



# Benchless Closure Design: A Case Study of Baldwin County Landfill

## **Outline & Objectives**



#### **Introductions**

ClosureTurf® Recap

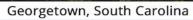
Baldwin County Landfill Case Study

Recap of Savings & Benefits



# **About Agru America**







Andrews, South Carolina



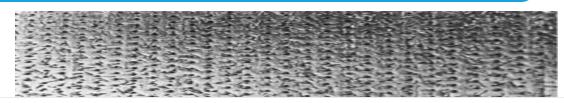
Fernley, Nevada

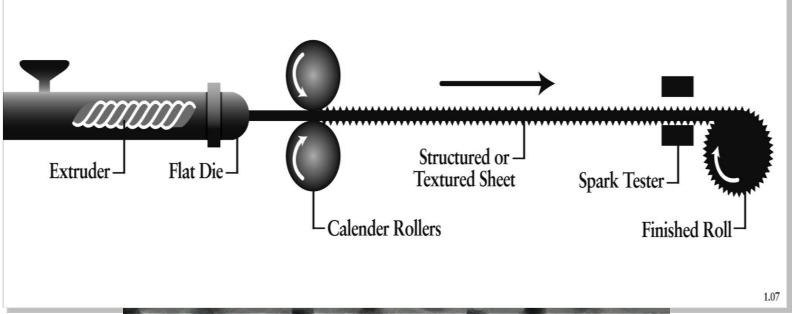




# **Agru Manufacturing Process**











#### **About Watershed Geo**



- Company founded in 2007 by Civil Engineers
- Based in Alpharetta, GA
- Over 100...
  - Years of landfill experience
    - Design, Construction, Maintenance and Management
  - Years of geosynthetic experience
  - Individual sites managed through closure & post-closure
- 20% ownership held by Shaw Industries, A Berkshire Hathaway Company
- Shaw Industries supplies the engineered turf component and Agru America supplies the geomembrane component









## **Agru & Watershed Geo Partnership**



- Watershed Geo and Agru America are business partners
- Watershed Geo is the creator and patent holder of ClosureTurf®
- Agru does market development for Watershed's ClosureTurf® system
- In addition, Watershed uses Agru's structured geomembranes in their ClosureTurf<sup>®</sup> system
- Typically, as soon as any ClosureTurf<sup>®</sup> discussions become projectspecific, Watershed gets directly involved as ClosureTurf<sup>®</sup> is an engineered solution, requiring their support from pre-design, through design, bidding, procurement, construction and post-construction operations and maintenance.





## **Outline & Objectives**



**Introductions** 

#### **ClosureTurf® Recap**

Baldwin County Landfill Case Study

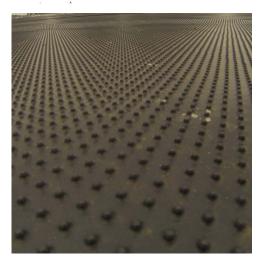
Recap of Savings & Benefits



#### **ClosureTurf®**



- ClosureTurf is a <u>HYBRID</u> Final Cover System
  - A system that has all the advantages of a soil cover system with out the disadvantages





