

# Committee Report

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**February 18, 2021**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Minority of the Committee on Environment and Agriculture to which was referred HB 177,**

**AN ACT prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park. Having considered the same, and being unable to agree with the Majority, report with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

**Rep. Andrew Bouldin**

**FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**



## **MINORITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	<b>Environment and Agriculture</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB 177</b>
Title:	<b>prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.</b>
Date:	<b>February 18, 2021</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>REGULAR</b>
Recommendation:	<b>OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2021-0353h</b>

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

This bill as amended would prohibit the siting of new solid waste landfills within two miles of state parks. We heard many concerns about a landfill being considered within a quarter mile of Forest Lake State Park and the impact that it would have on the attractiveness of the park to visitors. The minority of the committee believes that all state parks should be protected from solid waste landfills. State parks are a critical part of NH tourism infrastructure and are funded only by visitor fees. As such, a nearby landfill could result in the eventual closure of a state park due to a drop in visitors.

Rep. Andrew Bouldin  
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Environment and Agriculture

**HB 177**, prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Andrew Bouldin for the **Minority** of Environment and Agriculture. This bill as amended would prohibit the siting of new solid waste landfills within two miles of state parks. We heard many concerns about a landfill being considered within a quarter mile of Forest Lake State Park and the impact that it would have on the attractiveness of the park to visitors. The minority of the committee believes that all state parks should be protected from solid waste landfills. State parks are a critical part of NH tourism infrastructure and are funded only by visitor fees. As such, a nearby landfill could result in the eventual closure of a state park due to a drop in visitors.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**February 18, 2021**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Majority of the Committee on Environment and  
Agriculture to which was referred HB 177,**

**AN ACT prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state  
park. Having considered the same, report the same  
with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is  
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

**Rep. Kevin Verville**

**FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

## **MAJORITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	<b>Environment and Agriculture</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB 177</b>
Title:	<b>prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.</b>
Date:	<b>February 18, 2021</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>REGULAR</b>
Recommendation:	<b>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</b>

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

This bill would prohibit the siting of a landfill within two miles of a state park. The committee received a significant amount of testimony relating to the proposed project in Dalton, NH. The majority felt the bill violates land owners rights, has equal protections issues, and is using the legislative process as a means to stop a project near Forest Lake State Park. This is a local zoning issue and should not receive special treatment via RSA. This bill does nothing to protect surface, groundwater, private property, or business owners. This issue should be addressed by local zoning, and Department of Environmental Services siting rules.

Vote 10-9.

Rep. Kevin Verville  
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Environment and Agriculture

**HB 177**, prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kevin Verville for the **Majority** of Environment and Agriculture. This bill would prohibit the siting of a landfill within two miles of a state park. The committee received a significant amount of testimony relating to the proposed project in Dalton, NH. The majority felt the bill violates land owners rights, has equal protections issues, and is using the legislative process as a means to stop a project near Forest Lake State Park. This is a local zoning issue and should not receive special treatment via RSA. This bill does nothing to protect surface, groundwater, private property, or business owners. This issue should be addressed by local zoning, and Department of Environmental Services siting rules. **Vote 10-9.**

# Voting Sheets

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK



02/17/2021 9:57:30 AM  
Roll Call Committee Registers  
Report

2021 SESSION

**Environment and Agriculture**

Bill #: HB177      Motion: ITL      AM #: \_\_\_\_\_      Exec Session Date: February 17, 2021

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Pearl, Howard C. Chairman	X		
Aron, Judy F. Vice Chairman	X		
Comtois, Barbara, Clerk	X		
Verville, Kevin G.	X		
Davis, Arnold G.	X		
Stapleton, Walter A.	X		
Homola, Susan	X		
Kennedy, Margaret Anne	X		
Mason, James L.	X		
Sanborn, Gail E.	X		
Bixby, Peter W.		X	
Sofikitis, Catherine M.		X	
Bouldin, Andrew J.		X	
Dutzy, Sherry		X	
Murray, Megan A.		X	
Von Plinsky, Sparky		X	
Caplan, Tony		X	
Hyland, Stephanie M.		X	
Perez, Maria		X	
<b>TOTAL VOTE:</b>	10	9	

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 177**

**BILL TITLE:** prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.

**DATE:** February 17, 2021

**LOB ROOM:** Hybrid

**MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Moved by Rep. Verville

Seconded by Rep. G. Sanborn

Vote: 10-9

**CONSENT CALENDAR: NO**

**Statement of Intent:** Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Barbara Comtois, Clerk





# Public Hearing

# House Remote Testify

## Environment and Agriculture Committee Testify List for Bill HB177 on 2021-02

Support: 335    Oppose: 33    Neutral: 0    Total to Testify: 26

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Support</u>
Wessler, Eliot	eliot.wessler@gmail.com	202.674.2416	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (5m)	1
walker, chris	chris.walker1@comcast.net	508.410.3700	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (5m)	2
Leahey, Greg	gleahey@resource-waste.com	518.376.4200	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (5m)	2
Doucette, Sarah	sdoucette58@gmail.com	603.960.4268	A Member of the Public	North Country Alliance for Balanced Change	Support	Yes (4m)	2
Aalerud, Bill	billaalerud@gmail.com	617.293.6821	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (3m)	1
Webb, Nina	Ninar.webb@gmail.com	603.616.1998	A Member of the Public	Save Forest Lake	Support	Yes (3m)	1
Swan, Jon	SaveForestLake@yahoo.com	603.991.2078	A Member of the Public	Save Forest Lake	Support	Yes (3m)	1
Kathan, Pam	pam.kathan@gmail.com	603.991.0120	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (3m)	2
Whittum, Kevin	kwhittumsr@gmail.com	603.991.2817	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (3m)	1
Baldauf, Jeremy	Jeremy.baldauf@gmail.com	802.274.2377	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (3m)	1
morrison, nancy	weetamoo@aol.com	603.930.8809	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (2m)	1
White, Tim	twhite@sanbornhead.com	603.415.6139	A Member of the Public	Sanborn, Head & Associates, Inc.	Oppose	Yes (2m)	2
Boswell, Laurie	laboswell@gmail.com	603.823.5849	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (2m)	2
O'Brien, Tom	tobrien@nhlakes.org	603.226.0299	A Lobbyist	NH LAKES	Support	Yes (2m)	2
Fuentes, Sebastian	Fuentes4nh@gmail.com	603.991.4687	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (2m)	2
Nicolai, Samuel	samuel.nicolai@casella.com	802.345.2725	A Member of the Public	Casella Waste Systems, Inc.	Oppose	Yes (10m)	2
changaris, steve	schangaris@wasterecycling.org	508.868.4523	A Lobbyist	NWRA NE Office	Oppose	Yes (0m)	2
Banit, Thomas	tbanit@yahoo.com	603.991.0864	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (0m)	2
Morrison, Wayne	birdiequest@aol.com	603.930.8010	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (0m)	1
Fusco, Joe	joe.fusco@casella.com	802.772.2247	A Member of the Public	Casella Waste Systems, Inc.	Oppose	Yes (0m)	1
Anderson, Fred	fra676@mapc.com	603.837.9492	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (0m)	1
Finkel, Adam	adfinkel@umich.edu	202.406.0042	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (0m)	1
Tucker, Edith	edithtucker@ne.rr.com	603.466.5425	An Elected Official	myself --Rep. Edith Tucker, Coös 5	Support	Yes (0m)	1
Hays, Ellen	ellen.hays@gmail.com	202.531.5872	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (0m)	1
Gould, Bryan	gouldb@cwbp.com	603.224.7761	A Member of the Public	Casella Waste Systems, Inc.	Oppose	Yes (0m)	1
Grillo, Robert	rgrillo@cmaengineers.com	603.431.6196	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (0m)	1
Tholl, John	jetjr2@msn.com	603.837.2278	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
MacKenzie, Rebecca	reb178@myfairpoint.net	603.504.2851	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Moore, Charles	chazdmoore@protonmail.com	703.967.1233	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2
Perencevich, Ruth	rperence@comcast.net	603.225.7641	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Wright, Michael	michael.wright7@comcast.net	603.969.3330	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Richman, Susan	susan7richman@gmail.com	603.868.2758	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Seely, Julie	julie_seely@hotmail.com	603.444.2320	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Dewhirst, Susan	sdewhirst04@gmail.com	207.251.0375	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Snyder, Kristina	khsnyder22@yahoo.com	603.887.0339	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Crowell, Gregg	Gcrowellcpa@yahoo.com	603.472.3425	A Member of the Public	Save forest lake	Support	No	2
Crowell, Phyllis	pcrowell5@gmail.com	603.472.3425	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Brantley, Hannah	Hjweeden@yahoo.com	603.348.7826	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Brantley, Joel	Joeltbrantley@gmail.com	603.348.7827	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Brennan, Nancy	burningnan14@gmail.com	5291969	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Williams, Lori	northwindfarmlymannh@gmail.com	603.991.0554	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Lajoie, Katie	jlje23@hotmail.com	603.826.4803	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Hinebauch, Mel	melhinebauch@gmail.com	603.224.4866	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
French, Robert	ref.design@outlook.com	603.444.0268	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Mangipudi, Latha	Latha.mangipudi@leg.state.nh.us	603.891.1239	An Elected Official	Hills 35	Support	No	2

Wool, Greg	Gregwool@comcast.net	603.498.9738	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Rejwan-Day, Inbal	Rejwanin9588@gmail.com	603.759.7068	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Gallagher, William	billegallagher@gmail.com	603.675.5486	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Perrotta, Teresa	terrip0224@yahoo.com	978.761.7047	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Perrotta, Thomas	tperro8359@yahoo.com	978.987.7305	A Member of the Public	Forest Lake Association	Support	No	2
Wilson, Paige	pwilson@lakesrpc.org	603.279.5342	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Sillari, Maria	msillari14@gmail.com	603.305.0422	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	2
Frey, Gina	ginagfrey@gmail.com	603.554.8850	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Frey, Kevin	kevfrey@gmail.com	603.554.8850	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	2
Hennessey, Erin	erin.hennessey@leg.state.nh.us	603.271.4151	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	1
Moore, Susan	susan.moore.franconia@gmail.com	603.823.8050	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Laflamme, Larry	Larry.laflamme@leg.state.nh.us	603.723.3949	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	1
Hurley, John	jrhurjd@aol.com	603.287.8913	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Madden, David	airloans@aol.com	239.672.1845	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Metcalf, Rebecca	beckymetcalf@icloud.com	603.254.0065	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	1
Grossi, Anne	adgrossi7982@gmail.com	603.674.1181	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Pilotte, Eric	epilotte@yahoo.com	603.616.6262	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	1
Mitton, Doris	Albumakr@yahoo.com	603.991.9450	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	1
Mitton, Gary	Albumakr@yahoo.com	603.991.9450	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	1
Talcott, Erin	erin.malay@gmail.com	603.219.9137	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Mooney, Donald	tdg2@earthlink.net	603.444.6876	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	1
Baytosh, Scott	sbaytosh@gmail.com	571.319.1976	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Damiano, Janet	Janetd49@hotmail.com	860.930.4675	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Weston, Joyce	Joyce.Weston@leg.state.nh.us	603.276.0862	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	1
Pilotte, Crystal	clipilotte@gmail.com	603.616.3004	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	1
Fordey, Nicole	nikkif610@gmail.com	516.318.2296	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Dorr, James	james@onsite-services.com	603.764.7307	A Member of the Public	Save Forest Lake	Support	No	1
Law, Kaela	kaelademetra@gmail.com	603.831.5051	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Damiano, Paul	Pjdbonanza@msn.com	860.306.3441	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Menard, Joyce	menard.joyce@gmail.com	603.869.2012	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Horvath, Gabriella	horvath.gm@gmail.com	857.719.1883	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Connors, Margaret	connorsmargo@gmail.com	603.823.8575	An Elected Official	Sugar Hill Conservation Commission	Support	No	1
Koplow, Bryan	bryan.k.ventures@gmail.com	603.307.9998	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Koplow, Rachel	Rgkoplow@gmail.com	603.307.9998	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Koplow, Rebecca	Becca.koplow@yahoo.com	617.755.4517	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Plant, Steven	slplant@roadrunner.com	603.823.5963	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Boswell, Bonnie	bboswellantiques@gmail.com	603.631.4175	A Member of the Public	Save Forest Lake	Support	No	1
Wagner, Traci	Bewell@traciwagner.com	603.631.0142	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Jank, Richard	rjank8237@gmail.com	603.532.4470	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Edgar, Daniel & Sharon	dsedgar38@yahoo.com	603.444.2868	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Hubbard, Samantha	shubbard2819@gmail.com	603.991.9456	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Beaton, Deborah	dbeaton@myfairpoint.net	603.631.2966	A Member of the Public	Save Forest Lake	Support	No	1
McGlone, Mike	Mcglone78@yahoo.com	603.833.5199	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Trahan, Dylan	dylantrahan5@yahoo.com	603.616.4487	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Deveau, Marcel	mdeveau54@gmail.com	603.991.5348	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Deveau, Judith	mdeveau54@gmail.com	603.837.9401	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
DePalma, Joseph	joseph.depalma@leg.state.nh.us	603.991.7459	An Elected Official	Littleton and Bethlehem	Oppose	No	1
O'Leary, Caitlin	Caitlinmarie05@gmail.com	857.251.5742	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Savage, Marybeth	mbeavage@comcasr.net	603.988.4104	A Member of the Public	Friends of forest lake	Support	No	1
Wojtaszek, Susan	bluemago047@roadrunner.com	929.278.0760	A Member of the Public	Save Forest Lake	Support	No	1
Chag, Gregory	greg.chag@gmail.com	603.978.4260	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Stevens, Meredith	Soccerlax3@hotmail.com	508.932.1331	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Carbonneau, Carrie	carrie.carbonneau@gmail.com	603.534.8000	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Peabody, Tina	tdpeabody@roadrunner.com	603.728.8732	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1
Wege, Grant	Grantwege@gmail.com	603.660.6557	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	1





Rep. Bouldin Q. state parks bring in a lot of tourism, why do people from MA drive more than 2 hours to our state parks A. believes people want to go back in time – we have families from around the world because we have kept a simplicity about its parks Q. these people tend to spend anywhere from 2 days to a week, could you articulate the economic toll this will take if people stop coming A. those small businesses who have been hurt by the pandemic, these Mom & Pop businesses are like going back in time – Grand Hotel will have 4 to 5 weddings going on at the same time – because of the pandemic people are more aware that they need to be outdoors and are more supportive of nature

Rep. Aron Q. significant # of hotels and large number of tourists, how much trash is produced by the Hotels in the North Country and the Tourists A. they do have trash and Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District **are** in 2 of her towns, it has enough space to expand for a long time in the future, you do need to have landfills

Rep. Bouldin Q. you mentioned landfill, how does this bill affect Mt. Carberry A. it does not

Rep. Verville Q. I understand the intent of the bill, but as I listen to your testimony it seems that it is really about protecting private business, why doesn't the bill provide protections for the businesses in your district – why is there no protection in bill for local businesses and homeowners A. those type of protections go through town ordinances, zoning – it would be unfortunate to see that park have a landfill – the general protection are done on a town by town, city by city basis Q. I agree that you are correct about the zoning issues, you say the Appalachian trail is close to another landfill, but you would never know the difference, what about green areas, etc. the size of Mt. Carberry is large, and the Trail is much higher, it is a much wider area. Forest Lake is not that deep of a lake and the surrounding hills are not that high – she has no doubt the landfill would affect the land around it

Rep. Bouldin – Appalachian trail, hiking on trail like that, you would walk by Mt. Carberry whereas Forest Lake is smaller, so you would notice a landfill A. there is no relationship between Mt. Carberry and the actual Appalachian trail

Rep. Stapleton Q. did a google over lake in Dalton looks like park is about 397 acres, where is the landfill supposed to go and how many acres A. cannot answer

Tim White – Sanborn Head & Associates – written testimony – Vermont –

Rep. Stapleton Q. how many acres is landfill and where is it A. approximately 147 acres and West of Forest Lake – Q. how far from Forest Lake – A. there is a topographic divide – it is west of the divide about ½ mile

Rep. Aron – Q. looking at topographic map, it appears the ground water flow is away from Forest Lake, do you see any way that Forest Lake and other areas will be contaminated A. groundwater cannot go over the divide and cannot go higher – the landfill will be designed with a double liner

Rep. Verville Q. is it N of R. 116 W of Douglas Drive A. yes, it is accessed by Douglas Drive

Rep. Bixby Q. it is unlikely that there will be groundwater and surface water impact on Forest Lake, will there be any area contaminated A. we see that the site is separated from the groundwater basin

Rep Verville Q. it is my understanding that the road access to lake is a separate road than roads to landfill A. Yes

Rep Bouldin Q. your testimony only focuses on Forest Lake and not to the specific of HB177 A. yes

Jon Swan – Dalton, NH - this takes in all NH state parks – written testimony – his fear is atmospheric contamination – Forest Lake suffered its first shut down of Cyanobacteria– 2 Class action suits in PA – believes that in 30 years this lake will be lost

Rep. Bouldin Q. you mentioned seagulls, he has been hiking and he has seen 1,000's of seagulls, what kind of effect will this have on Forest Lake A. we are currently at war with 5 geese, and they are defecating in the water and it is causing higher fecal count, the seagulls will affect our loon population

Rep. Verville Q. do you have the # of non-local visitors to the park on annually A. we do not, but on 4<sup>th</sup> of July the parking lot was packed and ½ of the cars were out of state plates – because of COVID epidemic more people are flocking to the outdoors Q. the bill is written broadly to protect all state parks, but the intent is to derail a project that is in progress, do you think it is fair to change the rules mid-stream – Town of Dalton enacted emergency zoning in a vote in favor of restricting the landfill 129-154 to stop this –

Rep Caplan – Q. concerned about the rights of private landowners, can you go into more detail regarding odor A. 136 homes, both primary and 2<sup>nd</sup> homes – NY class action suit in 2020 – link sent to committee in PA class action suit – this is only about 75' of forest edge Q. who is the defendant in the cases – NY – Casella Waste Systems

Bryan Gould – lawyer with Cleveland Water – represents Casella Waste – DES average per capita that over 140 tons of trash per year – NH has a capacity between 7 ½ and 20 – we are running out of landfill – Taking imports into account we will be in a shortfall of 20 million tons – if capacity of Bethlehem landfill is not replaced, will have to find an out of state facility to take this waste at considerable cost to the property taxpayers – HB177 will be a breach of our duties – under DES rules there is a requirement for 100' setback and 500' setback – ENVSWA04 – if this bill became law it would be permissible to put a landfill within 500' of a home and 2 miles from a state park

Rep. Bouldin Q. Capacity concerns in NH have we run out of potential landfill sites in NH and are state parks the only resource – A. DES has very rigorous guidelines, the more important question is design of land and how water moves – Q. rigorous process, would that tend to protect residential areas A. you have the 4 Hill landfill in Nashua and w/in 2 miles of that is residential properties, and so on, the way I would look at it, if DES is only requiring 100' & 500' setback requirements are science based and the rigorous process

Rep. Verville Q. is it your opinion if this bill is enacted in law, would this bill be taken to court and struck down A. we have a regulatory process in place and the process started years ago, could this result in litigation, I would not be able to answer at this time – if the State tries to regulate who/where landfills can go Q. in Deerfield we have a capped landfill – it is monitored regularly, is it safe to assume that any problems that could possibly arise be corrected immediately A. there will be several wells to be monitored regularly

Rep. Sofikitis Q. want to swing discussion to out of state garbage – 4 Hills Landfill – we do not accept out of state garbage – they have 40 more years of capacity – what is the benefit to the state of NH to have out of state garbage A. these facilities are so carefully designed are very expensive and that has to be funded in some fashion, all the commercial landfills in the state all of them take out of state waste – it enables the companies to meet their debt service Q. who benefits from out of state waste and where does it come from A. believes it comes from MA and Maine – about 80% goes to turnkey facility in Rochester – everyone benefits from competition in waste disposal industry

Rep. Bixby Q. in terms of legal recourse of a private landowner – if abutter had detrimental use to landowner – A. yes, nuisance, if someone's use of land or operation of land causes harm, yes other



landowners can get damages – Q. so if there is something detrimental due to landfill, landowner can only sue after the landfill is in use, unless it happens during excavation

Rep. Murray – Q. Is landfilling the only waste disposal method for his client – A. once you have eliminated the reusable portions of the waste stream there are only 2 technologies, 1 is in incineration and 2 landfills

Nina Webb – written testimony – represents State Forest Lake -

Joe Fusco – VP of Casella Waste – written testimony

Eliot Wessler – Whitefield, NH – speaking on behalf of NCABC – written testimony – they have hired their own experts – There are 2 threshold questions – 1. Is legislation needed – yes, DES is understaffed and outgunned by applicants 2. 2-mile buffer – landfill is very dangerous

Rep. Stapleton – Q. you hired experts, what about air quality expert A. No, we did not

Chris Walker – Scituate, MA – summer home on Forest Lake – speaking as family’s representative – written testimony –

Rep. Bixby Q. just to be clear, if a landfill were to be built, you would take your tourist dollars elsewhere A. yes, I would sell property as soon as possible – not a large lake 1 mile x 2 miles

Rep. Verville Q. protection of surface water is very important, would you ask the committee to ban landfills w/in 2 miles of open water – A. Yes Q. If the State of NH would ban landfills w/in 2 miles of surface water, NH would never be able to build another landfill, what would you propose A. no idea

Samuel Nicolai – VP of Engineering Casella Waste Systems – headquartered in Rutland, VT – this bill is a siting bill – this bill would set a bill at 10,512’ and would be more than any other setback criteria in NH – this bill is about 1 project – regardless of any impacts, it is a landfills duty to be protective of odor, water, traffic, etc. - the only impact we are concerned with is the view, for the 1<sup>st</sup> 24 years of operation it will not be visible from the lake, and after that you will see for about a year a sliver of a hill above the tree line – Ground water and surface water will never reach the lake as it cannot flow uphill

Rep. Caplan Q. do landfill protections ever fail A. Casella’s has never had a leak from a double lined landfill – they have never had a release into groundwater Q. have you taken any precautions for odor management A. it is very important in the last 10 years we have been advancing in technology, we take steps to mute the impact

Rep. Aron Q. the lake and the park are downwind of the landfill A. wind direction changes and at certain times will be in the direction of the lake, our odor management cannot rely on wind direction to mitigate the odor

Rep. Homola Q. at the 25-year point you will be able to see top of landfill, do you have a specific max elevation that the landfill will be allowed to rise A. there is not a maximum yet, that would be part of the process, it will be 50’ higher than the ridge

Rep Sofikitis Q. odor mitigation please explain process in more detail A. greater than 90% collection of gas from landfill – focused program – odor investigations if a complaint is received – landfills are not the only place odors come from Q. would you spray aerosols A. we do not like to do that – we prefer to neutralize odors rather than mask them

Rep. Von Plinsky Q. noise pollution – A. typically a landfill does not have a lot of noise pollution, the loudest noise will be from backup alarms on equipment – but due to buffer zones we find that it is not a huge issue

Rep. Boulding Q. has Casella ever had violations regarding the environment A. we have had compliance issues at some site, but all short-term issues have been addressed and corrected. Yes, we have had fines

Rep. Bixby Q. Turnkey Landfill – during certain times he smells the landfill – A. our existing landfill are smaller than the Turnkey Landfill and takes the most out of state waste

Rep Murray Q. what do you do with the gas collected A. we like to take gas and use it to produce renewable energy or converting to RNG (renewable natural gas)

Sarah Doucette – written testimony –

Rep Caplan – Q. we heard in existing testimony – do you believe the state has the right to impose new regulatory criteria A. yes, I do

Steven Changaris – NWRA – written testimony – changing the rules in the middle of the game, this often happens – the private sector is so involved in the waste management across the nation – this bill takes away private involvement -

Rep Bouldin – Q. I heard you state that you interpret the bill as saying no more private landfills in NH – A. there is language in Line 3-6

Bob Grillo – CMA Engineer – Maine resident – engineering project manager for forest lake project – team has worked over the last 3 years on this project

Rep Caplan Q. Casella HQ is in VT, how many landfills in VT compared to NH – A. one and one in NH this new landfill would replace the Bethlehem –

Rep Dutzy Q. Mr. Nilokei if uncontaminated water comes in and then goes out how do you handle – A. defer to Tim White – would like to emphasize will have a double lined facility and has been proven to work – high competence that it will not leak

Pam Kathan – opposed – one of the oldest families in Dalton – Forest Lake is not pristine

Rep. Bouldin Q. there is violence and harassment Q. can you expand on that A. when having town meeting, those who were in favor had their vehicles shaken and they were harassed

Rep Aron Q. how much income to town from project, how would your town benefit A. increase tax money, could get services in town that we do not have now, Forest Lake would be much better handled with extra funding to take care of that lake so that it does not get polluted

Nancy Morrison – Mt. Vernon, NH – written testimony

Kevin Whittum – opposed – should be up to Dalton, NH – many folks and businesses in Dalton, NH that will not speak out against because of attacks from those that are for HB177

Laurie Boswell – support – native of NH – Franconia, NH – written testimony

Sebastian Fuentes – active member – support – hospitality manager at one of the Grand Hotels

Rep. Bouldin – Q. Mr. Nikolei testimony – do you think you will see flocks of seagulls before the 24-year mark – A. it is a possibility

Wayne Morrison – Mt. Vernon, NH – speaking from Nancy Morrison computer – supports – common sense – this legislation started before any permitting processes started – this bill passed through the House but due to COVID 19 it did not – DES does have an exhaustive set of rules for the permitting process

Fred Anderson – Forest Lake – bought a camp, retirement home 14 years ago, would never bought home if he had known about a landfill – President of Save Forest Lake – What happens when stuff goes into the ground – Atmospheric Deposition – gasses still continue to be released - causes global warming and increases carbon footprint – lake will be dead in 30 years – Acid Rain – PFAS – prevailing winds come from North to the South – Casella is not being forthright – Ecology – biosphere – cancer and other problems – water leaching – EPA says they leak in 100 to 200 years – Economic – Tourism dollars – lives less than 1 mile from where this will be

Rep Bouldin – Q. What do you think will happen to property values if landfill is put in A. they will drop significantly, who will want to buy here?

Adam Finkel – Dr. Adam Finkel – Dalton, NH – not anti-landfill – this bill will have zero costs and will not kill any jobs – 2 miles is not arbitrary – current is 200' setback – depending on various facts – groundwater can move 50' per month - For 20 years Federal prohibition of 6-mile radius from an airport – written testimony

Rep. Bixby – Q. cost benefit analysis – increase in tax base to Town of Dalton, downside, damaging effect on Tourism economy – how do they compare A. I am making a point – this is a State Bill – both have significant dollars

Rep Bouldin – Q. Professor of Environmental Sciences – Mr. Fusco – my daughter is in HS – sources of scientific information should be trusted only from unbiased sources A. it is a tough question, because I was sued by Casella, the idea that groundwater cannot flow up hill is voodoo science –

Rep Verville – Q. we keep coming back to a similar point – landfills and parks and open water do not mix; do you believe that the bill should add that and how much of the state would be off-limits A. I think state parks 2/3 of them have water body in their name – not sure it should be amended but it is personal in nature to me

Ellen Hays – why near state park – because they found a willing landowner to sell to them – written testimony

Rep Bouldin – Q. if there was a policy that would prevent present activities, would any legislation ever be passed – A. I agree – we were a little too ambitious last year when we included the Appalachian Trail –

David Creer – Director of Public Policy for BIA - written testimony

Rep. Sofikitis Q. how much of our garbage do we send out A. do not have the answer, we do export some

Hayley Jones – VT – VT & NH Community Action – support – need to get at root of issue as we produce too much waste – written testimony

Rebecca MacKenzie – support – uses the mountain view – cannot imagine holding her conference at the Grand Hotel if they look upon a land fill

Rep. MacKenzie – Q. how many attendees at conference and how long do they stay – Maine, NH, & VT Social workers A. about 250 attendees – 2 ½ days –

John Tuthill – NH – former member of E & A committee – will submit written testimony – looking at an unregulated industry – hit pause button before passing HB177

# Testimony

**Archived:** Monday, February 1, 2021 3:01:34 PM  
**From:** [gordonpond@myfairpoint.net](mailto:gordonpond@myfairpoint.net)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 11:46:44 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Cc:** [Rosalind Page](#)  
**Subject:** Support for HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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To Whom It May Concern,

The Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust, a Land Trust based in Franconia, NH, is in favor of HB 177, Prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.

Thank you,  
Marilyn

The Honorable Howard Pearl, Chair  
Committee on Environment and Agriculture  
Legislative Office Building, Room 303  
Concord NH 03301

February 2, 2021

Re: Comments on HB177 – AN ACT prohibiting siting of a landfill near a state park  
Hydrogeologic Summary of Granite State Landfill site

Dear Chair Pearl:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide information to the Committee regarding HB177.

Sanborn, Head & Associates, Inc. (Sanborn Head) is a multi-disciplinary engineering and geosciences consulting firm headquartered in Concord, New Hampshire. Sanborn Head has provided environmental and engineering services to public and private solid waste clients in New Hampshire since the firm was founded in 1993.

In 2018, Sanborn Head was engaged by Casella Waste Systems, Inc. (CWS) to provide hydrogeologic services on the proposed Granite State Landfill (GSL) project in Dalton. At the time we became involved in the GSL project, CWS had spent several years evaluating properties in New Hampshire and other New England states to site a landfill which would continue to provide solid waste disposal capacity following the anticipated closure of the NCES Landfill in Bethlehem.

We understand that HB177 has been proposed to block the GSL project based on its proximity to Forest Lake State Park. It is in this context we are respectfully providing information regarding the GSL project for the Committee's consideration, specifically a summary of the surface water and hydrogeologic conditions of the proposed GSL site.

This month, GSL will submit an application for Standard Permit for Solid Waste Landfill to NHDES. Included in the application is the Hydrogeologic Report prepared by Sanborn Head, which includes information from several years of study of hydrogeologic and surface water conditions of the proposed site. The Hydrogeologic Report focused on Phase I, the first phase of the landfill, and the subject of the Standard Application, but included information over a regional area to provide a broad context for understanding site conditions.

As part of characterizing the hydrogeologic conditions of the site, Sanborn Head installed a network of 51 groundwater monitoring points located in overburden and shallow bedrock. This monitoring network provided information on hydrogeologic conditions across a several hundred acre area, including areas outside the proposed landfill footprint. The network of groundwater monitoring points allows measurement of groundwater elevations, from which the directions of groundwater and surface water can be identified.

The report concluded that the hydrogeologic conditions of the proposed Phase I area are well-defined, including groundwater flow direction, lateral recharge and discharge boundaries, and groundwater-surface water interaction. Further, the site meets the criteria contained in the State of New Hampshire Geologic Siting Limitations. From a hydrogeologic standpoint, the Phase I landfill area is considered to be well-constrained, with conditions that are amendable for monitoring under a Release Detection Permit. A separate Application for Release Detection Permit is currently being prepared and will be submitted to NHDES for review in the next several weeks.

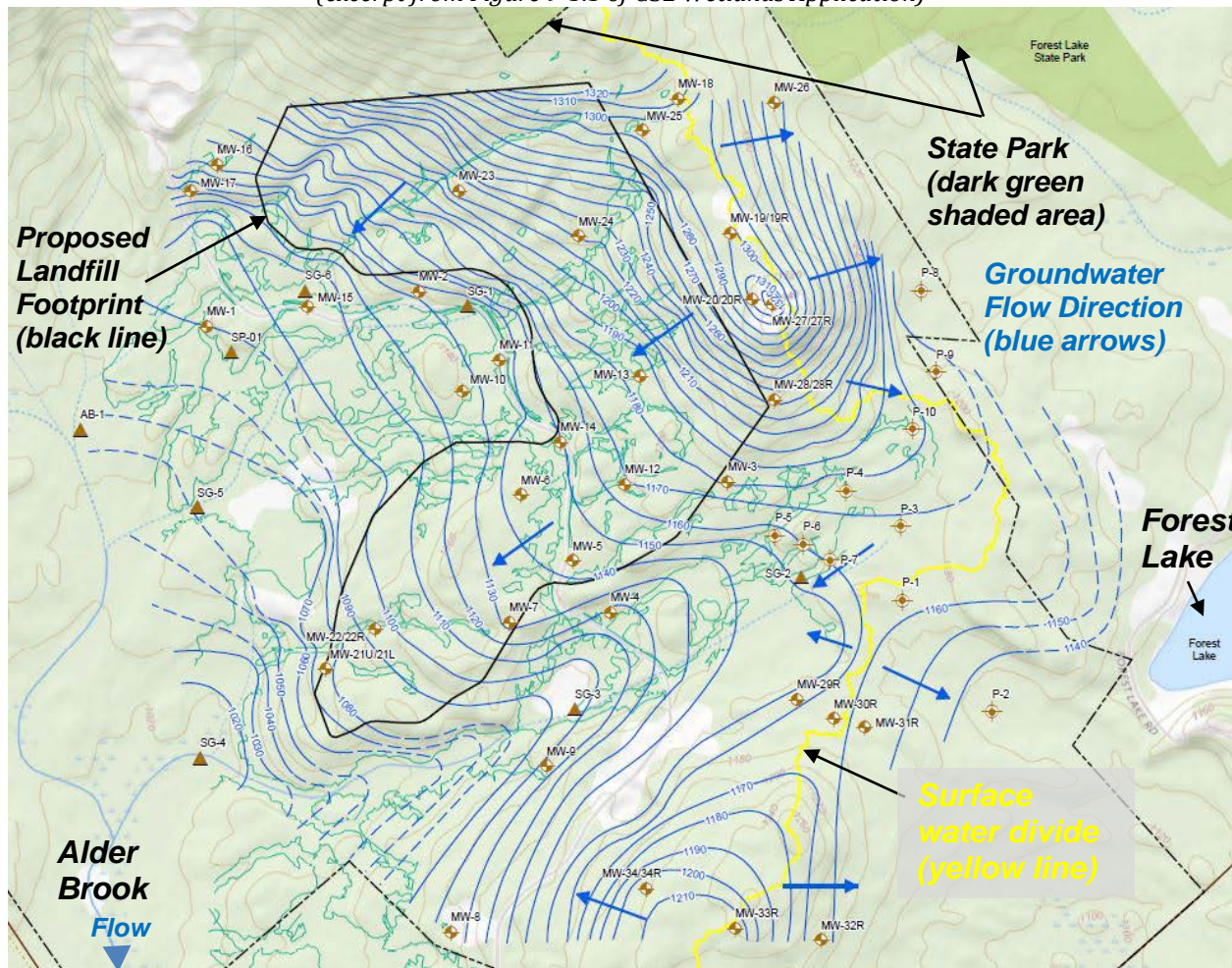
For the Committee's consideration, below we provide a summary and a schematic (Exhibit 1) of the surface water and groundwater conditions at the GSL site.

