

Nonhazardous  
Solid Waste Management  
and Landfill Capacity  
2012

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## **Nonhazardous Solid Waste Management and Landfill Capacity in Illinois: 26th Annual Report (2012)**

Section 4 of the Illinois Solid Waste Management Act requires the Agency to “publish a report regarding the projected disposal capacity available for solid waste in sanitary landfills. . . . Such reports shall present the data on an appropriate regional basis. . . [and] shall include an assessment of the life expectancy of each site.”

This legislative mandate explains why the main body of this report is organized by seven Illinois EPA administrative regions and why landfill capacity and life expectancy are emphasized in text and landfill specification pages in the regional sections.

### **Statewide Data Overview: Waste disposed declined 6.3 million gate cubic yards**

In calendar year 2012, 40 Illinois landfills accepted more than 39.8 million gate cubic yards of solid waste, 13.7 percent less waste than was accepted during 2011. The difference in the amount of cubic yards disposed from 2011 was more than 6.3 million gate cubic yards. Some of these landfills were not active during the full year; and one of the active landfills temporarily closed during the year.

Landfill operators report that 13.5 percent of that waste amount was accepted from nine other states. All landfills are required to report amounts of out-of-state waste accepted. Twenty-three (23) of the 40 landfills (57.0 percent) accepted more than 5.4 million gate cubic yards of waste from other states.

### **Landfill capacity increased by 3.3 million gate cubic yards**

Forty-three (43) landfills reported capacity of 1.1 billion gate cubic yards as of January 1, 2013. This represents an increase of 3.3 million gate cubic yards (0.3 percent) from 2011.

Landfill life in years means remaining capacity divided by waste disposed. This figure tells how long a Region may be served by local landfills at current disposal rates, barring capacity adjustments, until capacity is depleted. The figure as of January 1, 2013 is 26 years of landfill life remaining statewide. The regions range from a low of 11 years of landfill life remaining in Region Two: Chicago Metropolitan to a high of 64 years in Region Three: Peoria/Quad Cities. See Table 1: Illinois Landfills: Remaining Capacities January 1, 2013 versus January 1, 2012 on the next page.

Table 1: Illinois Landfills: Remaining Capacities January 1, 2013 versus January 1, 2012

Region	Landfills Reporting Capacity 1-1-13	Reported Capacity, Gate Cu. Yds.		Yearly Change		Capacity Share of State Total	Landfill Life Years <sup>2</sup>
		1-1-13	1-1-12	Gate Cu. Yds.	Percent		
One: Northwestern Illinois	7	191,308,000	243,694,000	+ 52,386,000	-21.5	18.2	20
Two: Chicago Metropolitan	6	91,966,000	93,658,000	- 1,692,000	- 1.8	8.8	11
Three: Peoria/Quad Cities <sup>1</sup>	9	304,010,000	263,139,000	+40,871,000	+15.5	29.0	64
Four: East Central Illinois <sup>1</sup>	7	210,182,000	179,606,000	+30,576,000	+17.0	20.0	31
Five: West Central Illinois	5	37,761,000	38,995,000	- 1,234,000	- 3.2	3.6	24
Six: Metropolitan E. St. Louis	3	115,349,000	126,463,000	- 11,114,000	- 8.8	11.0	16
Seven: Southern Illinois <sup>1</sup>	6	99,410,000	101,148,000	- 1,738,000	- 1.7	9.5	53
<b>Totals</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>1,049,986,000</b>	<b>1,046,703,000</b>	<b>+ 3,283,000</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>26</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes one or more inactive site(s).

<sup>2</sup> Landfill life (in years) means remaining capacity divided by waste disposed. Tells how long a region may be served by local landfills at current disposal rates, barring capacity adjustments, until capacity is depleted.