

South Side Landfill and Crossroads Greenhouse

Post-Tour Study Guide

- The concrete slab is a place for non-commercial haulers to dump solid waste.
- Non-commercial haulers are people like your mom and dad.
- Our employees check the trash that is put on the slab to make sure that there are no environmentally dangerous materials.
- Methane Gas Extraction System- This system is used to extract gas from the solid waste. The gas is made up of carbon dioxide and methane. The gas is sent to the treatment plant where it is tested and treated. We use the gas to provide energy and heat to the greenhouse and the maintenance facility.
- The boilers at the greenhouse are used to produce and send hot water through the pipes in the greenhouse to help provide the heat that the plants need to survive.
- There are 6 climate zones in the greenhouse.
- The greenhouse covers 6 and a half acres.
- The temperature, wind speed and direction, and light entering the greenhouse are monitored by a computer system. The computer makes the proper adjustments within the greenhouse to make sure that each climate zone is at the proper temperature for the plants to survive.
- A cell is a layer of compacted solid waste.
- Lifts are the horizontal layers in the landfill.
- Fill Line and cap- Once the landfill reaches it's fill line we must cap it. We cap it by using soil and vegetation to cover the landfill.
- Scales are used to monitor and weigh each load of solid waste that is brought into the landfill.
- Gas Treatment Facility (building) is used to treat and test the gas that comes from the solid waste before it is used to provide heat and energy to the greenhouse and maintenance facility.
- The concrete at the landfill is used to help maintain the roadways throughout the landfill.
- The monitoring wells that are set up inside and outside of the slurry wall are used to monitor the performance of the slurry wall and water levels in and outside of the wall.
- The slurry wall is a 3.2 mile long containment wall that is used to help protect the environment. It is made up of an impermeable substance (bentonite clay and soil slurry). It is 3-5 feet wide and has an average depth of 91 feet.
- Crossroads Greenhouse produces plants and flowers at a wholesale level. It covers 6 and a half acres of land and produces a variety of different plants.
- The concrete floors at the greenhouse help prevent disease and pests.
- South Side Landfill was started in 1971. It is the only landfill in Indianapolis and services commercial and non-commercial haulers in Marion and surrounding counties.
- A compactor is a machine that smashes and condenses the solid waste that is brought into the landfill. It helps save space and provides more room for waste that will continuously brought in. The compactor weighs about 70 tons (140,000 pounds)!
- The tipper is a machine that picks up semi-trailers full of waste and empties them into the landfill.
- Things that are not accepted at the landfill: Liquids, toxic waste, hazardous waste, and medical waste.