

Business Quarterly

Advanced Construction does 'a great job'

By Patricia D'Ascoli
Contributing writer

For nearly two decades, Joe Quaranta has made his living in the trees — removing them when necessary and saving them when possible.

He owns Advanced Construction and Tree Removal, a New Milford-based business specializing in residential, commercial and industrial tree removal, land clearing, and vegetation management as well as tree maintenance.

Quaranta, who lives in Roxbury, also owns and operates Advanced Organics, a manufacturer and distributor of mulch products, soils and gravel.

The two entities are not mutually exclusive; in fact, the mulch products are created from the wood debris generated through tree removal.

"Since 2005, we have evolved into a company that recycles 100 percent of our byproducts into 12 different types of mulch products," said Quaranta during a recent interview at the company's Boardman Road site.

The ability to recycle the stumps and logs has had a positive impact on the environment, according to Quaranta, because what used to go into the landfill has instead been turned into something useful.

Advanced Construction not only mulches wood waste from its own jobs, it offers a full mobile screening, crushing and grinding service for contractors and homeowners.

The company also accepts clean wood chips, brush, wood and yard waste at its facility to be recycled into mulch used for landscaping.

"Trees go through several stages in order to become useable mulch," Quaranta explained.

He noted after the initial grinding of stumps and logs, the material undergoes a second grinding to

make finer mulch.

Natural mulch is dyed with nitrous oxide to make various shades of red, black and dark brown.

Advanced Organics creates a variety of organic mulch products made from a mixture of woods, including Boardman Brown, Black and Dark Walnut (a blend of hardwoods and softwoods), Bright Red Mulch (a mixture of cedar and softwoods), Boardman Natural Compost (a blend of topsoil, organic fertilizer, and green waste fiber), and Agra-Mulch (a blend of wood fiber and organic fertilizer).

Quaranta said what sets his mulch apart from other commercially made mulches is a process it undergoes to kill any bacteria in the wood so the mulch is free of disease.

New Milford resident Richard Bolbrock, who is a big fan of Advanced Organics' Agra-Mulch, uses the product on all of his shrubs, trees and plants.

Bolbrock has had Advanced Construction prune and shape ornamental shrubs on his property.

"The service is excellent," he said, "and they are efficient and pleasant."

As a licensed arborist and forester, Quaranta is qualified to diagnose tree problems such as how to control insect pests on trees or how to control tree diseases.

Quaranta said instead of spraying the trees, a more environmentally friendly way to treat tree illnesses is to inject the roots.

"I know we are doing something good when we can prevent herbicide spraying," Quaranta said. "It's rewarding to me."

Quaranta successfully treated one of Bolbrock's Colorado blue spruce trees that was infected with spruce gall aphids.

"Mr. Quaranta is very knowledgeable in all areas and he clearly knows what he is talking about," Bolbrock noted.



DEBORAH ROSE/SPECTRUM

Joe Quaranta is the man behind Advanced Construction and Tree Removal, a New Milford-based business specializing in residential, commercial and industrial tree removal, land clearing and vegetation management, and tree maintenance.

Advanced Construction also performs environmentally friendly vegetation management, which involves everything from pruning or removal of trees near power lines along roads and highways, to keeping large power line corridors clear of interfering trees and other vegetation that could lead to outages.

The company has done tree work for several local municipalities.

Barbara Henry, first selectman of Roxbury, said for several years Advanced Construction has removed trees damaged by storms in

the town.

"They've done a great job," Henry said.

In addition to tree removal, Advanced Construction performs environmental remediation and is currently involved in a unique project for DuPont Corp. at the former Remington Arms site in Bridgeport.

"We are removing overgrown vegetation in order to scan for unexploded ordnance (bombs, bullets, etc.) from World War II and the Korean War," Quaranta said.

After they've mowed and mulched the forest, a team of surveyors goes through

with equipment to scan for the unexploded material, which is then removed from the soil with remote control heavy equipment.

"The goal is to remediate contaminants in the soil, like lead and arsenic, so the site can be remodeled for future use," Quaranta explained.

Because of his specialized equipment, Quaranta gets called to perform work in various locations around the country.

He recently sent a custom-made remote control grinder to clear out trees and stumps along a 13-mile gas main in South Carolina.

When the job is complete, the ground will not have been disturbed and will be left with a layer of protective mulch.

Looking back, Quaranta said he has come a long way since he first purchased a chain saw and a pick-up truck almost 20 years ago.

