



Part of the Vermont community since 1979

Table of Contents

- Omya Welcomes Latest Plant Manager 1
- The University of Vermont ‘Senior Experience in Engineering Design’ (SEED) Program teams up with Omya Vermont Engineers on a Conveyor Extension Project 2
- Day-to-day Supply Chain Challenges 3
- Florence Substation Upgrade... 4
- Engineering Students Gain Experience at Omya 4
- Transfer Opportunities within Omya 5
- Omya Commits to Community and Collaboration 5
- Middlebury Solar Project Complete 5
- Automation Supports Everyone 6
- Silo Demolition 6
- Verpol’s Recruitment Efforts Find Success 7
- Omya Supports State-wide Green-up Event 7
- Middlebury Quarry Open House Returns 7
- Community Events Returned This Summer 7
- Academic Scholarships 8
- Schedule Your Plant Tour Today 8
- Giving Back 8

Community Newsletter

WINTER 2022

Omya Welcomes Latest Plant Manager



The Florence, Vermont facility is excelling in 2022 with higher than expected demand for the products we supply into the Construction and Coatings, Polymer, Paper and Board, and Environmental Solutions industries.

When I became the Plant Manager in Florence, VT on February 1, 2022, it was obvious that we should be proud of the employees in this facility. Their dedication is evident every day and to me that correlates that there is support at home for our employees, as well as within our facility and company. The team has proven to be agile while accepting every test that 2022 has offered. Challenges included supply chain constraints, internal changes, labor shortages and higher than expected demand for products.

Day to day operations have many moving parts and the collaboration that I have witnessed between departments is admirable. The local maintenance team has thrived in the reliability of equipment and the production and quality teams’ attention to detail has enabled the plant to maintain excellent production costs and achieve impressive product quality standards. Our logistics group (shipping, load out, and packaging) seemed to face a crisis every day, but they persevered and managed to keep every customer supplied.

The East Plant team experienced severe burdens in 2022, but the group displayed dedication in overcoming those obstacles and in meeting customer requests. Employee recruitment, selection processes, and employee retainment became a bigger challenge and required a larger commitment from the human resources group and they were successful in the hiring of several new employees.

The Verpol engineering and management staffs displayed agility and took risks which were needed to accomplish goals and reach achievements in 2022. This approach will need to be sustained to identify future process improvements for the benefit of Omya and its customers in the ever-changing marketplace. The team at Omya Florence, VT also much appreciates the generous support of regional management and the international resources that contributed to the success in 2022.

In these pages I would like to thank each and every Florence, VT employee for your dedication, effort, knowledge, modesty, and pride. It was truly a rewarding 2022.

Next, onto the “What’s New” portion of this letter and I guess that is myself and my extraordinary wife, Linda. We also had a fantastic 2022, welcoming our first two grandchildren both born in 2021. Although they are far away, we spend a great deal of effort to see them when we can. In 2022 we purchased a parcel of land right here in beautiful Pittsford with the intent to build and stay for many years. However, material pricing has delayed those dreams in 2022, but optimism remains for 2023. Realistically, it is just as feasible that we will continue to search locally and purchase an existing home that fits our needs.

Plant Manager continued on next page

For more information about Omya’s North American and International Operations visit www.omya-na.com and www.omya.com/vermont.



My start in this mineral processing business began in 1993 with modest beginnings working at a new ground calcium carbonate facility in Wisconsin as a lab technician and sometimes plant operator or railcar unloader/washer. The plant produced significant fine ground slurry tons for the paper industry in the Midwest USA. The 24/7 operation employed 20-25 persons.

The size of the staff necessitated everyone to be knowledgeable in multiple tasks. Several persons could perform multiple plant functions including running and manipulation of the processes as operators, quality assurance, maintenance, logistics and administrative functions which became a great asset in keeping the facility running successfully for 22 years. My journey from laborer to supervisor to plant manager seemed to happen seamlessly, but obviously was supported by dedication, hard work and a great support system at home.

