

South Wake Landfill Update

South Wake Citizens Committee
September 24, 2025



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Overview

- GFL Improvements & Investments
- Wake County Improvements & Investments
- Odor Reporting Trends & Metrics
- Community Engagement & Recycling Initiatives
- Next Steps & Future Plans



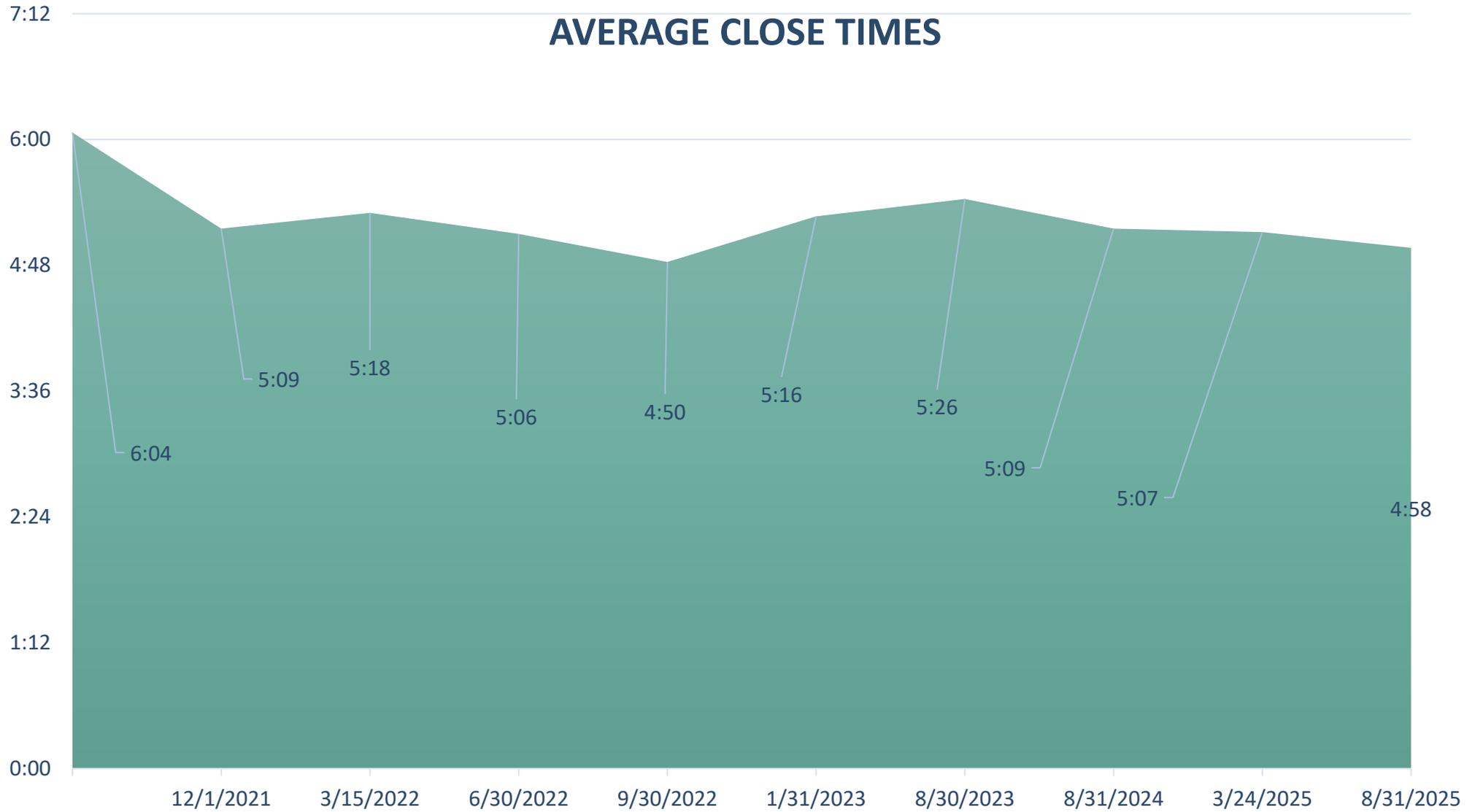
GFL

Improvements & Investments

Operational Update – GFL

- **Consistent closure times. August Average 4:58pm.**
- **Waste fill plan – current elevations of waste placement lift 1 (20 ft).**
- **Phase 2C Fluff Lift completed**
- **Daily cover**
- **Holiday full cover**
- **Misting System**
- **Reverse Osmosis Improvements**

