

OCTOBER 4, 2024

BREMER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
BREMER COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
415 EAST BREMER AVENUE  
WAVERLY IA 50677

**SUBJECT:** Site Visit: Permit No. 09-SDP-01-75C (Landfill) 01-RCC-1998 (HHM)

Bremer Co. Board of Supervisors:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Sanitary Disposal Project Site Visit and HHM report conducted at the Bremer County Sanitary Landfill on October 1, 2024, by Jason Gearhart of the Field Office #1 staff.

We believe you will find the report self-explanatory. If you have any questions about the inspection or report, please contact me at 563-927-2640 ext. 304 or [jason.gearhart@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:jason.gearhart@dnr.iowa.gov).

The cooperation and time of Tim Meeker during this inspection was appreciated.

Sincerely,



Jason Gearhart  
Environmental Specialist, Field Office 1

c: DNR Solid Waste section, Becky Jolly (e-mail)  
Tim Meeker (e-mail)  
Efile: 09 SW Bremer Co Landfill/HHM 100124 ins jag

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**Field Office #1**  
**1101 Commercial Court., Ste10, Manchester, IA 52057**  
**(563) 927-2640 (ph.) (563)927-2075 (fax)**  
**Closed Sanitary Disposal Project Visit (Landfill)**

Permit # 09-SDP-01-75C

Site: Bremer Co. Landfill (Closed)

Person Present: Tim Meeker

Date This Visit: 10/01/2024

N/A = not applicable or observed.

**Observations:**

Yes	No	N/A	Item
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Perimeter fence, gate, sign
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Erosion
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Significant Leachate Seeps
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Inadequate Vegetative Cover

Yes	No	N/A	Item
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Ponding, Poor Grading
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6. Litter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Other -
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Follow-up Visit Needed?

**Comments:** Sixteen vents were installed in 2022 to vent methane gas.

The closed landfill was well vegetated (see pictures). Trees were sprayed in mid-September and the landfill was mowed in early September. Woody vegetation was still present on the west side of the landfill cap by the tile inlet. Mr. Meeker stated he would take care of this. The rest of the landfill appeared to be in great shape as I did not see any evidence of leachate/methane seeps or erosion/rodent damage. Continue to watch for tree growth/erosion and perform maintenance accordingly.

This facility employs two full-time employees. Both employees have completed the 24-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response training (HAZWOPER) and applicable annual refresher courses. This facility is conducting a customer survey to decide whether a new transfer station/updates are warranted.

The Household Hazardous Material (HHM) area comprises two buildings: explosion-proof building and storage shed. The incinerator building was removed earlier this summer. Plans to build a new HHM building on that location were halted due to bore holes showing garbage buried under that site.

HHM is sorted under roof in either the storage shed or explosion-proof building. The chemicals are not stored in labeled areas but appear to be separated into areas of like chemicals. This facility normally provides some products to the public for reuse. However, due to the incinerator building being removed, the buildings remaining are not set up for reuse.

Power has been restored to the explosion-proof building which is equipped with an ANSUL fire suppression system. Mr. Meeker states that there is still no running water for these buildings. The explosion-proof building is equipped with secondary containment under the floor. TRADEBE was last

on site and removed chemicals in June 2024 and will be back again later this fall. As a reminder, 567 IAC 123.4(3) states that it is required that HW/HHW accumulated for disposal not be accumulated on site for more than 180 days. Once the capacity limit of a collection site or time limit has been reached, all waste collected shall be collected by a licensed hazardous waste contractor.

The storage shed s also used for chemical storage. This shed was not included in the Regional Collection Center's original site plan. The chemicals stored in this building are stored in metal drums acting as secondary containment. As was noted above, chemicals were not in labeled areas but appeared to be stored in areas of like chemicals.

This facility is still not equipped to handle chemicals during the colder months as they do not have a heated building to work. Mr. Meeker stated that they are working on a grant to insulate the wood storage building and equip it with heat and air conditioning so they can work in inclement weather/year-round. There have also been discussions of building a new HHM building/moving the transfer station to a new location. The facility is currently conducting a survey with residents/customers to see what the wants and needs of the county are.

Requirements:

- Properly label areas in the storage building and sort materials accordingly.
- Continue working with TRADEBE to remove chemicals before the 180-day requirement.

Recommendations:

- Routinely inspect the landfill and perform maintenance as needed.
- Get a heated area for HHW handling in cold months or consider not taking HHW during these months.
- Get running water established near the HHM building.

<b>INSPECTOR</b>	<b>NAME/TITLE:</b>  <b>JASON GEARHART, Environmental Specialist</b>	<b>DATE: 10/4/2024</b>
<b>REVIEWER</b>	<b>NAME/TITLE:</b>  <b>AMBER SAUSER, Environmental Specialist Senior</b>	<b>DATE: 10/7/2024</b>



## Photos



The incinerator building has been removed. Chemical storage and sorting now take place in the wood storage shed and explosion-proof buildings.



Small trees on the north terraces were recently sprayed. Woody vegetation noted on the last inspection remains at the tile inlet on the west side of the landfill cap.





The landfill cap is well vegetated and was recently mowed.