

**From:** [Community Development, Benton County, Oregon](#)  
**To:** [Benton Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Feedback  
**Date:** Monday, June 30, 2025 3:17:23 PM

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Subject of Testimony: Opposed to Expanding the Coffin Butte Landfill

Full Name: Rick Fletcher

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Street Address: 29040 Blake Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330

Written Testimony:

We bought our land on Blake Drive back in 1992, family home built in 1993 (~1mi from Landfill). We have lived there for the past 32 years, caring for the water, wildlife and forest, as well as producing Christmas trees on our 94 acres. It has been a wonderful place to live and raise our family, UNTIL THE LAST FEW YEARS. Prior to that time we could not see or smell the landfill. That has all changed with recent policies of Republic Services and Valley Landfills to collect garbage from throughout western Oregon. Now the line of trucks from other counties begins at dawn and the mountain of trash has grown quickly. Due to current size, we constantly hear noise from that site, and smell foul odors any time the wind blows from the north or east. Enough is enough. PLEASE TELL THEM THERE WILL BE NO EXPANSION OF THIS SITE, NOW OR IN THE FUTURE. It seems like they made a greedy business decision to take trash from the larger region, quickly filling up the existing site, and now we are left with an unknown legacy of how to keep this site from destroying our local community and water systems. ADDING MORE WASTE on a site with a history of failures (water overflows, leaching, and methane escapes), is a REALLY BAD POLICY IDEA.

I also hope that you, as decision makers on this important community issue are carefully considering the size of the lawsuits that are likely to come as this site ages, and control measures now in place fail. This would be much worse if you choose to expand the size of the landfill even further. I understand that we in western Oregon need to find a place to safely store our waste. Coffin Butte is just a poor place to do that.

I have hauled our garbage to Coffin Butte for 32 years, and have personally seen the use expand rapidly. Expanding it further, is not the right future solution, though. Please work with our legislators, adjacent counties, and public agencies over the next few years to find better solutions.

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