



Middle Point Landfill Murfreesboro, Tennessee

FACT SHEET

Middle Point Landfill in Murfreesboro (Rutherford County), Tennessee, consists of 808 acres, approximately 207 of which are permitted for the disposal of non-hazardous solid waste.

Middle Point has been a major component of the region's infrastructure that has helped meet the constantly growing needs of Middle Tennessee. Middle Point is an important part of the area's economic engine. Many people know that this business offers a direct financial benefit to Rutherford County and the city of Murfreesboro, but few are aware of the magnitude. From host fees and free disposal, Rutherford County realized a benefit of more than \$1.7 million in 2010. Thanks to disposal and other services provided by the landfill, the City of Murfreesboro's residents benefit from no-cost trash removal.

Q. How much waste is accepted daily?

A. The facility accepts approximately 3,200 tons of waste daily (equivalent to about 160 garbage truck loads).

Q. Where does the waste originate?

A. The waste disposed of at Middle Point is generated at homes and businesses from 27 counties throughout Middle Tennessee, including Murfreesboro and Rutherford County.

Q. What types of wastes are accepted at the landfill?

A. Non-hazardous solid waste from residential and commercial establishments (municipal solid waste) is accepted, as are industrial wastes and construction and demolition materials.

All hazardous and liquid wastes are prohibited from disposal at Middle Point, as are many other waste types, including untreated medical waste, car batteries and whole tires. Republic has developed an extensive prohibited waste plan which outlines procedures to ensure that prohibited waste is not brought into the landfill.

In Tennessee, many people have questioned the Bulk Survey for Release (BSFR) program. While these materials are permitted at landfills throughout the state, Middle Point does not accept them.

In addition, although byproducts of aluminum processing are approved as a non-hazardous solid waste, such materials are no longer accepted at Middle Point.

Q. What environmental protection systems are in place?

A. Middle Point is operated in a manner which protects public health and the environment. We work closely with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to ensure that we meet or exceed all state and federal regulations.

All waste is disposed of within the boundary of a constructed landfill area which has been engineered to protect the environment and meets all federal, state and local regulations. There are many environmental protection systems at Middle Point, including but not limited to the following:

Landfill liner: The liner at the base of the landfill consists of: 2 feet of clay, a high-density polyethylene liner, a fabric layer, and either 2 feet of sand or 1 foot of stone. All of the liners are thoroughly tested to meet regulations and ensure proper engineering construction standards.

Leachate collection: The system to collect liquid within the landfill includes perforated pipes placed above the liner system to collect any liquid which has touched waste. The liquid is then processed through our new state-of-the-art Membrane Biological Reactor pretreatment plant and discharged to a wastewater treatment plant for final processing.

Rainwater collection: Rainwater which does not touch any waste must also be managed appropriately. Stormwater runoff is collected and contained in detention ponds, which allow soil particles to settle before the water is discharged to a nearby waterway. Visual inspections are conducted quarterly, and analysis is done annually.

Groundwater monitoring: Groundwater monitoring wells around the site perimeter ensure that landfill operations are not impacting groundwater. Five wells and two springs are sampled quarterly, and results are submitted to the state.

Gas collection: Once trash is disposed of, it naturally decomposes and produces gas. A landfill gas management system collects gas through a series of pipes and more than 100 gas wells. We then go above and beyond our regulatory requirements and actually put the gas to good use as an energy resource. It is used to generate electricity—enough to meet the needs of more than 2,200 households annually. The system is regularly monitored to prevent odors and gas migration.

Final capping: Once we bring our elevation to final grade, we place a final cover over the top to entomb the waste. This cover

keeps liquids out and gases in and ensures protection of the environment. The cap includes 18 inches of soil or clay, a low-density polyethylene liner, a geocomposite layer, and 18 inches of topsoil and vegetation.

Q. Who permits and inspects the facility?

A. The facility is fully permitted and regularly inspected by the state Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Q. Why do we need a landfill?

A. A landfill in Rutherford County ensures adequate competition among waste service companies. This translates to lower rates for waste collection and disposal services. Many counties that do not have landfills pay much higher rates for waste services.

Q. Is the landfill really important to our community?

A. Absolutely! The landfill is an integral part of the local economy. It provides jobs for local residents and affordable waste disposal options for residents and businesses. We also support the economy with as much local spending as possible as we purchase goods and services. Financial support has also been provided to the local schools, municipalities, Rutherford County projects and foundations, and other important local interests and endeavors. In addition, Murfreesboro and Rutherford County receive host community benefits and fees. This all equates to jobs and much-needed revenue for local and state economies.

Q. What additional steps are taken to ensure that the landfill is a good neighbor?

A. Proper daily operations are critical to environmentally sound waste disposal. Therefore, all employees at Middle Point are trained to handle incoming waste in the most environmentally responsible manner.

Access to the site is limited to one entrance/exit. The facility records and tracks all waste shipments with gate receipts and a network of video cameras. Each load of incoming waste is visually inspected to ensure that only permitted materials are accepted for disposal. Once unloaded, the waste is visually inspected again. At the end of each working day, daily cover is placed over the waste.

Steps are also taken to control dust and litter. Periodic watering of access roads prevents dust from rising when trucks travel in and out of the landfill. A sweeper is used to keep nearby roadways clean. Litter is minimized by limiting the size of the active disposal area, applying daily cover and using fencing on windy days to catch blowing materials. Any litter that blows off site is collected by landfill personnel.

Q. How do you control odors?

A. Odors are controlled with good operational programs such as waste compaction, applying daily cover and the use of an effective landfill gas management system. Landfill personnel conduct routine odor inspections to prevent off-site odor and deal with odor as quickly as possible once detected. A recent upgrade to the gas management system will allow gas collection from additional landfill areas. Additionally, we use a misting system to assist with odor control. Any reports of odors can be made directly to the landfill by calling the landfill manager, Nick Stengel, anytime at 896-2075.

Q. What is the life expectancy of the landfill?

A. The life expectancy varies depending on the volume of waste received for disposal. There is capacity for approximately 19 years of disposal at current disposal rates.

Q. It appears that there is construction going on at the landfill. What's happening?

A. It is common to see construction activities at the landfill that may include the use of heavy equipment. This construction is part of the ongoing operation and maintenance of our environmental protection systems. During 2010, we will be expanding the landfill gas collection system and installing permanent cover at portions of the landfill. The work will require additional personnel and heavy equipment and is expected to take place into 2011.

Q. When is the landfill open for business?

A. Middle Point is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Middle Point is closed on Sunday and major holidays.

Q. Can I take a tour of the landfill?

A. Yes. We take great pride in what we do and encourage as many people as possible to tour our facility. Please contact Nick Stengel at 896-2075 to arrange a time for your tour.

In Summary

We are proud to partner with the communities where we are located and the enterprises we serve. We believe that listening to community concerns and considering recommendations as we operate our divisions and facilities make good business sense. We also choose to give priority-hiring considerations to qualified people from the local community. We thank you for the opportunity to share this information with you and hope that we have given you additional insight as to who we are and how we operate.