



Summary Report  
13928.70

Community Relations Activities  
Refuse Hideaway Landfill  
Town of Middleton  
Dane County, Wisconsin

Prepared for:  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Madison, Wisconsin

Prepared by:  
Warzyn Engineering Inc.  
Madison, Wisconsin

April 1990

# WARZYN



Engineers & Scientists  
Environmental Services  
Waste Management  
Water Resources  
Site Development  
Special Structures  
Geotechnical Analysis

May 1, 1990

Ms. Theresa A. Evanson  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
1010 S. Webster Street  
Box 7921  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7921

Re: Summary Report  
Community Relations Activities  
Refuse Hideaway Landfill  
Warzyn Project No. 13928.70

Dear Ms. Evanson:

Enclosed are five copies of our Community Relations Activities Summary Report for the Refuse Hideaway Landfill project. This has been prepared in response to the WDNR's request during our February 23, 1990 meeting.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with the WDNR in developing and implementing community relation activities for the Refuse Hideaway Landfill project. Our efforts throughout the project received significant appreciation from interested parties involved (e.g., the media, public officials, general public and property owners). Public satisfaction was relayed to both the WDNR and Warzyn staff through telephone conversations and personal comments made at the public meetings (see telephone logs).

If we can be of any further assistance on this aspect of the Refuse Hideaway Landfill project or of any future community relations needs, please contact us.

Sincerely,

WARZYN ENGINEERING INC.

Sharon Schwarz  
Community Relations

Joel V. Schittone, P.E.  
Project Manager

JVS/jkk/TFL  
[vlr-104-76]  
13928.70

Enclosures: As Stated

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MAY 02 1990

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HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

OFFICE COPY



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Community Relations Activities  
Refuse Hideaway Landfill  
Town of Middleton  
Dane County, Wisconsin

April 1990

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[dlk-800-17c]  
13928.70



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# Refuse Hideaway Landfill

Town of Middleton  
Dane County, Wisconsin

## Environmental Response and Repair Program

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

November 1989

### INTRODUCTION

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has contracted with Warzyn Engineering Inc. of Madison, Wisconsin, to perform Interim Remedial Measures (IRM) as an initial step to control and characterize the contamination originating at the Refuse Hideaway Landfill. The Refuse Hideaway Landfill is located in the Town of Middleton, Wisconsin, 1 1/2 miles west of the City of Middleton, north of U.S. Highway 14.

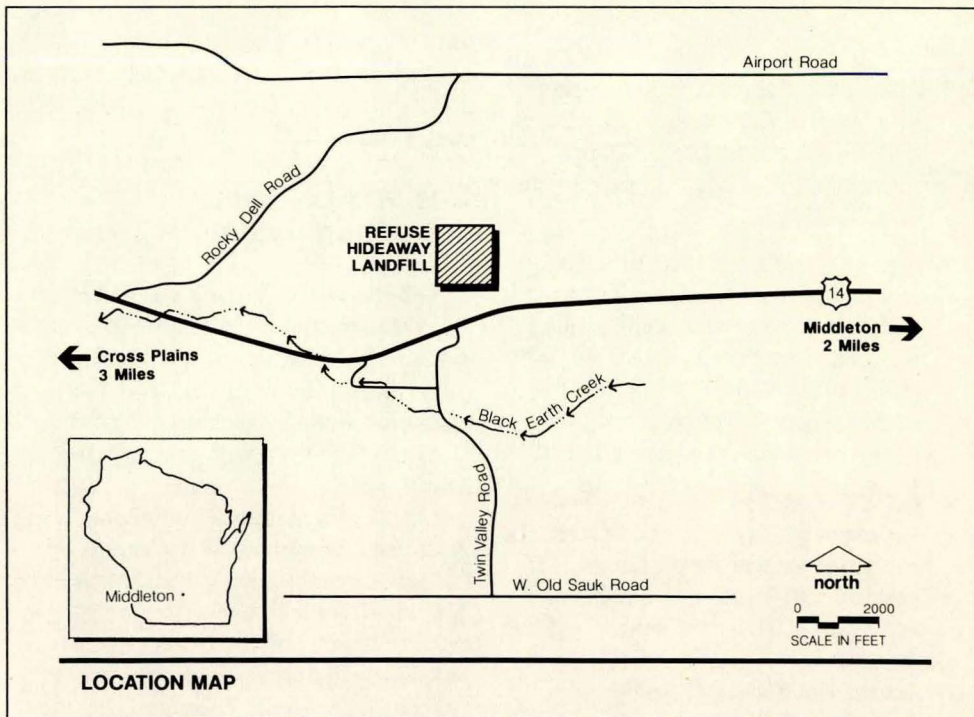
This fact sheet summarizes known problems apparently caused by the Refuse Hideaway Landfill and describes the IRM now in progress.

The IRM will be discussed at a public meeting scheduled for November 13, 1989. Another public meeting will be held later in the project. In the interim, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Warzyn Engineering Inc. staff will be available at "drop-in" sessions to informally discuss the project with interested citizens. A schedule of these meetings and drop-in sessions is available, along with contact points at both the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Warzyn.

### SITE DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

The Refuse Hideaway Landfill is located on a 40 acre site owned by John DeBeck. The Landfill occupies 29 acres of the 40 acres and was originally approved to contain approximately 1.3 to 1.5 million cubic yards of waste.

In the spring of 1988, it was estimated that approximately 50,000 cu yd of capacity remained, however, it was noted that the waste was settling faster than anticipated, which may provide additional



capacity. The accelerated settlement rate is probably due to the decomposition of the waste which contributes to the production of landfill gas and leachate.

### PROBLEM AREAS

The source of the problems apparently caused by the Refuse Hideaway Landfill fall into two general categories: 1) groundwater contamination; and 2) landfill gas migration.

#### Groundwater Contamination

Problems related to landfill leachate production became apparent as early as the summer of 1985 when a number of leachate seeps were observed draining into the surface water control system of the Landfill. Subsequently, the Wisconsin Depart-

ment of Natural Resources initiated actions in October 1986 requiring the submittal of a closure plan modification for the Landfill. This plan was required to propose an increased surface slope for the Landfill cap and present a proposal to perform an investigation to determine what impact the facility had on groundwater.

The closure plan was approved in 1987 with a condition that a groundwater investigation would be completed. This investigation found volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in exceedance of NR 140 Wisconsin Administrative Code Enforcement Standards in a number of private wells.

As a result, additional groundwater monitoring wells were installed and increased testing was undertaken to pinpoint the source of the groundwater contamination and the form of contamination.

*continued on page 3*



## INTERIM REMEDIAL MEASURES

Work on the Interim Remedial Measures (IRM) began in September of 1989. The objectives of the IRM are to take steps to mitigate problems which have been identified and to provide the necessary data to design and develop a remediation program relating to the Refuse Hideaway Landfill. A remediation program could not be provided without the IRM due to the limited amount of information available. The IRM for this site includes three major tasks:

1. **Alternative Water Supply.** A permanent supply of drinking water will be identified for those people whose water supply has been affected by the Landfill.
2. **Private Residential Well Sampling.** Samples of drinking water will be collected from private wells located within an approximate one-mile radius of the Landfill and tested in an analytical laboratory to learn if additional wells have been affected.
3. **Gas and Leachate Extraction System.** A permanent landfill gas and leachate extraction system for part of the Landfill will be designed, installed and evaluated over the next 4 months. The evaluation of this partial system's performance will provide the information needed to design a full system for control of landfill gas and leachate in the Landfill.

The following describes each of these tasks in more detail.

### Alternative Water Supply

A pilot granular activated carbon water filtration system is being evaluated. If results prove satisfactory, this will enable the installation of a temporary full-scale filtration system at each residence whose private well has been affected. These temporary systems will provide safe drinking

water until a permanent alternative can be installed. The selection of a permanent supply will be based on the feasibility study being performed at this time.

### Private Residential Well Sampling

Private wells located within an approximate one-mile radius of the Refuse Hideaway Landfill were sampled and analyzed once and will be tested again in early January 1990. Results from the first round of samples did not indicate any new wells containing VOCs.

### Gas and Leachate Extraction System

The removal of landfill gas and leachate is achieved by installing wells to act as extraction points. To extract the landfill gas, a blower draws the gas from the extraction wells by vacuum and conveys it to a flare. The flare will then burn the landfill gas.

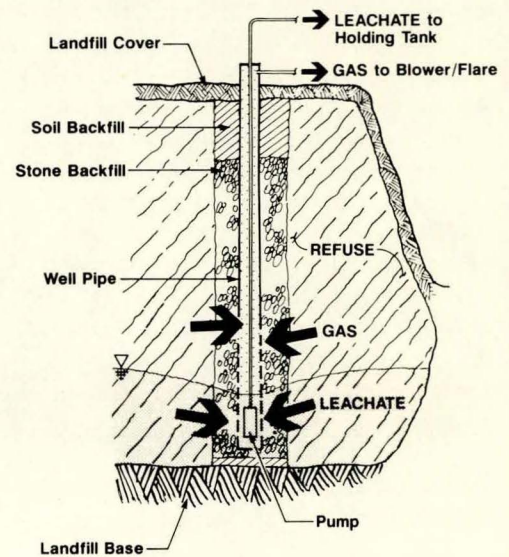
Landfill leachate is a liquid which has percolated through the waste and has extracted materials from it. Leachate will be removed from the large-diameter (3') gas extraction wells by corrosion resistant pumps which only operate when leachate collects in the wells. The pumps lift the leachate from the base of the well to the ground surface where it discharges into buried leachate conveyance pipes. Leachate in the conveyance pipes flows to a buried double-walled leachate holding tank equipped with a leak detection monitoring device. The leachate will be handled and disposed of off-site.

Several leachate and gas monitoring wells will also be installed. These monitoring wells will provide the combined capability to monitor leachate head levels and gas movement at several depths in the Landfill.

### Schedule

The partial gas and leachate extraction system is currently being designed. Construction is scheduled to begin the week of November 13, 1989. Access roads for heavy equipment and buried piping will be constructed. A large crane-mounted drill rig will be used to drill the 3-foot diameter gas and leachate extraction wells which will penetrate through the refuse to just above the base of the Landfill.

