provinces that have approved tire-derived-fuel at cement plants.

## **Did you know?**

On average, over 6 tires per minute are shipped from Ontario to Quebec and the US for use as energy. Lafarge proposes to keep Ontario's energy resources in Ontario, for everyone's benefit.

## Cement plants need tune ups too; Bath Plant undergoes Winter Turnaround 2006

Imagine tearing apart your car once a year for detailed inspection and repairs and then putting it back together.

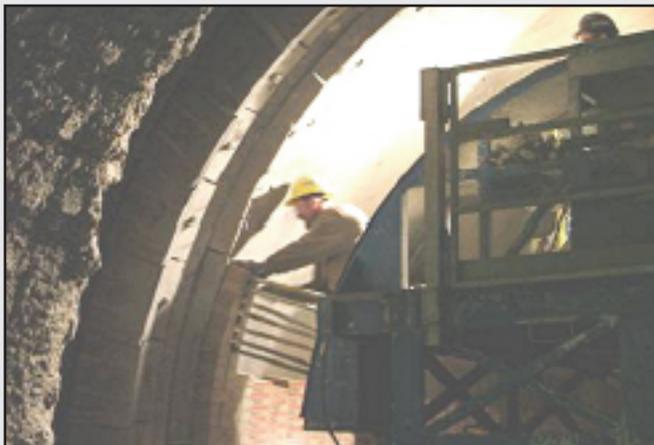
That's exactly what hundreds of full-time employees and local contract workers at the Bath Plant must do each winter to ensure the heavily used cement making equipment runs at peak efficiency throughout the year.

The plant is closed and checked during the Winter Turnaround, and John Ross McKay is in charge of planning logistics for the massive winter tune-up program.

"There's a lot to do in a short period of time," says John, referring to the \$3.5 million maintenance program that is usually compressed into a three-week period starting in late January this year.

The winter months are chosen since the lake is frozen and not much concrete pouring is done.

"It's the one time of year to do maintenance and our workforce will quadruple during that time," he explains.



Lafarge Employees replacing fire brick.

In addition to 115 full-time staff on maintenance duty, an estimated 364 contractors from the local region are brought in to assist the maintenance work. It's a huge boost to the local economy, and many contractors will work around the clock.

"We've got these shutdowns to a science," says John, noting the recent shutdown went smoothly.

Everything from the protective brick in the kiln, to the on-site quarry rock crushers, the rock transport belts, and the giant steel mills that turn rocks into powder need to be stripped apart, then checked, repaired or replaced.

This is no small feat, but necessary to ensure the Bath Plant continues to process one million tonnes of cement each year.

John adds: "Lafarge prides itself on the quality of its product, security of delivery and after-market assistance."

The work that went into the recent Winter Turnaround will continue to cement the Bath Plant's reputation for reliability.



Over 350 contractors from the local area assist the plant.

## Clearing the Air - an interview with Robert Cumming on Lafarge's alternative fuels project



Recent media coverage has created some confusion about the Lafarge's proposal to introduce alternative fuels. Resource Recovery Manager Robert Cumming responds to some of the common misconceptions and questions that have come up recently – to help set the record straight.

### **An environmental group says that emissions increased at your St. Constant plant in Quebec from 2000 to 2004 as a result of using tires for energy, what happened?**

This was an unfortunate misconception, this group got their wires crossed and we need to set the record straight. We started using tires in 1994/5 at St. Constant. The results in 2001 – 2004 are an anomaly and have nothing to do with the use of scrap tires. They relate to some mechanical issues and Lafarge

worked in full cooperation with the Quebec government to successfully address the problem. After the necessary changes were made emissions returned to their normal levels

What's being lost in all of this is the important fact that in before and after testing at St. Constant in 1994, emissions went down when they started to use tires. And that's a great reason to use scrap tires. Here are the actual results for the compounds listed by the environment group.

Parameter	Change	By %
Dioxins	Decreased	-63%
Cadmium	Decreased	-95%
Chromium	Decreased	-92%
Copper	Decreased	-75%
Lead	Decreased	-88%
Manganese	Increased	+286%
Nickel	Decreased	-51%
Zinc	Increased	+315%

### **Why was the project posted on the environmental registry in February?**

Through a lengthy consultation process with the community and Ministry of the Environment officials, Lafarge made changes to its original proposal to make it narrower in scope – such as removing used oil as an alternative fuel source while Ontario studies its plans for used oil. The Ministry posted the amended proposal on the registry with a period for providing comments that ended on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our project hasn't expanded, it's become more focused – the goal was simply to convey the changes.

### **Why hasn't an environmental assessment been ordered for the project?**

The question has never been whether to assess the project in a public process but rather which public process to use. The Minister of the Environment considered the issue and decided last fall that Lafarge's project should be reviewed under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA), rather than the Environmental Assessment Act (EAA). This means that an "environmental assessment" isn't required.

As part of assessing whether a proposal should be made subject to the EAA, we understand that the Minister considers the ability of other legislation to address it – in this instance, the EPA was identified as the appropriate vehicle for reviewing the Lafarge project.



Which cement plant is using scrap tires as fuel? Both are running at full capacity, both are owned by Lafarge. The Joppa, Illinois plant (on the left) has been safely using scrap tires for over two years.

