

# Methane Recovery

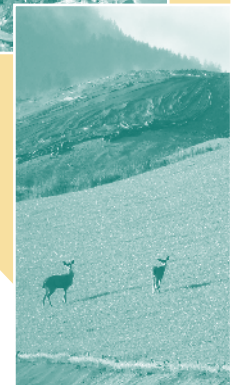
Through a partnership with the Emerald People's Utility District (EPUD), the methane gas generated at the Short Mountain Landfill is captured and used to provide electricity to local homes. Enough energy is recovered to supply the complete energy needs of 1,200 average homes a year.

Wells pump the methane gas through a filtering system where it powers 1,150 horsepower, 820 Kilowatt engines.



Lane County Public Works  
Waste Management Division  
3100 East 17th Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97403

# Recycler's Guide to Short Mountain Landfill



*Providing  
safe and  
responsible  
garbage disposal  
since 1976*



**Lane County Public Works  
Waste Management Division**

# Short Mountain Landfill

The final destination for most of Lane County's garbage is the Short Mountain Landfill (SML), located 6 miles south of Eugene near Goshen. This County-owned and -operated facility has been in service since December 1976.

As a landfill owner, the Lane County Waste Management Division (LCWMD) is responsible for:

- Collecting leachate (water that drains through the garbage in the landfill which is collected by the liner system).
- Adhering to environmental laws (including the monitoring of air, ground water, and surface water).
- Monitoring incoming wastes to prevent disposal of hazardous and prohibited wastes.
- Construction of landfill cells and long-range planning.
- Operating landfill and filling landfill cells to maximize air space use and minimize leachate production.
- Providing a wide range of recycling services at all County transfer stations.

## Landfill Cells

Landfills are developed in stages called cells. In December of 1976, the first cell at the Short Mountain Landfill site was developed. Municipal solid waste is currently being accepted into cell five of the Short Mountain Landfill Development Plan. This cell is double-lined with a leachate collection system, which is in excess of current landfill construction requirements.

The Development Plan calls for the construction of 13 cells, which will allow the SML to accept waste through 2125. We can extend the life of the landfill by reducing, reusing and recycling.

## Landfill Compaction

In terms of landfill operations, when you pay to throw away garbage, you're paying for "airspace" at the landfill. Through compaction, we maximize the space available for placing our garbage.

Lane County received 222,000 tons of garbage in 2009. This garbage is compacted at the landfill using two 60-ton compactors. If this garbage were not compacted it would fill Autzen Stadium from the playing field to the rim more than five times.

*Educational tours of the landfill are available for school and other groups through Bring Recycling's Education Service at 541-746-3023*



## Wetland Mitigation

The SML operation currently covers 102 acres, a portion of which used to be degraded wetlands. To compensate for impacts to these wetlands, LCWMD has reconstructed wetlands on a piece of agricultural property located directly south of the landfill.

## Leachate Management

Short Mountain Landfill is designed to collect leachate at the bottom of each landfill cell where it is pumped to a holding lagoon. Currently, the leachate is transported from this lagoon to the Central Receiving Station in Glenwood where it is discharged to the Metro Wastewater Treatment Facility collection system.

