

Rose Valley Landfill Remediation

Environmental Clean-up

Location: Cold Brook, NY

Client: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Value: \$2.6 million

Overview

The owner of this 11-acre privately owned landfill was ordered to stop operations by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in 1982. The DEC engaged us to complete a many-phased clean-up of this Class 2 Inactive Hazardous Waste Site. We commenced remediation in May 2007 and completed the project in November 2007.

Challenge

Forty percent of the site was surrounded by wetland, so erosion control was critical. Two retention ponds were created to control erosion and enhance what would become the finished site. Construction sequencing was also important to stage the various jobs that were part of the project. Because of the landfill's status as a hazardous waste site and contaminants in groundwater, all personnel had an in-depth physical including bloodwork and a 40-hour Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) course.

“During the process, we cleared 13 acres of trees and stumps.”

Solution

In addition to protecting workers, we arrived at solutions that would create a grassy site at what was once a toxic dump. We relocated 75,000 cubic yards of garbage and trash; cleared 13 acres of trees and stumps; installed a membrane lining cap with a methane gas venting system; on top of the membrane added 25,000 cubic yards of clay, 9,000 yards of top soil, and stone to prevent erosion.

Result

After regrading and seeding, the grass was growing, creating what will become a scenic space out of what was once a toxic and environmentally damaging eyesore.

“The nature of this illegal landfill presented challenges in remediation, including health and safety issues.”

Rifenburg Companies, founded in 1958, is an expert in highway construction and restoration, landfill technologies, environmental clean-up, site development, utilities installation, mining, and airports.

