

CLOSED LANDFILLS IN VERMONT



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 Vermont 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 about the location and condition of all 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 Vermont: Guide to Best Management Practices & Requirements* is available at: https://www.newmoa.org/vt_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 is regulated under post-closure care*, has the required groundwater and surface water monitoring occurred and the results transmitted to DEC within 60 days? YES NO

Date(s) of sample collection: _____ Date(s) of report submission to DEC: _____

9: If the landfill is regulated under post-closure care*, has the required annual inspection report been submitted to DEC within 30 days of the May inspection? YES NO

Date of report submission to DEC: _____

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.

*If the landfill ceased operation after 1987, it is regulated by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)¹ and should be in post-closure care either under a permit or an issued court order (e.g., Assurance of Discontinuance or Closure Order), unless the landfill has been approved by the DEC for custodial care.

THE DEC IS HERE TO HELP!

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) can answer questions and provide advice and limited technical assistance to municipalities. DEC is most interested in providing cooperative assistance to address problems as soon as they arise. Contact the DEC's Solid Waste Management Program: 802-828-1138 or <https://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/contacts>.



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).

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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¹ Solid Waste Management Rules, Subchapter 10, Section 6-1006 and 1007, pages 112-116 at: https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/SolidWaste/Documents/SWRule.final_.pdf