FreshkillsPark

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
## Educational Model/ Illustrated Teaching Tool

The Freshkills Park Project, on Staten Island's west shore in New York, is an international icon for the adaptive use of former utilitarian sites. At 2,200 acres and once the world's largest landfill, Freshkills Park will be the largest park developed in New York City in over 100 years. With cooperation from the New York City Department of Sanitation, the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) has ambitiously committed to overseeing the site's transformation. Its massive scale, encompassing views and extensively engineered underground infrastructure make it a landscape unlike any other in New York City.

Established in 2010, the Freshkills Park Alliance (FKPA) is the City of New York's nonprofit partner on the Freshkills Park project. The mission of the FKPA is to ensure the Park's evolution and continuing operation by raising necessary financial resources, promoting environmental research and ecological restoration, engaging advocates and volunteers, and sponsoring a broad range of recreational, cultural and educational programs for the public over the course of the twenty-five year build out. As part of its expanding environmental education programming, the Freshkills Park Alliance seeks proposal submissions for a representational model of the transitional site. This teaching tool will be used in classroom visits across New York City as well as on-site tours with school groups. For this reason, the model must be easily transportable with consideration to weight, crating/packaging and handles and/or wheels.

The Freshkills Park environmental education program leverages the unique story of Freshkills Park Project to teach a diverse urban audience unforgettable lessons about our personal responsibility in the system of waste, nature's capacity for resilience, and the potential for a more sustainable future. Our programs aim to teach students about environmental and planning careers, improve environmental stewardship in program participants, and set a precedent for urban environmental education programs in complex socio-ecological systems. Our inquiry-based field trips involve stakeholder role playing, critical thinking with stimulating workbook questions, and problem solving as students work collaboratively to complete activities. The model will be a centerpiece to these activities and to illustrate the systems that are, for the most part, invisible to park visitors. The model should demonstrate the landfill engineering that makes the park plan possible, while also suggesting future uses for the park in the "park planner" activity. Therefore, the model should be receptive to parts like toy playgrounds or model trees, but also open on a vertical axis to expose a sectional diagram. Proposed models should be simple yet flexible, kid-friendly and mobile.

To understand the systems beneath the soil, this diagram was produced for a New York Times article about the transition of Fresh Kills Landfill to a park by Kate Ascher (text) and Frank O'Connell (illustrations): http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2013/09/15/nyregion/from-garbage-to-energy-at-fresh-kills.html?_r=0. See our website for more information on the engineering, design and programming of the park: www.freshkillspark.org.

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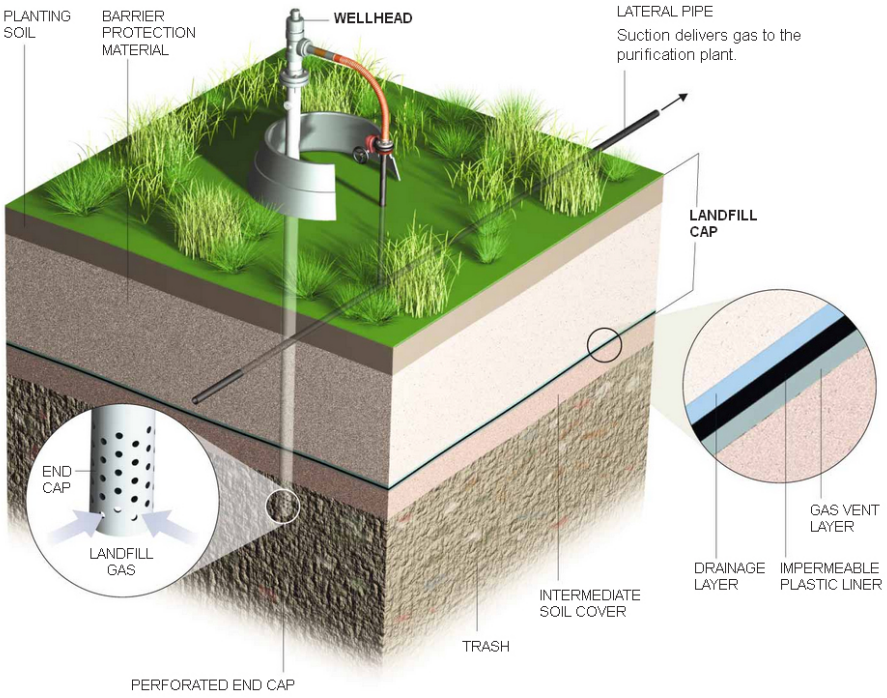
## From Trash to Gas

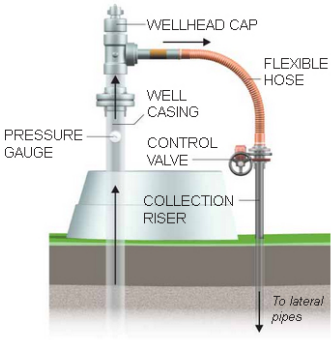
Landfill gas is produced when bacteria break down trash in the absence of oxygen ("anaerobically"), and must be removed to reduce the risk of explosion or fire. At some facilities it is vented or burned, but at Fresh Kills it is collected and processed to produce usable methane.

COLLECTING THE GAS

The trash is covered by a cap made up of several layers and roughly 30 inches deep. An intermediate layer of soil is laid atop the trash below the cap. Approximately 640 wells are sunk through the cap into the solid waste material to collect the gas and send it for processing. From these wells, 175,000 feet of pipe deliver the gas to a purification plant. The collection system also includes backup flare stations, where the gas can be burned if for some reason the transmission pipeline to the plant is inoperable.


Satellite image via Google Earth




THE WELLS

Suction from the purification plant and flare stations draws the gas into the well via holes at the bottom of the well casing. It then goes through a collection riser into underground lateral pipes and on to the plant or stations.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A short written description of proposed artwork, including, as relevant: medium, dimensions (H x W x D and weight), interactivity
- Working drawings, prototypes and/or photo of maquette to scale (include dimensions)
- If an individual, a resume; if an organization, a profile; design lead contact information
- Design fee and construction budget including a description of the subcontractor if not the designer. Include the name, address and phone number of the contact person.
- Up to ten images of the artist's previous work. All pictures must be clearly labeled with the name of the artist, title of work, media and dimensions (H x W x D).

Send proposals via email to mariel.villere@parks.nyc.gov or mail postmarked by **May 23, 2014** to:
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