

**South Dallas County Landfill Agency  
2022 Annual Report to Adel City Council  
February 23, 2023**

The South Dallas County Landfill Agency is located on the northwest side of the City of Adel and spans about 68 acres of abandoned clay pits. The permitted service area is the City of Adel and the Metro Waste Authority (MWA) service area (all cities and the unincorporated areas in Polk County, the cities of Dawson, Linden, Minburn, Perry, Redfield, and Waukee, and the unincorporated area of Dallas County; the cities of Mingo and Prairie City in Jasper County and the city of Jefferson in Greene County). Municipal solid waste is only received from the City of Adel. Construction and demolition waste may be received from the entire planning area through a reciprocal agreement with MWA. The landfill also accepts recyclable materials.

The portion of the site that has been or will be used for waste disposition occupies approximately 42.5 acres. The southwestern fill area was capped and closed in 1992 (11.34 acres). The northeastern vertical expansion fill area was reopened in 1992 (12.36 acres) and is also now closed. Phase 1 of the horizontal expansion to the West began operation in Fall 1998 and is now filled and has intermediate cover. Phase 2 construction was completed Spring 2005 and also is now filled and has intermediate cover. Phase 3 was constructed in 2011 and Phase 4 was constructed in Fall 2017; both are partially filled, have intermediate cover, and are part of a redesign to direct water away from both Phase 3 and Phase 4. Phase 5 (that includes a portion of the old SW Area) was constructed during Fall of 2021, has received “choice” waste to protect the liner and leachate collection system, and is now the current working face.

The landfill’s permit was renewed for another five years on January 11, 2021.

The Annual Report provides an update on environmental issues and on operations for calendar year 2022 and recognizes the contributions of staff to the successes of the Landfill.

Operations include a disposal area for garbage, an area for brush, and an area for recyclable materials. GPS installed on both the compactor and the dozer continue to be valuable to make sure space is used to the fullest extent. Major equipment is budgeted and upgraded on a schedule to maximize the efficiency of operations; replacement occurs approximately every five years, depending on hours of usage, to minimize repair costs as equipment ages. 2022 saw the replacement of the water truck. Long-range budgeting for expansion and equipment is practiced to provide for the future disposal of waste.

Revenues increased for fiscal year 2022 by 20.1% due to more gate receipts over the prior year, reflecting more building activity in Adel and increased gate fees. Expenses increased by 20.6% because of increased salaries and benefits and operational expenditures, including solid waste contract fees, fuel, and leachate disposal fees. The Landfill continues to aim for efficiency, while funding current operations; planning for the construction of future cells and equipment purchases; and reserving funds for the eventual closure and post-closure requirement for landfills.

IDNR approved a revised treatment agreement with the City of Adel on August 24, 2021, that allowed the Landfill to discharge additional leachate to the City's wastewater treatment facility, updating the previous treatment agreement from December 2002. To reduce disposal fees and to further stabilize the cells, the Landfill is employing a leachate recirculating system in Phases 3 and 4. Over the years, the Landfill has expanded with additional waste cells, each with a Flexible Membrane Liner lined-base and leachate collection system to better collect and reduce remaining leachate in the cells.

SDCL's Comprehensive Solid Waste Plan that was approved by IDNR on September 19, 2020, continues to be implemented. The Action Plan included educational components like developing stickers for the Ankeny Sanitation totes to encourage proper recycling; the informational stickers were placed on the City's residential totes Summer, 2021, and continue to be placed on the recycling totes of new residents and replace damaged stickers on current totes.

Periodic social media posts promote the proper disposal of waste oil and batteries.

The Landfill continues to sponsor the Spring Household Hazardous Materials (HHM) event, held annually with Metro Waste Authority support and the assistance of the Adel Lions Club members. In April 2022, 115 residents dropped off 4,126.4 pounds of various household wastes that would otherwise have been landfilled, including batteries, oil, paint, pesticides and other items, compared with the 2021 HHM Event, which brought in nearly 3,000 pounds from 92 residents.

The Landfill meets all of the requirements of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, complying with all State and Federal regulations. A testing schedule for contaminants and methane gas is maintained. The reclamation of the SW Area continues under the permission of the IDNR, recovering soil for daily and intermediate cover, removing the old waste to a FML lined cell in compliance with IDNR rules, and providing more area for future Adel waste. While the excavation of the SW Area is only partially complete, the Landfill was able to add the completed western portion of the excavation into the development of Phase 5 during Fall 2021 and Phase 5 is currently receiving waste.

The Landfill was one of three nominees for the 2022 Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year at Celebrate Adel on April 21, 2022. The Landfill also was featured in the Chamber News column in the November, 2022, [Adel Living Magazine](#). Board Chair Shirley McAdon received [CityView's Business Journal](#) "22 From 2022 Business People Who Made a Difference Award" at the awards ceremony on November 3, 2022.

Patrons are encouraged to read much more about the Landfill on the Landfill's website: [sdclandfill.com](http://sdclandfill.com)

Prepared by Shirley McAdon, SDCLA Board Chair