

**TO: LAURA POWELL**  
**FROM: JIM SIMPSON, SWDO**  
**RE: SOUTHDOWN LANDFILL**  
**DATE: March 18, 1998**

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Per your memo of March 6, I have discussed the matter of Southdown Landfill #1 , located north of Fairborn, with staff who were involved with past investigations of this site. All were generally familiar with the concerns raised by Greene Environmental Coalition.

The first sampling at this site occurred in 1991, about the same time we were looking into other Southdown locations, particularly Landfill #6. At that time, the leachate from Landfill #1 was sampled. The most notable finding was a high pH, which is to be expected considering the material that was being landfilled (cement waste products). No elevated levels of metals were noted, but metals precipitate out at high pH. An elevated level of arsenic (61 ppb) was noted which is well below any aquatic life criteria but is above the water supply standard (50 ppb). There are no public water supplies on Mud Run. Arsenic levels up and down stream were not elevated. While it was felt that corrective action regarding the discharge was warranted, it was not found to have a discernible impact on the water quality of the receiving stream.

During the summer of 1994, the intensive stream survey of the Mad River was conducted. Due to the concerns raised in 1991, Mud Run was included specifically to revisit and reevaluate the Southdown site. In addition to water samples, sediment samples were also collected. As in 1991, no unusual levels of any pollutants were identified and there was no identifiable impact associated with the discharge from this site. No biological work was done on Mud Run.

Evidence to date indicates a problem at landfill #1 , but not one that has caused any overt problems downstream. At the same time, we must also acknowledge that our data set is limited.

The SWDO-DERR staff have also been looking at this site and am soliciting their input regarding its current status.

As a side note, while the Mad River is Ohio's largest trout stream, it is not a "native" trout stream. The trout are stocked by ODNR and we have seen no evidence that a breeding population has been able to establish itself. Also, Mud Run enters the Mad River several miles downstream from Springfield, which is generally considered the cutoff point between the "Coldwater Habitat" in the upper portions of the watershed and the "Warmwater Habitat" in the lower portions.