Advanced Construction and Tree Removal and Advanced Organics are located at 87 Boardman Road, New Milford. For more information, call 860-355-3222, or visit www.advancedconstructionct.com or www.advance-dorganicsct.com.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Village Fair Days is all about the community

[Editor's Note: Bob Hanna, chairman of the Village Fair Days committee, contributed to this column.]

We hope you enjoyed the 46th annual Village Fair Days. This year, we had beautiful weather, large crowds and great entertainment — a perfect storm of good things.

Things you might not realize about Village Fair Days

Plans are already underway for the 47th annual Village Fair Days.

The committee meets year-round. Anyone interested in being part of the committee is encouraged to contact the Greater New Milford Chamber of Commerce.

Village Fair Days is sponsored by the Chamber and gives members and local businesses the opportunity to showcase and promote their businesses and services to the general public.

However, business marketing is not the sole purpose of the fair.

Many organizations, nonprofits, clubs, civic groups, and churches also participate in Village Fair Days.

Some of these groups



DEBORAH ROSE/SPECTRUM

Denise Del Mastro, executive director of the Greater New Milford Chamber of Commerce,

participate strictly to provide information to the community, while others use Village Fair Days as a major fundraising source.

In one way or another, the money these groups raise during the fair goes back to our community.

■ Village Fair Days is also a fundraiser for the Greater New Milford Chamber of Commerce.

The monies we raise help us to host community events such as the fireworks celebration, our an-

nual Chamber breakfast, the Festival of Lights/tree-lighting ceremony and the hands-on train display.

Through the years, our funds have also benefited local charities and organizations such as the John Pettibone Scholarship Fund, New Milford Community Ambulance, New Milford Hospital, United Way of Western Connecticut, Water Witch Hose Company No. 2, American Red Cross, the Alzheimer's Association, Special Olympics, Paint the People, Run Santa Run, the Wheels program, Remembering Our Veterans, New Milford Youth Baseball/Softball and the creative playground at John Pettibone School.

■ The costs to run the fair have increased every year.

We were able to hold the price the same for the non-Chamber, non-tented vendors for the past five years, but felt it was time to adjust all the rates this past year. This decision was not made lightly.

Our infrastructure costs include permit and usage fees to use the Green, tent/

table/chair rentals, electricity, the electrician, electrical supplies and upgrades, the portapotties and overnight security.

We also have a variety of other non-infrastructure costs to pay as well such as the entertainment.

All vendors are invited to join the Chamber and receive the Chamber vendor discount in addition to all the other Chamber benefits.

Our intention with the slight increase in vendor rates was to help us cover our costs so we can continue to host community events and support our local charities and organizations.

We would be happy to answer any questions anyone has about the fair and can be reached directly at the Chamber office at 860-354-6080 or nmcc@newmilford-chamber.com.

We'd also like to invite anyone who is interested in being a volunteer at the 2014 fair to contact us.

Your support
Your support of the fair and the groups that participate in the fair allows them to give back.

So next year when you're at the fair and eating a roast beef sandwich or ice cream cone from Water Witch Hose Co. 2, pizza from the New Milford Lions Club, fried dough from the Rotary Club, or playing a game of bingo at the Knights of Columbus tent; remember, besides having a great time, eating fun fair food, enjoying some free and fabulous entertainment under the big tent, and catching up with friends you haven't seen since the previous fair, you are supporting our community.

It really is all about our community.

No community — or group or business — ever stands still; you either pro-

ceed or recede. As businesses, civic groups, nonprofits, clubs and organizations — when we come together for the good of our community, we all win.

Last, but certainly not least

A great, big shout-out loud thank you goes to the Village Fair Days Committee and the many volunteers you saw in the bright yellow shirts during the fair.

The Chamber extends its gratitude to them and thanks all who help make Village Fair Days such a spectacular event.

We cordially invite you to Village Fair Days 2014, which will be held on July 25-26.

MY NAME IS FAYE - PLEASE GIVE ME A HOME

I am a sweet and mellow golden color hound/lab mix, approx. 8-9 yrs old, 55 lbs. I have lost my longtime home and I am asking for your help. I am housebroken, a good dog and I have been thru a lot. I am active at times, but also a lot of the time I like to take long naps. I especially like men but I am good with everyone. I like to sometimes sit in the yard for a bit and just watch. I am best with a real fenced in yard and I may be best with a young dog that is good with other dogs, not an older dog or one that may be afraid. It really depends. I am being boarded and am very sad and confused and I want to be back in a warm home. I am alone now and I feel like I have lost everything. I do not do well in boarding at all and I am praying someone will want to take me home and give me a chance. I am in urgent need of a reliable foster home until I am placed, everything provided. Please do not forget about me here all alone.

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