Stock Island Landfill Gas and Water Sampling Brief

Upon request, the Utilities Department looked at the gas and water sampling activities at or around the Stock Island Landfill. We were also asked to provide any first-hand knowledge of other landfill mining or reuse projects that might give insight to the project.

1) Landfill Gas Review

What is Landfill Gas?

- Landfill gas is composed of a mixture of hundreds of different gases. By volume, landfill gas typically contains 45% to 60% methane and 40% to 60% carbon dioxide. Landfill gas also includes small amounts of nitrogen, oxygen, ammonia, sulfides, hydrogen, carbon monoxide, and nonmethane organic compounds (NMOCs) such as trichloroethylene, benzene, and vinyl chloride.
- How is landfill gas formed? Decomposition, Volatilization and Chemical Reactions

- Bacterial decomposition. Most landfill gas is produced by bacterial decomposition, which occurs when organic waste is broken down by bacteria naturally present in the waste and in the soil used to cover the landfill. Organic wastes include food, garden waste, street sweepings, textiles, and wood and paper products.
- Volatilization. Landfill gases can be created when certain wastes, particularly organic compounds, change from a liquid or a solid into a vapor. This process is known as volatilization. *NMOCs* in landfill gas may be the result of volatilization of certain chemicals disposed of in the landfill.
- Chemical reactions. Landfill gas, including *NMOCs*, can be created by the reactions of certain chemicals present in waste. For example, if chlorine bleach and ammonia come in contact with each other within the landfill, a harmful gas is produced.

How long will the landfill produce gas?



- Gas starts producing in the first few years after it is buried.
- Peak production is 5-7 years after buried.
- Almost all gas is produced within 20 years of being buried.
- Small quantities of gas may continue to be emitted for 40-50 years. We are close to 30 years since the last waste was added to the Stock Island Landfill.
- The amount of organic material in the waste is an important factor in how long gas production lasts. The more organic waste, the longer the landfill produces gas.

What is hydrogen sulfide?

• Hydrogen sulfide is a heavier-than-air, flammable gas with a characteristic rotten egg odor. Individuals can detect this odor when hydrogen sulfide gas is present at very low levels. Each individual has a different sensitivity to the odor.

- Hydrogen sulfide occurs both naturally and from industrial processes. Natural sources include crude oil, natural gas, salt marshes, sulfur springs, and swamps. Industrial sources include manure handling operations, oil refineries, pulp and paper mills, tanneries, wastewater treatment plants, and solid waste landfills.
- Hydrogen sulfide may account for up to 1 percent by volume of landfill gas emissions, although typically the percentage is much less. The formation of hydrogen sulfide within a landfill depends on certain conditions including moisture content, temperature, and pH; anaerobic conditions (lacking oxygen); and a sulfate source.

What types of wastes contribute to hydrogen sulfide formation in landfills?

- Gypsum wallboard, a component of Construction and Demolition Debris (CDD), is a major contributor to hydrogen sulfide formation in landfills.
- CDD and crushed CDD (fines), containing gypsum, are a significant source of sulfate. Other types of waste streams that may contain sulfate include wastes from pulp and paper mill bleaching and coating operations and sludges from wastewater treatment plants.

How do landfills check for hydrogen sulfide?

• Different methods can be used to check for hydrogen sulfide and are selected based on site-specific needs. Hydrogen sulfide can be detected and measured with portable or stationary continuous air monitors. Air sampling and subsequent laboratory analysis can also be conducted.

How can hydrogen sulfide be controlled in the landfill environment?

• Hydrogen sulfide and other landfill gases can be controlled by installing an active gas management system that pulls out and burns the landfill gas. Also, hydrogen sulfide emissions can be reduced by decreasing the amount of sulfate containing wastes entering the landfill, and by applying certain cover materials such as soil amended with lime and fine concrete.

Are there Federal Standards and/or Exposure Limits?

