

## **Landfill Tour Printable Quiz 4th Grade and up**

1. The Bluff Road Landfill is a busy place. On average, how many garbage trucks take waste to the landfill each day?
  - a. 175 garbage trucks per day
  - b. 250 garbage trucks per day
  - c. 300 garbage trucks per day
  - d. 400 garbage trucks per day

*The correct answer is "c," 300 trucks per day. The landfill only closes three days a year – Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Some days, more than 400 garbage trucks drop off waste, but the daily average is 300.*

2. An Environmental Compliance Technician at the landfill randomly inspects garbage trucks to ensure that the waste does not contain which of the following:
  - a. Hazardous waste from businesses
  - b. Items that are banned from the landfill, such as tires and refrigerators
  - c. Kids toys
  - d. Both "a" and "b"

*The correct answer is "d." In order to protect the environment, City workers randomly select garbage trucks and have them dump their waste in a separate area. If they see hazardous waste or items that are banned from disposal, they remove the items. The garbage haulers also can be fined. State law says some items cannot be buried at the landfill at any time. Those include tires, waste oil, automobile batteries and household appliances. There also is a seasonal ban on burying grass and leaves in the landfill from April 1 through November 30. The State could fine the City \$10,000 a day if it allowed waste haulers to dispose of this material in the landfill.*

3. To help save landfill space, a specialized piece of equipment is used to smash and compact the garbage deposited at the landfill. That machine is called"
  - a. a bull dozer
  - b. a trash compactor
  - c. the stomper
  - d. none of the above

*The answer is "b," a trash compactor. It has large steel wheels with spikes and weighs close to 100,000 pounds. The operator drives over the garbage three times to help compact it. Let's say the average fourth-grader weighs 75 pounds. The trash compactor*

*does the same job as more than 13-hundred fourth-graders jumping up and down on the garbage.*

4. Why is the landfill covered with dirt at the end of each day?
- a. To prevent birds and animals from scavenging
  - b. To lessen the smell
  - c. To prevent garbage from being carried away by the wind.
  - d. All of the above

*The correct answer is "d," all of the above. These are important reasons for covering the garbage each night. It does take up valuable landfill space to cover the waste with dirt, so the City uses a canvas tarp whenever possible. Workers unroll the tarp each evening and roll it up the following morning. A*

5. LinGro compost is produced from grass clippings, leaves and wood chips. What can the compost be used for?
- a. To add to the soil amendment for lawns and gardens
  - b. To improve the health of soil by adding organic matter
  - c. To help water soak into the soil
  - d. All of the above

*The answer is "d," all of the above. There are many benefits to using LinGro compost on the clay soils in our area. Compost decreases the density of the soil and allows the water to go into it instead of running off onto sidewalks or streets. The nutrients and organic matter in LinGro compost help make the soil healthy and that means healthy plants.*

6. The City operates an appliance "de-manufacturing" facility where hazardous materials from refrigerators, freezers, washers and dryers are removed.
- a. True
  - b. False

*The correct answer is true. At the 14th Street Transfer Station, staff removes hazardous materials such as Freon gas, mercury switches and PCB capacitors from appliances and properly dispose of them. The remaining material is recycled as scrap metal. The City recycles about 1.1 million pounds of appliances and scrap metal per year.*

There's a lot more to learn. Just visit the City Web site at [lincoln.ne.gov](http://lincoln.ne.gov) – keyword: recycle.