Before landing in Florence, VT my last position with Omya was as plant manager in their Perth, Ontario facility. Our four years in Canada were challenging, but also very educational and rewarding. Thank you very much Vermont for the warm welcome and we look very forward to playing a round of golf or discussing the greatness of grandchildren with you on a porch viewing the greenery.

On behalf of all the employees in Florence, VT, we wish you all a safe and joyous holiday season.

Best Regards,

John Schell
Plant Manager

The University of Vermont 'Senior Experience in Engineering Design' (SEED) Program teams up with Omya Vermont Engineers on a Conveyor Extension Project

The UVM 'SEED' program is the capstone course series for seniors in the Mechanical Engineering (ME), Electrical Engineering (EE), and Biomedical Engineering (BME) degree programs. In the program, students work in teams to address complex and multidisciplinary problems given to them by a client.

SEED projects originate as problem statements submitted by local companies, individuals, non-profits, students, or UVM Faculty. The outcome for each project is unique, but students strive to design, build, and test a functional prototype that solves their clients' unique problem.


The program offers Omya engineers the opportunity to work directly with UVM seniors who are likely to be candidates for entry-level engineering positions when they graduate. It also allows Omya the capacity to explore a new idea or concept that may not have been considered by existing engineer resources.

Additionally, it helps take long-standing projects off the back burner for a minimal cost. Omya engineers consider the mentoring role a welcome addition to their typical duties.

In the process, the SEED projects offer UVM engineering students opportunities to pursue ideas in areas where they have a deep interest. They have the chance to see the design process from both the client and the engineering perspective, and can work directly with the SEED instructor to steer their project toward their definition of success.


The SEED program uses the SCRUM framework for project management and each semester is broken into three or four sprints. Each sprint is planned and has a goal that is demonstrated to Omya with a physical increment. The student engineering teams review these increments with

UVM continued on next page



Conveyor Extension Incorporating Custom Transfer Station

Team 37: Ethan Cohen, Ben Ogden, Dan Wells




Omya Inc.
Michael Laurent
Maggie Cahorshak

About: Local mine in Florence, Vermont that produces Calcium Carbonate for the industrial, pharmaceutical, and food industries.

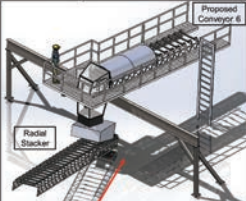
Expansion of conveyor system

- Tailings dewatering facility (TDF) transports waste byproduct to the onsite landfill.
- Current landfill is being capped, and the next is 500ft to the south.

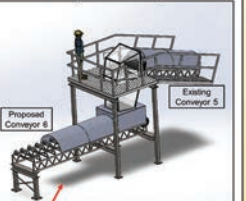


Site Plans and Transfer Stations


Conveyor 6 to Radial Stacker



Conveyor 5 to Conveyor 6



Transfer chute



40' span between supports

Flow Properties: Scale model matches theoretical flow using CEMA handbook 7th edition [1] and through observation does not obstruct flow.

Verification Methods

Material Testing: Tailings tested for common material properties that determine flow properties.

Bulk density (lb/ft ³)	82-113
Angle of repose (deg)	35
UHMW kinetic friction factor	0.14

Wire Gauge

Motor Horsepower (hp)	Motor Conductor Size (AWG)
20	8
25	8
30	6
40	4

Bill of Materials

BOM Level	Part #	Quantity	Unit Cost	Cost
1	Steel and concrete			22,024.24
2	Transfer chute	2	3,917.12	7,834.24
3	Electrical			6,250.00
4	Additional components			106,465.00
Material cost estimate				\$142,573.48
Fabrication, tracking, and installation cost estimate				366,617.51
Project cost estimate				\$509,190.99

Client Requirements

- Move tailings from current system to new landfill.
- Create a reliable system for transferring material from one conveyor to another.
- Basic budgeting and bill of materials for all custom parts.