- 1. Surface Water Flow at the proposed GSL:** The Phase I landfill footprint lies within the eastern portion of the approximately 2,900-acre Alder Brook/Hatch Brook watershed, which are tributaries of the Ammonoosuc River. The topographically high ridgeline located east of the proposed GSL site forms a surface water divide (yellow line on Exhibit 1 below) which separates drainage to the Connecticut River from drainage to the Ammonoosuc River. Forest Lake, home to the Forest Lake State Park beach, is located on the other side (the east side) of the surface water divide from the proposed landfill. Surface water east of the divide drains toward Forest Lake, and then to Burns Pond and the Johns River, before discharging to the Connecticut River. Surface water west of the divide, where the GSL site is located, drains west toward Alder Brook, which flows to the Ammonoosuc River. The portion of the State Park forest land along the ridgeline that is within the Alder Brook watershed is uphill of the proposed landfill area, and surface water in that area drains toward the proposed landfill, not vice versa.
- 2. Groundwater Flow at the proposed GSL site:** Groundwater measurements from the GSL site indicate the ridgeline that separates surface water drainage east toward Forest Lake from drainage west toward Alder Brook also creates a similar groundwater "divide" along and beneath the topographically highest areas. Groundwater in the Forest Lake basin is separated from groundwater in the Alder Brook basin by this groundwater divide. Like the topographic divide that governs surface water flow eastward to Forest Lake and westward to Alder Brook, the groundwater divide results in a similar flow pattern in groundwater: east of the divide groundwater flows to Forest Lake, and west of the divide groundwater flows toward Alder Brook (blue arrows on Exhibit 1 show groundwater flow direction). The proposed landfill is located west of the groundwater divide, where groundwater flows westward toward Alder Brook.

Groundwater measurements from 51 measurement locations were compiled as part of the hydrogeologic study to support the solid waste permit application, including 15 points where groundwater elevation was recorded at 15-minute intervals for over 1 year. These groundwater measurements indicate that the groundwater divide coincides with the topographic high and is stable throughout the year, even during seasonal changes in groundwater elevation, which are generally small (on the order of several feet).



**Exhibit 1 – Surface Water Divide and Inferred Groundwater Flow Directions**  
(excerpt from Figure 9-3.3 of GSL Wetlands Application)



Note: Groundwater elevation contours shown were developed from measurements recorded in May 2020.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this information to the Committee.

Very truly yours,  
SANBORN, HEAD & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Timothy M. White, P.G.  
Project Director

TMW/MRP/SAKB: tmw

- cc: Rep. Peter Bixby  
Rep. Barbara Comtois  
Rep. Arnold Davis  
Rep. Walter Stapleton  
Rep. Susan Homola  
Rep. Catherine Sofikitis

- Rep. Andrew Bouldin  
Rep. Margaret Kennedy  
Rep. Sherry Dutzy  
Rep. James Mason  
Rep. Megan Murray  
Rep. Gail Sanborn

- Rep. Kevin Verville  
Rep. Judy Aron  
Rep. Sparky Von Plinsky  
Rep. Tony Caplan  
Rep. Stephanie Hyland  
Rep. Maria Perez

I am a resident of New Hampshire and live on Forest Lake in Whitefield. I support HB 177 which will prevent landfills from being located closer than 2 miles from State Parks in New Hampshire.

I have learned that there are two class-action lawsuits filed in 2020 in two different states where landfill odor from the landfills negatively impacted the health and quality of life for the plaintiffs living up to 5 and 2.5 miles away for the landfills.

Who would ever think a landfill would be located next to a pristine lake or adjacent to a State Park? It is happening now. As a responsible citizen who cares about our environment and how we leave it for our future generations, I plead with you to pass HB 177.

Thank you,

Bill Aalerud  
658 Westside Road  
Whitefield, NH 03598

**Archived:** Monday, February 1, 2021 3:01:34 PM  
**From:** [davmarramsey](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 11:45:15 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Bill HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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We are David and Margaret Ramsey

Sixty three years ago we spent our honeymoon in the great state of New Hampshire  
Fifty years ago last summer we bought our camp on Forest Lake. We have had five generations of  
our family enjoying the beauty, peace,wildlife, and pristine conditions on and near the lake. We  
have been paying New Hampshire taxes for fifty years.Please vote yes for Bill HB177. THank you  
for your consideration in this matter.

Margaret Ramsey  
325 Forest Lake Road  
Powered by Cricket Wireless



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**GRANITE STATE LANDFILL, LLC**

581 Trudeau Road • Bethlehem, NH 03574 p. 603-869-3366

February 3, 2021

Representative Pearl, Chair  
Environment and Agriculture Committee  
State House, Room 103  
Concord NH 03301

Re: Comments on HB177 – An ACT prohibiting siting of a landfill near a state park

Dear Chair Pearl:

Casella Waste Systems, Inc. is a regional solid waste resource management company serving more than 50,000 households and 5,500 businesses across 150 towns and cities in New Hampshire through collection, transfer, recycling, and waste disposal operations. We are proud to directly employ more than 175 people across our New Hampshire operations, providing an annual payroll that exceeds \$10 million.

In 2020, the North Country Environmental Services (NCES) Landfill in Bethlehem safely and securely disposed of more than 177,000 tons of waste generated by New Hampshire residents, businesses, and municipalities, which represented more than 80 percent of the total municipal solid waste accepted at the site. We understand the concerns posed by some regarding the importation of out-of-state waste and have voluntarily taken steps to reduce the amount of out-of-state material we accept over the last five years. In 2021 that projection is expected to continue to exceed 80 percent, once again leading the State in terms of acceptance of in-state waste. In addition to our disposal operation, Casella also diverted more than 40,000 tons of New Hampshire waste from NCES through our recycling and organics operations. We have spent the last four decades growing from a single-truck operation to a leader in the northeast in creating economically and environmentally sustainable solutions that seek to find a higher and better use for waste.

It is with this in mind that we feel uniquely positioned to offer this letter as Casella's official comments on House Bill 177. We appreciate the opportunity to provide this insight as we seek to help secure the stability of New Hampshire's solid waste and resource management future.

House Bill 177, although perhaps superficially appealing, will be detrimental to the future of New Hampshire and its citizens and environment. We oppose this bill for several reasons detailed below and believe this committee would best serve the interests of the residents, businesses, and environment of New Hampshire by voting it down.

1. The State already has a significant and rigorous regulatory system in place to oversee landfill siting and development. The Environmental Protection Agency, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Environmental Services, Department of Transportation, and local governments all play a role in a very robust process designed to determine suitability, necessity, and desirability of any proposed expansion or newly sited capacity.
2. New Hampshire is already facing significant challenges due to the lack of recycling infrastructure within the State, forcing its recovered recyclable materials to be trucked to Vermont or Massachusetts. Casella would like to be part of a comprehensive solution to manage the State's recycling deficits and believes that expanding disposal capacity is also key. Clearly a recycling operation would be an enormous public benefit to the State, as is creating additional disposal capacity. Casella believes they are inextricably linked in terms of solid waste infrastructure.

3. There is a significant decline occurring in available disposal capacity for New Hampshire. There will be a shortfall in available capacity in nine years and a 21-million-ton capacity shortfall projected over 20 years if there is no new capacity permitted.
4. DSM Environmental Services recently analyzed the potential economic and environmental benefits to siting much-needed waste disposal and recycling capacity in the State. They estimate these facilities will ADD over \$400 million to the State's economy over 20 years, avoid \$75 million in additional waste and transportation costs over that timeframe and add an estimated 52 well-paying jobs.
5. The potential host community of the facility impacted by this bill would suffer the loss of millions of dollars in proposed annual host community benefits as well as 13 high-paying jobs. The host community should be trusted to make the best decisions for its citizens.
6. Proposed legislation such as this, which seeks to target a single business entity and/or industry in a unique location, sets a dangerous precedent for future policymakers in the State. It will effectively stop the development of a landfill project which is years into the process. This will result in just one privately-owned commercial landfill in operation in New Hampshire, eliminating competition, driving up overall costs and carbon impacts (due to increased transportation distances) to New Hampshire communities throughout the State. It takes New Hampshire backward on its journey to a more sustainable future as it will force municipalities to commit significant resources to address core waste disposal needs rather than moving forward with innovative waste reduction and recycling programs.

Closing landfills does not stop the generation of trash. We all need to reduce, reuse, and recycle to minimize disposal capacity needs, but in today's environment, landfills are still necessary. This legislation would negatively impact a critical component of the State's solid waste management system without due consideration to the resulting financial, logistical, and environmental repercussions.

For more than 40 years we have provided safe and secure disposal and recycling services to the State of New Hampshire. We are proud to stand beside the residents and businesses in the Granite State in support and protection of its natural beauty. While the wording of this bill would lead you to believe it seeks to do the same, the unintended consequences will reverberate through every city and town that we serve throughout the State.

I urge you to vote no on HB177.

Sincerely,  
CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC.



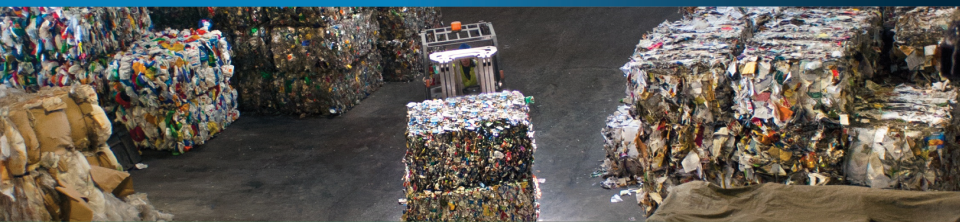
Joe Fusco, Vice President

cc  
Rep. Howard Pearl, Chair  
Rep. Peter Bixby  
Rep. Barbara Comtois  
Rep. Arnold Davis  
Rep. Walter Stapleton  
Rep. Susan Homola  
Rep. Catherine Sofikitis

Rep.  
Andrew Bouldin  
Rep. Margaret Kennedy  
Rep. Sherry Dutzy  
Rep. James Mason  
Megan Murray  
Rep. Gail Sanborn  
Rep.

Kevin Verville  
Rep. Judy Aron  
Rep. Sparky Von Plinsky  
Rep. Tony Caplan  
Rep. Stephanie Hyland  
Rep. Maria Perez





# Casella in New Hampshire

November 2020



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RECYCLING • SOLUTIONS • ORGANICS • COLLECTION • ENERGY • LANDFILLS

CASELLA'S



# WHO WE ARE

Casella was founded in 1975 as a single truck operation in Rutland, Vermont. In 1977, Casella opened the first recycling facility in the state. From our Vermont roots, we've grown through a commitment to making a difference in our local communities.

Together with our communities and our customers, we work to deliver environmental and economic value. At Casella, we see waste as a valuable resource, an opportunity for thoughtful and disciplined innovation.

- \$724.4mm of revenues for the 12-months ended 9/30/19; publicly traded on NASDAQ: CWST
- Operations in MA, ME, NH, NY, PA, and VT
- 2,500 employees serving over 200,000 customers and 550,000 households
- Recover over 800,000 tons of recycling and over 450,000 tons of organics for beneficial use each year
- Provide professional resource management services to over 10,000 business locations in over 45 states
- Since 2005, cut companywide carbon emissions by 50%
- Stock price has increased by 1,000% since January, 2015

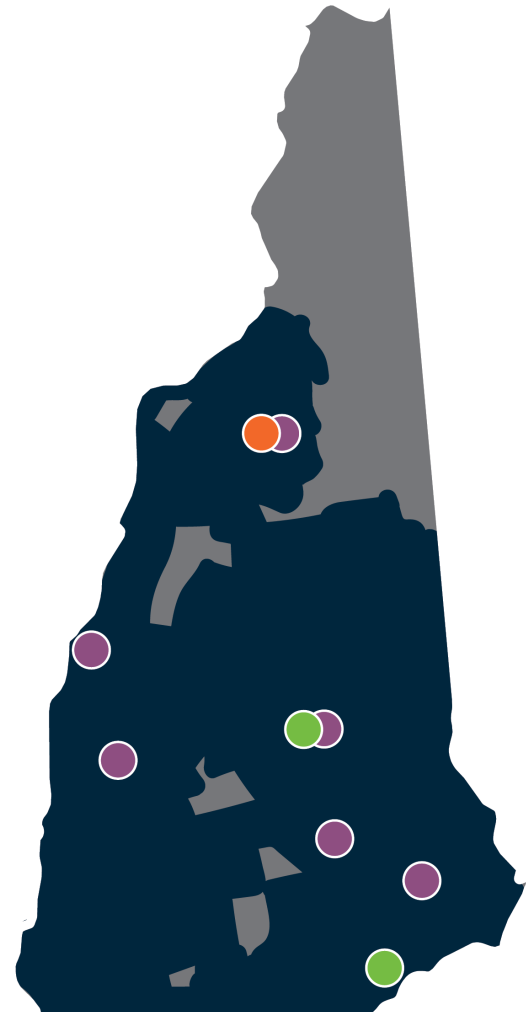


# Committed to a Sustainable New Hampshire

Casella Waste Systems is a committed service partner to more than **50,000 households** and **5,500 businesses** in more than **150 towns** and cities in New Hampshire through collection, transfer, recycling, and waste disposal operations. The company is proud to directly employ more than 175 people across its New Hampshire operations, providing an annual payroll that exceeds \$10 million.

Casella's vertically integrated approach to managing more than 300,000 tons of New Hampshire waste is projected to reclaim, recycle, or repurpose nearly 40 percent of that material this year.

- **Hauling Facilities**
- **Landfill**
- **Transfer/Drop Off**
- **Towns/Cities Served**





# Declining Disposal Capacity for NH Waste

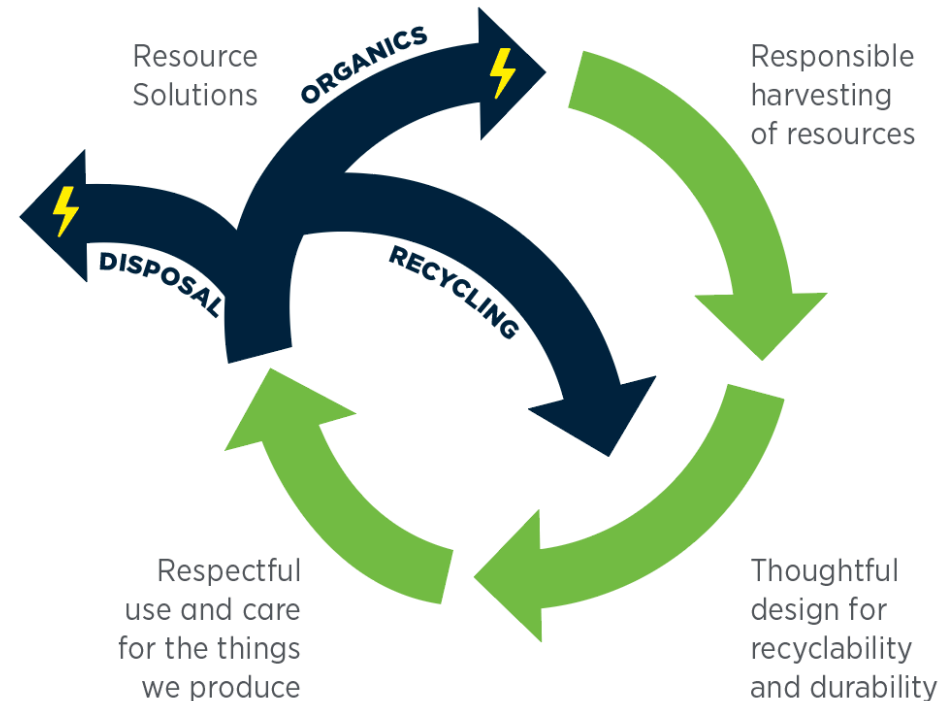
- NCES to reach permitted disposal capacity by 2026
- New capacity needed to provide home for waste now being disposed at NCES
- 21M tons capacity shortfall in NH projected over 20 years
- Likely closure of additional disposal facilities will worsen capacity shortfall

Table 3. Active New Hampshire Disposal Facilities, Listed by Earliest Anticipated Closure Date

Facility Type	Facility Name	Location	Service Type / Service Area	Earliest Anticipated Closure Date
Waste-to-Energy Incinerator	Wheelabrator Concord Company L.P.	Concord, NH	Commercial / Unlimited	None
Incinerator (no resource recovery)	Hebron-Bridgewater Refuse District	Bridgewater, NH	Limited Public / Limited	None
Landfill	North Country Environmental Services, Inc.	Bethlehem, NH	Commercial / Unlimited	April 16, 2021 <sup>4</sup>
	Four Hills Secure Landfill Expansion	Nashua, NH	Limited Public / Limited	April 15, 2023 <sup>5</sup>
	Mount Carberry Secure Landfill	Success, NH	Commercial / Unlimited	April 29, 2025 <sup>6</sup>
	Lebanon Regional Solid Waste Facility	Lebanon, NH	Limited Public / Limited	est. 2027 <sup>7</sup>
	Lower Mount Washington Valley Secure Solid Waste Landfill	Conway, NH	Limited Public / Limited	est. 2033 <sup>8</sup>
	TLR-III Refuse Disposal Facility	Rochester, NH	Commercial / Unlimited	June 30, 2034 <sup>9</sup>

# An Integrated Approach to Resource Renewal

DSM Environmental Services, Inc., an internationally recognized leader in data-driven analyses related to resource recovery and solid waste management solutions, conducted an analysis to estimate the potential economic and environmental benefits to siting much needed waste disposal capacity in the North Country of New Hampshire in conjunction with a state-of-the-art Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in central New Hampshire.



## Combined Economic Benefits

- Estimated to add **over \$400 million to the state's economy** over 20 years
- Allows the residents, businesses, and municipalities of New Hampshire to **avoid nearly \$75 million in additional waste and transportation costs** over 20 years
- **Additional 52 jobs** with **estimated wages of more than \$2.8 million** annually.

## Combined Environmental Benefits

- Annual **reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by more than 29,000 metric tons of carbon** due to increased recycling rates and avoidance of additional transportation, which is **equivalent to taking more than 6,200 passenger cars off the road** each year. (**nearly 600,000 MTCO<sub>2</sub>E** over 20 years).
- On-site landfill gas-to-energy facility supplying clean renewable energy.

# The MRF of the Future

Casella and Goodwill of Northern New England are collaborating across the region to create new ways to address and overcome social and environmental challenges related to resource recovery, waste diversion, and job placement for individuals who have historically struggled to reintegrate into society while recovering from substance abuse disorders and/or incarceration.

The next step in this partnership is to bring a facility to New Hampshire that combines Zero Sort™ Recycling with textile and bulky waste recovery. This facility serves to enhance Goodwill's retail mission and removes a waste stream that is a large contributor to emerging contaminants such as PFAs in landfills, all while creating good jobs for those with barriers to sustainable employment.



**Thank you!**

To learn more, please visit:

**[casella.com](http://casella.com)**



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## Potential Impacts to the State of New Hampshire Associated with Closure of the North Country Environmental Services Landfill

*Prepared by:*

DSM Environmental Services, Inc.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DSM Environmental Services, Inc. (DSM) was contracted by Casella Waste Systems (Casella) to estimate potential economic and transportation related climate change impacts to the State of New Hampshire associated with closure of the North Country Environmental Services, Inc. (NCES) landfill located in Bethlehem, NH. DSM was also asked to analyze future economic impacts assuming Casella were to open a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in southern New Hampshire.

DSM was contracted to complete this analysis because of our experience encompassing over 30 years of economic and environmental research involving waste management and recycling issues throughout the United States and in 17 countries around the world. This includes DSM's 2009 Recycling Economic Information Study for the Northeast Recycling Council which included an input/output analysis of employment, wages and revenues.<sup>1</sup> DSM also conducted Recycling Economic Information analyses for the States of Rhode Island (2018) and Illinois (2011) as well as for the central Ohio region (2018).

Per DSM's agreement with Casella, the analysis is intended to be a high-level analysis using previously available data and models; and relies on information provided by Casella on current tip fees at competing facilities. This analysis does not address local and site-specific construction, infrastructure, or environmental impacts associated with operation of either the NCES landfill or the proposed Dalton Landfill.

#### Impacts Associated with Closure of the NCES Facility

DSM constructed a model to estimate the change in costs associated with closure of the NCES landfill, assuming waste would typically move to the nearest available alternative disposal facility. A detailed assessment of deliveries by facility user was performed to determine what alternative facilities might be available to them when NCES closes.

The model outputs were used to:

- Identify alternative facilities that would be used based on location of the waste generators;
- Estimate any additional miles driven (and related carbon emissions) when using the identified alternative facilities;
- Estimate the total change in transport costs and tip fees associated with using other facilities; and,

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<sup>1</sup> See [https://nerc.org/documents/recycling\\_economic\\_information\\_study\\_update\\_2009.pdf](https://nerc.org/documents/recycling_economic_information_study_update_2009.pdf). DSM did not update the input/output data and relied on data from Maine for use in the landfill analysis, and Massachusetts for use in the MRF analysis.

- Create inputs for the input/output analyses to understand the macro economic impacts to New Hampshire.

## **Conclusions**

Closure of the NCES landfill without opening a replacement landfill would result in economic losses and/or increased costs to the local community and New Hampshire residents and businesses estimated at \$12.3 million annually. These estimated losses represent the following:

- Direct payments and provision of services to the host community estimated at \$977,000 annually;
- The loss of 13 jobs with direct wages and benefits of roughly \$900,000;
- Loss of expenditures by the landfill on goods and services valued at roughly \$3.8 million;
- Indirect and induced losses to the regional economy of an estimated \$3 million associated with the loss of spending by the employees and lost revenues to suppliers of the landfill; and,
- Additional costs to New Hampshire residents and businesses of an estimated \$3.65 million associated with changes in waste transportation and tipping fees when using alternative disposal facilities .

In addition, the net increase in annual miles associated with waste transport to other disposal facilities is estimated to be 76,000 (rounded). This results in an increase in annual GHG emissions of 128 metric tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2</sub>E) which is associated with the additional trucking.

## **Construction of a New Landfill in Dalton and a Materials Recovery Facility in Southern New Hampshire**

Casella is proposing to develop an integrated waste management system for New Hampshire that includes construction of a landfill in Dalton, New Hampshire and a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in southern New Hampshire. DSM analyzed the combined impact of these two facilities over a twenty-year period.

### ***Dalton Landfill***

DSM was asked by Casella to utilize the NCES closure analysis to estimate the impacts of opening a new landfill of similar size in Dalton. DSM assumed that the proposed Dalton landfill, roughly 10 miles from the NCES facility, would attract the same waste flow as NCES and would be operated similarly to NCES. Based on these assumptions, operation of the new landfill in Dalton, New Hampshire is estimated to result in economic benefits to the region of \$9.7 million annually, or \$193.7 million over twenty years based on:

- \$2 million annually in host community benefits;
- The addition of 13 new jobs with annual wages and benefits of roughly \$900,000;
- The expenditure of \$3.8 million annually on goods and services from operation of the new facility; and,
- Estimated Induced and Indirect annual economic benefits of \$3 million annually.

In addition, DSM assumes tip fees would be the same as for the current NCES facility, but did not analyze any potential change in transport costs; however these are assumed to be minimal compared with the



estimated increase in tip fees and transport costs of \$3.65 million associated with using alternative facilities after NCES closes.

### ***Construction of a 40,000 Tons Per Year Materials Recovery (Recycling) Facility in Southern New Hampshire***

Casella is proposing to construct a new single stream recycling processing facility (MRF) in southern New Hampshire in association with construction of the proposed Dalton landfill. This facility is expected to process 40,000 tons per year which will include roughly 29,000 tons of recyclables collected in New Hampshire that are currently processed in Charlestown, Massachusetts. The new facility is also expected to attract new material with the goal of sourcing another 11,000 tons annually from New Hampshire municipalities and businesses. The climate change impact associated with recycling an additional 11,000 tons of recyclables is estimated to be a reduction in GHG emissions of 29,441 MTCO<sub>2</sub>E annually based on the US EPA Warm Model, or nearly 600 thousand MTCO<sub>2</sub>E over the 20 year life of the project.<sup>2</sup>

Further, the MRF is expected to employ 25 people with annual wages and benefits of \$1.4 million and generate annual revenues of \$4.6 million. The indirect and induced impact of this type of facility is estimated to result in an additional 27 new jobs over and above the direct jobs, with annual wages of \$1.4 million, and revenues of \$3.3 million. Therefore, over twenty years the new MRF is estimated to create \$212 million in new wages and revenues for New Hampshire.

The combined economic impact of the landfill and recycling development project is estimated to add over \$400 million to the state's economy, while reducing emissions of nearly 600 thousand MTCO<sub>2</sub>E given the assumptions made to perform this high-level analysis.

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<sup>2</sup> Future predictions of GHG emission reductions are speculative because the WARM model computes GHG emission savings based on the current electric grid, which is changing over time, and on the current mix of single stream recyclables, which also changes over time.

# The Future of Materials Recovery

## A Public-Private Partnership in New Hampshire

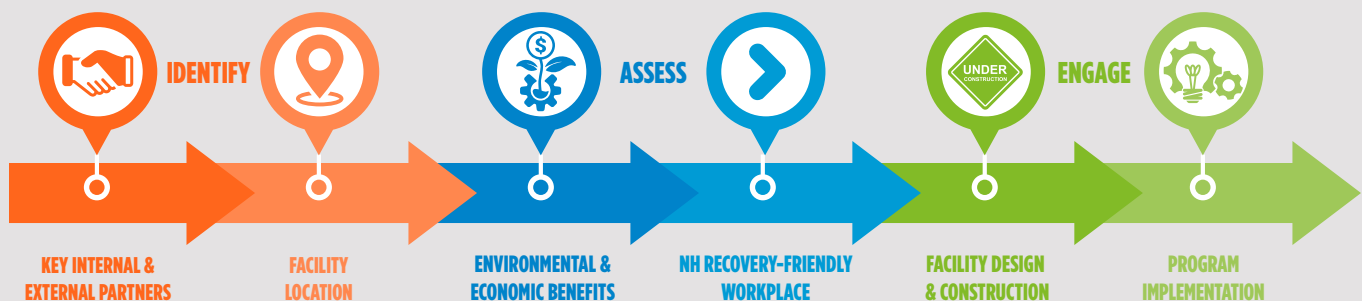
**Casella Waste Systems, Inc. and Goodwill of Northern New England are collaborating across Northern New England to create innovative new ways to address and overcome social and environmental challenges related to resource recovery, waste diversion, and job placement for individuals who have historically struggled to reintegrate into society while recovering from substance abuse disorders and/or incarceration.**

Using our successful and unique collaboration as a starting point, we are in initial stages of envisioning the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) of the Future in New Hampshire, with the following conceptual underpinnings:

- 1. Site Location:** The Southern part of New Hampshire represents an outstanding opportunity for both organizations to invest in meaningful infrastructure. The state lacks recycling capacity and with the appropriate level of public-private partnership, Casella Recycling and the residents and businesses of New Hampshire would benefit greatly from a state-of-the-art facility located in its more populous region. This area also represents an excellent opportunity for Goodwill NNE to expand its New Hampshire operations, including warehouse, collection, sorting, and possibly even its innovative “Buy the Pound” initiative.
- 2. Job Connections:** A facility of this potential size and scope would require 45-60 employees just in the recycling operations. We are committed to hiring a significant percentage of these employees through the Goodwill Job Connections program and/or Governor Sununu’s newly formed Recovery Friendly Workplace Program. Goodwill Northern New England’s Job Connection programs have supported individuals by creating stability in their lives through employment. This has been achieved in various communities throughout Northern New England, with a special focus on Manchester, New Hampshire.
- 3. Conventional Recycling and Textile and Bulky Waste Recovery:** Core to the mission of both organizations is the desire to achieve a higher and better use for what has traditionally been considered waste. In addition to the latest single-stream sorting technology designed to divert recyclable plastics, glass, tin, aluminum, mixed paper, and cardboard from landfills, the MRF of the Future will also include infrastructure to assess, process, sort, and inventory unwanted textiles and bulky waste for resale through Goodwill’s various retail models. This effort not only serves to enhance Goodwill’s retail mission, but also removes a waste stream that is a large contributor to emerging contaminants such as PFAs in landfills, all while creating good jobs for those with barriers to sustainable employment.
- 4. Community Engagement:** Goodwill and Casella are committed to bringing and sharing value with the communities in which we operate. This facility will provide untold engagement opportunities through education around substance abuse, recycling, and resource management.

As we continue to explore this opportunity both organizations are committed to working together as strategic partners in bringing the necessary resources to the table to ensure all avenues for success are explored.

### Project Timeline



*Partnering for a better tomorrow!*



For a thriving New England

CLF New Hampshire 27 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
P: 603.225.3060  
F: 603.225.3059  
www.clf.org

February 2, 2021

*Via Electronic Mail*

The Hon. Howard Pearl, Chair  
Environment and Agriculture Committee  
N.H. State House  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: HB 177, An act to prohibit the siting of new landfills, excluding expansions of existing landfills, near state parks.**

Dear Chairman Pearl and Honorable Committee Members:

Conservation Law Foundation (“CLF”) appreciates the opportunity to comment on HB 177, an act to prohibit the siting of new landfills within two miles of a state park. CLF is a non-profit environmental advocacy organization working to protect the environment and promote healthy communities in New Hampshire, and across New England. CLF’s Zero Waste Project works to address unsustainable and polluting waste management practices and promotes proven waste management solutions like source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting.

CLF writes to offer our support for HB 177. HB 177 is a commonsense measure that will protect New Hampshire’s state parks by imposing a minimum two-mile buffer between these important public resources and prospective landfills. This buffer is critical because landfills always negatively impact the surrounding communities and environments.

If landfills are permitted to be constructed and operated within two miles of state parks, visitors to those parks can be expected to endure negative impacts, including noxious odors, airborne dust and debris, and increased noise pollution. An increased amount of truck traffic will service the landfill, with the associated air pollution and traffic impacts reaching well beyond the immediate vicinity of the landfill. Depending on the size of the landfill, upwards of one hundred trucks per day can be expected. In some instances, landfills may even be visible from state parks, greatly reducing the natural viewsheds that are essential to experiencing and enjoying state parks.

Even after a landfill closes, it will still perpetually threaten the surrounding area. Landfills, even those that only accept municipal solid waste, are known to contain dangerous substances like volatile organic compounds (VOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), heavy metals, radioactive material, and pharmaceuticals. There is increasing concern regarding the levels of PFAS in landfills, forever chemicals that must be handled with the utmost care to protect public health and ensure clean and safe drinking water and groundwater. These pollutants are a concern



because all landfills eventually leak.<sup>1</sup> While the liner system placed under the buried waste is supposed to prevent leakage, these systems deteriorate over time. Once these liners fail, the landfill leachate will begin polluting the surrounding groundwater indefinitely, as there is no way to repair the liners after the landfill is constructed.

For these reasons, CLF supports HB 177. However, CLF is concerned that New Hampshire is not responding to the larger waste management issues that are driving attempts to new landfill capacity. In 1990, to “conserve the precious and dwindling natural resources” of New Hampshire, the legislature established two interdependent objectives.<sup>2</sup> First, it created a hierarchy of waste management methods that favors source reduction, recycling, reuse, and composting over waste disposal, and that ranks landfilling as the least preferable option. RSA 149-M:3. Second, the legislature established a solid waste reduction goal, aimed to divert 40% of waste destined for landfills by 2000, through a combination of reduction, recycling, reuse, and composting. RSA 149-M:2. To achieve this goal that is 21 years overdue, New Hampshire must begin to implement policies that disfavor landfills and promote environmentally beneficial methods of waste reduction and management already reflected in state law.

New Hampshire is falling behind our neighbors, and as a result we have become a dumping ground for their waste. In 2019, the six operating landfills in New Hampshire accepted 2,226,041 tons of waste, 49% of which came from out-of-state. Proposals for new landfills and landfill expansions are being fueled by out-of-state waste. The Massachusetts ban on landfilling construction and demolition debris provides a clear example. In 2006, Massachusetts banned several forms of construction and demolition debris from disposal in their landfills. While this has led to increased construction and demolition debris recycling and processing, the ban also resulted in many companies bringing their waste to New Hampshire. This system has increased the amount of out-of-state construction and demolition debris being disposed of in New Hampshire landfills.

As the 2019 Legislative Committee Report Studying Solid Waste noted, it is time to seriously address the waste management crisis and abandon a failed model that relies primarily on disposal. HB 177 represents a reasonable measure that will impose needed siting restrictions on landfills while safeguarding the use and enjoyment of New Hampshire’s state parks. Therefore, we urge the Environment and Agriculture Committee to support HB 177 and vote *ought to pass*.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heidi Trimarco".

Heidi Trimarco, Staff Attorney  
Conservation Law Foundation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter W. Blair Jr.".

Peter Blair, Staff Attorney  
Conservation Law Foundation

---

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1988, Federal Register, v. 53, no. 168, August 30, 1988, p. 33345.

<sup>2</sup> RSA 149-M:1

# Seacoastonline

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**LETTERS | Opinion** *This piece expresses the views of its author(s), separate from those of this publication.*

## Letter: HB 177 will protect our state parks

Portsmouth Herald

Published 2:42 p.m. ET Mar. 11, 2021 | Updated 2:43 p.m. ET Mar. 11, 2021

March 10 – To the Editor:

New Hampshire HB 177 prohibits new landfills from being located within two miles of a state park. The damage that will be done if this bill does not pass is immeasurable.

Passage of HB 177 would protect our state parks in ways no current regulation does. This has become an urgent issue.

I refer to the current situation in Dalton with the potential sale of 1900 acres to Casella Waste Systems, a company that hauls out-of-state trash into New Hampshire. Casella wants to locate a massive landfill next to Forest Lake. Do we want to allow and even encourage this practice? It has no concern for the environment, the tourism business or residents. It would sacrifice irreplaceable wetlands, pollute lakes and rivers, create unsightly views of trash, and increase truck traffic. The proposed landfill is not even needed for NH trash. It would be a for-profit transaction to benefit a Vermont based company.

Casella, and companies like it, have alternatives. They do not need to compromise the natural resources that enhance our state parks. Once damaged, the harm would have long lasting consequences. When utterly destroyed, such as filling in wetlands and clear cutting old growth trees (both included in Casella's Dalton plan) it would be permanent.

I urge readers to contact their representatives this week. Ask them to vote YES on HB 177, scheduled for (a hearing in) early April. Find contact information at [gencourt.state.nh.us](http://gencourt.state.nh.us).

It is up to us to insist our state park system be protected from this threat.

**Cynthia Barrett**

## Milford



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[https://www.caledonianrecord.com/news/local/dalton-casella-wants-to-negotiate-with-town-selectmen-say-no/article\\_0c01e656-e9b8-5d12-b107-18ac28404b07.html](https://www.caledonianrecord.com/news/local/dalton-casella-wants-to-negotiate-with-town-selectmen-say-no/article_0c01e656-e9b8-5d12-b107-18ac28404b07.html)

## Dalton: Casella Wants To Negotiate With Town, Selectmen Say No

Public Hearing On Draft Zoning Ordinance Scheduled For Dec. 9

Robert Blechl  
Nov 25, 2020



A public hearing has been scheduled for Dec. 9 on Dalton's proposed zoning ordinance, but with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, it won't look like the town's July 2019 hearing on emergency temporary zoning, pictured here. (File photo by Robert Blechl)

As a public hearing on Dec. 9 nears on Dalton's draft zoning ordinance, which will go to a final vote at a town meeting in March, Dalton selectmen told Casella Waste Systems they wouldn't negotiate the company's proposed host community agreement (HCA) until it files a local zoning application.

That did not sit well with Casella representatives, who are pushing selectmen to talk and are charging them with not being fully transparent with residents.

Shortly after the company presented the HCA to the town on Aug. 31 — an agreement it says would provide the town with \$71 million in payments and services during 25 years, including \$2 million a year in direct payments — selectmen sought a legal opinion from the town attorney to determine if Casella will need to file a zoning application with the town in addition to the permits it is filing with the state.



At a special town meeting in July 2019, in response to a proposed 180-acre landfill near Forest Lake State Park, Dalton residents passed emergency temporary zoning, allowed under New Hampshire statute until it lapses after the second annual town meeting, voters approve a permanent ordinance, or voters continue with an additional year of temporary zoning.