AVERAGE CLOSE TIMES



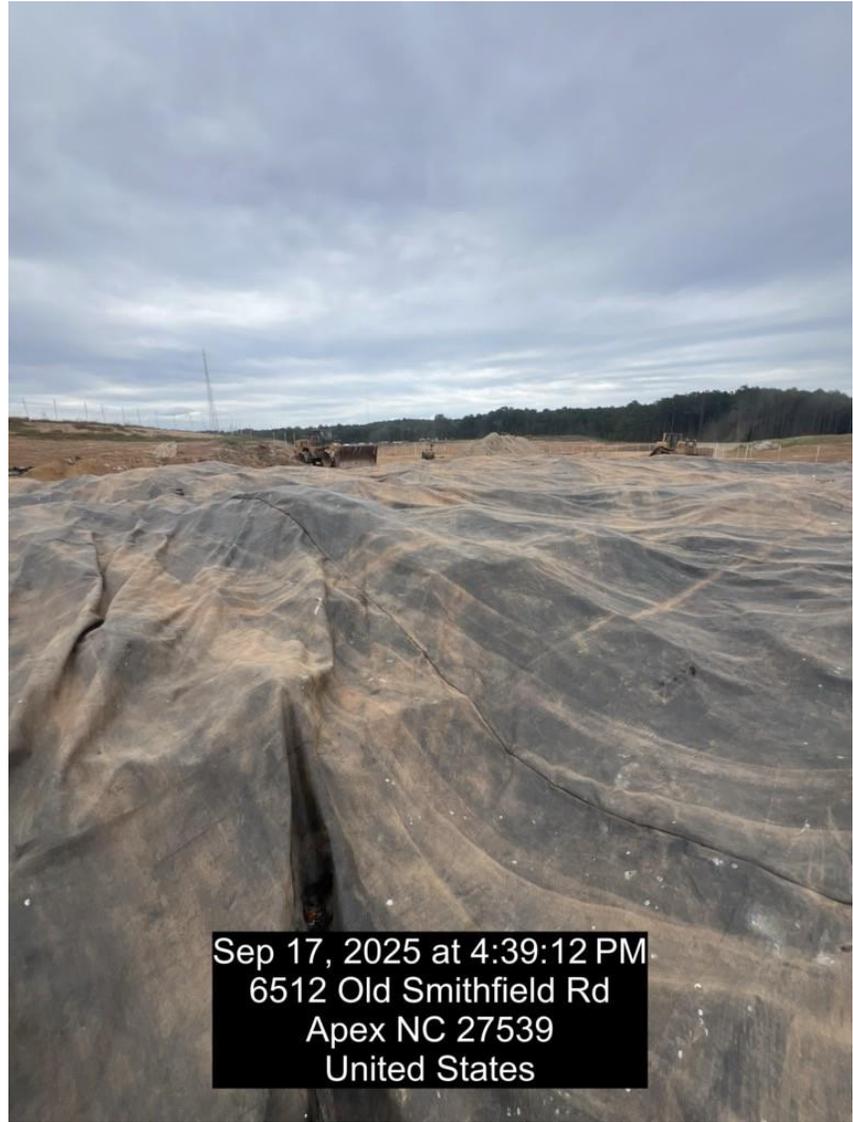




WAKE COUNTY



Sep 17, 2025 at 4:37:34 PM
6512 Old Smithfield Rd
Apex NC 27539
United States



Sep 17, 2025 at 4:39:12 PM
6512 Old Smithfield Rd
Apex NC 27539
United States





WAKE COUNTY



WAKE COUNTY



Wake County Improvements & Investments

New Mobile Vapor Odor Machine

- GFL/County purchased a new mobile odor machine
- Arrived on-site 3/20/25
- Portable unit allows odor control at active working face





Horizontal Collectors



Collection Pipe



Vertical Wells

LFG Wellfield Expansion

- Project bid early this year, unfortunately it had to be rebid which delayed contract issuance
- Contractor was unable to be on-site until early August
- Construction was scheduled for May/June to mitigate odors before seasonal wind shifts; however, that did not occur

