

Lotscapes has grown up in two short years

By GREG GLASSNER
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Candy Eubank is a big hit at her son's career days at John M. Gandy Elementary School in Ashland.

Maybe that's because she pulls up to the school with a large piece of forestry equipment on a trailer. Each year, the piece of equipment is larger than the previous year.

"The kids actually got to see a small business grow," said Eubank, the owner/operator of Lotscapes a business that clears lots, dams and trails of trees and shrubs in an environmentally friendly way.

Eubank also gets a lot of wide-eyed surprise from adults who don't expect to see a young, attractive woman behind the controls of a rubber-tracked, skid-steer forestry mulcher.

"I get a lot of, 'I'm sorry, I'm not expecting you. You do the work?'"

"Yah, I do the work," Eubank tells them.

"When I'm on a job, all the neighbors come out and watch. It's like, 'Oh, that's a woman?'"

"I love running this equipment. I really enjoy it and love taking a piece of property and turning it into something like a park."

Lotscapes evolved from the farm on which Eubank lives with her husband and son.

"We have this farm and I run a backhoe and tractor anyway. We had a lot of work to do and our neighbors had a lot of work to do," Eubank said.

So they bought a relatively small forestry mulcher and Eubank put it through its paces.

"We saw it working. It saves you a lot of time in the woods," she noted.



Lotscapes owner/operator Candy Eubank with her new super trak forestry mulcher.

"It turns trees and shrubs into mulch. As you go up in horsepower, the larger a tree you can mulch."

Eubank uses her advanced-technology carbide toothed shredder to quickly and efficiently convert undesirable trees, brush and stumps into an appealing mulch material that provides excellent ground cover and erosion control.

Tree stumps are taken down to grade so there are no stumps to dig

up and no backfilling needed. There is no need to haul off trees and brush to the local landfill or to burn it at the work site.

"I do a lot for private homeowners, plantation cutting and trails and some dam maintenance. More and more, contractors want road mulching.

"Being a woman, I'm maybe a little more sensitive. I've danced around bushes and holly trees this big."

In two years, Lotscapes has grown to the point that Eubank now has two full-time helpers and a part-time equipment operator. Her husband, Mark, who is a sales rep for a boat manufacturer, also helps as a part-time operator and is "my nighttime equipment maintenance man," Eubank said.

The company has four large pieces of specialized equipment and an 18-wheeler to haul them.

"When we first started, it was just

me. I [still] do 90 percent of the operating as well as being the payroll clerk. We are too small to be big and too big to be small."

Most of Lotscapes' business comes from a 75-mile radius, although the company has some statewide contracts.

Eubank wants to keep the jobs close to home.

"I am a mom and I leave at 7:30 [a.m.] and do a full day's work," she said.

Eubank said her husband fully supports her in her work.

"He loves that I enjoy it so much and have been a success at it.

"And, my son likes to crawl all over the machines and check them out. It's like his own jungle gym," she said.

For more information on Lotscapes, see www.lotscapes.com or call (804) 687-7932.



The Lotscapes fleet has grown considerably in two years.