



CRRA's Ash Landfill Siting Initiative and Your Community





The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority (CRRA) has narrowed its search for a new ash landfill to a roughly 350-acre site located off Route 32 in Franklin, behind the former Franklin Farms property. Because of the obvious public sensitivity to having a landfill of any kind in a community, we are sharing our reasons for focusing on this site with the residents of Franklin. This brochure contains information on the construction, operation and environmental monitoring activities typically associated with an ash landfill.

We hope this brochure will provide you with a better understanding of the issues associated with CRRA's ash landfill siting process, and that it will address many of your initial concerns.

For more information

For additional information or to ask a question, please call us at **1-800-495-1826**, or visit our Web site,

www.ctsafeashlandfill.com

Yes, Connecticut does need another ash landfill.

CRRA turns trash into electricity. The end product of this process is ash, which CRRA currently deposits in its Hartford ash landfill. Unfortunately, that ash landfill is nearing its capacity and must be replaced. The Hartford ash landfill will stop accepting ash in late 2008. There are few options for what to do with the ash following the closure of the Hartford ash landfill.

While other privately owned in-state and out-of-state options exist, it is in the long-term

financial and environmental interests of the people of Connecticut for CRRA to develop a new ash landfill.

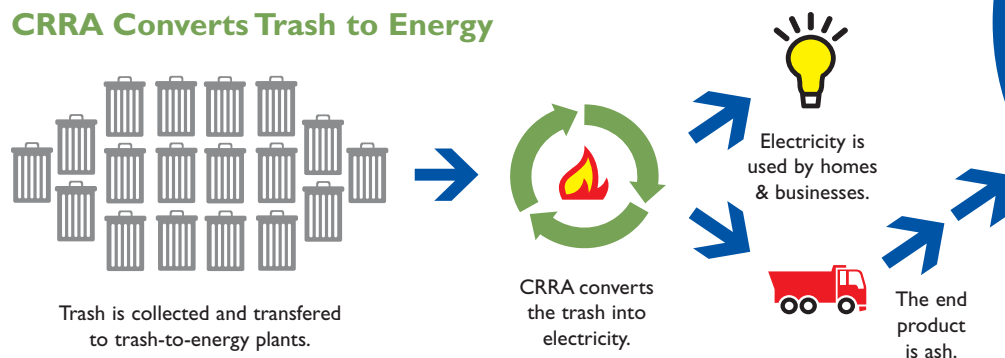
The best and most environmentally and socially responsible course of action for Connecticut and its taxpayers is to identify a suitable site and build a new, publicly owned ash landfill here in Connecticut. As the host community, meanwhile, Franklin will receive financial and recreational benefits from the landfill operation.

CRRA looked at 77 potential ash landfill sites throughout the state before narrowing our search to the Franklin location. The next step before we make a final selection will be to conduct onsite investigations to determine if the site is geologically and environmentally suitable for an ash landfill. This process could take up to one year.

Typical tiered shape of an ash landfill



CRRA Converts Trash to Energy



What is the ash anyway?



The ash is the non-combustible residue left after trash is burned to generate power at the trash-to-energy plants in Connecticut.

- Ash is moist and has the consistency of damp concrete, so it does not blow around in the wind.

- Ash contains no food substances so rats, birds and other pests don't scavenge like they might at a municipal solid waste landfill.
- Ash is not organic so it doesn't decompose or generate odors.
- Ash produces no landfill gases like municipal solid waste landfills.

What would be the benefits of an ash landfill?

Locating a new ash landfill in Connecticut is the environmentally responsible path. It will allow for the continued safe and responsible management of the state's trash. Nearly 80 percent of the state's garbage that isn't recycled is burned in Connecticut's trash-to-energy facilities to produce renewable power for our homes, schools and businesses. Locating a CRRA ash landfill as proposed would minimize the fuel

consumption and associated vehicle emissions that would result from the transportation of the ash to a more distant facility.

Another significant benefit to the host community – the community in which the ash landfill is located – is financial. State law mandates that CRRA pay the host community a minimum of \$5 per ton of ash deposited at the ash landfill.

This could result in payments to Franklin of up to \$45 million, and possibly more, during an estimated 30-year life of the ash landfill. This income can be used by the host community as the town sees fit. Additionally, CRRA is committed to local public use of the ash landfill property for such things as walking trails and other recreational uses.