Construction of the extraction wells, piping, blower, holding tank and the flare is scheduled to be completed by early-January. The system will be started up immediately following construction completion, and an evaluation of the system's effectiveness will begin. Based on the results of the system evaluation, a full extraction system will be designed to extract gas and leachate from the entire site. In the interim, the partial system will have a measurable effect on leachate and gas levels in the Landfill.



SCHEMATIC LEACHATE/GAS EXTRACTION WELL



## Problem Areas

*continued from page 1*

In summary, the Refuse Hideaway Landfill appears to have substantially impacted the shallow groundwater system to the east, north and south of the Landfill. Contamination appears highest in the shallow unconsolidated soil deposits to the southeast and in the sandstone bedrock to the northwest. It has also migrated below the water table in the glacial till and bedrock. Additional monitoring will be done to better assess the groundwater flow directions and contaminant migration at greater distances from the Landfill.

## Landfill Gas Migration

Landfill gas is created from the decomposition or rotting of the waste placed in a landfill. Rotting is accelerated by rainwater seeping through landfill waste. It has been previously noted that the Landfill is decomposing at a rate more rapidly than anticipated by the Landfill designers.

Landfill gas has been detected off the Landfill site but not in the basements of homes nearby the Landfill. Accordingly, the IRM to remove Landfill gas is seen as an early preventative measure to reduce the hazards which are a result of increased concentrations of methane gas. Further, the WDNR has directed Warzyn to monitor seven private residences for the presence of Landfill gas. This is also a preventative measure to warn of potential hazards.

## GLOSSARY

<b>Aquifer</b>	Water filled rock, sand or gravel formation.
<b>Borings</b>	Holes advanced into the ground with a drilling rig for the purpose of taking soil samples. Sometimes a boring is made into a monitoring well, extraction well, or head well.
<b>Groundwater</b>	Water that fills the spaces between soil, sand, rock and gravel particles beneath the ground surface. Precipitation reaches the ground and then slowly moves through the soil, sand, gravel and/or rock into small cracks and crevices beneath the ground surface. During a process which can take many years, the water is filtered as it moves through the aquifer, eventually providing a water source which may be naturally pure. This water may then be withdrawn by wells for use as drinking water.
<b>Interim Remedial Measures (IRM)</b>	Initial action taken as a result of a release of hazardous substances into the environment to prevent, minimize or gather additional data about the release. These actions allow a permanent action to be designed and installed to minimize the potential for hazardous substances to migrate and cause substantial danger to present or future public health or welfare or the environment.
<b>Landfill Gas</b>	Gas consisting predominantly of methane and carbon dioxide formed by decomposition of waste.
<b>Leachate</b>	Liquid, including any suspended components in the liquid, that has percolated through or drained through waste.
<b>Natural Attenuation Landfill</b>	A landfill which utilizes the natural ability of the soils, at its base, to dilute compounds present in the leachate prior to the leachate reaching the groundwater.
<b>Treatment</b>	The method, technique, or process, including filtration, designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of a liquid or gas containing hazardous waste.
<b>Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)</b>	Organic, carbon-containing compounds which readily vaporize at normal temperatures. Some VOC's present a human health risk due to potential cancer-causing or other health effects.

## MAILING LIST ADDITIONS

Anyone wishing to be placed on the Refuse Hideaway Landfill mailing list, please fill out, detach and mail this form to:

**Warzyn Engineering Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 5385**  
**Madison, WI 53705**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

### Public Meeting on the Interim Remedial Measures

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) would like to hear your comments. You are encouraged to attend the public meeting on Monday, November 13, 1989 at 7:30 p.m. Representatives from the WDNR and Warzyn will discuss the Interim Remedial Measures now underway. Public comments will be accepted and questions will be answered following the presentation.

Date: November 13, 1989  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Location: West Middleton Elementary School  
7627 Mineral Point Road

### Available Information

Final reports and plans will be made available for public review as they are completed. Anyone desiring additional information may consult these site documents. Copies of various documents will be available at:

Middleton Public Library  
7426 Hubbard Ave.  
Middleton, Wisconsin 53562

### For Questions

Please contact:

Ms. Theresa (Terry) Evanson  
Project Manager  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707  
608-266-0941

Mr. Ted Lauf  
Community Relations Coordinator  
Warzyn Engineering Inc.  
Box 5385  
Madison, WI 53705  
608-231-4747

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Response and Repair Program  
Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707





# Refuse Hideaway Landfill

Town of Middleton  
Dane County, Wisconsin

## Environmental Response and Repair Program Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

February 1990

### INTRODUCTION

In 1989 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) hired Warzyn Engineering Inc. of Madison, Wisconsin to investigate, describe and control contamination originating at the Refuse Hideaway Landfill. The landfill is located in the Town of Middleton, Wisconsin, 1-1/2 miles west of the City of Middleton, north of U.S. Highway 14.

Work completed at the site so far and proposed work needed at the site will be discussed at a public meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 1990 at 7:30 p.m. at the West Middleton Elementary School. This meeting will be the last of four public meetings held since November 1989 during Phase I of this project.

### UPDATE ON SITE WORK

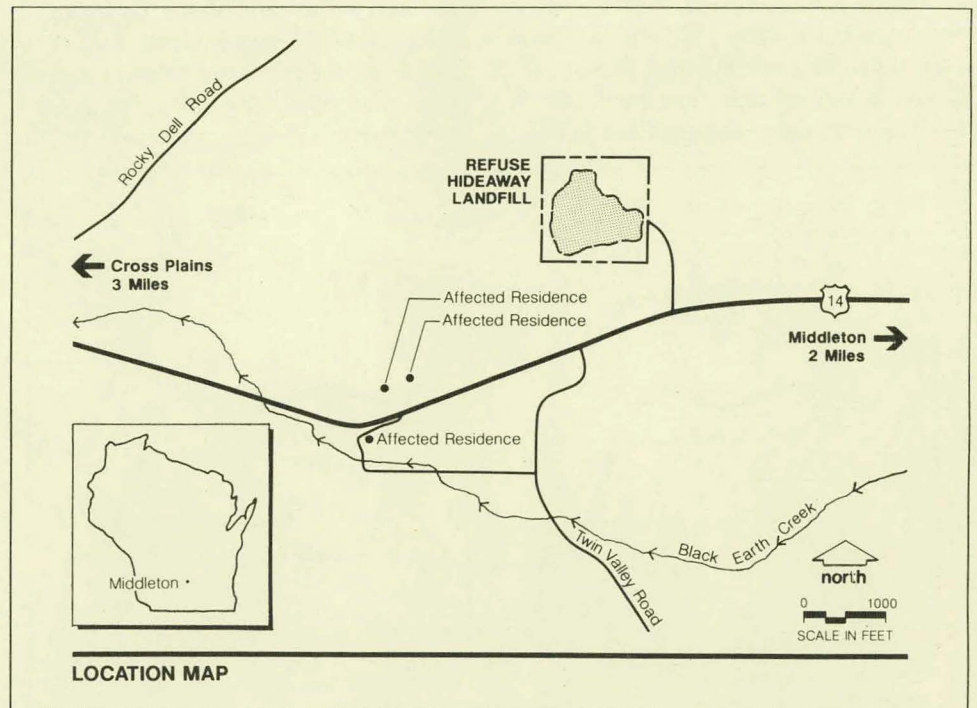
Here is a summary of work completed in key areas:

#### Providing an Alternative Water Supply for Affected Homes

Temporary and permanent options were analyzed for supplying safe drinking water to three homes where monitoring has shown the water supply is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs), apparently leaking from the landfill. Affected homes are located about 3,000 feet southwest of the landfill.

"Point-of-entry" water treatment devices which rely on granular activated-carbon to remove VOCs will be installed at each of the three homes. Point-of-entry treatment means the entire household water supply will be treated before the water is distributed through home taps.

These devices will provide residents of the affected homes with a safe supply of drinking water until permanent remedies are provided.



#### Private Residential Well Sampling

Results from the first round of sampling reported in the November 1989 fact sheet showed that no additional wells within approximately a one-mile radius of the landfill had been contaminated. A second round of samples was collected in January 1990. Results were not available at press time, but will be mailed to residences where samples were collected on or before the February 28th public meeting.

#### Partial Gas and Leachate Extraction System Installed

Installation of a partial gas and leachate extraction system in the southeastern corner of the landfill began in December 1989. The partial system was designed not only to remove gas and leachate, but to obtain information needed to design an efficient, cost effective gas and leachate extraction system serving the entire landfill.

The partial system now in place includes two gas/leachate extraction wells, three gas/leachate monitoring wells, pipes and other equipment used to extract and transport gas and leachate, and a holding tank to store extracted liquids.



## UPDATE ON SITE WORK *continued*

### Gas Extraction

While the partial system was being installed, high levels of landfill gas were detected. Monitoring of gas probes, which the WDNR placed near the landfill from February to April 1989, showed that landfill gas was moving through soils outside the landfill boundary. Gas was monitored in several homes located close to the landfill in March 1989. Combustible gases were not detected in any of the homes.

