



**TOP GRADE AGGREGATES, LLC**  
**APPLICATION FOR SAND & GRAVEL MINING**  
**GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP**

**Overview-**

Top Grade Aggregates LLC is pleased to submit this application for mining in Georgetown Township. Top Grade has been working in conjunction with the property owner, Ottawa County Road Commission (OCRC), to develop this plan. In addition, Top Grade has an agreement with Huizinga Gravel LLC to utilize a portion of their mined property, just to the north of the OCRC property, for processing of the sand and gravel. While Top Grade is mining the OCRC parcels, Huizinga Gravel will continue to mine their property under their existing mining permit. Once Huizinga has mined all they can with their equipment Top Grade may step in to finish mining the remaining material under their processing plant. (Prior to any mining activity by Top Grade on the Huizinga property Top Grade would seek a mining permit from Georgetown Township.)

There are a few specific items that Top Grade would like to address about our processing plans for this property.

- Top Grade will not be crushing any concrete or asphalt rubble at this site. We have a crushing facility located in Grandville to which we bring concrete & asphalt rubble for crushing.

- No material will be imported to this site for processing. Top Grade has a processing plant located next to DeWent Gravel on Chicago Drive to which we can import raw material for processing.
- Top Grade is seeking an exception to the 100' setback requirement along the South property line along parcel 70-14-02-300-005 which also is owned by the OCRC. (See page 3 of the OCRC Bend in the River Mining plan.) Currently the OCRC has no plans for this parcel of land. The current zoning would allow for development of a public road system lined with residential lots, OCRC may consider development of this land in the future. As the OCRC owns this unmined vacant parcel, they requested we mine tight to it. However, Top Grade has left a buffer of land (land bridge) going East from parcel 70-14-02-300-005 along Menno Lake. This bridge will serve to allow potential future public access around the North perimeter of Menno Lake.

Top Grade has reviewed all portions of the Georgetown Township Mineral Mining Ordinance in preparing this plan. Below, Top Grade has responded specifically to all 20 points of Section 26-76 (E) which the township requires as a part of the application process.

**1. Site Owner-** Ottawa County Road Commission

**2. Mining Applicant-**

Top Grade Aggregates LLC  
3407 58<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hamilton, MI 49419

**3. Mine Operator-**

Top Grade Aggregates LLC  
3407 58<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hamilton, MI 49419

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#### **4. Location of Easements and Right of Ways adjacent to Proposed Mine-**

See Drawing Attachment: OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan dated 02/03/22, Developed by Top Grade Family of Companies

#### **5. Location of all Structures on Site-**

See Drawing Attachment: OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan dated 02/03/22, Developed by Top Grade Family of Companies

#### **6. Location of water flow and potential flow due to excavation-**

See Drawing Attachment: OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan dated 02/03/22, Developed by Top Grade Family of Companies

#### **7. Processing and Storage Area-**

See Drawing Attachment: OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan dated 02/03/22, Developed by Top Grade Family of Companies, (see page 4)

#### **8. Proposed Fencing, Parking and Signage-**

##### **Perimeter Fencing-**

Rolled wire mesh fencing will be placed and maintained around the entire perimeter of this site. (Only exception will be property boundaries accessible only by water.) See note #13 page 3 of Bend in River Mining plan drawings.

##### **Signage-**

See note #19 page 3 of Bend in River Mining plan drawings.

##### **Entrance Gate-**

Located on Huizinga Gravel property, see page 4 of Bend in River Mining plan drawings. (A secondary, employee only, gate will be located from Fillmore onto mining property, not for public use.)

##### **Parking-**

Employee parking will be located adjacent to processing plant and adjacent to Equipment storage building located on Georgetown property (during Phase 1 & 2 mining only.)

**NOTE:** Top Grade will not be using Taylor St. entrance used currently used by Grand Rapids Gravel Co. for its proceeding mining activity.

## 9. Legal description of Parcels to be mined-

Proposed Property Parcels to be Mined:

**70-14-02-300-009**

**70-14-02-300-010**

**70-14-03-400-027**

**70-14-03-400-028**

See OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan for full property description.

## 10. Mined Materials-

The raw material conveyed or pumped to the Top Grade wash plant will be processed (separated, washed, sorted) and stockpiled by material type. We anticipate being able to produce the following products.

Class II Fill Sand  
2NS (Concrete) Sand  
Mortar Sand  
Stone Dust (Chips & Dust)  
6AA Crushed Stone  
6A Washed Stone  
34G (Crushed Pea stone)  
34R (Washed Pea stone)  
5/8" Washed Stone  
Dry Well Stone (all 1")  
1x2" Washed Stone  
Oversized Stone  
22A Road Gravel

## 11. Mining Process-

### **Processing Plant & Raw Material Storage:**

Top Grade will process all aggregate mined from the Ottawa County Road Commission property on the Huizinga Gravel site located to the north of the Road Commission property.

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Material mined will be moved to the Huizinga property via overland conveyors or by means of pumping directly from dredge. By processing on the Huizinga property, we place the largest source of noise and truck/equipment movement furthest from a vast majority of the neighbors surrounding this area. All Processed material will be stockpiled on/near the processing plant on the Huizenga property.