- OSHA and NIOSH have established workplace limits for hydrogen sulfide. OSHA established an eight-hour permissible exposure limit-time weighted average (PEL-TWA) of 10 ppm and a 15-minute short-term exposure limit (PEL-STEL) of 15 ppm for exposed workers. NIOSH established a limit of 300 ppm as the immediately dangerous to life and health concentration.
- EPA health scientists unanimously recommend a weighted average of no more than 15 ppb at the residence or 70 ppb at the property line. EPA set the safe exposure level at 0.00014 ppm to protect sensitive people such as children and the elderly.

2) Review of complaints about Stock Island Landfill The City requested information about any complaints or investigations of the City of Key West Stock Island Landfill from the Florida Department of Health in Key West. Below is the email response and the complaint received:

From: Floyd, Caitlin M

Sent: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 8:53 AM

To: Kerr, Alison M < Alison.Kerr@flhealth.gov >; Rachal, James M < James.Rachal@flhealth.gov >

Cc: Stayton, Donna N < Donna. Stayton@flhealth.gov >

Subject: RE: Sanitary Nuisance Records - Mt. Trashmore

Alison,

I have attached the only complaint we had on file.

The only other thing I know about the landfill is that the schools had monitors in them to detect landfill gasses. It was regulated by either the DEP or EPA but this past year I know the County was trying to stop being required to monitor at both Poinciana and Gerald Adams because there hadn't been any detections in a few years. I'm not sure what ended up happening with that. I can try to find the lady's contact information who was monitoring that if you need it.

This is the only complaint filed with the FDOH that we could find.

Next we followed up with FDEP about the schools that were being monitored were actually Poinciana and HOB, but we were informed due to the construction of a new Gerald Adams school buildings on the site adjacent to the Stock Island Landfill there had been environmental sampling, including gases, of the site.

44-99-215494	
(3.12	
Complaint Number: 53-13	
Date Reported: 11/ 12113	
STATE OF FLORIDA MONROE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	
Complaint reported by: (20014005) Phone #	
Name of business/person: Transfer Station Damp Sife	
Address of complaint! College Rd SI	
Directions:	
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3) Review of gas sampling and possibility of VOC vapors

SITE ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR GERALD ADAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 5855 COLLEGE ROAD STOCK ISLAND, MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA 33040

EE&G Environmental Services, LLC 5751 Miami Lakes Drive Miami Lakes, Florida 33014 (305) 374-8300 June 9, 2017 EE&G Project No.: 2017 – 3071



FDEP Oculus database Waste Cleanup ID No. COM_355111

On April 25, 2017, EE&G installed four temporary vapor wells around the site (Gerald Adams Elementary School next to the Stock Island Landfill) via the direct-push drill rig, which were designated VP-1 thru VP-4.

On April 26 and May 12, 2017, EE&G conducted vapor screening events for the 4 vapor wells, which included measuring the wells with a 4-gas meter and an OVA/FID.

