**Forest Lake State Park Landfill Info Sheet 2021**

*If permitted, this 2nd 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 landfill leachate will be produced, annually**, over time (Based on estimates of 30% over what NCES currently produces)
* **17 acres of wetlands** will be dredged & filled i.e. destroyed (think 13 football fields)
* **160 acres of forested “Highest-Ranked in NH” wildlife habitat will be clear-cut** (think 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
* **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
* 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, bringing out-of-state waste (per Dalton HCA, up to 49% could be out-of-state waste). CT will be exporting 100% of its waste by mid-2022.
* Operational hours will be **3:00 AM to 8:00 PM** M-F, with some weekends due to snow days/holidays, disturbing homeowners nearby and along the proposed 26-mile route
* Up to 24 trucks could be staged in a queuing area on-site, awaiting early-morning entrance, spewing harmful diesel emissions, noise and runoff pollution as they stand, awaiting entrance to the facility
* **Ground and surface water contamination**, as well as atmospheric deposition of toxic pollutants, including dust and storm water runoff from dirty tractor trailers and increased truck traffic, and landfill operations, 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 ¾ 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**
* 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 and 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.
* **209 NH State Reps/Senators voted to support HB177**, which would have created a 2-mile buffer to protect NH State Parks from encroaching landfill development like this one

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, and NH State Parks have ALL weighed in against this development due to its negative, environmental and regional impacts! Dalton has voted TWICE to approve zoning in order to try and stop this unneeded and unwanted development.

**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