

How does the Gravel Pit affect me?

Very serious consequences

- **Open Pit Gravel Mines Depress Property Values — FOR MILES! Numerous studies show that this type of mining dramatically depresses property values for miles around. Values drop from 5% as far away as 3-miles and as much as 35% within 1/2-mile!**
 - **Damaged Property Values Severely Affect Tax Revenues. It only follows that decreased property values lead to a decrease in tax revenues for the township and Lenawee County. To address these shortfalls, governments either need to cut back — or increase everyone's tax rates. So even if your property value doesn't fall, you are still negatively affected by the overall value damage!**
 - **Gravel Mine Would Create Widely Known Deadly Health Issues that Would Harm Hundreds of Lenawee County Residents. Until recently, few understood the dangers created by crystalline silica dust. It has proven links to diseases that lead to death including silicosis, lung cancer, COPD, renal failure, and kidney disease as well as causing auto-immune diseases like rheumatoid arthritis.**
 - **Ground water disturbance. What's in the ground? Hundreds of residents rely on groundwater drawn near the proposed mining site. Mining operations, washing, dust control and digging has the high probability of disturbing an already fragile groundwater source, impacting our lake levels and wells, and potentially contaminating our lakes and drinking water, as well as destroying our wetlands.**
 - **Traffic Safety the danger gravel truck traffic would most certainly create is perhaps the most frightening — as it is also the most deadly. The danger is created by 82 ton gravel trucks slowly pulling out onto US-12. What is the actual stopping distance of an 82 ton gravel train with brakes in less than peak condition that is speeding at 55 mph on wet roads?**
 - **Noise. The clamor of a gravel mine includes the revving of diesel engines from gravel trucks, bull dozers, crushers, sorters, and other equipment, the clanging racket of machines at work, and the daylong annoyance of OSHA required backup beeping – BEEP BEEP BEEP! This combined with the creation of noxious smells will lead to the loss of property enjoyment.**
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Michigan's gravel statute provides categories of 'very serious consequences' (VSQ) into which all of these concerns can be grouped [MCL § 125.3205 (5) (a) through (f)]. Using broad labels, these include Existing Land Uses, Environmental Issues, Protection of Property Values, Traffic Safety, and Local Health, Safety, & Welfare.