

# WHC CERTIFICATION GRAND CENTRAL SANITARY LANDFILL, INC.



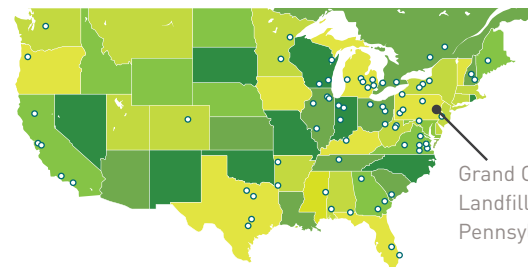
For more than 30 years, WM has partnered with WHC (Wildlife Habitat Council) to enhance and protect thousands of acres to support sustainability programs, biodiversity initiatives and environmental education. By transforming land into certified wildlife habitats, WM is helping communities thrive. At Grand Central Sanitary Landfill, Inc., in Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania, employees actively manage conservation projects focused on birds, awareness and engagement, grasslands, landscaped habitats, and pollinators. **The conservation program at Grand Central Sanitary Landfill, Inc., has been WHC-certified since 2007.**

## PRACTICES AND IMPACTS

- The program team maintains nesting boxes suitable for American kestrels, a bird species with declining populations in the region. Nest boxes are monitored during nesting season, and American kestrels have consistently used the site for breeding.
- The team coordinates with a local bird bander to record and share data on American kestrels, in alignment with a state conservation initiative to encourage use of nest boxes on privately owned lands and monitor the species.
- The program team aims to provide a suitable nest box for barn owls, located by acres of grasslands which can support prey for the owls. The nest box and nearby area is monitored during the breeding season for presence of owls or owl pellets.
- The grassland habitat includes 24 acres of warm season grasses and 17 acres of cool season grasses to provide habitat for American kestrels.
- Two pollinator gardens were developed with the assistance of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. The Girl Scouts also planted an additional garden in 2018 with butterfly weed and assist in the management and monitoring efforts monthly during the growing season.



WM has achieved WHC Certification for conservation programs across North America



Grand Central Sanitary Landfill, Inc., Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania

## GOLD STATUS

## CONSERVATION PROJECTS



### AVIAN

American Kestrels, Barn Owls, Bluebirds/Tree Swallow, Seagull Count



### AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT

American Kestrel Banding Program, Songbird Banding, Creatures of the Night Program, Earth Day Festival, Nature Walks



### GRASSLAND

Warm Season Grasslands



### LANDSCAPED

Pollinator Garden



### POLLINATORS

Butterflies and Bees

## RESOURCES

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