In a Nov. 2 letter to Casella Engineer John Gay, Casella Division Manager Kevin Roy, Casella Regional Vice-president Brian Oliver, and Dalton property owner, Douglas Ingerson Jr., the Dalton Board of Selectmen said, "Upon consultation with town legal counsel, the Select Board has determined that submission of a land-use plan/building plan zoning application is required under the provisions of the emergency temporary zoning ordinance enacted by the citizens of Dalton."



They said, “The Select Board will not consider or commence negotiation of a host community agreement until a zoning application has been submitted. The town will not finalize such an agreement without appropriate zoning approvals in place.”

In a Nov. 16 response letter, Oliver said the planned landfill is in the early state permitting process. Casella does not yet own the Ingerson property, and the planning board is proposing a new ordinance for the town meeting. It is unclear what the town’s zoning regulations will look like six months from now.

It is also undetermined what form of approval a landfill would need from the town, said Oliver, who asked the board, in its role as a zoning enforcement officer, to inform the company if it believes a variance or a special exception would be required, and to explain the reasoning.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services regulates the siting, construction, and operation of landfills. Local land use regulation is substantially limited by the state’s regulatory framework and cannot have an exclusionary effect, said Oliver.

(Several New Hampshire Supreme Court rulings do give towns authority, such as the authority to designate a landfill district and determine how large it can be. Casella sought a 100-acre expansion to Bethlehem’s 61-acre landfill district through an amendment to that town’s zoning, but Bethlehem voters twice rejected it, thus prompting the company to look to Dalton for a new landfill site).

In his letter, Oliver said Dalton’s current draft ordinance does not appear to address land-filling as a use. Depending on how the ordinance is interpreted, it either allows land-filling as a matter of right or special exception or purports to prohibit it.

“Negotiation of the HCA gives the town the opportunity to obtain contractual terms that are outside of its regulatory authority,” wrote Oliver. “This is not something we are going to resolve by exchanging letters.”

Now that the board has taken a position, he said the company renews its suggestion to discuss attorneys about the scope of the town’s zoning authority so Casella and the town can better understand each other’s interpretation of the law and identify any issues in dispute.

“We ask that as officials elected to represent the entire town, you consider your decision to

impose conditions on further discussion of the draft HCA,” Oliver said to selectmen. “In our conversations with many of your constituents, a recurring theme is that the board has not given the public its perspective on the terms of the HCA ... There is no legal or logical reason to defer public discussion or negotiation of the draft agreement until the zoning issue is resolved, and imposing artificial conditions on simply having discussions and hearing from the public reduces the opportunity for Dalton residents to gather the information they need to fully understand this project.”

## Public Hearing And Ordinance

On Sunday, the Dalton Board of Selectmen issued a press release regarding the public hearing to consider the proposed zoning ordinance. It is scheduled for 6 p.m. Dec. 9.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, in-person participation will be limited at the town hall, and masks and social distancing will be required.

Those wanting to attend in-person must sign up online or in-person at the town hall. If attendance exceeds safety limits, a second hearing might be held.

The hearing will also be available remotely for those wanting to participate, and log-in information will be posted on the town web site.

Most recently updated on Friday, a copy of the ordinance is available on the town web site.

Comments can be submitted during and before the public hearing.

The introduction to the 20-page ordinance is based on the town's 2011 master plan.

It states that Dalton is a rural, residential community and should remain so into the future. The town is largely a community of single-family homes, which should be the core of its future development pattern. Future development should be consistent with and seek to protect Dalton's rural character and natural environment.

"Limited commercial and industrial development may be good for the town in order to diversify the tax base and reduce taxes on homeowners if appropriately sited and accompanied by information from the applicant showing no foreseeable undue hazards," Dalton planners wrote in the draft ordinance.

The ordinance does not have a specific section on landfills or mentions them by name.

The rural residential district land use regulations state, "No use shall be permitted, which shall cause undue noise, traffic, dust, pollution, emission, adverse effect on adjacent properties, etc."

All new construction, single-family homes, manufactured homes, residential additions, and home-based businesses meeting certain criteria, such as the business being a secondary use of the property and carried on by an occupant of the residence, would need a zoning permit.

Home-based businesses that do not involve customers at its location would not need a zoning permit.

Permitted by special exception, after a public hearing, would be small businesses with a maximum of 25 employees and have a proposed use that would not cause "hazard to health, property values or safety through fire, traffic, unsanitary conditions or through excessive noise, vibration, odor or other nuisance feature."



[https://www.caledonianrecord.com/news/local/dalton-planners-deny-lot-line-adjustment-for-prospective-landfill-site/article\\_3b1e4c99-b42b-58b0-8547-55f23ffbeaef.html](https://www.caledonianrecord.com/news/local/dalton-planners-deny-lot-line-adjustment-for-prospective-landfill-site/article_3b1e4c99-b42b-58b0-8547-55f23ffbeaef.html)

## Dalton Planners Deny Lot Line Adjustment For Prospective Landfill Site

Robert Blechl  
Apr 8, 2019

As Casella Waste Systems nears the end of its landfill in Bethlehem that is projected to reach capacity and close in about 2025, the company is evaluating property in Dalton for a new landfill there, on land abutting Forest Lake State Park.

Casella experienced a setback on Wednesday, however, when the Dalton Planning Board denied a lot line adjustment to create a 300-acre lot with no abutters.

Planners concluded the request is essentially seeking a subdivision as defined under state law.

Unlike typical planning board meetings in Dalton, Wednesday's proceeding drew dozens of residents from both Dalton and Whitefield.

“It was an incredible turnout,” said Rep. Troy Merner, R-Lancaster, on Friday, whose district includes Dalton and Whitefield.

The planners decided not to hear the application when it was stated that three lots would be created, equating to a subdivision, he said.

Merner said the meeting got contentious, who attended after being contacted by some of his constituents who had concerns about a possible landfill being built in the area.

Because the land borders Forest Lake State Park, representatives from the New Hampshire Division of State Parks also attended, said Merner, who was the only state representative and public official in attendance.

Representing Casella were Kevin Roy, district manager for North Country Environmental Services, Casella’s New Hampshire subsidiary, and Casella engineer John Gay.

“I said if you do this lot line adjustment, you are only looking at 50 feet to Forest Lake,” said Merner.

The plan discussed Wednesday entails Casella owning the 300 acres and current property owner Douglas Ingerson Jr. owning all of his land around it, which would make him the only abutter to Casella, he said.

“Yet there is only a 50-foot buffer from the state park,” he said. “I said I’m here because there are a lot of concerns from people from Forest Lake and people from the town of Whitefield. You just

move these lines and there is no going back. “

Casella’s plan is one that would constitute a regional impact, said Merner, who said he voiced concerns about truck traffic.

In speaking with Gay, Merner said a landfill in Dalton would be serviced by some 90 trucks a day going up Route 3 to Route 116 in Whitefield, then down into Bethlehem and right onto Douglas Drive, at the entrance to Ingerson’s other business, Chick’s Sand and Gravel, off of Route 116 and near the Littleton town line.

“It takes seven years on average to get federal and state paperwork,” said Merner. “Basically, they have an application to expand in Bethlehem. They run out of space in 2025, and if they get this ball rolling, they can get it in place by 2025 and keep trash coming to the same general area.”

In speaking with the representatives from Casella, the most that would be used out of the 300-acre swath would be about 100 acres, he said.

Unlike Bethlehem, where voters in 2017 and 2018 rejected a Casella proposal to amend the Bethlehem zoning ordinance to add another 100 acres to the town’s current 61-acre landfill district, the town of Dalton has no zoning ordinance.

In January, Casella and Ingerson, under Ingerson’s business name, J.W. Chipping, entered into an option to purchase a total of nearly 1,900 acres of Ingerson-owned land that includes almost 1,500 acres in Dalton, 331 acres in Bethlehem, and 70 acres in Littleton.

On Friday, Roy, Gay, Casella spokesman Joe Fusco, and Casella CEO John Casella were contacted via email and given the opportunity to discuss their plan for Dalton.

They did not respond by press time to questions asking how Casella will now be proceeding in Dalton after the lot line adjustment was denied, if the company will address concerns by abutters and area residents about a landfill near Forest Lake, and if another expansion proposal will be put before Bethlehem voters in the next few years.

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:19:08 PM  
**From:** [David Creer](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:18:17 AM  
**To:** ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** NH House Remote Testify: 1:00 pm - HB177 in House Environment and Agriculture  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
HB 177 - Creer Testimony.pdf ;

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Good morning,

Attached is my written testimony to accompany my speaking testimony for HB177.

Thank you,  
Dave

**David J. Creer**  
Director of Public Policy



603-224-5388 x112 | (m) 603-931-2444  
[dcreer@BIAofNH.com](mailto:dcreer@BIAofNH.com)

122 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION of PARKS and RECREATION  
172 Pembroke Road Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
Phone: (603) 271-3556 Fax: (603) 271-3553  
Web: [www.nhstateparks.org](http://www.nhstateparks.org)

January 12, 2021

Mr. Rene Pelletier, Administrator  
NH Dept. of Environmental Services  
Water Division – Wetlands Bureau

Mr. Mike Wimsatt, Director  
NH Dept. of Environmental Services  
Waste Management Division  
6 Hazen Drive – P.O. Box 95  
Concord, NH 03302-0095

Re: Forest Lake State Park

Dear Mr. Pelletier & Mr. Wimsatt,

The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) has received a copy of the Request for more information for the standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit Application (RSA 482-A NHDES File Number 2202-02239 subject Property: Douglas Drive, Dalton NH, Tax Map M405, Lot #33 dated November 18, 2020 made by Granite State Landfill LLC 1855 Vermont Rte. 100 Hyde Park Vt. 05655. We understand that Granite State Landfill LLC., will be required to submit application for additional permits such as Alteration of Terrain and those required by Waste Management. We have been following this project for some time and attended a Board of Selectman meeting to review a request for a lot line adjustment that would have created a 50 foot buffer eliminating DNCR as an abutter.

This letter is to express our concerns about the potential impacts of a landfill on Forest Lake State Park and request that our concerns be addressed under the applicable permits. DNCR is responsible for managing State Reservations (defined in RSA 227-G:2), including Forest Lake State Park for the following purposes under statute: **RSA 227-H:1 Declaration of Purpose:**

*It is hereby recognized and declared that state-owned reservations contribute to the conservation of natural resources and distinctive quality of life in the state. The public welfare of this state is served by the prudent acquisition and management of reservations to provide forest benefits and for the purposes of demonstrating sound forestry principles, protecting habitat for plants, animals, and other organisms, conserving forested watersheds, preserving areas of rare and exemplary natural beauty and ecological value, and providing for perpetual public access and use.*



Forest Lake State Park in Dalton, one of the ten original state parks created in 1935. The park spans 397 acres and its 200-foot sandy beach lies on the shore of Forest Lake. Popular activities in the park include swimming, picnicking, mountain biking, fishing, and boating. In addition, Forest Lake is one of the few parks that provides an opportunity to expand the park system further (pursuant to RSA 216-A:1) by developing a new campground. The current greatest recreational value of the Park is public access to the beach and the lake. Lake access is one of the key factors to our most successful campgrounds.

Last legislative session we provided testimony on **HB 1319 prohibiting the siting of new landfills or expansions of existing landfills near state parks, National Parks, or United States Department of Agriculture forest land**. In our testimony, we stated the following:

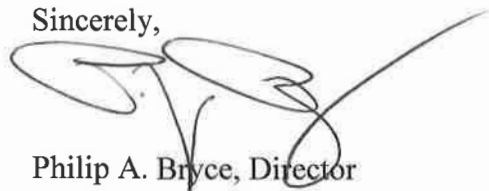
*As an abutter to the proposed landfill, the Division would actively participate in the process established by the Department of Environmental Services to review the proposed project to ensure the project does not have an adverse impact on present and future use of the Park. We have concerns regarding the impact of noise, odors, and pest animals (seagulls) on our visitors today at the beach and our visitors in the future with the addition of a campground in another portion property, particularly if it the campground is closer to the landfill.*

More specifically, we are concerned as follows:

1. We have been told by Casella Waste that the proposed site for the landfill is not in the same watershed as Forest Lake. However, we are unclear if the groundwater systems under the site are shared with the Lake. We do not know the lifespan of the liner, if there is one, but the landfill would be there in perpetuity. We would not want the landfill to impact groundwater quality in the Lake and in the Park over the short term or any time in the future. How can we be assured that the landfill will not affect groundwater in perpetuity?
2. We are concerned about any negative impacts from the presence of trash on the surface. This includes trash blowing into the Park or being transported by animals into the park. We are also concerned that the landfill would increase nuisance activities from birds and other animals and pests. We do not know if odors will be noticeable anywhere in the Park, including trails and the in the location of the potential campground. How can we be assured that there will be no negative impacts on the park site or visitors resulting directly and indirectly from the trash?

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If we can provide any additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Philip A. Bryce, Director

Cc: Sarah Stewart, Commissioner, DNCR  
Kevin Roy, General Manager, Casella Waste Systems, Inc.

PREPARED TESTIMONY OF ELIOT WESSLER  
FOR THE NH HOUSE E&A COMMITTEE HEARING  
ON HB 177 (2021)-- February 3, 2021

Dear Chairman Pearl and other members of the Committee:

Thank you for providing this forum for the public to express their views on HB 177.

I am the President of North Country Alliance for Balanced Change. This written testimony is on behalf of the NCABC Board of Directors, but please note that it is also on behalf of the hundreds of NCABC supporters who live, work, play --and vote-- in New Hampshire's North Country and throughout the state of NH.

NCABC is one of several North Country grassroots organizations as well as a number of regional and national public interest organizations that will be testifying today in support of HB 177. I believe that all of these organizations speak with one voice in urging the members of this Committee to vote YES.

We know that many NH legislators are familiar with the goals of HB 177 and support it unconditionally. However, if you have any concerns about HB 177, please let us know and allow us to make our case. If you still have lingering concerns about HB 177, we ask you to vote yes in Committee so that it can get full consideration in the House of Representatives.

We think that protecting NH state parks from encroachment from landfill development is an easy call because it is so obviously good public policy.

Unfortunately, it is clear that regulatory oversight by NH's Department of Environmental Services is not sufficient, given the mandate DES has and the limited resources and tools at their disposal. Protection of NH's state parks from landfill development requires a legislative fix.

NH's state parks are largely on land that has been set aside for its natural beauty, its pristine environment, and its recreational opportunities. Solid waste landfills, despite being highly regulated, are clearly one of the most environmentally harmful and risky land use activities. In a nutshell, landfills and state parks are not compatible abutting land uses.

Our immediate concern is the damage a landfill adjacent to FLSP could do to the environmental amenities in and around FLSP, the recreational opportunities it provides for area residents, and the economic fallout of tourism losses that are fully expectable if a landfill is built within a few hundred feet.

But our bigger concern is that if the state doesn't have the tools to limit a landfill developer

from making private choices with such terrible and foreseeable impacts on a public asset like FLSP, the same thing could happen to any one of the 60+ state parks in NH.

We therefore ask members of this Committee to consider how you would respond if a state park in your district were threatened by landfill development. And when you do, we hope and expect that you will decide to vote YES on HB 177.

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:18:00 PM  
**From:** [Gretchen Hesler](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:15:37 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Support for HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

I would like to show my support for HB 177. The siting of a landfill next to a State Park should not be allowed. State Parks are designated for a reason, most commonly due to exceptional natural resources and beauty. Attendance at State Parks continues to rise and the importance of being outdoors and recreating has gained a popularity this year, that will continue. Living and working in the North Country for 20 years, I can attest to the fact that we (and much of NH) survive and thrive on tourism.

We all deserve clean air, water and land, but when you have an area that is designated as a State Park, it has been done so for a reason.

Regarding the Forest Lake proposal. This would also be the second landfill near valuable environmental and outdoor recreation areas...the White Mountain National Forest.

We must protect our resources and develop with smart intentions.

Thank you,  
Gretchen Hesler

34 Indian Pipe Road  
Franconia, NH 03580

823-7197

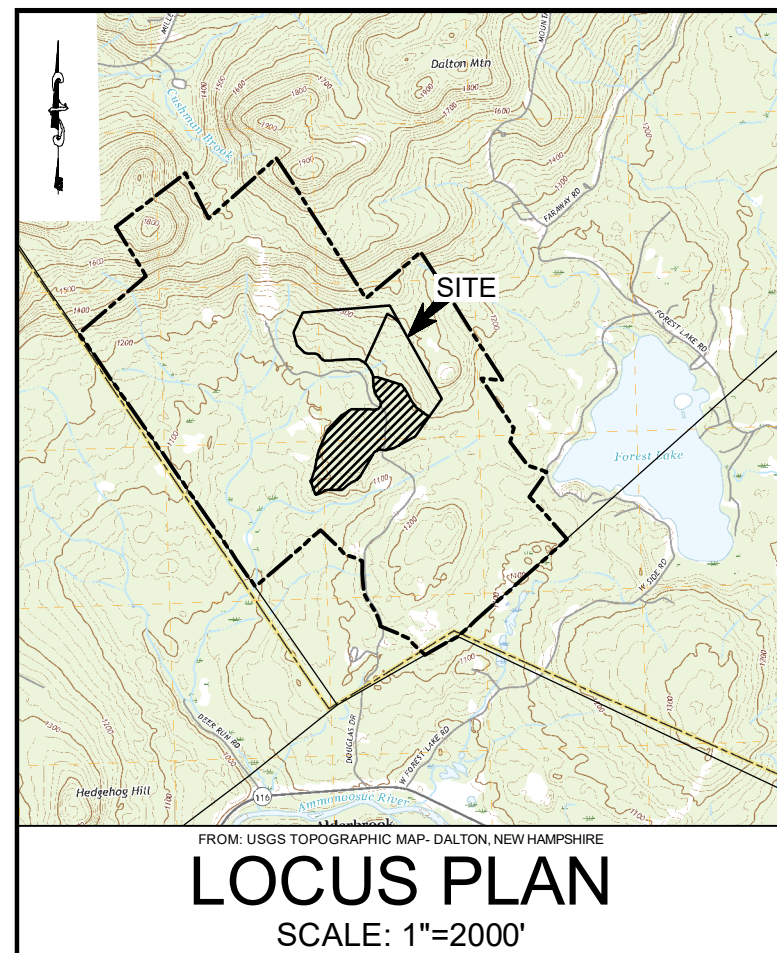
# PRELIMINARY VIEWSHED ANALYSIS AND RENDERINGS

## NEW ENGLAND WASTE SYSTEMS

### GRANITE STATE LANDFILL

DALTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
JANUARY 2021

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SHEET 2	PHASE I VIEWSHED FROM OBSERVATION POINT 1	SHEET 10	OBSERVATION POINT 1 - PHASE I
SHEET 3	PHASE II VIEWSHED FROM OBSERVATION POINT 1	SHEET 11	OBSERVATION POINT 1 - PHASE II
SHEET 4	PHASE III (FULL DEVELOPMENT) VIEWSHED FROM OBSERVATION POINT 1	SHEET 12	OBSERVATION POINT 1 - PHASE III (FULL DEVELOPMENT)
SHEET 5	EXISTING CONDITIONS VIEWSHED FROM OBSERVATION POINT 2	SHEET 13	OBSERVATION POINT 2 - EXISTING CONDITION
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SHEET 8	PHASE III (FULL DEVELOPMENT) VIEWSHED FROM OBSERVATION POINT 2	SHEET 16	OBSERVATION POINT 2 - PHASE III (FULL DEVELOPMENT)

PREPARED FOR:

**NEW ENGLAND WASTE SYSTEMS**  
DALTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

PREPARED BY:

**SANBORN HEAD**



# Existing Conditions Viewshed From Observation Point 1

Viewshed Analysis

Granite State Landfill  
New England Waste Systems  
Dalton, New Hampshire

Drawn By: E.Wright  
Designed By: J. Grace  
Reviewed By: B. Beaudoin  
Project No: 1003.18  
Date: January 2021

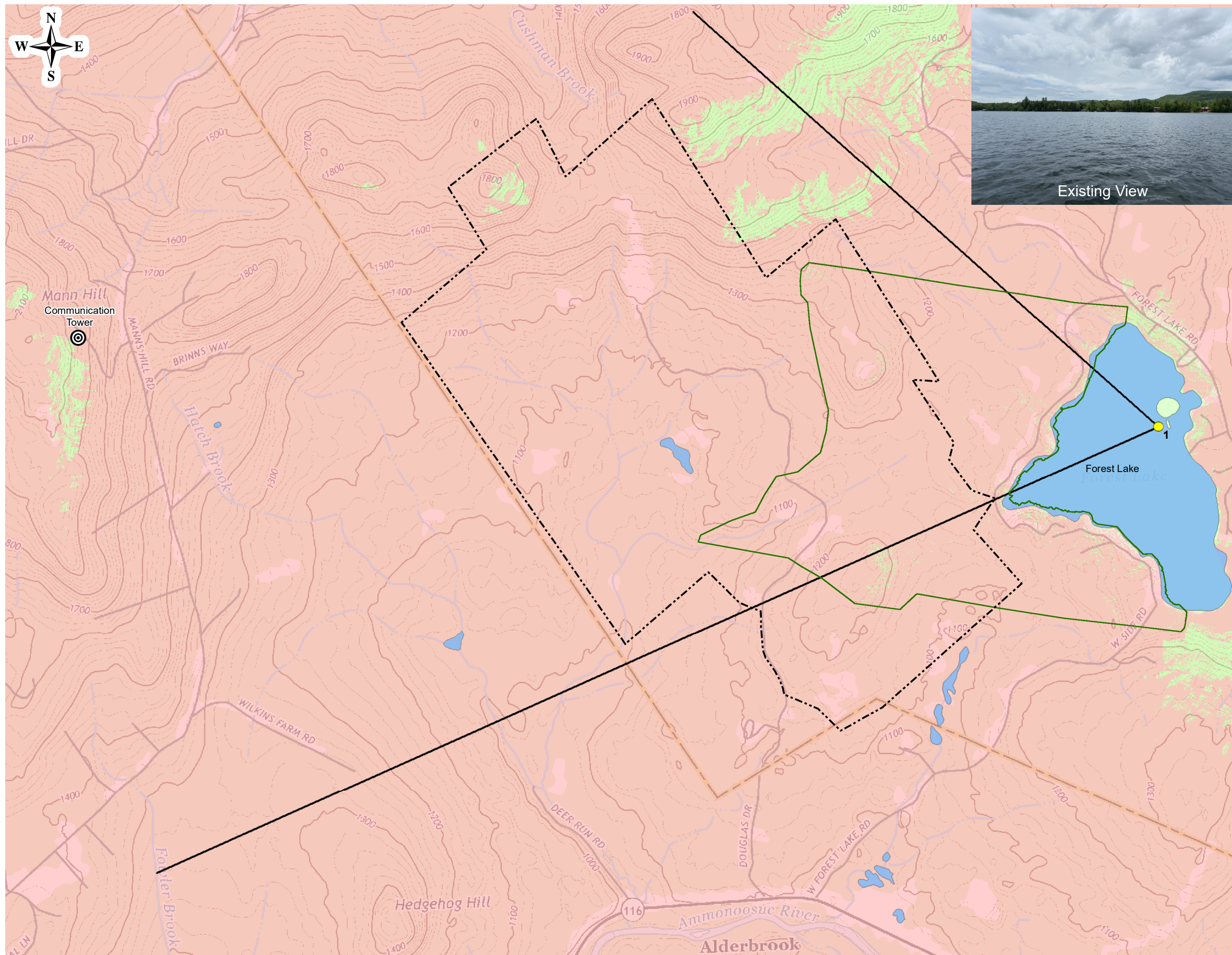


## Figure Narrative

This figure shows the viewshed from the observation point shown on Forest Lake. It is based on approximate existing topography and LiDAR information representing the top of trees, roofs, and structures provided by ARE Corp on August 23, 2020.

## Legend

- Project Property Line
- Approximate Extents of Photo View
- Tree Top LiDAR Area
- Observation Point
- NH Waterbody
- Area Not Visible from Observation Point
- Area Visible from Observation Point





# Phase I Viewshed From Observation Point 1

Viewshed Analysis

Granite State Landfill  
New England Waste Systems  
Dalton, New Hampshire

Drawn By: E.Wright  
Designed By: J. Grace  
Reviewed By: B. Beaudoin  
Project No: 1003.18  
Date: January 2021



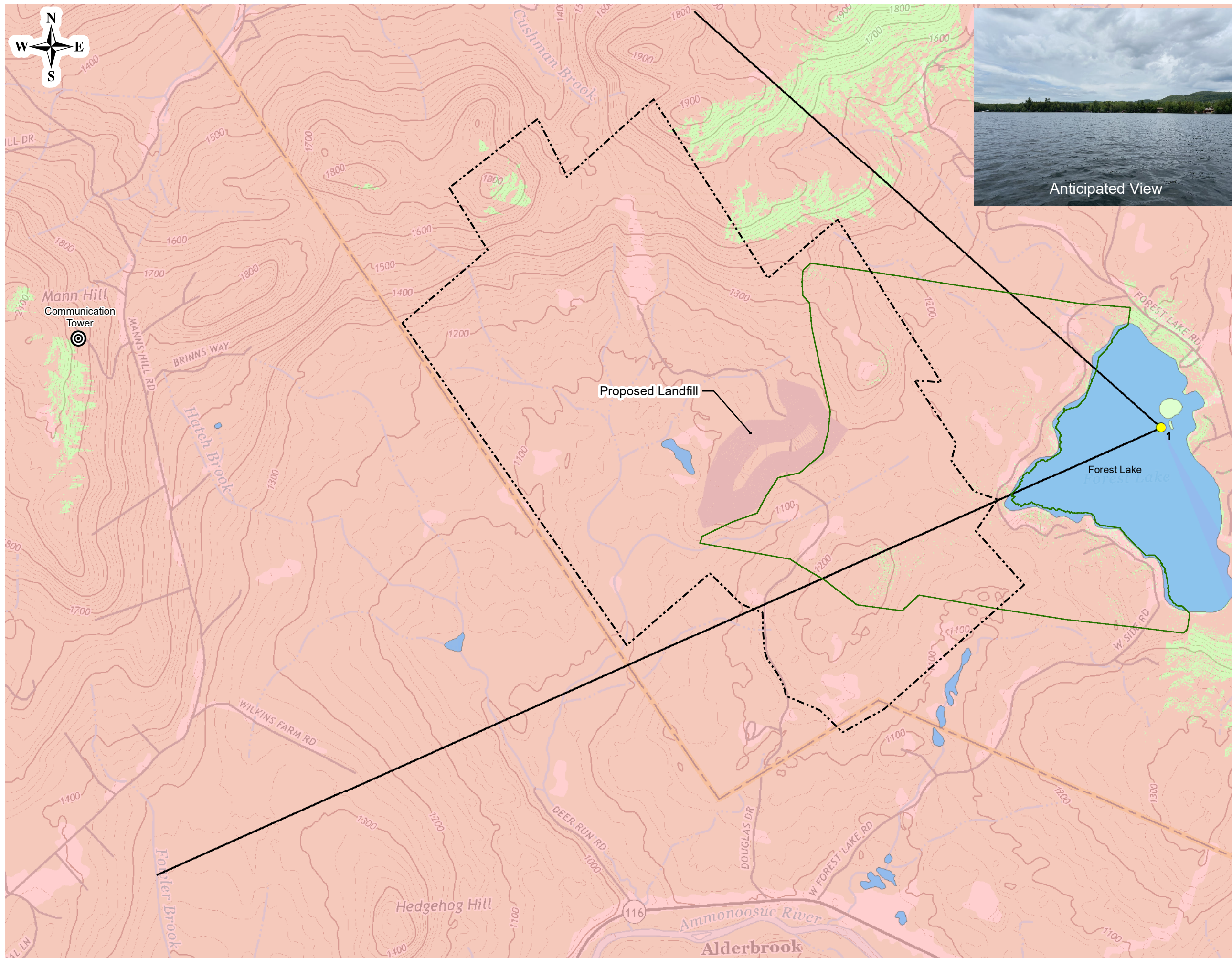
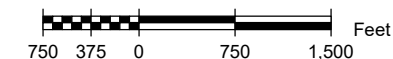
Anticipated View

## Figure Narrative

This figure shows the viewshed from the observation point shown on Forest Lake. It is based on approximate existing topography and LiDAR information representing the top of trees, roofs, and structures provided by ARE Corp on August 23, 2020 merged with the proposed Phase I grades provided by CMA Engineers, Inc. of Portsmouth, NH on September 22, 2020. This viewshed is based on tree heights in August 2020. Growth of these relatively young trees is anticipated to continue and further decrease the visibility of the landfill from Forest Lake by the time the final landfill grades are achieved.

## Legend

- Project Property Line
- Approximate Extents of Photo View
- Proposed Finished Landfill Topography
- Tree Top LiDAR Area
- Observation Point
- NH Waterbody
- Area Not Visible from Observation Point
- Area Visible from Observation Point



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# Phase II Viewshed From Observation Point 1

Viewshed Analysis

Granite State Landfill  
New England Waste Systems  
Dalton, New Hampshire

Drawn By: E.Wright  
Designed By: J. Grace  
Reviewed By: B. Beaudoin  
Project No: 1003.18  
Date: January 2021



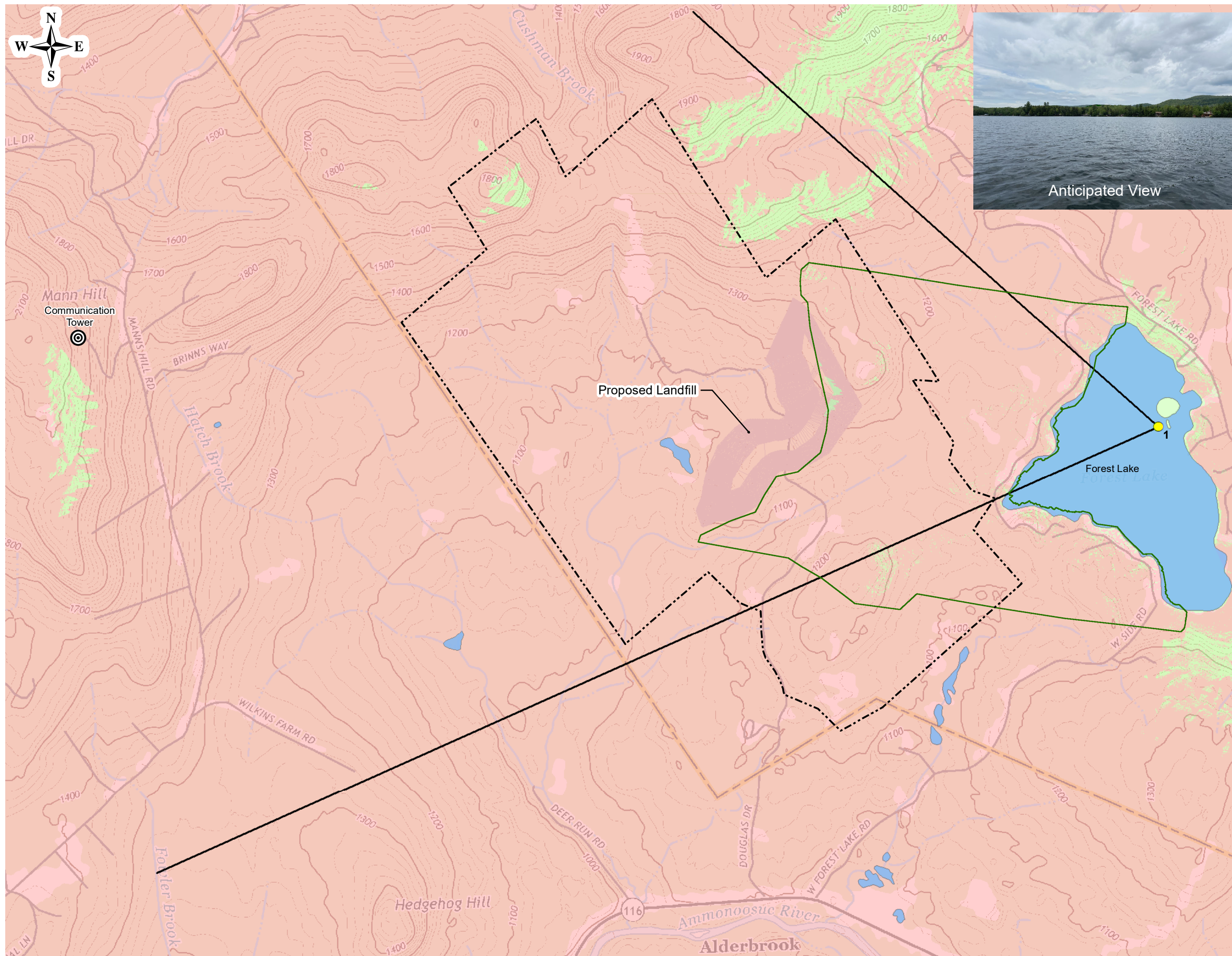
Anticipated View

## Figure Narrative

This figure shows the viewshed from the observation point shown on Forest Lake. It is based on approximate existing topography and LiDAR information representing the top of trees, roofs, and structures provided by ARE Corp on August 23, 2020 merged with the proposed Phase II grades provided by CMA Engineers, Inc. of Portsmouth, NH on September 22, 2020. This viewshed is based on tree heights in August 2020. Growth of these relatively young trees is anticipated to continue and further decrease the visibility of the landfill from Forest Lake by the time the final landfill grades are achieved.

## Legend

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- Proposed Finished Landfill Topography
- Tree Top LiDAR Area
- Observation Point
- NH Waterbody
- Area Not Visible from Observation Point
- Area Visible from Observation Point



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# Phase III (Full Development) Viewshed From Observation Point 1

Viewshed Analysis

Granite State Landfill  
New England Waste Systems  
Dalton, New Hampshire

Drawn By: E.Wright  
Designed By: J. Grace  
Reviewed By: B. Beaudoin  
Project No: 1003.18  
Date: January 2021



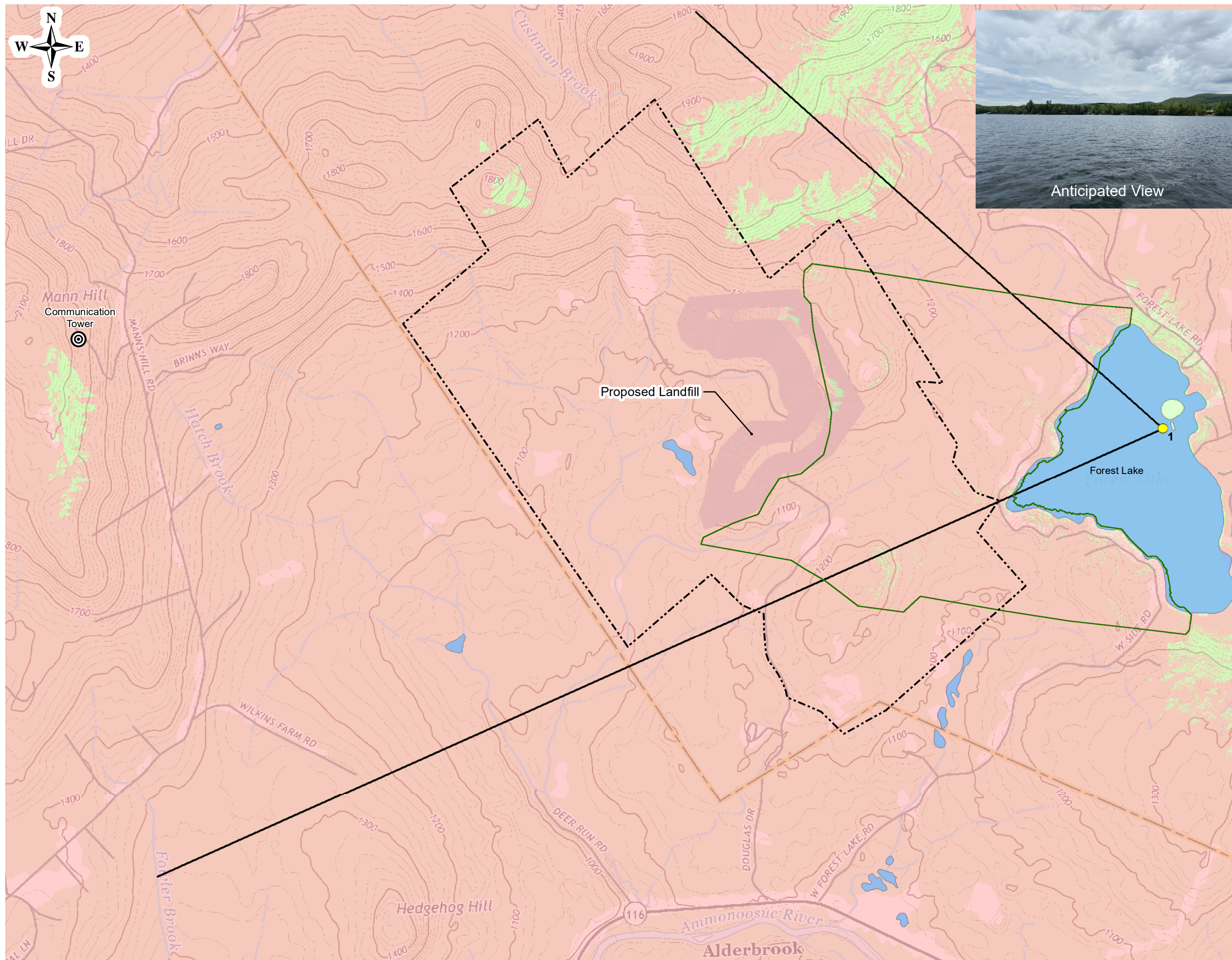
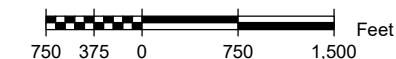
Anticipated View

## Figure Narrative

This figure shows the viewshed from the observation point shown on Forest Lake. It is based on approximate existing topography and LiDAR information representing the top of trees, roofs, and structures provided by ARE Corp on August 23, 2020 merged with the proposed Phase III grades provided by CMA Engineers, Inc. of Portsmouth, NH on September 1, 2020. This viewshed is based on tree heights in August 2020. Growth of these relatively young trees is anticipated to continue and further decrease the visibility of the landfill from Forest Lake by the time the final landfill grades are achieved.

