



## Water Quality in Kreutz Creek

July 20, 2022

### **Lower Windsor Township mailing infers effects from Modern Landfill**

YORK, Pa. (Jul. 20, 2022) – Landfills are a necessary component to a well-designed environmental infrastructure in most of the United States and particularly in densely populated areas like ours. Even where there are waste-to-energy incinerators, like right here in York County, a landfill is still needed to manage incinerator ash and waste that cannot be burned. **Modern Landfill has been a critical component of the local infrastructure for nearly 50 years and intends to continue to meet that need well into the future.**

Part of every well-managed landfill includes wastewater (leachate) management. At Modern Landfill, we have been treating wastewater at our on-site facility under permit since 1988. Over those decades, our treated water has been discharged to Kreutz Creek under a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued and monitored by the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). That permit is routinely reviewed and upgraded when necessary to comply with ever-more stringent DEP and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards.

**Regulatory oversight of our operations is rigorous.** Modern Landfill's treated effluent is monitored regularly, with samples collected by third-party technicians and analyzed by an independent laboratory, and the results are provided to DEP each month. We have worked closely with DEP for decades and will continue to do so in the future.

Modern Landfill's leachate treatment plant has undergone a number of upgrades over the years. **Even today, construction of a new treatment plant is under way, and the upgrades represent a \$23 million investment by Republic Services, which owns Modern Landfill.** That investment reinforces our commitment to operate the landfill in a manner designed to protect public health and the environment – now and into the future. The new plant technology will be operational in mid-2023.

DEP approved Modern Landfill's most recent water quality management permit in September 2021. That permit allowed the plant upgrades to move forward, which will enable the treatment facility to meet discharge limits under the current NPDES permit, which was renewed in 2017, and should address any new or additional limits that might be imposed as a result of the facility's pending NPDES permit renewal. NPDES permits are renewed every five years, and that process is ongoing by DEP.

**Republic Services cares about the environment and we care about our neighbors.** We will continue to manage our operations like we always have – with the utmost commitment to compliance with our permits and agreements, cooperation with those who have regulatory responsibility over our operations, and an investment in the future to meet the needs of our community.

We understand that the Lower Windsor Township Board of Supervisors posted a precautionary statement on its website and mailed postcards to residents recommending caution with activities in Kreutz Creek and asking DEP for guidance. DEP is well acquainted with Modern Landfill and our compliance efforts over decades of operation. **We remain open and transparent in how we do business, and always welcome the opportunity to discuss our operations directly with the supervisors.** Our doors are open to address any concerns they may have.

Learn more about the leachate treatment plant and its responsible operations by visiting <https://modernlandfillpa.com> and clicking on “**News & Resources.**”