



Rautenweg landfill

Vienna's only municipal landfill

Vienna's Rautenweg landfill is Austria's largest landfill. Municipal Department 48 manages Vienna's household waste: the entire chain, from collection to thermal utilisation to the treatment and landfilling of incineration residue is in municipal hands. With this landfill, the City of Vienna ensures reliable waste management that meets the highest environmental standards.

INCINERATION RESIDUE LANDFILLING

Today, the landfill is only used to deposit treated, odourless residue from Vienna's waste incineration plants.

Out of each tonne of mixed waste, 25 % of the mass is left over in the form of incineration residue, i.e. ash and slag.

The reduction in volume is even more significant.

After being processed in the nearby "Rinter" treatment facility, some 200,000 tonnes of incineration residue – with ferrous and non-ferrous metals removed – are deposited at the landfill.

THE VIENNESE CHAMBER SYSTEM

To protect the groundwater, the landfill site is surrounded by two parallel leak-proof walls on all sides, reaching all the way down into the impermeable layer underground.

Within this vertical encasement, pumps keep the water level lower than the water

table outside the landfill, resulting in a hydraulic gradient that prevents landfill water from flowing outside.

The chamber system is constantly monitored with measuring equipment on the inside and outside.

CLIMATE PROTECTION WITH HEAT AND POWER FROM THE LANDFILL

Municipal Department 48 focuses on environmentally friendly forms of energy in all areas. At Rautenweg, we produce heat and electricity from landfill gas and solar energy. Power production from landfill gas, as well as photovoltaics and local heat generation save approx. 2,200 tonnes of CO₂ annually.

The methane resulting from decomposition processes in the landfill generates electricity for approx. 1,000 households – though this number is decreasing rapidly, as no untreated residual waste has been landfilled since 2009.

PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE

Municipal Department 48 focuses not only on state-of-the-art waste management – we also care about conserving biodiversity. The steppe-like conditions on the Rautenweg landfill provide a unique habitat for many plants and animals, such as the Pinzgau mountain goats.

Tours have been offered in the summer season since 2011.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- Austria's largest landfill
- Used as landfill since 1961 (former gravel pit)
- Leak-proof Viennese chamber system
- Power production from landfill gas since 1994
 - 140 gas wells
 - 10 km gas grid
 - Annual power for approx. 1,000 households
- No untreated residual waste deposited since 2009
- Residual waste incineration reduces weight to one quarter.
- Expected operation until 2065
- Authorised height 75 m
- Authorised depositing volume: 23.31 million m³
- Area: 60 ha



CONTACT

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