



Superfund
Redevelopment
Initiative

SITE REDEVELOPMENT PROFILE

York County Solid Waste and Refuse Authority Landfill Superfund Site
Hopewell Township, Pennsylvania



Solar panels power on-site office space as well as groundwater treatment. (Source: EPA)

Site Location: Road #3 - Box 426, Hopewell Township, Pennsylvania 17363

Size: 135-acre landfill and associated groundwater plume

Existing Site Infrastructure: All major types of infrastructure are located on site.

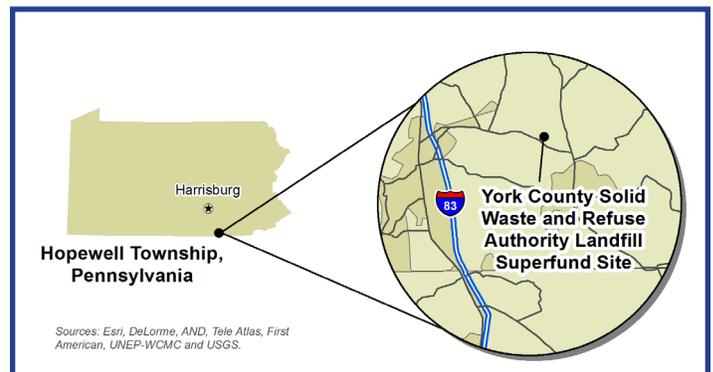
Current Site Uses: Part of Hopewell Area Recreation Complex, office space and wildlife habitat areas.

Use Restrictions: Deed restrictions prohibit groundwater extraction and removal or disturbance of the soil cap.

Surrounding Population: within 0.5 miles, 89 people; within 2.5 miles, 2,946 people; within 4 miles, 15,477 people.

The York County Solid Waste and Refuse Authority Landfill Superfund site, located in Hopewell Township, Pennsylvania, includes a 135-acre landfill and an associated groundwater plume. The area was once a municipal solid waste landfill. Today, the site supports several reuses, including recreation, a wildlife habitat, personnel offices and a solar energy array that powers the site's long-term groundwater cleanup.

In 1974, the York County Solid Waste Authority (YCSWA) began operating a 300-acre landfill. It accepted municipal waste, debris and other non-hazardous materials. In 1982, YCSWA discovered contaminants in the groundwater. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PADER) determined that the source was an unlined 135-acre area of the landfill. YCSWA closed this unlined landfill area per state closure plans in 1985, installing a vegetated soil cap over the landfill cells. EPA added the site to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL) in 1987 and selected a remedy for the site in 1994. YCSWA treated and monitored groundwater, installed gas vents and provided clean drinking water to



Location of the site in Hopewell Township, Pennsylvania.

nearby residents. In 1998, EPA signed a Declaration of Protective Covenants agreement, which put institutional controls in place to prevent exposure to contaminated groundwater and to protect the soil cap covering contamination. EPA, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and YCSWA have continued to work together to ensure the protection of human health and the environment. EPA took the site off the NPL in 2005. YCSWA continues to treat groundwater and provide point-of-entry filtration systems to nearby residences.

SITE HISTORY AND REDEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

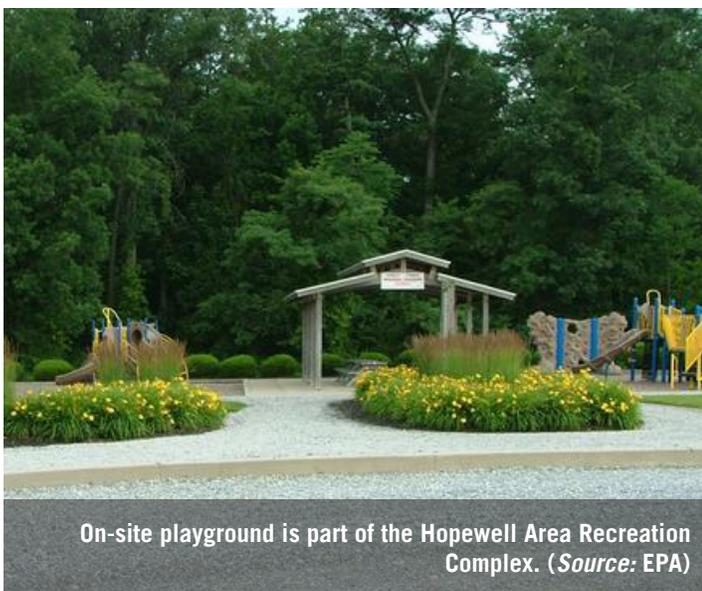
- 1974 - 1985** - Municipal solid waste disposed of in unlined landfill cells.
- 1982 - 1984** - State investigations discovered groundwater contamination migrating from unlined cells.
- 1985** - Unlined landfill operations ceased; landfill cells closed per state regulations.
- 1987** - EPA added the site to the NPL.
- 1994** - Site remedy selected.
- 1998** - Institutional controls in place to prevent exposure to contaminants.
- 2005** - EPA deleted the site from the NPL.
- 2008** - Hopewell Area Recreation Complex opened.
- 2014** - YCSWA constructed solar panels to power remedy and personnel offices on site.
- 2018** - Groundwater treatment continues.

“The use of a solar panel system to supply our power needs at the landfill demonstrates not only our commitment to alternative energy, but also our efforts to minimize operational impacts to the environment.”

– Richard Hazenstab, YCSWA Environmental Programs Coordinator

Safe and beneficial reuse of the 135-acre area was a priority for Hopewell Township. The locality worked closely with YCSWA on opportunities for beneficial community uses at the site. Today, the site is part of the 200-acre Hopewell Area Recreation Complex. The community park, completed in 2008, includes playgrounds, walking trails, athletic fields, a picnic pavilion, a parking lot and two wildlife viewing platforms, one of which is handicap-accessible. Residents from across York County use the recreation complex, which also hosts more than 150 events a year. The cap provides grassland habitat and serves as a bird sanctuary that attracts more than 122 species of birds. From the viewing area, visitors can observe raptors, woodpeckers and other native species. In 2009, the Natural Resources Conservation Service of Pennsylvania noted that the site is the state’s second largest unfragmented grassland habitat that is publicly accessible.

YCSWA also found opportunities to use renewable energy facilities at the site. To help power ongoing groundwater treatment, YCSWA worked with solar developer York County Solar Partners on a 2-acre solar array. The 806-panel array started operating in 2014 and generates about 300,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity each year, enough to power 27 households per year. The solar array provides up to 90 percent of the YCSWA’s electrical demand at the site.



On-site playground is part of the Hopewell Area Recreation Complex. (Source: EPA)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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In May 2017, EPA established a task force to restore the Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the Agency's core mission to protect health and the environment.

epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force