## Legend

- Project Property Line
- Approximate Extents of Photo View
- Proposed Finished Landfill Topography
- Tree Top LiDAR Area
- Observation Point
- NH Waterbody
- Area Not Visible from Observation Point
- Area Visible from Observation Point





# Existing Conditions Viewshed From Observation Point 2

Viewshed Analysis

Granite State Landfill  
New England Waste Systems  
Dalton, New Hampshire

Drawn By: E.Wright  
Designed By: J. Grace  
Reviewed By: B. Beaudoin  
Project No: 1003.18  
Date: January 2021

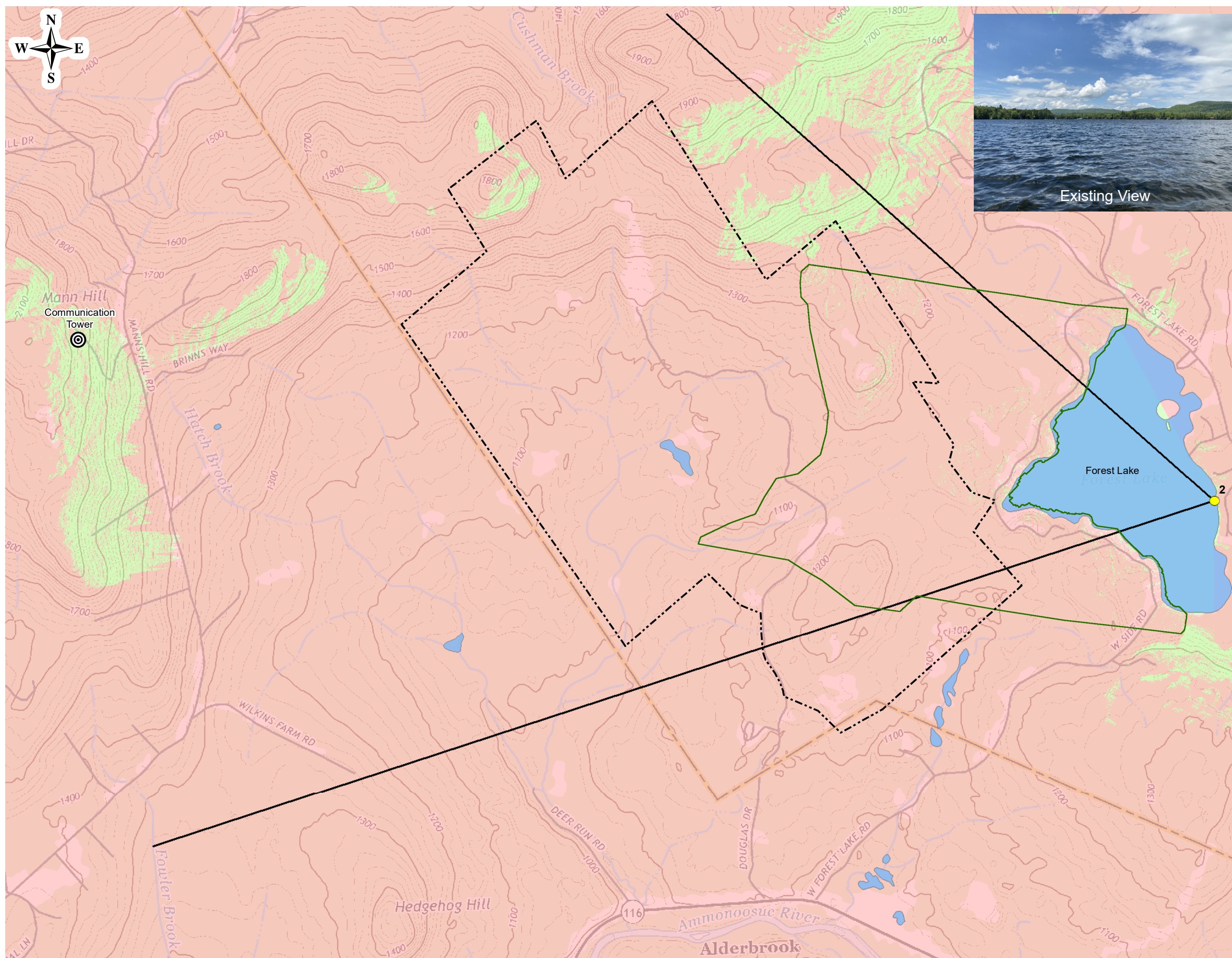
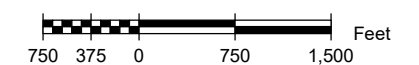


## Figure Narrative

This figure shows the viewshed from the observation point shown on Forest Lake. It is based on approximate existing topography and LiDAR information representing the top of trees, roofs, and structures provided by ARE Corp on August 23, 2020.

## Legend

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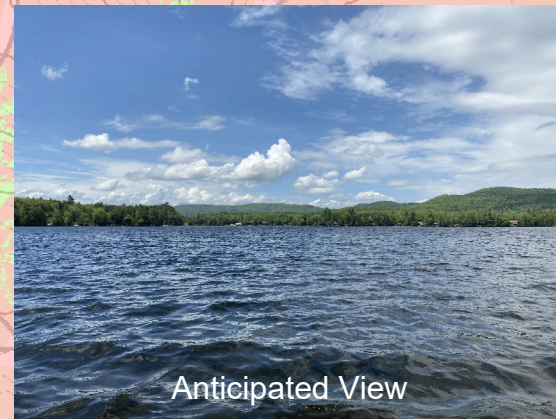


# Phase I Viewshed From Observation Point 2

Viewshed Analysis

Granite State Landfill  
New England Waste Systems  
Dalton, New Hampshire

Drawn By: E. Wright  
Designed By: J. Grace  
Reviewed By: B. Beaudoin  
Project No: 1003.18  
Date: January 2021



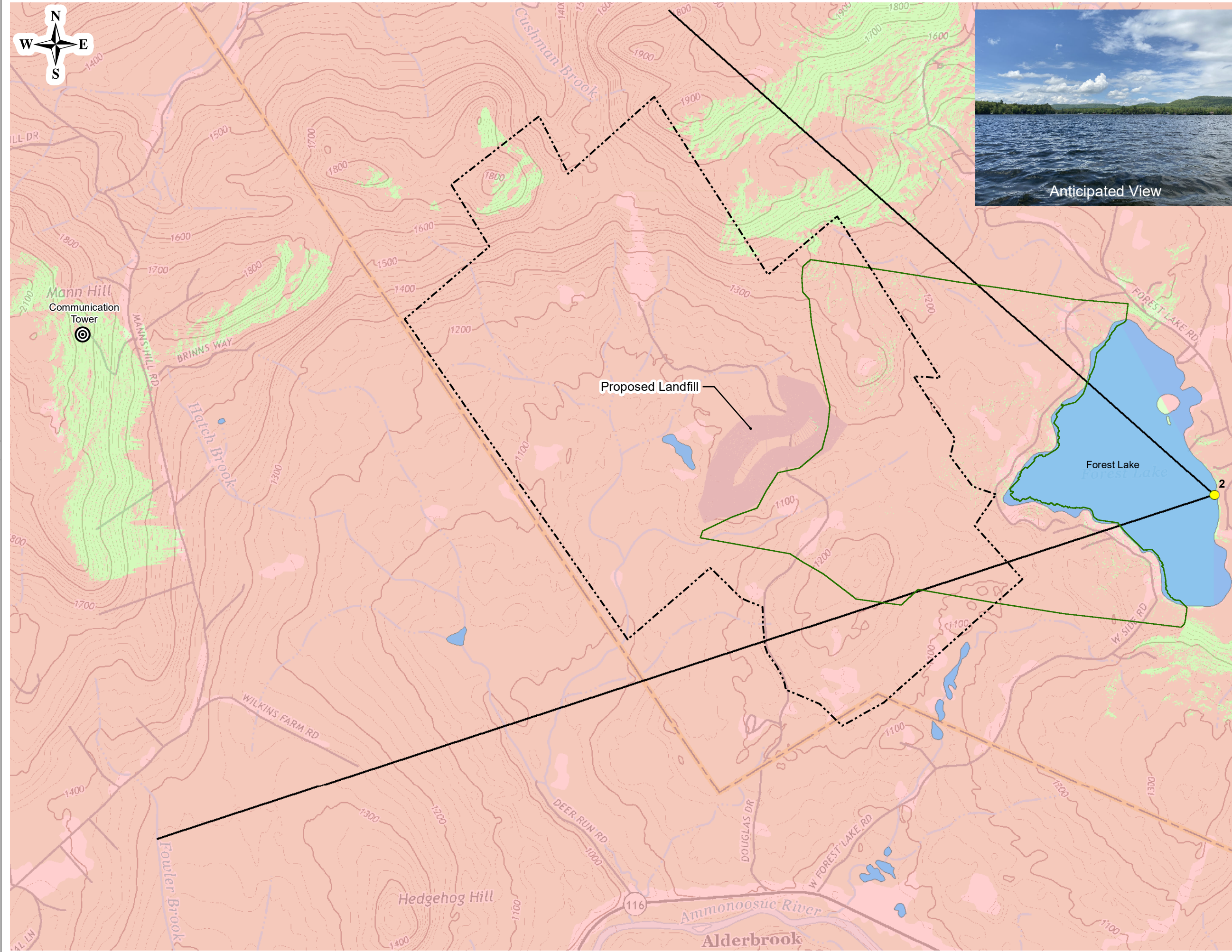
Anticipated View

## Figure Narrative

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## Legend

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- Tree Top LiDAR Area
- Observation Point
- NH Waterbody
- Area Not Visible from Observation Point
- Area Visible from Observation Point



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# Phase II Viewshed From Observation Point 2

Viewshed Analysis

Granite State Landfill  
New England Waste Systems  
Dalton, New Hampshire

Drawn By: E.Wright  
Designed By: J. Grace  
Reviewed By: B. Beaudoin  
Project No: 1003.18  
Date: January 2021



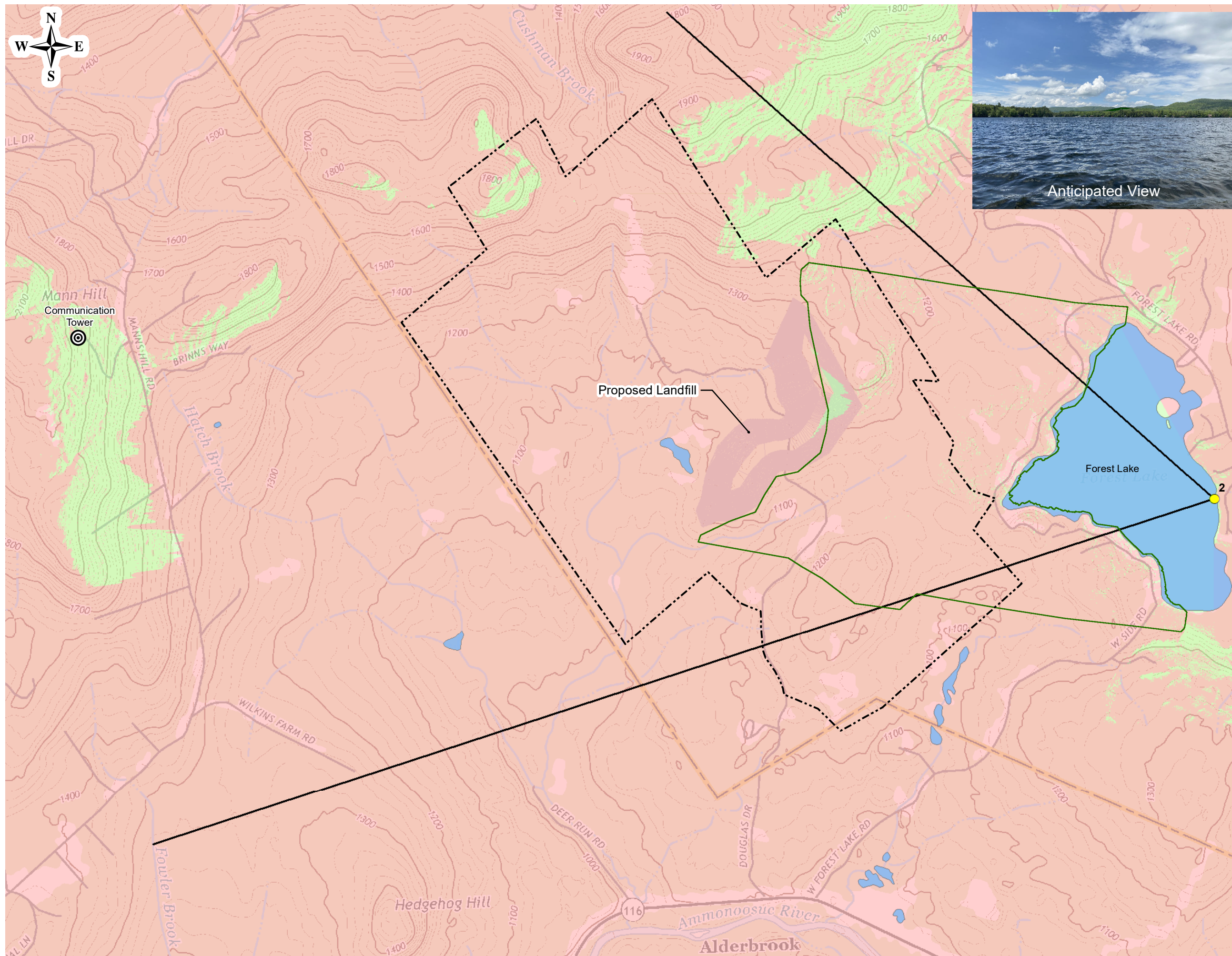
Anticipated View

## Figure Narrative

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- Proposed Finished Landfill Topography
- Tree Top LiDAR Area
- Observation Point
- NH Waterbody
- Area Not Visible from Observation Point
- Area Visible from Observation Point





# Phase III (Full Development) Viewshed From Observation Point 2

Viewshed Analysis

Granite State Landfill  
New England Waste Systems  
Dalton, New Hampshire

Drawn By: E.Wright  
Designed By: J. Grace  
Reviewed By: B. Beaudoin  
Project No: 1003.18  
Date: January 2021



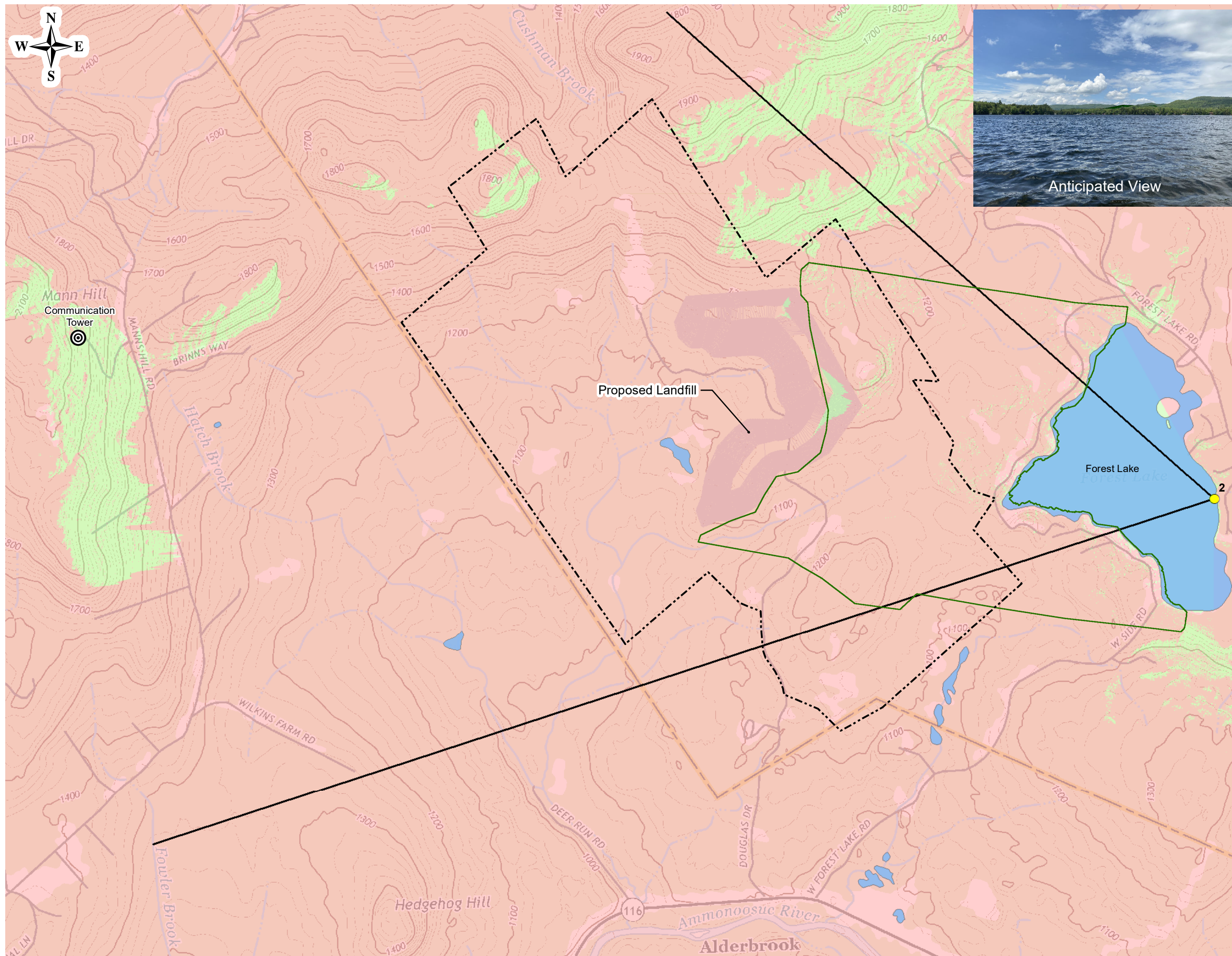
Anticipated View

## Figure Narrative

This figure shows the viewshed from the observation point shown on Forest Lake. It is based on approximate existing topography and LiDAR information representing the top of trees, roofs, and structures provided by ARE Corp on August 23, 2020 merged with the proposed Phase III grades provided by CMA Engineers, Inc. of Portsmouth, NH on September 1, 2020. This viewshed is based on tree heights in August 2020. Growth of these relatively young trees is anticipated to continue and further decrease the visibility of the landfill from Forest Lake by the time the final landfill grades are achieved.

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# Observation Point 1 – Taken from West Side of Island in Forest Lake



Existing Condition

Sheet 9

# Observation Point 1 – Taken from West Side of Island in Forest Lake





# Observation Point 1 – Taken from West Side of Island in Forest Lake





# Observation Point 1 – Taken from West Side of Island in Forest Lake





## Observation Point 2 – Taken on Southeast Side of Forest Lake



Existing Condition

Sheet 13



## Observation Point 2 – Taken on Southeast Side of Forest Lake





## Observation Point 2 – Taken on Southeast Side of Forest Lake





## Observation Point 2 – Taken on Southeast Side of Forest Lake



Phase III (Full Development)

Sheet 16



BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
New Hampshire's Statewide  
Chamber of Commerce

**Testimony of David Creer**  
**Business & Industry Association**  
**HB177**  
**House Environment and Agriculture Committee**  
**February 3, 2021**

Dear Members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee, I'm David Creer, director of public policy for the Business and Industry Association (BIA), New Hampshire's statewide chamber of commerce and leading business advocate. BIA represents more than 400 members in a variety of industries. Member firms employ 89,000 people throughout the state, which represents one in seven jobs, and contribute \$4.5 billion annually to the state's economy.

BIA opposes HB177 due to the detrimental effect it would have on costs for businesses. By prohibiting new or expanded landfills within two miles of state parks, the state would be restricting the availability of landfills for waste disposal. As availability of landfills decrease, disposal costs will increase and businesses will be forced to ship waste out of state, thereby increasing the costs of waste disposal for New Hampshire's businesses.

This concludes my testimony and I am happy to address any questions from the committee.



The State of New Hampshire  
**Department of Environmental Services**

**Robert R. Scott, Commissioner**



February 12, 2021

The Honorable Howard Pearl  
Chairman, House Environment & Agriculture Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 303  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: HB 177, An Act prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park**

Dear Chairman Pearl and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to provide information that may be of assistance to Committee members as they consider HB 177. This bill would prohibit the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) from issuing permits for a new landfill, or expansion of an existing landfill, if any part of the solid waste disposal area is proposed to be located within two (2) miles of the boundary of any state park. NHDES is not taking a position on this bill, and did not provide testimony during your Committee's public hearing on the bill that was held on Wednesday, February 3. However, NHDES staff did listen to testimony provided during the hearing, and heard several issues of concern relative to siting of a landfill near a state park. I am writing now to provide information about how those issues are addressed at operating landfills under the NH Solid Waste Rules (Rules) and under permits issued by NHDES, in order to assist the Committee with its deliberations on the bill.

After listening to testimony on the bill, NHDES identified issues that can be grouped into two overarching topics relative to potential off-site impacts from landfill operations that were raised by witnesses at the hearing and that are addressed by NHDES' regulatory program for landfills. These topics are nuisance conditions (e.g., odors, noise, vectors, litter) and groundwater and surface water contamination.

First, witnesses expressed concerns about the potential impact of nuisance conditions such as odors, litter, vectors (e.g., birds), and noise, on off-site properties. NHDES acknowledges that almost any facility that handles solid waste has the potential to be a source of nuisance conditions. The Solid Waste Rules include multiple specific requirements that limit the potential for odors and other nuisance conditions from landfills, in addition to the requirement in Env-Sw 1005.01, *General Operating Requirements*, that solid waste facilities "...be operated and maintained in a manner that controls to the greatest extent practicable" nuisance conditions. Common control methods include:

- applying daily and intermediate cover over waste;
- limiting exposed waste during filling operations to the smallest area practicable;
- installing litter fences and policing the surrounding areas for windblown litter;
- installing and operating a landfill gas collection and control system;
- conducting periodic landfill cover integrity checks and surface emission monitoring;
- rejecting odorous wastes;
- requiring odorous wastes be treated prior to arrival at the facility;

[www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)

29 Hazen Drive • PO Box 95 • Concord, NH 03302-0095  
(603) 271-3503 • Fax: 271-2867 TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964



- using odor neutralizing products or misting agents;
- limiting operations to between the hours of 6 am and 6 pm;
- using static alarms on equipment; properly maintaining equipment, from construction and compaction equipment to landfill gas collection, control and destruction (e.g., flare) systems;
- implementing a bird depredation program.

In addition, the Rules require permittees to report and respond to complaints of recurring or persistent nuisance situations such as noise, litter, odor, dust or vectors.

Second, witnesses expressed concerns about the potential for contamination of groundwater and surface water from landfill operations and management of leachate. A proposed landfill site must undergo rigorous hydrologic and hydrogeological evaluations to ensure that the proposed facility location meets siting criteria, and to ensure that surface and groundwater conditions are well understood and the fate and transport of any potential contamination can be predicted. The Solid Waste Rules require that landfills be designed and constructed with two synthetic liner systems, each of which has its own leachate collection system. Leachate collection systems are designed to rapidly move leachate off of the liner, and collect it for proper disposal at an authorized treatment facility. Liners and leachate collection systems are required to be monitored and maintained throughout the operating life of the landfill, and during the closure and post-closure periods. Further, landfill permittees are required to obtain and comply with a Groundwater Release Detection Permit under Env-Or 700, which requires the permittee to monitor groundwater quality in the vicinity of the facility. If a release is detected, groundwater monitoring intensity is immediately increased, and appropriate actions are required to identify and remedy the source of the release. All of these systems and requirements are designed to ensure that both groundwater and surface water resources near the landfill are protected.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this information regarding NHDES' regulatory program for solid waste landfills. We trust that it will be helpful to the Committee as it deliberates on HB 177. Should you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Mike Wimsatt, Waste Management Division Director ([michael.wimsatt@des.nh.gov](mailto:michael.wimsatt@des.nh.gov), 271-1997).

Sincerely,



Robert R. Scott  
Commissioner

cc: Sponsors of HB 177: Representatives Tucker, Egan, Hatch, Thompson, Laflamme; and Senator Hennessey



**Archived:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:21:39 PM  
**From:** [Katharine Daly](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:12:47 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** HB 177 Relative to siting landfills near state parks  
**Importance:** Normal

---

I am in favor of this bill, and would ask you to vote favorably on it.  
Katharine Daly  
188 Concord Stage Road  
Dunbarton , NH

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



April 2, 2021

New Hampshire House of Representatives  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB177, prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.

Dear Representatives:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB177. NH LAKES supports the passage of HB177, prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park. Landfills pose a significant threat to surface and ground water quality, threatening to undermine some of the core purposes of public lands protection and conservation.

NH LAKES is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to keeping New Hampshire's lakes clean and healthy, and advocates for laws and other public policies and programs designed to achieve this mission. We work with partners, promote clean water policies and responsible use, and inspire the public to care for our lakes. We base our work in science – watershed hydrology included – and on the premise that no lake is an island. Lake water comes not only from rainfall and snowmelt, but also from overland flow, through the ground, and by way of streams and other lake tributaries. Siting landfills within the drainage area of any lake raises the threat to lake water quality and can negatively impact the long-term health of that waterbody.

HB177 is a good faith effort to ensure that new landfills are not sited in close proximity to our public lands, thereby supporting the investments New Hampshire has made in these important natural, recreational, cultural, and economically-important areas. Permitting landfills near state parks would damage surface and groundwater, negatively impact the state's vital outdoor recreation and tourism industries, and discourage locals from recreating at the park and lake.

We urge the House of Representatives **vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself**, making it illegal to create new landfills within two miles of our state parks.

Respectfully,

Michelle Davis, Advocacy Program Coordinator  
NH LAKES

[mdavis@nhlakes.org](mailto:mdavis@nhlakes.org)

February 17, 2021

To Members of the New Hampshire House Environment and Agriculture Committee

### STATEMENT FROM WORKING ON WASTE REGARDING HOUSE BILL 413

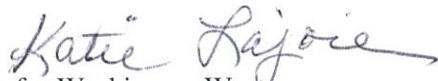
Working on Waste (WOW) is a citizens' initiative that promotes safe alternatives to waste incineration. WOW supports HB 413 with the following recommendations:

1. The working group will focus on managing resources, not waste. WOW has worked to raise awareness about zero-waste initiatives as exemplified in the diagram below. The underlying premise is that waste is a behavior, something we do collectively and as individuals. Policy changes can incentivize less wasteful behavior.
2. The working group will include members of the public who advocate for public health and the environment. The working group will also include broader representation from organizations with the same mission.
3. The working group will accept and address oral and written input from interested parties who are not members.

The enclosed 2019 letter to Representatives Ebel, Murray, O'Connor, and Senator Watters helps set priorities for the working group.

Thank you.

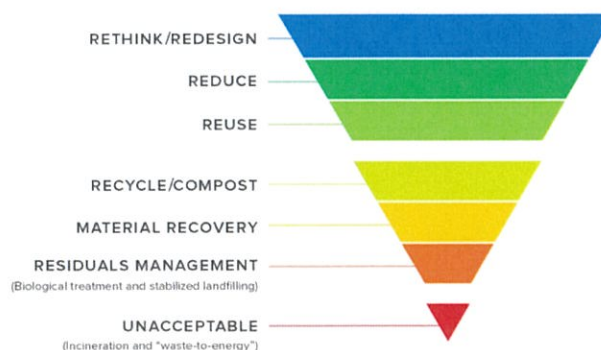
Sincerely,



Katie Lajoie for Working on Waste  
PO Box 641  
Claremont, NH 03743  
[jlje23@hotmail.com](mailto:jlje23@hotmail.com)

Enclosure: RE: 265 (HB 617), Letter to Reps. Ebel, Murray, O'Connor, and Sen. Watters, Committee to Study Recycling Streams and Solid Waste Management in New Hampshire, October 17, 2019

#### THE ZERO WASTE HIERARCHY 7.0



October 17, 2019

Via electronic mail and hand delivery

Committee to Study Recycling Streams and Solid Waste Management in New Hampshire  
Rep. Karen Ebel, Rep. Megan Murray, Rep. John O'Connor, and Sen. David Watters

Dear Rep. Ebel, Rep. Murray, Rep. O'Connor, and Sen. Watters,

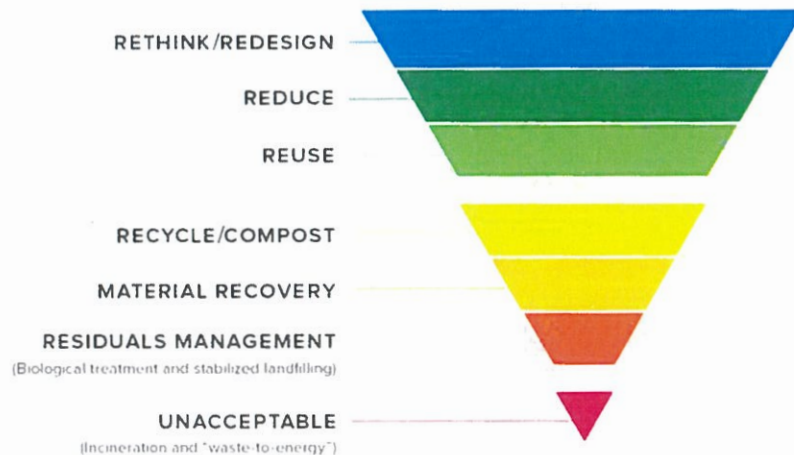
Comprehensive conservation and recycling programs protect the environment and create jobs. Given what we know about the impact of human activity on the atmosphere, it is not acceptable to throw valuable resources into landfills and incinerators, with or without energy recovery. Casella, Wheelabrator, and Waste Management of NH run facilities that displace the value of resources by making waste itself a commodity. This mindset encourages high volumes of waste and inevitably leads to expansion plans that polarize and threaten communities. There are much better options, ones that eliminate the idea that waste is a normal function of society. The future is zero waste, and your committee can help us get there.

According to Zero Waste International Alliance (ZWIA, <http://zwia.org/>), "zero waste is the conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health."

The ZWIA website provides links to affiliates, policies, and educational materials. Here you can access YouTube videos, reading materials, and a calendar of zero waste conferences and events. Localities large and small around the world are proving that zero waste works.

The Zero Waste Hierarchy below is a helpful visual guide. Go to <http://zwia.org/zwh/> to access it online, along with related sections that address "Guiding Questions," "Guiding Principles," and "Definitions."

### THE ZERO WASTE HIERARCHY 7.0



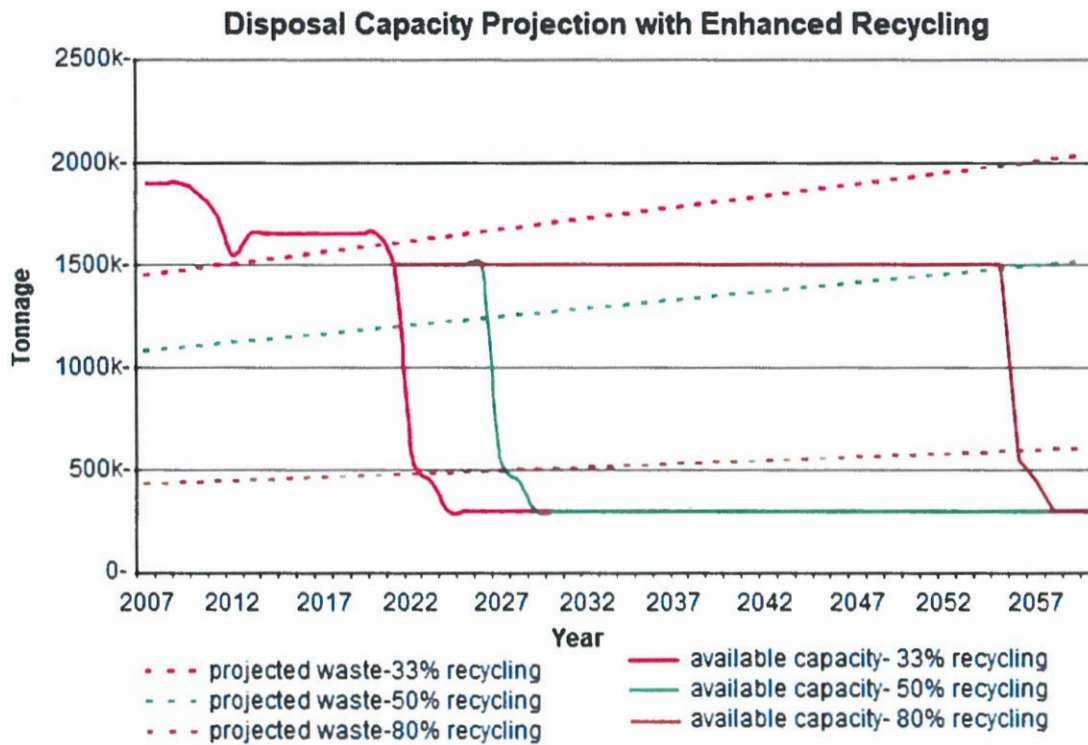
© Zero Waste International Alliance [zwia.org/zwh](http://zwia.org/zwh)



Keeping food and yard waste out of landfills and incinerators is a major piece of any zero waste policy. According to ZWIA:

The easiest, first step that can produce significant climate results RIGHT NOW is to STOP landfill-produced methane. Simply by getting COOL-Compostable Organics Out of Landfills (COOL)-we can prevent potent methane emissions AND build healthier soils ([www.zwia.org/campaigns](http://www.zwia.org/campaigns)).

