

High Acres Landfill

Community Update – January 2025



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) remains committed to addressing odors originating from the Waste Management (WM) High Acres Landfill, located in the towns of Perinton, Monroe County, and Macedon, Wayne County. New York State's top priority is ensuring that area residents are not exposed to any potential site-related health or safety hazards. DEC continues to rigorously oversee all operations at the WM facility and continues to respond to community concerns about odors. In addition, DEC continues to work with WM to minimize odors and implement air monitoring.

Recent and Continuing Actions Include:

Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) facility application: WM has submitted an Air State Facility permit application for an RNG facility. The application is being reviewed by DEC. The proposed facility would clean landfill gas extracted from the landfill for injection into a natural gas transmission pipeline for use as a renewable fuel source. The facility's design capacity is projected at up to 8,000 cubic feet per minute (cfm). Should the RNG facility receive approval, the currently operating power plants for electricity generation would be decommissioned. The RNG facility is proposed to be located at the far east side of the site, near Wayneport Road.

Solid Waste Management Facility permit renewal application: WM has applied to renew the landfill's Solid Waste Management Facility permit. The application is being reviewed by DEC.

Geomembrane cover: DEC authorized WM to install exposed geomembrane cover over portions of Cells 8, 9, 10, and 11 to increase gas collection and further minimize odor. These geomembranes were installed under DEC oversight as intermediate cover, including 7.6 acres in Fall 2023 and 5.9 acres in Fall 2024. Installation of 20 acres of geomembrane cover over the northern portions of Cells 11 and 12 was completed during Winter 2023.



Geomembrane cover installation on the north side slope,
Fall 2024.

Landfill gas header: Construction of a new 12-inch gas header in Cell 13 occurred during 2024. The added piping will increase gas collection in this area of the landfill.

Continuous ambient air monitoring for hydrogen sulfide (H₂S): H₂S monitoring is currently underway at all the installed ambient air monitoring stations, including the Dudley/Northside school campus and monitoring points in all four directions surrounding the landfill. Since monitoring began in 2018, H₂S readings remain below the State's Ambient Air Quality Standard which is protective of public health and the environment.

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Quarterly methane monitoring around a wellhead.

Quarterly methane monitoring: Surface scans on the landfill take place four times a year for methane. DEC requires corrective measures when methane is found at a concentration that is less than half of what federal regulations require.



Utility flare relocation and replacement.

Utility flare relocation and replacement: The open utility flare was replaced with a new model and relocated several hundred feet to the east. The flare became operational in November 2023. A sign has been placed in the vicinity along Quaker Road notifying passersby that the operational flame may be visible.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Contact Waste Management: 425 Perinton Parkway, Fairport, NY 14450; (585) 223-6132.

Contact Town of Perinton: 1350 Turk Hill Road, Fairport, NY 14450; (585) 223-0770.

DEC encourages the community to regularly check the following websites for any updates on facility operations that could be creating off-site impacts:

WM Operational Updates:

<https://highacres.wixsite.com/operationalupdates>

Town of Perinton:

<https://perinton.org/departments/public-works/environmental-compliance-2/high-acres-landfill/>

REPORT ODOR COMPLAINTS

For the fastest response, call DEC's **24-hour** dedicated High Acres **Odor Reporting Hotline: 585-453-2416**.

DEC reads and records each email, letter, and phone call received regarding concerns with landfill operations. Towpath Investigative Services, a third-party odor detection consultant, responds to and investigates hotline calls. DEC personnel also respond to and investigate hotline calls when available. Data they collect is used to evaluate the effectiveness of WM's mitigation steps, and to determine if further action is needed.