

It looks a lot dryer from the sky

Last winter's GF Airport Diversion Project is getting good use from these June rains. If you think it was soft last fall, you have another thing coming, we almost got stuck flying over it! Nice job everybody on getting the job done before we were stuck up to our necks in mud!



A Special Thanks

A special thanks to all the guys working long hours on the Pembina job. Your hard work has helped keep the job ahead of schedule despite the fact that the work load has doubled or in some places even tripled. Your dedication to the project has not gone unnoticed by us, the prime contractor, and the engineer.

Aerial Photo provided by Dave Sherbrooke.

Project Updates:

07.194	EGF 13th St SE	85% Completed
08.203	Polk County DAC building	On hold until we work on the parking lot in August
08.204	NDDOT - Near Pembina	One half the interstate completed, working on the other half now
08.206	Lengby	90% completed, finishing the topsoil
08.207	Nielsville Bridges	On hold
08.208	Polk County Box Culverts	Ready to go anytime
08.210	Ashtabula Wind Project	25% completed, a lot of pipe left to install
08.211	Blair Road - Naytahwaush	Wet
08.212	M-S-T Impoundment	Just broke ground
08.213	Alton Fertilizer Expansion	Getting underway in the next couple of weeks.
08.214	Polk County 41	Wet, but starting next week
08.215	Mar-kit Grain - Argyle	Aggressive schedule to get this complete by harvest

We'll Miss You, Schrades!

A two week internship as a diesel mechanic (and flood fighter '89) led to 19 years of heavy construction for Jon Schroeder. "Most people have to commit murder to get 19 years of hard labor." jokes Jon. Jon recently took an opportunity to enter into the criminal justice field when he signed up to become a Customs and Border Protection Official. After a 3 week shadow in International Falls, Jon will head to Georgia for 15 weeks for training, before being stationed at International Falls. He will spend most of his time catching people trying to smuggle Cuban cigars over from Canada. Jon jokes, "I should be pretty good at it, I know all the tricks from experience." It's Jon's jovial nature and sense of humor in addition to his hard work and loyalty that we'll miss the most. Jon says he doesn't know what he'll do with all his free time with only 8 hour shifts after working 16 hours a day for almost 20 years. "I might have to dust off my golf clubs", he says. He'll also get to spend more time with his newborn son, Keegan, who was born on May 14th. Congratulations Jon, and we'll miss you very much. Don't forget to visit and let us know when you are working so we can bring back a few extra walleyes from Ontario!

Fourth of July

The 4th of July lands on a Friday this year and as a general rule, we will take Friday off this year. Some projects or deadlines may require us to work on Friday, so talk to your supervisor to make sure before you hit the beach.

Talk Time

We are working on a couple of jobs now in which cell phone use is prohibited by operators, and it's always a good idea to limit our usage during work hours to work issues only. Also, it's our policy that there is absolutely no cell phone use during safety sensitive functions. There are plenty of distractions on the jobsite, let's make sure our cell phones are not one of them.

Cooter's Corner

Helpful maintenance tips from your friendly mechanic.

Be sure not to throw anything out of the Volvo windows, as the radiator intake is located right behind the window and gets stuffed with wrappers, rags, etc. and can have a direct effect on performance. We've already pulled out a lot of garbage from multiple machines this year, so please make sure your rubbish finds the bin.

Did you know?

Construction worker Hard Hat's were first invented specifically for workers on the Hoover Dam back in 1933.

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." - Thomas A. Edison

Sweep, Sweep, Sweep

Just because your mom isn't on the jobsite, doesn't mean you don't have to keep your "room" clean. Many of the prime contractors we work for require us to clean up after ourselves, especially after coffee and lunch breaks. It's a good practice that we should all get used to, and it's easy to do. Just carry an extra plastic bag, collect the garbage, and throw it in the back of the supervisor's truck. It's a little step that will help the environment and make Grandma Z proud.

Safety Central

6 Steps to Safer Surfing

The Internet can be a great source for health information, but misinformation also abounds. Take these steps to separate fact from fiction:

Use only Recognized Authorities. - The government (with addresses ending in .gov), professional organizations (.org), and large academic institutions (.edu) are a good place to start.

Beware of Bias. - Know who funds the site, especially if it is sponsored by a commercial interest or individual (.com), Look under "about us". Does the sponsor have a financial interest in the site's content?

Know the Sources. - Who wrote the information? Authors and contributors should be identified. Media reports should cite the medical studies or medical journal articles they're covering.

Protect your Privacy. - A trustworthy site has a link that says "Privacy" or "Privacy Policy". If a site says it shares your information with companies that sell products, your information isn't private.

Maintain a Healthy Skepticism. -If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Personal testimonials are no substitute for scientific research and unbiased reporting.

Use Caution on the Web. -Don't rely on just one site when researching a topic, and remember to also talk to your health care provider.