Here in New Hampshire we know that aggressive reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting programs can mitigate the manufactured “landfill capacity crisis.” A fine example is the following graph by David Sussman of New London, NH and formerly of Wilmot, NH. The graph shows landfill capacity with various degrees of diversion.



**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

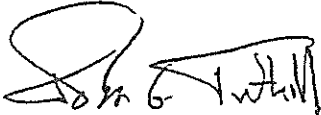
We urge the committee to support zero waste planning in New Hampshire. The General Court needs to provide sufficient resources to the Department of Environmental Services and to municipalities for the implementation of forward looking zero waste policies. The status quo is a dead end and detrimental to future generations.

A wise mentor once said: “Waste is a verb, not a noun. It is something we do.” Let’s undo bad habits and get on board with promoting systems that protect people and the planet.

Sincerely,



Katie Lajoie  
429 Wheeler Rand Road  
Charlestown, NH 03603  
603-826-4803  
[jlje23@hotmail.com](mailto:jlje23@hotmail.com)



John Tuthill  
PO Box 49  
Acworth, NH 03601  
603-863-6366  
603-852-4474 cell  
[jtuthill@sover.net](mailto:jtuthill@sover.net)

**Additional resources:**

1. Environmental Protection Agency. *Managing and Transforming Waste Streams-A Tool for Communities*. September 30, 2019. Accessed October 16, 2019.  
<https://www.epa.gov/transforming-waste-tool/examples-and-resources-transforming-waste-streams-communities-1-50>
2. National Public Radio. "'Waste' Examines the Global and Local Afterlife of Recyclables." Interview with Kate O'Neill, author of *Waste* (Polity Press, 2019). September 12, 2019. Accessed October 16, 2019.  
<https://www.npr.org/2019/09/12/760128833/waste-examines-the-global-and-local-afterlife-of-recyclables>  
*Waste* includes a discussion about how resources are extracted from the ground in order to make new products. Extraction is an important part of the life cycle of most consumer products, and it can have adverse environmental, public health, and socio-economic impacts.

**Archived:** Monday, February 1, 2021 4:35:23 PM  
**From:** [Betsey Phillips](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 8:58:47 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

I am writing to support HB 177.

We need laws that will protect all NH state parks from possible environmental harm from nearby landfills.

There are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to our beautiful state parks: alternatives that can handle the trash without causing environmental harm.

Siting a landfill next to a state park is Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible land uses.

Picture yourself with your family sitting at the beach on a sunny warm summer day with noxious odors emanating from the nearby landfill wafting by as you try to enjoy your time off and your lunch. Who knows what's in the water your grandchildren are swimming in?

Betsey Phillips  
112 Longfellow Drive  
Bethlehem, NH, 03574  
603-869-0127

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”* Margaret Mead

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:37 AM

**From:** [Gregg Crowell](#)

**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 2:15:51 PM

**To:** [Gregg Crowell](#)

**Subject:** HB 177

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

[HB 177 Representatives letter.docx](#) 

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Hello Representatives:

I am writing to urge you to support HB177, a bill that would prevent the siting of landfills within two miles of state parks. Now more than ever, we must protect our valuable green spaces from the threat of pollution.

Specifically, I urge you to vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself.

I am a property owner on the lake. I own a house and adjacent land. I care because of course it is "my backyard", however also because of what it will do to the environment. Forest Lake, one of NH's first state parks, is located within two miles of the proposed dump. There is also the Ammonoosuc River and various watersheds that will be affected. We only have so many lakes and rivers and have to preserve them.

What makes no sense to me is there is significant regulation of what happens within so many feet of a lake's shoreline. You can't cut trees, fill in, change the landscape or do other things without a permit so that it won't be detrimental to the lake or the look of its shoreline. You also have to get special permits to replace or install a septic system. These are good rules, however the landfill if allowed, will basically negate all these protections and what has been preserved all these years.

Landfilling leads to pollution, whether it's toxins entering into waterways or releasing foul odors and harmful gases into the air. Permitting landfills near state parks would damage surface and groundwater, negatively impact the state's vital outdoor recreation and tourism industries, and discourage locals from recreating at the park and lake. How could anyone agree that siting a noisy, smelly landfill next to one of our state parks is a good idea?

There are many detrimental effects of this landfill, however there is also the issue of 100s of trash trucks every day that will go through the center of towns and by several schools. Noise, pollution, safety concerns and this is so we can have a landfill that will take approx 50% of trash from out of state.

New Hampshire has a significant trash problem, and we need to better manage our waste stream, including updating the state's 2003 solid waste plan, including efforts such as food waste diversion and source reduction. It is imperative that we protect our most precious natural resources and environment from further degradation.



As New Hampshire residents, we depend on you as legislators to protect our health and environment, as well as OUR property rights, from the nuisance posed by siting a landfill within 2 miles of a state park, so I ask you to vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself.

Respectfully,

Gregg and Phyllis Crowell

720 West Side Road

Whitefield, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:37 AM

**From:** [Bill Aalerud](#)

**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 1:18:01 PM

**Subject:** Please Support HB 177

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

[CLF Letter of Support - HB177.pdf](#) [Cynthia Barrett of Milford LTE Portsmouth Herald 3 11 21.pdf](#) [LTE HB177 From Nancy Morrison.pdf](#) [Forest Society Letter HB177 Feb 2 2021 \(2\).JPG](#)

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Dear Representative:

Me and my family have owned a house on Forest Lake since 1986. Two years ago we invested several hundred thousand dollars into the renovation of our home on Forest Lake with the anticipation of retiring and spending the next 30 years on this beautiful lake. The threat of a landfill adjacent to the lake changes a lot for our family, our plans and our community.

Personally I'm worried about retiring here at Forest Lake. If we had known about the landfill, we would not have decided to retire here nor renovate our home. We cannot stay here if this landfill is approved and built adjacent to Forest Lake. I know the impact of the Bethlehem landfill. I love fly fishing. One of my favorite local spots used to be on the Ammonoosuc River in Bethlehem, upstream of the Route 302 bridge. This all changed with the Bethlehem landfill. I cannot fish on this river anymore because of the rancid smell of trash that spills down into the river valley from the landfill. The same thing will happen on Forest Lake. Forest Lake is downwind of the proposed landfill. The prevailing winds from the west and north west will carry the same rancid smells from the landfill to the lake. The proposed landfill will destroy the beauty of the lake, it will decrease property values and we will lose hundreds of thousands of dollars in the investment we made in our retirement home.

We live on Westside Road. During the day at the lake, if the wind is just right, we can occasionally hear a loud truck passing by on Rt 116. We have been hearing a loud truck or two for as long as we have been here. However, the proposed landfill projects that there will be at least a hundred of these large and loud trucks traveling on Rt 116 everyday. The noise level will be disturbing and a game-changer to say the least. This is a quiet lake. Usually the loudest thing during the day is the sound of loons. The sound of the truck traffic will kill the serenity of this body of water.

The lake has been blessed with a small loon population every year for as long as we have been living on the lake. In the last few years, we have been blessed by the arrival of an eagle. The eagle and the loons share the lake quite well and make it a very special place. With the proposed landfill, the sky and the lake will be filled with seagulls and other dirty scavenger birds. They will drop feces in the lake at alarming levels and contaminate the water. This body of water is one of the cleanest lakes in the State. The Forest Lake Association tests the water annually. In fact, the water is so clean, some of the residents at the lake use the lake water for their domestic water supply. That practice will forever change with the proposed landfill.

We are not opposed to landfills. They are a necessity until our society adopts practices that'll recycle all of our waste. Until that happens, we cannot be locating landfills adjacent to natural treasures such as Forest Lake. We as the current stewards of this lake have a duty and

responsibility to our future generations. We have an obligation to protect and preserve the natural beauty of this lake for our children and their children. We can only do that by making certain this landfill is not built adjacent to Forest Lake.

I have also attached a few letters that may be of interest to you.

Please, please, please, vote in favor of HB177.

Thank you,

Bill Aalerud (NH resident and 63 years old)  
658 Westside Road  
Whitefield NH  
[billaaalerud@gmail.com](mailto:billaaalerud@gmail.com)

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:37 AM  
**From:** Save Forest Lake  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 10:38:14 AM  
**Subject:** Some Background On Dalton To Consider For HB177  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**

[Dalton Planners Deny Lot Line Adjustment April 8 2019 Cal Rec.pdf](#) [Landfill Fight In Dalton Voters Approve ETZ July 30 2019.pdf](#) [Dalton Casella Wants To Negotiate Selectmen Say No Dec 2020 Cal Rec.pdf](#) [Casella North Country 3 30 21 FB snippet.JPG](#)

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Good Morning NH House Representatives:

In light of the fact that you will be casting a very important vote on Friday, April 9th, regarding HB177, I felt compelled to share a little background for you relative to the atmosphere in the Town of Dalton relative to the landfill. In fact, it's ironic in that exactly 2 years ago today, my journey into the world of trash began as this is the day I first encountered Casella Waste Systems. They presented themselves to the Town of Dalton Planning Board, not to introduce their landfill project and how wonderful it will be for Dalton. Instead, they proposed a "lot line adjustment" in which they wanted to carve out a 50 foot buffer of land around their proposed landfill, which would be owned by the seller of the land, Doug Ingerson, not Casella. This was designed to remove the requirement to notify abutters, including NH State Parks, during the permitting process! It was denied by the Planning Board, thankfully. Some intro to the town, huh? Article from 2019 detailing this, attached.

I have also attached an article from our July 30, 2019 "special town meeting" in which the citizens of Dalton, who never voted to approve prior attempts to introduce zoning in the town, voted to adopt NH State RSA 674: 24-29 as our town zoning. Please keep in mind, during committee testimony, some representatives on the Enviro/Ag Committee felt that Hb177 was an "end around" to defeat this sole project, and would take away the rights of Dalton citizens to decide for ourselves whether or not we want this landfill project. We do not, as this news story, and the 2 WMUR reports linked below, should confirm for you. However, to this date, Casella REFUSES to abide by the wishes of the citizens of Dalton to bring forth a zoning application, as the attached news story from Dec, 2020 confirms.

Casella sought out Dalton because we had no zoning. Now we do, but they refuse to abide by our wishes. No one in their right mind would ever think a landfill would be sited 190 feet from a NH State Park. HB177 serves to create a protection where one did not exist previously. Just as speed limits were not in existence when the first cars came into existence, the realities of life leads to the necessity for new laws, regulations, etc. to address a new reality. For us, we want to protect Forest Lake State Park from a nuisance that will have significant impacts to many people. Regardless of how you vote, this is a bad location for a landfill and who is to say that when Waste Management finally closes the Turnkey Landfill in Rochester, they won't site their new landfill next to another one of our beautiful NH State Parks?

Please, do the right thing, vote to overturn the ITL, and vote to pass HB177. The people from Dalton emailing you about self-determination, like Pam Kathan, her parents the Mooneys, the StCyr family, and even the largest landowner, Jim Dannis, are purely self-motivated by money, but as the information I have shared with you confirms, they are the

minority in Dalton. We want you to protect OUR property rights, and save OUR beautiful Forest Lake State Park.

Video link for July 23, 2019 WMUR news reports on Dalton public hearing on zoning:  
<https://youtu.be/S3wt82jvMj4>

Video link for July 30, 2019 WMUR news reports on zoning vote/victory:  
<https://youtu.be/86UV8UxgSGk>

P.S. The snippet from Casella's FB page shows how manipulative they are...they are a VT company, and certainly are NOT from Dalton.

Thank You!

Jon Swan  
25 Cashman Rd  
Dalton, NH 03598  
(603) 991-2078  
Founder, [Save Forest Lake](#)  
[#StopNorthernTrash!](#)

*Do not allow this proposed development to scar the beautiful landscape of the North Country for generations to come*

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:37 AM

**From:** Janet Damiano

**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 6:05:00 PM

**To:** Janet Damiano

**Subject:** Support HB177

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

[HB 177 letter.docx](#) 

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Dear Representative:

Please take the time to read my attached letter in support of HB177. We are deeply concerned about the proposed landfill development so close to a NH State Park and lake.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janet Peabody Damiano and Paul Damiano

513 Forest Lake Rd.

Dalton, NH 0359



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** [STEPHEN WALKER](#)

**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:44:44 PM

**Subject:** Support HB177

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

[New Hampshire Zoning.docx](#) 

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Hello Committee Members,

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the work you all do. My name is Stephen Walker and my family has been on Forest Lake for ~50 years. At one point, we were small business owners (The Triangle Dairy Bar) in Whitefield serving local residents and tourists. Additionally, I was the resident who hosted Rep. Kevin Verville over the winter to give a first hand look at an unprotected state park at risk from a massive landfill. If approved, one that will be seen, heard, and smelled for decades to come.

After his visit and comments, I thought he gained some insight of what's at risk not just for Forest Lake, but the 8 additional parks in NH that are in the same position – not protected by state or local zoning laws. Given his comments on the proposed location being closer to the park than he imagined – his ITL recommendation was an unwelcome surprise. How can you not protect the state parks we all cherish and are so vital to the state? Can you imagine a landfill in Dixville Notch? Or on Lake Francis? If it can happen at Forest Lake in Dalton, it can happen there. In case you have not seen it, I've attached the full list above. After you read that list, I ask that you see the number of letters in favor of this bill, forget party lines, and support HB177. This should be a bill that all sides can get behind.

Please do the right thing and support HB177.

Sincerely,  
Stephen Walker  
Forest Lake

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM  
**From:** Pat Kellogg  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:42:14 PM  
**To:** [uncas2@yahoo.com](mailto:uncas2@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** FW: House Bill 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Gretchen, here is the letter I sent if it helps. XOX Pat

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**From:** Pat Kellogg [mailto:pk@kelloggsurvey.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 02, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Pat Kellogg  
**Subject:** House Bill 177

April 2, 2021

New Hampshire House of Representative  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, N.H. 03301

RE: HB177, prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.

Dear Representatives:

I live in Littleton, N.H., a lovely tourist town with close proximity to Forest Lake State Park and upstream from the protected Ammonoosuc River.

I am writing to urge you to support HB177, a bill that would prevent the siting of landfills within two miles of state parks. Now more than ever, we must protect our valuable green spaces from the threat of pollution.

Our 68 state parks are a major driver for New Hampshire's economy and tourism industry. Creating the distance of two miles between a state park and a landfill is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of New Hampshire state parks with the property rights of adjacent land owners.

More importantly, that buffer decreases landfill issues including lawsuits, odor complaints, scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and ground water, and seriously affect enjoyment of the park. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that state park would have.

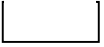
**I urge you to vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself.**

As a resident of New Hampshire, I thank you.

Respectfully,

Patricia Kellogg  
320 Manns Hill Road  
Littleton, N.H. 03561  
603-616-7903  
pk@kelloggsurvey.com

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 Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** judi lindsey

**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:07:25 PM

**To:** Judi Lindsey

**Subject:** Judi - citizen input - HB 177

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Representatives:

My name is Judi Lindsey and I live in Candia.

I am very concerned about the possibility of a landfill being located close to a state park!

I am writing to urge you to support HB177, a bill that would prevent the siting of landfills within two miles of state parks. Now more than ever, we must protect our valuable green spaces from the threat of pollution.

Specifically, I urge you to vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself.

Landfilling leads to pollution, whether it's toxins entering into waterways or releasing foul odors and harmful gases into the air. Permitting landfills near state parks would damage surface and groundwater, negatively impact the state's vital outdoor recreation and tourism industries, and discourage locals from recreating at the park and lake. How could anyone agree that siting a noisy, smelly landfill next to one of our state parks is a good idea?

New Hampshire has a significant trash problem, and we need to better manage our waste stream, including updating the state's 2003 solid waste plan, including efforts such as food waste diversion and source reduction. It is imperative that we protect our most precious natural resources and environment from further degradation.

As New Hampshire residents, we depend on you as legislators to protect our health and environment, as well as OUR property rights, from the nuisance posed by siting a landfill within 2 miles of a state park, so I ask you to vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself.

Respectfully,

Judi Lindsey  
822 North Road  
Candia 03034

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM  
**From:** [Jacki Katzman](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 11:21:05 AM  
**To:** [iLok](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES to overturn ITL on HB177, YES on bill to PASS!  
**Importance:** Normal

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To the Committee Members responsible for the economic future of our state:

I am writing to urge you to **support HB177**, a bill that would prevent the siting of landfills within two miles of state parks.

According to the Merrimam-Webster dictionary, "**conservative**" is defined as:

**Those who seek to preserve a range of institutions such as organized religion, parliamentary government, and property rights.**

Preserving property rights of the state - as in state parks - and the rights of people who have invested in homes in and near state parks, perfectly fits into that definition.

**Specifically, I urge you to vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself.**

Previous generations of NH citizens conserved resources for us to enjoy. Why are we the generation to trash them with trash? Yankees used to be known for their thrift, resilience and creativity. There are far better solutions to our solid waste problems than siting landfills near public resources. Why are we even considering resorting to the laziest, sloppiest and, in the long term, most expensive solution?

There will (soon) come a time when clean water will be a THE MOST PRECIOUS resource in the world. To threaten it in any way is short-sighted and the polar opposite of conservative. NH's waters are already being poisoned. Are you going to be the one to tell your grandchildren that you voted in a way that could poison them further?

I encourage every committee member to stand up - as a proud Yankee - and support the values that make us thrifty and strong. **Vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself.**

Jacki Katzman  
2112 Maple Street/PO Box 116  
Bethlehem, NH 03574

E: [Jackisue@aol.com](mailto:Jackisue@aol.com)  
M: 603-869-3289



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** BRUCE BURGESS

**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 11:20:03 AM

**Subject:** Support HB1774

**Importance:** Normal

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My name is Bruce Burgess, a registered voter and 70 year lifelong resident of NH. I'm writing about a landfill facility which is being sited within feet of a small lake in northern NH.

The lake is Forest Lake, it is at the edge of Forest Lake State Park in Dalton NH. When I was but 5 years old my parents carved a small area out on the shore the lake and built a small camp . I've seen eagles catch fish, 5 loons swimming in one group, and sunsets that freeze one with awe. And I, my children, and my grandchildren have swum, fished and boated in it's waters. In all, 4 generations of my family have enjoyed this pristine lake. So, I'm heartbroken with the thought of a waste dump being situated practically on it's western shore. But beyond my concern for this beautiful lake is also a concern that the proposed site is uphill and within a couple miles of the Ammonoosuc River. All the brooks in the area empty into the Ammonoosuc which in turn empties into the Connecticut River, any leaks could have far reaching affects downstream.

New Hampshire is a wonderfully gifted state for it's natural beauty. If we piece-by-piece allow such facilities as landfills to locate here, especially nested in our White Mountain Forests, we will erode the beauty which is us. All legislators need to be aware of this threat and take measures to prevent it. As a start, I urge you to support HB1774 that would establish a 2-mile buffer around all NH State parks for the purposes of siting a new landfill.

Thank you for your time, and please take this to heart, you might not know Forest Lake, but this is your state.

Sincerely,

Bruce Burgess  
8 Saint Andrews Way  
Londonderry, NH 03050

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM  
**From:** [Lucysgolden](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 11:15:09 AM  
**To:** ~House Children and Family Law Committee  
**Subject:** Please vote for HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Representatives:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB177. The passage of HB177, prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park, will help to maintain the pristine quality of our great outdoors, and will also help our state financially, as the tourism that supports so many is based on the natural beauty of our state.

Landfills pose a significant threat to surface and ground water quality, threatening to undermine some of the core purposes of public lands protection and conservation.

HB177 is a good faith effort to ensure that new landfills are not sited in close proximity to our public lands, thereby supporting the investments New Hampshire has made in these important natural, recreational, cultural, and economically-important areas. Permitting landfills near state parks would damage surface and groundwater, negatively impact the state's vital outdoor recreation and tourism industries, and discourage locals from recreating at the park and lake.

We urge the House of Representatives vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself, making it illegal to create new landfills within two miles of our state parks.

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM  
**From:** sarah doucette  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 11:06:11 AM  
**To:** Sarah Doucette  
**Subject:** Please Vote YES on HB177 — to put NH first...  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Greetings NH Representative,

Will you **please help pass HB 177 on April 9?** Since last year my family and neighbors in Whitefield have worked with scores of people statewide for the passage of HB 1319 in 2020 and now HB 177 — to protect our precious state parks with a 2-mile buffer from the certain degradation of a nearby landfill.

**Can anyone except a waste management company think parks and landfills are compatible land uses?** Will you and your colleagues **step aside from the countless objections that one self-motivated private developer is raising and assert the will of the people** throughout the state to protect our beloved park system and all it represents?

We can disarm EACH ONE of the countless objections to the bill raised by Casella Waste Systems of Vermont. **There is a “put NH first” reason to refute every single one of their claims** as to why we in NH must be subjected to their corporate plans for *our* homes and villages, *our* water and air and peace of mind, *our* property values, *our* tourist industry and at the moment, one particular state park. **NH does not owe Casella anything.** Their permitting process has only begun and the company has thusfar refused to even bring its plans before the host town for approval.

It could be any state park and Casella’s advances would be equally repugnant to those who care about the well-being of the people of our state and the environment on which they, their livelihoods and their future depend. **Bottom line — there is no compelling need today for a new landfill in NH** — and certainly not a commercial one that will bring 50% of its garbage in from out of state as Casella plans. Casella *does* want to build a new landfill in NH, but our **existing capacity is adequate for the foreseeable future for our NH trash.**

**DES is not able to safeguard our state parks** from landfill encroachment. DES agrees their regulations are outdated. **HB 177 is what we need** to pause, update our waste management plan as DES was mandated to do by 2009 — and then decide if any more landfill space, well apart from our parks, is needed for NH trash ONLY.

**Please do not sacrifice the countless gifts our state parks provide;** losing any one of them to a landfill would be a needless and irreparable loss, far beyond any hypothetical remediation.

You know **what your districts’ state parks mean to you, your voters and their families.** Can there be any worthy rationale to put out-of-state, private interests ahead of *your own*, our own, thriving and well-being? **Please represent us! and put NH first with a Yes vote on HB 177.**

Thank you for your thoughtful attention.

Sincerely, and with appreciation for your service to our people and our standout state,

Sarah Doucette  
Roger Doucette

Whitefield, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** [Carole Binder](#)

**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 11:01:30 AM

**To:** [Binder Carole](#)

**Subject:** Please support the House Resources Recommendation of ITL for HB 229 – “Wake Boats”

**Importance:** Normal

---

Honorable State Representatives,

I would just like to reach out about HB 229. I am concerned about why we would consider singling out a certain type of boat for "definition". I do understand and have been informed that future bans and restrictions are being considered once this definition is in place. This is the wrong approach in my opinion and will harm boating families, the boating industry, and the NH economy. I have witnessed both good and bad boating etiquette and it typically has very little to do with the type of watercraft and more to do with the boater themselves. Wouldn't enhanced education and additional marine patrol serve us better and improve the experience on all watercraft for all boaters? I think it would be very beneficial to focus our efforts here first. I appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

Please support the House Resources Committee bipartisan recommendation of ITL on HB 229.

Thank you.

Carole Binder  
Hebron, NH



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** [Michelle Davis](#)

**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 10:10:43 AM

**Subject:** HB 177

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

HB 177 Siting of Landfills Testimony NH LAKES040221.pdf ;

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Representatives,

Attached is testimony in support of HB 177 prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park. NH LAKES urges you to vote YES to overturn the ITL on HB177, YES on the motion ought to pass, and then YES on the bill itself.

Sincerely,

**Michelle Davis**


*Advocacy Program Coordinator, NH LAKES*

p: 603.226.0299 | 17 Chenell Drive, Suite One | Concord, NH 03301

[www.nhlakes.org](http://www.nhlakes.org)

*Working for clean and healthy lakes*



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM  
**From:** John and Katie Lajoie  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 4:43:13 PM  
**Subject:** To NH State Representatives regarding HB 413 and HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
[HB 413 WOW Statement.pdf](#) 

---

Dear New Hampshire State Representatives,

I have enclosed a recent letter from Working on Waste (WOW) to members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee regarding **HB 413** [*establishing a solid waste working group on solid waste management planning and relative to compost*].

**Please support HB 413 after including WOW's recommendations.** The zero-waste hierarchy is the gold standard.

**Also needing your support is HB 177** [*prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park*]. Kudos to the residents of Dalton, NH who are saying no to a proposal that would put a massive landfill near Forest Lake State Park. Their efforts help protect all of us who are working to manage resources in a way that does not divide communities and threaten our air and water. Your support for HB 177 shows you understand what is at stake for all New Hampshire residents.

With enactment of HB 177 and HB 413 (with WOW recommendations), New Hampshire can be a model for how to manage valuable resources in the modern age.

Sincerely,

Katie Lajoie  
429 Wheeler Rand Road  
Charlestown, NH 03603  
603-826-4803

Copy: State Senator Suzanne Prentiss, District 5

HB 413 [http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill\\_status/Results.aspx?q=1&txtbillnumber=hb413&txtsessionyear=2021](http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/Results.aspx?q=1&txtbillnumber=hb413&txtsessionyear=2021)

HB 177 [http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill\\_status/Results.aspx?q=1&txtbillnumber=hb177&txtsessionyear=2021](http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/Results.aspx?q=1&txtbillnumber=hb177&txtsessionyear=2021)

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** Jim Dannis

**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 2:35:59 PM

**To:** ~House Ways & Means Committee; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Education Committee; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety; ~House Commerce Committee

**Cc:** Sandy Dannis

**Subject:** We are Dalton residents who don't support the landfill but nonetheless oppose HB 177. Plus an alternative legislative approach.

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Legislators:

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our state!

As conservation-minded people who are the largest landowners in Dalton, we are not supporters of the proposed Dalton landfill. So you'd expect us to be in favor of HB 177. But we're not. We take good legislative principles seriously and we think HB 177 fails on many counts.

Here's what we believe is wrong with the bill.

(1) HB 177 is dishonest. The bill pretends to protect state parks. But with all the exceptions and holes in the bill's swiss cheese language, it's obvious HB 177 zeroes in on only one target. And that's the landfill proposed in Dalton. State parks are just a convenient pretext. Please cut through the camouflage and assess this bill for what it really is.

(2) This is special interest legislation. This bill doesn't look to set general policy for all landfills or even to balance the competing interests associated with the Dalton proposal. Instead, it's one-sided, special interest, NIMBY legislation pushed mostly by a small group of wealthy, politically-connected Littleton, Bethlehem and Forest Lake property owners. They don't want any commercial or industrial development in Dalton (a poor town whose tax base needs a lot of improvement) if they might catch a glimpse of it from their homes on the lake or up on the ridges. You hear their voices in HB 177 but not the voices of Dalton families.

(3) The bill is an end-run around DES's good process. DES's landfill siting and approval process already takes into account the interests of all "affected persons". This includes the landfill opponents on the lake and the ridges. They've inundated DES with literally hundreds of comments. DES's process is working. Like everyone else, these landfill opponents should rely on DES's sound process and expert judgment. There is no reason to grab this single landfill proposal out of DES's capable hands and make it the target of special "kill" legislation.

(4) HB 177 drags the legislature into the no-go zone of giving one-off approvals to individual landfills. In substance, HB 177 asks the legislature to take an up-and-down vote on a single project, the Dalton landfill. That's not what the legislature is meant to do. In New Hampshire, we trust our legislature to set general rules and not to spot zone out individual projects. This is a dangerous precedent. What happens next time, when a landfill is proposed in another town? Will you see a new bill asking for another legislative spot zoning "no"? A bill saying "no landfill shall be sited within 2 miles of X"? With X being a new invented pretext, like a river, or mountain, or town forest, or conserved land? Will the legislature be asked to act on every future landfill proposal via special bills? This kind of legislation can seriously damage our state's well-earned reputation for being open, fair and business-friendly.

(5) The bill takes away local control and silences the voices of Dalton voters. DES will make its professional and expert siting/approval decision. If the project makes it through DES, it will then be up to Dalton voters and elected officials to decide whether to accept the landfill sponsor's proposal to the town. The current proposal -- with the landfill paying 100% of all property taxes -- could transform the lives of many Dalton families who struggle financially. But HB 177 would tell Dalton families that their needs, their opinions and their voices mean nothing.

Dalton would have no say at all. Although we would not be among them, we believe a solid majority of Dalton residents would support the landfill proposal. One-sided, special interest legislation like HB 177 that caters to a small, elite group should not silence the voices of Dalton's families.

For these reasons (which are 100% non-partisan!), we urge you to vote down HB 177.

We want to point out that there is another and more appropriate route HB 177 could have taken.

If there are valid concerns about property impacts, DES's landfill approval process could be revised by legislation to make it even more clear that affected property owners' input will be fully considered in all landfill applications.

For example, requirements could be added for DES to hold public hearings in surrounding towns, not just the host town. DES could be asked to make specific findings regarding the impacts on affected landowners. DES could be directed to fold these impacts into the public interest determination. The legislature could provide guidance on how different factors, including impacts on property owners, are to be weighed in DES's public interest test.

These types of general process improvements -- applicable on a fair and equal basis to all projects -- would be sensible and responsible.

Unfortunately, rather than working in this direction, HB 177 takes what we believe is the harmful and irresponsible path of seeking a legislative "kill" on a single project. This is not the New Hampshire way.

Thank you for considering our views! And thank you again for what you do for New Hampshire.

Sandy and Jim Dannis  
117 McGinty Road  
Dalton, NH 03598

<https://abovethefifteenmilefalls.com/>

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** [Newton, Chaz](#)

**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 2:09:46 PM

**To:** ~House Ways & Means Committee; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Education Committee; "HouseCommerceCommittee@leg.state.nh"; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**Cc:** Clougherty, Tim; McNeill, Fred; Sheppard, Kevin

**Subject:** City of Manchester Solid Waste - Comments on HB-177

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Members of the House of Representatives,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the City of Manchester's Solid Waste Program regarding concerns about HB-177. This bill prohibits siting of a landfill within two (2) miles of the boundary of any state park. From a Solid Waste perspective, many municipalities are wondering what is going to happen to all of our waste in the future as there is already a shortage of landfill space in New Hampshire. HB-177 would give municipalities an even smaller chance of finding a destination for safe and secure solid waste disposal. HB-177 could leave many municipalities with several barriers to overcome in addressing their solid waste disposal needs.

Thank you for your consideration regarding these comments and concerns.

Regards,

Chaz Newton  
Solid Waste & Environmental Program Manager

City of Manchester  
Department of Public Works  
475 Valley Street  
Manchester, NH 03103  
(603) 716-6175

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*The Right-To-Know Law (RSA 91-A) provides that most e-mail communications, to or from City employees and City volunteers regarding the business of the City of Manchester, are government records available to the public upon request. Therefore, this email communication may be subject to public disclosure.*



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** McNeill, Fred

**Sent:** Thursday, March 4, 2021 12:50:33 PM

**To:** ~House Ways & Means Committee; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Education Committee; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety; 'HouseCommerceCommittee@leg.state.nh.'

**Cc:** Sheppard, Kevin; Clougherty, Tim; Robinson, Robert; MacLeod, Shannon; 'Thomas Cue'; 'hpearlpsf@aol.com'

**Subject:** City of Manchester EPD - Comments on HB-177

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Members of the House of Representatives,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the City of Manchester's Environmental Protection Division (EPD) regarding concerns about HB-177 which prohibits siting of a landfill within two (2) miles of the boundary of any state park. EPD is the state's largest public wastewater utility serving Manchester, Bedford, Goffstown, and Londonderry a metro area of 172,000 residents. Through our wastewater treatment process EPD produces tons of material daily that is often landfilled. The state already has a serious shortage of landfill capacity. Any limiting of future landfill siting will further the state's capacity problems. If a landfill siting is compliant with all environmental regulations, which are designed to safeguard the public and our natural resources, then its proximity to a state park should not be a factor. Even if a buffer is determined to be needed, the proposed two (2) mile buffer exceeds almost all other buffers in current environmental regulations. Lastly, HB appears inconsistent in its intent as only state parks are mentioned, not federal parks, municipal parks, or similar use areas.

Based on the above concerns, and as a public utility that strives to serve about 13% of the state's population in a cost effective manner, we respectfully request you do not support HB-177.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Frederick J. McNeill, P.E.**  
**Chief Engineer**  
**Environmental Protection Division**  
**Department of Public Works**  
**City of Manchester**  
**300 Winston Street**  
**Manchester, NH 03103**

**Office: (603) 624-6341**

**Cell: (603) 235-6626**

**Email: [FMcNeill@ManchesterNH.gov](mailto:FMcNeill@ManchesterNH.gov)**

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*The Right-To-Know Law (RSA 91-A) provides that most e-mail communications, to or from City employees and City volunteers regarding the business of the City of Manchester, are government records available to the public upon request. Therefore, this email communication may be subject to public disclosure.*

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:38 AM

**From:** Russell Anderson

**Sent:** Monday, March 1, 2021 10:45:37 AM

**To:** ~House Ways & Means Committee; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Education Committee; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**Subject:** Please Defeat HB 177 or Please ITL HB 177 or Please say NO to HB 177

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Members of the New Hampshire House of Representatives,

I am writing to you today as a resident of New Hampshire to urge you to defeat HB177--An ACT prohibiting siting of a landfill near a state park.

I oppose this bill for the following reasons:

1. It appears to be an attack on a single project and would set a dangerous precedent of state legislators deciding winners and losers in business.
2. The proposed setback is only from state parks. Why not federal parks, local parks, conservation areas, or similar uses?
3. The setback only applies to privately-owned landfills, not state-owned or municipal-owned facilities.
4. NH solid waste regulations are already designed to safeguard its residents, natural resources and water sources.
5. HB 177 is a blatant attempt to use legislation to bypass proper regulatory and technical evaluations and enact spot zoning while taking away local control.

Sincerely,

Russell Anderson

144 Hooksett Turnpike, Bow NH 03304

I urge you to say no to HB177.

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM

**From:** Isabelle Kleinschrodt

**Sent:** Sunday, February 28, 2021 12:04:00 PM

**To:** ~House Ways & Means Committee; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Education Committee; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**Subject:** Let Dalton Decide – Defeat HB 177

**Importance:** Normal

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To the Members of the New Hampshire House of Representatives,

My name is Scott Kleinschrodt and I am a 32 year resident of the town of Dalton, NH. I am writing to you today to urge you to vote down HB 177, which would prohibit landfills from being established within 2 miles of NH State Parks.

This piece of legislation is an attempt by a single individual along with outside environmental groups to force their collective wills on the residents of a rural, property poor town.

Make no mistake about this fact, the community of Dalton is in a desperate need to diversify its tax base. As the cost of living goes up, so does the cost of running a town and its school system. Over the past several years, we have seen town services reduced and the cost of our taxes rise. As long as the state relies on property taxes as its major source of revenue, this will continue to be an ongoing problem.

We the residents of Dalton have an alternative placed in front of us. We should have the right to decide our own fate. With the guidance of science and the Department of Environmental Science, I trust the people of Dalton can and will make the best decision for the sake of the town.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Scott Kleinschrodt

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Kimberly Cornia](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 17, 2021 12:33:23 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** House Bill 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Hello,

As a resident of the North Country I urge you to support this bill. We do not want another Casella landfill destroying the beautiful forest and lands here that we love. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Kimberly Cornia



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM

**From:** Adam Finkel

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 17, 2021 11:08:28 AM

**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee

**Subject:** brief rebuttal to the bogus "takings" argument and to some of the untruths in the new Dannis letter

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee Members,

I have taken up too much of your valuable time already with scientific, economic, and legal information about HB 177, but two things came to my attention that I must refute as briefly as possible before you vote today.

