

# Dauphinais Concrete:

Uncover the hidden risks of the aggregate plant on Berkley Street



## What is an Aggregate Plant?

A concrete aggregate plant is an industrial facility where various types of aggregate (such as sand, gravel, and crushed stone) are prepared and mixed with cement and water to create concrete.

## History of the Plant

The aggregate plant at 120R Berkley St. in Taunton, MA has been operating since 1919, originally under McCabe's Sand & Gravel. In 2012, it was sold to Lopes Co. which expanded operations, leading to community complaints about noise, dust, and traffic, and resulted in various actions by regulatory bodies. Despite a change in ownership to Dauphinais Concrete in 2023, issues persisted leading to further enforcement actions. Throughout its history, the plant's operations have been a point of contention and a focus for community advocacy.

# Associated Health Risks



### Respiratory Problems Due to Particulate Matter

Concrete aggregate facilities generate dust composed of silica, which can lead to respiratory issues if inhaled. Chronic exposure to fine dust particles can increase the risk of developing lung diseases, such as silicosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and lung cancer.



### Noise-Induced Hearing Loss

Extended exposure to high noise levels can cause hearing problems including temporary or permanent hearing loss. Noise from heavy machinery used in aggregate plants can also lead to stress and disturb sleep patterns.



### Traffic-Related Risks

Increased heavy vehicle traffic associated with these plants can lead to traffic accidents and contribute to air pollution from vehicle emissions.



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## Key Issues:

- No restrictions on operating hours, causing disruptions at all hours.
- Noise, creating a persistent disturbance to nearby residents.
- Dust emissions, which impact air quality and health.
- Increased truck traffic and speeding, challenging road safety.
- Environmental non-compliance, leading to multiple violations.
- Lack of effective response from city officials and regulators.



# Solutions

## Water Sprays

The use of water sprays to dampen aggregate stockpiles to reduce dust emissions during processing is a common practice.

## Vegetative Barriers

Planting vegetation around the site can act as a natural barrier to airborne particles.

## Covered Storage Bins

Storing materials in enclosed bins or silos can reduce wind-blown dust.

## Regular Environmental Assessments

Conducting and sharing the results of regularly scheduled environmental impact assessments can demonstrate transparency and a commitment to regulatory compliance.

## Operational Modifications

Limiting the hours of operation, especially during early morning and late evening, can minimize community disturbance.

## Traffic Management

Directing truck traffic away from residential areas and scheduling deliveries during off-peak traffic times to mitigate congestion and noise.

## Noise Reduction

Acoustic barriers, erecting barriers, and using natural topography can effectively reduce noise pollution affecting the local community.

\*These solutions come from current industry standards and are techniques other companies employ to be good neighbors.



# How We Win

Clean Air Taunton is built up of community members just like you. We banded together to fight off Aries, a gasification plant, from coming to Taunton.

**When we come together as a community, we can make a difference.**