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Things You Didn't Know About Landfills and Heavy Equipment Operators

Have you ever thought about where your trash goes after you toss it in the dumpster or roll your cans down to the curb? Out of sight, out of mind, right? When your trash is picked up, it's only the beginning of the waste management process. There's a lot that goes on at landfills that you may not know about, and heavy equipment operators play a big role. To help fill that void with information, and not trash, here are five tidbits you probably didn't know about landfills and the heavy equipment operators that help manage them:

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Fewer, Larger Landfills

The number of landfills in America has significantly decreased since the 1980s. However, the size of many landfills has increased as much as fourfold. The average American creates about 4.6 pounds of trash per day, so space is at a premium in landfills.

Landfill Heavy Equipment Operators Are in Demand

Landfills, unlike many construction jobs provide stationary work as opposed to travel, regular hours and are rarely affected by weather. If you're interested in a career as a heavy equipment operator, don't rule out the possibility of operating a compactor at a landfill. Before you do that, though, you need to start your education somewhere, and there's no better place than HEC.

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Variety of Equipment at Landfills

Like any other heavy equipment worksite, there is a variety of heavy equipment used in landfill operations. These can include dozers and backhoes, but especially trash compactors.

Compactors Create Cells

Heavy machines called compactors are used to create units, or cells, of trash that are as dense as possible. This minimizes the space trash takes up in order to make room for more trash.

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Does a career operating heavy equipment like trash compactors sound like the career for you?

If so, the Heavy Equipment Colleges of America can help you get where you want to be.