

Getting to Know Your Maplewood Landfill

Amelia County Department of Environmental Management

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The Maplewood Recycling and Waste Disposal Facility, or the Maplewood landfill, is owned and operated by Waste Management of Virginia, Inc.(WM), and operates under Virginia Solid Waste Facility Permit #540. The landfill opened for business on May 4, 1993. The landfill encompasses 794.22 acres total. The permitted disposal area includes 34 phases with a total area of 404 acres and provides 45,165,341 cubic yards of solid waste capacity over an originally projected life of 20 years. 15 phases have been constructed to date. Phases range in size from 7.1 to 16 acres each. Due to changes in waste volume received and improved operating practices the current expected remaining permitted life of the landfill is 100+ years. The landfill is permitted to accept up to 7,000 tons of waste per day. It is currently receiving approximately 500 tons of waste per day. Most of this waste originates in Virginia.

The landfill design incorporates a double liner system using 60 mil high density polyethylene (HDPE) in both liners. Leachate (the garbage juice) is collected from the liners and pumped to two 260,000 gallon, one 294,000 gallon and one 100,000 gallon storage tanks until it can be hauled to an authorized wastewater treatment facility. Methane gas is generated from the anaerobic decomposition of the waste and is either burned off at the landfill candle flare or used to generate electricity by INGENCO. INGENCO (Industrial Power Generating Company, LLC) is an on-site 16 megawatt power generating facility using diesel engines to convert landfill gas from a network of 114 gas wells installed into the waste into electricity.

WM pays Amelia County a host fee for every ton of out-of-county waste that enters the landfill. Since its opening in 1993, WM has paid Amelia County over \$27,000,000.00 in host fees. WM also pays Amelia County a yearly monitoring fee which provides a salary for two county employees (Ray York & Patty Averett) to oversee the operations of the Maplewood landfill. For 2017, WM paid personal property and real estate taxes totaling \$135,091.05 to Amelia County. The Maplewood landfill currently employs a staff of eleven people, most of whom are Amelia County residents.

Amelia County residents and companies that were in business when the landfill opened receive free disposal of their waste, as do county government offices, the county schools and county charitable institutions. This free service includes the collection, pick-up, and delivery of all trash and recycled materials from the county convenience centers to the landfill or recycling facility which saves Amelia County over \$200,000.00 in monthly deferred costs.

The Conditional Use Permit governing the operation of the landfill requires WM to operate and maintain recycling drop-off stations at the Maplewood landfill and at each of the five (5) convenience centers located throughout the county. These drop-off centers are designed to accept newspaper, mixed paper, magazines, cardboard, aluminum and metal cans, brown, green and clear glass, and #1 and #2 plastic bottles. In addition, white goods (appliances), used motor oil, antifreeze, textiles, plastic bags, automotive batteries, electronics and Christmas trees are accepted for recycling at the landfill. WM is responsible for transportation and marketing of these recyclable materials.

The Maplewood landfill is open from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, and is closed on week-ends, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. However, the public access area of the landfill is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for use by Amelia County citizens.