

## **WESTLAKE LANDFILL**

**MISSOURI**

**EPA ID# MOD079900932**

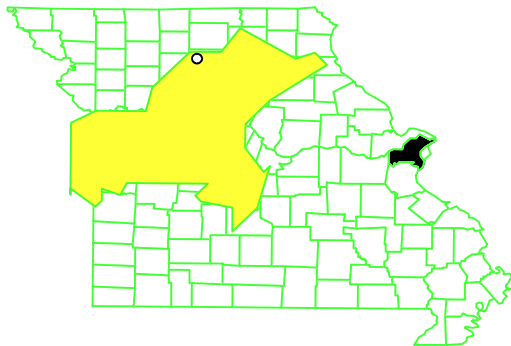
**EPA Region 7**

**City: Bridgeton**

**County: St. Louis County**

**Other Names:**

**03/29/2012**



## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The 200-acre Westlake Landfill site is located at 13570 St. Charles Rock Road in the Earth City Industrial Park. It is surrounded by commercial/industrial and agricultural land on the eastern edge of the Missouri River floodplain. From 1939 to 1985, limestone was quarried on the site. Beginning in 1962, portions of the property were used for landfilling of municipal solid waste and construction debris. Two areas became radiologically contaminated in 1973 when soils mixed with uranium ore processing residues were used as daily cover in the landfilling operation. An adjacent property has also been impacted by erosional migration of radiologically-contaminated material from the landfill proper. This property, known as the Buffer Zone or the Crossroad Property, was subsequently purchased by the landfill operator. It is considered part of the site and is enclosed within the site's perimeter security fence. Also located on the site is the Bridgeton Sanitary Landfill, which ceased operation in 2005. This sanitary landfill did not receive any of the radiologically contaminated soil.

### **Site Responsibility:**

This site is being addressed by EPA under a consent agreement with federal and private responsible parties. MDNR is acting as a supporting regulatory agency.

### **NPL LISTING HISTORY**

**Proposed Date:** 10/26/89

**Final Date:** 08/30/90

**Deleted Date:**

## **THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS**

Potential health threats are generally limited to people who might come into direct contact with landfilled waste materials, or with contaminated soil on the Buffer Zone / Crossroad Property.

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## **CLEANUP APPROACH**

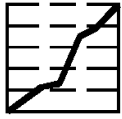
### **Response Action Status**

The West Lake Landfill site has been divided into two operable units. Operable Unit 1 addresses the radiologically-contaminated landfill areas and Operable Unit 2 addresses the other landfill areas which are not radiologically-contaminated.

### **Site Facts:**

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



After listing the site on the NPL, the EPA completed a preliminary study and determined that no immediate actions were necessary at the Westlake Landfill site while site studies were underway. Subsequently, EPA entered into a consent agreement with the responsible parties in which the parties agreed to perform field studies and engineering evaluations designed to identify the best strategies for cleanup. The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) work was completed in 2006 and a proposed plan for both operable units (OUs) was published in June 2006. The Record of Decision (ROD) for OU-1 was signed in May 2008. The selected remedy calls for the installation of an engineered landfill cover and implementation of a long-term monitoring and cover maintenance program. The ROD for OU-2 was signed in July 2008. Under this decision, the OU-2 non-radiological landfill units will be closed and monitored in accordance with Missouri solid waste regulations.

Critics of the selected remedy for OU-1, including the Missouri Coalition for the Environment, want the radiologically-impacted material to be excavated and shipped to an off-site location. In two letters to EPA Headquarters dated April 2009 and December 2009, the Great Rivers Environmental Law Center (on behalf of the Coalition) again raised its concerns and requested the remedy be reevaluated. After extensive consultation between the Region and Headquarters, EPA made a decision to conduct a supplemental feasibility study (SFS) for OU-1 that further evaluates the ROD-selected remedy, as well as full-scale excavation of the radiologically-impacted material and disposal either off-site or in a new, on-site engineered disposal cell outside of the Missouri River floodplain. The Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) negotiations (which sequentially follow the signing of the ROD) for both OU-1 and OU-2 were put on hold in June 2009, pending the outcome of the SFS.

In January 2010, EPA agreed to allow the Potentially-Responsible Parties (PRPs) to perform the SFS, pursuant to the existing Administrative Order on Consent, under which the PRPs had performed the RI/FS and RD. EPA-Headquarters (Jim Woolford) sent a letter to the Great Rivers Environmental Law Center on March 3, 2010 stating that EPA would conduct a SFS. The SFS work plan was approved under a cover letter dated May 21, 2010, and was released to the public in June 2010. The SFS report was approved with comments under a cover letter dated November 14, 2011 and was released to the public in December 2011. The SFS report contains a detailed analysis of each alternative, but does not make a recommendation on which alternative should be implemented.

After completion of the SFS, EPA determined that the remedies must be evaluated by EPA's National Remedy Review Board. As of early 2012, the NRRB review is ongoing.

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## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The 2006-2008 Public Comment Period on the Proposed Plan for the ROD at this site prompted the following:

- Three public meetings with standing room only for attendees;
- More public comments generated than most Superfund site actions in Region 7;
- A petition signed by more than 1,000 people who are in opposition to EPA's preferred remedy;
- Interest by media, congressionals, local elected officials, physicians, historians, and residents;
- Extension of the comment period three (3) times based on public requests; and
- Ongoing interaction with community members by EPA Project Manager, Attorney, and Community Involvement Coordinator.

Dialogues and written requests continue to take place between community activists, elected officials, and EPA. Next steps for publically announcing EPA's preferred alternative (as a result of EPA-Region 7's and EPA-Headquarters' consideration of the SFS information) will be defined by the spring/early summer of 2012. After EPA holds public forums to convey updated site information, EPA will continue to work with the media and other communications outlets to keep the community/stakeholders informed and engaged and conduct additional community interviews, if warranted, which would be a part of EPA's Community Involvement Plan for this site.

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## SITE REPOSITORY



St. Louis County Library  
Bridgeton Trails Branch  
3455 McKelvey Road  
Bridgeton, MO 63044

Superfund Records Center  
901 N. 5th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Mail Stop SUPR  
(913)551-7166

## REGIONAL CONTACTS

**SITE MANAGER:**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

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**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

**COORDINATOR:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

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**STATE CONTACT:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

Shawn Muenks

(573)751-3107

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**STATE:**

MO

0714

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:**

02

**EPA ORGANIZATION:**

SFD-MOKS/SUPR

## MODIFICATIONS

**Created by:**

Karla  
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