

## Danford Landfill Project

Gary Gauthier, Owner Camping Pickanock.

Camping Pickanock is a family run R.V. campground situated on the Pickanock River at Gracefield, Quebec. The campground has been in business for 37 years, has 50 campsites of which 75% are seasonal residents. During the main holiday period after school lets out for the summer the campground is at capacity with anywhere from 100 - 200 campers on any given day. Every summer we get tourists from all over Europe the United States and Canada that tour Quebec. We advertise in CAA, AAA, CDCQ and Woodalls.

The Pickanock River is a pristine recreational waterway that attracts many campers, canoers, fishermen and swimmers to use the clean, clear water on a daily basis. Some cottagers draw their drinking water directly from the Pickanock.

The Pickanock River is one of the best known picturesque rivers in the region with waterfalls and white water rapids providing challenges for the expert canoer and novice alike. Each year many canoers make the two day canoe trip from Otter Lake terminating at Camping Pickanock. Ottawa University and wilderness schools teach canoeing on the Pickanock as well, body surfing over rapids is a popular sport. Notables that have made the canoe trip down the Pickanock in the past were Pierre Trudeau and his son.

The Pickanock River is a major producing spawning ground for walleye (Dore) in Quebec. From the mouth of the Gatineau River to the iron bridge at the western end of the campground it is against the law to fish during the spawning season.

Local families and from Gracefield and the surrounding area swim and fish in the Pickanock all summer long.

No matter how good or thick the liner is, if the Danford Mega Dump is allowed to be established within 300 yards of the river it will be a relatively short period of time before pollution will leach into the river. The water table and spring run-off as well the wind will carry garbage into the river doing irreparable damage to the wild life and to tourism at Camping Pickanock and to the region. If the tourists and campers at Pickanock camping are not allowed to swim or fish in the river because of pollution they will stop coming it will ruin my family business as well as reducing the revenues of the many businesses in the town of Gracefield where our campers spend money.

There are many areas in Quebec where a dump could be established that would not do harm to the environment, tourism and businesses that benefit from the Pickanock River.

Thank you