#### **Material Movement:**

Top Grade plans to move mined material to the Huizinga Gravel site using overland conveyors or pumps. As the Road Commission property is mined, we will use overland conveyor sections to minimize travel time of our loaders moving material. This handling method will eliminate 3-5 heavy duty off-road haul trucks along with the associated noise and dust. Top Grade feels this strategy will also serve to greatly reduce the potential impact to all neighbors surrounding this site.

#### **Truck Traffic:**

For years trucks hauling mined materials have been using the access drive on the County property to Taylor Street to the south. Our proposal will eliminate the use of that access drive eliminating the truck traffic on Taylor Street. All trucks will use the Huizinga property access at Fillmore and Cottonwood utilizing the existing Huizenga Gravel entrance.

#### **12. Off-Site Route-**

All truck traffic moving material from the mine will utilize the existing mine entrance for the Huizenga Gravel mine. This is an established paved truck entrance/exit directly onto Cottonwood and Fillmore at the bend in the roadway. Trucks will exit and travel either West on Fillmore or onto Cottonwood toward Jenison. These are all-season routes that have been in use as haul routes for decades. Signage within the mine site will remind drivers to exercise caution in exiting the mine site and reminding drivers to use only designated truck routes as they leave mine site to travel to their intended destination.

### **13. On-Site Haul Routes-**

Top Grade will be utilizing the existing haul route into the Huizenga mine. This entrance is paved for a minimum of 300'. Top Grade will be responsible to maintain that drive swept clean to keep dust at a minimum. In addition, haul roads within the mine and processing area will be maintained and treated such to keep dust at a minimum throughout the year. Top Grade utilizes water and chemical treatments on its haul roads to reduce dusty conditions.

### **14. Surrounding Land/Water Characteristics-**

See Drawing Attachment: OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan dated 02/03/22, Developed by Top Grade Family of Companies

### **15. Surrounding Land Use and Zoning-**

See Drawing Attachment: OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan dated 02/03/22, Developed by Top Grade Family of Companies

### **16. Mining Equipment-**

Top Grade will utilize multiple pieces of equipment to dig and move material throughout the process on this site. List of equipment anticipated to be used is as follows:

Hydraulic Excavators, Front-end Loaders, Tractors & pan scrapers, Skid steers, water truck, powered sweeper, overland conveyors, bulldozer, rock truck, dragline crane and floating dredge.

Our planned extraction method is to move surface material to the processing plant utilizing an overland conveyor. This conveyor will bring material from the mine, thru a tunnel under Fillmore Street to the processing plant to the north. In addition, once a dredge is

employed the material suctioned from the lake bottom will be pumped thru a system of pipes directly to the processing plant. One of the reasons Top Grade has chosen this method of material movement is to reduce the number of loaders and rock trucks needed to move material, thereby reducing noise nuisance and the risk of dust developing in the mine.

#### **17. Duration of Mining Activities-**

Top Grade is estimating 12 years of active mining on these parcels of land. Please see sheet 3 of the OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan for a breakdown of the mining estimated duration by each phase of mining.

#### **18. Related Mining Information-**

Top Grade submitted a proposal to the Ottawa County Road Commission to mine this property and were selected to do so. Our proposal to the OCRC included the details as outlined in this mining application. The OCRC selected our proposal based on financial return, Top Grade's commitment to mine responsibility and the reputation Top Grade has worked to earn as miners. At the time of developing our proposal to mine we approached the Huizenga Gravel company about leasing a portion of their property to process the material. The Huizenga Gravel company was agreeable, and we have a lease agreement in place for the duration of time needed to mine out the OCRC property that will be executed upon award of mining permit by Georgetown Township.

The value of placing the processing plant just off the property boundaries allows us to efficiently and completely mine the entire site. In addition, the Huizenga Gravel company intends on utilizing our processing plant to finish out the mining activities on their site. They will have a substantial amount of material that will need to be

processed under their plant that can be easily transported to this new processing plant.

Top Grade understands that mining in this area is nearing an end. We feel that our plan and our plant is the right choice to process the material that remains in the ground, and then make an exit that will mark the end of all substantial mining occurring in this immediate area.

#### 19. **Overall Operation Plan-**

See Drawing Attachment: OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan dated 02/03/22, developed by Top Grade. These plans contain much of the information requested by this section of the application for mining in Georgetown Township.

a. **Duration-**

Total duration is estimated at 12 years, see page 3 of attached mining plan for additional detail.

b. **Soil Erosion Measures-**

A Soil Erosion Sedimentation Control (SESC) permit will be secured prior to any work beginning on these properties. As a part of securing this permit the means and methods of controlling runoff and erosion will need to be in place and maintained for entire duration of mining activities.

c. **Site Improvements-**

Top Grade will need 4-6 months to complete all necessary improvements prior to commencement of mining activities. This timeframe will start at award of mining permit and securing all insurance, bonds, permits, and other documents required to commence operations. (Note: perimeter fencing, and signage will be in place in advance of material being mined from this site.)

#### 20. **Reclamation Plan-**

See Drawing Attachment: OCRC- Bend in the River Mining Plan dated 02/03/22, Developed by Top Grade Family of Companies.