

Protocols for sign installation and removal in parks that have been identified as closed landfill or potential closed landfill

Installation and removal of electioneering signs on the locations identified as Council-owned closed landfills or potential closed landfills is approved, provided that the basic health and safety procedures detailed below are followed. Many of the sites identified on our list of sites have not been fully investigated and the quality/depth of soil cover (over the refuse) established. Workers will need to be aware of the potential hazards presented by contamination.

List of potential hazards include;

- Contaminated soils including heavy metals and asbestos containing materials.
- Landfill wastes (including biohazards, sharps etc.).
- Contaminated groundwater/leachate.
- Landfill gas.

In practical terms we advise the following:

1. No soil disturbance through digging i.e. excavation or hole boring. Signage supports and pegs only to be driven into the soil (not dug).
2. Rubber/latex/nitrile gloves should be worn when installing and removing signage supports and pegs into/from soil. No eating, drinking or smoking on site due to contaminants and possible landfill gas. Wash hands prior to leaving site/eating.
3. Signage supports and pegs with adherent soil should be washed with soap and water with the wash water going to sewer (not stormwater).
4. Any large holes following removal of signage supports or pegs should be reinstated with clay or clean topsoil to prevent trip hazards and surface water ingress.

If during the installation/removal of the signs any landfill wastes, asbestos fibrolite material, discoloured water and/or gas is encountered, please undertake the following:

1. Cease work.
2. Contact the Contaminated Land and Closed Landfills Team, Land & Coastal Remediation Group, Auckland Council ph 301 0101.
3. Cover exposed soil/refuse (with tarpaulin or plastic) to await the Contaminated Land and Closed Landfills Team site attendance.

It is important that the people undertaking the installation/removal of the signs are made aware of the above prior to works commencing.

The above does not imply consent or approval from any other land manager or consenting authority (e.g. access approvals, utilities and underground services checks, resource or building consents). This also does not remove any responsibilities of the various parties in relation to other Health and Safety requirements.