New Air Compressor Station

- Provides redundancy
- Currently with no air, blower/flare shuts down
- Separates “field” air to be separate from B/F air
- Reduces potential for B/F shut down and associated emissions

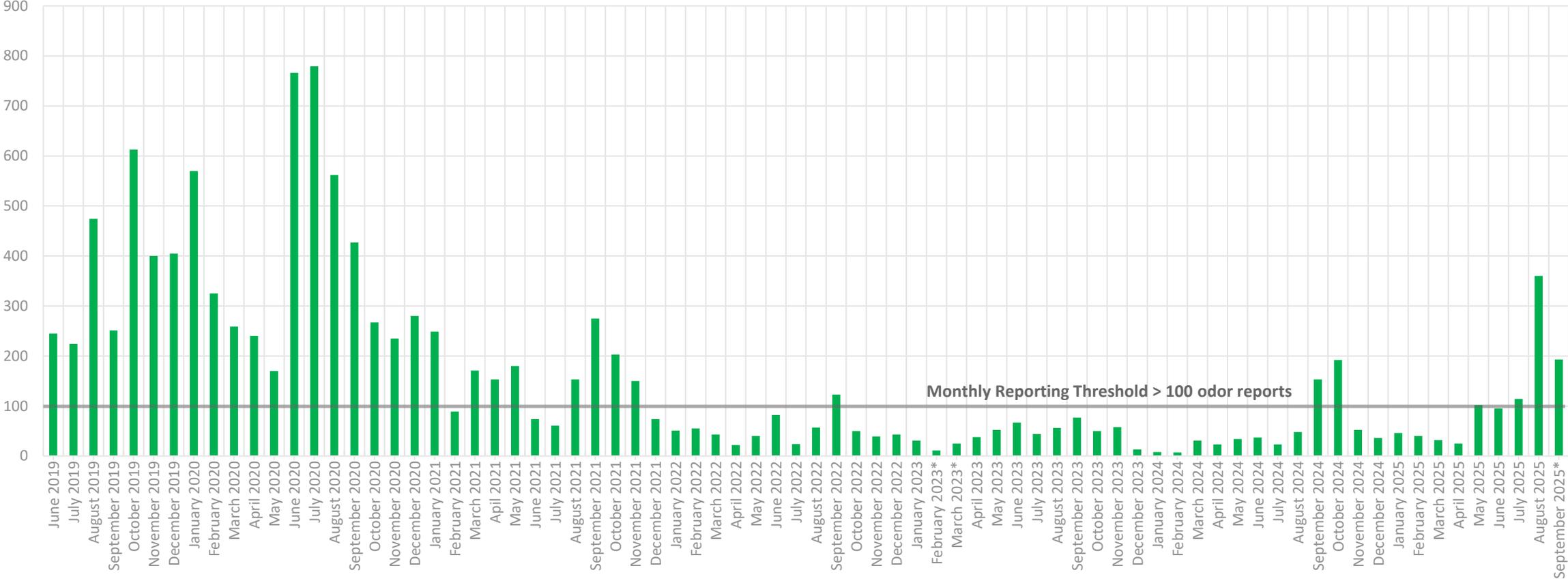




Odor Reporting Trends & Metrics

Odor Reporting Trends

South Wake Landfill
 Odor Reports per Month (Likely)
 June 2019 - September 2025



September 2025 Update

Odor Complaints have increased significantly over the past couple of months

Potential Reasons

- Delays in bidding and contractor availability put LFG work in Aug.
- RO Plant sewer odor
- New phase of the landfill
- Weather related issues

