The Dirt



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Everything's (FLY)ing high in (ASH)-tabula

Troy and his boys are up to their ash-holes in soggy dirt over by Lake Ashtabula, ND. So instead of waiting for the wind to blow enough to dry the dirt out, they've taken to mixing water-sucking ash into the wet soil to make a solid road. They get the coal ash from the Hillsboro ACS plant and lay it out in a 1" lift or so, mill it in using a Cat RM-300 road reclaimer at about 18ft per minute, water it a little bit, then disc, blade, and pack it in. The result is a rutless road in about 3 hours. Those boys are doing all they can to help Blattner stay on schedule and we thank them for all the time

(left) **Teff Beard** gets busy milling the ash into the soil





It's Frisbee throwing time!

Come and join us for some food, fun, fellowship, and Frisbee golf at our annual picnic on Tuesday, August 19th at the Louie Murray Bridge Trailhead (across the street from the newly named Bob Zavoral Memorial Park). Everyone is welcome, so bring your families. Food and refreshments will be provided. Dinner will be served between 6:30 and 7:30 pm. We hope to see you all there!

Project Updates:

they put in out there.

07.194	EGF 13th St SE	Hurrying to finish before school opens
08.204	NDDOT - Near Pembina	Three underpasses left to work on
08.207	Nielsville Bridges	Mid August
08.208	Polk County Box Culverts	Underway this week, hopefully wrap up next week
08.210	Ashtabula Wind Project	Installing culverts and fly ash
08.211	Blair Road - Naytahwaush	Clearing and grubbing along with ditch excavation
08.212	M-S-T Impoundment	30% Complete with the clay hauling
08.213	Polk County 41	Darrell is finishing this job up this week
08.214	Alton Fertilizer Expansion	The dirt work is done, we'll finish the parking lot this fall
08.216/217	Roseau County Ditches	Al Binkley is digging and praying for some sun
08.218	ACS-Drayton Coal Ash Cell	Mobilize this week

From the archives: Putting a Job to Bed at Night

I found an article from the June 1999 of *The Dirt* (edited by Dave Zavoral) and I thought it still applies 9 years later.

This week, I am going over the ancient secret of how to get a job to rest well at night. Our company name is a respectable one and it has to do with the quality of work we do. Leaving a job looking nice at night reflects on the company name also. There is no shame in taking the last half-hour of the day to clean up the site. Making sure no dirt is on streets, driveways, and township roads is very important. Filling in all the hoes and panning out ruts to make sure no water sits on the site, in case there is an overnight sprinkle. When parking on the job for a night, make an effort to all park in a line. Try to make sure the spot you are parked in is not a low spot, so if it rains, you can get to your machine without a fishing boat. It is very easy to leave a shovel or a

rake lying around. Making that extra check will really pad the profit share. For safety reasons all road signs, barricades, and barrels need to be placed on the road. Lastly, if you travel in a company vehicle make sure you ride home in the same vehicle you arrived in. Otherwise you can get too many workers in one truck. These guidelines have been in effect for quite a long time, but with the weather being so rainy it is important to seal a job up tight at night. "Hope for the best, but plan for the worst." Words of a wise man, and your boss.

In case you were wondering ...

The Fall Campaign start-up date for ACS - East Grand Forks is Tuesday, September 2nd. Expect the first major breakdown shortly thereafter.

August Birthdays

Roger Smith - Friday the 15th

Terry Morrison - Sat. the 23rd

Mike Zavoral - Sat. the 23rd

Chris Schultz - Thurs. the 28th

Robert Rose - Sunday the 31st

Matt Waltman - Sunday the 31st

Happy Birthday from the RJZ Family

Guess who's back?

Terry Morrison - Since getting his hip replaced six weeks ago, Terry's been busy organizing his tools, now he's ready and eager to get moving. He's not quite ready to change tires yet, but he'll be tearing up the road in the side dump.

Al Binkley - Al went to work last fall with Mas-Tec working down in Minneapolis, but he couldn't find enough time to fish, so he's back running a backhoe and a crew.

Cooter's Corner

Helpful maintenance tips from your friendly mechanic.

For the next few weeks, Mike's dozer skills are needed to finish some projects, so in the meantime, Dave will be handling the coordination of the equipment fixes. If you have a breakdown, give Dave a call and he'll be able to send help your way.

Cat Trivia:

What year was Caterpillar founded?

Some more new faces

If you happen to see someone you don't recognize, it's probably one of these guys, so introduce yourself and welcome them the RJZ team!

Chad Cater - Chad, a backhoe operator, comes from Middle River but has spent the last three years traveling for work, and is ready to be closer to home.

David Goeller & Jake Hendrickson - Dave and Jake recently attended the Central Lakes College in Staples. They will be doing their internship with us this summer, so make sure to share some tips with them.

"Making mistakes is a lot better than not doing anything" -Billie Joe Armstrong

Stay Visible

Just a reminder that even if we are on a private job, working in the middle of nowhere, or with just a couple guys, we still need to follow the company's safety policies and wear our vests, steel-toed boots, and our hard hats during overhead lifting operations.

Pete's Point of View

Some of our current jobs are in the winding down stage and we need to be sure to finish with a flair to reassure our customers that they made the right choice when they hired us to do the work. Not only will they appreciate a job well done, they won't need to get a phone book when they have more work to do, they'll know exactly who to call.