



A publication of the  
Oregon Independent Aggregate Association  
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Stayton, Oregon 97383  
[www.oraaggregate.com](http://www.oraaggregate.com)

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## *Oregon Independent Aggregate Association Newsletter*

**May 2021**

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### **Chairman Message**

We are pleased to share that our June MSHA training sessions will OFFICALLY be held. COVID mask and social distance rules will still apply – the venues require it. Thanks so much to Secretary Kellie Ramar for navigating the changing COVID rules in Oregon with our venues as we finally seem to be on our way out of this fiasco. Kellie has more to share about our training sessions in this newsletter.

DOGAMI issued a reminder in their Spring ENGAGEe newsletter to check your boundary markers. Knowing the location of your site's permit boundaries and setbacks can help guide development plans in the field – and help you avoid uncomfortable discussions with neighbors and DOGAMI inspectors if a trespass is discovered: [https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr/news/ENGAGE\\_Spring\\_2021.pdf](https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr/news/ENGAGE_Spring_2021.pdf).

Back in November 2019, I mentioned a bill being drafted by a bi-partisan pair of senators to emphasize sourcing local aggregates for development. The Rebuilding Our Communities by Keeping Aggregates Sustainable (ROCKS) Act was introduced to the US Senate earlier this month. LOVE that name! (Can you tell I'm a geologist?) The intent of the ROCKS Act is to protect aggregate resources and ensure they are readily available where needed for public works projects and other development. The sprawl of urban centers pushes out aggregate resource sites, but the larger they get, the more those urban centers need aggregates in close proximity. Planning and anticipating future resource locations while an area is growing is so vital to making aggregates sustainable and affordable. Rock Products has a nice summary here:

<http://rockproducts.com/2021/05/19/portman-kelly-introduce-rocks-act/>

Take care and be safe,

**Erick Staley**  
**Chairman**

## Annual Refresher Training Update

MSHA training will be taking place in June. It's been a long hard road to navigate thru all the closures and changes in restrictions but we are getting there.

Things will look very different at both venues in regards to COVID restrictions. We are counting on all our attendees to comply with the rules of each venue and consideration of your fellow miners. Be watching your emails for some very important information you will need to know before registering. Information and Registration forms will be sent out tomorrow May 26<sup>th</sup>. If anyone has any questions, please contact me.

Have a safe Memorial Day

Thank you,

***Kellie Ramar***  
***Secretary***

## Safepro 2021 June Law Institute:

**Only 5 spots left**

Understanding the laws and regulations that govern the mining industry are vital to managing your compliance and safety programs. Safepro covers the 1977 Act as amended by 2006 mine act in detail along with 30 CFR and program policies which give guidance to how the laws and regulations are to be enforced. The upcoming institute in Savannah June 14-17 will give you the knowledge coupled with your mining experience that allows you to improve on your current safety program and prepare for the imminent MSHA inspection. The Institute information will help you avoid bad citations and the knowledge to comply with the law and protect your people. The Safepro Institute information will add value to attendees and to their company. [safeproinc.com](http://safeproinc.com)

Yours in Safe Production

Dean

**For the future of our association we are vigilantly looking for new board members.  
If you are interested please contact any OIAA Board Member or Officer.**

***2021 Board of Directors***

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Currently there are no meetings scheduled.

[memberreply@oraggregate.com](mailto:memberreply@oraggregate.com)

**Stay Safe, Stay Healthy**