How Do I Learn More?

To find out more about developing landfill gas energy projects in your community and how EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program can help, contact us:

By Mail:

U.S. EPA
Climate Change Division
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW (6207J)
Washington, DC 20460
Attn: Landfill Methane Outreach Program

Online at:

www.epa.gov/lmop

LANDFILL METHANE OUTREACH PROGRAM

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LANDFILL GAS: CREATING GREEN ENERGY IN YOUR COMMUNITY







The Power of Your Landfill

Did you know that your community's landfill can be a valuable source of energy? The gas emitted from your local landfill is a reliable and renewable fuel option. Unfortunately, if the landfill gas is not collected and converted to energy, this potential community resource will just go to waste!

What Is Landfill Gas?

Most of the waste we generate ends up in landfills, where it decomposes and produces landfill gas. Landfill gas released into the air smells bad and contributes to local smog. Additionally, landfill gas is about 50 percent methane, a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to global climate change. But there is a way to address these local and global environmental problems.

Good News for Your Community

Instead of allowing landfill gas to escape into the air, your community can capture, convert, and use it as a local energy source. Landfill gas is one of the few renewable energy resources that, when used, actually removes pollution from the air. In addition to these environmental benefits, using landfill gas is cost-effective and generates economic opportunities for your community. Read on to find out how.

Communities across the United States are energized by landfill gas energy projects:

> "Working on a landfill gas-to-energy project with the students and members of the Pattonville school district is not only a great partnership, it is our way of giving something back to the community."

Mark Ramsey
Landfill Operations Manager
Fred Weber Landfill

> "Our community is committed to creating a healthy environment for its citizens. Using landfill gas will help us meet our goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Besides, why would anybody waste such a valuable resource?"

Ron Ballard
Facilities Design & Management Administrator
City of Tucson

> "Landfill gas must be burned someplace and we have big energy demands. The marriage of the two requirements is win-win for everyone – UCLA meets 20 percent of its energy needs, and West Los Angeles gets cleaner air."

Doug Hisey
Energy Facility Manager
UCLA

Communities that turn their landfill gas into energy are enjoying these benefits:

Economic:

- Fuel cost savings
- Reduced operating expenses
- Job creation related to project
- Improved economic development near the landfill

Community:

- Enhanced image as an innovative community
- Responsible community planning
- A safer landfill and reduced odors

Environmental:

- Improved local air quality
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions

Energy:

- A reliable local fuel source
- Less need for polluting fossil fuels

There are many ways to use landfill gas as an energy resource. Which will help your community realize its power potential?

Electricity generation

Clean-burning fuel for community vehicle fleets

Use for landfill operations

Sale to natural gas pipelines



Heat for greenhouses





Boiler fuel for schools, municipal buildings, local industry, and hospitals

Commonly Asked Questions

Have other communities done landfill gas energy projects?

Yes! More than 400 landfills across the United States are putting their landfill gas to good use. Contact your local landfill, government, or the EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) to see what you can do to encourage project development in your community.

What is LMOP?

LMOP is a voluntary EPA program that helps communities develop cost-effective landfill gas energy projects. In addition to working at the community level, LMOP partners with utilities, states, the landfill gas industry, tribes, and trade associations to promote the use of landfill gas.

How can LMOP help my community?

LMOP offers the following products and services, free of charge:

- Technical information and software to assess project options and economics
- Assistance locating energy customers, project partners, and financial support
- A network of experts from the landfill gas industry and local communities that are available to provide advice on developing landfill gas energy projects