

# CLOSED LANDFILLS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE



## MUNICIPAL CHECKLIST

This Closed Landfill Checklist is designed to help make sure that municipal officials understand the actions they should take **every year** to reduce the potential environmental contamination from closed landfills and to protect the health and safety of their community.

- One Checklist should be filled out for EACH of the closed landfills located in the town. Many New Hampshire towns have *more than one* closed landfill - one that long-time residents remember using, (often near the location of the current transfer station) and one or more that was used before that one opened. Municipal officials should make sure they know the location and condition of all of the landfills in their community.
- This Checklist should be filled out **every year** in January or February by one or more senior municipal officials such as the Selectboard Chair, the Town Manager, the Director of Public Works, and/or the Town Clerk. Please consult with others to fill out this Checklist as thoroughly as possible.

A more detailed guide to closed landfill management, *Closed Landfills in New Hampshire: Guide to Best Management Practices & Requirements* is available at: [https://www.newmoa.org/nh\\_closed\\_landfill\\_bmps/](https://www.newmoa.org/nh_closed_landfill_bmps/)

## CHECKLIST

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Landfill Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Landfill Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date began accepting waste: \_\_\_\_\_ Date ceased operation: \_\_\_\_\_

1: Is there a town position that includes responsibility for maintaining the landfill?  YES  NO

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person currently employed in that position: \_\_\_\_\_

2: Has the landfill been mowed at least once in the past year?  YES  NO

Date of mowing: \_\_\_\_\_

3: If applicable, has the level of methane gas in the soil been measured (in % Lower Explosive Limit (LEL)), at the property boundary on all sides of the landfill at least once in the past year?  YES  NO

What was the highest level in % LEL: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of measurement: \_\_\_\_\_

4: If there are structures located at the same property as the landfill, has the level of methane gas been measured inside each structure at least once in the past year?  YES  NO

What was the highest level in % LEL: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of measurement: \_\_\_\_\_

5: Have walkover inspections been conducted at least twice a year by a knowledgeable municipal employee and/or a professional engineer?  YES  NO

Date of **SPRING** inspection: \_\_\_\_\_ | Date of **FALL** inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

6: Have you reviewed the results of each inspection?  YES  NO

7: Have all deficiencies noted in the inspections been properly addressed?  YES  NO

8: If the landfill ceased operation after July 9, 1981 – has the “Annual Post-Closure Report” been submitted to NHDES?  YES  NO

9: Does the landfill have a groundwater management permit?  YES  NO

What is the frequency of monitoring? \_\_\_\_\_ Was it completed when required?  YES  NO

What is the frequency of reporting to NHDES? \_\_\_\_\_ Was it sent when required?  YES  NO

10: Has a notice been added to the deed for the property noting that it contains a landfill?  YES  NO

You should be able to answer “YES” to **EVERY** question. If not, please implement the changes required so that “yes” is the answer to everything.

### NHDES IS HERE TO HELP!

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) can answer questions and provide advice and limited technical guidance to municipalities. NHDES is most interested in providing cooperative assistance to address problems as soon as they arise. Contact NHDES’ Solid Waste Management Bureau: (603) 271-2925 or [solidwasteinfo@des.nh.gov](mailto:solidwasteinfo@des.nh.gov). Additional information is available from NHDES: <https://www.des.nh.gov/waste/solid-waste>



NEWMOA is a non-profit, non-partisan, interstate association whose membership is composed of the state environment agency programs that address pollution prevention, toxics use reduction, sustainability, materials management, hazardous waste, solid waste, emergency response, waste site cleanup, underground storage tanks, and related environmental challenges in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont ([www.newmoa.org](http://www.newmoa.org)).

This document was developed by NEWMOA with input from the Project Partners:

- New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES)
- Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (NEKWMD)
- Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC)

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