United States Environmental Protection Agency

HIDDEN LANE LANDFILL SUPERFUND SITE
COMMUNITY UPDATE
STERLING, VA | REGION 3

APRIL 2021

EPA Proposes Cleanup Plan

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a Proposed Remedial Action Plan (Proposed Plan) to address contamination in the landfill, soil, and bedrock at the Hidden Lane Landfill Superfund Site (Site). EPA has designated the landfill cap, soil, and bedrock as Operable Unit 3 (OU3), and is one of three OUs at the Site.

In the Superfund cleanup process, sites are investigated to determine the nature and extent of contamination, and cleanup alternatives to address the contamination are developed. EPA recommends a preferred alternative and presents the cleanup plan in a document called a Proposed Plan for public comment. After the close of the public comment period, EPA will consider all comments, consult with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ), and, as appropriate, move forward with a cleanup plan, called a Record of Decision (ROD). The public's comments and EPA's responses will be included in the Responsiveness Summary section of the ROD. Please read more about the Site and the alternatives inside this fact sheet.

The community's role

The public is encouraged to review the Proposed Plan and submit comments to EPA from **April 12 - May 12, 2021**. Comments may be submitted any one of three ways. All comments received will be treated equally.

1. Mail: *Postmarked no later than May 12, 2021*
U.S. EPA Region 3
Attn: Chris Vallone
1650 Arch Street (Mailcode 3SD23)
Philadelphia, PA 19103
2. E-mail: vallone.christopher@epa.gov
3. Voicemail: Call 215-814-2007 to leave a comment. Please speak slowly and clearly and include your name and phone number.

PUBLIC MEETING

EPA is holding a virtual public meeting for the Hidden Lane Landfill Site. The virtual meeting allows us to comply with current social distancing guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other local, state, and federal health advice, while still providing the community with the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Plan for the site. As we navigate our way through this unique time, the health and safety of our staff, contractors, and the communities we serve is our top priority.

A recorded video presentation is published in place of a live public meeting, which has the same information that EPA would have shared during a public meeting.

To review the Proposed Plan, review the Administrative Record and watch the recorded presentation, please visit:

www.epa.gov/superfund/hiddenlane

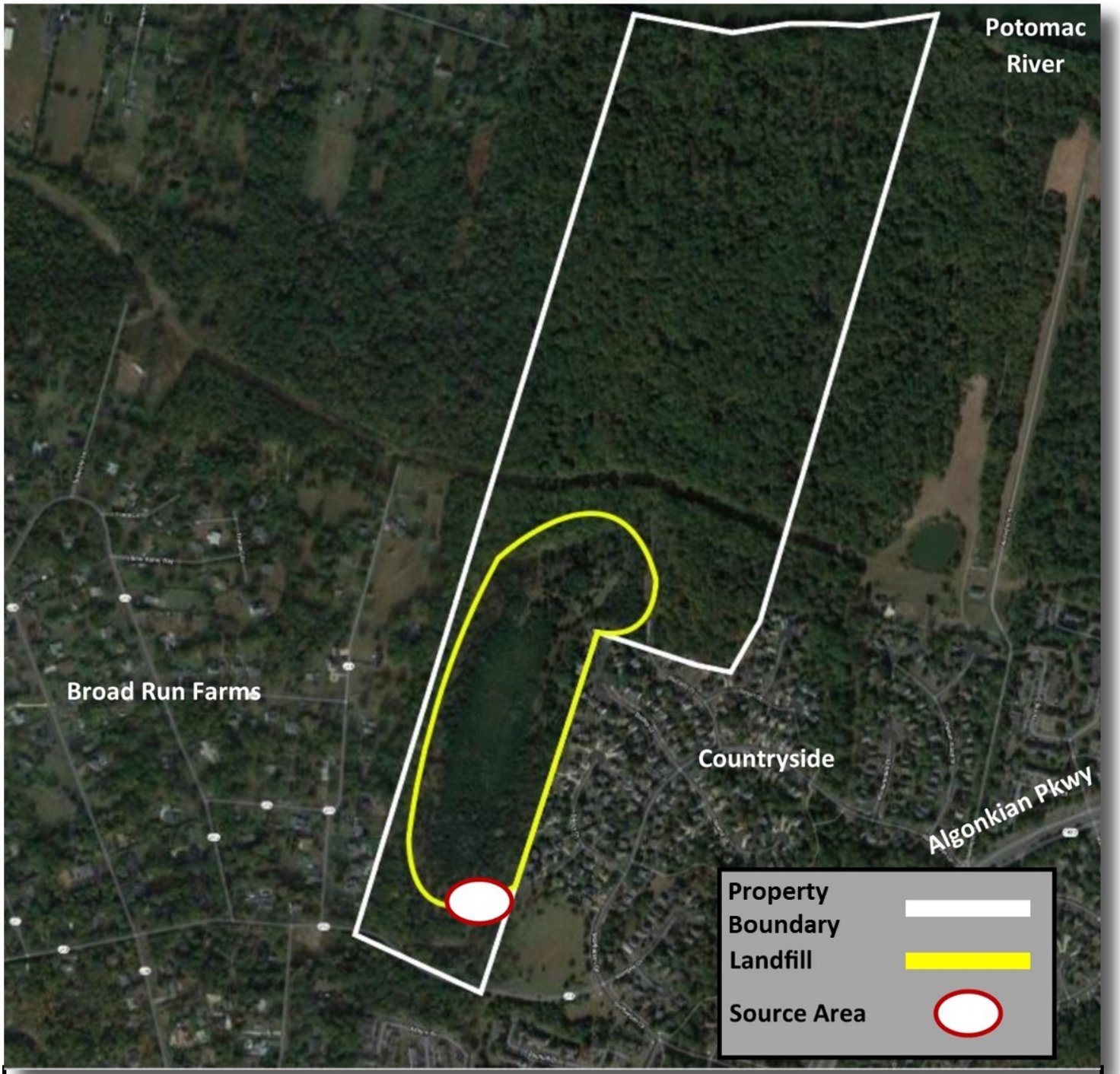
The Proposed Plan, Administrative Record and other site documents can also be viewed in person at:

