



# Action Summary

## Arbor Hills Landfill, Northville Michigan Summary of Updates for May – August 2018

### DEQ Actions

During this period, DEQ staff and contractors continued to conduct on-site inspections and/or area odor evaluations. MDEQ and EPA staff regularly evaluated the landfill operations to ensure landfill operators continued to make improvements to the gas system in accordance with the corrective action plan. MDEQ staff requested that Advanced Disposal implement additional practices to further reduce odors from the compost and waste management activities.

### Status of Gas Collection System Upgrades

- During this time, 13 new wells were drilled, and 16 wells were re-drilled and connected to the gas collection system.
- A new 36-inch main receiver has been installed under the railroad. All header lines, including a new 24-inch header along the north and west sides of the landfill are connected to the 36-inch main. The 36-inch main services the gas to energy plant and flares.
- A new 5,000 scfm flare has been installed on the south side of the tracks. There are now three flares on the south side of the tracks. The new flare provides flexibility to the gas controls. The added flare capacity provides complete back-up to the gas to energy plant.
- These system improvements have resulted in increased vacuum throughout the system and a 650scfm average daily increase of gas collected.
- For additional details on these upgrades, see the Arbor Hills Company Update at their [website](#).

### Scheduled Gas Collection System Upgrades (September – October 2018)

- A new control system for the flares and blowers.
- Three new blowers to replace existing blowers for the system.
- Eight new wells in the new cell prior to waste placement. These wells will allow for immediate vacuum and gas extraction to new waste.

### Complaints, Inspections, and Odor Surveys

From May 1 to August 31, 2018 DEQ continued to receive numerous odor complaints. The complaints are most often received in the early morning and late afternoon/early evening. Odor descriptions vary (rotten egg, trash, gas, tar, sewage related), and they are most often associated with west/southwest wind directions. During this time-period, MDEQ staff conducted 15 odor investigations that include perimeter and community areas as well as 4 on-site inspections of the facility. RK & Associates, odor consultant, also continues to monitor the odors daily. [Monthly odor reports](#) are available detailing these daily observations.

The ongoing gas system upgrades are expected to further reduce surface emissions of landfill gas. On-site inspections indicate odors of garbage and compost within the landfill boundaries and along the perimeter roads continue to be present. Although most observations are indicating light to no odors, on August 23, 2018, DEQ staff documented garbage odors in Northville Ridge Subdivision in violation of DEQ nuisance rules. A violation Notice was issued to Advanced Disposal Services (ADS) with a requirement to respond with a plan of action by September 24, 2018.

DEQ requested ADS identify and implement additional methods of reducing offsite odors. It should be noted, however, that due to the proximity of homes to a landfill of this size, odors will not be completely eliminated. Nuisance odors and potential violations of Rule 901 will continue to be evaluated.

## Where can I find more information or get help?

The MDEQ has developed a website specifically to keep the community updated on the issues involving Arbor Hills Landfill - [www.michigan.gov/deqarborhills](http://www.michigan.gov/deqarborhills). You are also encouraged to register to be part of our e-mail listserv. This is another way the MDEQ hopes to provide up to date information to interested parties. Go to our website to sign up, [www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq), click on the red envelope at the bottom of the page and then choose "Arbor Hills".

For complaints or other concerns, you may contact Arbor Hills directly using their Community Hotline at 248-305-8432 or go to their website and fill out an online complaint form. The MDEQ is automatically sent all complaints received by the Arbor Hills website. You may also contact MDEQ directly by calling our MDEQ Environmental Assistance Center at 800-662-9278 or by filling out our MDEQ Online Odor Complaint Form located on [www.michigan.gov/deqarborhills](http://www.michigan.gov/deqarborhills) website.



*Michigan's Environmental Justice Policy promotes the fair, non-discriminatory treatment and meaningful involvement of Michigan's residents regarding the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies by this state. Fair, non-discriminatory treatment intends that no group of people, including racial, ethnic, or low-income populations, will bear a disproportionately greater burden resulting from environmental laws, regulations, policies, and decision-making. Meaningful involvement of residents ensures an appropriate opportunity to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health.*