



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

for Bingham Park Waste Remediation Project

Where is Bingham Park, and what is its history?

- Bingham Park is a 12-acre neighborhood park located at 500 Bingham St. in east Greensboro. It serves the Cottage Grove, Eastside Park, and Willow Oaks neighborhoods. From the 1920s through the 1950s it was also the location of a waste incinerator and an unlined, pre-regulatory landfill.
- Pre-regulatory means it operated before standards were established in 1983, and it is unlined meaning it does not have a clay or plastic liner separating the landfill material from the surrounding environment. By the late 1980s landfills had started to use single plastic liner systems, and eventually, two liner systems were required.
- In the 1970s, the City converted the site into Bingham Park.
- Since the early 2000s, the City has worked with the community and NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) to test the site and develop a plan for moving forward.

What waste is present at Bingham Park?

- NCDEQ testing at 100-foot intervals revealed residue of incinerated waste, including broken glass, brick, metal pieces, and other types of debris. It also found elevated concentrations of heavy metals, which are the result of incineration residues, such as bottom ash and fly ash.
- The waste does not move or “leak”- it is non-mobile and has essentially bonded to the waste material/soil.
- Waste can be disposed of in a traditional municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill that has a current permit with the NCDEQ to accept these type of materials.

Why must the waste be removed from Bingham Park?

- With support of the community, the City has determined that full remediation, or the removal of all contaminated soil and material, is the desired option to address the site.
- The surrounding neighborhoods are not able to have a functional park unless the soil is removed. No amenities in the park can be replaced without addressing the contaminated soil.

Why is Bingham Park closed?

- To eliminate potential exposure to the identified onsite contamination, the NCDEQ and Parks and Recreation have agreed to close and secure the park.
- Consistent with earlier guidance, wading in the creek, ingesting creek water, and digging in or disturbing the dirt are prohibited due to potential exposure to arsenic, iron, manganese, lead, and semi-volatile organic compounds.

What locations have been considered for waste disposal?

Three landfills have been evaluated because they are the closest landfills to Bingham Park that are able to accept the type of waste from a pre-regulatory landfill that is considered non-toxic.

- White Street Landfill, Greensboro
 - Estimated Remediation Project Cost: approximately \$24 to \$27 million
 - Project duration: approximately four months for 11,500 dump trucks making an 11-mile roundtrip each day
- Great Oak Landfill, Asheboro
 - Estimated Remediation Project Cost: approximately \$36 million
 - Project duration: approximately 8-12 months for 11,500 dump trucks making a 58-mile roundtrip each day
- Uhwarrie Landfill, Troy
 - Cost: approximately \$54 million
 - Project Duration: approximately 16+ months for 11,500 dump trucks making 120-mile round trip each day

Why is White Street the most feasible option to accept the waste?

- The facility is located the closest to Bingham Park (six miles) and is owned and operated by the City of Greensboro. The other landfill options are owned and operated by private companies and are located in different counties.
- White Street is able to accept this type of project-specific waste with the revision of its solid waste permit through City Council.
- Use of this site reduces the overall duration of the project and thus shortens the amount of time of impact on neighboring residences.
- Acceptance of this waste will help close White Street fully about 8.4 years earlier than expected.
- Using the landfill closest to Bingham Park reduces the cost to a level which allows for full remediation of Bingham Park to occur. The funding that is available now would allow for the City and State to initiate the project by using White Street Landfill.

Will accepting waste from Bingham Park reopen White Street Landfill?

- No. White Street is currently open for construction debris and yard waste. It does not and would not accept household waste.
- City Council would have to adopt a resolution so White Street can officially accept this project specific waste.

Will moving the waste bring contamination to the new disposal location and surrounding properties?

- No. The waste at Bingham Park is a concern due to its location in an unsecure environment which presents potential exposure risks and that it was placed in a pre-regulatory, unlined landfill.
- It can be transported safely to a traditional, solid waste facility.

Will this waste smell like the household waste that used to be taken to the White Street Landfill?

- No. This waste will not smell, and much of it will look like dirt as it has been in the ground for 50 years or more. Trucks will also be covered during transport.

What are the next steps with this project?

- We are seeking feedback on the possible waste disposal location options (White Street, Great Oak, and Uhwarrie landfills), which will inform the City's readiness to begin remediation planning for the project. The development of the remedial action plan is projected to take between one and two years.

For more information, visit www.tinyurl.com/BinghamParkGSO or call 336-373-2558.