

Cornwall Avenue Landfill Cleanup Site



Photo taken 2017. View of Site looking east. White-tarped mounds cover soil to be used as part of cleanup activities.

To submit comments:

Online

Bit.ly/Cornwall-EDR-Comments

Mark Adams - Site Manager

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Toxics Cleanup Program
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Document review locations:

Bellingham Public Library

210 Central Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: 425-778-7323

Ecology-Bellingham Office*

*Office is moving in January 2018
By appointment; call Linsay Albin at:
360-255-4400

Ecology-Bellevue Office

3190 160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452
By appointment; call 425-649-7190

Ecology's Cornwall Avenue Landfill webpage: Bit.ly/CornwallAveLandfill

Special accommodations

If you need this publication in an alternative format, call Ian Fawley at Ecology, 360-255-4382.

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service.

Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Cleanup Site ID: 220
Facility Site ID: 2913

Engineering design report ready for review

Comment period: December 18, 2017 – January 31, 2018

The Department of Ecology invites you to comment on an engineering design report for the cleanup of a portion of the Cornwall Avenue Landfill Cleanup Site (Site) on the Bellingham waterfront. The report provides the preliminary design for isolating contamination and controlling landfill gas. The report was prepared by the Port of Bellingham (Port), the City of Bellingham (City) and the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), with Ecology oversight.

Ecology will accept comments on the report from December 18, 2017—January 31, 2018. If ten or more persons request a public meeting about the report, we will provide notice and hold a meeting. For more information, visit the Cornwall Avenue Landfill webpage listed on the left.

