

# TIPS TO PREPARE YOUR LANDFILL FOR A BETTER SPRING

## **HOW DID YOU GET THERE?**

As spring begins to slowly reveal itself, snow melt will uncover all of winter's sins (i.e. accumulated litter). If the job of cleaning it up seems overwhelming, develop a plan that divides up your site, working on each section and then moving to the next. At the same time, look for areas where additional fencing could potentially help reduce litter in the future.

## **PLAYING IN THE MUD**

During the spring rains, your sedimentation ponds are probably full, but once the rains subside, check if your ponds need to be cleaned out. You may need a long-reach hoe and a dump truck with a tailgate to handle the "soup", but you can regain much-needed capacity for the next wet season.

## **BUMPY ROADS**

Your access and perimeter roads will likely need some maintenance following winter plowing and the spring thaw. This can include adding supplemental gravel or larger aggregate (Macadam/choke stone) to regain support in soft areas. It is also a good time to re-establish and clean-out ditches. Sometimes you can even pull some rock from the ditches that were plowed there during the winter.

## **DON'T BLOW A GASKET**

Freeze/thaw cycles are also really hard on hoses associated with your gas and leachate collection systems. Spring is a great time to check hoses for cracks and perform any needed maintenance and replace hoses as necessary. Also, make sure they are properly supported, so they will positively drain and not accumulate fluid.

## **TIME FOR PLANTING**

If you identify areas of your cap needing repaired or reseeded, perform this work as soon as you are able to get equipment on your slopes and the temperatures are stable for seeding. If you can do this between spring rains, the new vegetation can get well established and help prevent erosion.

## **CRACKING ME UP**

Frozen conditions and freeze/thaw cycles can wreak havoc on any penetrations through your landfill cap. Thus, spring is a good time to check on the seals surrounding penetrations through the cap to make sure they are intact and limiting emissions. This is especially important if you are subject to NSPS regulations and/or surface emission monitoring. And while you are out on the cap, check to see if any repairs are needed.