Acknowledgments

- Client: Michael Laurent and Maggie Cahorshak
- Additional Feedback: Omya's team of mechanics and electricians
- Mentor: John Lema
- Instructor: Dustin Rand
- Conveyor consults: Northstar Equipment
- Scale model fabrication: UVM FabLab

Conclusion

- Part redundancy was incorporated.
- Incorporated feedback from mechanics and engineers responsible for building and maintaining the system.
- Material flow through scale chute provided evidence of proper chute design.
- Chute liner achieved a kinetic friction factor of 0.14, less than the 0.15 specification.

Future Improvements

- Conveyor sensing
- Transfer chute and conveyor design incorporating Discrete Element Modeling (DEM)

Literature Cited

[1] Best practices for Bulk Materials, 7th ed. Healey, J.L. USA: Conveyor Equipment Manufacturers Association, 2014.

[2] "Conveyor Chute, STRUCTURAL STEEL, IS THE COST-EFFECTIVE AND SAFE DESIGN." <https://www.acec.com/Products/Conveyor-Chute-Structural-Steel> (Accessed 24-Apr-2022).

Omya engineers for feedback on progress and to adjust the design as needed.

During the 2021 fall semester, students started by learning how to work as a team by creating team roles. They reviewed and revised their problem statement, and performed a search of existing patents, products, and literature. They then investigated the design space and selected preliminary design concepts. Next, the students created several prototype iterations for evaluation, and performed critical analyses for the design. Finally, they created a list of engineering specifications and presented a preliminary design for review.

During the 2022 spring semester, the students continued to design, build, and test their project. They performed a Failure Modes Effects Analysis and demonstrated their working project. At that point, the students created a poster and presented their project at a design night. A final design review presentation was conducted, and to conclude the program, they developed and delivered a final design report, and technical documentation package along with the working project.

Omya staff and engineers look forward to working with UVM students on other potential projects in the future.



Day-to-day Supply Chain Challenges

Supply chain challenges have impacted business world-wide. The following article looks at the day-to-day packaging, shipping, and logistics challenges at the Florence Vermont plant.

(Reprinted from Omyaworld internal publication, contributing author – Dan Firliet, Verpol Assistant Plant Manager)

The Florence operation covers a diverse range of market segments, supplied via a range of bulk and packaging configurations. The complexity of the installation allows for the supply of small bags (50 lb/25 kg bags), semi-bulk (1,000 lb/500 kg) and bulk bags (2,000 lb/1 ton), along with slurry and dry bulk trucks and railcars.

The majority of the packaged material leaves the plant in van loads or boxcars. The boxcar loads, approximately equivalent to four truckloads, are typically shipped longer distances to offsite warehouses in order to supply customers who would be otherwise economically out of reach through standard trucking methods. In 2021, Florence shipped out an average of 60 truckloads and 17 railcars per day in and out of the site. The plant has over 100 active material numbers which dictate the product packaging and the specific configuration of the packaging requirements. This could include a special pallet or a certain bulk bag type (size or specification like 'anti-static'), a specific weight requirement or the addition of a slip sheet or plastic stretch wrapping. The result of this is a significant amount of effort and coordination between many teams. Sales, customer service, logistics, shipping and operations all do their part to ensure this is executed in the most efficient and cost effective manner. This tightly coordinated effort has presented its challenges over the past two years.

New hires to absorb increased demand

Coming out of the pandemic restrictions as 2021 moved in, resulted in packaged goods sales orders exceeding the expected forecast and on many days the capacity of the equipment, too. With that, the plant has also faced additional bottlenecks with overall manpower (due to both recruiting difficulties and COVID related absences), tight warehouse space and difficulty securing trucking. To make the workflows more efficient, the plant added two new positions, along with additional operator positions. A Packaging Specialist position was created to analyze workflows and procedures as well as focus on training to ensure cross functional expertise in all areas of packaging and

loading, whether it be operating the small bag packaging equipment or loading bulk railcars. An additional Shipping Clerk was also added to the operation to manage and coordinate the 40 to 60 over the road van loads that arrive and leave the plant each day. The additional operator positions have not been easy to fill as we, like many other businesses in Vermont, are struggling to attract new employees.

