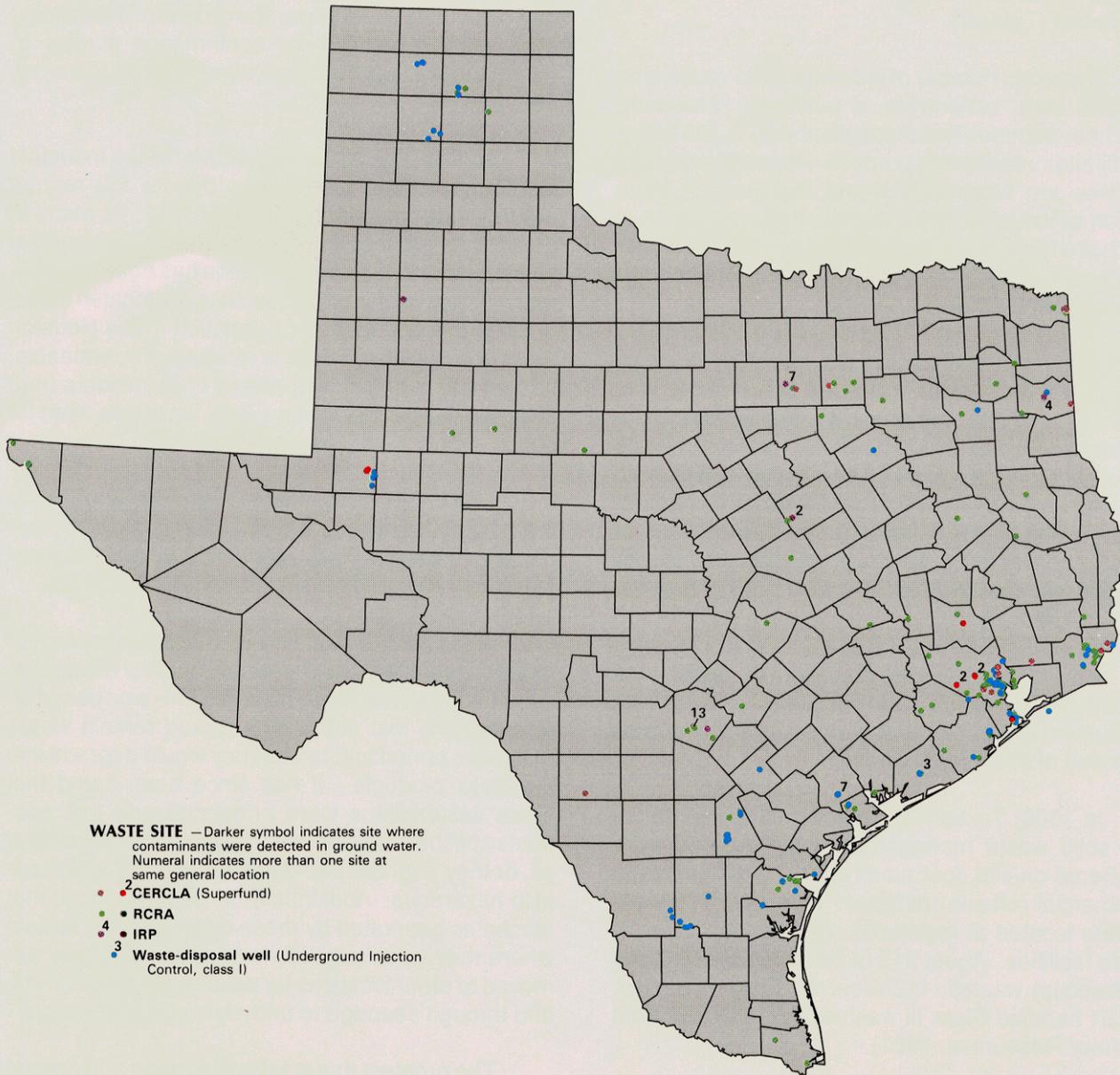


Leachate generation varies over the life of a landfill facility. Therefore, a facility's age determines the amount and strength of its leachate. Unless moisture has been totally prevented from entering a landfill, leachate will eventually be generated. The type and amount of leachate generated is directly related to the type of waste involved and the amount of water which has entered the system. Fortunately, not all leachate generated reaches ground water.

Factors which determine the amount which does reach ground water are the soil type underlying a landfill and the position of the water table. The soil type determines its ability to attenuate or renovate some of the liquid waste. The depth to the water table determines the amount of time the soil has to accomplish changes before the leachate reaches ground water (Office of Technology Assessment, 1984).



Note: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) sites, as of 1986; Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) sites, as of 1986; Department of Defense Installation Restoration Program (IRP) sites, as of 1985; and other selected waste sites, as of 1986.

**Figure 29.—Locations of CERCLA, RCRA, and IRP Sites, and Class I Injection Wells (Strause, 1987—CERCLA, RCRA, and Other Waste Disposal Sites, Texas Water Commission Files; IRP Sites, U.S. Department of Defense, 1986)**