



## Environmental Policy

The Belden Brick Company strives to be the “Standard of Comparison” in the brick industry. This applies to all aspects of the business, from manufacturing a high quality product to maintaining a strong commitment toward environmental stewardship. The company aspires to adopt environmentally responsible practices throughout its operations. Employees are trained to recognize the value of protecting the environment. Each facility is encouraged to develop and promote manufacturing processes which reduce waste and increase recycling wherever possible.

The Belden Brick Company is also aware of the sensitive nature of its greatest assets, clay and shale. The extraction of minerals from the earth is conducted with great care to ensure there are no adverse effects on the surrounding environment.

The Belden Brick Company’s environmental policy is to reduce our impact on the environment and human health to the lowest practical minimum. The company works diligently to comply with regulatory requirements, but the corporate philosophy of achieving continuous improvement compels us to go beyond compliance in many cases.

This policy statement serves to express management’s commitment to providing a quality product and continuous improvement towards the company’s environmental practices.

The Belden Brick Company has adopted environmentally responsible practices throughout our operations:

## Mining Operations

- Drilling and laboratory technology is used to determine which tracts of land meet quality standards for brick production minimizes the extent to which an area will be affected by mining.
- The use of powerful shovels to mine the land eliminates the need to crack the raw material with the use of explosives.
- The reclaiming of land is done concurrently with mining. Reclaimed lands have been used for a new brick plant, Community Park, housing development, and farm land. We have received many Reclamation Achievement Awards from the Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Association over the years.

## Production Facilities

- Grinding facilities are enclosed and equipped with dust collection systems to reduce air contaminants.
- Heat required to dry bricks before they enter the kilns comes from “waste heat” from the cooling of the fired brick exiting the kilns.
- Exhaust gas scrubbing systems have greatly reduced the amount of air pollution being emitted.
- Programs that utilize The “Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle” slogan have been encouraged. For example, scrap brick are recycled through a crusher and sold for landscaping or used to build roads in our mining operations. We received the 2005 Award for Recycling in the Business Category from our local Solid Waste Management District.