Additional planning tools

To resolve the equipment capacity issues, the plant, sales and customer service developed a process in which orders are reviewed, prioritized and evenly spread out over the course of the week. This process had a significant impact in being able to more effectively manage the warehouse space and even out the workload. Prior to this process, the plant would typically see very high demands on Mondays and Fridays with a slower period in the middle of the week. The new planning process has resulted in a more consistent and predictable workload.

In addition to our own challenges, the North American trucking industry was experiencing a shortage of drivers even pre-COVID with more and more employees leaving for other types of work. This combined with strong regional demand for freight movement and COVID-related quarantine requirements has created a situation where for every available truck and driver there are upwards of 10 shippers competing for that capacity. As a result, packaged freight rates in North America increased nearly 30 percent in 2021.

Omya continues to focus on specific highly tailored solutions to meet these challenges and has implemented automated systems to modernize freight processes.



In 2021, Florence shipped out an average of 60 truckloads and 17 railcars per day in and out of the site. Photo: Florence warehouse.

Florence Substation Upgrade

VELCO (Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.) continues construction on upgrading their Florence power substation adjacent to the Omya Inc. plant.

The substation was originally built in 1973 and the upgrade addresses equipment that is approaching or is beyond its design life. The substation connects directly to the VELCO high-voltage transmission grid in Florence and this grid connects throughout Vermont, with many ties to other transmission utilities in New England, New York, and Canada.

VELCO received its Certificate of Public Good from the Vermont Public Utilities Commission in March of this year for the upgrade and began construction in April. Naylor & Breen Builders, located in Brandon, is performing the substation construction and work will continue through to the spring of next year with a planned commissioning by the end of May.

Construction included blasting of ledge and hauling of blasted rock to the Florence Crushed Stone facility for crushing and hauling

back to the construction site. All rock was crushed by the end of August and crushed stone was hauled back through September for use at the new substation site and improvements of the Florence to West Rutland power line access road.

Naylor & Breen and VELCO will be focusing on installing substation foundations, backfilling and grading, control building construction, and electrical work through the end of this year.

Next year, outdoor electrical apparatus will be installed, along with all connections to the new substation. Following commissioning of the new substation in May, the old substation site will be reclaimed to a natural surface.

VELCO reports that the project is designed to meet future operating needs and aligns with a recently completed GMP Rutland Area Reliability Project upgrade for improved local area reliability.

Along with the project addressing deficiencies, several improvements will be recognized,



Photo taken August 29, 2022

such as: allowing for planned and unplanned maintenance and repairs without taking power lines out of service, flexibility to maintain stable system operation under varied system conditions and contingencies, new operator tools for rapid real-time operating assessments and controls to maintain system reliability, communication-aided protections for power lines that enhances power quality, and diverse fiber optic communication enhancements to support the statewide fiber optic network.

VELCO continues to work closely with all stakeholders associated with the project, and any questions can be directed to the Florence project manager, Dave Haas at (802) 770-8021.

Engineering Students Gain Experience at Omya

This summer we welcomed John Otto and Ryan Lathrop as summer interns at Omya's Verpol plant.

Interns help supply opportunities for Omya to move projects forward, discover new perspectives, and give aspiring professionals an opportunity to experience a productive manufacturing environment. Omya has hired several engineers and production personnel who began their careers as summer employees.

