Landfill Face

The landfill face is one of the areas where you are going to most likely encounter and accident at your site. There are many ways to prevent accidents at the face. One way is clear communication; ask operators if you have the right equipment for the job, any safety concerns or problem areas, and ideas for improving operations. All of the above questions will help you set up the proper procedures for your landfill and lead you to a procedure called typewriter dumping. For more information please visit www.blueridgeservices.com.

The typewriter improves production and at the same time decreases your chances of an accident at the face and keeps landfill equipment away from customers. The basic concept is to start from one end of your tipping face and work your way to the other end with customers; as you get close to the halfway mark your landfill equipment will start pushing material and keep working as traffic clears up.

If you have a spotter, he or she can be stationed in a protected area such as a small building or within concrete barriers and direct the traffic from one spot allowing you to improve airspace. You do not want your spotter running around the face directing traffic because that is where the spotter has the greatest risk of an accident.

Customers blend in with the landfill surroundings because they wear regular day-to-day clothes. Because of this, some landfills are requiring customers to wear vests when they are at the landfill to increase visibility and prevent unnecessary accidents.

More Landfill Tips
- Rollovers at the face are often caused by soft spots in trash.
- Pushing off the top without shaping up the slope can create a serious rollover.
- Semi-dumping can cause weight to be loaded on one side, so provide ample space and a solid, flat dumping area.
- Drywall at C&D landfills can react with water and create hydrogen sulfide (rotten egg smell), which is poisonous and have caused landfill fatalities.
- Pull off accidents are common, so have a procedure that works for your landfill.