

THE RIO RICO LANDFILL WASTE MANAGEMENT

1500 W FRONTAGE RD, RIO RICO, AZ 85648



A landfill is a site for waste disposal that includes the burying, compacting, and covering of such waste with the goal of protecting the environment from contaminants. After a visit to the Rio Rico Landfill and talking to Jerry Montoya, the manager, here are some of the most relevant things the StartUp Unidos team learned.

ABOUT THE LANDFILL'S MANAGEMENT

The landfill is regulated by the state and yet it is not funded tax funded. It undergoes inspections and audits by the state to ensure they meet the legal requirements. However, it is a self sustained business with a staff operated vision.

THE ENTIRE LANDFILL
IS OPERATED BY ONLY
3 - 5 PEOPLE.

ABOUT THE WASTE

The trash the landfill receives comes from Rio Rico, Sonoyta, Tubac, and Patagonia.

The trash accepted includes cardboard, plastic bottles, tin cans, water treatment residues, commercial and residential waste, dead animals, newspaper, magazines, office paper, and electronic waste.

BY POLICY, THE
LANDFILL MUST
DESTROY EVERYTHING
ONCE IT GOES INTO
THE PROPERTY.

CHALLENGES FACED

Besides the fact that they're incredibly short staffed, most of the projects or possible solutions that could improve the landfill's situation can't be achieved due to the lack of materials and funds. As of today, there aren't enough containers to sustain their current needs.

LET'S TALK ABOUT NUMBERS...

In 2021:

- Landfill received 87,808.42 tons of waste
- 24,000 boxes of tomato were taken to the landfill
- 20,000 tons of good tomatoes gone to waste

Overall:

- Nogales contributes to 100 daily tons of waste that comes from restaurants, from which 50% is organic waste.
- 400 gallons of diesel used weekly within the landfill
- 4 - 7 trailers arrive daily to the landfill from produce companies

FOOD WASTE IS A
* H U G E *
PROBLEM THAT OPENS
THE DOOR TO MANY
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
INNOVATION AND
PROBLEM - SOLVING
IDEAS AND PROJECTS.