April 26, 2017

- High tides 10:18am and 11:27pm
- Low tides 3:49am and 4:39pm

May 12, 2017

- High tide 11:09am
- Low tides 4:46am and 5:55pm

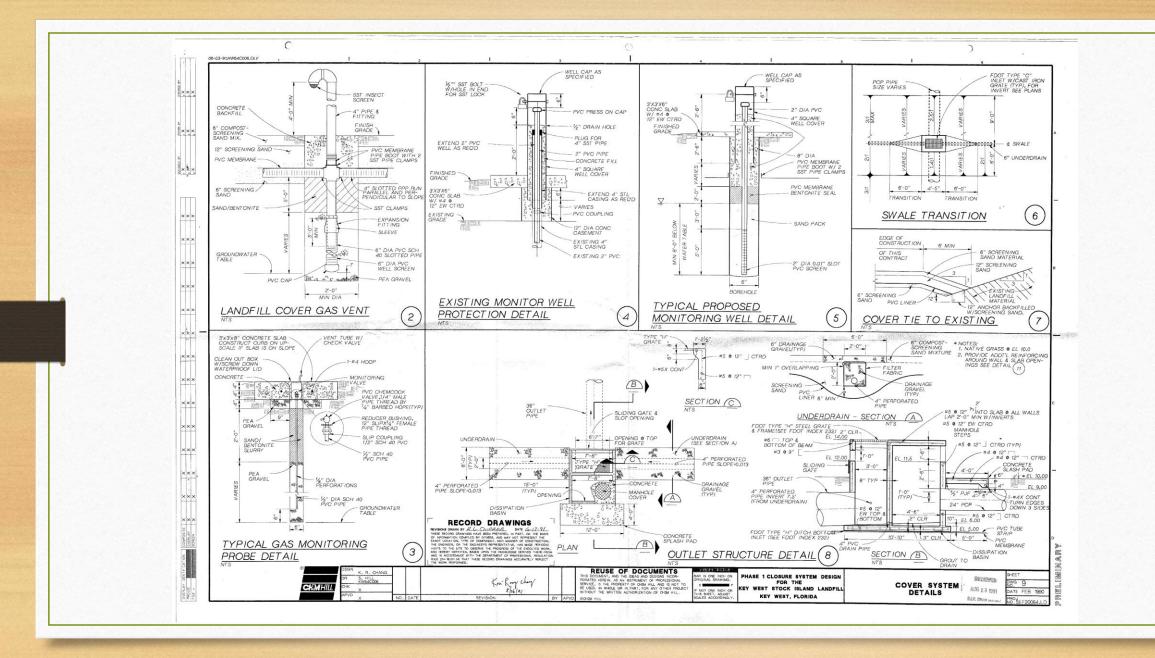


TABLE 2

VAPOR WELL RESULTS GERALD ADAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 5855 COLLEGE ROAD STOCK ISLAND, MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA 33040

PROJECT NO.: 2017 - 3071

	0-					4-GAS METER								
ID	Date	253555 2 1	OVA/FID (ppm)		СО	H2S	LEL	Oxygen						
		Unfiltered	Filtered	Net OVA	%	(ppm)	%	%						
VP-1	4/26/17	< 1	NF	< 1	2	0	0	18.3						
VI-1	5/12/17	< 1	NF	<1	0	0	0	14.1						
VP-2	4/26/17	32	30	2	2	0	0	18.3						
VP-Z	5/12/17	< 1	NF	<1	0	0	0	17.5						
VP-3	4/26/17	120	7	113	0	0	0	18.3						
VF-3	5/12/17	186	<1	186	0	0	0	19.1						
VP-4	4/26/17	< 1	NF	< 1	0	0	0	20.2						
VF-4	5/12/17	< 1	NF	< 1	0	0	0	20.1						

Notes:

