



CITY OF ATLANTIC BEACH

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BURIED WASTE BULLETIN

There are a number of old landfills and trash disposal areas throughout the City of Atlantic Beach, at both known and unknown locations. Based on Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) *Guidance For Disturbance And Use Of Old Closed Landfills Or Waste Disposal Areas In Florida, Version 2.3*, there are considerable health and safety concerns for individuals living or working on or near these disposal areas.

The boundaries of disposal areas are mostly unknown and groundwater can carry contamination outside of the disposal areas, so the extent of the contamination cannot be determined without testing.

Therefore, where construction projects are proposed on or near old disposal areas, where buried waste is suspected, or where buried waste is discovered during construction projects, soil and ground-water testing will be required.

The required testing must include a minimum of four 6-foot borings and one ground-water sample, conducted by an approved testing agency. Lots greater than 6,000 SF will require one 6-foot boring per 1,500 SF, or fraction thereof and one water sample per 6,000 SF, or fraction thereof. Based on the test results, additional testing may be required.

For commercial projects, where buried waste or contamination is found, the recommendations found in the (FDEP) *Guidance For Disturbance And Use Of Old Closed Landfills Or Waste Disposal Areas In Florida, Version 2.3* will be followed and FDEP permits will be required for the management of the buried waste and any water removed from the site. The project engineer of record should address structural issues, including soil load-bearing capacity, and foundations.

For residential projects, on or near old disposal areas, the risks to human health are considered to be unacceptable and cannot be approved without removing all of the buried waste on the lot, to within two feet of any property line. FDEP permits will be required for the removal of the buried waste and any water removed from the site.

Additional information specific to Atlantic Beach Ordinances:

1. Per Section 24-68(a), the elevation or topography of a site shall not be altered, precluding adding a “cap” of clean soil to cover the buried waste.
2. Per Section 24-(b), requires surface water management systems for residential properties, specifically prohibited in the FDEP Guidance.