

## Burke, Ruth A

---

**From:** Robyn Tarantino <rtarantino201@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:26 PM  
**To:** DEP Rule Comments  
**Subject:** Comment on Chapter 400: Maine Solid Waste Management Rules

**EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

If there is one thing becoming ever clearer with each new scientific discovery, it is that we are all interconnected. We cannot go on with business as usual, fouling our environment and putting money ahead of the health of our people and our ecosystem. I have been very fortunate in my life in that I never lived near a Superfund site, or experienced friends or family sickened or killed as a result of environmental degradation - but even I have seen some of my own blueberry land killed for several years due an accidental discharge of toxic pesticide.

Ignorance is Bliss, but we are no longer ignorant - We Must Do Better. If there's one thing that I am confident about, it is that Americans can innovate our way out of problems if we have the will to do it. Don't embrace ignorance - embrace science. 1) change DEP rules to have local communities participate in any decisions that affect their local environment, and 2) define very explicitly what is meant by the term 'waste' as well as how waste can be disposed of here in Maine. As weather gets more extreme and sea levels rise, there will be increasing pressure on our state (there already is!). We must be proactive and use the best available science to drive our public policy, to protect our resources and our communities.

Robyn Tarantino  
201 High Street  
Lincolntonville 04849