

December 17, 2024

MUSCATINE SOLID WASTE AGENCY  
ATTN DAVE POPP  
1000 SOUTH HOUSER STREET  
MUSCATINE IA 52761

Subject: Muscatine County Sanitary Landfill Inspection  
Facility No: 70-SDP-02-75, Muscatine County Landfill, Muscatine, IA

Dear Mr. Popp:

On December 3, 2024 I completed a sanitary landfill compliance inspection of the Muscatine County Sanitary Landfill. While on site, I discussed landfill status with operator Justin Sherwood with Rittmer, Inc. After my on-site visit of the landfill, I conducted a visit with you. The enclosed report outlines various observations made at the time of my inspection.

The litter control seemed good around the landfill, even though staffing shortages makes the efforts difficult. The installation of additional portable fences appears to be helping in the higher elevations. The daily cover is mainly soil, but mulch material is available for blending in colder periods when access to dirt is limited or as a road base becomes wet.

Based on the observations made during this compliance evaluation, there did not appear to be any violations but some recommendations for the landfill operators. If you have any questions or would like further explanation of any part of this report, please contact me in this office at 319-653-2135 or at [ryan.stouder@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:ryan.stouder@dnr.iowa.gov).

Sincerely,  
FIELD SERVICES & COMPLIANCE BUREAU



Ryan Stouder  
Environmental Specialist Senior

Encl. SDP Inspection Report

xc: Becky Jolly, IDNR Solid Waste Section, via email  
Muscatine County SDP - FOCD

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Sanitary Disposal Project Inspection**

Permit #: 70-SDP-02-75P

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Facility Name: Muscatine County Sanitary Landfill

Responsible Official: Dave Popp

County: Muscatine

Address: 1000 South Houser, Muscatine

Facility Operator: Rittmer Inc

Phone: 563-263-9689

Address: 2464 330<sup>th</sup> Avenue, DeWitt

Date Last Inspection: 06/24/2024 (visit)

Phone: 563-659-3386

Date This Inspection: 12/03/2024

Waste Amount: 40,000 tons/year

**At the Time of this Inspection:**

- facility personnel present: Dave Popp
- active unit(s): Phase 5

- surface conditions: dry
- ambient temperature: 35 F
- wind direction and speed: NW 10 mph

Yes – compliance was being achieved; No – compliance was not being achieved,  
N/A – not applicable or not observed; PND – previously noted deficiency (PND).

**I. Documents and Record Keeping:**

Yes	No	N/A	PND	Item
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Permit/Amendment documents
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Site exploration report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Plans/Specs and QC&A Reports
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Waste screening inspection records
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Leachate recirculation authorization
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Gas monitoring/remediation results
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Groundwater monitoring results
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Closure/Postclosure plans/results

Yes	No	N/A	PND	Item
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Financial assurance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Storm water permit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. SWA/SWAC documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Operator Certification
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. DOPs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. ERRAP
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Other

**II. Operating Procedures:**

Yes	No	N/A	PND	Item
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. All weather access road to facility
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Controlled Access at facility
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. fencing or other perimeter barriers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. entrance gate with lock
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. safe/proper on-site traffic patterns
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Signage
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. facility name and permit number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. days and hours of operation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. wastes accepted/not accepted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. telephone # of resp. official
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. All weather access road in facility
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Adequate vehicle queuing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Certified scale used
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Waste Screening
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. random inspections performed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. inspection records
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. trained personnel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. EPA notification procedures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Prohibited materials listing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Open Burning and Fire Hazards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. open burning prohibited
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. vehicle fueling prohibited within 50 feet of workforce

Yes	No	N/A	PND	Item
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Scavenging and Salvaging
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. scavenging prohibited
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. salvaging authorized
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. salvaged material orderly
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. salvage removal adequate
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Animal feeding and grazing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. animal feeding prohibited
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. grazing on final cover limited
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Survey controls and monuments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. facility and waste boundaries surveyed and marked
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. survey monuments established
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. stakes clearly marked
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. Fill Sequencing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. liner system protected
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. slope failure controlled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. differential settlement controlled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. run-on and runoff controlled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. Control of Workforce
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. size of area controlled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. slope is stable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. litter control devices used
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. vectors controlled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. operator at workforce