First, one final pithy remark about HB 177. Apparently some commenters are describing it as “a special-interest bill.” This is “the opposite of true.” ***HB 177 is a general-interest bill with special-interest opposition.*** It seeks to fix an unscientific and economically-unwise mistake in the state code (trash can be landfilled right next to parks, lakes, and rivers) that affects *79 state parks in every corner of New Hampshire*. One developer and its few cheerleaders have a special interest in opposing it, and have offered no argument at all against the premise of the bill. Please vote it OTP, and if the monied interest wants to challenge the premise, let them seek an exemption on the merits (which they won't, because their special pleading HAS no merits).

As for recent untruths:

1) I have heard from one of you that belatedly, the bill is being described as a “taking of private property.” *As a former professor of regulatory law, let me assure you that this is completely wrong.* A “taking” requires that the landowner be denied “virtually all economic uses of his land.” HB 177, at worst, may deprive some owners of ONE of hundreds of uses of their land. To be blunt, “you can build a store, or a stadium, or a house, or an amusement park on your land, but not a nuclear power plant” is not a taking.

2) I just read last night on social media a letter you received at some point from Jim Dannis, an acquaintance of mine in Dalton. Again in the interests of brevity, *there are more lies in that letter than I can count on my fingers and toes.* Here are a few truths, the opposites of what you read from him:

- His entire rant advances the false premise (see above) that 177 is a “pretext” for a special-interest. One man’s “pretext” is another man’s science, and he is trying to gaslight you; please don’t let him.
- There is no reason you should be considering the property-tax bills of residents of one NH town when you vote on a bill about the environment and tourist economy of the entire state. However, as a Dalton taxpayer, let me assure you that Dannis has simply made up the story that a new landfill company there will “pick up the entire property tax bill for the town.” Dannis might be able to do that with his own wealth, but the landfill company has made no such promise, and its record of past promises in this regard is transparent and disappointing.
- There is no reason you should be confronted with speculation about how one town’s voters might vote on a specific project, but Dannis has zero evidence that we in Dalton would change our resounding vote in 2019 in favor of zoning, and therefore against the landfill.

- He accuses you of writing a bill (130 words long!) that “shouts that we don’t trust state administrative agencies.” Huh? Your job is to set broad parameters under which these agencies operate. At some point in the past, your predecessors decided that 200 feet was ample distance between trash dumps and parks/lakes. Now, some of you believe this was a mistake, and this scientist agrees. I *do* trust DES, the same way I trust my former agencies (OSHA and EPA), to make good decisions *within sensible policy dictates*.
- “The bill wrongfully redlines a single project.” What Dannis means is “the bill protects parks throughout the state, but I want to sacrifice them all in favor of greenlighting one single project.”
- “There are endless pretexts available for spot zoning.” *Then where was Dannis when the U.S. Congress “spot zoned” (no, they didn’t) land all over the nation by imposing a six-mile setback between landfills and airports?* There are endless complaints by special interests; *ignore them*.
- Forest Lake “is a small, dying, largely unused, money-losing park. The beach has been a location for law enforcement response due to dumping and drug abuse.” Now we see clearly how desperate the unsubstantiated lies about a beloved tourist location can be, when someone with a hidden agenda writes with impunity.
- “This kind of social media terrorizing in the context of public policy debates has no place in our small town or anywhere in New Hampshire. We call on the committee to condemn it.” What more can one say other than to point out a bully who projects his bullying onto others? I am *not* calling upon the Committee to repudiate the lie than anyone in Dalton, other than the landowner and his few supporters, have “terrorized” anyone. That’s ludicrous and libelous. You have better things to do. But I will say that support for HB 177 is running at 10:1 or more *not* because anyone in the majority is silencing anyone; it’s because you have a simple, good bill on your hands, that anyone with an ounce of common sense and no vendetta can get behind.

I apologize for the intensity of these remarks, but if you want to vote to keep trash and parks/lakes side-by-side throughout our state, please do so because you have one or more sensible reasons for doing so, not because one developer will have to move 10,360 feet further away from where he *pleases* to put his next dump. If and when we need a new landfill in NH, HB 177 will stand in the way of no sensible and safe proposal anywhere.

best regards and again, thanks for taking this serious matter with the seriousness it deserves.

Adam M. Finkel, Sc.D., CIH  
 Clinical Professor of Environmental Health Sciences  
 University of Michigan School of Public Health

Webpages: <https://sph.umich.edu/faculty-profiles/finkel-adam.html> ; <https://sites.google.com/site/afinkelarticles/> ; <http://lullaby-cd.adamfinkel.com/>

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** Drevane  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:17:51 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Hb177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Chair Pearl and Members of the Environment and Agriculture Committee

I am writing to you today as a resident of New Hampshire to urge you to vote NO on HB177--An ACT prohibiting siting of a landfill near a state park.

I oppose this bill for the following reasons:

- It appears to be an attack on a single project and would set a dangerous precedent of state legislators deciding winners and losers in business.
- It is hypocritical and arbitrary in its approach of establishing a two-mile setback requirement.
  - o The proposed setback is only from state parks, not federal parks, local parks, conservation areas, or similar uses.
  - o The setback only applies to privately-owned landfills, not state-owned or municipal-owned facilities.
  - o NH solid waste regulations are already designed to safeguard its residents and water sources.
- HB 177 is a blatant attempt to use legislation to bypass proper regulatory and technical evaluations and would be a bad law.
- It will effectively stop the development of a landfill project which is years into the process. This will result in eliminating competition and driving up overall costs for waste disposal.

I urge you to vote NO on HB177.

Thank you

Donald Revane

Washington NH. 03280

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [bryan dexter](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:02:34 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB 177 - Opposed  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello -

I am opposed of HB 177 due to the need for waste management solutions in New Hampshire.

- It appears to be an attack on a single project and would set a dangerous precedent of state legislators deciding winners and losers in business.
  
- It is hypocritical and arbitrary in its approach of establishing a two-mile setback requirement.
  - The proposed setback is only from state parks, not federal parks, local parks, conservation areas, or similar uses.
  - The setback only applies to privately-owned landfills, not state-owned or municipal-owned facilities.
  - NH solid waste regulations are already designed to safeguard its residents and water sources.
  
- HB 177 is a blatant attempt to use legislation to bypass proper regulatory and technical evaluations and would be a bad law.
  
- It will effectively stop the development of a landfill project which is years into the process. This will result in eliminating competition and driving up overall costs for waste disposal.

I urge you to vote NO on HB177.

Bryan Dexter  
30 Linda Lane  
Manchester, NH 03104

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** Nathan White  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:37:15 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Vote No on HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Chair Pearl and Members of the Environment and Agriculture Committee

I am writing to you today as a resident of New Hampshire to urge you to vote NO on HB177--An ACT prohibiting siting of a landfill near a state park.

I oppose this bill for the following reasons:

- It appears to be an attack on a single project and would set a dangerous precedent of state legislators deciding winners and losers in business.
- It is hypocritical and arbitrary in its approach of establishing a two-mile setback requirement.
  - The proposed setback is only from state parks, not federal parks, local parks, conservation areas, or similar uses.
  - The setback only applies to privately-owned landfills, not state-owned or municipal-owned facilities.
  - NH solid waste regulations are already designed to safeguard its residents and water sources.
- HB 177 is a blatant attempt to use legislation to bypass proper regulatory and technical evaluations and would be a bad law.
- It will effectively stop the development of a landfill project which is years into the process. This will result in eliminating competition and driving up overall costs for waste disposal.

I urge you to vote NO on HB177.

Regards,  
Nathan White

Nathan White  
Brighter Horizons Environmental  
Director of Remediation  
201 West Main Street  
Ayer, MA 01432  
Cell: 508-989-0419 \*  
Office: 978-970-0500





**Brighter Horizons Environmental, Inc.**  
*Complete Environmental & Agricultural Services*

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**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Michael Pedersen](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:36:52 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support HB 177 - Prevent Landfill Near a State Park  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Environment and Agriculture Committee Members,

Please SUPPORT the passage of HB 177.

Please prevent the siting of landfills within close proximity to our New Hampshire State Parks.

The impact of a nearby landfill to a State Park presents numerous environmental problems and risks to the water, soil, air, wildlife, noise levels and trash accumulation at a nearby State Park.

I urge you to please eliminate this threat to our precious natural heritage by SUPPORTING HB 177.

Thank you,

Michael Pedersen  
New Hampshire State Representative  
Hillsborough County, District 32  
Nashua, Ward 5

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM

**From:** Pam Kathan

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 9:36:05 AM

**To:** Judy Aron; Peter Bixby; Andrew Bouldin; Tony Caplan; Barbara Comtois; Arnold Davis; Sherry Dutzy; Susan Homola; Stephanie Hyland; makennedy7871@gmail.com; James Mason; Megan Murray; Howard Pearl; Maria Perez; Gail Sanborn; Catherine Sofikitis; Walt Stapleton; Kevin Verville; Sparky Von Plinsky; ~House Ways & Means Committee; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Education Committee; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety; ~House Commerce Committee

**Subject:** HB177 OPPOSITION

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

Pages from 2009 articles on Forest Lake State Park.pdf 

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February 16, 2021

RE: Opposition to HB177

Dear All,

This is my last chance to express to you the dire situation in Dalton NH. Although opposition to HB177 seems small in Dalton, it certainly is NOT. Unfortunately, we live under this nationwide organization which is gigantic, financially backed, and influential. We the people of Dalton are defeated before we even begin. The Select Board is part of this activist group. We the people of Dalton live under strong and often obscene harassment, total disrespect and mockery. There are only a few who will publicly express opposition to HB177, the rest are too afraid of retribution, or have been brainwashed by the "mob".

Dalton faces the scariest time in its history. Those running our town are not doing so in the best interest of the people, they are the activists only there for one agenda. Why they even disrespect the State government. DES has been the victim of obscene mockery and now a lawsuit.


Forest Lake, we believe the State still owns it, however, why has the entrance gate been taken down? Please refer to a 2009 article on Forest Lake and the State. Why are Town people taking care of that lake? Who is liable if someone gets hurt or killed there? Who is responsible for making sure that all the residences on the lake are compliant with the Shoreland Protection Act? I do not see many permits for work that has been done at the lake. I intend to check for septic permits and compliance. If these people are so concerned for this lake, then they better hope that they are fully compliant.

Dalton needs a financial boost. Most of us are working individuals and families trying to make ends meet, or those that live on a fixed income. What happens when our taxes are raised because of the ever-increasing school and county taxes? We the people of Dalton do not have the luxury of staying home and devoting all of our time to opposing HB177. We wish we did and we wish we had the financial backing and influence that many of whom do not even live in our town possess.

In the end, we are the small, neglected, true people of Dalton, not the affluent, titled, pedigreed "mob" which is taking over our small but mighty town. Deciding what they want, not what the people of Dalton want. Please, some of us have reached out to the State with no response. Please help us, as we are drowning.

With Sincere Respect,

Pam Kathan

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Beauchesne, Suzanne](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 12:53:04 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Cc:** Edith Tucker; Tim Egan; William Hatch; Larry Laflamme; 'dennis@nnefs.com'; Erin Hennessey; Wimsatt, Mike  
**Subject:** HB 177 - Information for the Committee's Consideration  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
[HB 177 LOT 021221.pdf](#) 

---

Dear Chairman Pearl and Members of the Committee:

Attached is a letter from the NH Department of Environmental Services on HB 177 relative to prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park. Should you have any questions about the information provided, please contact Mike Wimsatt, Waste Management Division Director at [michael.wimsatt@des.nh.gov](mailto:michael.wimsatt@des.nh.gov), or 271-1997. Thank you. Suzanne

Stay Safe! Be Well!

Suzanne Beauchesne  
Assistant to the Commissioner  
NH Department of Environmental Services  
29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: (603) 271-3449  
[Suzanne.Beauchesne@des.nh.gov](mailto:Suzanne.Beauchesne@des.nh.gov)

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**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Laura Martin](#)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 10:04:05 PM  
**To:** ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote yes on HB117  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee Members,

I ask that you vote yes on HB117, to create a two-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills and the environmental problems that could occur from said landfills. I believe it is very important to protect our state's treasured land for our current and future residents. If we do not take steps to protect our state parks, we will be in danger of diminishing their beauty and threatening the wildlife. The former will impact NH's economy by bringing fewer tourists and less revenue to our state, and the latter is just plain irresponsible and cruel.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best,  
Laura

Laura Martin  
1A Stonewall Way, Exeter, NH  
[lmartin9902@gmail.com](mailto:lmartin9902@gmail.com)  
603-772-3522

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Donald Sharp](#)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:58:41 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Hearing We'd Feb 3 1:00pm HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Sent from my iPad

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [kleinschrodt59@gmail.com](mailto:kleinschrodt59@gmail.com)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:27:14 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Dalton Landfill  
**Importance:** Normal

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Good evening,

My name is Scott Kleinschrodt and I am a 31 year resident of Dalton, NH. I would like to weigh in on the proposed landfill to be located in Dalton, NH. We are a property poor town which desperately needs to diversify its tax base. The proposed site is already an industrial park which has had virtually no complaints over the years. I trust the science that has been used to date which shows that this is an appropriate site for a landfill. By trying to block this because of one resident in particular, the legislature would be usurping its job and doing the job of NHDES which they are not qualified to do. The state ultimately determines where to site landfills in NH through a process run by environmental scientists. By involving the politics of the legislature you will no doubt cross into an area that the legislature does not belong. If the legislature ultimately has the ability to block NHDES from citing future landfills, where will the next one be placed? Thank you for your time.

Scott Kleinschrodt  
59 Bush Road  
Dalton, NH 03598

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Kate Hesler](#)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:27:38 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony on HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Good afternoon,

I am reaching out in support of bill HB177, which would create a 2-mile setback for putting a landfill next to a NH state park. This hits especially close to home because of the ongoing fight to prevent Casella from building another landfill in the North Country of NH, in very close proximity to Forest Lake State Park - a region that my family and I call home.

A large portion of New Hampshire's economy and industries are built upon our beautiful natural resources, which encourage out-of-state tourism and outdoor recreation. As a state, we **must** prioritize the protection of these lands, natural resources and the people who call NH home **before** big business and harmful environmental proposals. Our state parks are New Hampshire's treasures and we must treat them like such.

I am asking you to support the bill HB177. Thank you!

Best,  
Katherine Hesler

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Annie Lynch-Ambrose](#)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 3:43:30 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please save our Natural Resources and State Parks HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Honorable Representative Howard Smith, Chairman, Environment and Agriculture Committee

Dear Representative Smith

I respectfully request this correspondence be read into the public record. HB 177 is a matter being heard on Wednesday February 3rd at 1 PM. As you already know passing the bill which promotes a 2 mile buffer to any state park against landfill development, would ensure our preservation of our most precious resources, protect our economies dependent upon visitors to our state and allow for continued use and enjoyment of our state parks for generations to come.

I am a resident of Dalton NH continuously for the past 7 years. I have resided in the state of New Hampshire for a total of 14 years since 2000.

Personally, I own a year round residence on Forest Lake within one half mile as the crow flies from the proposed site. I also have a 250 foot artesian well on my property. Passage of this most crucial bill would preserve my home as it is today. Your continued dedication to our environment is appreciated. Please see fit to favorably vote for HB 177 and thank you for your time and attention.

Annie Lynch-Ambrose



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Jo-Linda Keith](#)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 1:06:31 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please support and vote YES on HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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We are homeowners at 70 Newell Lane in Whitefield, NH. on Forest Lake. We enjoy being there with our children and grandchildren, and spend time at the State Park, swimming, fishing, boating and most importantly, enjoying the peace and beauty while sitting on our deck.

We implore you to support and vote YES HB177, to keep state parks and landfills separated by two miles. Cassella should not be allowed to proceed with the landfill in Whitefield/Dalton, It is very likely to have considerable negative impact on people coming to NH to enjoy the state parks and surrounding lake areas. In addition to spoiling the air quality and water clarity for Whitfield/Dalton folks on the lake and near the state park, the noise and disruption of up to 100 trucks a day going and coming to the landfill will be so unlike the peace and quiet we have enjoyed.

In addition, the noise and vibration will have negative impact on animal life in the area, and disturb their habitats in the state parks.

Please help us protect and enjoy the state parks of NH and Vote YES on HB177.

Sincerely,

Jo-Linda and Dennis Keith

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [jbdmtns@gmail.com](mailto:jbdmtns@gmail.com)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2021 12:10:22 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Cc:** [Jo Beth Dudley](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES for HB 177 -- Project our State Parks  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Members of the NH House of Representatives, Environment and Agriculture Committee:

I am writing to express **my strong support** of the proposed House Bill 177:

- HB 177 will create a two mile buffer around all NH State Parks, prohibiting a new commercial landfill within this two mile zone.

**Specifically, I ask you to vote in favor of HB 177, when it comes before your committee for consideration on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.**

HB 177 is good for all of New Hampshire, a state with a wonderful, scenic environment. We should work hard to preserve our environment, for our citizens and especially for our children. In addition, the scenic beauty of NH supports our economy, which relies heavily on tourism, in the White Mountains and the North Country, and throughout the State. Landfills detract from the beauty of the land in terms of appearance, noise, noxious odors, excessive truck traffic, carrion birds and animals, and pollution — impacting the desirability of an area for tourism, and for other enjoyment of the natural environment. The issue of carrion birds is more acute with our warming climate and could contribute to more frequent and more severe toxic algae blooms for those State Parks with water.

HB 177 will protect our State and National Park legacy — ensuring their existence for our children and grandchildren, and protecting the tourism economy of New Hampshire. There are so many wonderful, beautiful State Parks — can you imagine a landfill next to Wallis Sands, or Crawford Notch, or Franconia Notch, or White Lake, or Pawtuckaway, or Hampton Beach, or any of the other special places that our State has chosen to preserve as a State Park?

Let's preserve our beautiful state and protect our treasured State Parks, and their associated tourism and recreation economy. There are other places for locating landfills, and perhaps we can put more effort into reducing waste at its source.

Thank you for your support of this important bill!

Sincerely,

— Jo Beth Dudley  
(Registered voter in the State of NH)  
*477 Forest Lake Road*  
*Dalton, NH 03598*  
*(608) 213-8940*  
[jbdmtns@gmail.com](mailto:jbdmtns@gmail.com)

**ps. The Mission and Vision of the NH State Parks is as follows:**

## **Mission**

The mission of the Division of Parks and Recreation is to provide New Hampshire's citizens and guests with outstanding recreational, educational, and inspirational experiences through the responsible management and cooperative stewardship of the state's natural, recreational, and cultural resources.

## **Vision**

The Division of Parks and Recreation preserves, protects, and stewards New Hampshire's natural, recreational, and historic sites. These diverse and special places of natural and cultural significance are premiere destinations for families and individuals of all ages and abilities, where exploration, adventure, learning, and fun create experiences and memories that last a lifetime.

The Division's management is innovative and dynamic, emphasizing outstanding customer service, meeting diverse needs, and developing strong partnerships with other public and private entities. The State Parks are valued and recognized as a critical contributor to New Hampshire's unique quality of life.

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Andrea Knowles](#)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 30, 2021 3:24:27 PM  
**To:** ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Casella and HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

I write to you today concerning HB 177, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park.

We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

This legislation began as part of the campaign against a planned private landfill right next to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. If built, the private landfill would pose an existential threat to both. Although HB 177 and its predecessor were originally envisioned to further the fight against this private landfill, we have come to believe that such a bill represents good State-wide policy. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that state park would have. Our state parks are a major economic driver for the state economy and tourism industry.

There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State Parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby State parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

Earlier this month, Phil Bryce, Director of NH Parks and Recreation, expressed some of these concerns in his department's response to the wetlands permit application for the planned project next to Forest Lake State Park.

If you were an Environment and Agriculture Committee member last year, or a House member, you may remember the hearings and floor action on HB 1319. The legislation was reported out of Committee and, on March 12, passed in the House by a vote of 189 to 129. Unfortunately, its consideration in the Senate was halted by the coronavirus pandemic. Like HB 1319, the newly introduced HB 177 would amend Section 149-M:9 of NH Revised Statutes.

There are three important improvements in the new bill:

- The legislation excludes the Appalachian Trail, focusing only on New Hampshire's 68 State parks.
- It explicitly exempts municipally-owned waste disposal districts.
- Finally, it makes clear that expansions of existing landfills are exempt.

These three improvements mean that permits for future expansion at Mt. Carberry (Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District or AVRDD) would be protected. We feel that

AVRRDD exemplifies what we feel is the best future for solid waste disposal in New Hampshire, particularly in the North Country, and we look forward to working with the State of New Hampshire towards waste-reduction/diversion efforts to preserve and protect existing and future capacity at existing landfills like Mt. Carberry for New Hampshire-generated waste.

This legislative effort is a common-sense, bi-partisan bill. Edith Tucker (D) is the prime sponsor of HB 177; Timothy Egan (D), William Hatch (D), Dennis Thompson (R) and Larry LaFlamme (D) are co-sponsoring the bill. Senator Erin Hennessey (R) will be the Senate sponsor of the bill when, with your support, it reaches the Senate.

Sincerely,  
Andrea Knowles  
Bethlehem, NH

Please Stop Casella from Polluting and Trashing the North Country! Our lives and livelihoods depend on the prohibition of toxic and out-of-state waste being dumped near our waterways and aquifers,



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [tom perrotta](#)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:47:26 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** bill HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Hi, our names are Tom and Terri Perrotta. we are year round residents of Forest Lake and registered voters in Whitefield. Our family has been vacationing here for over 40 years.

We would like to voice our opposition to the locations of this landfill. The long term effects of this project are of a big concern to both the quality of the environment and quality of life on the lake and the surrounding areas.

WE strongly urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

Thanks, Tom and Terri Perrotta

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** Roger Doucette  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 30, 2021 1:35:12 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** HB 177 - Please vote Yes  
**Importance:** Normal

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Greetings Committee Members,

Thank you for receiving comments on HB 177 to protect NH State Parks from new landfill development nearby. I am a **lifelong NH voter** in NH, now retired and living in Whitefield. I am also an **avid outdoorsman**, often in our parks.

I write to ask you to vote to **advance HB 177** and to express my thoughts on protecting our State Parks from the seacoast to the Lakes Region, from the White Mountains to the Connecticut Lakes in the north. All of these Parks need to be distanced from landfills. Landfills and parks are at opposite ends of the spectrum in their goals and operation, as well as their environmental, public health and economic impacts. It would be **an abomination to site a landfill anywhere near a NH State Park**.

During the covid pandemic, safe, healthy **outdoor spaces are needed and utilized more than ever**. Regional and national studies show a tremendous uptick in park and trail use. We all can observe this, driving by trailheads throughout the state in every season, and also hearing that reservations are limited at campgrounds and recreational facilities.

It is just common sense that HB 177 must move forward. **Please do your best** to ensure that we do not have the irremediable damage that a landfill would bring in close proximity to any one of our beloved parks.

Thank you for listening — and for your work on behalf of our beautiful State.

Sincerely,

Roger Doucette  
Whitefield, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Duncan Ross](#)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 30, 2021 11:28:39 AM  
**To:** ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Support for HB-177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear elected members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee, we are writing to urge you to support HB-177. We are currently registered voters and residents of Dover, NH. Having grown up in Littleton NH and still frequently visit the area year round, I have seen how the Bethlehem landfill has severely altered the landscape and detracted from one of the primary draws of many resident tax payers and tourists alike: the pristine beauty of nature. Untouched landscapes are in short supply these days, even in a relatively rural state like ours.

The thought of uncontrolled landfill developments in other areas such as the many beautiful state parks we are fortunate enough to have throughout the state is alarming. I understand we all contribute to waste and environmental impact, but why spoil more natural areas just to allow for-profit enterprises to import other state's trash? The regions where many of our parks exist have enough challenges with attracting and retaining full time residents and economic investment, these types of projects will surely have negative impacts on those efforts. Even landfills run by enterprises with integrity and compliance to regulations inherently detract from air and water quality, as well as negatively impact the surrounding areas with increased truck traffic and nuisance animals.

HB-177 is an important step towards better regulation of private and public waste disposal enterprises. Not only does it ensure the protection and enjoyment of our state's most precious resources, it sets a foundation for the responsible management of a necessary service. If private, for-profit enterprises are prevented from uncontrolled siting of landfills, there can be more focus on establishing local waste districts since garbage disposal is in a sense a public "utility"; imagine if we had to buy our water from a private company instead of a municipality? Profit above all else does not lend to quality and integrity.

We strongly encourage you as a tax paying state resident and registered voter to pass this bill. Thank you for your consideration and thoughtful stewardship of our great state.  
Duncan & Erin Ross  
Dover, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:39 AM  
**From:** [Mark Dee](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 29, 2021 2:50:54 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote yes on HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Esteemed Members of the Committee,

I respectfully request your support HB177. This bill will protect state parks from encroachment of landfills. Currently, the area surrounding Forest Lake State Park is being considered for such use. There are several reasonable alternatives for such a site. Our state parks are a wonderful treasure to be enjoyed by all. Landfills and state parks are not compatible. There are obvious environmental concerns and factors that would impact park goers use and enjoyment of the area, if such a landfill would be in close proximity to an area that so many people enjoy for it's beauty, leisure and recreation. And those are all things that the people of NH deserve now more than ever, after the last year we all have been through.

I ask you to consider how such a project would effect Franconia Notch, Forest Lake and others. These treasures would simply not be the same, with the noise pollution, unsightliness, increased traffic due to such landfill. I simply ask you to help keep this parks for their intended use, mainly the experience of the great outdoors in our beautiful state. Granite Staters need you to protect this asset now more than ever. I thank you for your service to us all and to Democracy.

Sincerely, Mark DePinto

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** Skip Day  
**Sent:** Friday, January 29, 2021 1:03:08 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Oppose HB  
**Importance:** Normal

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To the Committee, I am opposed to HB 177 for the following reasons- I have worked in the waste industry for 34 years. I worked on a project in Bethlehem to fix an unlined landfill and put the trash into a lined landfill. This was the first double lined landfill in NH. This was modern technology in landfilling that was the newest at the time. I can speak to how carefully the new landfill was built and the redundancies that were put into place. The landfill in Bethlehem is permitted by NHDES and is built with redundancies for environmental safeties. A new modern landfill in Dalton with these environmental safeties in place plus added benefits like renewable energy from the methane would be a benefit to NH.

Thank you, Roland (Skip) Day  
Whitefield, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [david boyle](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 29, 2021 12:57:01 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** PLEASE VOTE "YES" ON HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal


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I support HB 177 for the Protection of all state parks from encroachment by Landfills and especially Forest Lake State Park.

There is a proposed landfill well with the 2 mile radius of Forest Lake State park. Landfills and State Parks are not compatible and you need to support your constituents in all State Parks , like the Monadnock region , Hampton Beach and Franconia Notch. Landfills will contaminate both surface water and ground water. It is your civil duty to sign HB177.

Thank You, J. David Boyle Franconia NH



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [Scott Baytosh](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 29, 2021 9:02:43 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** URGENT: Support for HB177  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
[viewscape 400x with family and seagulls.jpg](#) 

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Dear Members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee:

My family has enjoyed the shores of Forest Lake since 1902, when my great grandfather, Richard Wilder, Whitefield's town doctor, built one of the first cottages there. The lake straddles the border between Dalton and Whitefield, and my family has paid enormous sums in property taxes to Dalton during our nearly 120 years there. My immediate family were residents of NH for over 40 years. As you can imagine, the creation of an enormous landfill a few thousand feet from our property line and more importantly the delicate ecosystem of Forest Lake and the surrounding wetlands is of great concern.

**I write to you today concerning HB 177**, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park. We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, and I urge you to support this important legislation to protect our state's parks.

This legislation began as part of the campaign against a planned private landfill right next to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. If built, the private landfill would pose an existential threat to both. I have attached a rendering of the landfill and its proximity to the lake based on the private developer's own viewshed analysis. Although HB 177 and its predecessor were originally envisioned to further the fight against this private landfill, I believe that such a bill represents good State-wide policy. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that State park would have. Our state parks are a major driver for the state economy and tourism industry.

While I of course have personal interest in this situation, HB 177 offers a smart and reasonable solution that benefits all the residents of NH and the millions who enjoy its vast natural resources.

There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby state parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise and emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

Phil Bryce, Director of NH Parks and Recreation, has expressed some of these concerns in the DNCR response to the wetlands permit application for the planned project next to Forest Lake State Park.

If you were an Environment and Agriculture Committee member last year - or a House member, you may remember the hearings and floor action on HB 1319. The legislation was reported out of Committee and, on March 12, passed in the House by a vote of 189 to 129. Unfortunately, its consideration in the Senate was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Like HB 1319, the newly introduced HB 177 would amend Section 149-M:9 of NH Revised Statutes.

There are three important improvements in the new bill:

- The legislation excludes the Appalachian Trail, focusing only on New Hampshire's 68 State parks.
- It explicitly exempts municipally-owned waste disposal districts.
- Finally, it makes clear that expansions of existing landfills are exempt.

These three improvements mean that permits for future expansion at Mt. Carberry (Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District or AVRRDD) would be protected. We feel that AVRRDD exemplifies what we feel is the best future for solid waste disposal in New Hampshire, particularly in the North Country, and we look forward to working with the State of New Hampshire towards waste-reduction/diversion efforts to preserve and protect existing and future capacity at existing landfills like Mt. Carberry for New Hampshire-generated waste.

This legislative effort is a common-sense, bi-partisan bill. Edith Tucker (D) is the prime sponsor of HB 177; Timothy Egan (D), William Hatch (D), Dennis Thompson (R) and Larry LaFlamme (D) are co-sponsoring the bill. Senator Erin Hennessey (R) will be the Senate sponsor of the bill when, with your support, it reaches the Senate.

Sincerely,

Scott Baytosh  
Property owner and taxpayer  
521 Forest Lake Rd.  
Dalton, NH 03598

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [Robert Grosholz Jr](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 9:18:18 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Support for HB177 - no landfills within 2 miles  
**Importance:** Normal

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Hello,

I am writing in support of HB177. As a resident of Littleton, I have enjoyed the beauty of the North Country while also hearing about the pollution and noise problems in both Coventry, VT and Bethlehem. Both deal with drinking water issues and large, artificial mountains of trash. NH prides itself in its outdoors and magnificent parks. This bill makes so much sense. Can you imagine visiting a state park in NH and seeing a giant mountain of trash with tractors driving around? Or smelling the foul smell of trash? There is one such project abutting Forest Lake State Park, and it will forever ruin the area. Forest Lake State Park is one of the original NH state parks. From the state beach, you can see Cannon, Lafayette and the Presidentials. I've been everywhere in NH and no other water view can compare. It's absolutely stunning. Without this bill, people won't be able to enjoy that anymore without hearing the grinding of trucks or the foul stench of the dump. Not to mention the gulls and other carrier birds. And what happens if this dump happens? What's next? This bill will at least ensure our state parks stay protected. Please pass this and keep NH amazing.

Bob  
Littleton, NH

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [weetamooc](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 4:24:26 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Please pass HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Environmental and Agricultural Committee members,

I live in southern NH but recreate in many of the state's 68 state parks. I am mortified to hear of the proposed private Casella landfill that would be 3000 ft from a NH state park. And I further understand that 50% of that trash would be trucked in from out of state!

NH needs to be responsible for its own trash, reducing its own trash and recycling its own trash. But cash for trash private landfill companies should not be allowed to bury damaging tons of out of state trash next to our precious state parks.

I urge you to act as our protectors and support this responsible, sensible bill.

Most Gratefully and Respectfully,

Nancy Morrison  
28 Brook Rd, Mont Vernon , NH  
603-930- 8809

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** Wayne Morrison  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 4:21:36 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Please PASS HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee Members,

I write to you today to strongly urge your support to pass HB177.

I have enjoyed and greatly benefitted from the availability and use of State Parks all over New Hampshire. This bill would be a great step toward protecting these precious spaces and ensuring their viability for the next generations to come.

A two mile buffer between State Park lands and any potential new landfill seems like smart legislation and a great investment in protecting one of New Hampshire's most valuable and most valued assets.

Please support and pass HB177!

Thank you for your consideration.

Wayne Morrison  
28 Brook Road  
Mont Vernon, NH 03057  
(603)930-8010

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [Ghioto, Gary](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 4:19:38 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Protect Our State Parks!  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear members of the House Environmental and Agriculture Committee,

Please pass HB 177 and protect our treasured state parks from encroachment from landfill operations. It is imperative that we all work to save our parks for future generations.

This bi-partisan legislation will keep our parks quiet, pristine and safe from noise, odors and other nuisances generated by landfills.

Best,

Gary Ghioto

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



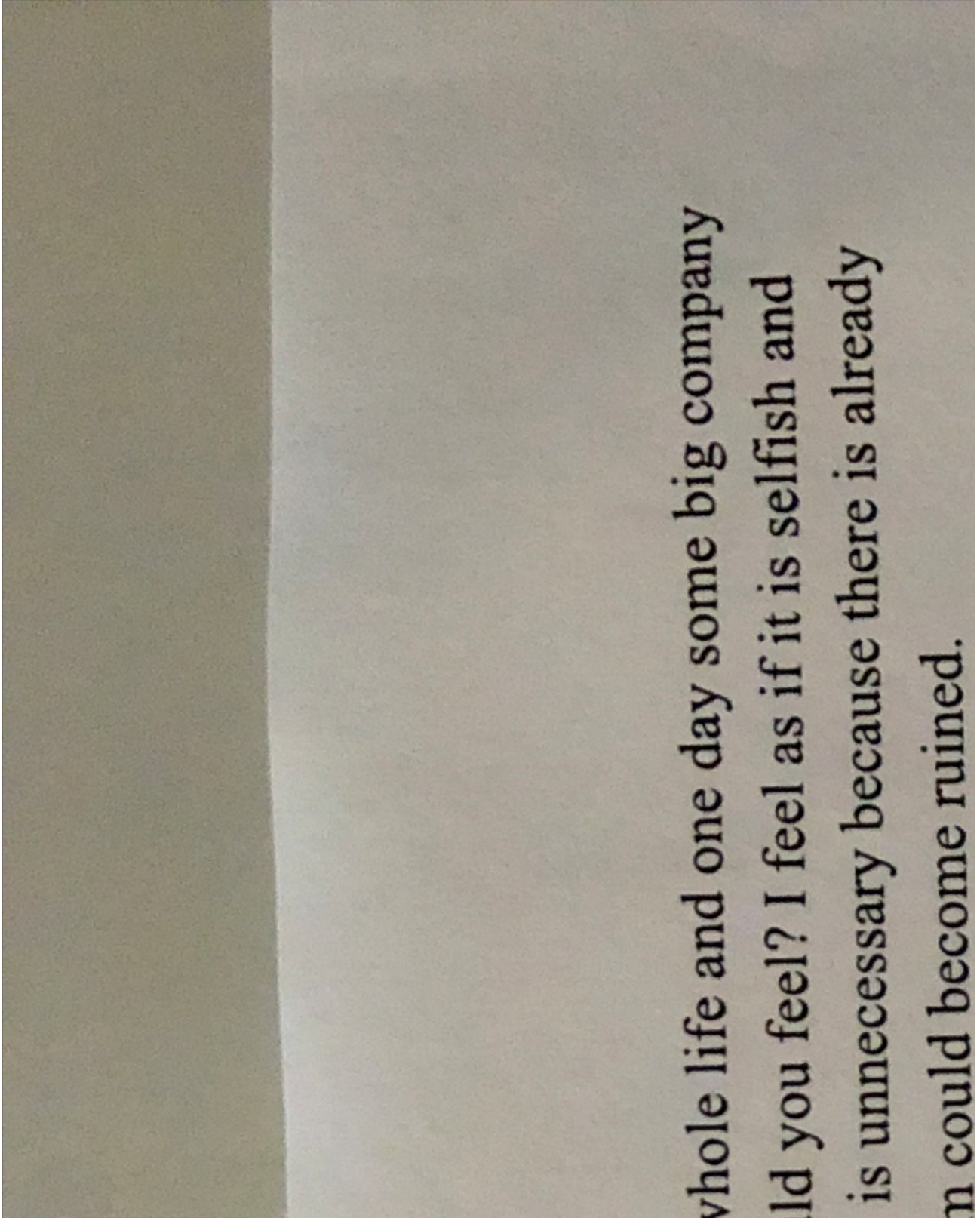
**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** Crystal  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 4:15:27 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Support for HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello,

Please see the attached letter from my 12-year-old daughter regarding supporting HB177. She is specifically concerned that if this does not pass, her favorite place, Forest Lake, will never be the same.

