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.*

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**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 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.