

## PIT AND QUARRY MANAGEMENT A DIMENSION OF NATURAL RESOURCE PLANNING.

1. Pits are a necessary evil. That is not in debate- until people living in Nova Scotia make total sacrifices and give up their creature comforts in order to live the green life- the resources derived from pits and quarry's will always be in demand. To name a few of the common ones; house foundations; paved roads; pretty landscaped gardens; septic fields etc etc
2. The heart of the matter is not whether the resources are necessary it is more to do with managing the process of extraction of those resources in a sustainable way. Sustainable development is the key- there must be an equal balance struck between the economic, the social and the environment. Any one of these foundations taken in isolation does not work- think of it like a three legged milking stool- if any of the legs break, the whole thing falls apart. So what is the best way forward?
3. Coercion or Cohesion? Coercion will bring all players, good and bad, to the lowest common denominator. What can I get away with- what is the minimum they can force me to spend to obtain compliance. Cohesion on the other hand will encourage innovation. Pit owners can share ideas on how to turn their disused pieces of land into a new resource for the community? The possibilities are endless- recreation, eco-homes, beautiful quiet places for city folk to enjoy or just simply reforestation.

Instead painting all pit and quarry owners as bad environmental rapists- think of them as stewards and potential managers of the natural resources that make Nova Scotia a viable place for us to live. Pits and Quarry's still provide opportunities for our young people to work here- unlike the fishing industry which has been sold out to the highest bidder why not let the people who know about the land manage what their forefathers have been doing for centuries.

**KEEP JOBS AND BUSINESS LOCAL.**

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