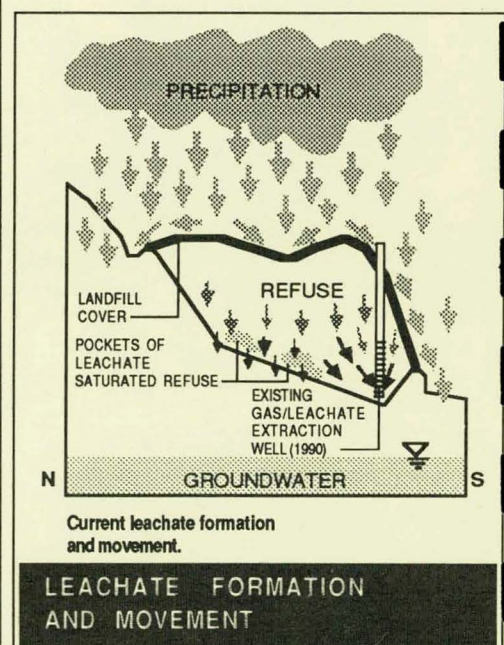
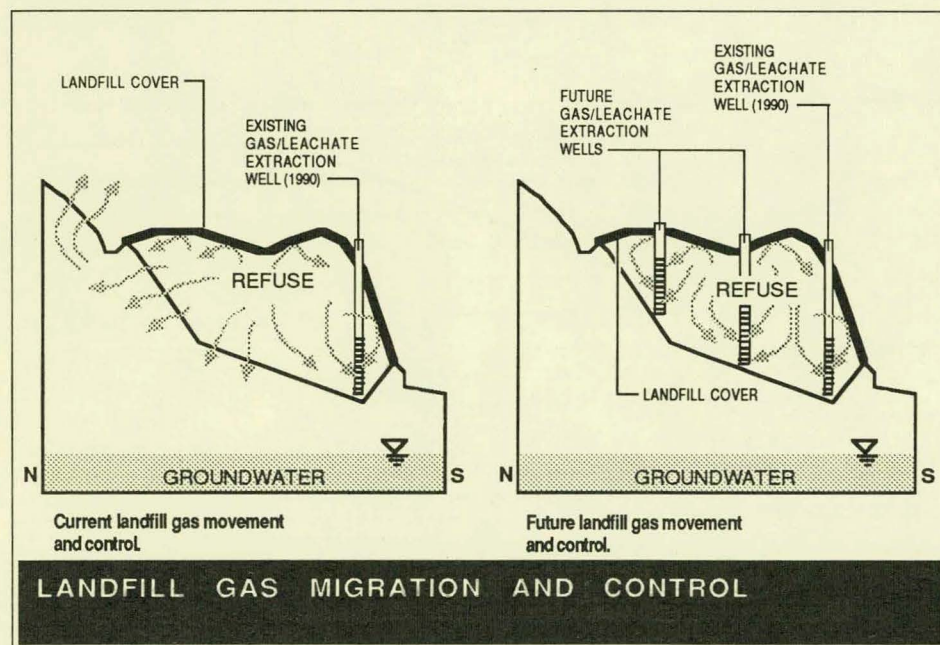
Removal of gas via the partial system will begin in February 1990 after a flare to burn extracted gas is installed. However, gas beyond the system's reach will continue to move out of the landfill. For this

reason, Warzyn expanded gas monitoring at the site in December 1989 to track off-site gas movement. Pressure, combustible gases and oxygen will be monitored at existing probe sites, selected residences near the landfill and structures on the landfill property.

In addition, a new gas monitoring probe will be installed on the Summers' Tree Farm property. How often measurements are taken will depend on the season and weather (low pressure systems, for example, affect gas movement and measurement). Gas monitoring will continue for about a year.

### Leachate Extraction

Leachate has not been detected via the partial system so far. This may mean that either minimal amounts of leachate are present in the landfill, or that leachate is distributed within the landfill in pockets outside the partial system's reach rather than in a single pool.



### FUTURE WORK NEEDED AT THE SITE

As a result of work done so far, the Department of Natural Resources has defined four actions the agency should take to address major concerns at the landfill:

1. Installation of a full extraction system to remove both gas and leachate from the landfill.

The full system is needed to remove gas throughout the landfill. At the same time, the full system will remove leachate that might be present, though none has been found so far. Any recovered leachate will be stored in the site holding tank, then pumped into a tanker truck and hauled to

the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District wastewater plant for treatment and disposal.

Design of a full gas and leachate extraction system for the Refuse Hideaway Landfill site is underway as part of the WDNR's current contract with Warzyn.

The WDNR would authorize construction of the full extraction system under a new contract.

2. Installation of a groundwater monitoring system.

A more extensive groundwater monitoring system is needed to more completely

define the location and spread of leachate from the landfill. Warzyn is suggesting where wells should be located and estimating costs.

3. Permanent replacement of the water supply for three affected homes.

Permanent water supplies that may be considered include:

- continuing the point-of-entry water treatment indefinitely;
- extending water service from Cross Plains or Middleton;



## FUTURE WORK *continued*

- installing a storage tank to hold potable water transported from another source; or
- installing a community well off- or on-site.

Selecting, installing and funding a permanent water supply system could require extensive discussion, planning and agreement by all involved parties and municipalities. It is unlikely that this basic groundwork could take place and be completed during the current state fiscal year. Temporary water treatment systems are being installed in each affected home this spring. Residents will have a source of safe drinking water until long-term remedies are chosen.

4. Remediation of the contaminated groundwater; landfill cover repair and adjacent property grading and revegetation.

Clean-up of contaminated groundwater is a long-term, expensive remedy that will depend on sufficient funding to complete. Landfill cover repair and related work is needed to minimize precipitation from leaking into the landfill and to minimize erosion at the site.

## FUNDING SOURCES

It is estimated that the four recommended actions will cost more than \$500,000 each. For now, further work at the site is likely to be paid by the Wisconsin Environmental Repair Fund. The type of work that would be done and when this work would begin will depend on how much money is available in the Environmental Repair Fund for the current state fiscal year, which ends June 30, 1990. It is likely that Actions 1 and 2 listed above would be tackled first if state funding is available.

Temporary water treatment (Action 3) is already being paid for by the state Environmental Repair Fund. Funding of permanent water supplies will depend on which alternative is selected. Action 4, remediation of the contamination groundwater, will likely cost more money than the state Environmental Repair Fund can provide.

## GLOSSARY

### Groundwater

Water that fills the spaces between soil, sand, rock and gravel particles beneath the ground surface. Precipitation reaches the ground and then slowly moves through the soil, sand, gravel and/or rock into small cracks and crevices beneath the ground surface. During a process which can take many years, the water is filtered as it moves through the aquifer, eventually providing a water source which may be naturally pure. This water may then be withdrawn by wells for use as drinking water.

### Interim Remedial Measures (IRM)

Initial action taken as a result of a release of hazardous substances into the environment to prevent, minimize or gather additional data about the release. These actions allow a permanent action to be designed and installed to minimize the potential for hazardous substances to migrate and cause substantial danger to present or future public health or welfare or the environment.

### Landfill Gas

Gas consisting predominantly of methane and carbon dioxide formed by decomposition of waste.

### Leachate

Liquid, including any suspended components in the liquid, that has percolated through or drained through waste.

### Treatment

The method, technique, or process, including filtration, designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of a liquid or gas containing hazardous waste.

### Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)

Organic, carbon-containing compounds which readily vaporize at normal temperatures. Some VOC's present a human health risk due to potential cancer-causing or other health effects.

For this reason, the WDNR will keep pressing to get the Refuse Hideaway Landfill site eligible for federal funding under the Superfund program. Repair of the landfill cover as well as grading and revegetating adjacent property may be paid for under the state fund depending on cost estimates being compiled.

Besides these expenses, the state Environmental Repair Fund will continue to pay for fixed costs, which include operation and maintenance of the partial gas and leachate extraction system along with maintenance of the home water treatment systems. Occasional monitoring of private home wells will continue until the area of contamination in the groundwater is better defined.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

### Public Meeting on the Interim Remedial Measures

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) would like to hear your comments. You are encouraged to attend the public meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 1990 at 7:30 p.m. Representatives from the WDNR and Warzyn will discuss the Interim Remedial Measures now underway. Public comments will be accepted and questions will be answered following the presentation.

Date: February 28, 1990  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Location: West Middleton Elementary School  
7627 Mineral Point Road

### Available Information

Final reports and plans will be made available for public review as they are completed. Anyone desiring additional information may consult these site documents. Copies of various documents are available at:

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### For Questions

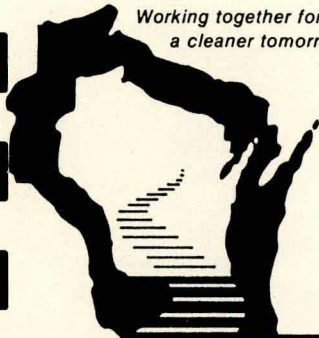
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Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707  
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Community Relations Coordinator  
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Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Response and Repair Program  
Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707

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# Refuse Hideaway Landfill

Town of Middleton  
Dane County, Wisconsin

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## Environmental Response and Repair Program Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

### PROJECT MEETINGS AND CONTACTS

Personnel from the Department of Natural Resources and their contractor Warzyn Engineering Inc. will be available at the following times and places.

#### MEETING SCHEDULE

##### Public Meeting

November 13, 1989 at 7:30 P.M.  
West Middleton Elementary School  
7627 Mineral Point Road

##### Technical Staff Availability Session

This is a "drop-in" session with no formal agenda. Citizens may speak personally with key project staff about project plans and findings.

December 19, 1989 from 5:30 to 7:30 P.M.  
West Middleton Elementary School  
7627 Mineral Point Road

##### Technical Staff Availability Session

January 24, 1990 from 5:30 to 7:30 P.M.  
West Middleton Elementary School  
7627 Mineral Point Road

##### Public Meeting

February 28, 1990 at 7:30 P.M.  
West Middleton Elementary School  
7627 Mineral Point Road

#### PROJECT CONTACTS

The following people can be contacted for information:

Department of Natural Resources

Theresa (Terry) Evanson 266-0941  
P.O. Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707

Warzyn Engineering Inc.

Ted Lauf 231-4747  
P.O. Box 5385  
Madison, WI 53705



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# Refuse Hideaway Landfill

Town of Middleton  
Dane County, Wisconsin

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Environmental Response and Repair Program  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA  
2/28/90

West Middleton Elementary School

- A. INTRODUCTIONS AND BACKGROUND - Wendy Weisense1, WDNR
- B. PROGRESS ON SITE WORK
  - 1. Partial Gas/Leachate Extraction System - Joel Schittone, Warzyn
  - 2. Alternative Water Supply/Private Well Sampling/Gas Monitoring - Terry Evanson, WDNR
- C. FUTURE ACTIONS - Terry Evanson, WDNR
- D. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



## ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

### Refuse Hideaway Landfill Project Meetings

**Warzyn Engineering Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 5385**  
**Madison, WI 53705**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check box if you wish your name to be placed on mailing list.

## DIARY NOTE

November 14, 1989

**TO:** File 13928.70

**RE:** November 13, 1989 Refuse Hideaway Public Official's Briefing and Public Meeting

Approximately sixty-five (65) people attended the Public Meeting with approximately fifteen (15) people attending the Public Official's Briefing beforehand. Ted Lauf acted as facilitator and gave a brief history of the Refuse Hideaway Landfill leading up to the Public Meeting and present activities. Presenters Joel Schittone, Warzyn and Terry Evanson, WDNR were introduced as well as Mark Geisfeldt, WDNR and Sharon Schwarz, Warzyn.

Many of the same questions were asked at both the Public Meeting and Public Official's Briefing.

### PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Will more water get into the wells that are being drilled for leachate and gas extraction?

Concern: Don't want to lead people to believe that the full conceptual system will be installed just because it is designed. It may never happen.

Why were the wells put where they are? Why not southwest?

What are Warzyn's experiences with similar designs at landfills?

Have there been any calculations or monitoring on leachate head change since the cap has been installed?

When is construction starting? And when will it be complete?

What is the projection on the filling of the 25,000 gallon holding tank and thus how many hauls will have to be made to keep up with the filling?

Will MMSD take the leachate?

What are other options if MMSD won't take because of the Mercury content?

What happens when funding runs out?

How long is the Warzyn contract good for and what does it cover?

What is time frame for implementation of a full conceptual design?

Is DeBeck completely off the hook? Is this still in litigation?

Are crevices in the bedrock of the site allowing more groundwater to flow into the landfill?

Are the two wells just to appease the people for now?

What are other determining options if purifying system no longer works?

Who is Warzyn?

What is their success rate with this type of design?

What is the cost of the Warzyn contract?

What is the cost of a total conceptual design?

How far is the leachate and groundwater flowing? Where is it going and how fast?

Is there any other WDNR department handling and monitoring of Black Earth Creek?

What was learned from recent testing of homeowners' wells?

Is Toluene the fastest moving VOC? Why did this show up in the testing this time when it didn't last time?

How fast is this groundwater moving? It has already traveled one mile in 14 years when it was supposed to take 80 years.

Why isn't additional monitoring being done now?

What affect has the proposed Middleton Watershed Program going to have on this project?

Is Tom DeBeck quarrying on the other side of the landfill?

Has the site topography changed since the beginning of this project?

How long are the current state principals going to stay involved? Are we going to keep getting new people on this job all the time?

Concern: Might want to put a membrane around the whole site. It doesn't seem to be completely capped right now.

Will Warzyn be involved in fund-raising or helping the interested parties in obtaining money needed to clean this site up? e.g., bond issues, PRP's, cost sharing, etc.

Has anything been done to track down PRP's?

Concern: If leachate is flowing in long distances, very quickly, what is the state going to do? Monitoring isn't ongoing at the present.



## **DIARY NOTE**

December 21, 1989

**TO:** File 13928.70

**RE:** December 19, 1989 Refuse Hideaway Technical Availability Session

The following people attended the above session:

Kathy D'Angelo	Walter Haack, Chairman Town of Cross Plains
Maurice Coyle	Al Stoppeworth
James Kohl	Robert Anders, Dane County Board
Edward D. Baker	Alice & Richard Watts, Homeowners
Richard Hinrichs, Homeowner	Patricia Baker
Laverne Theis	Bernd Rehm, RMT
Wisconsin State Journal	Middleton Times Tribune
C. Schiller, Citizens to Save the Black Earth Watershed Committee	

Ted Lauf acted as facilitator and gave a brief review of the past meeting and objectives of this session. Presenters Joel Schittone, Warzyn and Terry Evanson, WDNR were introduced as well as Mark Geisfeld, WDNR and Sharon Schwarz, Warzyn.

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Many of the same questions were asked this time that were asked at the November 13, 1989 Public Meeting - a list of questions follows:

Some people think this will never be cleaned up. What do you think? (Addressed to Joel and Terry)

Do you think there was leachate at one time?

Why didn't we put the wells where the leachate was indicated?

When would we have the balance of funds to put in more wells as indicated in the conceptual design?

They aren't going to say we don't need any more wells now, because they didn't find leachate?

What's the approximate cost of completing the design?

Will the flares be continuously burning?

Are the wells capped nearby the flares?

Will MMSD take the leachate?

Could we put a pre-treatment system in like is done at other sites?

What organics are in the leachate?

Are there any gas wells (probes) on the west side?

What are they showing?

What are the gas probes? What do they do? How do they work?

Should we consider installing a gas probe down by the Schulenberg farm?

How do you monitor gas migrating into the homes?

What is the time limit on the Warzyn contract?

Is the State going to come up with whatever it will take to continue the design? Are we going to have a lot of problems with getting the money?

Do the wells go to the base of the landfill?

If we get more rain in the next few years, would there be more leachate showing up.

Will you do what you can to keep the gas from leaving the site?

Should we be prepared for what happens when the contract is finished?

Why did we pick the well installation where we did? Why not on the other side where it shows the groundwater flowing?

Would water be collecting in the valley between the two humps of the landfill?

Watson's cornfield has water freezing on it now. Do we monitor the surface water in the area of the landfill?

Is the WDNR doing anything about investigating the surface water in the future?

Did the piping go below the cap?

How is the water filtration system coming?

Will the department order more cartridges for the affected homeowners?

Are we going ahead with private well testing in January?

What do the gray areas show on the drawings?

What does the fact that leachate is not there say? Did it go out the bottom?

Where is the bottom?



Has anybody done calculations on how fast the groundwater is flowing?

Back in the 70's a lot of rain hit our area. Would that have caused groundwater to move faster during that time?

Because leachate is not there, does this mean more homes may become contaminated?

Explain the capping process?

Is there a standardized list of chemicals that were tested for beside VOC's?

Will testing be done on the perimeters since the groundwater is believed to be moving faster than normal?

Is there danger for flash explosions when drilling?

When will gas extraction start?

Will we be drilling any more to check if there is leachate anywhere else?

Note: Terry mentioned that she had done some quick calculations from the time the landfill started in operation until the time the wells were found tainted. They showed it was at one time travelling about 230 feet per year. Normal flow is about 10-12 feet per year.

SLS/jkk/TLF  
[skb-103-89]  
13928.70

## DIARY NOTE

January 31, 1990

**TO:** File 13928.70

**RE:** January 24, 1990 Refuse Hideaway Technical Availability Session

The following people attended the above session:

Michael C. Bailey - Middleton Times-Tribune  
Bob Alderson, News Director - Q106 FM/WHIT  
C. Schiller - Landfill Committee  
Alice and Dick Watts  
Ed and Pat Baker  
Mark Goldberg - CSBE Committee  
Bernd Rehm - RMT  
Jim Bolitho

Bob Alderson, News Director, Q106 FM, taped meeting for future community affairs programs. He was informed through the Middleton Newspaper.

Ted Lauf acted as facilitator and gave a brief review of past meetings and objectives of this session. Presenters Joel Schittone, Warzyn and Terry Evanson, WDNR were introduced as well as Mark Geisfeldt, WDNR and Sharon Schwarz, Warzyn.

### PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Now that we've spent \$600,000 and have come up dry, what are we doing now?

Theoretically, what will be our next step?

Are we under the assumption since we didn't find leachate that the problem isn't as bad as we said it was?

Does the monitoring coincide with what the testing shows? Will the testing wells tell if it is getting worse?

Was the 45 million gallons of leachate a pipe dream, or how did we come up with that figure?

How long ago were the wells functionable? Why didn't the WDNR know that the 2 in. pipe was not adequate? When was the last time we got any readings out of the leachate wells?

RMT showed data showing leachate west of where Warzyn put the new wells. Again, we asked at the last two meetings "Why did Warzyn choose to put the wells where they did?"

Would it have been better to put the wells further west?

(Joel and Ted explained the direction of groundwater flow and land contours.)

How deep are the extraction wells? Do they go beyond the refuse?

What happened with the 43 wells that DeBeck put in?

Very concerned about the 12 acres that do not have dirt or cover on it. A big fissure that is expelling gas should be covered. This is as important as covering the landfill itself.

Did or could the blasting have caused fissures in the landfill area? Could the blasting have caused the contamination to flow faster and farther?

Future plans are to protect other people's wells. Any long term plans to test out additional groundwater monitoring wells?

(Terry and Ted explained that further action will be discussed based on Warzyn's findings and completion of terms of the contract.).

Do we feel that this can be cleaned up? So that we can feel safe that the contamination will not be a threat.

If the money was there, how long would it take from your experience? How many years?

Our problem is a big one, isn't it? -with the quickness of the travel and contamination of wells.

What would be next step if we found more contamination in more wells from additional monitoring?

Doesn't the present contract call for additional monitoring within it?

Wouldn't it make sense to put an additional monitoring well where RMT showed contamination?

What are 1, 2, 3 steps that will be addressed in the future? What are priorities for the WDNR?

(Gather information before making assessments on the future.)

What will happen after February 28th meeting?

Why was this permitted by the WDNR to begin with?

Shouldn't the State take on a liability because they permitted this landfill to be built?

Until a few years ago, I think the WDNR did a lousy job dragging their heels. WDNR could have gone in there and stopped DeBeck when he was doing things he shouldn't have been doing. The WDNR didn't do a thing.

We have to know what happened to the leachate that RMT found.

1978 or 1979 they pulled samples, 1981 put in wells, 1985 put in more sophisticated wells.



When did Marie Stewart say the landfill was in trouble?

Somebody has to know where the contamination ends.

Can we put another well at RMT's monitoring well? RMT's drawing showed 8 or 10 acres of leachate?

Suggestion - Have at the school in Cross Plains. You will get a bigger crowd. People from Middleton don't seem to care.

During the next month are you going to be evaluating so know by the next meeting if this will proceed? How we going to proceed? People are going to be asking these questions.

What would you like us to do?

Does the Federal Govt. get involved when trash is hauled interstate?

Is there no value in frequent testing of water wells?

Will increase in need for water supply from Madison and urban sprawl change the groundwater flow?

Mark Goldberg

I think the state owes us the testing which will tell us if the contamination is spreading. Testing private wells should be the state's obligation. Also monitoring groundwater in-between to find the edge of the plume. You want to go past the present contaminated wells.

SLS/jkk/TFL  
[ndj-101-56]  
13927.70

## DIARY NOTE

March 9, 1990

**RE:** February 28, 1990 Refuse Hideaway Public Official's Briefing and Public Meeting

**BY:** Sharon L. Schwarz

Wendy Weisensel acted as facilitator and gave a brief review of past meetings and events, and stated the objectives of this session. Presenters Joel Schittone, Warzyn and Terry Evanson, WDNR were introduced as well as Andy Morgan, WDNR; Ray Tierney, WDNR; Marie Stewart, WDNR; Mark Geisfeldt, WDNR and Ted Lauf, Warzyn.

Bob Alderson, News Director, Q106 FM, taped the meeting for future community affairs programs.

### PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Once the present system goes into operation. How long is this going to take?