John is from Fair Haven, VT and is currently a senior at Quinnipiac college in Connecticut, where he studies mechanical engineering. He interned with Dennis Carroll, Omya's Environmental, Health, and Safety Manager. John spent much of his time building spreadsheets and working on Verpol's Ergonomics program. He said that one of the things he enjoyed most about his internship experience was getting out in the plant where he took part in inspections and recorded videos for the Ergonomics program. John also had

the opportunity to work with Dennis at the Middlebury Quarry.

Ryan is from Bristol, VT and is a junior at Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY where he studies chemical engineering. As a 2020 Omya scholarship recipient, Ryan knew that Omya offered summer internships to college students and therefore reached out to inquire about an opportunity.

Ryan interned with Mike Laurent, Wet Area Manager and his engineering team. Ryan assisted the Omya engineering team on several projects including the rebuild of a fine-grinding mill, the design of a water system pipeline, and the oversight of a silo demolition project. Not only did Ryan work on engineering projects, but he also trained on various analytical instrumentation in the Omya quality lab to perform slurry testing in support of process optimization initiatives.

Ryan said he was able to apply some of his schooling to the lab work based on lab protocols and his chemistry background. He most enjoyed connecting with other people, especially coordinating contractor meetings, and experiencing how projects flowed.

Omya thanks both John and Ryan for their hard work and dedicated efforts in the time spent working at the plant. Omya looks forward to next summer and continuing to welcome back interns in the future.



John Otto



Ryan Lathrop

Transfer Opportunities within Omya

With plant locations throughout the world, one of the benefits of working for Omya is the opportunity for those with an interest and applicable skills to transfer to new locations and positions within the company.

Glen Schulz, Electrical Operator, is a recent Omya transfer who came to us from the Lucerne Valley plant in California. Originally from Connecticut, Glen is no stranger to the East Coast, though he does miss the mild winters out west.

Glen originally started with Omya in 2017 and has many years of experience in the field. He was an electrician in the US Navy from 1994 to 2000 and then worked as an independent electrician in California for 17 years. Glen has always had a passion to see the world, which is why he first joined the Navy and was later attracted to Omya's opportunities to move around and grow within the company.

Now Glen is enjoying his time in Vermont and all the friendly, welcoming people he's met. Living here allows him to be closer to his family in Connecticut and take part in hobbies such as golfing, hunting, and fishing.

Brian Noel, Process and Product Improvement Engineer, is another Omya transfer employee who first started with Omya in 2007 in product development at Vermont's East Plant. As someone who enjoys moving around, meeting new people, and taking on different roles, Brian took advantage of the transfer opportunities Omya provides its employees.

After five years with Omya in Vermont, and a transition into a leadership role, Brian transferred to a plant supervisor position at Tennessee's Precipitated Calcium Carbonate Plant where he worked for the next four years. He then relocated to Alabama for another four years to serve as the Area Pregrind Manager at

the Ground Calcium Carbonate Plant. He says he'll miss the friends he made in both states, and the longer hunting season, but he's happy to be closer to family.

Now that he's returned home to Vermont, Brian enjoys spending the winters ice fishing and playing in the snow with his kids, while golfing with his wife during the warmer months of the year.



Glen Schulz,
Electrical Operator

Brian Noel, Process & Product
Improvement Engineer

Omya Commits to Community and Collaboration

Omya is committed to developing good relationships with its neighbors, community members and stakeholders with the goal of strengthening dialogue and communication. Working collaboratively with the community to identify issues, address concerns, and answer questions is an important part of Omya's operational practice.

That's why in 2007, three teams were formed to focus community discussions. The Trucks & Transportation Team focused on understanding local residents' concerns regarding truck and rail traffic around the Omya Verpol facility in Florence. The Plant Team focused on identifying and addressing concerns related to the Verpol facility. The Quarry Team focused on the operational impacts of Omya's Hogback Quarry.