Thank you!





Imagine, you have been going to a forest lake your v  
wants to put a dump right near your precious lake. How wou  
unfair to the people and wildlife that use the lake. The dump  
enough trash there it is unfair to the people and the ecosyste



Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [Cassandra Ricci](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 4:09:21 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** \*URGENT\* VOTE YES ON HB 177!  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Committee Members:

I care deeply about NH's state parks and hope you do too enough to **vote yes on HB 177**. This bill will create a 2-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills. This bill is supported by North Country Alliance for Balanced Change and other grassroots organizations because it is good public policy. It will help protect our state parks from inevitable environmental problems that come from new landfill development. I support North Country Alliance for Balanced Change and other grassroots organizations on HB 177. I want the NH legislature to protect NH's state parks from risky landfill developments.

Reasons I support HB 177 Include: the fact that It will protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills. If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to a treasured state park: alternatives that won't cause so much harm. Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible land uses, and landfills create noxious odors, noise, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls– this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

I encourage you to Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach.

Please, **VOTE YES ON HB 177!**

Sincerely,

Cassandra Ricci

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** Tyler Kicklighter  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 3:57:05 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Please Support HB177!!  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

I write to you today concerning HB 177, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park. We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

Vermont-based Casella Waste Systems is seeking to put a mega landfill near Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park, where more than 60 percent of the proposed landfill trash will be from out of state. The landfill would include the destruction of 18 acres of prime habitat wetlands and tributaries that run into the Ammonoosuc river. Wastewater runoff from a landfill has the potential to permanently damage the lake as well as a variety of rare species of plants, animals, and organisms. Additionally, the toxic odors from the landfill may seriously impact tourism which fuels The North Country of New Hampshire. A mega landfill also has the potential to seriously decrease property values in the surrounding area which may significantly impact New Hampshire's tax revenue. Most importantly, allowing landfills to be built near state parks, national parks, or United States Department of Agriculture forest land sets a precedent that the beautiful state of New Hampshire cares more about profit than the destruction of the environment.

As the virus still rages and air travel remains historically low, Northern New Hampshire has attracted more tourism than ever before. Bill HB 177 is the simplest and fastest way to maintain New Hampshire's commitment to a pristine, bright, future.

If you were an Environment and Agriculture Committee member last year - or a House member, you may remember the hearings and floor action on HB 1319. The legislation was reported out of Committee and, on March 12, passed in the House by a vote of 189 to 129. Unfortunately, its consideration in the Senate was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Like HB 1319, the newly introduced HB 177 would amend Section 149-M:9 of NH Revised Statutes.

There are three important improvements in the new bill:

- The legislation excludes the Appalachian Trail, focusing only on New Hampshire's 68 State parks.
- It explicitly exempts municipally-owned waste disposal districts.
- Finally, it makes clear that expansions of existing landfills are exempt.

These three improvements mean that permits for future expansion at Mt. Carberry (Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District or AVRDD) would be protected. We feel that AVRDD exemplifies what we feel is the best future for solid waste disposal in New Hampshire, particularly in the North Country, and we look forward to working with the State of New Hampshire towards waste-reduction/diversion efforts to preserve and protect existing and future capacity at existing landfills like Mt. Carberry for New Hampshire-generated waste.

This legislative effort is a common-sense, bi-partisan bill. Edith Tucker (D) is the prime sponsor of HB 177; Timothy Egan (D), William Hatch (D), Dennis Thompson (R) and Larry LaFlamme (D) are co-sponsoring the bill. Senator Erin Hennessey (R) will be the Senate sponsor of the bill when, with your support, it reaches the Senate.

Sincerely,

Tyler Kicklighter



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [Alyssa Tower](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 3:53:10 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please support HB 177!!  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

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Sincerely,

Alyssa Tower

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** Crystal Parenteau  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 12:22:17 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Vote Yes on HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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To Whom It May Concern,

I implore you to support HB177, which will protect all New Hampshire's precious state parks from the adverse side effects of nearby landfills. This bill will create a much-needed 2-mile buffer around all of New Hampshire's state parks, ensuring the safety and longevity of land once thought precious enough to be labeled and cared for as state lands.

As you take this bill in consideration, I ask that you think about this quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson:

"Money often costs too much,"

I can't help but think how much it would cost our natural resources if landfills are allowed to make a profit while devaluing the majesty of mountains, lakes, and beaches in the Granite State. The negative impact to these environments are unfathomable and unchangeable for such reasons as:

- Landfills are at a high risk of contaminating nearby lands and waters.
- Landfills attract scavenger animals, like seagulls.
- Landfills create a dangerous environment for nearby ecosystems and the animals, fish, etc that live in them.
- Landfills destroy the serenity and joy found in using state parks with noise, smell, and environmental deterioration (as explained above).

One last thing to remember is the history of New Hampshire's state parks. New Hampshire's Division of Parks and Recreation states: "Publicly-minded citizens gave land with forests and scenery to the state of New Hampshire as early [as] the late 1800 [s]" (<https://www.nhstateparks.org/getmedia/9c44fced-f671-43fd-955a-71757f20a6ca/Appendix-15-State-Park-History.pdf>).

The very people who donated lands to New Hampshire were doing so with the mind of giving to their communities lands that could be enjoyed by all. State parks benefit all New Hampshire residents. New landfills that put these local treasures at risk benefit only a few, and only monetarily so. It is despicable.

Finally, I am a Massachusetts resident, but have been enjoying the wonderful natural resources that New Hampshire has to offer for 20 years. My in-laws live feet away from Forest Lake, and it is a second home to us. It is a place of peace and family connection. I cannot imagine that being destroyed.

Thank you for your time,

Crystal Parenteau  
42 Kennedy Circle  
South Easton, MA 02375

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [JON WALKER](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 11:43:11 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Hello  
**Importance:** Normal

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Hello - my name is Jon Walker and my family has had a home on Forest Lake since 1976.

- We support HB 177 because it will protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills.
- If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to Forest Lake State Park, alternatives that won't cause so much harm.
- Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible land uses.
- Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach.
- Landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, and are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

Thanks

Jon Walker  
Newell Lane  
Forest Lake

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [Traci Wagner](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 6:08:21 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Forest lake state park versus dump  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

I write to you today concerning HB 177, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park. We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

I live full-time on Forest Lake. I enjoy daily walks across the lake when frozen in the winter and in the woods surrounding the lake year round . The impact on these quiet, beautiful, reflective walks with a noisy, smelly, landfill looming in the background will be devastating and irrevocable. Study after study shows how physical and mental health is improved by time in nature. Our state parks should remain a haven for this activity.

Environmentally this project endangers our water quality and our air quality. This impacts the humans living around the lake but also the health of the wildlife and plant life. The chemical contamination from a for profit dump in this pristine area cannot be undone. This project affects our children and grandchildren's health.

There are far more suitable areas to put a dump so that free enterprise may continue without disrupting what people come to this area for- clean air, mountains, fresh water lakes and gorgeous views.

This legislation began as part of the campaign against a planned private landfill right next to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. If built, the private landfill would pose an existential threat to both. Although HB 177 and its predecessor were originally envisioned to further the fight against this private landfill, we have come to believe that such a bill represents good State-wide policy. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that State park would have. Our state parks are a major driver for the state economy and tourism industry.

There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby state parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise and emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

Please reference a letter from Phil Bryce, Director of NH Parks and Recreation, who expresses some of these concerns in the DNCR response to the wetlands permit application for the planned project next to Forest Lake State Park.

If you were an Environment and Agriculture Committee member last year - or a House member, you may remember the hearings and floor action on HB 1319. The legislation was reported out of Committee and, on March 12, passed in the House by a vote of 189 to 129. Unfortunately, its consideration in the Senate was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

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Small towns in New Hampshire due not have the budget to fight big corporations once a problem occurs. I know some are lured to grab at this for the quick pay off. But the long term impact both environmentally and financially may be catastrophic. We need support from the state to prevent this outcome.

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Sincerely,

Traci Wagner, MD



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** Jen Hurley  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 10:20:58 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Forest Lake HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

I write to you today concerning HB 177, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park. We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

This legislation began as part of the campaign against a planned private landfill right next to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. If built, the private landfill would pose an existential threat to both. Although HB 177 and its predecessor were originally envisioned to further the fight against this private landfill, we have come to believe that such a bill represents good State-wide policy. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that State park would have. Our state parks are a major driver for the state economy and tourism industry.

There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby state parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise and emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

I have attached a letter from Phil Bryce, Director of NH Parks and Recreation, who expresses some of these concerns in the DNCR response to the wetlands permit application for the planned project next to Forest Lake State Park.

If you were an Environment and Agriculture Committee member last year - or a House member, you may remember the hearings and floor action on HB 1319. The legislation was reported out of Committee and, on March 12, passed in the House by a vote of 189 to 129. Unfortunately, its consideration in the Senate was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

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Sincerely,

Jen Hurley

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** Sue Zielinski  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 4:49:35 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Support for HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

We are writing today to encourage you to support HB 177, which would establish a 2-mile setback from any State Park for a landfill by prohibiting NH DES from issuing a permit. This bill will likely be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021. Our state parks are a major driver for the state economy and tourism industry, so siting a landfill on the border of any State Park runs counter to the interests of all in the state.

Forest Lake State Park is in danger of having a landfill built on its border that would potentially pollute the lake, groundwater, and the nearby Ammonoosuc River, create foul odors wafting over the State Park beach, threaten the lake with bird droppings that will bring on cyanobacteria blooms, and create nuisance noise from the operation of trucks at the park. It's hard to imagine anyone enjoying the beach or the lake under these conditions! The landfill will be quite visible from the lake when it's built up. Further, the traffic that would be created from giant trash tractor trailers would be a safety issue for local residents and nearby towns.

Forest Lake State Park is a prime location for a new campground - the land stretches back from the beach into the hills and is quite lovely and peaceful. There's abundant wildlife and potentially endangered bat habitat in the hills as well. The Parks department wants to build such a campground, but it's impossible to imagine pitching a tent that close to an active landfill. Forest Lake State Park, one of the oldest in the NH system, is a peaceful, wooded oasis that generations have enjoyed since 1935. A beach in the North Country is a rare and wondrous thing worthy of our protection, for our enjoyment and for future generations. How can we let a landfill ruin it for generations to come?

There is simply no justification for this project other than for Casella to line its pockets bringing in out-of-state trash. There are other options they can explore. Local towns have other options like Mt. Carberry for trash disposal.

Dear Republican and Libertarian leaning candidates: approving this bill affirms that the right to private enterprise ends where my rights to clean water and air begin. Local residents' property values will no doubt nosedive if this landfill were to be built. Who knows what will end up polluting local wells? This bill is not anti-business. It is about protecting the rights of citizens against the pollution created by big business.

This legislative effort is a common-sense, bi-partisan bill. Edith Tucker (D) is the prime sponsor of HB 177; Timothy Egan (D), William Hatch (D), Dennis Thompson (R) and Larry LaFlamme (D) are co-sponsoring the bill. Senator Erin Hennessey (R) will be the Senate sponsor of the bill when, with your support, it reaches the Senate.

Sincerely,

Susan Zielinski and Michael Glazner  
Concord, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:40 AM  
**From:** [Marti Faulkner](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 2:41:47 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Yes on HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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A toxic landfill next to Hampton Beach, or Franconia Notch, or Forest Lake? I can't imagine anything worse for tourists or property values. That's why you must vote yes on HB 177. One giant landfill in the north county is already hurting the area, another would be a huge mistake. Our state parks are too valuable to allow them to be compromised for purpose of landfill use. Please consider the cost and vote yes on HB 177.  
Thanks for the work that you do,  
Marti Faulkner and Ed Tomashek

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** Meredith Stevens  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 2:00:10 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Support HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Good Afternoon,

I am writing to you today in support of HB 177. I have summered on the shores of New Hampshire my entire life, traveling from California throughout my youth to our summer home on Lake Winnepesaukee. I currently live in Massachusetts and not only enjoy our summer home but now enjoy the beautiful mountains for hiking, running, and skiing and having married surfer enjoy the beaches. I attended Brewster Academy which uses the Lake Winnepesaukee as well as the mountains from the sailing team to the ski team. I can't imagine any of the beautiful land that people seek out from out of state having a landfill within a proximity that may contaminate the beauty and wildlife. I look forward to road races, swimming, eating and shopping locally in New Hampshire this summer and more to come. I want to climb Mt. Washington again, run Ragnar in NH, the Mt. Washington road races is the last on my bucket list, paddle board, surf, and in general play in the natural beauty of New Hampshire without the thoughts of what a near by landfill is doing to the birds, fish, air, and general health of the environment. Now more than ever people are seeking the great outdoors and in supporting HB 177 you will not only support the health of the environment but the mental and physical health of those in your communities and those who seek out and spend monies in your communities while enjoying nature. Nothing is better than a good meal from a local establishment after running in the woods, swimming all day, paddleboard across the lake, after a day of skiing, hiking, or shopping all day. Please support HB 177 and preserve the New Hampshire, which has always been my second home, I grew up enjoying.

Thank you,

Meredith Stevens

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [Danielle Feltman](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 1:50:17 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Hello all,


I am writing this message because I care deeply about our state parks and I hope you do too enough to vote yes on HB 177. This bill will create a 2-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills. This bill is supported by the NCABC and other grassroots organizations because it is good public policy. I am asking the NH legislature to please protect NH's state parks from risky landfill developments.

Landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Best,  
Danielle Feltman



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [Emelyn Gilmore](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 1:14:29 PM  
**To:** ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Bill HB 177 --> Protecting our State Parks and Forest Lake:  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
[viewscape 400x with family and seagulls.jpg](#) 

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**Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:**

we write to you today concerning HB 177, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park. We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

This legislation began as part of the campaign against a planned private landfill right next to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. If built, the private landfill would pose an existential threat to both. Although HB 177 and its predecessor were originally envisioned to further the fight against this private landfill, we have come to believe that such a bill represents good State-wide policy. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that State park would have. Our state parks are a major driver for the state economy and tourism industry.

There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby state parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise and emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

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**These three improvements mean that permits for future expansion at Mt. Carberry (Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District or AVRDD) would be protected. We feel that AVRDD exemplifies what we feel is the best future for solid waste disposal in New Hampshire, particularly in the North Country, and we look forward to working with the State of New Hampshire towards waste-reduction/diversion efforts to preserve and protect existing and future capacity at existing landfills like Mt. Carberry for New Hampshire-generated waste.**

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**Sincerely,  
Emelyn and William H. Gilmore  
Littleton, New Hampshire**

*Do not allow this proposed development to scar the beautiful landscape of the North  
Country for generations to come*

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [Diana Doucette](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 12:59:40 PM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please pass bill HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee Members:

**Please** protect New Hampshire's state parks throughout the state by passing bill HB 177.

- I support HB 177 because it will protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills.
- If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to Forest Lake State Park, alternatives that won't cause so much harm.
- Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible land uses.
- Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach.
- Landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, and are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

I love living in New Hampshire where there is beauty in the landscapes and waters, fresh air, recreation and renewal in our precious state parks.

I pray we don't lose that.

Thank you,  
Diana Doucette  
W. Chesterfield, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [alison dodd](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 12:34:04 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Importance:** Normal

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There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby state parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise and emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

I have attached a letter from Phil Bryce, Director of NH Parks and Recreation, who expresses some of these concerns in the DNCR response to the wetlands permit application for the planned project next to Forest Lake State Park.

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This legislative effort is a common-sense, bi-partisan bill. Edith Tucker (D) is the prime sponsor of HB 177; Timothy Egan (D), William Hatch (D), Dennis Thompson (R) and Larry LaFlamme (D) are co-sponsoring the bill. Senator Erin Hennessey (R) will be the Senate sponsor of the bill when, with your support, it reaches the Senate.

Sincerely,

Alison Dodd


**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** Zoey Sermon  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 12:30:13 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Stop the Landfill  
**Importance:** Normal

---

We support HB 177 because it will protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills. If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to a treasured state park: alternatives that won't cause so much harm. Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible land uses. Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach. Landfills create noxious odors, noise, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls— this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

I care deeply about NH's state parks and hope you do too enough to **vote yes on HB 177**. This bill will create a 2-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills. This bill is supported by NCABC and other grassroots organizations because it is good public policy. It will help protect our state parks from inevitable environmental problems that come from new landfill development. I support NCABC and other grassroots organizations on HB 177. I want the NH legislature to protect NH's state parks from risky landfill developments.



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [John Sutliffe](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 11:49:13 AM  
**To:** ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Protect NH State Park from landfills!  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
[DES Forest Lake 1.12.21 - NH Parks and Recreation.pdf](#) 

---

Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

I hope this note finds you well. I'm compelled to write to you today concerning HB 177, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park. We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

This legislation began as part of the campaign against a planned private landfill right next to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. I own a home on Forest Lake at 30 Memory Lane in Whitefield, NH. If built, the private landfill would pose an existential threat to both the lake, state park, and my property. Although HB 177 and its predecessor were originally envisioned to further the fight against this private landfill, we have come to believe that such a bill represents good State-wide policy. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that State park would have. Our state parks are a major driver for the state economy and tourism industry.

There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby state parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise and emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

I have attached a letter from Phil Bryce, Director of NH Parks and Recreation, who expresses some of these concerns in the DNCR response to the wetlands permit application for the planned project next to Forest Lake State Park.

If you were an Environment and Agriculture Committee member last year - or a House member, you may remember the hearings and floor action on HB 1319. The legislation was reported out of Committee and, on March 12, passed in the House by a vote of 189 to 129. Unfortunately, its consideration in the Senate was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Like HB 1319, the newly introduced HB 177 would amend Section 149-M:9 of NH Revised Statutes.

There are three important improvements in the new bill:

- The legislation excludes the Appalachian Trail, focusing only on New Hampshire's 68 State parks.
- It explicitly exempts municipally-owned waste disposal districts.
- Finally, it makes clear that expansions of existing landfills are exempt.

These three improvements mean that permits for future expansion at Mt. Carberry (Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District or AVRDD) would be protected. We feel that AVRDD exemplifies what we feel is the best future for solid waste disposal in New Hampshire, particularly in the North Country, and we look forward to working with the State of New Hampshire towards waste-reduction/diversion efforts to preserve and protect existing and future capacity at existing landfills like Mt. Carberry for New Hampshire-generated waste.

This legislative effort is a common-sense, bi-partisan bill. Edith Tucker (D) is the prime sponsor of HB 177; Timothy Egan (D), William Hatch (D), Dennis Thompson (R) and Larry LaFlamme (D) are co-sponsoring the bill. Senator Erin Hennessey (R) will be the Senate sponsor of the bill when, with your support, it reaches the Senate.

Best Regards,

John and Colleen Sutcliffe  
30 Memory Lane  
Whitefield, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [Jennifer Curran-Wage](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 11:29:21 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** I support HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern:

HB177 will serve to protect ALL state parks from the hazards of a new neighboring dump from being developed.

Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach.

Landfills create noxious odors, noise, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls— this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

I care deeply about NH's state parks and hope you do too enough to **vote yes on HB 177**. This bill will create a 2-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills. This bill is supported by NCABC and other grassroots organizations because it is good public policy. It will help protect our state parks from inevitable environmental problems that come from new landfill development. I support NCABC and other grassroots organizations on HB 177. I want the NH legislature to protect NH's state parks from risky landfill developments.

Cordially,  
JCW

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [Nonna Druker](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 11:01:56 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** support HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern:

I support HB 177 because it will protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills.

If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to Forest Lake State Park, alternatives that won't cause so much harm.

Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible with land uses. Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park-like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach.

Landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, and are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

Sincerely,  
Nonna Druker

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [Kat Mazzone](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 10:37:37 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please protect our state parks  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello all,

I am writing this message because I care deeply about our state parks and I hope you do too enough to vote yes on HB 177. This bill will create a 2-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills. This bill is supported by the NCABC and other grassroots organizations because it is good public policy. I am asking the NH legislature to please protect NH's state parks from risky landfill developments.

Landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Best regards,  
Kat Mazzone

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [chris walker](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 10:32:07 AM  
**To:** ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote YES on HB 177!!  
**Importance:** Normal

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To whom it may concern -

My family has owned a cabin on a lake in NH for almost 50 years. We have completed generational transitions for this property and excited for our kids and grandkids to use in perpetuity given the wonderful memories created over many decades.

Because of some recent developments and proposals around our property (Whitefield NH), we have come to know about HB177.

We support HB 177 because it will protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills. If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to Forest Lake State Park, alternatives that won't cause so much harm.

Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible land uses. Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach.

Landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, and are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

Tourism is incredibly important to the state and I imagine that it would pale in comparison to short sighted and short term needs to bring in large corporations pushing landfills that bring in garbage from neighboring states to dump near New Hampshire's most important treasures. We see too many incidents across the US where legislation could have prevented massive and obvious blunders that affect not only state revenues and tourism but more importantly, sickness and loss of lives given proximity to areas where people live and play.

Please make this a priority for your committee as this would be a win win in the long run.

Regards,

Chris walker  
32 Newell Lane  
Whitefield NH 03598



**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [STEPHEN WALKER](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 10:25:05 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Please vote YES on HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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To Whom it May Concern,

I fully support HB 177. I feel we need this to protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills and other companies who feel they can bully their way in because they have deep pockets.

If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to Forest Lake State Park, alternatives that won't cause so much harm. Given that this landfill will be visible from ANYWHERE, let alone from the Lake, is a travesty. How can this be justified?!

Additionally, landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, and are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks or the residents that live downwind.

Please move this bill forward, stop this threat to our region, and just do what is clearly right by getting this into law and telling Casella that they don't own New Hampshire.

Thank you,

Stephen Walker  
Forest Lake Resident  
Whitefield, NH

PS: I was the creator of the Forest Lake video: <https://youtu.be/WqZlZbkYpAg>

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** Kris  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 10:24:25 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

I write to you today concerning HB 177, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park. We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

This legislation began as part of the campaign against a planned private landfill right next to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. If built, the private landfill would pose an existential threat to both. Although HB 177 and its predecessor were originally envisioned to further the fight against this private landfill, we have come to believe that such a bill represents good State-wide policy. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that State park would have. Our state parks are a major driver for the state economy and tourism industry.

There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby state parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise and emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

I have attached a letter from Phil Bryce, Director of NH Parks and Recreation, who expresses some of these concerns in the DNCR response to the wetlands permit application for the planned project next to Forest Lake State Park.

If you were an Environment and Agriculture Committee member last year - or a House member, you may remember the hearings and floor action on HB 1319. The legislation was reported out of Committee and, on March 12, passed in the House by a vote of 189 to 129. Unfortunately, its consideration in the Senate was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Like HB 1319, the newly introduced HB 177 would amend Section 149-M:9 of NH Revised Statutes.

There are three important improvements in the new bill:

- The legislation excludes the Appalachian Trail, focusing only on New Hampshire's 68 State parks.
- It explicitly exempts municipally-owned waste disposal districts.
- Finally, it makes clear that expansions of existing landfills are exempt.

These three improvements mean that permits for future expansion at Mt. Carberry (Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District or AVRDD) would be protected. We feel that AVRDD exemplifies what we feel is the best future for solid waste disposal in New Hampshire, particularly in the North Country, and we look forward to working with the State of New Hampshire towards waste-reduction/diversion efforts to preserve and protect existing and future capacity at existing landfills like Mt. Carberry for New Hampshire-generated waste.

This legislative effort is a common-sense, bi-partisan bill. Edith Tucker (D) is the prime sponsor of HB 177; Timothy Egan (D), William Hatch (D), Dennis Thompson (R) and Larry LaFlamme (D) are co-sponsoring the bill. Senator Erin Hennessey (R) will be the Senate sponsor of the bill when, with your support, it reaches the Senate.

Sincerely,

Kristin Ruocco  
Wolfeboro NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [Marghie Seymour](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 10:16:00 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Landfills and State Parks - Support HB 177!  
**Importance:** Normal

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Good morning, all.

I am writing to urge your support of HB 177, a bill intended to keep new solid waste landfills away from our beautiful state parks. Please stand up for our parks and our rights as citizens to have nature and the beautiful outdoors in peace, quiet, and New Hampshire's clean air!

Thank you,

Marghie Seymour, Littleton

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** [Kim Tower](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 8:42:29 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** IMPORTANT: Vote YES on HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Hello all,

I am writing this message because I care deeply about our state parks and I hope you do too enough to vote yes on HB 177. This bill will create a 2-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills. This bill is supported by the NCABC and other grassroots organizations because it is good public policy. I am asking the NH legislature to please protect NH's state parks from risky landfill developments.

Landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Best regards,  
Kim Tower

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** Fawn Langerman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 4:57:35 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** NH resident in support of HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Hello,

I am a full time resident of NH and I moved heaven and earth to live here one year ago (January 2020) so as to live and hike in the mountains that I have loved my entire life.

The following is my request:

I support HB 177 because it will protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills. If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to a treasured state park: alternatives that won't cause so much harm. Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible land uses. Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach. Landfills create noxious odors, noise, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls— this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

"I care deeply about NH's state parks and hope you do too enough to **vote yes on HB 177**. This bill will create a 2-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills. This bill is supported by NCABC and other grassroots organizations because it is good public policy. It will help protect our state parks from inevitable environmental problems that come from new landfill development. I support NCABC and other grassroots organizations on HB 177. I want the NH legislature to protect NH's state parks from risky landfill developments

I copied and pasted the above text, because the North Country Alliance for Balanced Change said it a whole lot more succinctly than I could

Please consider this request. Thank you.

Fawn Langerman, MD



222 Grove Street

North Conway NH 03860

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM  
**From:** THOMAS TOWER  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021 8:44:03 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Please Support HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear members of the Environmental and Agricultural committee,

I support HB 177 because it will protect all NH state parks from encroachment by landfills. If and when additional landfill capacity is needed in NH, there are lots of alternatives to a new landfill right next to Forest Lake State Park, alternatives that won't cause so much harm. Landfills and recreation in state parks are not compatible land uses. Imagine how your constituents would feel if you allowed a landfill to be sited right next to a state park in your district, or a popular state park like Monadnock, or Franconia Notch, or Hampton Beach.

Landfills create noxious odors, risk contaminating surface water and groundwater, are magnets for scavenger animals like seagulls-- this is not what we want for our NH state parks.

I care deeply about our state parks and I hope you do too enough to vote yes on HB 177. This bill will create a 2-mile buffer around all of NH's state parks to protect them from new landfills. This bill is supported by the NCABC and other grassroots organizations because it is good public policy. I am asking the NH legislature to please protect NH's state parks from risky landfill developments.

Best regards,  
Tom Tower - Whitefield, NH

**Archived:** Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:57:41 AM

**From:** Save Forest Lake

**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2021 4:43:47 PM







**To:** sarah.stewart@dncr.nh.gov; Philip Bryce; Patrick Hackley

**Cc:** Craig Rennie; wetlandsapplicationpubliccomments@des.nh.gov; Thomas O'Donovan; Mike Wimsatt; Robert Scott; Pamela Hoyt-Denison; Jaime Colby; Alex Thompson; Philip Beaulieu; Governor Sununu; Joseph Kenney; Erin Hennessey; Troy Merner; jd1285@plymouth.edu; simonsmkt@gmail.com; Linda Massimilla; Tim Egan; Denny Ruprecht; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; Edith Tucker; Larry Laflamme; William Hatch; Dennis Thompson; Selectmen; Planning Board; jsavage@forestsociety.org; rpage@act-nh.org; Michelle Moren-Grey; Tom Brady; Linda Lauer; barbara@nhacc.org; taylor.caswell@nh.gov

**Subject:** Please Protect Forest Lake State Park/HB177

**Importance:** Normal

**Attachments:**

Existing Condition Viewshed.PNG  Phase III Full Development Viewshed.PNG  Close Up 400X Full Development Phase III SE FL Viewscape Baytosh House.PNG  Viewscape 400x with nces top rendering.jpg  Viewscape 400x with family and seagulls.jpg  SSL Viewshed Analysis and Renderings Jan 21.pdf 

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Good Afternoon Commissioner Stewart, Director Bryce, and Director Hackley:

I felt compelled to share my analysis of the "Viewshed Analysis" submitted by Casella Waste Systems to NHDES Wetlands Bureau on January 15, 2021. The first photo attached is from page 14 of the report, where Casella took a photo of the **current** viewshed of the proposed landfill site from the public boat launch at Forest Lake State Park. The 2nd attached photo is from page 17 of the report, yellow arrows are mine, highlighting the green blobs being the parts of the landfill as seen some years in the future (the landfill is seeking a 38-year timespan in permitted capacity life).

The 3rd attachment is a 400x view of the page 17 photo, which depicts a more invasive and closer view of the landfill upon completion as represented from the center of the lake. Attachment 4 is my photoshop work, the same center of the lake view, with a photoshopped pic from a view from afar of the NCES landfill in Bethlehem, late summer 2020. As you can see, it is quite different having actual imagery from a working landfill vs benign green blobs. The 5th and last photo is simply the same with seagulls added over the working landfill and what the view would likely be for a family boating in the center of the lake. I do not think visitors would come back upon seeing/smelling and learning that a landfill is only 3000 feet away from the water's edge. I have also attached the 17-page viewshed analysis pdf.

I am certain that you would agree that the ultimate loss of Forest Lake State Park and our wonderful, yet delicate lake, to an unnecessary and unwanted landfill development, would be unconscionable and a huge blow to the North Country. It should also be noted that Casella Waste Systems has long been telling Dalton residents via mailers and their propagandistic website, DaltonFacts.com, that the landfill would not be visible, that the ridgeline and natural landscape would shield the landfill footprint and the nuisances associated with it. Now we've just discovered that this is not true at all, especially if one lives on the lake or uses the lake.

I do hope NHDNCR will do everything in its power to stop this ridiculous proposal from becoming our collective nightmare, and one for generations to follow to be left with as our legacy of failure to protect our most precious natural resources and our environment from further degradation.

All of our NH State Parks need to be protected from the nuisance posed by an adjacent landfill. With that being said, I hope you will support NH BH177, which would create a 2-mile setback from a state park for such a development. Today, it's Dalton and Forest Lake State Park. Tomorrow, it could be somewhere else.

HB177 info: <https://legiscan.com/NH/bill/HB177/2021>

Thank You!

Jon Swan  
25 Cashman Rd  
Dalton, NH 03598  
(603) 991-2078  
Founder, [Save Forest Lake](#)  
[#StopNorthernTrash!](#)

*Do not allow this proposed development to scar the beautiful landscape of the North  
Country for generations to come*

**Archived:** Monday, February 1, 2021 3:01:34 PM  
**From:** David Wilson  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 11:28:59 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** HB177  
**Importance:** Normal

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to Testify on

## NH House Remote Sign In Sheet

### Select Date of the Hearing

February 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13

### Select the Committee

House Environment and Agriculture

### Choose the Bill

1:00 pm - HB177

I am:

A Member of the Public

I'm Representing: Save Forest Lake

### Indicate Your Position on this Bill

I Support this Bill  I Oppose this Bill  I'm neutral on this Bill

### Testify

I Wish to Speak on this Bill

### Your Selection

Date: 2/3/2021

Committee: House Environment and Agriculture

Legislation: 1:00 pm - HB177

I Am: A Member of the Public

Representing: Save Forest Lake

I am in **SUPPORT** of this Bill

January 28, 2021

Dear House Environment and Agriculture Committee members:

I write to you today concerning HB 177, which is a simple bill that would prohibit NH DES from permitting any new private landfill if any part of the planned solid waste disposal area is within two miles of the boundary of any New Hampshire State park. We expect this bill to be heard before your Committee at 1:00 on Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

This legislation began as part of the campaign against a planned private landfill right next to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. If built, the private landfill would pose an existential threat to both. Although HB 177 and its predecessor were originally envisioned to further the fight against this private landfill, we have come to believe that such a bill represents good State-wide policy. Many of you have state parks in or near your districts, and you can probably imagine the effect a landfill right next to that State park would have. Our state parks are a major driver for the state economy and tourism industry.

There are many reasons to create a two-mile buffer, but mitigation of odor is probably the most important. In other similarly-situated landfills, odor complaints, and lawsuits, have come from citizens as far as five to seven miles away from the solid waste disposal area. We feel that a two-mile buffer is a reasonable compromise that balances the protection of NH State parks with the property rights of adjacent landowners.

Other landfill issues that could affect nearby state parks include scavenger birds and animals, blowing trash, noise and emissions from trucks and machinery, and heavy traffic from trucks delivering to the landfill. In the case of state parks with lakes, streams, and wetlands, a nearby landfill could contaminate surface water and groundwater, and seriously affect enjoyment of the Park.

I have a personal attachment to Forest Lake State Park, as members of my family either owned property around the lake or worked at the State Park over the years. It is a special place that needs these protections for future generations to enjoy. The Town of Dalton stepped up and took over the management of the beach area which shows the commitment of the local population to Forest Lake.

If you were an Environment and Agriculture Committee member last year - or a House member, you may remember the hearings and floor action on HB 1319. The legislation was reported out of Committee and, on March 12, passed in the House by a vote of 189



to 129. Unfortunately, its consideration in the Senate was halted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Like HB 1319, the newly introduced HB 177 would amend Section 149-M: 9 of NH Revised Statutes.

There are three important improvements in the new bill:

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- Finally, it makes clear that expansions of existing landfills are exempt.


These three improvements mean that permits for future expansion at Mt. Carberry (Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District or AVRDD) would be protected. We feel that AVRDD exemplifies what we feel is the best future for solid waste disposal in New Hampshire, particularly in the North Country, and we look forward to working with the State of New Hampshire towards waste-reduction/diversion efforts to preserve and protect existing and future capacity at existing landfills like Mt. Carberry for New Hampshire-generated waste.

This legislative effort is a common-sense, bi-partisan bill. Edith Tucker (D) is the prime sponsor of HB 177; Timothy Egan (D), William Hatch (D), Dennis Thompson (R) and Larry LaFlamme (D) are co-sponsoring the bill. Senator Erin Hennessey (R) will be the Senate sponsor of the bill when, with your support, it reaches the Senate.

Sincerely,



Steven Plant  
Franconia, NH  
slplant@roadrunner.com

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:20:11 PM  
**From:** John Elliott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:44:44 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony on NH HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:** Scan\_Doc0521.pdf ;

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Thank you

John Elliott

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JFE Transport, LLC  
12 Scotch Pine Rd.  
Canterbury, NH 03224  
603-783-8050  
JFETransport@tds.net

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This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.