Looking at July?

How did we determine depth of leachate wells?

Wells were dry the last test. Are they still dry?

Does the depth of the leachate extraction wells match the Environmental Impact Report?

RMT had test wells - Are these wells showing anything?

Wouldn't you monitor to see increases, decreases, or spread of leachate?

Is the contamination in the three wells getting worse or better?

Will there be continued contamination tests of present groundwater wells?

Since the landfill is part of the marsh, is the marsh contaminated or Black Earth Creek?

Concern - Trees have been dying over the marsh area, WDNR should look into this.

VOC's percolating in springs can cause fish damage. Are there any tests planned to monitor these incoming springs?

What is criteria to determine whether waste is hazardous?  
Certain standards of metal contents?

Has the WDNR or Warzyn drawn any conclusions on the lack of leachate?

If and when you continue to drill extraction wells, will the other eleven wells be tested for EP toxics?



Where are the other testing wells proposed to go?

Can you get any sense of where the plume is going? Higher or lower from the contamination already found?

\$600,000 funded, is this gone? Did this go to Warzyn?

For the 1.3 million dollars proposed future spending - what is included?

Is the funding sure and budgeted?

Old filters have to be changed. Whose going to take care of replacing the filters 10-15 years down the road?

How are you going to evaluate the point-of-entry options?

What does the filtration system consist of? What is it going to remove? Will a secondary pump be needed?

Is there any infection problems with this type of system?

What is the cost for each resident's system?

There is exposed rock, gas vent in areas around the landfill - What is being planned for these areas of concern?

Why was the surrounding soil allowed to be removed for cover?

Why is this bedrock being exposed? Heavy rain is going into fissure? Ponds and silt are being washed into the landfill.

Is this water going into the landfill?

Suggestion-the WDNR may want to include in the new Warzyn contract to clay cover these outside areas.

Has Warzyn done this type of thing before? Are you surprised by what you found?

Will contract include bringing water to homeowners?

Would there be a financial estimate of the water supply options?

What would an off-site community well cost?

Are there documents available for review right now?

What would maintenance costs be to upkeep the remediation on the landfill?

Does the current work being done meet minimum remediation activity?

Is there any activity within the state legislature to empower the state to enforce joint, strict and several liability?

Is anybody working towards that?

Have the documents been filed with Dane County?

Dane County should have a full record of documents dating back to 1987.

Are there any monitoring wells below the depth of the Stoppelworth well?

SLS/jkk/TLF  
[skb-103-90]  
13928.70



**TED LAUF - TELEPHONE LOG  
REFUSE HIDEAWAY**

11/10/89 - Call from Stoppeworth

Had heard about officials briefing from Bob Anders. Could he attend?

I explained purpose of meeting and other public meetings. Also that all meetings were open.

He asked about latest round of sampling results. Told him he would be receiving a letter from Terry Evanson with results. If he didn't hear he was to call me back.

He was concerned about town officials past activities.

He was complimentary about series of public meetings and opportunity to have someone to call.

11/13/89 - Call from Russ Feingold (State Senator) 831-7499 (not Capitol office)

Cannot attend, but interested and wants to stay in touch.

11/13/89 - Ted Houston - WLOX Radio

Details on location of public meeting.

11/13/89 - John Pepitone - Channel 15 News (274-1500)

Details on public meeting.

11/13/89 - Moira Harrington - Senator Feingold's Office

Info on public meeting - send correspondence to her attention.

11/13/89 - Katy Sai - Channel 3 News

Details on public meeting - IRM program. Plans to be at public meeting.

11/14/89 - Jerry Ambling - Capital Times

Questions about 11/13/89 meeting - Attendees etc. Purpose of program and what it is intended to do.

11/14/89 - John Pepitone - Channel 15

Would like to tape construction. Lauf will advise when construction is to occur.

Call Pepitone or Judy Lowell 274-1500. Advise Terry Evanson.

11/17/89 - Jeanan Yasiri

Information on construction schedule. Advise her when wells will be drilled.

11/22/89 - T. Evanson - WDNR

Requested clearance to advise Channel 15 and Channel 3 of construction schedule.

12/1/89

S. Schwarz contacted Channels 3, 15 and 27 re: drilling on-site on 12/6/89.

1/11/90 - Dick Hendrich - Town of Middleton

Sharp Farm, Hack Farm - claim well is contaminated.

Referred him to Terry Evanson.

2/19/90 - Al Stoppeworth 831-6342

When was Warzyn/DNR contract signed? 9/13/89

2/28/90 - Bonnie Vandenburg - WTDY Radio

Inquired about the purpose of the meeting. Taped my response.

TFL/dlk  
[dlk-800-17]  
13928.70



**SHARON SCHWARZ - TELEPHONE LOG  
REFUSE HIDEAWAY**

10/89

Numerous calls were made to local board members to arrive at meeting dates.

10/89

Numerous calls were made to Middleton facilities to obtain a meeting location to be used for all four meetings at the agreed upon dates and times.

10/89, 11/89, 12/89, 1/90, 2/90

Numerous calls were made to West Middleton Elementary School to obtain facility and organize meeting dates.

11/89, 12/89, 1/90, 2/90

Attempts were made before each meeting to contact public officials, Town of Middleton and Town of Cross Plains board members.

11/89, 12/89, 1/90, 2/90

Several calls from WDNR and Citizens to Save the Black Earth Watershed (CSBEW) requesting that names be added to the mailing list.

11/89

Call to Paul Nelson, Middleton Public Library (MPL) requesting that MPL be the repository for documents and material concerning the Refuse Hideaway Interim Remedial Measures.

11/89, 12/89, 1/90, 2/90

Several calls made to Middleton Public Library checking on the receipt of Warzyn reports for public review.

12/89 (media day 12/6/89)

Several calls to area media informing them of construction on-site. Time was changed to accommodate media.

12/89

Call from Eve Galanter, Senator Kohl's Madison office, requesting that mailings be sent to her attention at the Madison office. Also asked about the meeting's subject matter and people attending.

1/23/90

Call from Nancy McCarthy, Representative Tom Loftus' office - thanking us for keeping them informed of meetings and fact sheet information. Also asked about the Technical Availability Sessions and Public Meetings, e.g., how many people attend, who attends the Public Official's Update, what is discussed? Also asked for a status summary of the situation.

SLS/jkk/JVS  
[dlk-800-17a]  
13928



**JOEL SCHITTONE - TELEPHONE LOG  
REFUSE HIDEAWAY**

2/15/90 - Call from Al Baker - concerned resident.

He had concerns on:

- Future public meetings/drop-in sessions
- What will be done or considered next
- Lab results for January residential well sampling
- Residents need to get the politicians involved again
- Complimented Warzyn on our community relations activities. He felt there wouldn't have been as many meetings if Warzyn wasn't involved.

# Dump cleanup hangs on slash of gov's pen

By MIKE HILL  
Capital Times Staff Writer

Residents around Refuse Hideaway landfill in the town of Middleton would see their neighborhood nuisance cleaned up fairly soon and be able to receive compensation for polluted wells under state budget provisions approved by the Legislature.

But that's if Gov. Tommy Thompson doesn't veto them.

"It's my hope we don't see the return of 'toxic Tommy,'" state Rep. Spencer Black, D-Madison, said today.

Black was referring to the nickname Thompson earned the past two years when he sided with landfill operators and vetoed environmental repair money and other measures aimed at helping those who live near dumps.

Rep. Joseph Wineke, D-Verona, joined Black today in 90-degree heat at the landfill off U.S. 14 between Middleton and Cross Plains to press Thompson and let residents know what's in the budget for them.

"I think the voters of Wisconsin are going to be unhappy with the governor or any legislator who does not stand up for environmental protection," Black told The Capital Times before the news conference.

Measures to address Refuse Hideaway and other landfill problems include adding \$12 million for the next two years to the \$2.5 million environmental repair fund; making landfills that threaten trout streams priority cleanup projects; re-establishing the state's well compensation program; and mak-

ing landfill operators permanently liable for cleanup and maintenance costs, Black said.

Since Refuse Hideaway is leaching toxic chemicals near Black Earth Creek, which contains trout, it would be one of the top cleanup sites under the budget provision, Black said.

The additional \$12 million in environmental repair money, to be raised by increased fees for polluters and hazardous waste generators, is needed to clean up Refuse Hideaway and 60 other problem dumps in Wisconsin by the year 2000, Black said.

Thompson vetoed a similar expenditure two years ago, and the \$2.5 million left in the fund is needed for other types of environmental cleanups, Black said.

The budget also contains a provision that would prevent future Refuse Hideaways, Black said. Landfill owners would be permanently liable for cleanup and maintenance, and would have to post bond or insurance for 40 years of post-closure costs before they could go into business.

John DeBeck, owner of Refuse Hideaway, has said he doesn't have the \$5 million needed to clean up the landfill, which the state closed last year after finding toxic chemicals leaking into area water supplies. Three homes in the area are using bottled water, and other residents have expressed concern about whether the toxics could spread to their water supplies.

DeBeck had been seeking to develop two other landfills in Dane County, but reportedly has sold his interest in those ventures.

6/6/89

## Budget add would stall area landfills

By MATT POMMER  
Capital Times Staff Writer

Two proposed landfills — the Vondron site on the far east side of Madison and the Libby site in the town of Blooming Grove — would be stalled by language added to the state budget bill, according to a state attorney.

The amendment would prohibit the Department of Natural Resources from giving the go-ahead to any landfill site that is within five miles of an already approved site.

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More legislative coverage on Page 23.

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Chuck Leveque, an attorney for the DNR, said the Vondron and Libby landfill sites are within five miles of the Dane County landfill opposite the Yahara Golf Course on U.S. 12 and 14. It also might block a county site being suggested in the town of Westport.

The budget amendment also prohibits any approval of a landfill site within five miles of an existing landfill for five years after the approved site is closed.

Also adopted by the Joint Finance Committee was an amendment that would have the effect of using state funds to help clean up damage done by John DeBeck's Refuse Hideaway landfill in the town of Middleton.

The language would direct the state to give second priority to remedial action "at sites or facilities which have caused contamination of private wells located near the headwaters of a Class I trout stream." The definition fits the DeBeck site, which is near the Black Earth Creek.

The motion would require the use of state funds for remedial action if a site was not eligible for federal Superfund help.



