



Update on Landfill Work; Public Meeting Set For Oct.1

Mallard Lake Landfill Site
Hanover Park, Illinois

September 2008

You are invited

EPA will be hosting two public meetings to update residents about previous work and future plans concerning underground methane discovered near the Mallard Lake Landfill. At the meetings, EPA's project manager will give a presentation. This will be followed by a question-and-answer session. The presentation will be the same at both meetings. We hope you will be able to attend one of them.

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 1

Times: 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Place: Hanover Park Village Hall
Council Chambers
2121 W. Lake St.
Hanover Park

Information repositories

You may review site documents at:

Sonya Crawshaw Branch
Poplar Creek Public Library District
4300 Audrey Lane
Hanover Park

Poplar Creek Public Library
Main Library
1405 S. Park Ave.
Streamwood



Check out these Web sites:

www.epa.gov/region5/sites/mallard

www.atsdr.cdc.gov

www.epa.gov/iaq/voc.html

In fall 2007 EPA discovered high levels of methane gas had escaped underground from the Mallard Lake Landfill. Methane gas develops naturally as a result of decomposition of landfill waste. However, by law, methane gas is not supposed to move off a landfill's property. Further investigation determined that methane gas was present in a sand and gravel layer about 30 to 40 feet under residences, streets and open spaces west of the landfill. Methane has also been found outside the landfill south of the facility, but within the property boundaries. Recently, methane was discovered northeast of the landfill. An investigation is under way to discover the source.

Residential methane and VOC testing

Many homes near the landfill have been tested for methane in basements, along foundation slabs and in crawl spaces. To date, 243 homes have been tested. The results of this sampling have shown that methane from the landfill has not been found in any of the homes. Nonetheless, as a protective measure, combustible gas indicators have been installed in 209 of the homes tested.

Seven residential properties west of the landfill were also sampled for volatile organic compounds, or VOCs, as well as methane. VOCs are chemicals used in common solvents and industrial material and can be found in landfills. Samples were taken in the indoor air, outdoor air and beneath foundations (sub-slab). While low levels of VOCs were found in homes sampled, the results show that the VOCs were at levels considered safe. Additionally, shallow soil testing was done on the properties of more than eight homes and no methane was found.

Emergency actions

Steps were taken immediately to address the underground methane outside the landfill boundaries and to ensure the methane stays within the landfill. Four gas extraction wells were installed west of the landfill within the property boundaries to remove methane that moved in that direction. Also, two extraction wells were installed south of the landfill to capture methane that leaked south but remained on the facility's property. The existing gas extraction system on the landfill is also being enhanced. Twenty new gas extraction wells have been added and other improvements and repairs have been made. These improvements should effectively capture the methane so it does not leave the landfill. As the work progresses, additional measures may be taken as necessary.

Corrective action plan

A gas extraction system will be installed in the rights-of-way and public spaces west of the landfill to remove the underground methane that has escaped the facility's property. Gas extraction wells and a system of pipes will remove the methane and send it back to the landfill. Additional wells will be added and other measures will be taken as needed. The plan will be explained in further detail at the public meeting on Oct. 1.

For more information

For more information about the site you may contact:

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**MALLARD LAKE LANDFILL SITE:
Update on Environmental Work - Public Meeting Oct. 1**

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