ppm = parts per million

H2S = hydrogen sulfide LEL = lower explositivity limit

N/A = Not lab analyzed CO = carbon monoxide

OVA/FID = organic vapor analyzer equipped with a flame ionization device

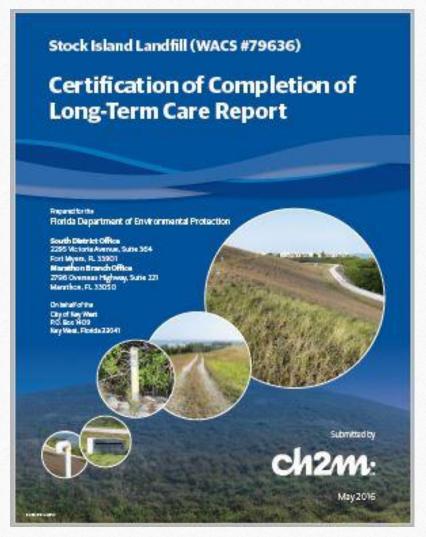
VP= vapor point

FDEP Oculus database Waste Cleanup ID No. is COM_355111

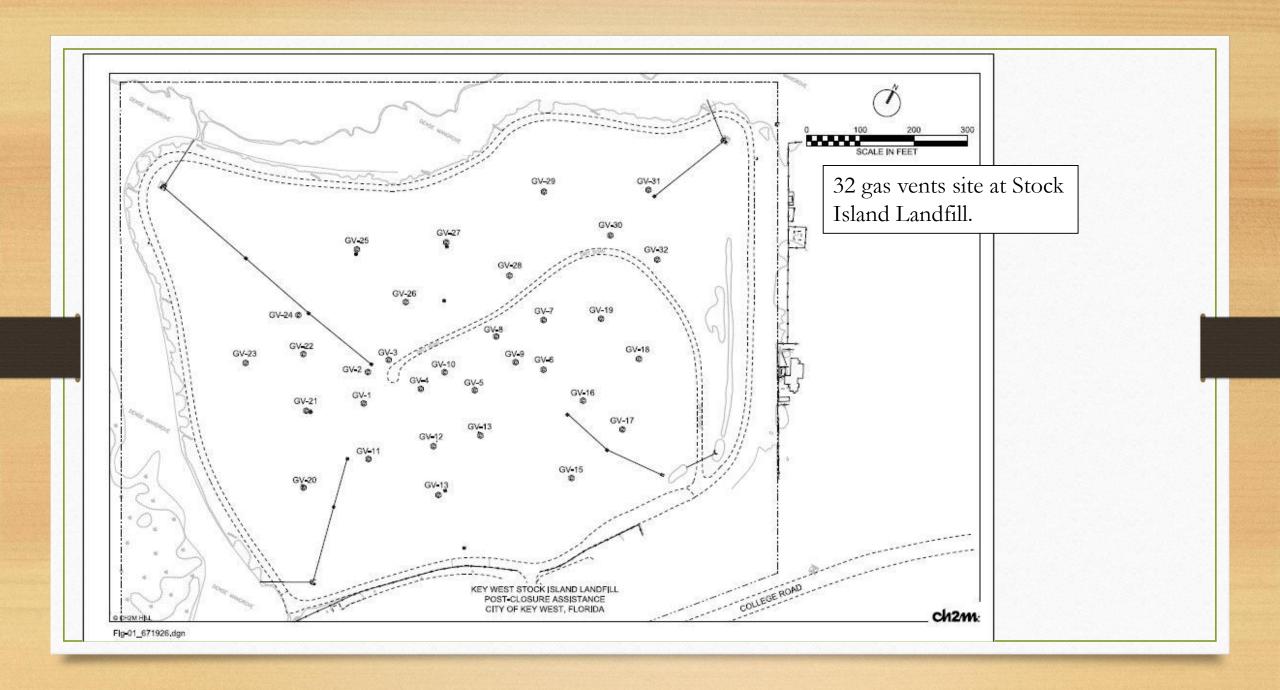
Gerald Adams Elementary School - Public Notification November 2017

"The buried debris and adjoining landfill have resulted in the accumulation of vapors containing low concentrations of petroleum constituents and methane. However, confirmation sampling did not detect Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's) above the USEPA Vapor Intrusion Screening Levels (VISL's), and methane readings were below the lower explosive limit (LEL)."

Results of gas vent sampling in May 2016 by City of Key West contractors CH2M for Closure Report.



CH2M Certification of Completion Long -Term Care Report



May 4, 2016

Low tide 1:26am

High tide 7:43am

Sampling began 11:00am

Low tide 2:10pm

Sampling ended 2:30pm

High tide 8:34pm



Gas vents 1-7 were first sampled starting at 11:00am

Landfill Gas Vents GV-1 through GV-7, all located on the landfill peak, showed methane readings of > 100% LEL (% of the lower explosive limit for methane), when sampled directly from the vent. GV-1 through GV-7 were also the only vents to produce hydrogen sulfide readings, ranging from 1.3 to 6.9 ppm. GV-22, GV-26, and GV-29 yielded % LEL readings 30%, 4%, and 25% respectively.

