



# HARRIS TRUCKING

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## *Aces Golf Course Construction*



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**Pinehurst is the site of more championships than any other golf course in the country. With eight complete courses, it is also the largest golf resort in the world. Harris did the site clearing and roughing out for Courses 7 and 8, as well as rebuilding several other Pinehurst courses, including the famous #2.**

**T**he Sandhills Area in Moore County, North Carolina quite possibly has more golf courses per square mile than anywhere else in the U.S. and probably the world. Ever since the fabled Pinehurst Resort opened its first course in 1898, golfers have flocked to the area. Today there are an amazing 43 courses and more than 720 holes, all within a 15-mile radius. Hosting 1.1 million visitors a year, much of area's business revolves around tourism — and golf in particular.

Johnny Harris started his clay and sand pit business in 1977. Then his sons Chad and Justin joined him. Johnny's wife

Kathy and Chad's wife Erin along with 13 other employees also work at the company. Operating out of Carthage, North Carolina — a mere 10 miles from Pinehurst — it wasn't surprising when the resort contacted the company in 1985, asking them to clear, rough sculpt, and deliver materials for Pinehurst's new 18-hole Course #7. After all, Harris had a sterling reputation for providing good clean materials in a timely manner. What did surprise the company was the tidal wave of work that followed.

"People would see us working at Pinehurst," says Johnny Harris, "then they'd start up their own golf course

and have us do the same thing for them. In the early 1990s we did the Talamore and Legacy golf courses. In the mid-90s, we cleared and graded Pinehurst #8. We serve about half of the golf courses in Moore County with gravel, sand, and fill dirt. Although we've done jobs as far north as the Duke University Golf Course in Durham, we prefer to stay in Moore County."

As the area's popularity continues to rise, clubs and resorts are building luxurious homes along the fairways, while developers are establishing high-dollar residential areas. Once again, Harris is called upon for the necessary materials.

"Year in and year out, we haul at least 60-80 loads of different materials a day," states Harris. "Builders, depending on the quality of the soil in their development, sometime need 100 loads a day. We have 40 acres here for our operation and we're in the process of permitting another 25. We used to have five Cat® loaders. We sold them and now we're running two Kawasaki 80ZVs. With the great price that Kawasaki has, we were able to step

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***“We’re running two Kawasaki 80ZVs. With the great price that Kawasaki has, we were able to step up to bigger loader with more weight and horsepower.”***

***— Johnny Harris, Owner,  
Harris and Sons Trucking, Inc.***

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**Brothers Chad and Justin Harris pose by one of their 80ZVs.**

up to a bigger loader with more weight and horsepower than a 938G but for the same amount of money. We've had our oldest for three years now and have had no critical downtime on either of them."

Unlike some other suppliers in the area, there is no onsite pickup by customers. Harris insists on delivering his materials in his own trucks, providing a turn-key service. This keeps contamination out of his product, enables him to maximize pit operations, and ensures prompt deliveries while providing great customer service.

Although the golf course building boom peaked in the late 1990s, and most of what Harris provides today is materials for builders, it's been reported there are still some 54 more holes left on the drawing board. In addition to course rebuilding jobs, should Harris be called upon for more site clearing, well, it will be just be par for the course.

***Harris and Sons Trucking, Inc. is serviced by the Raleigh branch of Interstate Equipment Company.***



**Harris and Sons Trucking keeps their two 80ZVs loaders on the move at their 40-acre site. The company produces topsoil, fill dirt, clay, and mortar sand. They generally put about 3200 hours a year on each loader.**