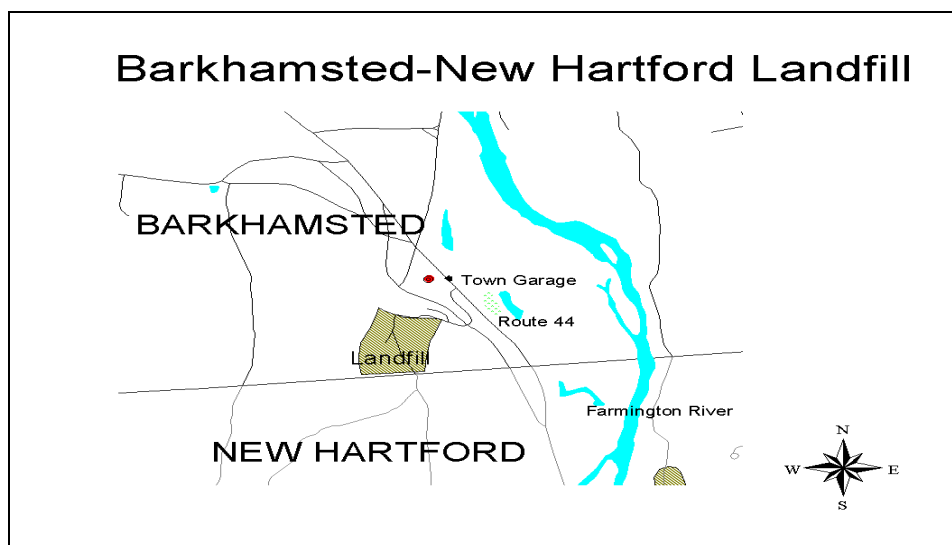


Health Information on Hazardous Waste Sites

BARKHAMSTED-NEW HARTFORD LANDFILL

The Barkhamsted-New Hartford Landfill is a municipal landfill that is currently used as a recycling and reclamation center. The Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH), in cooperation with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, was asked to investigate whether contamination at this site may cause health problems in the neighboring community. A document has been produced from that investigation, and is referred to as a Public Health Assessment. This document was produced using data provided by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other groups involved with the management of this site. In addition, community health data and concerns of the community were also used as a basis of the document. This fact sheet summarizes the findings of this document. If you have any health questions about this site, and/or would like a copy of the document, please write or call Gary Perlman or Kenny Foscue at the Connecticut Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Epidemiology and Occupational Health, 410 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT 06134-0308, (860) 509-7742.

Site Summary



The Barkhamsted-New Hartford Landfill (BLS) is located adjacent to and southwest of Route 44 within the towns of Barkhamsted and New Hartford. This ten-acre municipal

landfill has been operating since 1974 as an unlined landfill. This site currently operates under a Solid Waste Disposal Facility permit issued by the Connecticut Department of

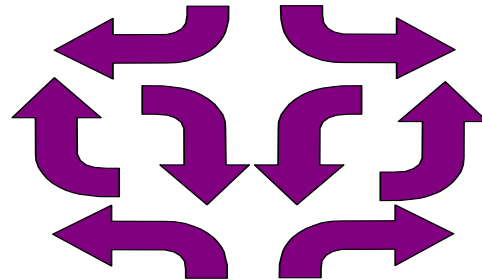
Environmental Protection (CT DEP). BLS is owned and operated by Regional Refuse Disposal District number one.

The landfill until recently received bulky and solid waste (including construction and demolition debris and other waste that are not able to be processed), but this has ceased. At this time, the site is only used as a recycling and transfer center. The items currently accepted for recycling include: antifreeze, automotive batteries, box-board, cardboard, drycell batteries, food containers, grass clippings, junk mail, leaves, magazines, newspapers, office paper, old clothes, telephone books, tire tubes, tires, and waste oil. A transfer station is in operation for handling bulky waste.

From April of 1974 to August of 1988, BLS was used for solid waste disposal, and received municipal and industrial waste including, but not limited to, oily sludge, metal grindings, and degreasers (solvents). The Landfill also conducted a barrel crushing operation from which reclaimed metals were obtained.

On October 4, 1989, the Barkhamsted-New Hartford Landfill was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). On December 16, 1991, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) completed a *Preliminary Public Health Assessment*.

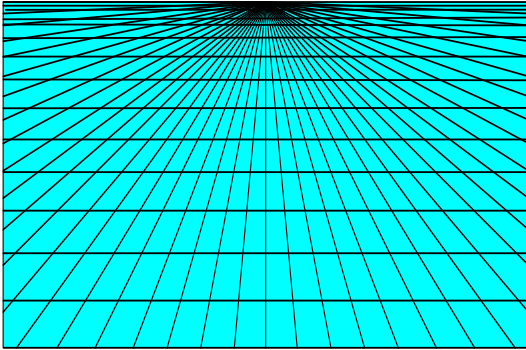
The *Preliminary Public Health Assessment* concluded that the Barkhamsted-New Hartford Landfill Site was an “indeterminate public health hazard.” This designation was selected due to the lack of sufficient environmental data on the site needed to determine potential health risks. In December of 1996, a *Public Health Assessment* was completed by the CT DPH, based on additional environmental sampling data. This final version classified the landfill as a “no apparent public health hazard.”



Contamination

The Landfill received municipal and industrial waste that included oily sludge, metal grindings, and degreasers (solvents). The sludge contained cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, manganese, nickel, and zinc, as well as solvents. The main contaminants of concern are trichloroethylene (TCE) and cis-1,2-dichloroethylene. These two contaminants were found in the Barkhamsted Town Garage drinking water well. Antimony, arsenic, and

selenium were detected at low levels in three private wells. Site-related metals were found in the soil on two residential properties near the landfill.



Health Concerns

- ⇒ The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the Connecticut Department of Public Health have concluded that this site represents *No Apparent Public Health Hazard* for residents living near the site.
- ⇒ Residents in a small number of homes may have been exposed in the past, and may now be exposed to site-related contaminants in private drinking water wells. However, all past and current exposures to contaminants in the water are likely to be below levels associated with health effects.
- ⇒ Residents who live near the landfill may have been exposed to site-

related contaminants present in the surface soil of the two residential properties. However, residents were unlikely to be exposed at levels of health concern.

- ⇒ Lead was detected in drinking water at several residences. The lead is probably from plumbing fixtures in the individual homes, and is not site-related.
- ⇒ Methane gas may be migrating into the Barkhamsted Landfill office. This may present a physical hazard, due to the potential explosion risk presented by methane.



Public Health and Remediation Activities

- ◇ The CT Department of Public Health will distribute information about the site, along with general environmental health educational materials, to area health professionals.
- ◇ The EPA and the CT DEP are reviewing the design of the proposed landfill cap, leachate and collection system and the gas collection system. The CT DEP anticipates approving the design in April 1997. Construction will

begin shortly after this approval.

- ◇ EPA will conduct sampling for methane in the Landfill office.
- ◇ The need for further site clean-up plans will be determined by EPA and the CT DEP by the end of 1997.

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Where Can I Get More Information?

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Bureau of Air Management

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