

Grant County Ephrata Landfill 1 Cleanup Site



Drums of industrial waste were removed and properly disposed off-site in 2008.

Comments accepted:

June 3 – July 2, 2024

Submit comments

Online:

bit.ly/EphrataLandfillcomments

Mail:

Kristin Beck, Site Manager
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane, WA 99205

Email: Kristin.Beck@ecy.wa.gov

Questions: 509-514-6806

Review documents

Online:

bit.ly/EcologyEphrataLandfill

In print:

Please contact Erika Beresovoy
at Erika.Beresovoy@ecy.wa.gov
or 509-385-2290 if you need
print documents.

Site info

Address:
3803 Neva Lake Rd NW
Ephrata, Grant County
Facility Site ID: 592
Cleanup Site ID: 1692

Draft amendment to legal agreement ready for public review and comment

You are invited to review and comment on draft documents for the Grant County Ephrata Landfill 1 cleanup site:

- Third amendment to the Agreed Order that would require Grant County to expand soil and groundwater treatment system testing, and evaluate and recommend additional groundwater monitoring
- Scope of Work and Schedule to complete the proposed testing and evaluation

More work proposed to better inform final cleanup

In the draft Agreed Order amendment, we are proposing more testing of the multi-phase extraction (MPE) system that removes contaminants from soil and groundwater. System testing began in one area of the landfill in 2017, and it was successful, so we would like MPE to be expanded in the first area and tested in another area to see if it should be used in both areas in the final cleanup plan.

In 2018, the groundwater monitoring area was expanded to better understand the MPE test results and where contamination was in groundwater. The proposed work includes evaluating this monitoring data and recommending additional monitoring. The parties responsible will also evaluate to what degree contaminants are naturally degrading.

Site history

The City of Ephrata began operating the Ephrata Landfill around 1942 and owned and managed it until 1974. Grant County has managed the landfill since 1974. The landfill was an open dump before 1962. Waste was put into an unlined cell until 2005.

About 2,000 drums of industrial waste were buried in August 1975.

Toxics Cleanup Program

The Environmental Protection Agency added the landfill to the list of potential hazardous sites in 1979. Ecology completed a Phase I site investigation in 1987, and groundwater sampling began in 1988. In 1990, contaminants, including metals, solvents, and other chemicals, were found in groundwater. Since 2007, the site has had ongoing investigation into the extent of contamination, and the parties responsible have completed several interim cleanup actions:

- 2008: Drums of industrial waste removed and properly disposed.
- 2009: Old landfill cell capped with a protective cover that keeps rain and snowmelt from infiltrating contaminated soil.
- 2012: Contaminated soil removed from north end.
- 2017: MPE pilot system installed to treat soil and groundwater.
- 2018: More contaminated soil removed from north end.

Waste is no longer accepted in the old landfill cell. Grant County opened a new, lined cell with leak containment in 2005, which continues to operate. The new landfill cells are regularly monitored to protect groundwater.

Next steps

Ecology will consider all comments received during this public comment period, which may cause changes to the draft documents. If the documents change significantly, we will hold another public comment period. We will hold an online public meeting if 10 or more people request it. If no significant changes are made, Ecology will finalize the documents, and Grant County will begin the required work.

Figure 1 shows the stages of cleanup. The remedial investigation and feasibility study are complete, and the upcoming work will be an interim action. Figure 2 shows contamination in groundwater around the original landfill.

Ecology’s cleanup process

The Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is Washington’s environmental cleanup law. It provides requirements for contaminated site cleanup and sets standards that protect people and the environment. Ecology implements the MTCA cleanup process.

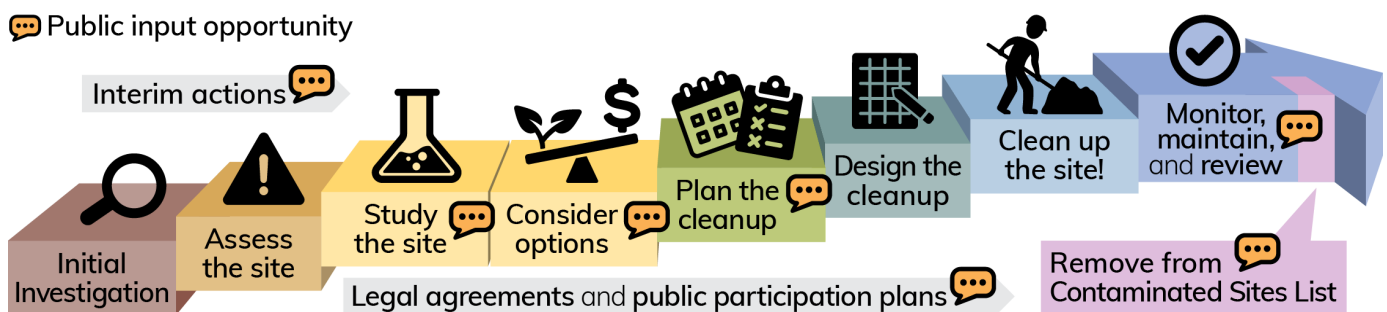


Figure 1. The steps in Washington’s formal cleanup process.

