

Tonnage

The Athens-Clarke County Landfill currently receives about 300 tons of waste each day.

Recycling Activities

The Athens-Clarke County Landfill hosts one (1) of nine (9) community recycling drop-off sites for paper, cardboard, plastic, bottle and can material. In addition, they also accept scrap metal, cooking grease, clothing/shoes, car batteries (\$1 per battery), propane tanks (\$1 per tank) and tires (\$3 per standard passenger/light truck tire, \$10 per commercial truck tire, \$15 per ton for bicycle tires and tubes (with a \$5 minimum) for recycling.

Annual Events and Ongoing Programs

- Vulture Festival (fall)
- International Compost Awareness Week (May)
- Scrap Tire Amnesty Week
- Tours of the Landfill and Compost Facility
Sign up for a tour at acgov.com/5700/tours
- Migratory Bird walks (partnership with Oconee Rivers Audubon Society)

Composting Program

The ACC Commercial Composting Facility (Classic City Compost) is an EPD permitted commercial composting facility covering 4.5 paved acres. The composting facility opened in January 2011. Unprocessed and processed leaf and limb debris is stored on the adjoining unpaved piece of property which adds an additional 4.5 acres of compost facility footprint. The compost facility cost approximately \$800,000 to construct with an additional \$750,000 spent on equipment (ACC Public Utilities paid the equipment costs). The ACC Commercial Composting Facility produces two types of compost: Bio-solid compost and Food Scrap compost.



Compost Facility



Landfill Leachate Tanks



Athens-Clarke County Landfill



Need more information?
Visit us on-line at acgov.com/landfill
or call 706-613-3508.

5700 Lexington Road | Winterville, GA
706-613-3508
acgov.com/landfill

Operating hours:
Monday – Friday: 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Saturday: 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM

A Brief History of the Athens-Clarke County Landfill

The existing Athens-Clarke County Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Landfill, located at 5700 Lexington Road, Winterville, Georgia, comprises approximately 444 acres of land east of Athens on the Clarke/Oglethorpe County line, with 193 acres permitted for disposal. Approximately 92 acres were closed in 2000 (Existing Disposal Area 1 and 2) and 50 acres (Phases 1, 2, and 3) are active.

Athens-Clarke County has owned and operated a MSW landfill at this site since November 16, 1976. The landfill accepts solid waste from Athens-Clarke County and Oglethorpe County as part of a joint landfill project coordinated by the Joint Solid Waste Committee (JSWC) comprised of Athens-Clarke County and Oglethorpe County citizens.

In June 1993, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) approved the Athens-Clarke County Landfill Design and Operation Plan (D&O Plan) to expand the landfill and construct Subtitle D landfill cells; issuing Athens-Clarke County its Solid Waste Handing Permit. The expansion was designed to meet the Federal Subtitle D standards.

These standards include:

- Groundwater and methane monitoring systems
- An underdrain system (which keeps the water table from rising – when peak rainfall occurs – and coming into contact with the liner)
- Geo-membrane (plastic) liners which protect against any leachate draining into the soil and eventually into the water table
- A leachate collection system (which consists of a leachate gravity sewer, pump stations and storage tanks). The leachate is re-circulated back into the landfill.



Methane Gas Recovery System

ACC Landfill in Phases

Phase 1

■ Phase 1, Stage 1

The first portion of the landfill expansion to be constructed was Phase 1, Stage 1. This phase was an 11-acre area consisting of three (3) trenches and cost approximately \$5.2 million to complete. Series 1993 Bonds were sold to the Athens-Clarke County Solid Waste Authority (formed in 1993) to finance the expansion. This space opened on February 1, 1995, and continued to accept waste until October of 2000.

■ Phase 1, Stage 2

Phase 1, Stage 2, a 12.6-acre area, opened in November 2000. This phase cost \$3.3 million to complete. Phase 1, Stage 2, continued to accept waste until 2005.

■ Phase 2

Phase 2 is 15 acres and was opened in spring of 2005. It remains open to this day.

■ Phase 3

Phase 3 construction finished fall of 2010. This phase is 11 acres. Phase 3 cost \$3.7 million to complete, and included a relocated scale house as part of the project. Disposal in Phase 3 began August 26, 2013.

■ Phase 5

In June 2008, Oglethorpe County purchased 79 acres adjoining the current landfill footprint. This 79-acre site has an estimated life of 30 years at current disposal rates and has been designated as Phase 5. GA EPD approved the current D&O Plan that includes Phase 5, on December 19, 2012. Prior to GA EPD approval, staff and residents near the 79-acre area completed a Facility Issues Negotiations (FIN) process. This process allowed residents near the landfill the opportunity to request various concessions related to landfill operations and/or other infrastructure needs in the area, but not the landfill design elements. Construction of Phase 5 is scheduled to begin in late 2018.

Landfill Gas to Energy Facility

Working with a private company, Energeenring Solutions, the landfill has developed a landfill gas recovery facility that is currently driving a 1.6 megawatt generator. The methane gas produced in the landfill from decaying organic materials is collected through a series of approximately 43 extraction wells. The gas is piped through a blower and cleaned before being combusted in a Caterpillar natural gas engine. The electricity that is produced is sold to Rayle EMC. The landfill receives royalty payments for the sale of the gas, over \$35,000 annually.