In time, the three Community Teams merged into one large team to improve the process and more efficiently address local concerns and questions. Through collaboration, the team works well to address any concerns or issues within the community. Omya representatives include John Schell - Plant Manager, Dan Firliet - Assistant Plant Manager, Michael Laurent - Wet Area Manager, Dennis

Carroll - EHS Manager, and Heather Fowler - QSHE Coordinator.

In addition to the Omya representatives, 12 community members from neighboring towns are also part of the team. These members serve voluntarily and advocate for their towns.

When needed, the team invites outside guests to the meetings. Not only do we share concerns, but we share ideas on how we can all work together to address a problem.

The team meets periodically throughout the year to hold open discussions about Omya and community projects, identify any community concerns, and work collaboratively to reach positive results that are beneficial to all stakeholders. Today, the major areas of focus continue to include truck transportation, road conditions, noise, and the environment.

If you have questions or would like to share your ideas or concerns about Omya, its processes, practices or development projects, please contact us directly through the 24-hour automated Community Feedback Line at 802-770-7644. We welcome your input.

Middlebury Solar Project Complete

In early 2022, construction began as planned to build a 500kW solar array on Omya's Middlebury Quarry property. The project started generating electricity in May and was fully operational by mid-August 2022. This project, in conjunction with Green Mountain Power's net metering program and an upgraded electrical service, eliminated diesel-based power generation which previously provided most of the site's electricity. This project will result in the annual reduction of approximately 46,000 gallons of fuel oil used at the quarry.



Automation Supports Everyone



PLCs (Programmable Logic Controllers)

The Vermont plant is one of Omya's most automated plants worldwide. Think of automation

as the brain that controls all of the plant's systems. Automation is responsible for keeping the PLCs (Programmable Logic Controller) in perfect working order and harmony, reviewing logic start/stop sequences, and for making the changes necessary when process engineering demands a change. Automation and design are also responsible for keeping all of the pertinent documents updated and ready to use.

On a daily basis, the automation department supports the production, maintenance, and process teams to make systems work better according to the demands and needs. Automation also assures good communication between the departments to reinforce safety when testing and commissioning equipment.

Verpol contributes to Omya's other plants in many ways, and automation is no different. At Verpol, we focus on how to implement new technologies in partnership with our competency center in Europe. As one of the larger plants, sometimes the business

drives new challenges for process and optimization. Although our automation systems are robust and reliable, Verpol is continuously monitoring and implementing new technology to further improve process interfaces, control, and reliability.

Anderson Santos is the Vermont plant's latest automation manager, having taken over from Robert Treworgy after his retirement in 2021. Anderson began his career with Omya in 2005 in his home country of Brazil, where he started in production to gain process knowledge before becoming an automation technician.

In 2012, Anderson relocated to Omya's corporate engineering office in Cincinnati and served as part of the team that takes care of all automation for the region. Meeting new people and traveling was an experience he particularly enjoyed. Now, he says his goals are to add to the automation team and find ways to integrate his experiences. He sees the automation department as part of a team that works together, learns from one another, and covers for each other when needed.

Anderson says he misses the food of Brazil, but he loves Vermont's small-town feeling, beautiful landscapes, and lack of traffic. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family and learning woodworking.

In addition to the Automation Manager, it takes a team to keep Verpol's automation running smoothly. Over the past few years, we've had some new faces join the team, while we also said farewell to those who moved on to enjoy retirement.

Meet the faces of automation that make up the team today



Verpol's Automation team from left to right: Eric Watkins, Ethan Jepson, Anderson Santos, Andrew Flanders, Pete Wareing, Ray Bradish

- **Ray Bradish** began his Omya career in 1989 in the electrical department and in 1997, Ray joined the automation team as a process control specialist.
- **Eric Watkins** began his career working at Omya in 2001 as a calibration contractor and joined the Omya team in 2007 as an electrician with the maintenance department. In 2016, Eric moved into the role of instrumentation and electrical design technician in the automation department.
- **Pete Wareing** started at Omya in January 2012 as an electrical maintenance technician. In November 2021 he joined the automation team as a process control specialist.
- **Andrew Flanders** joined the automation team in 2022 as a process control specialist after beginning his career at Omya working with maintenance in the electrical department in 2016.
- **Ethan Jepson** started in the packaging department and transferred to automation in February 2022 in the role of drafter specialist.
- **Robert Treworgy** (previous automation manager) retired in July 2021 after joining Omya in 2006.
- **Kevin Carter** retired in April 2022 from the automation team after 23 years of service.

