



# Former Mount Clemens Landfill Site

## Summer 2012 Update

Michigan Department  
of Community Health



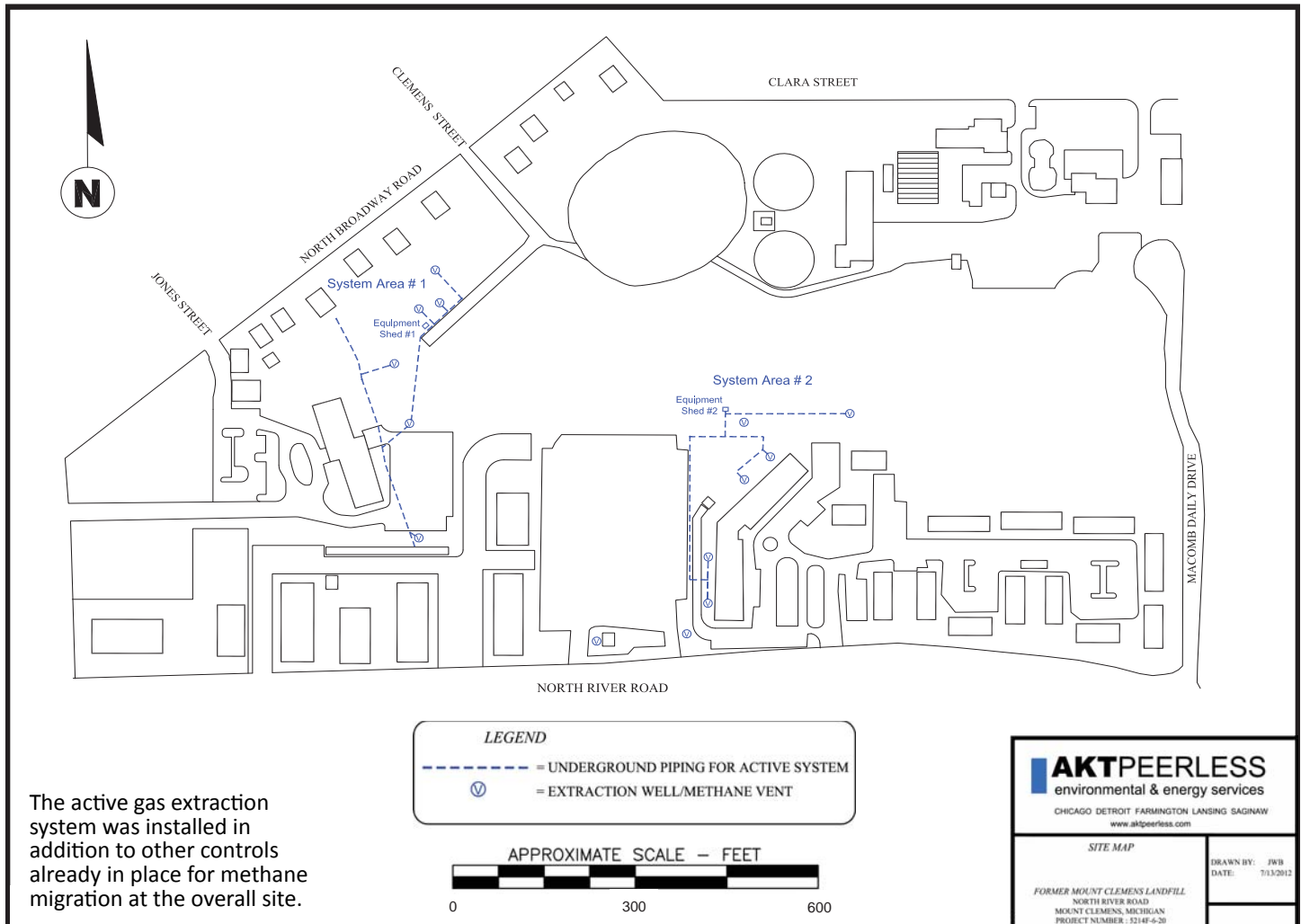
### Background

This fact sheet follows the "Fall 2011 Update" that outlined plans developed by the City of Mount Clemens and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) to pull methane gas from the Mount Clemens Landfill site.

The landfill was operated from 1940 to 1965. It is no longer active and has been closed for many years.

Since that time, several housing complexes have been built above or next to the landfill, including Park Place Towers, Clinton Place Apartments, Sunset Manor and Holiday Gardens.

As landfill waste breaks down, gases, including methane, form. The City of Mount Clemens has been monitoring underground levels of methane, an explosive gas. The city continues to work with state and federal agencies to control landfill gas and vent it safely to ensure people living in the area stay safe.



## What was done?

Starting in the winter of 2011, the US EPA, the City of Mount Clemens, and AKT Peerless Environmental & Energy Services worked together to install an active gas extraction system. This system was designed and constructed to pull methane from the landfill, preventing it from possibly moving toward and gathering under the surrounding buildings.

The system consists of several extraction wells drilled into the waste, connected by underground piping to one of two flaring stations located atop the site.

Two small metal sheds house blowers and control equipment that pipe the gas into solar-powered flares which can burn the gas safely and effectively.

Installation of the system was completed and started running in March 2012.



Operational equipment shed and solar flare near Park Place Towers. Another shed/flare is located near the Clinton Place Apartments.

## What's happening now?

Sampling results show a significant decrease in methane levels since the system started up, meaning that the movement of landfill gas is now under control. The city continues to monitor the levels of landfill gases monthly to ensure that the system is operating properly.

Methane levels in the extracted gas are too low for the solar flaring units to ignite. Therefore, flaring units will be removed this summer and the methane will be safely vented to the air.

## Who to call

For more information about the Mount Clemens Landfill Project, contact Jeff Wood at the City of Mount Clemens at **586-469-6818**.

For information about landfill gases and methane hazards, contact MDCH at **1-800-MI-TOXIC (1-800-648-6942)** or visit [www.michigan.gov/mdch-toxics](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch-toxics) and look for the Mount Clemens Landfill link under Health Assessments and Related Documents.

To learn more about the Mount Clemens Landfill Project active ventilation system or the installation process, visit [www.epaosc.org/formermountclemenslandfill](http://www.epaosc.org/formermountclemenslandfill).