

Forest Lake State Park Landfill Info Sheet 2021

If permitted, this 2nd commercial North Country landfill will have the following impacts (that we know of) on the environment, tourism, safety, and quality of life on a regional level:

- **18.4 MILLION TONS of trash** (23mcy) will be buried only 2800 feet from the water's edge of Forest Lake, approximately 468,000 TONS, per year, over a span of 38 years (for now). The border of the State Park forest is a mere 190 feet from the edge of the landfill
- Casella Waste Systems initially sought 67mcy in "Concept 1" equaling 53.6 MILLION TONS of trash, at 468,000 TONS/yearly equals a **potential lifespan of 114 years** for this proposed landfill development (They have 1889 acres of land under contract)
- **468,000 TONS/year** represents an estimated **30% INCREASE** (using 2016-2019 avg) in waste intake compared to what has been historically landfilled at NCES in Bethlehem
- **Out-of-state waste, trucked thru the Franconia Notch could be nearly DOUBLED** at these numbers, with Casella admitting that at least 51% of waste intake will be from NH
- Over **10 MILLION GALLONS of toxic, PFAS-laden landfill leachate will be produced annually**, over time (Based on estimates of 30% over what NCES currently produces)
- At least **17 acres of wetlands** will be dredged & filled i.e. destroyed (= 13 football fields)
- **160 acres of forested "Highest-Ranked in NH" wildlife habitat will be clear-cut** (= 121 football fields)
- The proposed site could possibly be a habitat to the Federally-threatened Northern Long-Eared Bat and the State-endangered Eastern Small-Footed Bat
- At least **5 vernal pools** (temporary bodies of water and breeding grounds for the wood frog and spotted salamander) will be **destroyed**
- The destruction of these natural habitats would have a drastic negative impact on the surrounding fauna and wildlife, as well as important wetland functions in the Alder/Hatch Brook catchment basin that feeds into the Ammonoosuc River
- Heavy garbage truck congestion thru the town centers of Littleton, Bethlehem, and Whitefield (estimated **100+ trips per day, EACH WAY**, along Routes 3, 116 or 302) would result as garbage-hauling tractor trailer semis will travel back and forth past residences and town centers, from I-93, flooding the North Country with out-of-state waste (per the Dalton Host Community Agreement, up to 49% could be out-of-state waste)
- Operational hours will be **6:00AM to 6:00PM M-F, Saturdays 7:00AM-4:00PM**, disturbing homeowners nearby and along the proposed 26-mile route
- Up to 24 trucks could be staged in a on-site queuing area, awaiting early-morning entrance, spewing harmful diesel emissions, noise and runoff pollution as they await entrance
- **Ground and surface water contamination**, as well as atmospheric deposition of toxic pollutants, including PFAS, dust, and storm water runoff from landfill emissions, dirty tractor trailers, and increased truck traffic, all of which have the potential to negatively impact **Forest Lake, Burns Pond, the Alder/Hatch/Bog Brook watersheds, and the Ammonoosuc River**, all of which lie within 2.5 miles of the proposed site and in the direction of prevailing wind patterns (The Ammonoosuc is 1.2 miles from the landfill)
- **Fecal contamination** from landfill scavenger birds could have a drastic impact on the water quality of at least 3 EPA-identified "impaired waters"; Forest Lake, Burns Pond, and the

Ammonoosuc River. This introduction of additional amounts of nitrogen and phosphorous would lead to an extensive increase in algal blooms and cyanobacteria, which can be harmful to both humans and pets

- Scavenger birds would pose a threat to the Loon population
- An increase in litter, noise, rodents, flies, and bears
- Air pollution from harmful landfill gases and unpleasant odors, which would carry for miles (The State Park beach is only $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away)
- A **negative impact on property values** of nearby homes and properties along the truck route, resulting in tax abatements and increasing property taxes for non-impacted property owners in Littleton, Whitefield, Bethlehem, and Dalton
- A negative **impact on the tourism industry** of the North Country and the Littleton River District, further impacting those businesses that rely on tourism and outdoor recreation dollars
- Casella's "Preferred Routes" to the landfill site, in order to bypass the Town of Littleton, would add an extra 10.4 miles of non-interstate travel from the south and 23.2 miles from the north, each way, whereas the most direct route thru the Town of Littleton is only 6 miles from Exit 42
- Casella's "Preferred Routes" will direct the 100+/- heavy truck traffic thru the downtowns of Whitefield and Bethlehem, possibly Littleton, past 140 or 235 residences, and up to 3 elementary schools, respectively, as well as numerous businesses and campgrounds and motor inns, **each way**. This does not include additional RNG truck traffic from the proposed landfill gas to energy plant that is being proposed, adjacent to the landfill
- There are approximately **84 residences** along Forest Lake Road (farthest being 1.49 miles on Forest Lake Rd and 1.13 miles on the water on Newell) and **52 residences** along W. Forest Lake Road (1.21/1.44 miles to WFL/RT116 and farthest waterfront being .98 miles) that will be most directly impacted by **the nuisances and health hazards** posed by a neighboring, upwind landfill, as the prevailing winds blow in the direction of both Forest Lake and the Ammonoosuc River
- Residences along Mann's Hill Rd in Littleton will overlook the landfill development from only 1.5 miles away
- NH DNCR Parks and Recreation Director Phil Bryce has expressed concerns about potential **impacts to Forest Lake State Park**, the first state agency official to weigh in negatively regarding the proposed development.
- **267 (78%) NH State Reps/Senators voted to support the veto override of HB1454**

Finally, the Towns of Littleton, Whitefield, Carroll and Sugar Hill, the Ammonoosuc River LAC, the Conservation Commissions of Dalton, Littleton, Lisbon, Whitefield, Bethlehem and Sugar Hill, as well as NH Lakes, Sierra Club of NH, NH Forest Society, Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust, CLF, and NH State Parks have ALL weighed in against this development due to its negative, environmental and regional impacts!

Casella has NOT sought ANY local approvals for this project

We do not need a new landfill, Casella does!

The Mt. Carberry Landfill in Success, NH has plenty of EXISTING capacity for North Country waste for decades!

www.SaveForestLake.com