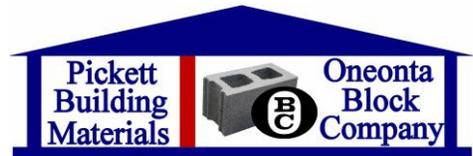


# Contractor

Service & Industry

# Bulletin

October 2012



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607-432-8391, Fax 607-433-6284



Otsego Ready Mix, Inc.  
2 Wells Avenue  
Oneonta, NY 13820  
607-432-3400

## Market Report

Paul Barnhart



The market has essentially remained steady for a time of year when it would normally fall off somewhat. Although we don't see it dramatically in our area, housing starts are slightly up nationally and the demand for material supports the current level of production evenly.

The price of lumber is holding steady. OSB and panel products came down somewhat but a mild round of business halted the decline and pushed the price back up although not quite to it's previous high.

Upcoming increases currently posted:

Gypsum	30%	January 1
Fiberglass Insulation	10%	December 10
Steel Studs	10%	January
Polyiso Insulation	5%	January

## Otsego Ready Mix, Inc. Concrete Pumping & Placing



EUCLID CHEMICAL

Euclid Chemical supplies us with admixtures for concrete to help you control set time and other aspects of fresh concrete. A common admixture used at our facility is...

### ACCELGUARD 80

Non-chloride, Accelerating & Water Reducing Admixture

#### Description

**ACCELGUARD 80** is an accelerating and water reducing admixture for concrete that does not contain calcium chloride. It improves properties of plastic and hardened concrete, provides a significant improvement in early stiffening and setting characteristics, improved workability and decreased bleeding and segregation. This admixture is compatible with air-entraining admixtures, HRWR admixtures (super plasticizers), and conventional water reducing admixtures. ACCELGUARD 80 is effective at all temperatures but is particularly effective above 50°F (10°C).

#### Primary Applications include:

- Cold weather concreting
- Structural and plain concrete
- Concrete block and mortar
- Precast and post tensioned concrete

#### Features/Benefits

- Reduces initial set 1 to 4 hours depending on concrete temperatures
- Improves workability and provides denser concrete
- Minimizes bleeding and segregation
- Improves compressive strength development at early ages
- Decreases overtime allowing earlier finishing
- Increases protection for reinforcement in concrete

NEW!  
Stock at



Quikrete Foam Coating is a polymer-modified, fiber-reinforced Portland cement based rigid coating for use over rigid insulation panels, foam shapes, and insulated concrete form systems.

Designed for use as a rigid coating for polystyrene wall forms and rigid insulation panels, as well as in the construction of fence partitions, Foam Coating is also used to damp proof, strengthen and decorate fence partitions built with foam panels.

- For both interior and exterior use
- Use above or below-grade
- One coat application
- Adds structural strength
- Provides textured finish
- Sprayer or trowel application

#50FCG  
50 lb bags  
are just

**\$18.95**

# Heavy Duty Hillman Timber and Lumber Fasteners

Ensure Strong Connections



Ledgertite

Designed to fasten the ledger board directly to the rim joist of a house without pre-drilling and without the need for a washer. The proprietary coating prevents corrosion and is recommended for use with ACQ and other forms of treated lumber. Available in 3 5/8" x 5"

# 48112 \$29.99 50 / Box  
# 48100 \$10.99 12 / PK



Timbertite

Perfect for landscape ACQ timbers, retaining walls, decks, fencing, stairs, docks and where heavy duty fastening is required. Quicker to install with no surface damage and much stronger than spikes. Timbertite pulls lumber together, making stronger joint connections. Great for temporary fastening. Plus, they are reusable.

	4"	6"	8"	10"
10 / PK	\$6.99 6146294	\$8.99 6146419	\$10.99 6146476	\$13.99 6146658
50 / Box	\$16.99 6146302	\$24.99 6146443	\$34.99 6146526	\$44.99 6146682

## Foundations: Soils

The Journal of Light Construction provides some easy reference data for on-site soil testing.

