

# Date Set For Meeting On Northampton County Landfill Expansion

By Amy Unger

PLAINFIELD TWP., Pa.- A hotly debated landfill expansion proposal in the Slate Belt will be the topic of discussion at a special meeting on Wednesday, January 29 at the Plainfield Township Volunteer Fire Company, to further discuss plans from Waste Management (WM) to expand the Grand Central landfill at 1963 Pen Argyl Road.

WM wants to expand to the east side of Pen Argyl Road but needs to rezone 18 parcels to do so. The company is seeking a zoning map amendment and two text amendments to the zoning ordinance. The changes would allow for the rezoning of 211 acres of land to expand the current waste district zone.

Waste Management is looking to acquire a total of 325 acres. 81 acres would be for waste disposal, 52 acres would be used for supporting uses, and 192 acres would serve as woodland and wetland buffer areas.

In October of 2024, the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors voted 3-2 to send the rezoning request to the township's planning commission, which functions as an advisory board. A similar request in 2020 was shot down by a different board of supervisors.

The meeting on January 29 will be a continuation of another meeting that was held on December 2, 2024, where Waste Management made its pitch to the planning commission. The commission did not take action at that meeting but did ask a series of questions about the project and requested another meeting with Waste Management.

Waste Management will address those issues at the January 29 meeting but will not make another formal presentation, said company spokesperson Adrienne Fors.

The questions covered topics like increased truck traffic, the shape and location of the future disposal areas, as well as data and studies submitted by WM in support of the project.

"We remain hopeful that the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors will give the request a fair review," said Fors. The expansion also would have to be approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Waste Management has said the larger footprint is necessary for the landfill, which opened in 1951, to continue operations, because it's running out of space.

WM GRAND CENTRAL LANDFILL

EASTERN EXPANSION  
REZONING FACT SHEET

REZONING VIDEO

  
SCAN ME

Grand Central Landfill is requesting Plainfield Township to rezone 211 acres of land adjacent to the current solid waste district. To facilitate the Eastern Expansion, the proposed expansion area would yield a 133-acre solid waste permit boundary to accommodate the infrastructure necessary (access roads, stormwater basin, etc) to support an 81-acre disposal area using a 50-100 foot high mechanically stabilized earthen (MSE) berm around the landfill perimeter.

CONTINUATION OF  
CURRENT OPERATIONS

- Acceptance of the same waste volumes
- Designated truck route remains
- Utilization of existing accessory infrastructure
- Continued wildlife and conservation focus
- Continued Host Fee benefits to community
- Preservation of 150+ Jobs in the Slate Belt
- No change in permitted waste types
- Continued operations of the Green Knight Energy Center
- Expansion will provide 20-Years of Regional Disposal Service
- Project will require review and approval from PennDOT for the proposed intersection with Pen Argyl Road. This may include a traffic signal and lighted truck crossing signs

WM GRAND CENTRAL LANDFILL AND  
EASTERN EXPANSION AREAS



SITE LOCATION MAP

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