



EPA Picks Treatment Plan For Landfill Pollution

Lemon Lane Landfill Superfund Site
Bloomington, Indiana

December 2006

For more information

For questions or comments about the Lemon Lane Landfill site and the selected cleanup plan you may contact these EPA representatives:

Thomas Alcamo

EPA Remedial Project Manager
(800) 621-8431 Ext. 67278
alcamo.thomas@epa.gov

Stuart Hill

EPA Community
Involvement Coordinator
(800) 621-8431 Ext. 60689
Hill.stuart@epa.gov

Chicago office

EPA Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Read the documents

An official site file has been set up at the **Monroe County Public Library**, 303 E. Kirkwood, Bloomington, where you can read all the past engineering reports and studies as well as EPA documents such as the Record of Decision Amendment.

On the Web

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0501812>

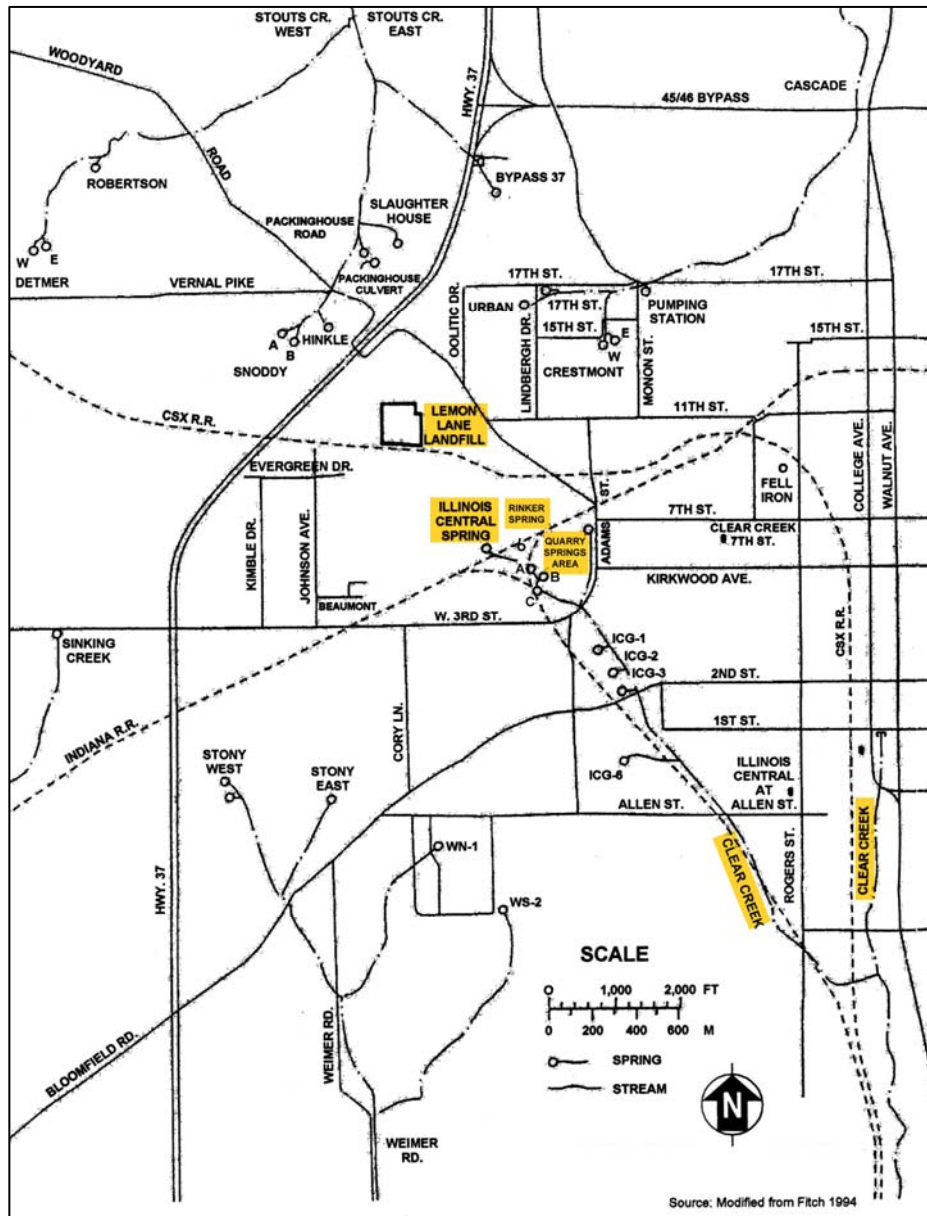
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has modified the current cleanup plan for the Lemon Lane Landfill Superfund site by adding a treatment system for stormwater overflow and digging up and disposing of contaminated mud and soil. These actions will reduce the levels of a hazardous chemical compound called polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Electrical equipment disposed of in Lemon Lane 40 years ago contained PCBs that contaminated soil and mud around the landfill, soaking into underground water and flowing into nearby Clear Creek.