Cascades Public Library
21030 Whitefield Place
Potomac Falls, VA 20165
Phone: (703) 444-3228

or

U.S. EPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone: (215) 814-3157

*The Cascades Public Library and the EPA Region 3 office may be closed due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Please call for operational status.



Hidden Lane Landfill Operable Unit 3 Map

What is the proposed plan for future cleanup?

This Proposed Plan presents EPA's preferred cleanup alternatives for the landfill cap and source area. In summary, EPA believes these preferred cleanup alternatives will:

- Prevent direct contact with landfill waste and minimize infiltration of precipitation into the landfill.
- Reduce trichloroethene (TCE) contamination in the source area. Treating the source area will allow the groundwater contamination to achieve cleanup goals in the future.

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EPA's Preferred Cleanup Alternatives Explained:

Alternative 2 includes repair and maintenance of the landfill cap, as well as land use controls. Alternative 2 would be protective of human health and the environment because maintenance of the landfill cap and land use controls will prevent infiltration of rainwater and other damage to the landfill cap. The estimated cost of this cleanup alternative is $280,000.

Alterative 3A includes excavation of the TCE source area. The soils and material that rest on the bedrock, also referred to as the overburden layer, would be excavated and safely transported off-site to an approved facility, licensed to accept the contamination. The excavated area would be backfilled with clean soil. Alternative 3A would be protective of human health and the environment by removing the contaminated overburden layer in the source area which contributes to contamination of groundwater. The estimated cost of this cleanup alternative is $2,040,000.

Alternative 5B includes in situ bioremediation of the source area. In situ refers to "below ground" or "in place" and bioremediation refers to the use of microbes to target and treat contaminated soil and groundwater. Microbes are very small organisms, such as bacteria, that live naturally in the environment. There are certain microbes that use contaminants as a source of food and energy, and in the process destroy the contamination in groundwater – this process is referred to as bioremediation. This alternative would use in situ bioremediation in the bedrock only and would be protective of human health and the environment. The estimated cost of this cleanup alternative is $5,936,000 USD.

EPA has determined that these preferred cleanup alternatives will:

- Protect human health and the environment;
- Achieve applicable, or relevant and appropriate federal and state environmental laws and regulations;
- Provide the best balance of trade-offs among the evaluation criteria established by law for making clean-up decisions.

EPA also evaluated additional cleanup alternatives. Although they were not selected as preferred cleanup alternatives, the advantages and disadvantages of these cleanup alternatives are provided in the Proposed Plan. They include:

Alternative 1 No Action

Alternative 3B Excavation of Overburden to Bedrock Source Material with Soil Treatment On-Site

Alternative 4 Groundwater Pump and Treat of the Source Area

Alternative 5A In-Situ Bioremediation of the Source Area

Alternative 6A In-Situ Chemical Oxidation of the Source Area

Alternative 6B In-Situ Chemical Oxidation of the Source Area

Alternative 7 Electrical Resistivity Heating Treatment of the Source Area

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What is my role in the process?

The public is encouraged to review the Proposed Plan and submit comments to EPA. Comments may be submitted by postal mail, e-mail, or voicemail. Mail comments postmarked no later than **May 12, 2021** to:

U.S. EPA Region 3
Attn: Chris Vallone, RPM
1650 Arch Street (Mailcode 3SD23)
Philadelphia, PA 19103

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Questions? EPA will host a virtual question and answer session to provide an opportunity for the public to raise, with EPA personnel and others on the call, questions and issues regarding the Proposed Plan. This session will be **April 21, 2021 from 6:00 - 7:00PM**. Below is the call in information:

Phone number: (484) 352-3221

Conference ID: 722-199-998#

EPA's Nine Criteria Analysis

EPA evaluates each potential cleanup alternative using the following nine criteria:

1. *Overall Protectiveness of Human Health and the Environment*
2. *Compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements*
3. *Long-term Effectiveness*
4. *Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, or Volume through Treatment*
5. *Short-Term Effectiveness*
6. *Implementability*
7. *Cost*
8. *State Acceptance*
9. *Community Acceptance*

Only after considering input from state officials and the community regarding the preferred alternative, will EPA make a final decision.

Additional Resources

For more information about the site, scan the QR Code with your smartphone or visit the website: **www.epa.gov/superfund/hiddenlane**

For more information about EPA's Superfund Program, please visit: **http://www.epa.gov/superfund**

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Environmental Protection
Agency

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