

# BETHLEHEM, NH

## Local Control and Waste Reduction Ordinance

### **An Overview of what the proposed new Ordinance will do:**

- Assert the rights of the People to a healthy, clean environment, and of the environment to exist and flourish, and impose penalties for violations of these rights.
- Recognize that Regulatory Laws are written and advanced on behalf of the regulated industries, that they fail to protect the People and the environment from harms, that they leave the People with minimal power to merely *limit the degree* of damage such behavior inflicts and that Regulatory Laws deny communities the right to simply say “no” to destructive corporate activities.
- Recognize that current local, state and national waste policies are unsustainable and establish a community waste policy based on reports from the Citizen’s Advisory Group on Recycling, with targeted but non-mandatory goals for recycling, reuse and reduction of waste by the community.
- Assert the legitimate authority of the People of Bethlehem to control the storage and dumping of waste in the Town by exercising their inalienable right to local self-government in enacting this Ordinance.
- Assert that corporations being used to traffic in waste within the Town are subordinate to the People of Bethlehem, that corporations may not exercise privileges of legal “personhood” or wield the constitution and the law against the People and community government of the Town of Bethlehem in order to deny their local self-governing authority.
- Assert that state and federal laws that usurp the right of the People to make local governing decisions on issues which directly affect their community, environment, quality of life, and the health, safety and welfare of future generations are unjust and illegitimate.
- Prohibit waste hauling corporations from storing and dumping an array of waste materials within the Town of Bethlehem, and impose penalties for such violations.
- Prohibit anyone from using or assisting a corporation to violate the provisions of this ordinance, within the Town of Bethlehem, and impose penalties for violating these prohibitions.