

Did you know that landfills are located, designed, operated, and monitored to ensure compliance with federal regulations?

The Twin Oaks Landfill has a team member who ensures the landfill meets all design, operation, and closure requirements set forth by the [Resource Conservation and Recovery Act](#) (RCRA).

“I’m the Environmental Health and Safety Manager. I monitor the wells around the landfill for methane. I do stormwater pollution and spill prevention. I also monitor the waste that comes into the landfill to make sure we’re able to accept it. Any rejected loads will go through me and mainly entail special waste like contaminated soil and asbestos-containing materials.”

The Twin Oaks Landfill is a Municipal Solid Waste Landfill, which means it is designed to receive household waste and other types of nonhazardous wastes... but there’s more to it than just collecting waste.

“We obviously care deeply about the environment here. We report to the TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) and follow the US EPA’s guidelines for a landfill. That includes construction, methane monitoring, and stormwater prevention. We test the water from rain to make sure it is not contaminated and going into our rivers, lakes, and oceans. That’s really what environmental compliance means, following what the TCEQ says we need to do to keep our environment, the water we drink, the land we live on, safe.”

We recently had a TCEQ investigator join us at the landfill for an air inspection.

“They’ll come on-site and they’ll ask us questions about the documents we’re required to have for the public to request if they’d like. They’ll take a tour of our site to make sure all of our areas are clean, and in working order, and all of our equipment is following permit guidelines. They’ll make sure our diesel and gas storage tanks and our white goods oil storage areas are clean and up to par with their standards.”

When it comes to helping the environment, the Twin Oaks Landfill goes above and beyond the requirements.

“Twin Oaks doesn’t just take trash and bury it. We do care about the environment. We have a partnership with Morrow Energy to turn methane, which would previously contaminate the air and harm the environment, into a sustainable and profitable product. At our closed landfill off of Rock Prairie Road, we have an acre of Vetiver grass that is consuming leachate that previously had to be hauled off-site or recirculated, which was not a sustainable option for the long term. We just go the extra mile to find safe disposal options for all waste, even if we cannot accept it here. We host the Household Hazardous Waste event twice a year. We also divert customers to safer disposal options for gas tanks, propane tanks, and anything we can’t accept. We try to point people in the right direction to get things disposed of safely.”

If you have questions about items you can or cannot dispose of at the Twin Oaks Landfill...

“I’m a good person to reach. I’m the Environmental Health and Safety Manager. My name is Annie LaBeth. My office phone number is 979-764-3805.”