

2009 Conservation Contractor Award

8-18-09

Kinsley Construction, Inc. was started in 1963 by Robert Kinsley. Kinsley Construction is based in York and today employs 1300 people. In recent years Kinsley Construction has come to embrace erosion and sediment control on their construction sites – many of which are highly-visible, complex, and environmentally-sensitive projects. Having inspected numerous Kinsley sites in the last couple years I can attest to the fact that Kinsley has made voluntarily complying with environmental regulations a priority in the way they do business. This has made the E&S staff's job so much easier as we find ourselves pulling on the same end of the rope to get the job of protecting water quality done rather than pulling on opposite ends of the rope in a tug of war.

Kinsley's professionalism, quality of work, and commitment to installing Best Management Practices have become evident to developers in and out-of-state and to neighboring conservation districts as both have been complimentary of Kinsley's efforts. When it comes to protecting our county's waterways from the effects of construction activities, Kinsley is leading the industry by example.

To demonstrate how seriously they take protecting our water quality, in April 2008, Chris Kinsley – Vice President of Operations – put some teeth into their commitment by creating the full-time position of Environmental Compliance Manager – to educate his employees on environmental regulations and to self-monitor their sites to ensure compliance. This was modeled after their in-house safety division. Dean Peifer was brought-on to fill this role and has done a top-notch job since that time. Dean resides in Lancaster County with his wife, Jen, and their three sons.

Since being hired Dean has been in constant communication with the District E&S staff, completed numerous inspections of Kinsley sites throughout several counties, and attended dozens of inspections and preconstruction meetings. Dean does a very thorough job of completing the required self-inspection logs and he ensures that the site superintendents and foremen are also completing their weekly logs. Dean also goes above and beyond what is required by inserting color digital photographs into the logs to document site conditions throughout construction.

In addition, Dean has organized in-house E&S trainings for Kinsley's site superintendents and foremen and has more recently instituted a green jacket incentive where the most conservation-minded employees can earn a green Kinsley work jacket.

Chris and Dean are not alone in their efforts as it is the District E&S staff's experience that all of Kinsley's site superintendents, foremen, and others understand the importance of conservation efforts and take great pride in their work. Dan Dwyer, Tim Ferrence, Tom Ferrence, Jim Shaffer, Scott Prowell, Jason Jones, and Jamie Amspacher - just to name a very few - are all - a joy to work with as they are very professional and personable. They are also good communicators, and last but not least, they have a good sense of humor.

To sum it up, it is really refreshing to work in the field with a site contractor that is working with us towards the same goal of protecting water quality. On behalf of the District E&S staff and the Board of Directors, it is with great privilege that I present Kinsley Construction, Inc. with our 2009 Conservation Contractor Award.

Award Presented by the York County Conservation District