

WASTE: THE CHOICE

LANDFILL

- Burial
- early landfills not sealed.
- rainwater causes leaching.
- this can dissolve toxic chemicals, heavy metals, plastics, solvents, dioxins.
- this produces a toxic LEACHATE that can enter the aquifer/water table to affect water supplies and cause health problems.
- rubbish decay can produce methane which is a greenhouse gas contributing to global warming/climate change.
- Vermin (rats), smell.
- Uses land; rural lanes may suffer congestion and pollution due to lorries

- ♂ Methane can fuel electricity generation.
- ♂ New sites have impermeable membrane or compacted clay to prevent leachate.
- leachate transferred to ponds and treated
- ♂ Reclaimed sites may be reused

INCINERATION

- Burn waste at high temperatures
- creates toxic gases such as dioxins that cause air pollution and health problems.
- some greenhouse gases also leading to global warming/climate change.
- Resulting ash has chemical toxins which needs burial.
- has been spread on land causing pollution
- Expensive to build, large initial outlay.
- Few jobs created
- Transport costs/pollution

- ♂ Energy recovery, heat to produce electricity.
- ♂ Modern filtering cuts toxic emissions.
- UK emission standards are high.
- ♂ Scrap metal left over can be sold.

RECYCLE

- Metal/cans/plastic/bottles/Wood/cardboard/paper.
 - part of the waste continuum
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- May UPGRADE or DOWNGRADE
 - downgrade/cycle limited.
 - Government, EU, and council initiatives/targets.
 - Conserves resources.
 - Saves energy; lower costs; less landfill; less incineration.
 - Education of home owners and manufacturers to reduce packaging.

- ♀ Large initial investment.
- ♀ Large collection, transport and processing costs.
- ♀ Dangerous chemicals and plastics sent to NICs/NEE eg CHINA - now banned.