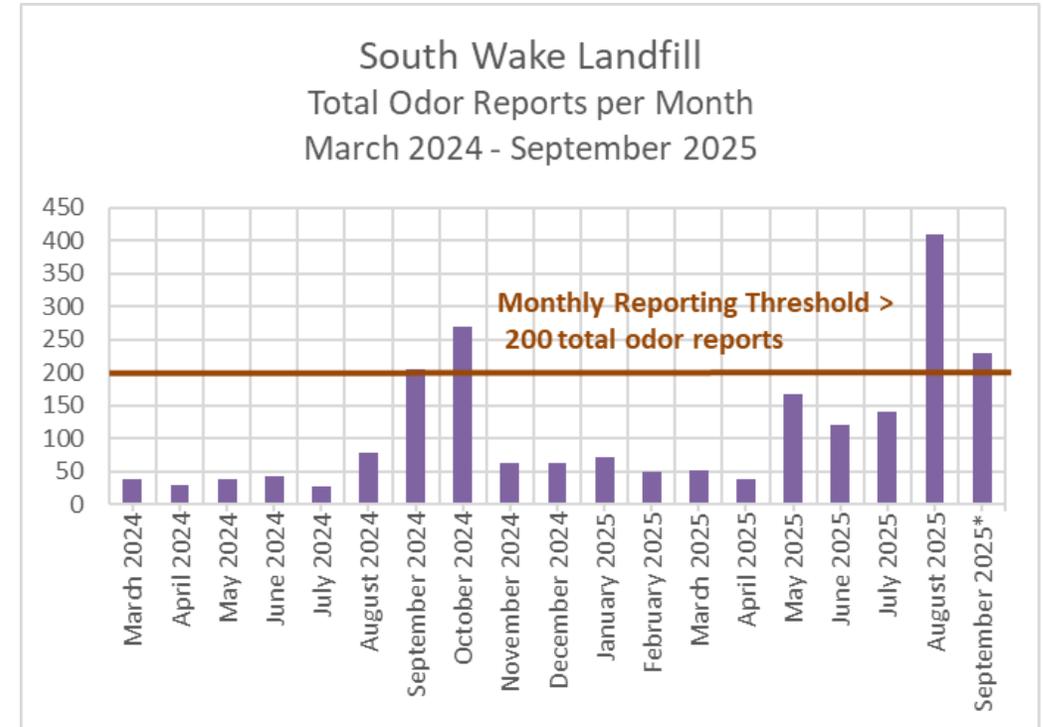
Potential Solutions

- Work is starting this week for next year's LFG effort – work will be complete by June 2026
- Work starting later this week to remove sewer odor
- Next new phase is at least 2-3 years away – will make sure new phase opens with appropriate attention to potential odor issues (smaller working face, use of more soil for cover)

Town Metrics – Monthly Odor Reports

Thresholds

- 100 odor reports likely attributable to the landfill
- **OR** 200 total odor reports in a month or 5 in an hour
 - Report generated by consultants
 - County and GFL use info to consider how we can prevent future issues
 - Returned to under threshold...



Town Metrics – Distance of Odor Reports from the Landfill

Monthly report includes:

Distance Metric Summary										
Disance	Weighted Metric %	Oct '24	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	June '25
> 0.5 miles	> 70%	93%	92%	83%	60%	83%	83%	75%	71%	71%
0.5 – 1 mile	<20%	7%	8%	15%	37%	15%	16%	23%	27%	27%
1 – 2 miles	<8%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	0%	2%	2%	1%
2 – 3 miles	<1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%
3+ miles	<1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