Could reduce fuel consumption and vehicle emissions associated with transportation.

Could bring Franklin \$45 million in potential revenue over 30 years.

Could create future public use for hiking trails and other recreational activities.

Two ash landfills are located in this panoramic photograph.



DEP sets the criteria for siting an ash landfill.

The criteria for locating an ash landfill are set by state statutes and by regulations developed by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

These criteria include:

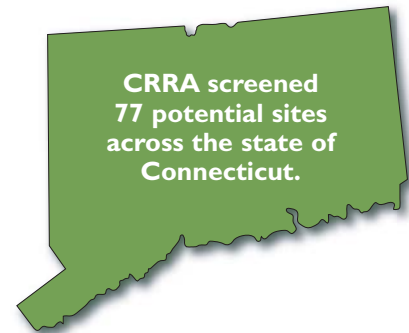
- Distance from any public water supply and from residential areas;
- Proximity to a large stream or river; and
- Suitable geology between the ash landfill and the large stream or river.

In the case of the Franklin site, the river is the Shetucket River.

The construction and operation of an ash landfill at the proposed location in Franklin would not adversely impact the water quality of the river.

To identify potential ash landfill sites in Connecticut, CRRA considered the entire state relative to the DEP criteria. Our initial screening identified 77 potential sites. Based on

further evaluation we determined that the Franklin site appears to best meet the DEP criteria.



Onsite investigation is the next step in the process.

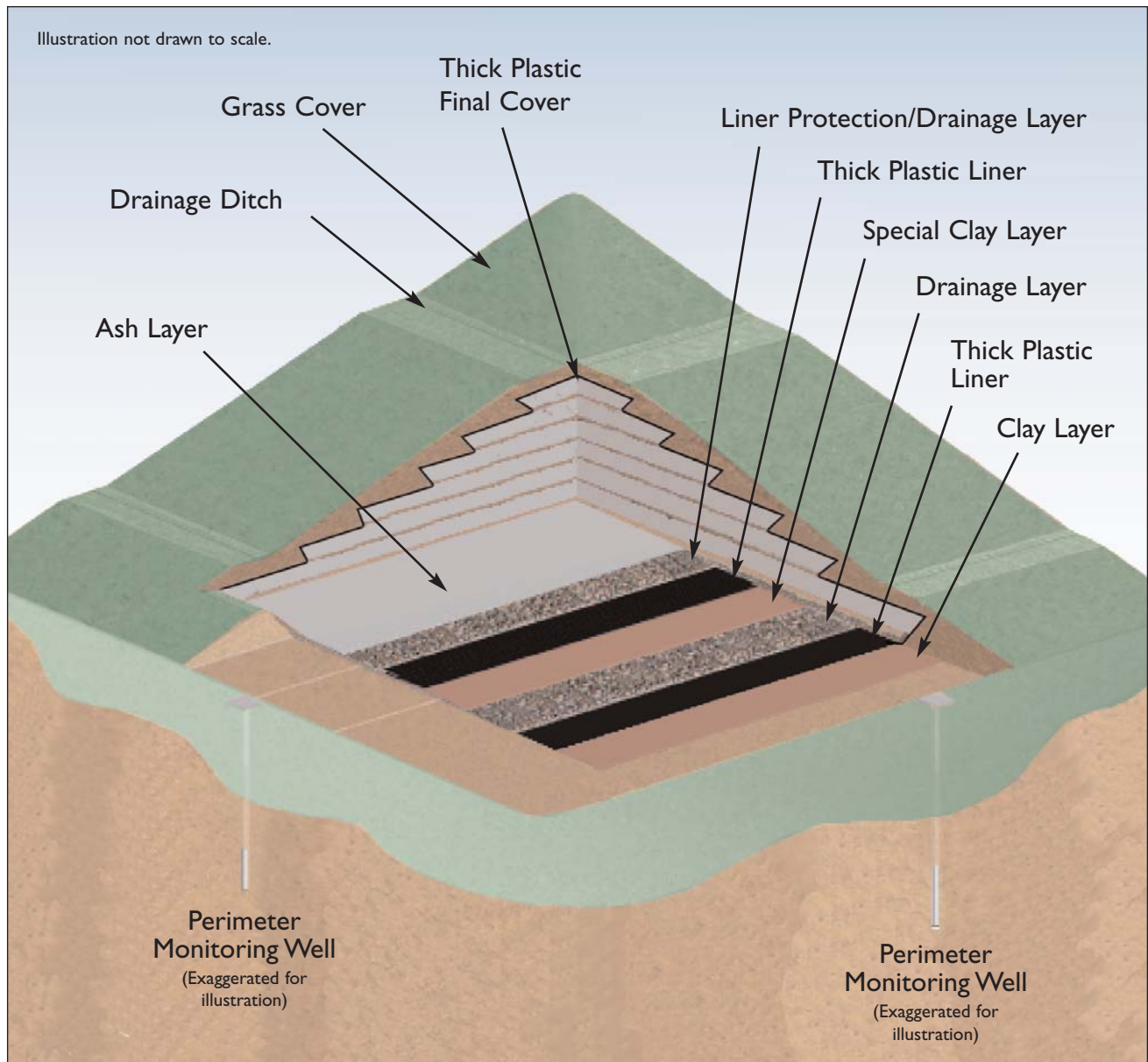
The Franklin site was identified based on an evaluation of currently available information regarding environmental conditions at the site. The next step will be to conduct an onsite environmental