### SOIL DRAINAGE

Coarse soils drain better than fine soils. The ability to drain is measured by a permeability coefficient (See Chart at Right). The higher the coefficient, the better a soil can drain.

### EVALUATING SOILS ON SITE

It is hard to identify soils precisely in the field. If you are uncertain about the soil type, consult a soil engineer. A preliminary soil investigation may give enough information to go on, but sometimes an engineering soils report will be required

### Soil Identification

Some rough information about soils can be learned from simple on-site tests.

### Permeability Rates in Soils

Soil	Permeability Coefficient
Fine to coarse, clean gravel	23 ft / min
Uniform, fine gravel	11 ft / min
Uniform, very coarse, clean sand	6.9 ft / min
Uniform, coarse sand	1 ft / min
Uniform, medium sand	14 ft / hr
Clean, well-graded sand and gravel	1.4 ft / hr
Uniform, fine sand	13 ft / day
Well-graded, silty sand and gravel	1.3 ft / day
Silty sand	9.8 ft / month
Sandy clay	5 ft / month
Silty clay	1.2 in / month
Clay	1.2 in / month



- Dirt-ball test: To assess soil cohesiveness, take a moist double handful of soil and squeeze it into a ball, then drop it from a height of about 1 foot. If the soil will not form a ball or if the ball readily fragments when dropped, the soil is relatively non-cohesive and granular, with a low proportion of fine clay. However, if the soil forms a ball that holds together when dropped, it is more likely to contain a high percentage of cohesive clay.
- Water suspension test: Drop a scoop of soil into a large jar of water. Gravel and sand will settle to the bottom of the jar almost immediately. Finer silt particles will take fifteen minutes to an hour to settle. Clay particles will remain suspended in water for a day or longer. So if the water remains very cloudy for a long time, the soil probably contains a high percentage of clay.
- Noodle test: Roll a small quantity of soil into a thin noodle or string shape between your palms. If the soil can be rolled as thin as 1 in. without breaking apart, it is probably a cohesive soil with a substantial percentage of clay.

### CAUTION

These casual tests are not a substitute for a soils laboratory report. Visual identification of soils is unreliable. For example, soils containing both clay and gravel may look like gravel but behave as clay. Soils containing 20% clay have the bearing strengths and drainage characteristics of a clay soil, and soils containing 30% clay are defined as clays even though large amounts of gravel may be present.

# Improving Bathroom and Dryer Venting Systems



## Short list of venting tips

Note: When flexible vent piping is used, beware of long runs and many sharp curves. Each curve and extra foot reduces the air flow substantially, especially if the system is not progressively elevated.

Corrugated flexible piping tends to slightly interrupt the flow and occasionally lint collects on corrugations when air loses its momentum. Corrugated pipe is fine, but care is needed to make sure the pipe is straight as possible and any excess pipe is trimmed to only what is required for that run.

Smooth piping normally is straighter and when gentle changes of direction are used, provides easier air flow.

It is also important to not restrict flow by squeezing pipes, such as when going through restricted openings. Finding ways of eliminating long runs, sharp elbows and providing a gradual rise toward the exit improves the natural flow.



Providing gentle curves, such as a pair of 45° elbows, instead of 90° elbows, improves the flow when changing direction. Checking the location where the exhaust vents exit is also important, because exterior obstructions can reduce the flow.

JLC June 2012



## Scaffolding Safety

### Scaffolding/Work Platforms

Inadequate scaffolding is responsible for many construction accidents. Scaffolds should be designed, built and inspected by competent persons.