Returned to vents 1-7 before 2:30pm, sampled a second time, yielding results of between 0 and 5 % LEL, significantly lower than initial sampling results.

It was hypothesized that the apparent decrease in venting could be associated with local tidal fluctuations, as the site is bordered by seawater on two sides and in close proximity on a third side. Initial comparisons of field measurements with NOAA tidal charts (Exhibit 5) supported this hypothesis and prompted development of a secondary testing plan.

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*CH2M Certification of Completion Long –Term Care Report.



May 11, 2016 High tide1:49 am Low tide 6:48am High tide 1:01pm Sampling started 2:43pm Low tide 8:21pm

May 12, 2016 High tide 2:48am Low tide 7:52am High tide 2:01pm Low tide 9:21pm

May 13, 2016
Sampling ended 1:06am
High tide 3:52am
Low tide 9:08am
High tide 3:11pm
Low tide 10:20pm

- Follow-up gas monitoring was completed from 2:43 p.m. on May 11, 2016 through 1:06 a.m. on May 13, 2016.
- The MultiRAE unit was installed at one of the more productive gas vents, GV-3, sampling every 120 seconds.
- Results indicate minor correlations between gas venting and tidal fluctuation as gas vent off-gassing concentrations fluctuate throughout the day.
- Tidal influence does not appear to be the sole source of off-gas fluctuations.
- Rate of off-gassing and gas concentrations are likely influenced by a variety of factors such as tidal and atmospheric pressure fluctuation.

4) Review of water sampling and possibility of water contamination

Review of semi-annual water quality sampling for Stock Island Landfill groundwater monitoring wells

(June 2011 - December 2015)

- Only one groundwater parameter was found to occasionally exceed the Groundwater Cleanup Target Levels (GCTLs) set forth in Chapter 62-777, F.A.C. = Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) at Well #2 and Well #3. Both of these wells are between the landfill and the Gulf of Mexico.
- The TDS exceedance should not be seen as a potential concern for leachate leaks. The background water condition *is* the Gulf of Mexico due to the tidal influence the groundwater incurs through the highly permeable formations. All other monitored parameters have not shown any exceedance or concerning data trends.
- The data analyzed during the reporting period indicated the landfill does not impact groundwater at concentrations that may be expected to result in violations of Department water quality standards or criteria.

The following are examples of the times of water samples and the tides of the day.

Two different labs were contracted in the following samples: Flowers Chemical Laboratories Inc.

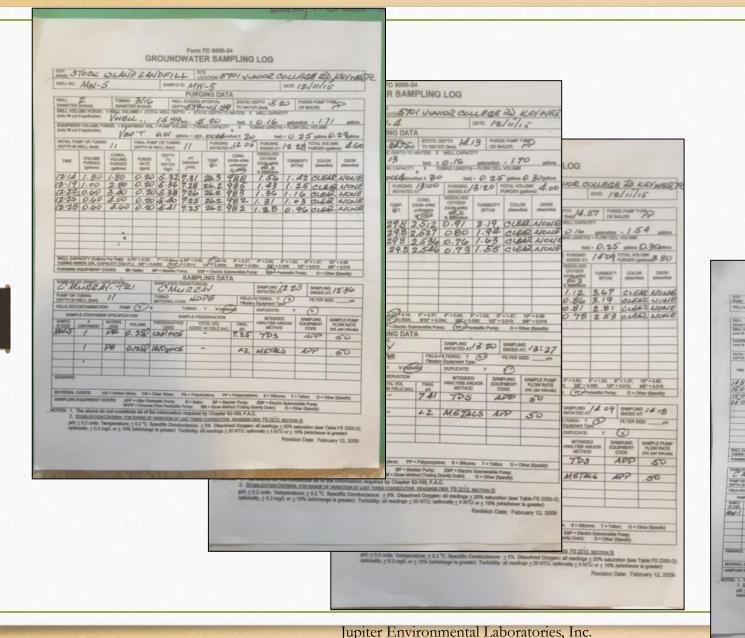
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November 14, 2015
High Tide 2:18am
Sampling Starts 9:16am
Low Tide 9:23am
Sampling Ends 12:04pm
High Tide 3:48pm

