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microbial diversity and function in municipal land f lls

Municipal landfills are highly heterogeneous environments with complex contaminant profiles. Microorganisms in landfills are actively conducting organics degr l fi fi l na

lifestyles stably supported in the landfill. Impacts of leachate contamination in the aquifer were visible within the community analyses, with implications for waste management best practices. Spotlighting cellulolytic microorganisms, given paper comprises 15% or more of landfilled waste despite recycling diversion programs, we identified a low abundance but high diversity community of predicted cellulose-degrading organisms. Landfills host highly diverse microbial communities with significant phylogenetic novelty. Predicted activities have implications for the long-term stability of waste in the landfill and for the fate of contaminants housed at the site.

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