



Remining Fact Sheet

Oxford Mining Company's Lafferty Mine - Remining Overview

Remining Information Series

Oxford's Lafferty Mine, D-2198, was a 500-acre surface mine operation that utilized surface contour, auger, and high-wall miner methods to mine the Meigs Creek #9 and Waynesburg #11 coal seams. The site is located in the Wheeling Creek watershed in Union Township, Belmont County, Ohio, and is approximately one mile from the town of Lafferty with a population of about 300.



Unreclaimed spoil near stream bank.



Post remining reconstructed stream

The previously mined area had been mined prior to the enactment of modern day reclamation laws of the 1970s. It had been mined with large shovels and was inadequately reclaimed, which had left several open contour pits and highwalls. Over time, this had degraded local wetland and stream areas. Oxford Mining Company's goal was to undertake the difficult task of remining the remaining coal and reclaim the site to its original pre-mined state; thus restoring and reconstructing the wetlands and streams to an improved value and function.



Wetland with AMD prior to remining.



Wetland mitigation after remining.

Oxford reclaimed more than 350 acres, eliminated more than 2,000 feet of existing highwall and acres of barren spoil areas, and improved the surrounding water quality. The area has been reclaimed to a post-mining land use of pastureland. A diversified vegetated cover is thriving on the regraded and seeded areas. Abundant wildlife, such as white-tailed deer and wild turkey, have been observed at the reclaimed site. The constructed ponds and wetland areas are being utilized by Canadian Geese and different varieties of wild ducks.

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Typical spoil bank prior to remining.



Reclaimed hillside after remining.

The reclamation area has been graded with gentle slopes, which will accommodate hay harvesting and/or cattle grazing. This type of activity in turn will provide economic benefits to the land owners and the surrounding community. The local roads throughout the area also have been improved upon to benefit the land owners as well as the community.



Existing pond prior to remining.



Reconstructed pond after remining.

Oxford has worked diligently with the regulatory authorities using approved modern methods of reclamation to enhance the site, including stream and wetland construction. Oxford believes that this site sets a standard for the mining and reclamation of future permits as it also encourages other operators to remain diligent and to be good environmental stewards of the land as well as good neighbors. The Lafferty mine had once been left as a rugged and almost entirely unusable piece of land. Now, because of Oxford's dedication to reclamation and remining, this area has been transformed into a valuable asset not only for the land owners but for the community as well.

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