7:24pm

Low Tide



December 11, 2015

High Tide 12:48am

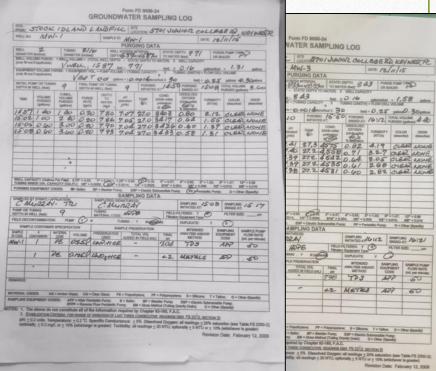
Low Tide 7:41am

Sampling Starts 12:30pm

High Tide 2:19pm

Sampling Ends

Low Tide 7:24pm



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May 26, 2017

Low Tide 3:57am

Sampling Starts 8:46am

High Tide 10:34am

Sampling Ends 1:53pm

Low Tide 5:17pm

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May 26, 2017

High Tide 12:26 am

Low Tide 4:59am

Sampling Starts 10:44am

High Tide 11:33am

Sampling Ends 14:24pm

Low Tide 6:24pm

5) Review of Landfill Mining

The article below mentions 3 landfill reclamation (mining) projects. I was involved in the first one, Perdido Landfill, in the grant writing, observations, and educational tours and presentations of the project. I've also attached an article from the EPA about landfill reclamation, what's involved and some case studies. Both of these are available to you.

I also went to observe a landfill mining project at New River Landfill. Where Perdido Landfill used contractors, New River used staff.

https://foresternetwork.com/msw-management-magazine/ms-waste/ms-landfill-management/landfill-mining-current-trends/



- Perdido Landfill opened in 1980.
- Liners were not required until the early 1990's. Before that trenches were used to deposit trash.
- Now Perdido digs up the old trash and screens it into two separate materials: dirt and trash at a 70/30 ratio.
- Removes a possible source of groundwater contamination
- Provides 40+ years of solid waste disposal capacity within existing permitted footprint.
- Processed excavated waste is reused on site for daily and intermediate cover, reducing the need for new borrow pits.

Challenges and Processes

- Bore samples before the project
- Spent 1 year experimenting different screens and processes
- Soil contents and sampling
- Keeping exposed garbage covered
- Different options
- Dust







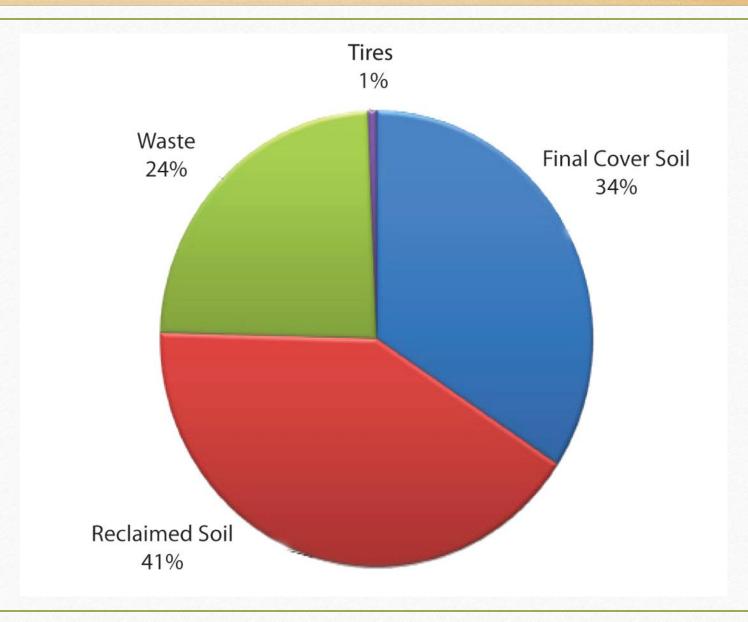








What Was
Perdido Landfill
Made Of?