Silo Demolition

This summer, the two tall silos known as the "Raw Product Silos" that stood between the main process building and the quality control lab were demolished. The silos were constructed around 1978 during the original plant construction. For years they were utilized as process feed material bins between two lines. As the plant grew and changed to meet the demands of new product lines, as well as implement new technologies for increased capacity and efficiency, these silos were no longer needed and were removed from service.

The silos have since stood unused. Various projects over the years analyzed the potential to resurrect these silos, but none of those projects came to fruition. Increased degradation over time, along with a lack of

viable options for reusing them in today's processes, resulted in the decision to demolish them. Permits were attained in early 2022, a specialized demolition company was contracted, and the silo removal was complete by mid-summer.



Verpol's Recruitment Efforts Find Success



Otter Valley Union High School's 'Dig It' Program, 2022

Verpol has worked diligently with recruitment efforts this past year to help find new employees during a challenging hiring market. We were present at local job fairs, placed ads with local radio stations, and had hiring signs made that were on display at the plant's front entrance.

However, some of our best success was through working with local high schools and the Stafford Technical Center. After attending job fair days at local schools, we hired a new employee in the packaging department from Otter Valley Union High School, thanks to a recommendation from Stafford Technical Center.

Another packaging new hire had toured the plant through Otter Valley's Dig It program. Dig It is a new program that Otter Valley piloted in the spring of 2022. The program focused on an intro to heavy equipment. Students in this year's program had the opportunity to explore careers in the field of heavy equipment operation (thanks to Markowski Excavating) and go on field trips to local businesses such as Omya, to see what types of jobs exist right here in their community.

Middlebury Quarry Open House Returns

Omya was pleased to host its Middlebury Quarry Open House on Saturday, September 24, 2022. The day welcomed over 700 visitors of all ages, with many returning guests and some new faces as well.

Guests toured the grounds between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and enjoyed a variety of activities, including guided bus tours down to the quarry where they had an opportunity to collect rocks, talk to a geologist, and learn about the quarry. Many enjoyed the short walk-up to the lookout with views of the entire quarry. This was one of the favorite stops and made a great place to take photos.

In the crusher building, guests visited the plant processing and product tables. Omya employees answered questions and helped guests learn about different Omya products and applications. When guests needed a break, they took a seat and enjoyed a complimentary lite lunch and drink.

From the several hundred guests that visited the first open house back in 2001 to over 700 that visited this year, the event is great for the entire family and offers something for everyone!

Omya wants to thank everyone who made this day possible. This could not have been done without the help from all the volunteers. Thank you!



Omya Supports State-wide Green-up Event



On the morning of Friday, May 6th Omya employees teamed up in small groups to clean up the surrounding roads that lead into our plant. Omya takes pride in giving back to its community in a variety of ways and one of those

ways is by helping to keep our local roadsides clean and trash free as part of the annual initiative called Green Up Vermont.

The 26 Omya volunteers collected a total of 44 bags of trash. Omya provided employees with safety gear, trash bags, and plenty of drinks for hydration. The event concluded with a lunch for all employees to enjoy.

The next day, Omya supported the town of Pittsford for its town-wide Green Up Day initiative. Omya was happy to provide the community with an extra dumpster and a light lunch for volunteers. The Pittsford community always has a great turnout for this state-wide event and Omya is proud to be part of it.



