



## Old City Dump Corrective Action Program Technical Guidance Document SW-2012-G2

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The Old City Dump Corrective Action Program is a voluntary program administered by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to clean up or stabilize old city, county, or township dump sites across the state. This Technical Guidance Document outlines the requirements for participation in the program.

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### Background

As a result of changes to state and federal laws and regulations in the early 1970s, hundreds of old dump sites across the state were taken out of service and replaced by county “sanitary” landfills. Many of these old dump sites were not properly closed due to lack of funds at the local level and now pose a potential threat to public health and safety and the environment. In 1995, KDHE launched the Old City Dump Corrective Action program to assist with the cleanup and/or stabilization of these sites.

### Identification of Potential Sites

When an old city, county, or township (local government) dump site is identified, KDHE will inspect the site and determine if the site poses a substantial risk to public health or safety or the environment. For sites that pose the greatest risk, KDHE will contact the local government to coordinate remediation of the site. Local governments may also contact KDHE to discuss potential clean-up of old dump sites.

### Funding

If local government funds are not sufficient to clean up the site based on KDHE estimated costs, the local government should state this in a letter to KDHE. If the site is eligible for state assistance, the amount of funding will be based on the financial status of the local government. Employee hourly rates and use of local government equipment are reimbursable under the project. Money from recyclables on site should be used to partially cover clean-up costs. Local governments are encouraged, but not required, to use their own personnel, services, and equipment to meet their part of the clean-up expense if they are not eligible for full funding.

### Work Plan

After KDHE approves funding, a Work Plan must be developed by the local government. The Work Plan should include cost estimates and any costs of permits required to complete the project. Waste is generally buried or covered on-site (exceptions are recyclables) with an 18-24” cover. Disturbed areas should be seeded with a native grass suitable for wildlife habitat. In areas of steep slopes or drainage, rock or clean rubble may be necessary to hold the repairs in place.

### Permits

All participants should be aware that a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) storm water permit may be needed for these projects. Additional approvals may be required from agencies such as the Kansas Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, and the Kansas Historical Society. KDHE staff will assist the applicant in determining which regulatory permits are necessary.

### **Contract and Inspections**

After KDHE approves the Work Plan, the local government and KDHE will enter into a contract. When work is complete, the local government must submit a final report including photographs from before, during, *and* after the cleanup process. KDHE will make a final inspection to ensure repairs were completed as described in the Work Plan. A follow-up inspection is made by KDHE after one year to assess rejuvenation of the site. KDHE will also make periodic visits to the repaired sites to ensure they remain in acceptable condition.

For additional information regarding proper management of solid or hazardous waste in Kansas, you may contact the Bureau of Waste Management at (785) 296-1600 or the address at the top of this document, or visit the Bureau's website at [www.kdheks.gov/waste/](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/).