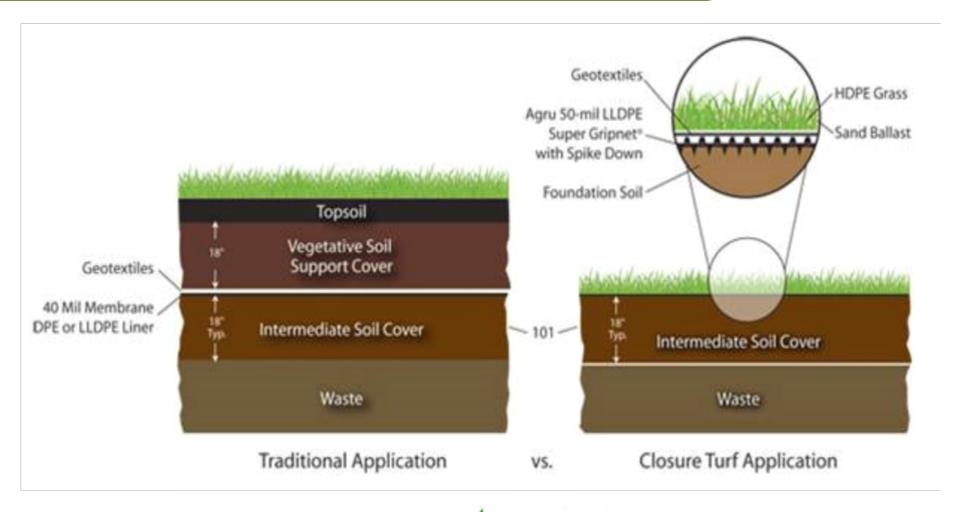


- **1. Structured Geomembrane** integrated studs on top for drainage/ aggressive spikes on bottom for stability
- 2. Engineered Synthetic Turf covers and protects the underlying geomembrane
- 3. Infill ASTM C-33 Sand; HydroBinder® or ArmorFill™
- 4. \*OPTIONAL 4<sup>th</sup> component to enhance gas collection



#### Traditional vs. ClosureTurf







## ClosureTurf® Advantages



- It's the <u>only</u> solution that provides a predictable benchmark of performance.
- Compare this to a prescriptive cover, which is effectively an engineered structure reliant upon vegetation and weather to perform as designed.

#### Predictable Performance Checklist

- Construction Cost
- Construction Schedule
- Technical Performance
  - No erosion
  - No turbid runoff water
  - Negligible Infiltration (hydraulic head)
- Maintenance Cost
- Design Life





## Outline & Objectives



**Introductions** 

ClosureTurf® Technology/ Advantages

**Baldwin County Landfill Case Study** 

Recap of Savings & Benefits



## **Baldwin County Landfill**



Owner: Baldwin County Location: Milledgeville, GA Municipal Solid Waste Landfil





## **Baldwin County Landfill**



- First Georgia EPD
   ClosureTurf® approved
   landfill
- Oasis Consulting Services was the Design/Build Contractor
- Came in \$1.5 million under traditional procurement
  - Eliminated the costly standard clay liner
  - Eliminated the vertical in-waste gas collection wells
  - Featured new hydraulic design with ArmorFill<sup>™</sup> technology eliminating tack-on berms and downchuttes

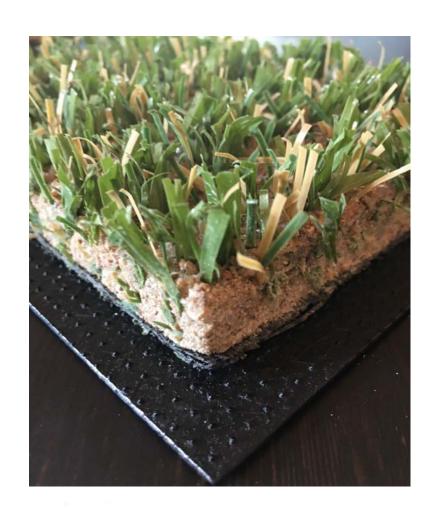




#### ArmorFill™



- A polymer-based emulsion developed to bind the sand infill component
- Sand particles are coated to bind in place, however, the product is still permeable allowing storm water to flow through to the geomembrane (2x10<sup>-2</sup> cm/sec)
- Appropriate for slopes and top decks. Virtually eliminating the critical slope length once required