# The Trash Stops Where?

*Landfills spark a growing revolt.*

BY ROBERT A. SCOTT

**K**ee your garbage out of our backyard! That's the battle cry of a number of far-east-side residents who are fighting to keep John DeBeck and his son, Tom, from locating a landfill in their neighborhood.

Madison Landfills Inc., a DeBeck-owned operation, wants to build a landfill at the intersection of Pflaum and Vondron roads. While the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is considering the proposal, area residents have banded together in angry opposition:

"This dump will benefit one person and one person only, and that's John DeBeck," says Mike Pearson, a spokes-



Refuse Hideaway in Middleton, a private landfill operated by John DeBeck.

MORRY GASH

person for Neighbors Opposing the Dump (NOD). "We cannot afford to bring down another viable and growing residential and business district, especially after millions have been invested and families settled, by throwing it all away for the financial gain of one man."

NOD contends that the landfill will result in increased traffic on Pflaum Road, higher rodent populations in the area, the elimination of wetlands and a decline in property values.

"The location is extremely bad for everyone," says Pearson. "He [DeBeck] is going to be accepting garbage not only

from Dane County, but also from Columbia and Jefferson counties. We figure there will be 400 to 500 garbage trucks a day going in and out—the roads out here won't be able to take it."

But Robert Glebs of Creative Resource Ventures, a consulting firm hired by Madison Landfills Inc., believes the matter is being blown out of proportion. "We are aware of their [NOD's] concerns," he says. "However, we feel that some of them are ungrounded. Unfortunately, facts can't always override emotion."

Glebs, a former solid-waste engineer

with the DNR, maintains that only about 100 garbage trucks per day will be using Pflaum Road, which currently handles 8,000 to 10,000 vehicles daily. "We would be only about 2% of the traffic," he says. Glebs acknowledges that the site would be accepting waste from Columbia and Jefferson counties, but only in "an emergency-type situation."

According to NOD, Madison Landfills Inc. will chalk up revenues of \$37 million during the 10 to 15 years the 41-acre

**Continued on Page 9**



# MADISON METRO

## Neighbors Mull Meaning of Discoveries at Dump

BY DAVID  
TENENBAUM

Take a walk across one of Dane County's most degraded landscapes, the Refuse Hideaway garbage dump three miles west of Middleton. Savor the stench of methane, a product of rotting garbage, then walk upwind to stare into holes in the bedrock from which emanates noxious gases. Walk along the hillside and notice places landscaped so that rainwater collects and soaks into the ground.

Listen to neighboring landowner Wayne Rounds describe these holes and you'll find yourself in the middle of a skirmish between amateurs and experts. Although the landfill closed last year (after it polluted three private wells with toxic chemicals), the dispute over who is to blame and what danger the dump presents to the community remains open.

Do the gas vents prove, as Rounds contends, that dump operator John DeBeck ignored Department of Natural Resources rules requiring 10 feet of soil between the garbage and the rocky hillside where the gas is venting? And does this help explain why the supposedly state-of-the-art (by 1970s standards) dump leaked toxic chemicals into the groundwater and the private

no big deal. "The gas will build up pressure and force its way out," says Ted Amman, DNR unit leader for environmental repair, adding that it's better for the gas to exit near the garbage than to travel through fissures in the rock.

The issue of methane spewing from the dump is of serious concern to area residents. Methane gas has exploded in basements near other landfills and is found at explosive levels in monitoring wells around Refuse Hideaway.

"I've argued for 17 years that methane would be a problem," says Robert Anders, a Dane County supervisor and neighbor. (Anders is promoting a green space for the Twin Valley area, and expects that the landfill might someday be included in his project, after the damage there has been repaired. The land is not fit for anything else, he says, because the soil will be settling for years to come.)

Another dispute concerns the significance of the areas that DeBeck has apparently landscaped to collect water above the dump. Rounds charges that these sinkholes facilitate the leaching of rainwater into the ground, thus increasing the potential for groundwater contamination.

Think of the landfill as a

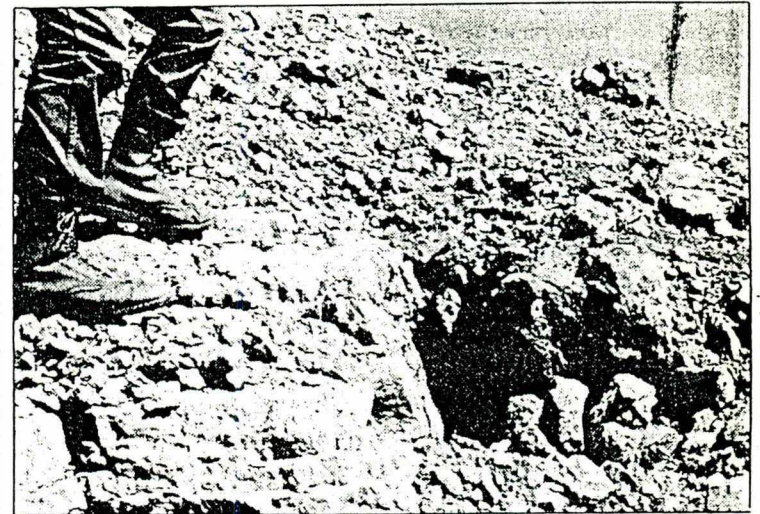
bottom—holding 1.5 million cubic yards of garbage. When water enters, it mixes with garbage to form leachate, which will eventually meet one of two fates. It can be pumped out and purified, which may be done at Refuse Hideaway this summer, or it can seep out in the groundwater, as has already happened.

"We don't want to be adding any more surface water into this area if it can be avoided," says Amman, because a large pool is more difficult to contain and remove. Reducing rainwater infiltration was the goal of the clay cap that was placed over the landfill last summer.

Stewart denies that the sinkholes are close enough to the garbage pile to feed the pool of leachate, noting that dikes further uphill prevent most runoff from entering. Further, she says, "There's no garbage in that area." And because the sinkholes are outside dump boundaries, "there's nothing we can do about it."

Stewart, who has borne the brunt of complaints from frustrated, anxious neighbors, adds, "I wish they [the amateurs] would let the DNR alone so it can do its work."

Given the DNR's record, that is unlikely. Neighbors have warned since 1972 that a dump would produce methane gas and groundwater pollution. They also note that a DNR Environmental Impact Statement in 1974 was wildly inaccurate on a number of points. For instance, the statement predicted that changes in the groundwater



DAVID TENENBAUM

**A gas venting hole at Refuse Hideaway: Were the rules broken?**

would not be significant even a short distance from the site. But wells more than a half-mile away ended up polluted.

The landfill's latest problems began several years ago after Stewart noticed leachate seeping from it. In March 1988, three families living west of the site were advised to stop drinking their well water. On April 6, 1988, the DNR issued a closure order, and soon thereafter DeBeck agreed to immediately shut the landfill down.

Now, Assistant Attorney General Robert Selk is taking DeBeck to court to force him to follow DNR regulations and pay for the cleanup. DeBeck, however, has challenged the ruling, and a decision may not come for months.

The issue is money. At least \$1 million will be needed for the first stages of a cleanup: extracting gas, pumping

leachate and purifying or hauling it away, and providing pure water to the three families.

Two government funds are being tapped for the cleanup. The state Environmental Repair Fund will likely pay for the first stages. The federal Superfund, if the lengthy application process goes smoothly, would be tapped to extract groundwater and purify it.

Mike Schmoller, a DNR environmental specialist, says, "There's no doubt in my mind that the site is bad enough to make the [Superfund] list." But federal money is unlikely to be available for at least five years. In the meantime, the pollution will continue spreading, even though, as Schmoller says, "the sooner you can [pump and treat the groundwater] the better off you are."



EGERTON: 252-6430.

# Landfill consultant accused of cover-up

By MIKE MILLER  
Capital Times Staff Writer

An engineering firm hired as a consultant to a troubled town of Middleton landfill owner was negligent for failing to properly monitor the Refuse Hideaway, a new complaint filed in a civil suit contends.

The suit also alleges that the firm failed to quickly disclose discovery of ground-water pollution at the site.

RMT Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of WPL Holdings Inc., was added today as a defendant in a lawsuit brought by Albert and Carolyn Stoppleworth, who sued landfill owner John DeBeck in 1988 over well-water contamination at their home near the landfill.

The suit says that when harmful contaminants were found, the firm delayed giving notice to the Stoppleworths that their well water was in danger of contamination. The family later was supplied with bottled water at DeBeck's expense.

The new complaint says three members of the RMT staff were former staff members of the state Department of Natural Resources who had a hand in regulating or licensing DeBeck's landfill.

According to the complaint, DeBeck's initial license for the landfill was issued in December 1974 under the signatures of Robert Glebs and John Reinhardt, who have since gone to work for RMT.

Between 1975 and 1977 Glebs and David Nichols, of the DNR's solid waste management section, were involved in inspecting Refuse Hideaway for possible problems.

In early 1978, the complaint says, Reinhardt resigned from the DNR to participate in the formation of RMT Inc., and became a vice presi-

dent of the newly formed firm. Nichols resigned from DNR and joined RMT in September of that year, and Glebs followed suit in November.

On Dec.-4, 1978, Glebs met with DeBeck and "proposed that RMT provide comprehensive consulting services ... for the operation" of the landfill, the complaint says.

The complaint notes that in 1979 an RMT report on the landfill called into question its placement and the technique used to monitor ground water at the site. "It is possible that any contaminant plume that exists has been missed," the report said.

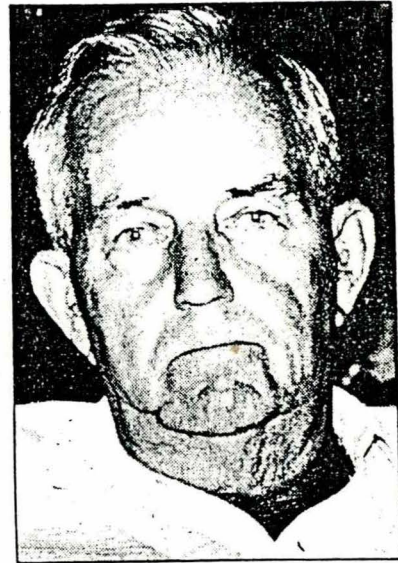
The report, according to the complaint, suggested additional monitoring wells at several locations, but those wells were not installed.

