

Tour Dragon Cement Plant in Thomaston



In driving past the giant facility on Route 1 in Thomaston, with quarries on one side and a large plant on the other, have you ever wondered what was inside? Now is your chance to find out and tour the Dragon Cement Plant with us.

Thomaston, Maine is built on a wedge of Precambrian rock. The limestone it contains has supported the lime and cement industries in this area for 300 years. Small kilns to process product lime were often found on small farms as lime was used to improve soil quality and was a main ingredient in plaster for building homes. Dragon Products is the last Thomaston operation to quarry the stone and the only remaining large cement production facility in New England. To celebrate this long history, Thomaston Historical Society in partnership with Dragon Products, is offering two tours of the plant on August 21. During the tour you will hear about the modern cement manufacturing process starting with the quarrying of limestone.

The Dragon Cement Plant tours on August 21st will start at 10 am and 1 pm each, lasting about 2 to 2.5 hours. At the end of the tour, there will be a chance to ask questions of managers in the quiet of a conference room where refreshments will be served by the historical society. The cost is \$30, discounted to \$25 for members of the Thomaston Historical Society or the Boothbay Railway Village. Space is limited and will fill up quickly. If you are thinking about signing up for the Dragon Cement Plant tour, keep in mind that there will be a lot of walking and climbing of stairs. You can make reservations by sending a check to Thomaston Historical Society, PO Box 384, Thomaston, ME 04861. Please note that the payment is for the Dragon tour. Include a telephone number or email address and whether your first choice is 10 am or 1 pm.

This opportunity is being offered in conjunction with the Boothbay Railway Village, who is hosting the Maine Coast Stone Symposium during the month of August. This celebration of the history, art and culture of Maine's stone industry includes stone-working demonstrations, talks by artists, stone-workers, and members of the stone industry, and the exhibit *Built with Stone: The Granite, Limestone, and Slate Industries in Maine*. To learn more visit www.railwayvillage.org.