



CONGRESS AT A GLANCE

Congress Landfill served businesses and municipalities throughout the Chicago Metropolitan Area from 1980 to 2008. Today, the Landfill no longer accepts waste and is a certified closed site. The Congress Landfill team continues to invest in the site and responsibly manage the facility. With 10 full-time employees, we monitor the 75-acre site 24 hours a day and manage it in an environmentally responsible manner.

- In this issue of Neighbor to Neighbor:
- Tips for Post-Holiday Recycling
- Continued Investment in Pretreatment Plant
- Equipment Maintenance and Upgrades
- Soil Project Update

4100 W. Frontage Road
Hillside, IL 60162



Tips for Post-Holiday Recycling

Did you know that Americans can generate an extra 25 million tons of garbage during the holiday season? Here are some post-holiday recycling tips to help clear the way for a new, mess-free year:

Create a holiday sorting station. Create a sorting station and separate items by category, like plastics, cardboard boxes, paper boxes with plastic windows, wrapping paper, gift bags, tissue paper, and packaging materials.

Separate the recyclables. Set aside the sorted recyclable items. Don't forget to break down any boxes (remove plastic windows from boxes before recycling), remove gift tags from recyclable wrapping paper, and make sure everything is empty, clean, and dry. And be sure not to bundle your recyclables in a bag or box.

Save reusable items for next year. Items like foam packing peanuts, bubble wrap, and gift bags that are coated, laminated, or dyed are not recyclable – but they can be reused. Remember not all wrapping paper is recyclable, such as metallic wrapping paper.

Take out the garbage. Everything that's left can be put in your garbage bin.



Continued Investment in Pretreatment Plant

At Congress Landfill the health and welfare of our workers and the surrounding community is paramount. While we continue exploring innovative ways to improve our operations, regular maintenance of our existing environmental control systems is also important to ensure optimal performance and minimize down time needed for potential repairs. This year, we made several upgrades to our pretreatment plant, which treats water discharged from the landfill, also known as leachate. Improvements included replacing several older models of fiberglass leachate treatment tanks with new stainless-steel tanks, and an upgrade of our older pumps to a newer, more efficient model. We also installed new piping throughout the pretreatment plant for peak efficiency. As a good neighbor and responsible operator, Congress will continue making necessary improvements to support facility operations.

Equipment Maintenance and Upgrades

Even landfills that are closed under a final cover require close monitoring of the conditions beneath the surface. Closed landfills will continue to generate gas as the waste decomposes underground. Modern landfills like Congress employ a sophisticated system of flares that are designed to collect and destroy the landfill gas produced during subsurface decomposition. A properly functioning gas collection system plays an important role in preventing potential gasses from migrating offsite. This year, Congress reinsulated, repainted and installed several advanced control valves to a key flare that will improve efficiency and effectiveness. Regular upgrades to the flare system ensures it will achieve a high-performance standard.

Soil Project Update

Although Congress Landfill no longer accepts waste, it still needs ongoing management. The Landfill is encapsulated under an engineered cover system of clay, a manufactured liner and topsoil with vegetation, designed to keep liquids out and gases in to protect the environment. Congress actively manages the cover by applying clean soil to the slopes of the Landfill, which helps direct storm water drainage and supports effective operation of the gas and leachate collection systems. Although the pandemic has extended the original timeline of the soil project, Congress made substantial progress throughout 2020 and now plans to complete the project in 2021. Once the slopes of the Landfill reach the designated grade, Congress will plant grass across all of the areas that received new soil. Planting a vegetative cover like grass helps control soil erosion and promotes storm water management.





OUR COMMITMENT

Congress Landfill is committed to being a good neighbor in our community.

We are committed to managing the Landfill with environmental practices and policies that are good for our community. Our local team of environmental managers, engineers and scientists ensures that the long-term management of the landfill materials is conducted properly and safely.

CONTACT US

To add or remove a name from our mailing list, update your information, or to go paperless, please email:

contact@congresslandfill.com

Website: www.CongressLandfill.com

Telephone: 708-544-5195

Odor Hotline: 708-202-4320

Environmental Manager: John McEvoy Jr.