

# WHC CERTIFICATION BETHEL LANDFILL



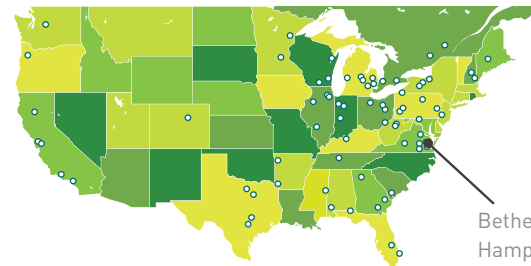
For more than 30 years, WM has partnered with WHC (Wildlife Habitat Council) to enhance and protect thousands of acres to support sustainability programs, biodiversity initiatives and environmental education. By transforming land into certified wildlife habitats, WM is helping communities thrive. At Bethel Landfill in Hampton, Virginia, employees actively manage conservation projects focused on birds, bats, landscaped habitats and reptiles and amphibians. **The conservation program at Bethel Landfill has been WHC-certified since 2012.**

## PRACTICES AND IMPACTS

- Employees planted 100% native species across half an acre to install a pollinator garden. Team members use techniques such as manual removal and mowing as needed to control invasive species, and the pollinator garden is monitored using visual observations.
- Since 2011, the team has installed 22 bluebird boxes and purple martin habitat to address habitat loss by providing safe shelter, nesting and foraging habitat for native avian species. The boxes are actively monitored monthly during the nesting season, and repairs are made as needed.
- The site actively monitors three bat boxes on-site by tracking bat activity, providing safe habitat and roost for native bat populations and supporting bats struggling with white-nose syndrome. After a decade of the program, the bat boxes became successful in 2022.
- Team members address turtle habitat loss by managing the grassland habitat and ponds on-site as safe habitat to increase biodiversity and native turtle populations. The four ponds on-site are monitored by employees using survey techniques tracking various parameters and visual observations.



WM has achieved WHC Certification for conservation programs across North America



Bethel Landfill, Hampton, Virginia

### GOLD STATUS

## CONSERVATION PROJECTS

-  **AVIAN**  
Bethel Eastern Bluebird, Bethel Purple Martin
-  **BATS**  
Bethel Bats
-  **LANDSCAPED**  
Bethel Pollinator Garden and Insect Hotel
-  **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**  
Bethel Turtles

## RESOURCES

[sustainability.wm.com](http://sustainability.wm.com)

