

Engelhard Receives Top Award for Land Restoration Work in Middle Georgia

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For its extensive land reclamation work in middle Georgia, Engelhard has been awarded a top honor from a national group that promotes the restoration of mines and mining areas across the United States.

The award recognizes Engelhard's successful efforts to restore a 570-acre mining site near Gordon, Georgia. The "Reclamationist of the Year" award for non-coal related restoration will be given at the annual meeting of the [National Association of State Land Reclamationists](#) (NASLR) in Biloxi, Mississippi on September 24th.

The NASLR is a nationally recognized organization that is committed to programs that advance the art and science of land reclamation. Founded in 1972, the group is composed of mining experts from government, industry and institutions of higher learning.

"This is a very gratifying occasion for all of us who work at Gordon and McIntyre," said Russ Foote, manager, mineral resources, at Engelhard. "We not only work here, we live here, and we're all very proud of the natural environment that we've helped to restore."



Engelhard extracts kaolin in middle Georgia, and beneficiates the material to improve products and processes. Kaolin is used in high-quality concrete, coating pigments, plastics, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, crop protectants, and precursors and substrates for adsorbents and chemicals. Kaolin also plays a key role in environmental and petroleum catalysts. The material is shipped to customers across the US and in Europe.

Restoring the mined areas takes years of effort. The land must be surveyed and recontoured to fit the surrounding topography. Gentle slopes are created and topsoil restored. Long slopes are broken at regular intervals. Fertilization and reseeded of the land follows. Grasses, trees, shrubs and other

native vegetative covers are planted to stabilize the land and create a natural habitat attractive to wildlife. Native forests, mature pasturelands, recreational areas, lakes and parks are the final result.

"Quality land restoration is an expensive and time-consuming task that calls for patience and commitment," says Jim Raymond, a geologist with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources who nominated Engelhard for the award. "Engelhard has been on top of this for many years. This is a shining example of what is possible."

Georgia has one of the most comprehensive reclamation acts in the nation. The state requires that an acre of land be reclaimed for every acre mined. But much of the area that was reclaimed by Engelhard was mined in the early part of the century, and there was no legal requirement to restore the land.

Engelhard's efforts have produced a variety of regional grasses that attract birds and other wildlife; mature trees; sparkling ponds that have been stocked with bream and bass; wood duck boxes that were purchased by Engelhard and installed by the Boy Scouts; and hiking and hunting opportunities.

Engelhard's kaolin-based products are used in concrete, paper, paint, rubber, plastics, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, metals and catalysts. Engelhard Corporation is a surface and materials science company that develops technologies to improve customers' products and processes. A Fortune 500 company, Engelhard is a world-leading provider of technologies for environmental, process, appearance and performance applications. END