EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

Site Redevelopment Profile

Northside Landfill

West 5502 Nine Mile Road
Spokane, Washington 99208

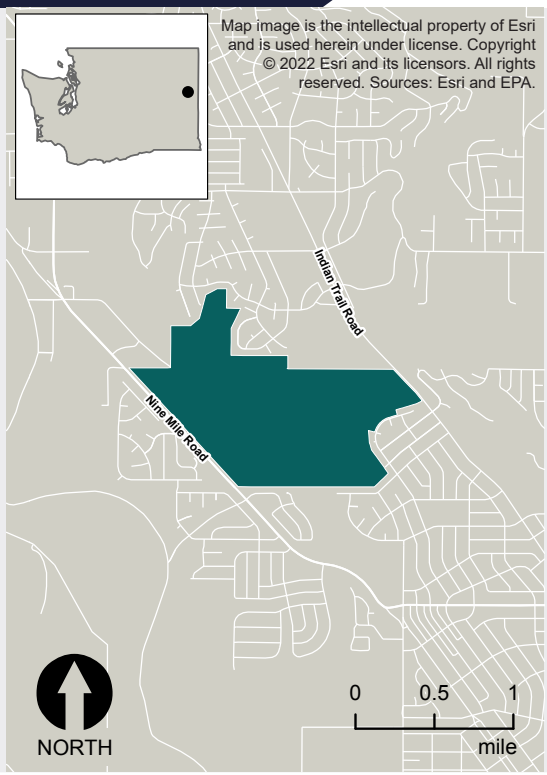

Figure 1. The location of the Northside Landfill site in Washington

Property Overview

Size
345 acres

Current Site Uses
- Municipal landfill
- Municipal emergency response storage space

Use Restrictions
- Land use restrictions prohibit residential land use and groundwater use.

Surrounding Population

1 MILE	3 MILES	5 MILES
5,786	43,552	122,469

Within a 5-mile radius of the site, 35% of the population are low income, compared to the state average of 26%.

Site History and Redevelopment Timeline

1931-mid-1950s
The site was established as a municipal landfill in 1931. The landfill was the largest refuse disposal operation in Spokane County. Open burning took place at the landfill until the mid-1950s.

1982-1984
In 1982, the city of Spokane (city) discovered hazardous chemicals in the groundwater at the landfill. The city extended the municipal water supply lines to the area.

1986-1993
EPA added the site to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL) in 1986. The city closed and capped the old landfill by 1993 and began groundwater treatment.

2017
In 2017, EPA's Superfund Redevelopment Program provided technical assistance to evaluate reuse opportunities for the site.

2020
After groundwater cleanup levels and remedial action objectives were achieved, EPA removed the site from the NPL.

Present
A municipal landfill continues to operate on part of the site. The city also stores salt and sand on parts of the site. As of February 2021, city officials are looking to develop a solar array on site.

History and Cleanup

The Northside Landfill Superfund site is in Spokane, Washington. The landfill was established as a city landfill in 1931 and was once the largest refuse disposal operation in Spokane County. Open burning took place at the landfill until the mid-1950s. The city of Spokane discovered hazardous chemicals in the groundwater at the site in 1982. Later, these chemicals were found in residential wells near the landfill. The city immediately provided bottled water to affected residences and later extended the public water supply lines to the area. EPA added the site to the NPL in 1986. From 1986 to 1988, the city investigated potential contamination sources and found that the hazardous chemicals appeared to originate from about 300 tons of dry-cleaning solvent filters and sludges spread throughout the landfill. At that time, landfills were commonly unlined. A now important standard requires a lining that prevents groundwater contacting waste and spreading contamination.

In 1989, EPA selected a cleanup approach for the landfill. It included closing the old landfill, capping and covering them with grass, treating and monitoring groundwater, collecting landfill gas and restricting land use. The city closed the old landfill units and completed the caps by 1993. That same year, the city began long-term treatment of groundwater. Since then, the city has constructed a new landfill unit that meets state requirements and is regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. In 2012, after the groundwater on site met national drinking water requirements, EPA stopped pumping and treating groundwater. In May 2020, EPA determined all cleanup goals were achieved and removed the site from the NPL. Groundwater monitoring continues and land use restrictions are in place to ensure the cleanup remains protective of human health and the environment.

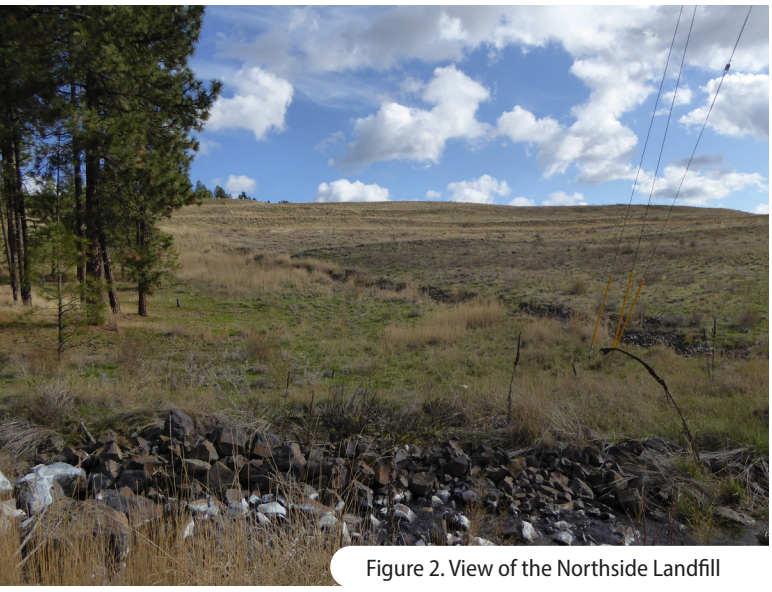

Figure 2. View of the Northside Landfill

Redevelopment

The city continues to operate a 15-acre landfill on part of the site. The landfill accepts demolition waste and serves as a disposal area for waste that cannot be sent to the incinerator. In addition to operating the landfill, the city also uses part of the site to store salt and sand for snowstorms.

In 2017, EPA's Superfund Redevelopment Program provided EPA Region 10 with technical assistance to evaluate reuse opportunities for the site. The project considered the feasibility of different kinds of reuse and their compatibility with the site's remedy. In 2021, city offcials started considering the development of a solar array on site. The site could support a 25-acre solar array capable of up to 4 megawatts of production capacity. The city is also considering other potential uses, such as recreational use. With the dedicated cooperation of EPA, state and local officials, the Northside Landfill continues to operate safely while plans continue to expand the site's horizons.

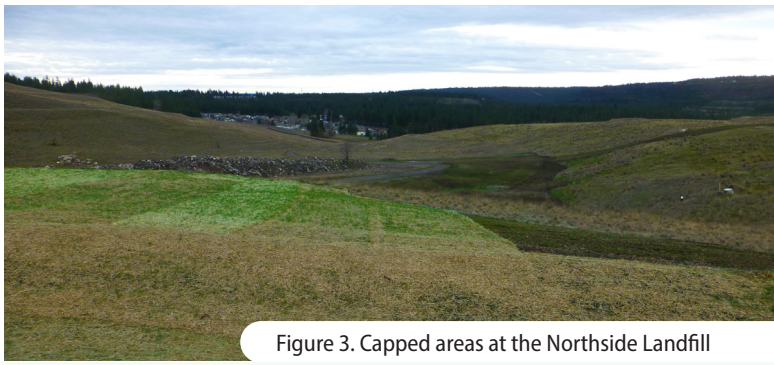

Figure 3. Capped areas at the Northside Landfill

Contacts

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