The contaminated underground water (called ground water in technical terms) feeds Illinois Central Spring and several other small springs that flow into Clear Creek where the PCBs settle into the mud (sediment) and are being swallowed by fish. Clear Creek starts about one-half mile from the landfill and runs through the city of Bloomington where it joins Salt Creek near the Monroe Dam. EPA and state partner Indiana Department of Environmental Management concluded the PCBs pose a health risk to people and animals who eat fish from Clear Creek.

EPA's cleanup decision is contained in a document called a record of decision amendment, or ROD amendment. The ROD amendment contains much more detail about the site and selected cleanup plan than this fact sheet. The ROD amendment and another EPA document called a responsiveness summary, which contains the Agency's responses to all the public comments received, can be viewed at the Monroe County Public Library in Bloomington. A number of the comments received by the Agency opposed EPA's selected cleanup plan on the grounds that more should be done to excavate or dredge contaminated soil and sediment in the landfill and creeks. The Agency says digging up every bit of contamination in Lemon Lane and the creeks isn't necessary to protect public health and the environment. This cleanup plan will treat more than 99 percent of the PCBs flowing into Clear Creek.

Negotiations with responsible party

After holding a public meeting and accepting public comments, EPA picked one of several cleanup options (*see back page for cleanup plan details*) considered for Lemon Lane. The selected plan will cost \$9.1 million for water treatment and \$1.2 million for the sediment and soil cleanup. Actual cleanup work could take 12 months or more to complete and won't begin until EPA, IDEM, city of Bloomington and Monroe County finish negotiations with CBS Corp. to pay for the cleanup at Lemon Lane and five other disposal sites in the area. CBS has been identified as the potentially responsible party for the pollution. The company is disputing some of EPA's conclusions so negotiations on a financial settlement could be lengthy. If an agreement cannot be reached, EPA may have to go to court.



This map shows Lemmon Lane Landfill and the small springs and creeks that will be cleaned of PCBs.

Cleanup details

This latest cleanup proposal is considered an amended plan because the original cleanup called for burning PCB-contaminated soil in an incinerator. That idea was not implemented. In 2000 EPA completed the first phase of the amended cleanup by removing PCB-tainted material from the landfill and disposing of it in a licensed Michigan landfill. The 2000 work also included construction of a 1,000 gallon-per-minute plant to treat water from Illinois Central Spring and 1.2 million gallons of water storage.

Studies showed more cleanup steps were needed because PCBs were still flowing into Clear Creek. Much of the problem is big rainstorms causing water from Illinois Central Spring to bypass the treatment plant and storage tanks. The selected cleanup plan calls for expanding stormwater storage by adding eight new tanks lined with carbon that can treat 5,000 gallons-per-minute. Also under this plan, contaminated water from two small springs named Quarry B and Rinker that run through the landfill will be routed through the Illinois Central Spring treatment plant. The selected cleanup plan also calls for digging up about 3,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and mud from an area called the swallowhole and Quarry Springs.

Deed restrictions to be added will also prevent development on the landfill cap and other areas.