

**From:** [steve.strauss@gmail.com](mailto:steve.strauss@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Benton Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill / Application filing number LU- 24-027  
**Date:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 4:41:42 PM

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Dear Planning Commission Members:

I write in opposition to the proposed expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill.

I am an avid walker and biker, and use the area often, especially the Dunn Forest 400/420 gravel road loop that has the landfill directly in view (and about a half-mile away). I also use other trails in nearby McDonald Forest. Increasingly over the 40 years I have lived in town and recreated in the general area, the smell from Coffin Butte has grown. This really spoils my recreation experience, and I am sure cannot be good to breathe.

I am also concerned about the leachate, and its effect on humans, animals and plants that use nearby wetlands and the Willamette River. Often the heavy metals that leach can be deleterious in extremely low concentrations. What are the plans for monitoring and mitigation? Without a lot of data and engineering specifics, the proposed expansion should not even be considered. I have not seen these data and plans, and wonder if they have been examined in depth by qualified toxicologists and engineers who have no conflicts of interest? As an OSU professor who has taught a toxicology course for years, I can recommend some to you if that would be helpful.

Thanks much for considering my concerns.

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