

Apache Update Input – Fall, 2019 Edition

Apache Centennial

2020 will be the 100th year of operation for Apache. The Apache Powder Company was incorporated in 1920, and that name was retained until 1990 when it was changed to Apache Nitrogen Products, Inc. (Apache) to better reflect the business of the company.

Apache is developing events, commemorative items and celebrations for the historic occasion.

We plan to have a local celebration for employees and their families, past employees, retirees, and other locals who are interested in Apache. Stay tuned for announcements next year about these opportunities to help us celebrate our legacy.

Plant Updates

Apache has experienced two unexpected outages of our large acid plant over the last few months. Fortunately, we had a plan for such occurrences, and we were able to meet the needs of our customers with stored inventory and purchased material. Apache employees and key contractors worked very hard and put in many long hours to facilitate repairs of the failed equipment. We appreciate their dedication and skills.

Beginning in late October, you may be able to see a very large storage tank on the southern end of Apache's property. The tank is approximately 12 feet tall and 160 feet in diameter. It is a portable tank brought in by Apache to store fertilizer solution for several months while maintenance is performed on one of our permanent fertilizer storage tanks. A thick double liner in the tank will assure it holds the non-hazardous material safely and reliably.

St. David Property

Apache's new land in the St. David area, the old Richey Ranch that Apache has renamed Cochise County Investments (CCI), is being leased to a firm familiar with grazing, pecan orchards, and healthy utilization of the pastures and trees. The pastures are being rested at this time to avoid overgrazing concerns. The wells on the property are being evaluated, and a plan is being developed to assure the wells are operable for the long-term viability of the property.

You may have seen a truck/trailer, owned by Chemical Transport Co. (CTI) on the property occasionally. The trailer is being used by Apache to move excess water from the plant to the pastures. This water, from sources such as surface run-off during rains, contains low levels of nitrogen fertilizer. This is a win/win opportunity, as it provides water and fertilizer for the pasture, and it keeps Apache from having to mix the water into our higher concentration fertilizer solutions.

Community Support

Apache continues to participate in area events that benefit our employees, children, and other great local causes. Some of the more recent events or groups that we have supported include the following:

St. David Heritage & Cultural Society

St. David PTO

Banners in the St. David gym and on the football field

Benson Western Days

Benson Butterfield Stage Days

Benson Butterfield Rodeo

It is our pleasure to be a part of the local communities, and we appreciate the strong support we receive from our neighbors.