

Why Is This Required?

Why do we have to cover the wastes in the disposal trench on a frequent basis?

Requirement: The Wyoming Solid Waste Rules & Regulations (SWRR), Chapter 2, Requirements For Sanitary Landfills, Section 5(q), requires that the wastes in the main operating trench be covered at a specified frequency with a minimum of no less than six (6) inches of compacted soil or an alternative material that is approved by the administrator.

What's the problem? The photo below depicts a landfill disposal trench where inadequate cover has been applied. Applying the proper landfill cover at the required specified frequency prevents the following: the infiltration of moisture into the waste deposits and potential leachate formation; windblown litter; flies and other disease carrying vectors from waste contact; and helps to eliminate odors, fires and scavenging. Vectors are insects or animals that can carry disease producing organisms. Some common vectors include: flies, mosquitos, rats, dogs and cats, and birds. Large flocks of birds attracted by exposed wastes can create a hazard to aircraft.



