

DUMP THE DUMP NOW!



Aerial view of proposal site including 35 acre “Quarry Lake”

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Happy Anniversary – do you like it??

November 10, 2010 was the day many things changed for our community. Taggart Miller Environmental Services posted an ad in local newspapers, informing us of their intention to create a waste disposal & recycling center on 500 acres of land in North Russell. A year later, the process plods on for the dump builders, but time has raced by for the rest of us. Hundreds of people have come out to rallies & events, thousands have signed petitions, and countless hours have gone into researching our environment and community. A year later, it is clearer than ever what we are fighting to protect, and why.

Happy Anniversary—we’re just getting started. To mark the occasion, we’re launching this monthly newsletter. Please feel free to contribute photos, comments and other material related to Dump the Dump NOW’s opposition to the CRRRC project, for next month’s edition – our group is all about helping this community stay informed and speak out!



Protesting Crowd on the North Russell Rd, Oct.18, 2011 copyrighted image - all rights reserved to Dump the Dump Now

Dump the Dump Now Protest Great Success!!!

RUSSELL, Ontario

A crowd of 350 people gathered at the North Russell Cemetery near the village of Russell on the evening of October 18 to protest the plans by Taggart Group of Companies and Miller Group of Companies to start a new landfill site there.

The protest was organized over the weekend by Dump the Dump Now, when residents heard that Taggart Miller would be taking a group on tour in the site. That tour was cancelled but the protest went ahead. Protesters carried signs with slogans such as “Food not Trash”, “Farmland not Wasteland”, “Not Here Not Now Not Ever”, “Please Think of Us Kids”, “My Cows Drink This Water”, “Dump that Stinking Dump”, “I Like Clean Water”, and “Taggart Go Home”.

Protesters came from Russell, Embrun, Vars, Marionville, Limoges, Chesterville Winchester and other nearby communities. They are concerned about the negative impacts of 500 acres of waste, which is about the same size as the nearest village, on their lives. One of their biggest fears is groundwater contamination.

Groundwater on the site, which contains Russell Township’s largest lake, connects to a regional aquifer which supplies water to surrounding farm wells. Geologists also suspect it connects to the Vars-Winchester aquifer, which supplies water to numerous small communities in Eastern Ontario. The site is recognized as a groundwater recharge area by the South Nation Conservation Authority.

The community also protested using a “greenfield” site for waste, the loss of Class One farmland (0.05% of land in Canada), and the loss of brickmaking shale in the quarry which is a designated provincially significant resource. Other concerns include 200 trucks per day on township roads, air quality, proximity to homes, farms and two thriving villages, surface water pollution, and destruction of a rich habitat containing nesting grounds for endangered species, among hundreds of other flora and fauna.

Taggart Miller claims the site will be a recycling centre and refers to it as a green business.



Their opponents point out that plans posted on the proponents' website (www.crrrc.ca) show that half the site would be landfill to receive 88% of the waste entering the site, about one-third would be contaminated soil stockpiling, and a large area near the lake, which would be filled in, would become a leachate treatment pond.

Residents are concerned about the track record of the Ministry of the Environment which oversees the approval of waste facilities in Ontario. Said one Russell protester, "Ministry of the Environment? Ha! Ministry of Destruction of the Environment is more like it." Another resident near the proposed site said, "The government wouldn't allow a landfill liner that would last for 10 years, but they'll allow one that supposedly lasts for 100. Isn't that just giving us a bomb with a longer fuse?"

YOU WERE HEARD!!!

The People of this community have spoken and Russell Township Council has heard. Even before the council meeting on November 7, 2011, the recommendation proposing the township's consultant work with the dump proponents was amended, and at the council meeting it was discussed, not supported, and died before it hit the table.

About 40 of you came in solidarity to Russell Township Council on Monday night, and the mayor stated he and the councilors had received emails and phone calls from "many times the number of people in this room."

Your emails, your phone calls, your presence, and YOUR ACTION, made a difference. Thank you to everyone!!! **This is how communities win!!!**



Citizens stand to show their opposition at council meeting

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What's Up??

- We need volunteers and ideas! Please email us to help: info@dumpthedumpnow.ca
- Our office at **649 Notre Dame, Embrun** is open: Monday to Friday, 9am to noon
- Visit our website: www.dumpthedumpnow.ca
- Like our Facebook page (over 800 and counting...!!!!)
- **You know it:** send us your helpful information to aid our research!!
- See you at the Christmas Parades: **Embrun**, November 26th, 2011
Russell, November 27th, 2011