



BERNER CONSTRUCTION, INCORPORATED PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Title: Dents Run Site 3890 Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project

Location: Benezette Township, Elk County, PA

Scope: Provide labor, materials, equipment, and supervision to reclaim an abandoned strip coal mine area

Berner Construction was awarded a contract from the PA Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation, to reclaim an abandoned strip coal mine site located in Elk County, PA. The 50 acre site is primarily located on land owned by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry. This ecosystem restoration project included harvesting saleable timber, clearing and grubbing, implementation of the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan, reclamation of the abandoned mine site, and site restoration. As part of the contract, Berner was required to solicit qualified timber harvesting companies to harvest the saleable timber prior to the start of the reclamation effort. Proceeds from the timber harvesting were provided back to the Bureau of Forestry's general fund.

The project included the placement of 2,200 tons of high alkaline limestone at the base of the highwall, installation of 2,000 linear feet of rock underdrain, construction of brush piles for small animal habitat, and the installation of permanent storm water diversion swales. Approximately 425,000 cubic yards of displaced materials from the mining operation were used to backfill and grade the abandoned mine site.



Constructing Brush Piles

The project site was intersected by a 12-inch high pressure natural gas pipe line. Berner obtained the necessary encroachment agreements from the National Fuel Supply Corporation to construct a temporary crossing over the pipeline. The crossing consisted of a 12-inch stone bed, a timber mat system measuring 12" high, 20' wide by 26' long followed by 3 feet of soil cover. The crossing provided adequate access for mobilization of Berner's Caterpillar D-11 and D-10 bulldozers which were used to perform the soil grading operation. Berner utilized a TopCon GPS system, mounted on the D-10R bulldozer to maintain the proper grades through the duration of the project.



Constructing Sedimentation Pond

The final site restoration includes planting 8,550 trees and seeding, fertilizing, and mulching 50 acres of restored area.