

GOT ROCKS?

During our visit in the Decatur, TX area, I observed something that I had never seen before. I noticed a quantity of covered dump trucks everywhere we went. So many in fact, that I asked a tow truck driver what they were carrying. Rocks, he said. Rocks for concrete plants! These type trucks number in the thousands in this area.

Further investigation revealed that for the most part in the Dallas, Fort Worth area, the soil is mostly dirt and sand, without the benefit of rocks that will crush into concrete making rocks.

Imagine how much concrete an area this size is using!



In the Bridgeport area were large coal mines that ran out of mineable coal. It was subsequently found that the overburden consisted of excellent rock that crushed into concrete rock material. This area is now being strip mined for rock. The amount needed, keeps these trucks working.

The drivers are pushed to the limit, they drive the roads at 70mph right on your tail! They run in packs of 5 to 10 trucks, with the next pack right behind them. I first was amazed, that at a green traffic light, about 20 of them zipped through. The driver I talked too, had driven rock trucks for 20 years and quit because he made no money adequate to live on!

In our home area, all the concrete plants are put next to a source of rock. Here the plants are close to the end user and the rock is trucked in. One learns something new every day! On to Texarkana, and our first Indian!

Dave & Bonnie