

3.5.2 ELMWOOD PLACE LANDFILL

Facility Name: Village of Elmwood Place Landfill

A.K.A.: N/A

Location: 5622 Center Hill Avenue. Adjacent to the west bank of Mill Creek and immediately east of the intersection of Center Hill Road and Este Avenue in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Parcel(s): 23800040050, 23900030022, 23900040003, 23800040052, 23800040051

Lat, Long: 39.188324 -84.493865

Region: Cincinnati, OH 45216

Owner: City of Cincinnati

Operation (yrs): 1930s – late 1960s/early 1970s (exact dates unknown)



FACILITY OVERVIEW

The landfill was used for the disposal of residential, commercial and incinerator waste from the early twentieth century, most probably the early 1930's. Waste disposal activities most probably ceased in the late 1960's or early 1970's, prior to legislation that would have required licensure.

Based on the limited available records for the site history, wastes which may have been disposed at the site include organics, inorganics, heavy metals, oily wastes, paint wastes, solvents, and other unknown wastes of residential and municipal origin.

According to records, the site was transferred from private ownership to the Village of Elmwood Place on January 5, 1910. The 1938 aerial photograph shows the southeast and central portion of the property as cleared, possibly containing a small building. Several acres surrounding the building are disturbed and may show evidence of waste disposal. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that waste deposition on the site commenced between 1910 and 1938.

The small building is clearly visible in the central portion of the subject property in the 1950 aerial photograph, and shows a single smokestack on its east side. This building is believed to be a waste incinerator operated by the Village of Elmwood Place; hence the landfill is likely to contain a proportion of incinerator ash. The incinerator was removed between 1973 and 1977.

Cessation of disposal activities at the site is not precisely known. However, the ground surface on the subject property is less disturbed in the 1968 aerial photograph and appears to be covered in grassy vegetation. This may indicate decreased utilization or cessation of waste disposal operations.

Although no records exist for the waste disposed of in the Elmwood Place Landfill, it is likely that the majority of the waste was a combination of incinerator ash and unburned residential and commercial wastes from area homes and businesses.

A notice of intent to fill was submitted for the property in March of 2004. During that year cleanup activities were completed to remove some tires and flagging waste noted on the property. Additional soils were also brought to the site to try to limit exposed waste and ponding of surface water.

In 2005, the City of Cincinnati received approval from Ohio EPA under rule OAC 3745-27-13 for drilling and well installation at the closed Village of Elmwood Landfill. The purpose of the activities was part of a bioengineering Mill Creek enhancement program.

Following the activities of the Mill Creek enhancement program, the City of Cincinnati purchased the property from the Village of Elmwood in 2008. The property is also now within the limits of the city of Cincinnati and no longer under the county's jurisdiction. Inquiries about recent activities at the site should be made to the City of Cincinnati's health department.