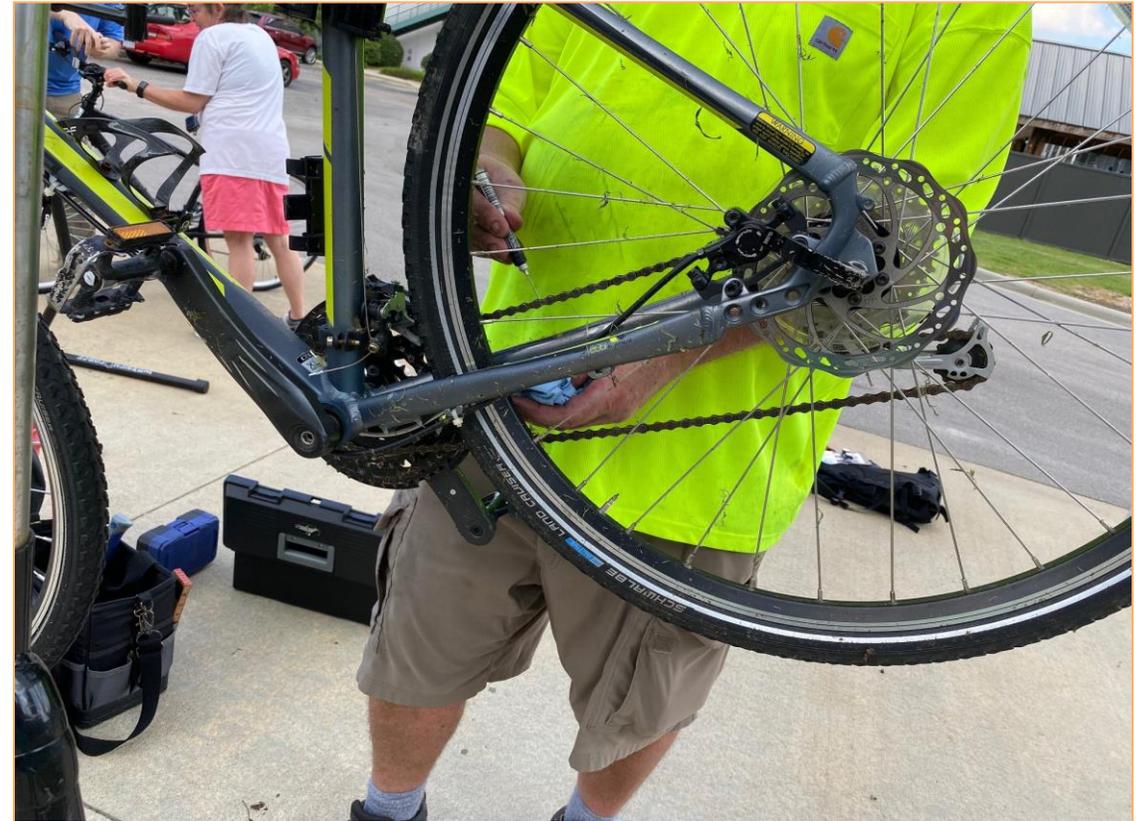


Outreach & Communications

Waste Prevention Grants: Apply Now!

- Businesses, nonprofits and schools in Wake County are eligible
- Awards from \$1,000 to \$10,000
- Apply online by Nov. 14, 2025
- Reuse, repair, recycle, compost
- See [video](#) of current grantees

Raleigh Community Kickstand used grant funds to refurbish bikes and distribute them to unhoused people.



Come See Us in Your Community



- Sonoco Recycling Tour Oct. 7
- Midtown Farmers' Market Oct. 11
- Landfill Tour Oct. 15
- State Fair Oct. 16 - 26

Going to the Fair? Check out our compost display in the Forest Service Building near Gate 6.

Fall Newsletter – Sent Sept. 10



Expansion projects help improve operations through redundancy

Ongoing operations help minimize odors

In addition to managing daily operations and maintenance at the South Wake Landfill, our staff continues to look for solutions to improve operations and minimize odors.

In early August, the latest landfill gas expansion project was launched. This project required some waste to be uncovered during the day as we began to open a new section of the landfill for waste disposal. While tarps and dirt were used to cover waste at the end of each day, weather was not favorable during this time of year, so residents in nearby communities reported detecting odors at unusually higher rates. We originally intended to complete this project earlier in the year, but dealt with some delays. The project was completed last week, so we hope this will reduce odors in the coming weeks.



To assist with improving operations, our division has also purchased a new air compressor skid (pictured to the right). Currently, if heavy equipment hits one of the pipes used to extract landfill gas from the wells, which is fairly common, our system temporarily shuts down. This machine will allow our blower/flare to continue to operate even when there are issues in the well field associated with operations, helping us to better manage landfill gas.

As a reminder, in the spring, we also rolled out the [Envirosuite app](#) to the public to give residents the power to forecast the potential for odors. While we welcome odor reports, we also want to continue to encourage people to use the app to better understand how weather affects where and how odors can spread.

Highlights include:

- LFG expansion project
- Waste Prevention Grant applications open
- Odor reporting data uptick
- Can I Recycle This program
- RNG plant opening
- America Recycles Day

Solid Waste Communications Encourages...

- Partnerships (WCPSS)
- Stories from the community (landfill tour couple)
- Feedback (newsletter)



Our Work to Control Odors Never Ends

Our commitment: To minimize landfill odor issues through advanced technology and best operational practices.

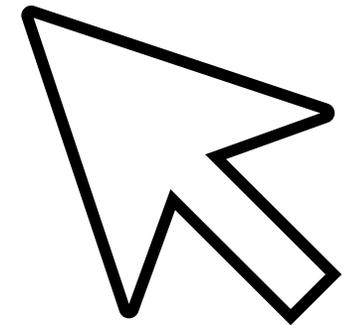
Website: wake.gov/landfill



Easy Web Address



wake.gov/**landfill**



Thank You