[https://us-east-2.protection.sophos.com?  
d=avg.com&u=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYXZnLmNvbQ==&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzlxNzcxMzJhMTEw&t  
=QjIiWUjIwUnZwM0RqaUNKNUNtPMGpqbWpKYIZaR245Mm5wREdieDhwSnA1TT0=&h=  
3fcbe2384be547929688f295afef6e84](https://us-east-2.protection.sophos.com?d=avg.com&u=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYXZnLmNvbQ==&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzlxNzcxMzJhMTEw&t=QjIiWUjIwUnZwM0RqaUNKNUNtPMGpqbWpKYIZaR245Mm5wREdieDhwSnA1TT0=&h=3fcbe2384be547929688f295afef6e84)

**Archived:** Friday, February 5, 2021 12:02:13 PM  
**From:** [Alex Koutroubas](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2021 11:11:55 AM  
**To:** [~House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Landfill Bill  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear E&A Committee:

I'm representing the American Council of Engineering Companies of New Hampshire. We are an association of about 75 engineering firms who employ over 1500 NH residents. These firms are engaged in a wide range of both public and private engineering projects.

We are strongly opposed to HB 177 for a variety of reasons, all of which were outlined in a letter emailed to the committee.

Despite many attempts the **Northern Pass** transmission project was not stopped by a bill signed by the Governor. It was stopped by trusting the process set up to approve a project such as the northern pass.

The same can be said for the **Kinder Morgan Pipeline**, although that project was withdrawn, legislative bills to derail that project were rejected. For example, in 2019, under chairman **Bob Backus**, Rep. Kenneth Vincent wrote for the 17-2 majority of the Science & Tech committee: "The committee believes this bill to be impractical and unwarranted. The Site Evaluation Committee was set up for a reason. To allow this bill to pass would undermine that committee"

Just as this bill seeks to undermine the regulatory process set up to site a landfill in this state.

We know from the sponsors comments that this bill is a preemptive strike against one project.

In addition, this bill sets up a double standard. One for a private landfill and one for a public landfill.

Finally, solid waste has been and continues to be an issue that is managed regionally. The management of solid waste does not stop at a state line. For example, NH currently has no facility to recycle materials like plastics and glass. NH sends lots of recyclables out of state. If other states begin to say that we are longer going to take NH recyclables such as dirty plastics and glass that are expensive to recycle this could create serious problems for NH cities and towns. You can read more about this in a recent Concord Monitor article that talked about the closing of a glass recycling and bottle factory in Massachusetts.

Please reject this bill.

**Alex Koutroubas**

[ACEC-NH](#)

*Executive Director*

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[https://www.caledonianrecord.com/news/local/landfill-fight-in-dalton-voters-approve-temporary-emergency-zoning/article\\_5e254a01-3816-54f3-9b99-2dbfe7c5a9e0.html](https://www.caledonianrecord.com/news/local/landfill-fight-in-dalton-voters-approve-temporary-emergency-zoning/article_5e254a01-3816-54f3-9b99-2dbfe7c5a9e0.html)

# Landfill Fight In Dalton: Voters Approve Temporary Emergency Zoning

Robert Blechl  
Aug 1, 2019



Dalton resident Mike Budasch was one of several residents turning out to a recent public information session in Dalton h Casella Waste Systems to protest the company's proposed landfill near Forest Lake. (Photo by Robert Blechl)

Dalton residents, in a first-of-its-kind vote for the town, voted 154-129 on Tuesday to adopt

temporary emergency zoning in response to the 180-acre Casella Waste Systems landfill proposed near Forest Lake.

The fight, though, between a company and the Dalton residents who want no zoning and the residents who seek it to give them some control over a landfill in their community, is far from finished, and the next battleground could be over the candidates seeking to serve on the new zoning board that will be appointed by the Dalton Board of Selectmen.

On Wednesday, the leader of one landfill opposition group, Save Forest Lake, said he was happy with the vote, but said much work remains.

“We’re definitely pleased with the result in light of the fact that Casella lobbied so hard and spread so much misinformation, or attempted to, in the community,” said Jon Swan. “It’s definitely a big victory ... But we’re not resting on our laurels on this one. This is a battle in the war and we have many things we want to do. I feel we can do better than Casella in the North Country.”

The next step for SFL, the North Country Alliance for Balanced Change and other opponents is to take the fight against a landfill to the regional level, as communities did against Northern Pass, he said.

“We’re looking to continue and expand that collaboration,” said Swan. “It’s definitely a development of regional impact and we’re looking to expand the reach and involve more people and legislators.”

Waste is a problem, but those collaborating will also look at solutions, such as developing a



municipal waste district that would make sense for New Hampshire, said Swan.

More than one third of the waste imported to Casella's landfill in Bethlehem - slated to close in about five years - is from out of state.

"I think Casella's capacity shortage is not New Hampshire's shortage," he said. "The more they import from out of state the more money they make and that is not to our benefit. We need to find solutions to this and it doesn't involve Casella. We need to take responsibility for our own trash."

The groups also plan to do baseline water testing for Forest Lake, nearby waterways like Alder Brook, and for private wells in the area to put Casella "on notice" and develop baselines against possible future contamination from a landfill, he said.

Until Tuesday's vote, Dalton had been among the 2 percent of municipalities in New Hampshire that have no zoning ordinance.

Going forward, the town has two options - continue with temporary emergency zoning for another year and a half, after which it expires, or adopt a permanent zoning ordinance at town meeting.

"The plan is for the planning board in essence to craft zoning around their master plan and what the citizens of Dalton want to protect the rural character of Dalton," said Swan. "It will not be anything crazy and the citizens of Dalton will have to vote on it. I think they will see that common sense wins the day."

Casella expects to file a formal application for a landfill in Dalton in three to six years, Casella

spokesman Joe Fusco said Wednesday.

Zoning advocates say zoning should be in place before Casella files its application because an application filed before zoning is adopted could nullify any zoning ordinance relating to a landfill because it would then be grandfathered in.

Fusco was asked how Casella, which is telling residents on a web site and in a direct mailer that zoning infringes on their property rights and prohibits economic development, will be responding to those Dalton residents and the chairs of the planning and zoning boards who say an ordinance can be crafted to not impact existing businesses and properties and can accommodate new uses such as home businesses.

“It is indisputable that zoning ordinances impair property rights,” said Fusco. “That is their purpose. They give the municipality the power to regulate the uses to which people can put their property. Casella does business in many communities with zoning, and the company has the resources to understand and navigate the ordinances. Other property owners without those resources will have greater difficulty.”

Dalton certainly could draft and adopt a zoning ordinance that would avoid many of the pitfalls of temporary zoning, but the question the company has been asking is why everyone in town should have to live with those pitfalls until the town adopts an ordinance that fits Dalton, he said.

As for the company’s proposed landfill, Fusco said, “We look forward to continued dialogue with the town of Dalton and the state of New Hampshire on a potential solution to securing long-term disposal capacity.”

MORE INFORMATION



Casella Wants Copy Of Dalton's Draft Zoning Ordinance, Non-Public Minutes

[https://www.unionleader.com/opinion/letters\\_to\\_editor/letter-bill-would-protect-state-parks-from-landfills/article\\_27be6891-b30f-56cc-8eb0-27bdcadb2c2d.html](https://www.unionleader.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/letter-bill-would-protect-state-parks-from-landfills/article_27be6891-b30f-56cc-8eb0-27bdcadb2c2d.html)

## Letter: Bill would protect state parks from landfills

Mar 9, 2021

### Protect state parks from encroaching landfills

To the Editor: In early April, the New Hampshire House will debate HB 177 to protect state parks with a two mile buffer from any new landfill. Please call or email your representatives to advance this bill. Let me tell you why. For decades, 50% of New Hampshire's landfill trash has come from out of state, because we let for-profit corporations run the industry and they truck trash here from all around New England.

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES), our landfill regulatory agency, is understaffed and underfunded, and using a Solid Waste Management Plan dated 2003. So, New Hampshire is years behind neighboring states and we are being out played. Other states bury their waste here and DES can't protect us from the practice.

A Vermont corporation plans a new dump on 1,900 acres directly abutting a gorgeous state park in Dalton. Think of your favorite state park... and attempting to swim, hike, boat, walk, camp, or fish while exposed to foul odors, scavenger birds, feces in waterbodies, noise cannons, blowing dust, trash, and heavy truck traffic. Consider our profitable tourism industry that supports hundreds of jobs.

Common sense dictates New Hampshire must not allow dumps beside state parks. DES cannot protect state parks from landfill developers, but HB 177 can.

Let's put New Hampshire first. State parks are our heritage and legacy. Contact all your House representatives this week. Ask them to support HB 177. Then, let's fix our outdated waste management plan.

NANCY CARBONNEAU MORRISON

Mont Vernon

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**Archived:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:21:39 PM

**From:** [Ellen Hays](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 8:47:14 AM

**To:** ~[House Environment and Agriculture Committee](#)

**Subject:** NHPR's The Exchange: Taylor Caswell comes out AGAINST the landfill at Forest Lake

**Importance:** Normal

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Taylor Caswell, Commissioner of the Department of Business and Economic Affairs for the State of New Hampshire, weighs in AGAINST the proposed landfill development at Forest Lake in Dalton, NH while answering a caller question during NHPR's The Exchange.

A video of the relevant sound bite appears here:

<https://youtu.be/NV8qeAKTTpM>

The show topic was:

### **Can Outdoor Recreation Help Fuel N.H.'s Economy?**

"New snow is causing outdoor recreation companies to cheer, and with outdoor sports considered a relatively safe way to recreate during the pandemic, N.H.'s outdoor economy is surging. In fact, N.H. has a newly established Office of Outdoor Recreation Industry Development that aims to support the state's outdoor economy. We discuss how the state plans to help businesses capitalize on the interest in getting outdoors and the ramifications for infrastructure, affordable housing, and conservation of the state's wild places."

Airdate: Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021

#### **GUESTS:**

Kelly Ault - Executive Director of the Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance.

Taylor Caswell - Commissioner, NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs. His office will oversee the Office of Outdoor Recreation Industry Development - which will be staffed in 2021.

Tyler Ray - His company Backyard Concept is a professional outdoor advocacy firm and is the managing entity of Granite Outdoor Alliance. He is founder of the Granite Backcountry Alliance.

The N.H. Business Review reported on the federal grant that will fund New Hampshire's new outdoor industry agency.

Vermont's Governor Scott proposed a nearly \$22 million budget investment in outdoor recreation last week.

<https://www.nhpr.org/post/can-outdoor-recreation-help-fuel-nhs-economy>









Three diesel electric locomotives, on the bridge, powered a special Conway Scenic Railroad (CSRR) freight train hauling a \$9 million 411-ton electrical transformer on Saturday in two sections over the Willey Brook Trestle in Crawford Notch. The smaller 184-ton section is closest to the locomotives. Next, hitched behind an empty boxcar, is the larger 227-ton section carried on a Schnabel BBCX-1000 rail car, designed to suspend its oversized cargo between its two ends, making the load an integral part of this extra-long piece of equipment. The Heartland Media crew rides overhead in a helicopter photographing the unique journey for PSNH, which ordered the equipment for its Saco substation in Conway. (Photo by Edith Tucker)

## End of line for made in China transformer

411-ton transformer is hauled on Conway Scenic RR

By Edith Tucker

WHITEFIELD — A \$9 million two-section electrical transformer that was built in China for Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) made a nine-hour, 41-mile freight run on Saturday, beginning at the Hazen siding in Whitefield and ending in North Conway.

The 411-ton transformer, one piece weighing a hefty 227 tons, the other 184 tons, was hauled by the Conway Scenic Railroad (CSRR) on separate rail cars from Hazen's siding southeast through Crawford Notch to North Conway.

This was the penultimate leg of a journey that spanned half the globe, starting in a manufacturing plant in China and ending that day on a

rail siding at Depot Street in North Conway, bringing it to within four miles of its final destination — the Saco substation in Conway, operated by PSNH.

The larger section was mounted on a \$10 million Schnabel BBCX-1000 rail car, owned and operated by Emmert International. The rail car is designed to suspend its oversized cargo between two ends to make the load an integral part of the extra-long piece of equipment.

This particular 20-axle Schnabel has the capability of moving its cargo 14 inches side-to-side — horizontally — and 14 inches up-and-down — vertically, explained bridge engineer

Wayne Duffett of Portland, Me.

To allow the wider-than-normal load to slip through the Gateway — the "Great Cut" though the jagged rocks at the top of Crawford Notch that was created in 1875 — the 675-foot-long train was halted and the cargo mechanically shifted three inches to the left.

The three-man, red-jumpsuit-clad crew that travels and sleeps in a specially equipped caboose on the Schnabel performed this operation, using propane-fueled piston engines to control the hydraulics that precisely shift the load. Once through the Gateway, the train was halted

Transformer, Page A12

## Timber investment group to buy Conn. Lakes Headwaters Forest

By Edith Tucker

PITTSBURG — The vast Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Forest in northern Coös is changing hands.

The Heartwood Forest Fund, managed by The Forestland Group (TFG), LLC, a North Carolina-based timber investment management organization (TIMO), will purchase the 144,400-acre conservation-easement-protected forest in Pittsburg, Stewartstown, and Clarksville from the Lyme Northern Forest Fund, also a TIMO, managed by The Lyme Timber Company of Hanover in early summer, according to Peter Stein, a managing director at Lyme Timber.

The per-acre purchase price will not be known until after the closing has taken place and been recorded at the Coös County Registry of Deeds. Mr. Stein explained in a telephone interview.

"We did fine for our investors," he said happily.

TFG owns other forests in New Hampshire and Vermont, as well as former Champion lands in the Adirondacks in New York, purchased at the same time that Wilhelm Merck purchased the Champion lands in Essex County, Vt.

"TFG owns other lands with conservation easements held by state agencies," Mr. Stein said. "They are high-quality institutional investors that practice sustainable forestry management."

According to its website, TFG acquires and manages timberland investments for institutions, families, and individuals with an

emphasis on naturally regenerating hardwood and pine forests in the eastern U.S. Currently TFG has 2.7 million-plus acres under management in 20 states, plus Costa Rica.

The legal provisions of the state-monitored working forest conservation easement that covers the Headwaters Forest "runs with the land" in perpetuity, guaranteeing public access and sustainable forest management practices without fear of fragmentation or development, Mr. Stein pointed out.

An existing timber supply

agreement with Domtar, Inc. of Canada to buy low-grade certified Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) wood fiber for use in making paper, as well as camp leases and snowmobile and other trails will be transferred to the new owner and also remain in effect.

Upland Forestry, however, which has managed the day-to-day forestry for Lyme Timber on the Headwaters Forest, will no longer manage the tract. Instead, TFG plans to contract with Land-Vest, which maintains an in-state

Timber, Page A11

## Fugitive caught in Stratford

By Melissa Grima

STRATFORD — A convicted rapist and fugitive from the state of Oklahoma was apprehended in Stratford last week. He was arrested after a brief stand-off outside the Wooddale Village apartments on Tuesday, June 16.

Police had been on the lookout

for William Belanger, 20, of St. Del City — wanted in Oklahoma on probation violations stemming from his rape conviction — after receiving advisories that he could be in northern New Hampshire. According to Sgt. Timothy Hayes of the N. H. State Police, Mr. Belanger was initially spotted in Colebrook

around noon on Tuesday and located in Stratford a short time later. He said that law enforcement had been aware that Mr. Belanger had been in the Stratford/Bloomfield, Vt. area for a couple of days prior and both State Police agencies had been on the lookout.

Five State Police officers, together with Stratford, Pittsburg and Colebrook police, converged on the apartment building just before 12:30 p.m. after Mr. Belanger's vehicle was spotted outside. A standoff, which Sgt. Hayes described as "very brief," resulted when Mr. Belanger refused to respond to police demands to come out of the residence. Mr. Belanger, who was unarmed, was in custody by 1:36 p.m. and is being held at the Coös County House of Corrections on \$75,000 cash only bail.

At his June 17 arraignment in Colebrook District Court, Mr. Belanger did not waive extradition and has since requested court appointed counsel. A status hearing on the state's pursuit of a Governor's Warrant is scheduled for July 16 in Colebrook District Court. At that hearing, the state can request up to 60 more days to acquire that warrant and keep Mr. Belanger behind bars.

## Two Coös parks face uncertain future

By Melissa Grima

LANCASTER — Two State Parks in Coös County, Forest Lake State Park in Dalton and Nansen Wayside in Milan, may be up for grabs. A draft report prepared by the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation suggests that the two local parks, as well as 25 others around the state, be handled through alternative management strategies — transferring the land to another public agency or entity, selling, leasing, acquiring sponsors or decommissioning the property altogether.

The report emerged on the Parks and Recreation website on June 8, after having been in the works for two years. In 2007, legislation created the State Parks System Advisory Council to assess and analyze the park system and its viability, according to Parks and Recreation Director Ted Austin. That started the process that created this "Strategic and Capital Improvement Plan" for the state's parks. Mr. Austin pointed out that this report stemmed solely from the legislative mandate

and was not driven by any budget crisis the state may be facing. The draft report is not expected to be adopted as a final plan until mid-August to September, he said.

Mr. Austin explained that after extensive study, the Parks and Recreation division began holding public input sessions last year as they were developing the draft plan and also held stakeholder sessions with entities like snowmobile clubs, the Appalachian Mountain Club and equestrian clubs. All of the 68 State Park sites as well as the Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Working Forest — in which the state maintains easements of miles of roadway — were evaluated on a scale that determined how they met the four main criteria set out by the legislature in 1961 (with subsequent revision), when the Division of Parks and Recreation was established.

Each park was given a score of one to three for each of the four criteria with one meaning it did not meet the criteria. The parks were then categorized as A (10-12 points), B (7-9 points),

Parks, Page A10



The entrance to Forest Lake State Park is gated shut. It will be open soon during daylight hours, but remains unstaffed. (Photo by Jeff Woodburn)

## Dalton may take over Forest Lake State Park

By Jeff Woodburn

DALTON — This small town proudly boasts on its town-line signs to be the "home of Forest Lake State Park" but in recent years has witnessed the decline of this once popular, historic summer landmark. Now Dalton appears ready to accept the state's offer to take ownership of the 74-year-old park that includes 397 acres, with 200 feet of beach frontage and bathroom and administrative facilities. Strapped for money, the state's Division of Parks and Recreation released a draft plan last week that includes selling, leasing or giving away 27 underperforming New Hampshire State Parks—including Forest Lake State Park in Dalton.

Brian Hardy, the chairman of the Board of Selectmen, responded boldly stating that, "Dalton would very much like this property." The Dalton Conservation Commission concurred, releasing a statement urging the state to give this property to the town as a town park and forest.

"If Dalton receives this property," the statement read, "the Dalton Conservation Commission is committed to seeking ways to refurbish and maintain the property and finding ways to staff it in the future, to continue to serve the recreational needs of the residents of Dalton and the North Country."

The state spends around \$20,000 annually to minimally operate the park.

Executive Councilor Ray Burton welcomed the news of Dalton's interest, but cautioned that an outright sale is less likely than some kind of lease or management transfer.

Although Forest Lake State Park was built in 1935 by the Civil Conservation Corps to stimulate economic activity during the Great Depression, it eventually forced one local enterprise to close. Although only nine-years-old at the time, Harold Burns remembers people stopping by his ancestral home to pay a small fee and pick up the key to the changing house and walk down to the beach at Burns Lake. "They'd rent the bathhouse for 25 cents," and sometimes even swimming suits, he recalled. The modesty of those days was evident, as he said, "nobody would be seen in bathing suits in public," and even within the privacy of the lake, male swimming suits "had tops." The Burns' business dropped off with the opening of a state-of-the-art swimming and picnic

Forest Lake, Page A10

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## Racing for a cure

Lisa Dunlap of Whitefield, right, who is currently battling cancer, and her mom Kathy Dunlap, were among the participants in Littleton's Relay for Life over the weekend. See full story on page A11. (Photo by Eileen Alexander)





## Forest

(continued from Page A1)

area with free bath house to change in.

Ernest and Vivian Plante probably thought nothing of the Burns' business when they sold 397 acres to the state to build a place for people to swim. "They practically gave it away," said "Buddy" Newell, Ernest's grandson. "They just wanted a decent road" to serve their farm, which still stands near the entrance of the state park. Mr. Newell's family purchased essentially the whole lake in the 1920s, which was known then as Round Pond.

Young, unemployed men were put to work by the CCC constructing buildings, carving out trails and even building two warming log huts and outdoor fireplaces to service a ski area that extended from the top of Dalton Mountain to the shores of Forest Lake. Mr. Newell said that there are some remains of these structures still evident today near the airport radio tower off Mountain Road. The ski area only lasted a few years. In 1938, when the state built the aerial tramway that brought ski lift service to Cannon Mountain, the local ski operation was closed.

When the park opened, the Planes were hired to run the operation. For the next 25 years, up until 1960, they manicured the lawns, ran a snack bar, hired lifeguards, rented

boats and generally kept the place up. It was, after all, in the words of Harold Burns, one of the "top notch places around." Tourists would fill the park on weekdays, while a mix of locals and vacationers would flow in to the park on weekends. It could be a rare, diverse scene, said Mr. Newell. At that time, there was a large summer community of Hasidic Jews in Bethlehem that would frequent the Forest Lake State Park. They would be quite a sight, with

teenage natives, who as Mr. Newell said, "hadn't ever been south of Manchester."

Mr. Newell remembers the late 1940's tragic drowning of the "Baker twins from Lancaster." The 13-year-old boys were at the lake as part of a school outing. One of the twins was recovering from an operation and was confined to the shallow area of the lake, while the other brother swam out to the raft where he, in the words of Mr. Newell, "got in trouble and



their distinctive, 19th century, dark attire and untrimmed beards and payots, for the

yelled for help." The recuperating brother went to his brother's rescue, but in the end, both



above: The lifeguard stand that once stood on the beach and old broken tables tell a story of the park's decline.  
left: The marks of the vandals, who struck two months ago, remain evident on the beach.  
(Photos by Jeff Woodburn)

a place of intrigue and a rite of passage of sorts for maturing youngsters. Janice Nute Severance of Concord, a Littleton native, whose family still owns a camp on the lake, worked in the snack bar in the 1960s. She remembers feeling "pretty special" when she was allowed and able to reach the raft, and then hang out with her friends far from parental supervision and dive into the water.

The job of keeping swimmers safe fell to Alan Astle, whose

family has had a nearby camp since 1932. He was a lifeguard under Mr. Plante and later his successor, Sam Cole, as well. He remembers the heyday of the park when he estimates as many as 1800 visitors would come on a busy weekend. During those days, they'd have two lifeguards and other support staff keeping the place clean and safe. A staff member would stay in the second story apartment above the snack shop to ensure no evening nuisances occurred. It is important to remember, he said, that back then people had few recreational activities, little leisure time and less expendable income. Families would pack up their kids and bring a picnic lunch or food to grill on the built-in barbecues. "That was the outing for the week," he said.

By the late '60s, things started to change. The state's investment began to wane, user fees were enacted and other more diverse recreational activities became more readily available. Young children from area swimming programs replaced the throng of tourists and local families. Over time, the snack bar was closed, lifeguards were replaced with "swim at your own risk" signs and the park deteriorated rapidly.

In 1991, New Hampshire became the only state in the country with a totally self-supporting state park system, which means its \$6.6 million operating budget must come from income from revenues derived from the parks. The hope was that the successful parks would raise enough revenue to fund the less successful ones.

The current draft report concludes that the funding mechanism causes a "systematic operating deficit," and that "many state parks show a serious neglect, disappointing visitors and wasting revenue opportunities."

Not since 1963 has there been a statewide capital investment in the park system. "It is frugality at the point of being stupid," said Dick Hamilton of Littleton, who spent more than 50 years in the tourism industry as the President of White Mountain Attractions. He sees this report as more of a "message to the legislature to do something" about the way the state funds its park system.

There may not be consensus on how to pay for state parks, but there seems to be unanimity about the problem. The so-called non-performing parks appear to be dying on the vine. During Selectman Hardy's last visit to Forest Lake State Park, he cut his foot on a piece of broken glass on the beach. "Why would people go there?" he asks.

Two months ago vandals struck the park doing considerable damage to the main building, a ticketing booth, the timber steps and beach. Dalton Police Chief John Tholl is on the case, but no arrests have been made. While only five percent of the calls to his department are about the park, his officers check it nightly.

Mr. Newell recalls a recent visit to the park and seeing a picnic table in the water. "I felt so bad," he said. If his grandfather saw that, he said, "he would cry."

## Parks

(continued from Page A1)

or C (4-6 points). The category C parks are considered "unsustainable" by the report and all but one are recommended for alternative management. Both Forest Lake and Nansen Wayside fall into category C.

Public input will be taken around the state on this plan and a public input session was held in Lancaster on June 11, three days after this draft report was released. Mr. Austin said that 30 or 40 people attended the meeting, but the questions were not unique to the area. Everyone wants to know about their one specific park, he said, noting a "not my park" emotional atmosphere has been the norm at these sessions so far. He said the sessions are not presentations, but are more of a question and an-

swer period where his agency can help people move from looking at the plan emotionally to a more theoretical view.

The need for action on these parks is highlighted in an excerpt from an earlier report, dated 2006, found in the new draft. "New Hampshire is the only state in the nation that attempts to fund its parks exclusively with the revenues earned at the facilities, and it has produced a systemic operating deficit. In addition, there have been no major system-wide capital investments since 1963, and our parks are saddled with a backlog of unmet capital improvement needs and a long list of deferred maintenance. As a result, many parks and historic sites show serious signs of neglect... disappointing visitors and wasting revenue opportunities." That 2006 report resulted in passage of a senate bill in

2007 commissioning this 10 year-development plan.

Mr. Austin explained that the committee looked at "what's essential and what's expendable" and worked from there. The department budget of just over \$6 million comes nowhere close to the estimated cost of appropriate annual maintenance on all the sites listed in the report, which would total nearly \$28 million. "That's meant to be a little bit of a smelling salt," Mr. Austin said, to illustrate just how much it would cost to maintain the state parks in a perfect world.

Since that kind of funding is unrealistic, the plan addresses the fact that the state just does not have the resources to take care of all of its state parks. By looking for someone else to take over the care or ownership of more than a third of the properties, the parks division can fo-

drowned.

The raft, which was about 275 feet from the shore, became

cus its efforts on the remaining 41 parks and the Connecticut Lakes Headwaters. The town of Dalton has already spoken favorably about taking over the Forest Lake property (see related story), but the Nansen site may not be as lucky. Chairman of the Board of Selectmen George Pozzuto said he had not yet received any information on the draft report, but doesn't know if the town of Milan would be interested in taking on the site as it might be more interested in seeing it on the tax rolls. He said the Wayside is used primarily as a boat launch. Occasionally, people fish or picnic there and the nearby fields may offer some decent bird hunting, he said. "People use it so there's some value there," he said of the Androscoggin River access. "Use of the river has been increasing every year."

While these two North Country parks are on the Category C list slated for alternative management, five Coös parks reached category A status — Jericho Mountain, Umbagog, Connecticut Lakes Headwaters, Working Forest, Lake Francis and Mount Washington — and seven landed in category B — Beaver Brook Falls, Moose Brook, Weeks, Coleman, Dixville Notch, Mollidgewock, and Milan Hill.

The report makes recommendations for management improvements to all of these parks as well. While these sug-

gestions have been outlined for all the parks in the system, the report does note that the division's limited resources will be focused on the identified category A parks. "Category B parks will be level funded or see a decrease in services and resources while we direct operational and capital funding to the Category A parks," the report states.

New construction or expansion has been suggested for Coleman and Jericho Mountain — with this park and a motorized trail network listed in the implementation as a priority development.

A recommendation has been made to increase or improve services at many of the parks including Connecticut Lakes Headwaters, Lake Francis, Beaver Brook Falls, Weeks, and Mollidgewock. The report lists potential methods as facility upgrades, added amenities and major reconstruction or rehabilitation.

Replacements and or repairs have been suggested for the Umbagog, Mount Washington, Moose Brook and Milan Hill parks in an effort to reduce deferred maintenance costs.

A reduction in costs is recommended for Dixville Notch, with possible methods including reduced mowing, removing buildings or facilities, removal of picnic tables or grills, or other changes to site design.

## Legislative Management Direction

The Division of Parks and Recreation used the legislative intent for the establishment of the division as the criteria by which they judged the state's 68 state parks in their report.

216-A:1 Intent. — It is the intent of the general court that a comprehensive state park system shall be developed, operated, and maintained to achieve the following purposes in order of the following priority:

I. To protect and preserve unusual scenic, scientific, historical, recreational, and natural areas within the state.

II. To continually provide such additional park areas and facilities as may be necessary to meet the recreational needs of the citizens of all regions of the state.

III. To make these areas accessible to the public for recreational, education, scientific, and other uses consistent with their protection and preservation.

IV. To encourage and support tourism and related economic activity within the state.

Source. 1961, 263:1. 1985, 389:3, eff. June 25, 1985.

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**Archived:** Monday, February 1, 2021 3:01:33 PM  
**From:** Andrew Timmins  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 1:41:34 PM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Subject:** Re: Please vote YES on HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Members of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee,

I wanted to send an email to urge you to support HB 177 in an effort to safeguard our state parks for current and future residents and visitors of New Hampshire. This bill, which would create a 2-mile buffer around all New Hampshire state parks from new and future landfill development, seems very reasonable and hopefully a concept supported by your committee. New Hampshire has only 93 state parks dispersed across 9,000+ square miles and we are fortunate to have these conserved properties in the state. While the lands on which these parks sit is protected, these parks remain at risk due to other land use activities on adjacent properties. Regardless of your position on developmental rights, I believe most would agree that landfills and state parks are not compatible from a land use perspective.

While the proposed commercial landfill by Casella Waste Systems on the boundary of Forest Lake State Park was the impetus behind this proposed bill, this issue is so much bigger than Forest Lake, the town of Dalton or Casella. This bill is about protecting all state parks in New Hampshire from similar future proposals. I've heard supports of the proposed landfill tout the economic benefits of another landfill in the north country. Given the contribution of tourism to the state, how would reduced taxes for a couple of towns offset the widespread loss of tourism-based revenue due to the deterioration of our state parks.

You have the ability to protect the future of these conserved properties and I urge you to do so. This does not represent "a not in my backyard issue." This is about doing what is right for our state and our treasured state parks. If this landfill is built, would you bring your family to Forest Lake for a summer swim?

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Please support this bill.

Sincerely,

Andrew Timmins

Littleton, NH

603-991-8715



Northeast Region

## **New Hampshire House Bill 177 – NWRA Testimony in Opposition** **An Act Concerning the Siting of Landfills**

We oppose movement of this this legislation. If passed, it will tear at the underpinning of the very effective, long running public-private partnership between the government and the private sector that has led to the creation of excellent NH environmental infrastructure for the handling of waste materials.

Inasmuch as our industry is dedicated to the USEPA and NHDES enunciated policies regarding waste reduction, recycling, organics management, construction and demolition processing and other waste diversion programs to gain the highest and best use of after useful life discards of citizens and businesses, we also advocate for disposal facilities and capacity for states. While disposal is not at the top of the waste hierarchy pyramid, we remind the committee that it is an essential part of it. And, one we fear that is not being afforded due consideration, as the necessary environmental infrastructure that it is, often, in public policy discourse.

### **HB 177 – An Act Restricting Landfill Siting in NH**

As the trade association of companies that operate all manner of solid waste facilities including landfills, we take strong exception to legislation such as HB 177 as it is an attempt to stop a siting and permitting process already started under a well-established set of environmental protections and rules. The reasons for this are many. The chapter believes the state's current law and regulatory process are both more than adequate to ensure the coordination and balancing of the needs of state and local governments regarding the development and/or operation of landfills. This long-established bedrock principle underpinning the process in use today in NH has allowed for the creation and on-going operation of the state's currently high caliber and well-functioning waste system. It is our experience that the state's well thought out and reasonable processes, already established, and thoughtfully fully developed in concert with a wide and inclusive array of stakeholders, remain the best and most workable procedures for NH to have on the books.

Another issue that causes the chapter great alarm in HB 177 is language that, if passed, we read to mean that, in the future there will be severe limitations, if not an outright prohibition, on the development of any privately developed landfill capacity in the state. Language in the measure appears to sanction and favor the state only to allow publicly sited and developed landfills in the future. This is a policy leap that is rare among state governments; the local partners nationally of



Steve Changaris, Northeast V.P.

508 868 4523

the federal government, in the long running USEPA RCRA intergovernmental model for the management of post-consumer discarded materials and wastes. As a trade association of private companies, we believe in the generic regulation of environmental infrastructure and facilities by federal and state laws and regulations; regulations that govern how a facility is operated and not by whether it is developed and operated by a public government or a private concern. What matters most is that whatever entity manages the environmental infrastructure, it does so in full compliance with all appropriate rules and regulations.

We believe that the current state law and body of regulations and legal precedents that govern site assignments and landfills in NH is balanced and works at the macro-system level. While we know there are always some issues locally as projects are proposed and seek to develop, we believe the parties in those situations should sit down at the table and work out their differences and concerns under established and existing protocols and options. Introducing these kinds of restrictions, or any new ones, mid-stream during an active project development process will start NH on a slippery slope that will eventually harm its broader interests and needs in waste facility development process.

### **About NWRA:**

The No. New England Chapter of National Waste and Recycling Association represents an industry that is dedicated to the environmentally protective, sustainable and economically efficient management of recoverable and recyclable materials, discards and wastes.

We have a vision of a society that reduces waste, recycles more and recovers value from discards to the maximum extent practicable and properly disposes the wastes that remain. We approach our job as reality-checkers who must negotiate, adapt to, and address the day-to-day and evolving conditions associated with collecting and handling recyclables, recoverable materials, discards and wastes. We are in a unique position to offer well informed perspectives on the realities of how these materials are managed today, and how they can be better managed tomorrow.

*The Chapter represents the private taxpaying recycling and waste haulers and companies that work in NH every day to responsibly manage the after useful life discards, materials, recyclables and wastes generated by its citizens, communities and businesses. We believe in strong, sustainable environmentally responsible programs that are run with the efficiency and expertise that comes from a competitive and robust private marketplace that provides and innovates these services routinely.*





**Archived:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:18:37 PM  
**From:** [Steve Changaris](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:40:54 AM  
**To:** ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
**Cc:** [Howard Pearl](#)  
**Subject:** NWRA Testimony on HB 177  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
NH HB 177 final.pdf ;

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Good day: Thank you for your receipt and processing of the association's written testimony. As you may or may not know, I am also registered to give oral testimony later today during your hearing that starts at 1pm. Thanks again. Regards, Steve Changaris, NWRA

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Bill as  
Introduced

HB 177 - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

9Apr2021... 0353h

2021 SESSION

21-0258

08/05

HOUSE BILL **177**

AN ACT prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.

SPONSORS: Rep. Tucker, Coos 5; Rep. Egan, Graf. 2; Rep. Hatch, Coos 6; Rep. Thompson, Coos 1; Rep. Laflamme, Coos 3; Sen. Hennessey, Dist 1

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

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ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits the siting of new landfills, excluding expansions of existing landfills, near state parks. This bill also defines state parks for the purposes of prohibiting the siting of new landfills.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

**HB 177 - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE**

9Apr2021... 0353h

21-0258

08/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One*

AN ACT prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1           1 New Paragraph; Permit Prohibited Near Certain Parks and Forest Lands. Amend RSA 149-  
2 M:9 by inserting after paragraph XIV the following new paragraph:

3           XV. No permit shall be issued by the department for the siting of a new landfill if any part of  
4 the actual solid waste disposal area is proposed to be located within 2 miles of the boundary of any  
5 state park. For purposes of this paragraph, "state park" means any state park managed by the state  
6 director of the division of parks and recreation pursuant to RSA 216-A:2. "State park" shall not  
7 include the state historic sites and recreational rail trails. Nothing in this paragraph shall be  
8 construed to prohibit the expansion of any existing landfills.

9           2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.