

Human Health Threats and Impacts

- There is a higher than expected incidence of childhood brain cancer in the community 63043.¹
- State health department recommends that during periods of objectionable odor, sensitive individuals should stay indoors, avoid outdoor exercise, and seek medical advice for any acute symptoms including headache, nausea, and fatigue, as well as respiratory symptoms particularly in asthmatics or other sensitive individuals.²
- Surrounding school districts sent letters to parents detailing their shelter in place and/or evacuation plans should an emergency occur at the landfill.³ One elementary school suggests parents leave enough medication at the school should students have to shelter for an indefinite period of time.⁴
- Republic Services acknowledges threats and temporarily relocated residents within the 1 mile radius around the landfill due to health and air contamination concerns during the installation of the cap/cover over the underground fire.⁵
- Radioactive wastes have been discovered inside a home in Spanish Village.⁶

Families Live on Edge Around the Landfill

- Air monitor installed in the middle of the children's park in Spanish Village.⁷ Parents are fearful and stressed knowing the air in the park may make their child sick.
- At any time of day, you can be assaulted by the noxious odor from the underground fire.⁸
- Families feel trapped; financially, physically, psychologically, and emotionally.⁸
- There is added financial and emotional stress of providing extra medication at children's schools and not knowing if your child will come home each day.⁸
- The shelter in place and/or evacuation plan is constantly present in the mind creating anxiety, fear, and stress.⁸
- There is loss of use of property and outdoor space.⁸

Fires, Spills; Environment and Natural Resources at Risk

- The Bridgeton/West Lake Landfills are one site. The only separation between them is their legal clean up responsibilities.⁹
- The underground fire has been burning since 2010.¹⁰
- There has been a grass fire within the landfill property¹¹ close to the radioactive waste.¹²
- There has been a wellhead fire within the landfill property.¹³
- There has been leachate spills.¹⁴

**facts continue on back

Fires, Spills; Environment and Natural Resources at Risk (cont.)

- Rainwater runoff through West Lake to the open stormwater drain that runs to the Missouri River.¹⁵
- Missouri Attorney General has warned of a “*Chernobyl-like event*” when the fire reaches the radioactive wastes.¹⁶
- Radioactive contamination has been found in trees on and off site.¹⁶
- West Lake Landfill has been on the EPA¹⁷ Hazardous Waste National Priorities List¹⁸ since 1990. That’s 27 years without a plan to protect families or clean up the sites.
- EPA has promised the community and officials a cleanup plan for the last two years and has consecutively missed both deadlines.¹⁹

Reference Links

- ¹<http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/chronic/cancerinquiry/pdf/ccanalysisSept2014.pdf>
- ²<http://health.mo.gov/living/environment/bridgeton/pdf/Message11-28-16to12-1-16.pdf>
- ³http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/school-districts-prepare-for-west-lake-landfill-emergency/article_a6effa70-f92b-584c-8a7c-cb59d85a6b38.html
- ⁴https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/02/16/an-underground-fire-is-burning-not-far-from-a-radioactive-superfund-site-the-epa-says-theres-no-danger/?utm_term=.fd8b31babe24
- ⁵http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/bridgeton-residents-get-offer-to-move-to-hotels-because-of/article_4552ecbe-a92c-5837-b1ca-96b2e28bc842.html
- ⁶<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/epa-test-areas-bridgeton-radioactive-contamination#stream/0>
- ⁷https://archive.epa.gov/region07/cleanup/west_lake_landfill/web/pdf/west-lake-update-06-09-2014.pdf
- ⁸
- <https://www.facebook.com/HumansOfWestLakeLandfill/photos/a.512058602276494.1073741828.512047218944299/547325372083150/?type=3&theater>
- <https://www.facebook.com/HumansOfWestLakeLandfill/photos/a.512058602276494.1073741828.512047218944299/530680867080934/?type=3&theater>
- <https://www.facebook.com/HumansOfWestLakeLandfill/photos/a.515751358573885.1073741829.512047218944299/516297165185971/?type=3&theater>
- ⁹
- <http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/confused-about-bridgeton-west-lake-landfills-heres-what-you-should-know#stream/0>
- http://www.stlradwastelegacy.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Site-Locations-Bridgeton_West-Lake-Landfill_s-Updated-as-of-02.20.14.jpg
- ¹⁰<http://dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/facilities/docs/agobridgeeval92015.pdf>
- ¹¹http://www.stlamerican.com/news/local_news/small-brush-fire-occurs-at-west-lake-landfill/article_047a3e46-7b6d-11e5-8519-f751e2f1666f.html
- ¹²<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1032065000160519&set=pcb.1032065560160463&type=3&theater>
- ¹³<http://fox2now.com/2014/02/16/residents-worried-after-smoke-billows-from-bridgeton-landfill/>
- ¹⁴
- <http://www.stlradwastelegacy.com/dec-18-2013-bridgeton-landfill-work-crews-continue-to-work-on-a-clean-up-of-a-leachate-spill-that-occurred-last-week>
- http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/msd-sewage-spill-near-bridgeton-landfill-contained/article_c7c1e0f5-0c82-5226-9f1e-214e5984096a.html
- ¹⁵
- http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/rainwater-runoff-from-bridgeton-landfill-being-tested/article_77a5a439-8b78-5bc6-af64-f516d1abf80a.html
- <https://www.facebook.com/byrondlear/videos/10153825440137065/>
- ¹⁶<https://www.ago.mo.gov/home/news-archives/2015-news-archives/ag-koster-releases-new-expert-reports-concluding-radiation-and-other-pollutants-have-migrated-off-site-at-bridgeton-landfill>
- ¹⁷<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-cercla-overview>
- ¹⁸<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/national-priorities-list-npl-sites-state#MO>
- ¹⁹http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/epa-says-west-lake-cleanup-decision-will-miss-deadline/article_ab54deb2-3761-59b0-a3b0-9081b5af85fa.html