

Capital's History of Pit Rehabilitation Back to Agriculture



Capital Paving is a leader in the aggregate industry when it comes to rehabilitating sand and gravel pits back to agricultural uses. The company has been honoured with six awards from the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association for its progressive rehabilitation initiatives.

At Capital's Whistle Bare Pit in North Dumfries, just over 10 hectares are now under extraction, with more than nine hectares having been mined and returned to agricultural uses. The land, located at Whistle Bare Road and Dickie Settlement Road, is being leased from a farmer with a total approved extraction limit of 37.4 hectares.

The land originally had ground elevations which fluctuated by five to six metres in some areas. The sand and gravel extraction has resulted in a levelling of the land for easier farming. Capital has been replacing the subsoil and topsoil that had been removed prior to extraction, and screening out the previous concentration of stones, which helps reduce damage to farm equipment. The rehabilitated land is now being used to grow corn, hay and soybeans.

A similar story has played out at Capital's Holman Pit. Located at 7757 Highway #7 in Guelph, 24.26 hectares of aggregate was extracted and all the land returned to agriculture by 2016. The landowner has grown corn on the rehabilitated property, and is now using the fields to grow hay and for pasture land to support the livestock on the farm.

Over at the Wellington Pit, approximately 60 hectares of the total extraction limit of just over 121 hectares has been rehabilitated back to agricultural uses, with some wetlands, reforestation and habitat also created. This pit, located at 6676 Wellington Road 34, is on a parcel of property with five different landowners. The rehabilitated land is being used to grow corn and soybeans, as well as hay for onsite horse stables.

Along with these three sites, Capital has also successfully rehabilitated two operations in Puslinch Township – Pit 2 on Wellington Road 34 and Pit 4 on Forestell Road – within the past 20 years.

Click [here](#) to view a video with more details about Capital's work to rehabilitate its pits back to agricultural uses.



Once topsoil is reapplied to areas undergoing rehabilitation, special equipment is used to bring to the surface and remove excess stones.



Capital's Holman Pit operation has been completed, with all of the land returned to farm uses.

Below: Rehabilitated land at the Wellington Pit is being used to grow corn, in addition to other crops.

