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To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coffin Butte Expansion
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Clean land, air and water are limited resources and are needed now and in the future. Typically it is more cost effective to prevent pollution versus respond afterwards with clean-up efforts. An expansion to gain six years appears short-sighted and not a viable path forward.

I was born in Corvallis and grew up in North Albany. As a kid growing up on a farm, we reused things, recycled and composted at home before it was trendy. We did make trips to the dump and, as kids, it was fascinating to see the big trucks and bigs piles of trash at the landfill at Coffin Butte.

In more recent years, I've seen items at the dump that really don't belong there: BBQ grills (scrap metal), bikes, etc that would be better recycled/repurposed. Yes, this takes time and education of the public.

Through the years, our world, as a whole, has moved towards more packaging, plastic and things that have planned obsolescence and are not cost effective to repair. Cheap and low quality items are "disposable," as can be seen at move out days during OSU when students abandon mattresses, couches, etc by the dumpsters or on the street corners in Corvallis.

By continuing to expand the ease of making our trash "go away," people will continue to make the easy and convenient choice of putting all things in a dumpster versus taking the time to consider if there is value in recycling (ie: scrap metal) or passing items along to another person (bikes, clothing, etc.)

I realize there is a need to serve the local community with the landfill. I also realize when landfill prices go up, more things get illegally dumped, often left in rural and farming areas, creating more work for someone else. I know people in the Portland area who choose to load up their building scrap to bring it to Coffin Butte because it's cheaper.

Landfill for the local community makes sense. Being a cheap dumping ground for waste as far away as Washington does not make sense. The decision China made to stop accepting plastic recycling from overseas a few years ago comes to mind.

Tracy H