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Special Waste Handling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	23. Run-on/Runoff Control Systems
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. operator familiar with SWAC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. ponding controlled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. Waste Fill Cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. dikes, ditches, berms & terraces intact
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. daily cover adequate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. tile lines maintained
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. alternative cover authorized	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	24. Landfill Equipment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. scarification of daily cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. working properly
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. intermediate cover adequate (30/180 day)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. backup equipment available
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. final cover maintained	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	25. Groundwater Monitoring Wells
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17. Leachate seeps	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. wells intact
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. seeps identified and controlled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. caps and locks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18. Leachate recirculation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	26. Gas Monitoring Wells/Points
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. composite liner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	27. Emergency Procedures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. RD&D authorization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. ERRAP available to staff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. personnel protected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. emergency numbers posted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. erosion controlled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	28. Final Cover System
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. vegetation maintained	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. final cover over completed areas
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	19. Site Litter Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. seeded
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. on-site litter picked up daily	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. vegetation established
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. offsite litter picked up daily	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. run-on, runoff, and ponding controlled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. record of why litter not picked up	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. differential settlement controlled
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20. Dust Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	29. Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. dust controlled as vehicles enter/exit facility					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. dust controlled on internal roads					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. dust controlled at the workface					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21. Mud Control					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. mud controlled as vehicles enter/exit facility					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	22. Leachate Control and Treatment					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. system operational					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. head measurement device					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. seeps controlled					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. leachate tank maintained					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. leachate lagoon maintained					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	f. POTW agreement					
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	g. sanitary sewer discharge					
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	h. NPDES discharge permit					
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	i. NPDES on-site treatment					

Comments:

On December 3, 2024 I conducted an on-site inspection of the Muscatine County Sanitary Landfill. I met with Justin Sherwood, Contract Landfill Operator with Rittmer, Inc. We discussed the efforts that he is taking to ensure landfill compliance. Mr. Sherwood indicated that roughly twenty semi-truck loads of solid waste is delivered to the landfill from the Muscatine transfer station and a few contractors. Each load is deposited and he works the waste into the working face. Mr. Sherwood indicated that litter control is primarily completed by hired litter pickers, but operators will help collect as well.

Waste material is placed into Cell 5. The working face is located near the highest elevation of the landfill. Soil is mainly used to cover the waste and several tarps are available at the end of the day's operation. A sizeable pile of mulch is available to blend with soil during the winter or wet periods of operations. Portable fencing is being utilized to reduce litter from venturing from the working face. The landfill has several areas that have steep sides, which can be an issue with stormwater runoff. The stormwater runoff is directed to a large bioswale that flows to the north and west to a sediment basin. I did not observe much litter or other materials in this area.

The closed portions of the landfill has good stands of vegetation, the area to the east which has been where asbestos was placed appears to be recently mowed. Several borrow areas were observed and there appears to be a fair amount of soil available. I did not see any saplings of any size growing on the closed portions of the landfill. Leachate lagoon levels are low, and loads of leachate is hauled to the Muscatine WWTP for proper disposal and treatment. Overall the landfill appeared to be in compliance with the operating rules of 567 IAC 113 and the Iowa DNR operation permit.

After my on-site visit, I met with Dave Popp - Muscatine County Solid Waste Manager at his office. I discussed and reviewed multiple documents associated with Section 1 - Documents and record keeping. Documentation will be submitted and reviewed at the time of permit renewal. We discussed the random waste screens, which are completed 3x per day for 3 days a week at the transfer station. That frequency is not specifically stated in the DOPs. Leachate recirculation is outlined in the permit, but not done at this time, however it may be implemented in the future. That study may warrant installation of a gas collection system. Operator and scale information was provided or reviewed otherwise. The Muscatine County Landfill has currently over a decade of air space capacity available.

**AUTHENTICATION**

<b>INSPECTOR</b>	Ryan Stouder, ESS <i>Ryan Stouder</i>	Date: 12/17/2024
<b>REVIEWER</b>	Terry, Jones, ESS <i>Terry Jones</i>	12-19-2024