

Alternative Landfill Covers

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The EPA presumptive remedy for landfill remediation is containment. There are several components that can be used in containment, but the landfill cover is the one most often required. Other important components that may be needed in a containment system are landfill gas collection and disposal, groundwater treatment or containment, collection and disposal of leachate, and institutional controls. A landfill cover has three primary requirements:

- Minimize the infiltration of water into the waste
- Isolate the waste to prevent direct contact with potential receptors and prevent movement of waste by wind or water
- Control landfill gases

A survey of Air Force landfills shows that they are significantly different from currently operating commercial landfills. The Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE) is supporting the development of new concepts regarding the remediation and closure of landfill sites that will provide opportunities for improved performance and cost savings in both remediation and long-term maintenance.

The Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, Technology Transfer Division (AFCEE/ERT) developed the following five documents to assist in selecting appropriate landfill remediation and covers:

- Landfill Covers for Use at Air Force Installations
- Survey of Air Force Landfills, Their Characteristics, and Remediation Strategies (Includes a database)
- Decision Tool for Landfill Remediation
- Landfill Remediation Project Manager's Handbook
- Golf Courses on Air Force Landfills

These documents are available on the AFCEE web page at:

<http://www.afcee.brooks.af.mil/er/ert/erthome.htm>

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