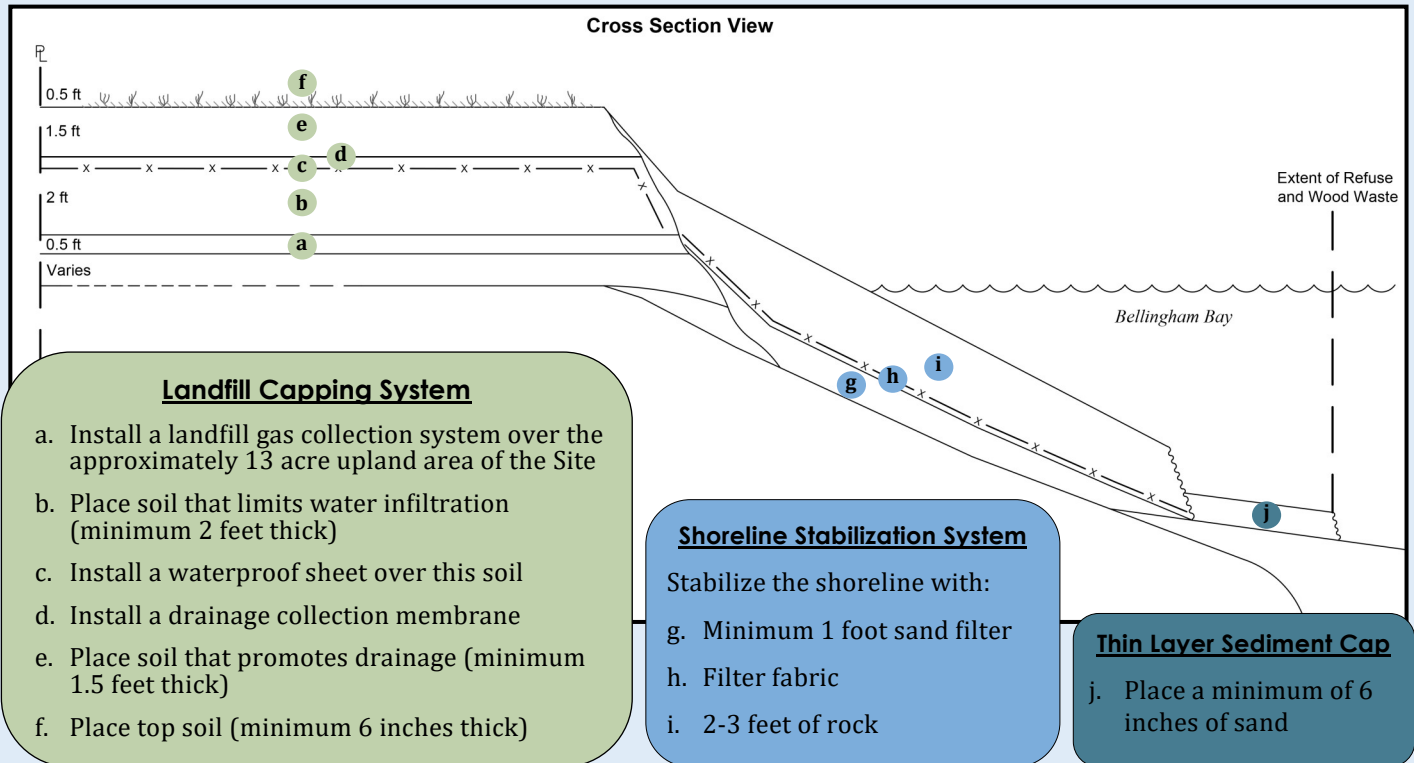
Background

The Site is on Bellingham's downtown waterfront, at the south end of Cornwall Avenue. Property within the Site is owned by the City and DNR. From 1888 to 1965, the Site and surrounding tidelands were filled with an estimated 295,000 cubic yards of refuse and 94,000 cubic yards of wood waste. Contaminants associated with this waste include: metals, ammonia, petroleum compounds, polychlorinated biphenyls, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Other contaminants from the neighboring RG Haley and Whatcom Waterway cleanup sites are also present within the Site. These will be addressed as part of cleanup activities at all three sites.

After a public comment period in 2014, Ecology finalized a cleanup plan for the upland and shallow in-water portion of the Site. The Port, City, and DNR are required to design and implement the cleanup work described in the plan. A future cleanup plan will address the deep in-water portion of the Site.

The Cornwall Avenue Landfill site is one of 12 cleanup sites in the Bellingham Bay Demonstration Pilot project, a coordinated bay-wide effort by federal, tribal, state and local governments to clean up contamination, control pollution sources and restore habitat, with consideration for land and water uses.





These measures will:

- Prevent the harmful buildup of explosive gases;
- Limit rainwater from flowing through refuse and wood waste and carrying contaminants into groundwater and Bellingham Bay;
- Prevent people, plants and animals from contact with and exposure to contaminated sediment, refuse, and wood waste;
- Prevent refuse and wood waste from eroding into Bellingham Bay.

Next steps

- **2018:** Respond to comments received and finalize the engineering design report
- **2018-2019:** Prepare construction plans and specifications
- **2019/2020:** Begin construction

Costs and funding

The cleanup work described in the engineering design report is expected to cost the Port and City about \$9 million. Ecology may reimburse up to half of this cost through a remedial action grant program, which helps to pay to clean up publicly-owned sites. The Legislature funds the grant program with revenues from a tax on hazardous substances.

En Español

El Departamento de Ecología está anunciando el periodo de comentario público referente de Cornwall Avenue Landfill Cleanup Site en Bellingham.

Si le gustaría obtener este documento, o más información sobre este sitio, en español, favor de comunicarse con Gretchen Newman al: 360-407-6097, o preguntas@ecy.wa.gov.

913 Squalicum Way #101

Bellingham, WA 98225

Cornwall Ave Landfill Cleanup Site — engineering design report ready for review



Historic photo of Cornwall Avenue Landfill (1954-1965)

**Public comments accepted:
December 18, 2017—
January 31, 2018**

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From 1888 to 1965, the Site and surrounding tidelands were filled with an estimated 295,000 cubic yards of refuse and 94,000 cubic yards of wood waste.

See page one for information about where to review the report and where to send comments.