Ephrata Landfill Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study Completion
Grant County Public Works and City of Ephrata

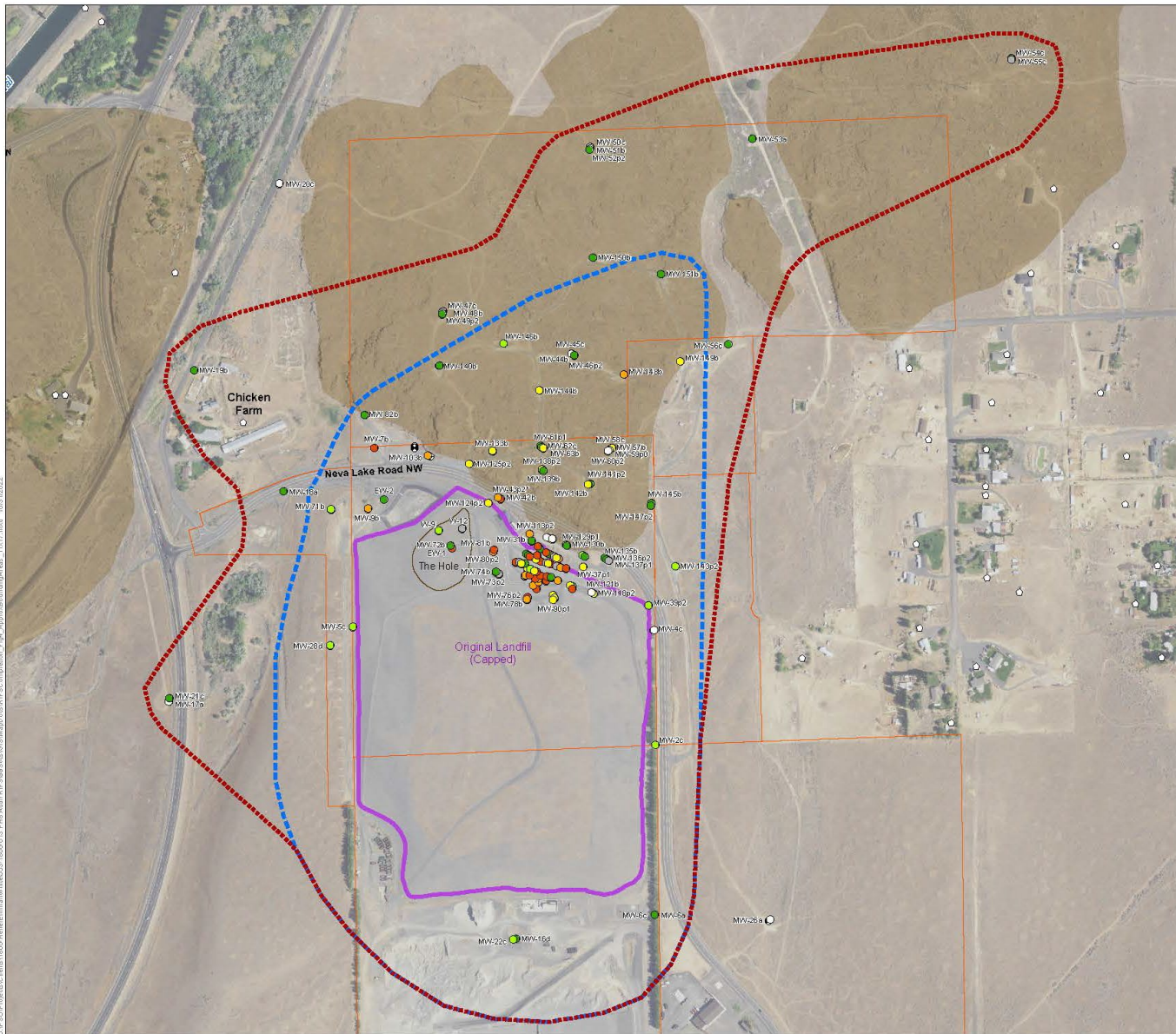


Figure 2. Approximate areas where contamination was found in groundwater
Figura 2. Áreas aproximadas donde se encontró la contaminación en el agua subterránea

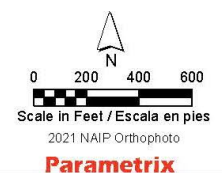
- Metals / Metales
- Volatile organic compounds / Compuestos orgánicos volátiles

Number of samples contaminated above state standards /
Número de muestras contaminadas por encima de los estándares estatales

- 0
- 1 - 2
- 3 - 4
- 5 - 6
- 7 - 8
- 9 - 10

- No data / Sin datos
- Existing well / Pozo existente
- New well / Pozo nuevo
- Other well / Otro pozo

- Original Landfill (capped) / Vertedero original (tapado)
- Parcel boundary / Limite de la parcela
- Basalt outcrop / Afloramiento de basalto





Toxics Cleanup Program
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane, WA 99205



Grant County Ephrata Landfill 1 Cleanup Site

Draft cleanup documents ready for public review and comment

You are invited to review and comment on the draft third amendment to the Agreed Order for the Grant County Ephrata Landfill 1 cleanup site. The amendment would require Grant County to expand soil and groundwater treatment system testing, and evaluate and recommend additional groundwater monitoring.

Public Comment Period

June 3 – July 2, 2024

bit.ly/EcologyEphrataLandfill

ADA accessibility

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov, or visit ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility. For Relay Service or TTY, call 711 or 877-833-6341.