

Historic Waste Sites Fact Sheet

- The City of Barrie, like many other older towns and cities, deposited waste in non-engineered sites, referred to as “Historic Waste Sites”. In Barrie, there are four sites that were used from 1947 to 1964 along Bunker’s Creek and three that were used from 1960 to 1963 on Dyment’s Creek.
- The Historic Waste Sites and their associated assessment areas were first identified in the City’s Official Plan in 1985, but have been known to be in existence well before that date.
- The Waste Disposal Assessment area boundaries were refined based on recent studies to ensure that future development in the area of the Historic Waste Sites will be managed in keeping with the need to protect public safety. The assessment area originally identified more than 20 years ago is largely unchanged, however, the recent studies showed that some properties could be removed and other properties needed to be included within this D4 Assessment area.
- The Province of Ontario requires all municipalities to ensure that a D-4 Study is conducted in the vicinity of old waste disposal sites. Landowners within the assessment area are only required to conduct a D-4 Study on their property if they are planning any construction which would require a planning application or building permit.
- A D-4 Study is a study that is completed by a qualified person (in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act) to determine if there are any impacts to persons and/or property due to development near a waste disposal site. A primary impact could include the presence of landfill gas. Decomposing waste produces landfill gas, which is a mixture of methane and carbon dioxide. The D-4 Study assesses the potential impact of the landfill gas.
- The property owner is responsible for the costs of the assessment. Please visit barrie.ca/HistoricLandfills for more information.
- The City of Barrie has worked closely with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) and Golder Associates Ltd. (independent environmental engineering consulting firm), regarding the safety of lands in and around the historic waste sites.
- Testing and monitoring has been completed by Golder Associates on and around the historic waste sites, on City-owned land. The studies indicate that risk of exposure of methane gas to residents in the area around the sites is low.
- The overall findings indicate that methane is not migrating off site from the Historic Waste Sites.
- The SMDHU has reviewed the methane gas and soil contaminant information and assessment in the reports and studies related to the Historic Waste Sites. In addition, these documents have been reviewed by technical experts at Public Health Ontario.
- The City of Barrie will continue to work with its partners at the MOECC, SMDHU and Golder Associates to monitor the Historic Waste Sites and further assess if additional measures need to be taken.
- All studies and reports are available at barrie.ca/HistoricLandfills

Contact information:

Sandra Brunet, BSc.
Manager of Environmental Operations
Environmental Services Department
705 739 4220 ext. 6140.