

# Talking Trash in Today's World

Midcoast Senior College  
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# Talking Trash in Today's World

Closing the Landfill

Course is Entirely Online  
Mostly Using PowerPoint  
for Visual Amusement  
and Keep Me on Track



To the extent possible, I mean to keep things  
Looking “Normal”

My Assistant Will Monitor for Questions and  
Make Sure I Answer Them

# Talking Trash in Today's World

## Closing the Landfill

1. What is Sustainability?
2. The issues facing us with the landfill closure
3. What can we recycle?
4. Maine public policy
5. How to compost at home, and why do it



# Talking Trash in Today's World

Closing the Landfill



The Four Pillars of Sustainability

**Natural, Economic, Social, Political**

Conservation, Development,  
Human Rights, Democracy

# Talking Trash in Today's World

## Closing the Landfill

### Closure Date

April 30, 2021

No more extensions

### State Rules

Cover nearly every step of  
the closure Process



### What will we be doing about closure?

Options for recycling processing

Options for pickup/ Transfer station

What will still be at Graham Rd.?

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## Closing the Landfill

We have embraced the use of the Waste Management Hierarchy

Landfill is the worst possible place for our waste!



Recycling and Sustainability Committee moving towards the Waste to Energy model for conservation and saving Money, and Ultimately Maximum Waste Reduction

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Closing the Landfill

**Use It Up**

**Wear It Out**

**Make It Do**

**Do Without**

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## Closing the Landfill

Costs

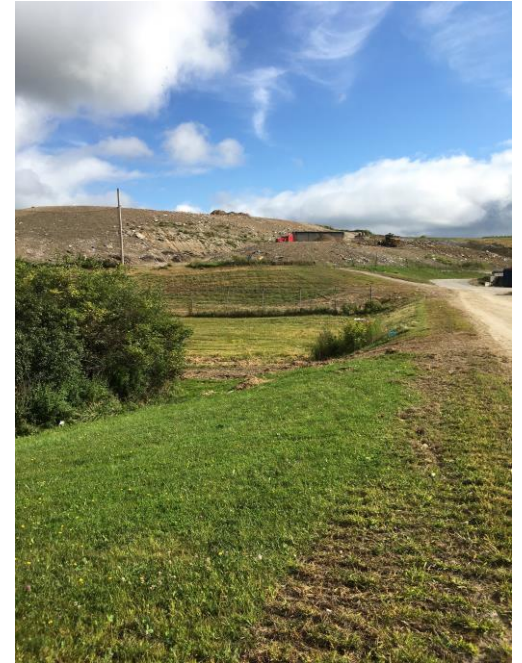
Groundwater

Gasses

Ongoing Maintenance

EPA Rules on use of the space

Remains for Eons





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## Closing the Landfill

Only 2 or 3 licensed Landfills left in Maine

Running on Permit extensions

No more extensions left

Not quite a trivial process to  
Close the landfill



# Talking Trash in Today's World

## Closing the Landfill

Rules are contained mostly in  
MRS Title 38, §1310-E-1. CLOSURE OF  
LANDFILLS

- Cover the landfill
- Manage ground water runoff
- Recover out-gasses
- Keep structures away
- Limit to other uses nearby
- Regular inspections
- Total Cost Of Closure about \$8,000,000
- Plus ongoing maintenance
- Blue Bag Fees



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## Closing the Landfill

What are our Options After  
Closure?

Only Two Available

Casella or EcoMaine

Each has some Issues

One is Clearly Better for

Brunswick



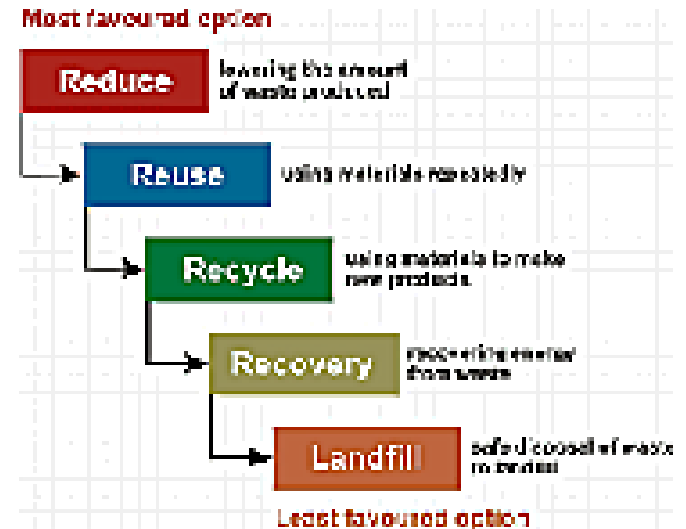
# Talking Trash in Today's World

## Closing the Landfill

Two problems to resolve at one time

- Recyclables
- Trash

Back to the Waste Management Hierarchy



Waste to Energy easily the Best Option for What's Left

We now use our Landfill

Casella Uses their Own (Juniper Ridge or Norridgewock)

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## Closing the Landfill

### Costs of MSW with Casella

- Pick it up
- Process it (Recyclables)
- Dump it

Locally

Casella Landfill

Extra Fee for Casella Landfill, With No Gain over our Current Landfill



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## Closing the Landfill

EcoMaine Alternative:

Burn trash for Energy

Energy then runs the  
Recycling Operation

Only Ash to a Landfill

Better Sorting Equipment and Markets

Measure Contamination for each Load



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## Closing the Landfill

Recycle more items (milk cartons, aseptic containers, GLASS)

Crushed Glass used instead of sand

Possible Rebate on our recycling costs  
Due to ACR

Cost also depends on Contamination



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## Closing the Landfill

### Recommendations

Transfer Station

Trash

Recyclables

Large Trailers to haul to Portland

Separate collections for trash and recyclables

Active Organics Recycling





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Closing the Landfill

Special Items

Brush

Shingles

Metal

Rechargeable Batteries

Electronic waste

Construction debris

Used Motor Oil

Hazardous Waste

Old Tires



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Closing the Landfill

Mesh bags for Vegetables

Reusable bags for hauling  
groceries

Shop with reduced and Recyclable  
Packaging in Mind

Follow the age-old formula!

**Use It Up**

**Wear It Out**

**Make It Do**

**Do Without**