



You Deserve Facts, Not Opinions

April 12, 2019

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (Apr. 12, 2019) – The Middle Point Landfill team recognizes that opinions and emotions can sometimes interfere with the otherwise thoughtful and ongoing conversation in our community about the County's future solid waste and diversion plans. As this important conversation progresses, we believe it is imperative for you to have the facts about landfill operations.

MISPERCEPTION: The landfill is rapidly approaching maximum capacity and will soon close.	TRUTH: The landfill's anticipated life span is between eight and nine years. This is based on current daily tonnage, which the site is required to report to TDEC.
MISPERCEPTION: The landfill contains radioactive waste that is potentially harmful to surrounding communities.	TRUTH: The site was indeed permitted to accept what was known as "Bulk Survey for Release" material. This material is neither hazardous waste nor regulated low-level waste. It includes construction materials, tools, machine parts and other debris from decommissioned power plants.
MISPERCEPTION: Runoff and leachate from the landfill are flowing into the Stones River, potentially contaminating the waterway.	TRUTH: We're confident there are no runoff issues in the Stones River associated with the facility. Surface water runoff (water that does NOT come into contact with waste) is diverted to on-site retention ponds before it is safely discharged. We also perform rigorous testing, with oversight from TDEC.
MISPERCEPTION: The landfill doesn't mitigate odor.	TRUTH: The site utilizes various advanced systems for odor control. This includes geomembrane capping and cover dirt, more than 250 landfill gas collection wells, an odor-neutralizing system, and routine odor patrols by team members – all to control off-site odor.
MISPERCEPTION: Republic is not interested in alternatives to waste disposal in Rutherford County.	TRUTH: Actually, Republic is serving as a resource for county officials as they consider the possibilities. We cannot unilaterally force residents to recycle or compost. That decision is the responsibility of local government, which in turn relies on the willingness of residents to pay for diversion programs.
MISPERCEPTION: Republic hasn't been a good neighbor in the community.	TRUTH: We've been proud to support various community organizations over the years, from the Walter Hill Fire Department to Murfreesboro holiday parades and from youth athletic programs to The United Way. But we're the first to acknowledge that we can always do better, and we're making a concerted effort to demonstrate our heartfelt commitment to a community we're honored to serve.
MISPERCEPTION: Leachate generated at Middle Point seeps into the groundwater and the Stones River causing contamination.	TRUTH: We're confident there are no leachate issues in the Stones River or groundwater associated with Middle Point. Leachate (water that percolates through the solid waste) is collected in the landfill's protective liner and pumped to our on-site treatment facility before being safely discharged to or disposed at authorized wastewater treatment plants. We also perform rigorous testing, with oversight from TDEC. The county landfill, adjacent to our facility, was built to different, older specifications.