



Innovative Leachate Seep Remediation at Closed Landfill

EIL's team implemented innovative remediation strategy to address chronic leachate seeps on the sideslopes of a closed landfill.

Phytoremediation was more effective than conventional soil placement methods, and eliminated the need for expensive sewer connections or leachate hauling.

Client: Landfill Owner
Location: Midwestern U.S
Date of Services: 2011

Evaluation and Design

- During routine site inspections, leachate seeps and moist areas were regularly discovered along the the sideslope of a closed landfill. These problem spots were also located up-slope of a newly installed storm sewer inlet, providing a ready conduit for potential off-site leachate contamination.
- After evaluating several traditional remedies phytoremediation was chosen because of its low capital and maintenance cost, its low environmental impact and high aesthetic value.

Installation

- Teamed with specialty tree consultant to choose species and plant the trees.
- Provided oversight of the construction effort.

Results

- Trees have successfully eliminated seeps and have improved aesthetics of the landfill.

Lessons Learned

- Deer were a major strain on the tree survivability. Regular application of wolf urine kept deer at bay during the first two years after the installation and allowed trees to get established.