Community Events Returned This Summer



From left to right: Mike Laurent, Heather Fowler, Maureen Ketcham, Jill Blanchard, Jim Morale

Omya employees were excited to get together again with the community at a luncheon in July. Organized by the Pittsford Recreation Department and held at the Pittsford Recreation Area, Omya volunteers helped serve food to 70 seniors and 40 Pittsford summer day campers, counselors, and lifeguards.

The lunch, sponsored by Omya, included hot dogs, hamburgers, side salads and drinks catered by Jon Keith and his staff. In addition to lunch and conversation, drawings were held for prizes. Everyone was happy to spend time together again at the first community event since COVID started in 2020.



For information on other Pittsford Rec events, please visit pittsfordvermont.com

Academic Scholarships

Omya is pleased to once again provide financial support for deserving students through our Omya Academic Scholarship Program. The program was designed to offer incentives for the development of Vermont's future workforce and to encourage area students to pursue degrees in math and science. Students chosen for the scholarship awards demonstrate a commitment to learning, leadership, and community involvement.

2022 Scholarship Recipients

Fair Haven Union High School – Olivia Almeida
Middlebury Union High School – Samuel Warren
Mill River Union High School – Alina Mozzer
Mount Abraham Union High School – Neil Guy
Mount Saint Joseph Academy – Taylor Blodorn
Otter Valley Union High School – Alice Keith
Rutland High School – Zakaria Arshad
Stafford Technical Center – Liam Hill
West Rutland High School – Serena Coombs

Schedule Your Plant Tour Today



The Verpol plant is the largest of the Omya operations in the United States – and is the third largest Omya plant in the world! Here, Omya quarries marble which is ground, milled, and purified to produce a finely ground calcium carbonate.

Don't miss the opportunity to visit our facility and see what we do. Schedule a private tour or come as a group (school groups fourth grade and higher are welcome) and discover

for yourself how our highly skilled employees use state-of-the-art processes to produce the high-quality calcium carbonate products which are used in thousands of consumer applications including diapers, paper, paint, plastics, duct tape, vinyl siding carpet, PVC pipe and more!

For further information, please contact Jill Blanchard 802-770-7500.

Giving Back

At Omya we feel it's our civic responsibility and privilege to support local efforts which benefit our community and neighbors. In the past year we have made donations to the following organizations and community groups:

Adaptive Martial Arts
Brandon Independence Day Celebration
Brandon Senior Citizens Center
Castleton University
D.A.R.E
Green Up Vermont
Hope Food Shelf
Memorial Sports Center Commission
Middlebury Area Land Trust
Middlebury Festival on the Green
Mill River Union High School
Mount Abraham Union High School
Otter Valley Activities Association
Otter Valley Union High School
Paramount Theatre
Pittsford Day (Satin and Steel band)
Pittsford Food Shelf
Pittsford Historical Society
Pittsford Trail Run
Pittsford Village Farm
Proctor Youth League
Proctor-Pittsford Country Club-Women's Sport Committee
Rutland Area Vehicle Enthusiasts
Rutland County Humane Society
Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region
Rutland Rugby Club
Town of Pittsford - Memorial Day flags
Town of Proctor
Town of West Rutland
Vermont Chamber of Commerce
Vermont Farmers Market
West Rutland School

You can make donation requests by emailing jill.blanchard@omya.com. Mailed requests can be sent to: Omya Verpol Facility at PO Box 10, Whipple Hollow Road, Florence, VT 05744. Donations are reviewed monthly.

Contact Us

Do you have a comment or suggestion? We want to know. Call our Community Feedback Line at 802 770-7644 with any issues, comments or questions you may have – and we'll listen. The Omya Community Feedback Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also reach us through our website at www.omya.com/vermont. Simply click on "Contact Us" tab and select any one of the contacts listed or fill out the online comment form.

For more information about Omya's North American and International Operations visit www.omya-na.com and www.omya.com/vermont.