### General Guidelines

- a. Guardrails, midrails and toeboards must be installed on all open sides of scaffolds 10 feet or more in height. Guardrails shall be 36" to 42" high above the floor or platform. If work is to be performed on the scaffold and/or adjacent hazard warrants, guardrails are required at lesser heights.
- b. Scaffold planks must be at least 2 x 10 inch full-thickness lumber, structural grade, or the equivalent.
- c. Scaffold planks must be cleated or secured and must extend over the end supports by at least 6 inches but not by more than 12 inches.
- d. All scaffolds must be fully planked and constructed to support the load they are designed to carry
- e. All scaffold members must be visually inspected before each use. Damaged scaffold members must be removed from service immediately.
- f. Access ladders must be provided for each scaffold. Climbing off the end frames is prohibited unless their design incorporates an approved ladder.
- g. Adequate mud sills or other rigid footing, capable of withstanding the maximum intended load must be provided.
- h. Scaffolds must be tied off to the building or structure at intervals that do not exceed 30 feet horizontally and 26 feet vertically.
- i. Barrels, boxes, kegs, ladders, loose tile blocks, loose piles of bricks, A-frames or other unstable objects shall not be used as work platforms or to support scaffolds.

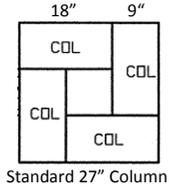




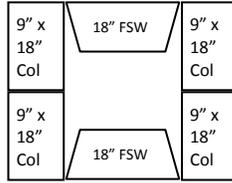
# Landscape Report

Customize your columns with Highland Free Standing Wall and Column Units.

Of course you can make 27" column using Colufmn Units, but you can add also Free Standing wall units to create larger, more substantial columns.



Standard 27" Column



36" column – Use Free Standing Wall 18" in opposite rows , alternating each row.



48" Column – Use Free Standing wall 12" & 6" to extend the length of each side, alternating each row.

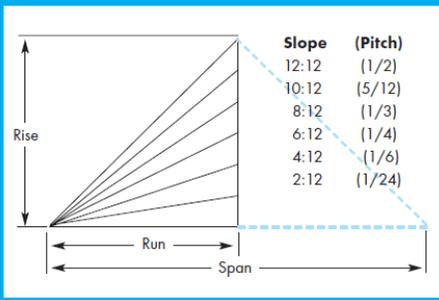
## Tips and Techniques

### Roof Areas

It's never our intent to insult anyone's intelligence by providing information that may seem 'basic'. However, occasionally reviewing the basics is not only refreshing, but keeps us on track.

Here is a re-run on **Estimating Roofing Materials** from the Journal of Light Construction Field Guide.

Figure 3-1. Slope vs. Pitch



Don't confuse "slope" and "pitch." Slope is in. of rise per ft. of run. Pitch is the ratio of rise to span.

#### Slope and Pitch:

Slope is defined as a roof's vertical rise (in inches) per foot of horizontal run. For example, a 6:12, or "six-in-twelve" roof rises 6 inches for every foot of run.

$$\text{SLOPE} = \text{RISE} / \text{RUN}$$

Pitch is different from slope; it's the ratio of rise to span. For example, a roof sloped at 6:12 has a pitch of 1/4.

$$\text{PITCH} = \text{RISE} / \text{SPAN}$$



### Calculating Roof Area

#### Gable Roof Area

To find the length of a rake on a gable roof, multiply it's horizontal distance (the roof's run) by the slope conversion factor in Figure 3-2, then multiply by the length of the ridge to find the area.

$$\text{RAKE LENGTH} = \text{RUN} \times \text{SLOPE FACTOR}$$

$$\text{GABLE ROOF AREA} = \text{RAKE LENGTH} \times \text{RIDGE LENGTH}$$

#### Hip / Valley Length

To find the length of a hip or a valley, multiply its horizontal distance (run) by the hip / valley factor in Figure 3-2.

$$\text{HIP OR VALLEY LENGTH} = \text{RUN} \times \text{HIP / VALLEY FACTOR}$$

Figure 3-2. Slope, Hip/Valley Conversion

Slope (in. per ft.)	Conversion Factor	
	Slope	Hip/Valley
4:12	1.054	1.452
5:12	1.083	1.474
6:12	1.118	1.500
7:12	1.157	1.524
8:12	1.202	1.564
9:12	1.250	1.600
10:12	1.302	1.642
11:12	1.356	1.684
12:12	1.414	1.732

Multiply a roof's run by the correct factor to get the length of its rake. To find the length of hips and valleys, multiply the correct factor by the horizontal distance of a hip or valley.



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