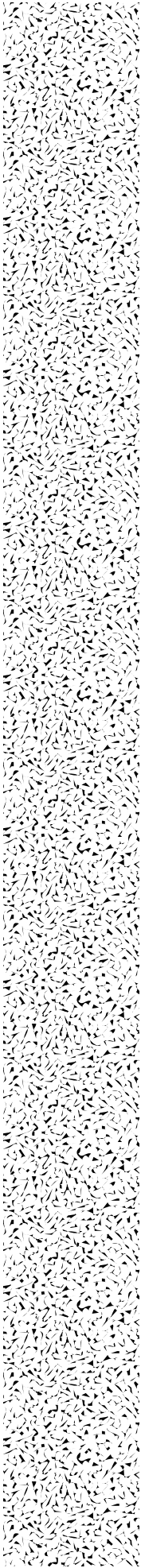


Table of Contents

| | |
|--|------------|
| Preface | v |
| Acknowledgments | vii |
| Chapter One: Introduction | 1 |
| Chapter Two: Landfill Gas Basics | 3 |
| What is landfill gas composed of? | 3 |
| How is landfill gas produced? | 3 |
| What conditions affect landfill gas production? | 6 |
| How does landfill gas move? | 7 |
| What conditions affect landfill gas migration? | 9 |
| How far can landfill gas travel? | 10 |
| How does landfill gas enter buildings and homes? | 10 |
| What types of landfills might be found in communities? | 10 |
| Are landfill gas emissions regulated? | 11 |
| Additional Resources | 14 |
| References | 14 |
| Chapter Three: Landfill Gas Safety and Health Issues | 15 |
| How are people exposed to landfill gas? | 15 |
| Explosion Hazards | 15 |
| When does landfill gas pose an explosion hazard? | 16 |
| What types of gases can pose an explosion hazard? | 17 |
| How can I assess whether a landfill in my community poses an explosion hazard? | 18 |
| Asphyxiation Hazards | 19 |
| Health Issues Associated with Landfill Gas Emissions | 20 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Can the presence of odors trigger symptoms? | 20 |
| What do we know about the potential health effects of exposure to landfill gas? | 24 |
| How can environmental health professionals assess whether landfill gas emissions may be posing a health threat? | 27 |
| Landfill Fires | 28 |
| Additional Resources | 29 |
| References | 29 |
| Chapter Four: Monitoring of Landfill Gases | 31 |
| Landfill Gas Sampling Approaches: An Overview | 31 |
| Soil Gas Monitoring | 34 |
| What is soil gas monitoring? | 34 |
| Why is soil gas monitored at landfills? | 34 |
| How are soil gas samples collected? | 35 |
| What do soil gas monitoring data tell you? | 35 |
| Where can I get more information about soil gas monitoring? | 38 |
| Near Surface Gas Monitoring | 38 |
| What is near surface gas monitoring? | 38 |
| Why is near surface monitoring performed at landfills? | 38 |
| How is near surface gas monitoring performed? | 38 |
| What do near surface gas monitoring data tell you? | 39 |
| Where can I get more information about near surface gas monitoring? | 40 |
| Emissions Monitoring | 40 |
| What is emissions monitoring? | 40 |
| Why are emissions monitored at landfills? | 40 |
| How are emissions measured? | 42 |
| What do emissions monitoring data tell you? | 43 |
| Where can I get more information about emissions monitoring? | 43 |
| Ambient Air Monitoring | 44 |
| What is ambient air monitoring? | 44 |
| Why is ambient air monitored at or near landfills? | 44 |
| How are ambient air concentrations measured? | 44 |
| What do ambient air monitoring data tell you? | 46 |
| Where can I get more information about ambient air monitoring? | 48 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Indoor Air Monitoring | 49 |
| What is indoor air monitoring? | 49 |
| Why is indoor air sampled at or near landfills? | 49 |
| How are indoor air concentrations measured? | 50 |
| What do indoor air monitoring data tell you? | 50 |
| Where can I get more information about indoor air monitoring? | 50 |
| Air Modeling | 51 |
| What is air modeling? | 51 |
| How can models be used at landfill sites? | 51 |
| What factors should be considered when reviewing models? | 51 |
| Where can I get more information about models? | 52 |
| Additional Resources | 52 |
| Chapter Five: Landfill Gas Control Measures | 53 |
| Why would control measures be implemented at a landfill? | 53 |
| What are the components of a landfill gas control plan? | 53 |
| How is landfill gas collected? | 55 |
| What methods are available to treat landfill gas after collection? | 57 |
| What methods are available to control landfill gas if it reaches nearby structures? | 59 |
| Are there any beneficial uses for collected landfill gas? | 61 |
| What landfills can be used for gas recovery and how is energy generated from landfill gas? | 61 |
| Additional Resources | 64 |
| References | 64 |
| Chapter Six: Communication | 65 |
| Basic Guidelines for Health Risk Communication | 65 |
| How can you best communicate scientific information? | 69 |
| What if you don't know the answer? | 70 |
| Additional Resources | 73 |
| References | 74 |
| Appendix A: Acronyms | A-1 |
| Appendix B: ATSDR Guidelines | B-1 |
| ATSDR Guidelines for Public Health Actions in Response to Landfill Fires | B-1 |
| ATSDR Guidelines for Evaluating Gases Migrating from Landfills | B-6 |



| | |
|---|------------|
| Appendix C: Health Studies Related to Landfill Gas Exposures | C-1 |
| Appendix D: Wright-Patterson Air Force Base—A Case Study | D-1 |
| Appendix E: Examples | E-1 |