



# Modern Sanitation Landfill Superfund site

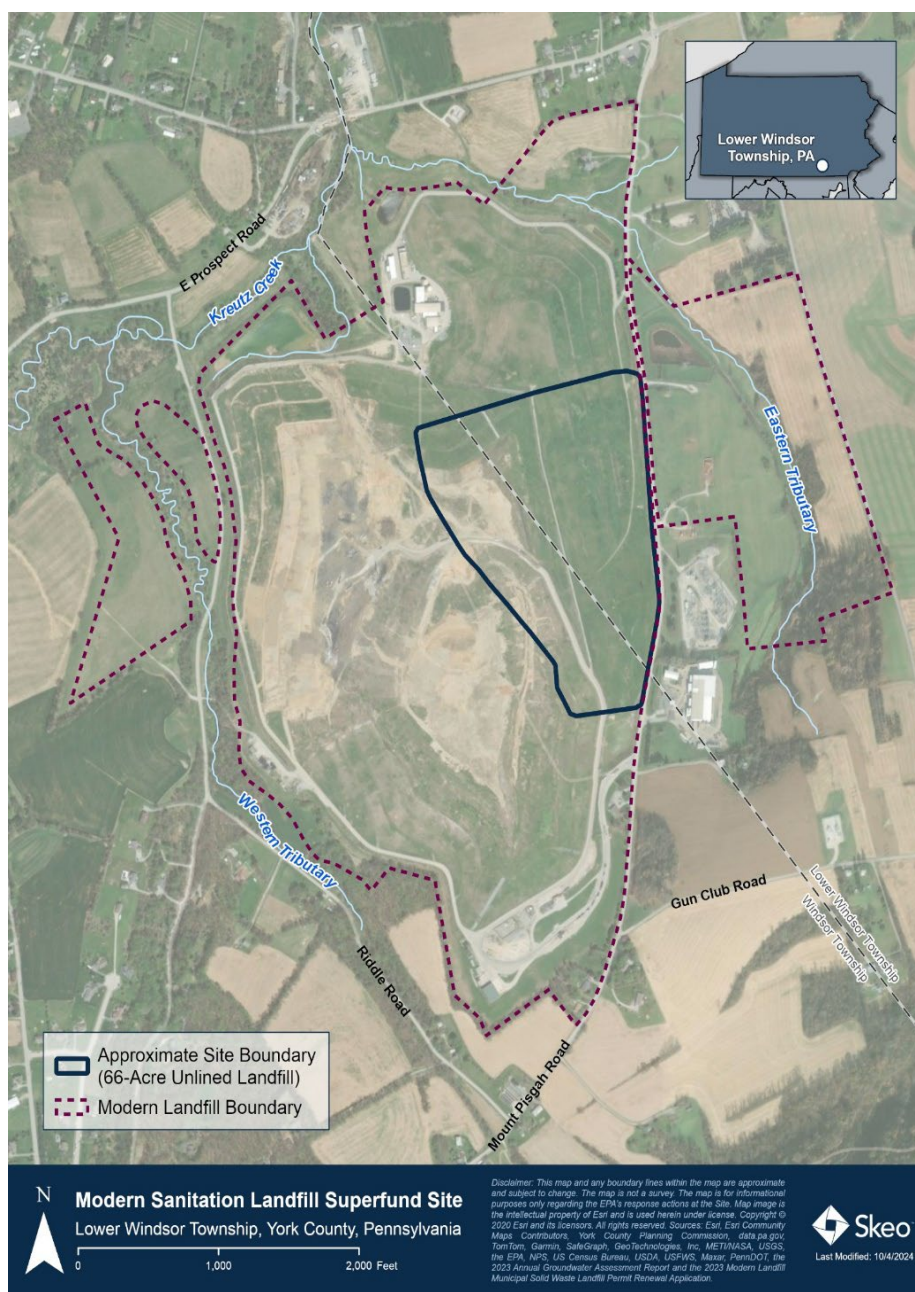
## Community Update | May 2025

### Site Update

On Feb. 19, 2025, the EPA completed the Five-Year Review (FYR) for the Modern Sanitation Landfill Superfund site. The purpose of the FYR is to evaluate the implementation and performance of the selected remedy to determine if it continues to protect human health and the environment. One issue was identified. PFAS compounds have been detected in treatment system effluent and it is unknown if they are site related. The recommendation to address this issue is to sample groundwater monitoring wells for PFAS compounds and determine if PFAS is related to the site.

*Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS)* are widely used, long-lasting chemicals, components of which break down very slowly over time. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, many PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals all over the world and are present at low levels in a variety of food products and in the environment. The EPA has been evaluating PFAS at many of their sites, including landfill sites, to determine whether it is present or at levels of health concern. Recently, the EPA has listed some PFAS compounds as hazardous substances.

The operator of Modern Sanitation Landfill, Republic Services, is required by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) to sample effluent, which is treated water discharged from the site. PFAS compounds have been detected in the effluent after being treated onsite at the wastewater treatment plant. Ecological screening values have been developed for eight PFAS compounds. Exceedances of the ecological screening levels in surface water represent PFAS concentrations where chronically exposed organisms may be adversely affected, and experience ecological risks or other impacts. Detected concentrations of PFAS in effluent from the site were below ecological screening values.



## What happens next?

Since PFAS were detected in the treatment plant effluent, Republic Services plans to sample groundwater in select monitoring wells within the site's monitoring network to determine if PFAS are related to the Superfund site. Modern Landfill is composed of four contiguous disposal areas that are partially overlain by one another and now make up a single landfill area. Only the inactive 66-acre unlined landfill is listed on the Nation Priorities List (NPL) as a Superfund site. The other three disposal areas are double-lined and permitted by PADEP.

Overall, the remedy at the site currently protects human health and the environment because there are no completed exposure pathways to remaining contamination. For the remedy to be protective over the long-term, the recommendation in the Five-Year Review needs to be implemented to ensure protectiveness. The recommendation is to sample groundwater for PFAS compounds and determine if PFAS is site related. The EPA will work closely with Republic Services to implement the recommendations from the FYR and keeping the community updated.

If you would like to learn more about the site and PFAS visit the websites below or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

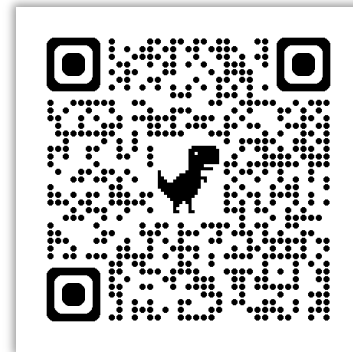
### Modern Sanitation Landfill Superfund site

[www.epa.gov/superfund/modern-sanitation](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/modern-sanitation)



### Citizen's Guide to PFAS

[www.epa.gov/PFAS](http://www.epa.gov/PFAS)



## Contact information:

### All site-related questions:

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