investigation to evaluate the site-specific conditions. This will involve comprehensive surface and subsurface investigations that will provide the information necessary to confirm whether the site is appropriate for the

construction of an ash landfill. It is anticipated that this investigation will take about one year to complete.



Cross Section of an Ash Landfill



Workers position a piece of thick, plastic liner over the compacted soil base. This piece of plastic liner will be welded to the adjacent pieces of plastic liner.



This ash landfill "cell" under construction shows compacted soil base, a thick, plastic liner, and a drainage layer. The berm is designed to contain water to be collected for safe disposal.



Construction of this ash landfill cell is complete and the landfill has begun to receive ash.

Construction geared toward protecting public health and the environment.

Construction of ash landfills has evolved significantly in recent decades. Contrary to some beliefs, it is not accomplished merely by digging a hole and dumping the ash. Proven designs, technologies and construction materials make today's ash landfills protective of public health and the environment.

The bottom of the ash landfill is comprised of a system of carefully engineered layers installed under a comprehensive construction quality assurance program. This ensures that an ash landfill is built to the highest standards.

Although the construction requirements are prescribed by DEP and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), CRRRA's plans for constructing the ash landfill will be even more protective than the DEP and EPA requirements, and will therefore provide an even greater degree of protection of public health and the environment.

There will be a minimum of five feet of soil between the bottom layer of the ash landfill and the groundwater. This could include an up-to-24 inch layer of special, engineered, compacted soil.

Above this, there will be two thick plastic liners between 60 mil and 80 mil thick; three different layers of special fabric, one of which has special clay sandwiched between two layers of the fabric; and a layer of washed stone or sand.

On top of both liners, drainage layers with piping and pumping systems will be installed to safely collect and remove for safe disposal any water that may come into contact with the ash.

The host community will monitor the ash landfill's safe operation.

To ensure that we continue to protect the environment and public health, groundwater monitoring will be performed in compliance with DEP's strict regulations. CRRRA will continuously monitor the space below the upper liner to ensure integrity of the upper liner

system. Additionally, CRRRA will conduct daily inspections of the ash landfill and its operations to ensure that its environmental protection systems are functioning properly.

CRRRA will provide funds for the local community to select an

advisory board composed of local residents who will monitor operations of the ash landfill and act as advocates for the community. Part of this funding will enable Franklin to hire its own engineering firm to monitor CRRRA's performance.

For additional information or to ask a question, please either call us at [1.800.495.1826](tel:18004951826), or visit our Web site, www.ctsafeashlandfill.com

CRRA's Ash Landfill Siting Initiative and Your Community

CRRA has narrowed its search for a new ash landfill to a site in Franklin off Route 32, behind the former Franklin Farms property. Please carefully read this brochure to better understand the process and get an insight into the potential for your community!

For additional information or to ask a question, please either call us at **1.800.495.1826**, or visit our Web site, **www.ctsafeashlandfill.com**



100 Constitution Plaza, 6th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103-7722

