



THE P.E.A.T. BEAT

APT IS GROWING, EXPANDING AND INNOVATING

ABOUT AMERICAN PEAT TECHNOLOGY

American Peat Technology (APT) is a Minnesota-based peat manufacturing company built by hardworking innovators who have unearthed the power of reed-sedge peat through their development of value-added, granulated peat products. Using modern manufacturing process, we harvest, dry and granulate reed-sedge peat to create unique, natural peat products like BioAPT, the industry standard for granular peat-based Rhizobia carriers for soybean, lentil and peanut crops, and APTsorb, a granular media that removes heavy metals from waste and stormwater.

COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

We are proud to be a part of the Aitkin County community. It's quiet, yet thriving – full of kind, bright and talented people who are committed to keeping this area a great place to live, work and enjoy. Throughout the year, APT supports many of the initiatives that strengthen our community.

Thus far in 2019, we've sponsored the Jaques Art Center golf tournament, and also provided a gift to support the local arts in our community. We've contributed to Aitkin High School's Grad Blast and matched an employee contribution to Minnesota Teen Challenge. This summer, we participated in the McGrath 4th of July parade and sponsored the Aitkin County Fair Horse Barn. Each of these events makes our community unique, and we promise to continue our commitment to help strengthen Aitkin County

APT SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS

Another way we show our support for the community is by funding educational opportunities for the next generation. We have sponsored two scholarships through the Aitkin Dollars for Scholars program for the past five years because we know it is important to help students achieve success in Aitkin County. One of our annual \$1,500 scholarships is for a deserving high school student who is planning to pursue a four-year degree in a STEM field. We also give a second \$1,500 scholarship each year to a student planning to pursue a degree or certification in a skilled labor field.

Education is critical to success, and we want to help Aitkin County students get started on meaningful, lifelong career paths. We encourage education in both the STEM and skilled labor fields because jobs in these fields are essential to sustaining our local and state economies. Both career tracks provide competitive wages and benefits that improve students' overall quality of life for years to come.

What's New at APT? Slurry Tanks and Plant Expansions

You may have noticed activity at our facility if you have driven by - we're building a new holding tank. The tank is 160 feet in diameter and 15 feet tall and will be used as an above-ground open storage tank for harvested peat. The high-moisture peat will be stored with water in the new tank prior to being introduced into our dewatering and drying processes. Still our same innovative granular products: BioAPT and APTsorb. Just a different path to production.

The new tank will allow us to even out the harvest, storage and processing of peat. The end result will be the extension of our manufacturing cycle and help us increase production to meet the ever-growing demand for our natural peat products.

We are also adding on to the east side of our plant to create more space to house our dewatering equipment. Construction is already underway and is on track to be completed before winter. Once complete, we'll be able to commission several pieces of new equipment that will bring the current processing plant up to maximum capacity.

NEW EXCAVATOR EXTENDS PEAT HARVEST SEASON

As our operations continue to grow, we require additional supporting infrastructure and equipment. Through a bank participation partnership with the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation, we will be purchasing a custom-built excavator that will change our operations dramatically.

This new excavator is configured with float-based sectional barges that will allow us to extend our harvest season significantly. In years past, our harvest season has been limited to the coldest winter months because our heavy equipment required frozen winter roads. The new excavator is designed to operate over water-based surfaces, so we'll be able to continue harvesting after the ground thaws.

"Demand for our granular peat has increased over the past several years," explained Doug Green, APT President. "We produced 785 truckloads of peat in 2018 and will produce about 1,000 truckloads in 2019. The new equipment will enable us to produce up to 1,400 truckloads."

Moving to a warm weather harvest method is critical as we continue the process to build a second processing plant on another peat resource near McGrath.

*Thank you for your continued interest
in APT and our efforts to strengthen
our regional economy with high-quality
operations, good-paying jobs and
in-demand peat products.*

We're committed to keeping the lines of communication open leading up to and through our expansion process, and we welcome your questions and concerns. This newsletter will be published periodically throughout the environmental review and permitting process as a tool to keep you informed.

info@americanpeattech.com | (218) 927-1888

Manage your subscription on our P.E.A.T. project expansion page: <http://americanpeattech.com/peat-project-mcgrath/>