Still, "RMT consistently rendered its opinion from 1979 to 1987 that there was 'no ground-water degradation near the site' without noting the limitations of such conclusions because of the inadequacy of the monitoring system," the complaint contends.

Later, the DNR found toxins leaking from the landfill and required RMT to revise its monitoring program. In June and July 1987, RMT itself found chemicals in test wells "in excess of the state enforcement standards" and wrote in an August internal report that the problem was of "most immediate concern."

But, the complaint says, the defendants did not immediately notify the Stoppleworths of the potential contamination of their well, or suggest they have their well tested. That recommendation didn't come until January 1988.

RMT didn't test the Stoppleworths' water until Feb. 29, 1988,



John DeBeck

and it wasn't until March 10, 1988, "that RMT informed the plaintiffs that their well water was contaminated ... and recommended they stop drinking the water."

The complaint accuses RMT of "intentionally and knowingly misrepresenting the adequacy of the landfill monitoring system," and of "knowingly delaying a determination" of how the toxic pollutants may have affected the Stoppleworth's well.

The new complaint says the Stoppleworths, who tried to block establishment of the landfill near their home as early as 1972, were exposed to toxic pollutants including carcinogens and suffer a substantially increased risk of disease, including cancer; have suffered emotional distress from those increased risks; and have seen the value of their home and property destroyed as a result of the contamination to the well.



# Costly cleanup outlined

## Citizens hear Refuse Hideaway plans

By JOE SCHOENMANN

Capital Times Staff Writer 3-1-90

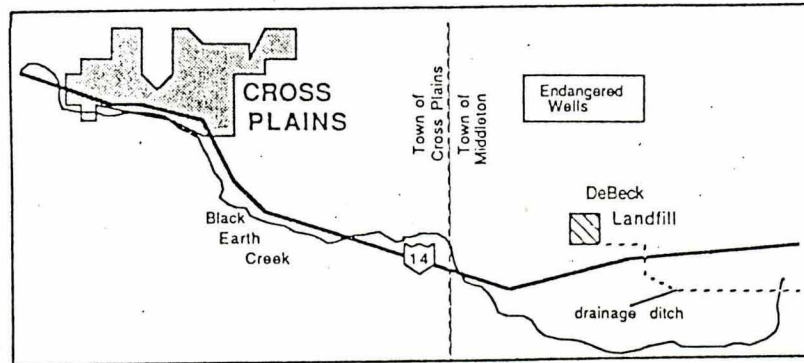
MIDDLETON — Problem solvers Wednesday night outlined an expensive program of cleanup that will probably outlast the lives of anyone remembering the name Refuse Hideaway Landfill.

Consultants from Warzyn Engineering Inc. and the Department of Natural Resources defined a four-point plan to extract poisons from soil and water within and around the landfill on U.S. 14:

- Some 13 extraction wells — which act like straws to suck methane gas and polluted ground water from soils within a 150-foot radius — will be installed. Two are already in place but not yet operating. Mark Giesfeldt, chief of the DNR's environmental response and repair section, said the devices will operate "indefinitely."

- Additional ground water monitors will determine a clear outline of how far leachates have spread.

- Sources of fresh water for three nearby homes that can no longer use their wells are being looked into. Ideas include extending water service from Cross Plains or Middleton, installing a community well off or on the site, and installing a tank to store portable water brought in from else-



where.

Filters that make tap water clean enough to bathe with are now provided to the homes.

In the future, residents will get more expensive filters, \$6,000 each, which will allow them to drink the water. Maintenance costs for each filter run about \$30,000 per year, said Giesfeldt.

- General landfill cover repair and revegetation of the landfill site will be done in the far distant future.

In the long run, Giesfeldt estimates Refuse Hideaway will cost taxpayers between \$5 million and \$10 million. Who pays that bill remains to be seen.

"It all depends on who is named as a responsible party," he said.

John DeBeck operated Refuse Hideaway, located two miles west

of Middleton on U.S. 14, for more than a decade. Last October, an attorney for the town of Dunn filed a motion to open hearings to determine the ownership — and liability — question.

Most of the \$600,000 spent so far on study costs came from the coffers of the state's Environmental Repair Fund, Giesfeldt added. The DNR is pressing the Environmental Protection Agency to put Refuse Hideaway on the Superfund list so it will also qualify for federal funds.

There are 41 Superfund sites currently in Wisconsin.

Wednesday's was the last of four informational meetings held throughout the Cross Plains/Middleton area by Warzyn and the DNR.

REFUSE HIDEAWAY  
Wisconsin State Journal

12/20/89

## Landfill tests show no tainted water

TOWN OF MIDDLETON — No pools of contaminated water have been found in two pilot extraction wells at the Refuse Hideaway landfill, a state Department of Natural Resources spokeswoman said Tuesday night.

However, the two wells only test a small part of the landfill, 1½ miles west of Middleton, and contaminated water might still be found, said Theresa Evanson, DNR hydrogeologist.

Evanson spoke at an informational meeting at West Middleton Elementary School to let residents know about the DNR's program to address ground-water contamination concerns in the area near the 29-acre landfill.

The program involves extracting and treating contaminated water before ground water in the area is contaminated further, Evanson said. Gases built up in the landfill will be burned off.

The Refuse Hideaway landfill closed in 1988 after three private wells nearby became contaminated.



**BRIEFLY**

**Landfill hearing:** The state Department of Natural Resources will hold an informational public hearing on remedial action at the Refuse Hideaway Landfill near Middleton at 7:30 tonight at West Middleton Elementary School, 7627 Mineral Point Road.

**Food drive:** The Credit Union Center will hold an annual Thanksgiving food drive this week at the center, 5710 Mineral Point Road. Employees and area residents are asked to bring food and personal care items to be distributed to Dane County food pantries.

# Treatment set to start within week at landfill

By JERRY AMBELANG  
Area News Chief

**TOWN OF MIDDLETON** — The state expects to start treating the source of ground water contamination at the Refuse Hideaway Landfill within the week to curtail further well pollution in the area, area residents were informed Monday night.

More than 50 people attending the informational session at West Middleton Elementary School were told the remedial project was finally getting under way at the landfill, which was shut down in May 1988.

The ground water contamination is still moving slowly outward from the landfill, which is two miles west of Middleton along U.S. 14, said Ted Lauf, community relations coordinator for Warzyn engineering firm that has planned the decontamination project.

The basic program will be to dig additional wells at the landfill to treat the leachate before it leaves the source, and to burn off gases that are formed in the landfill, he said.

From Page 1

## Veto

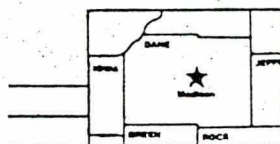
**LANDFILL VETO:** Language in the state budget bill to give funding priority to the Refuse Hideaway Landfill Site in western Dane County was also vetoed by Thompson.

Thompson said the legislative effort to give that project top priority would circumvent the "elaborate hazardous ranking system for setting environmental priorities for problems to be funded from the Environmental Repair Fund."

The Committee to Save Black Earth Creek will meet tonight at 7 at the Cross Plains State Bank to review the issue in light of the governor's decision.

## The AREA

From Staff and News Services



...so we don't have...future Refuse Hideaways'

# Environmental committee sends landfill bill to the floor

The Senate Environmental Resources Committee last week unanimously approved a bill that would toughen the closure procedures for certain dangerous landfills.

Senate Bill 241, sponsored by the state's State Senator, Russell Feingold, was approved 4-0 by the committee and recommended for action by the Senate, probably during the Oct. 4 session.

Feingold said "the state should do all it can to close down irresponsible and law-violating landfill operators" in a news release sent out on August 15. The next day the committee made

to finally close it down."

"This bill would help prevent unscrupulous landfill operators from playing Russian roulette with people's drinking water, and the environment in general," Feingold added.

Current law allows owners and operators of landfills that were licensed before 1977 the right to draw-out hearings and appeal processes to respond to charges of license violations. This bill takes away such extended time privileges for pre-1977 operators and subjects all landfill operators to the same requirements.

## Bill to curb landfill operators gets nod

The Legislature's Joint Finance Committee has approved a proposal by Rep. Joseph Wineke, D-Verona, to prohibit landfill operators from starting new landfills while under orders to clean up an old site.

Wineke called his idea a "bad actor" amendment and said it addresses a problem in his own back yard — the Refuse Hideaway in the town of Middleton, which the Department of Natural Resources has ordered closed and cleaned up. The owner, John DeBeck, had applied for two new permits to operate new landfills near Lake Waubesa and on Madison's far east side.

Wineke's bill would prohibit DeBeck from receiving the new permits until the DNR is satisfied the Refuse Hideaway site is clean.

**REFUSE HIDEAWAY  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN  
RESOURCE LIST**

**Town of Middleton Board Members**

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Robert Jo Anders  
County Board Supervisor  
4232 Twin Valley Road  
Middleton, WI 53562  
831-8988

Ken Biller  
Town Clerk  
7722 Mineral Point Rd.  
Madison, WI 53562  
836-1324

PLEASE POST



**Town of and Village of Cross Plains**

Walter Haack  
Chair, Town of Cross Plains  
4235 Garfoot Rd.  
Cross Plains, WI 53528  
Phone 798-2650

Ms. Jan Klock  
Clerk, Village of Cross Plains  
2107 Julius St.  
Village Hall  
Cross Plains, WI 53528-9499  
798-3241

PLEASE POST

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4508 Oak Valley Rd.  
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Maurice J. Coyle  
Supervisor, Town of Cross Plains  
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Miscellaneous & Interested Parties

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Library Director  
7426 Hubbard Ave.  
Middleton, WI 53562  
831-5564

Greg Matthews  
Wisconsin DNR  
DNR Southern District Headquarters  
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Fitchburg, WI 53711  
275-3317

Andy Morton  
Wisconsin DNR  
Southern District Headquarters  
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Black Earth, WI 53515

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Madison, WI 53705

James Knobloch  
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Cross Plains, WI 53528



John DeBeck  
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Madison, WI 53704

Ed Kuhlmeiy  
Cuna Mutual Ins. Group  
Real Estate Department  
5910 Mineral Point Rd.  
P.O. Box 391  
Madison, WI 53701

(10 copies of all mailers)