Closed Landfills

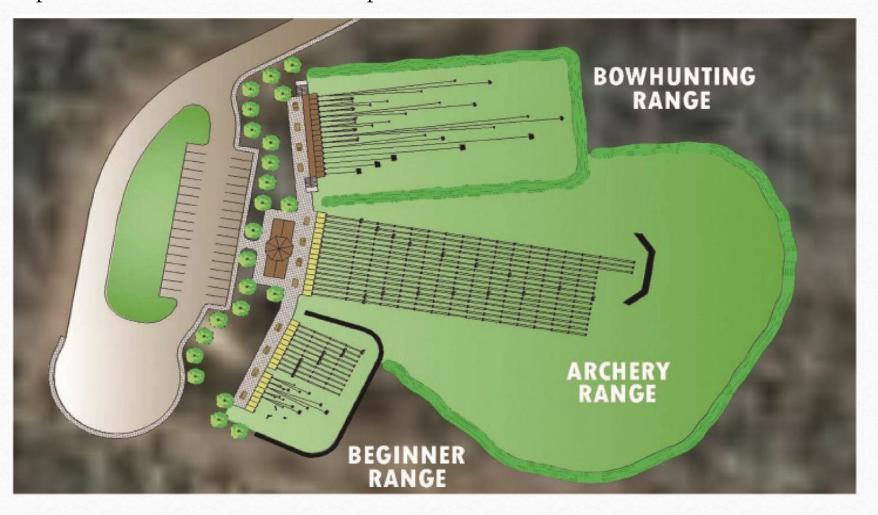
Some landfill reuse projects



Closed Landfills

Saufley Field Landfill, Escambia County

Partnership with the FWC and Florida Dept. of Education



Closed Landfills

Beulah Landfill, Escambia County



Northwest Florida Modelers, Inc. (www.nfmi.org) enjoy Fritz Field.

Resources for information noted in presentation

- Tides: https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noaatideannual.html?id=8724580
- Pre-2017 Tides: https://tides4fishing.com/us/florida-florida-keys/key-west-south-side-white-street-pier
- Patricia Goense, FDEP Environmental Specialist II, Drinking Water <u>Patricia.Goense@FloridaDEP.gov</u>
- Waste Cleanup records for Gerald Adams Elementary School (ID No. COM_355111):

 <a href="https://depedms.dep.state.fl.us:443/Oculus/servlet/shell?command=hitlist&[freeText=]&[folderName=]&[profile=Administrative%2BCleanup_Remediation%2BDiscovery_Compliance%2BDocument_Review%2BEligibility%2BEnforcement_Legal]&[creator=]&[entityType=any]&[createdDateTo=]&[catalog=5]&[searchBy=Profile]&[sortBy=Received+Date]&[createdDate=]&{County=_EQ_MONROE}&{District=_EQ_N%2FA}&{Facility-Site+ID=_EQ_COM_355111}
- Perdido Landfill: <u>www.myescambia.com</u>
- City Website: https://www.cityofkeywest-fl.gov/department/division.php?structureid=314
 - CH2M Certification of Completion Long –Term Care Report
 - CH2M. 2012. "Data Analysis for the Closed Stock Island Landfill, Key West, Florida".
- Florida Department of Environment Protection (FDEP). 2004. "Ground Water Standards and Guidance Concentrations used in Watershed Assessments". Division of Waters Resource Management. Bureau of Watershed Management. https://floridadep.gov/dear
- Landfill Gas Basics: https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/landfill/html/ch2.html