

DESCRIPTION

This fact sheet provides information for property owners and prospective operators about mining and gravel extraction in Mille Lacs County. Mining and gravel extraction is now an Allowed Use in all areas in which the County administers the Development Ordinance. Please contact Princeton and Greenbush Townships for their requirements regarding mining and gravel extraction, they administer their own ordinances and requirements may be different.

MINING AND GRAVEL EXTRACTION

Mining and gravel extraction must occur within areas identified as the Aggregate Overlay District on the County's Zoning map. Property owners or operators wishing to establish a mining or gravel extraction operation must comply with the following requirements as stated in the Development Ordinance:

- A. All operations shall comply with the Mining Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) standards in regards to slopes, working faces, safety fencing, and the like.
- B. All operations may excavate, screen, crush, wash, and produce asphalt or concrete with portable plants.
- C. To minimize adverse effects on neighboring properties, hours of operation shall be limited to 7:00 am to 9:00 pm Monday through Saturday. No mining and processing operations shall occur on Sundays or holidays.
- D. To minimize adverse effects on neighboring properties, operations shall be screened from the view of adjacent residential uses by the use of topography, stockpiles, or vegetation, or a combination thereof.
- E. Processing of mined materials shall not be conducted closer than one hundred (100) feet to the property line or five hundred (500) feet to any residential dwelling located on an adjacent parcel.
- F. Excavation of materials shall not occur closer than two hundred (200) feet from a residential dwelling located on an adjacent parcel.
- G. Three-to-one (3:1) slopes shall be maintained adjacent to the property or right-of-way line. This standard may be waived with a written and executed agreement with the adjacent property owner. Such agreement shall be recorded in the Office of the County Recorder.
- H. Once mining is complete, the site shall be restored with slopes not exceeding four-to-one (4:1), and vegetated. The operator shall maintain a bond or letter of credit in the amount of two thousand five hundred (\$2,500.00) dollars per active mining acre in favor of the County to ensure restoration is completed.

While mining and gravel extraction is an Allowed Use, property owners and operators may request a Certificate of Allowed Use for their mining and gravel extraction operation. Please see the application titled "Certificate for an Allowed Use Other Than a Single Family Dwelling" and its associated "how to" document for further information.