Kathy D'Angelo  
822 Spaight St.  
Apt. 3  
Madison, WI 53703

Randell Swanson  
Chairman, Middleton Drainage Board Dist.  
Hwy 14  
Route 6  
Middleton, WI 53562 (send 2 copies)

Ed. and Patricia Baker  
4471 Rockey Dell Rd.  
Cross Plains, WI 53582

Duane Barmore  
City of Middleton Planning Commission  
7509 Kenyon Dr.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Mary Lou Neidhart  
Town of Middleton Planning Commission  
7326 Blackhawk Rd.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Dick Callaway  
Callaway, Dunn & Meeker, S.C.  
306 E. Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

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Citizens to Save the Black Earth Watershed (CSBEW)  
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Cross Plain, WI 53528

Vicki Hellenbrand  
4512 Oak Valley Rd.  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

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RMT Inc.  
P.O. Box 8923  
Madison, WI 53708

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7984 Stagecoach Rd.  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Norm Arendt  
Dane County Solid Waste Committee  
1251 Sweetbriar Rd.  
Madison, WI 53705

Al Cvecholinski  
Dane County Public Works Department  
City-County Building  
Room 519  
Madison, WI 53709



**Committees and Government Officials**

**Assembly**

Natural Resources  
Rep. Spencer Black  
Committee Chairman  
Room 37 N. Capital Building  
Madison, WI 53708  
266-7521

**Senate**

Env. Resources & Utilities  
Senator Fred Risser  
State Capital  
Room 235 South  
Madison, WI 53708  
266-1627

**State Representatives**

David Travis  
Room 240 N. State Capital  
Madison, WI 53702  
266-5340

Thomas Loftus  
211 West State Capital  
Madison, WI 53702  
266-3387

**State Senator**

Senator Russell D. Feingold  
Room 28 S. State Capital  
Madison, WI 53702  
266-6670  
Attention: Moira Harrington

U.S. Senator  
Herbert Kohl  
14 W. Mifflin  
Suite 312  
Madison, WI 53703  
Attention: Eve Galanter  
264-5338

**County**

Richard Phelps  
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Madison, WI 53701  
266-4114

Dane County Papers

Dane County News - Mazomanie  
Sickle - Cross Plains Arrow  
1126 Mills St.  
Black Earth, WI 53515

Madison Capital Times  
1901 Fish Hatchery Road  
P.O. Box 8060  
Madison, WI 53708  
Attention: Jerry Ambelang

Wisconsin State Journal  
1901 Fish Hatchery Road  
P.O. Box 8058  
Madison, WI 53708  
Attention: Marv Balousek, County Reporter

Middleton Times-Tribune  
1918 Parmenter St.  
P.O. Box 6  
Middleton, WI 53562  
Attention: Michael C. Bailey



**Dane County Radio & TV**

WISC-TV  
7025 Raymond Road  
Madison, WI 53711  
Attention: Katy Sai

WMTV-TV  
615 Forward Drive  
Madison, WI 53711  
Attention: John Peppitone

WKOW-TV  
5727 Tokay Blvd.  
Madison, WI 53714

WHA Radio  
821 University Ave.  
Madison, WI 53706

WIBA Radio AM & FM  
P.O. Box 99  
Rt. 4 Fish Hatchery Rd.  
Madison, WI 53701

WTDY Radio AM & FM  
3220 Syene Rd.  
P.O. Box 2058  
Madison, WI 53701

WTSO Radio AM  
5721 Tokay Blvd.  
Madison, WI 53714

WWQM-Q106  
5024 E. Lacy Rd.  
Fitchburg, WI 53711  
Attention: Bob Alderson

**Property Owners**

George Ott  
6329 Piedmont Rd.  
Madison, WI 53711-4062

Donald Julson  
8607 Airport Road, Route 6  
Middleton, WI 53562

Elmer Jungbluth  
8611 Airport Road, Route 1  
Middleton, WI 53562

Robert Kjonaas/Britta Renstrom  
8632 Airport Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Ronald & JoAnn Golesh  
8640 Airport Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Charles & Lorna Bucsek  
4688 Murphy Ct.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Edward & Vickie Ellickson  
8656 Airport Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

James & Audrey Abrahamson  
8689 Airport Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Stephen Kind  
8692 Airport Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Douglas & Cynthia Rickey  
8696 Airport Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Thomas & Sheila Utter  
8700 Airport Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Chalet St. Moritz  
4635 Chalet Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Horst Gierke  
4292 Twin Valley Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

(Enchanted Valley Estates)

Kathy Gerber  
4676 Horizon  
Middleton, WI 53562

(Pine Manor Estates)

John & Linda Benson  
4647 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562

(Following Homes Plumbed to the Benson Well:)

Steven & Angeliki Kellner  
4630 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562



Rodney & Rose Huebner  
4650 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562

Hugh & Delores Wiggs  
4653 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562

Mary Roeder  
4660 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562

(Following Homes Plumbed to the Roeder Well:)

Roy & Charlotte Gregson  
4657 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562

Raymond & Tracy Mandli  
4675 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562

John & Karen Albright  
4676 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562

James & Joyce Tiedman  
4629 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562  
(Well also plumbed to neighbors home at 4640 Pine Manor)

Brian & Kathy Graedel  
4639 Pine Manor Circle  
Middleton, WI 53562

Delven Vosen  
4622 Rocky Dell Road, Route 1  
Middleton, WI 53562

Richard Summers  
4610 Rocky Dell Road, Route 1  
Middleton, WI 53562

Mike Root  
4526 Rocky Dell Road  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Ralph & Marie Jackson  
4519 Rocky Dell Road  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Patrick & Julie Coyle  
4593 Rocky Dell Road  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Virginia Holtz/Joan Graber  
4621 Rocky Dell Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Hare's Towne Bowl  
7302 USH 14  
Middleton, WI 53562

Resident  
7440 USH 14  
Middleton, WI 53562

Craig & Anita Schultz  
7734 USH 14  
Middleton, WI 53562

Al & Carolyn Stoppeworth  
7750 USH 14  
Middleton, WI 53562

Sunnyside Seed Farms (R.C. Swanson)  
7755 USH 14, Route 1  
Middleton, WI 53562

Eunice Schulenburg  
7902 USH 14  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Resident  
7872 Deer Run Road  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

John Walter/Patricia Ferrara  
7873 Deer Run Road  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Richard Hinrichs  
7424 Wayside Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

James & Lori Malicki  
7434 Wayside Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Edna Thew  
7444 Wayside Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Joseph & Betty Hinrichs  
7458 Wayside Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Duane & Helen Van Haren  
7472 Wayside Road, Route 6  
Middleton, WI 53562



Rick & Stacy Sanders  
4191 Twin Valley Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Robert Anders  
4232 Twin Valley Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Gary & Alice Ehnert  
4215 Twin Valley Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

James Watson  
4255 Twin Valley Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Claire Fulenwider/Harriet Forman  
4282 Twin Valley Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Lisa Roberts  
4344 Twin Valley Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Richard & Alice Watts  
4358 Willow Lane  
Middleton, WI 53562

Valerie Dantoin/Karen Fries  
4364 Willow Lane  
Middleton, WI 53562

Dick & Pat Hansen  
4381 Willow Lane  
Middleton, WI 53562

Gene Sharp  
7785 Low Road  
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Well Not Tested - Citizens to Save the Black Earth Watershed (CSBEW)

David Mauion  
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Middleton, WI 53562

Lloyd S. Kenyon  
7557 Pioneer Pl.  
Verona, WI 53593

Franklin French  
4111 Twin Valley Rd.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Thomas E. O'Connell  
7580 W. Old Sauk Rd.  
Verona, WI 53593

Dr. James Shipley  
6641 University Ave.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Robert B. Anderson  
7693 Shiller Crt.  
Verona, WI 53593

Wayne M. Rounds  
6218 S. Highlands  
Madison, WI 53705

Karen Alright  
4676 Pine Manor Cir.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Dick Wickman  
7605 W. Old Sauk Rd.  
Verona, WI 53593

Connie Shaw  
4344 Twin Valley Rd.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Bob Ross  
4127 Long New Rd.  
Verona, WI 53593

C. Schiller  
7689 Schiller  
Verona, WI 53593

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Bob Harris  
1735 Mayflower Dr.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Jim & Sheree Mader  
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Cross Plains, WI 53528

John Hoops  
8051 Burr Oak Tr.  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Tom & Jan Fuss  
8048 Stagecoach Rd.  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Dan & Pat Sommers  
7892 Deer Run Rd.  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

[dlk-800-56]



**REFUSE HIDEAWAY  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN**

**Alphabetical Mailing Label List  
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Walter Haack  
Chair, Town of Cross Plains  
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[ndj-700-35A]

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Env. Resources & Utilities  
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Michael C. Bailey  
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Marv Balousek  
Wisconsin State Journal  
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Madison, WI 53708

Dane County News - Mazomanie  
Sickle - Cross Plains Arrow  
1126 Mills St.  
Black Earth, WI 53515

WMTV-TV  
615 Forward Drive  
Madison, WI 53711  
Attn: John Peppitone

WISC-TV  
7025 Raymond Road  
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Attn: Katy Sai

WHA Radio  
821 University Ave.  
Madison, WI 53706

WIBA Radio AM & FM  
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WTDY Radio AM & FM  
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Madison, WI 53701

WTSO Radio AM  
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[ndj-700-35A]



**REFUSE HIDEAWAY  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN**

**Alphabetical Mailing Label List  
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Karen Albright  
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Robert B. Anderson  
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Ed and Patricia Baker  
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Middleton, WI 53562

Horst Gierke  
4292 Twin Valley Rd.  
Middleton, WI 53562

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Black Earth Creek Watershed Assoc.  
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8640 Airport road  
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Madison, WI 53705

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Middleton, WI 53562

Dick & Pat Hansen  
4381 Willow Lane  
Middleton, WI 53562

Hare's Towne Bowl  
7302 USH 14  
Middleton, WI 53562

Bob Harris  
1735 Mayflower Dr.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Vicki Hellenbrand  
4512 Oak Valley Rd.  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Joseph & Betty Hinrichs  
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Middleton, WI 53562

Richard Hinrichs  
7424 Wayside Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

Virginia Holtz/Joan Graber  
4621 rocky Dell Road  
Middleton, WI 53562

John Hoops  
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Cross Plains, WI 53528

Rodney & Rose Huebner  
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Middleton, WI 53562

Ralph & Marie Jackson  
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Cross Plains, WI 53528

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