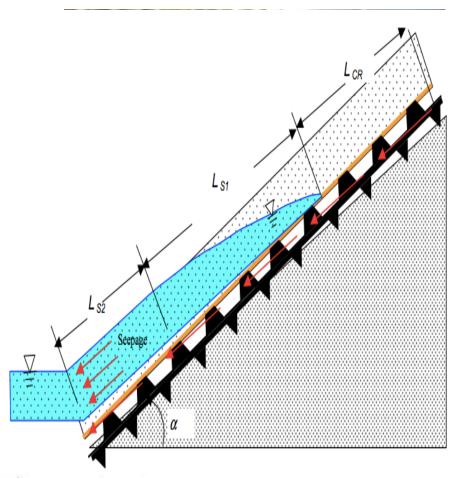




## ClosureTurf<sup>®</sup> System with ArmorFill<sup>™</sup>



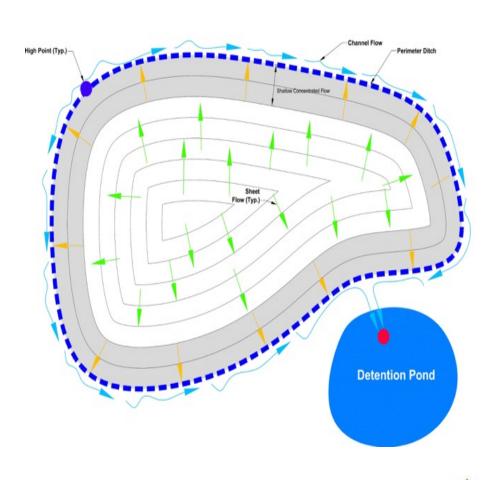
- Traditional caps and ClosureTurf w/o ArmorFill have critical slope lengths ranging from 90-100 ft.
- With the use of ArmorFill on the ClosureTurf system we can comfortably stretch our critical slope length to over 600 ft.
- If slopes exceed the aforementioned slope length the ratio of pure ArmorFill to water could be increased to increase the shear strength. However, this is fairly rare.





## **Channelizing Stormwater**





- Mitigate the volume & shear forces with diversion berms
  - Channelize the storm water
  - Helps to convey off of cover system
- Benches go to downchutes
- Downchutes go to retention ponds
  - Stormwater has to be retained for a period of time to let sediment settle



#### **ArmorFill™ Reduced Need for Concentrated Flow**





- No drainage length limitation eliminating the critical slope length issue
  - Sand is bound in place
- Diversion berms and downslope channels were no longer required
- Storm water kept in sheet flow & shallow concentrated flow
- No Sediment from storm water run-off eliminating the sediment volume typically needed
- Perimeter ditch discharged directly to a detention pond rather than a retention pond.
  - 11 NTU discharge

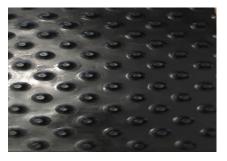


#### **Now We Have Choices**



- The Baldwin Co. site had slopes steeper than 3:1 in some areas, and greater than 300' long. Therefore, 50 mil Super GripNet® was used to achieve the desired factor of safety
- However, with ArmorFill you now have two geomembrane choices depending on your site specifics
  - Steepness of slope (3.5:1 or greater)
  - Length of slope (150' or less)
  - 40-Mil MicroSpike w/ ArmorFill























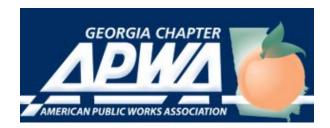




#### **Award-Winning Design**



As acknowledgement for their innovative approach, Baldwin County and Oasis Consulting Services was awarded the 2017 Georgia Chapter American Public Works Association engineering award for innovative, small/rural community projects.





## **Outline & Objectives**



**Introductions** 

ClosureTurf® Technology/ Advantages

Baldwin County Landfill Case Study

**Recap of Savings & Benefits** 



#### Savings & Benefits- ClosureTurf® with ArmorFill™





- No soil borrow
- 50% faster construction
- 90% less maintenance
- Cleaner water released into environment- 11 NTU's
- Reduced costs associated with drainage design elements:
  - Reduction/elimination of diversion berms and down slope channels
  - Reduction/elimination of energy dissipation devices
  - Reduction/elimination of sediment storage and water quality volumes
  - Detention of storm water rather than retention allowing for smaller pond volume
  - Reduction of maintenance