Fuel Pellets

### **Will there be a public hearing on the project?**

The decision on whether to have a hearing under the Environmental Protection Act is left to the discretion of the Ministry of the Environment (MOE). Again, the question is not whether to give the public an opportunity to comment but how to get these public comments. There have been 3 public meetings and numerous presentations to groups where public comments were always invited.

Recognizing that the decision is the Ministry's, we think that a hearing would only duplicate the public consultation that's taken place and all of the work that the MOE has done in reviewing the project over the last two years. A hearing will not produce any new information.

### **Why does Lafarge have to take alternative fuels from outside Ontario?**

Through consultation with the MOE, Lafarge was asked to map out a restricted service area – something that wasn't included in our original proposal.

The fact is that the vast majority of alternative fuels will come from Ontario. Sometimes, we need the flexibility to work with our other locations, such as during maintenance outages. We can only do that if those jurisdictions are included in the service area, which is why we have included them.

### **Was this project changed to include municipal waste?**

This is another unfortunate misconception. From the start, we have included the use of fuel pellets as one of the alternative fuels to be used under this initiative. Some have suggested this means we would be burning bags of garbage, which is simply not true. It's also not true that we would be using pellets made from sewage sludge. Sewage sludge is not included in our application.

The fuel pellets we would use are created from curbside municipal waste that has gone through a comprehensive, Ministry approved screening process to remove recyclables and hazardous materials. The residual materials are then further processed and converted to fuel pellets according to strict specifications.

### **Isn't this just about saving money? How can the environment benefit from this?**

Sustainable development thinking recognizes the triple bottom line – social, environmental and, yes, economic. The environment benefits by replacing fossil fuels with alternative sources of energy. Also, with the use of scrap tires, NOx emissions will go down significantly – helping to reduce smog. Other alternative fuels will help meet climate change and Kyoto goals. Our society will benefit by making better use of our waste materials, making use of materials that are destined for landfill, and dealing with the significant environmental threats posed by stockpiled tires. Economically, we will all benefit from lower cement prices, making Ontario more competitive with other jurisdictions. Every year, millions of scrap tires are shipped to Quebec and US States to power their industry – all at Ontario's expense.

### **What will happen to metal emissions under this project?**

Metal emissions will remain well below

the safety limits that are in place and well below the new, strict emission standards that the Ministry will apply.

The alternative fuels included in the application are chemically similar to the current fuels. The main determinant of emissions is the efficiency of the emission control device. As such, there will not be any significant change in most metal emissions. In the case of scrap tire use, zinc oxide levels typically increase (but remain 2,800 times lower than required) while heavy metals tend to decrease.

### How safe is this project?

The use of alternative fuels is a proven, safe technology studied at length by governments and is in use in leading environmental jurisdictions around the world. For example, over 22 U.S. states – including California – have cement plants that use scrap tires

as fuel, and more projects are being approved every year (the latest being Lafarge's Ravana, NY plant). There is a large body of evidence to draw on, based on over 30 years of worldwide experience.

For example, environmental and health protection agencies in the U.S. and the U.K. have endorsed tire derived fuel as a viable alternative to fossil fuel – based on years of its use.

The Lafarge project will be required to meet emission standards that are among the strictest in the world. We are confident that we will easily meet this test and that our emissions will be significantly reduced in some areas such as NOx. This project is a

win for both the environment and the community, and as a leading and responsible manufacturer in this region we're eager to see it safely implemented.

### What is the status of Lafarge's alternative fuels project? Where does it go from here?

We've been working on this project for some time. Design and public consultation work began more than

two years ago, with Lafarge submitting a formal application to the MOE in March 2004. The project has undergone close examination by the MOE from both a technical and scientific perspective. Last fall the Minister of the Environment decided that the project could proceed under the Environmental Protection Act. As a result, the Ministry is currently considering the specific requirements under which the project would operate under a Certificate of Approval.

## Lafarge welcomes two new employees to the Bath Plant team:



Scott Beckett

**Scott Beckett** began work at the Bath Plant in February 2006 as a Process Manager. Scott grew up in a small town in New Brunswick before heading to Dryden, Ontario where he spent eight years in the pulp and paper industry.

He now supervises a team of four process engineers at Lafarge. Scott puts his chemistry degree and a Queen's University MBA to good use, and is responsible for making efficiency recommendations to improve the amount and quality of cement that's produced.

"I just love the job. Lafarge is a progressive company willing to train employees," says Scott, who welcomes the relaxed lifestyle change living in the area, along with his wife Nancy and their two children.



James Wynn

**James Wynn** grew up near the Bath Plant, and now he works there as Improvement Engineer.

James, whose family operates the apple orchards and berry fields of Wynn Farms on Highway #33, was hired in January 2006. His primary role is to improve reliability and reduce overall maintenance at Lafarge's large industrial equipment such as the mills, crusher and kiln.

"I really enjoy it, especially the magnitude of equipment. It's challenging and I find the people who work there very friendly," says James, who joined Lafarge straight out of Queen's University where he earned a Bachelor of (Mechanical) Science and Engineering degree.



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