FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Further Information: Brian Flaherty (860) 757-7771
Pager: (860) 939-7534

CRRA Presents Future Use Plan for Shelton Landfill

Plan features greenway trails, boat launch, ecological enhancements

SHELTON, October 4, 2001 The Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority (CRRA) presented its future use plan for the Shelton Landfill today at a public meeting convened by Mayor Mark Lauretti. This was the first public airing of the "Public Use and Recreation," which was required under CRRA's landfill permit from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

DEP, which approved the plan in June 2001 joined CRRA in presenting the plan to Shelton officials and residents to receive their input.

The plan focuses on passive recreational use of the landfill, and includes greenway trails, a boat launch on the Housatonic River, and other ecological enhancements to the facility, which is now closed and capped.

As presented by CRRA staff and their consultant, TRC Environmental, the purposes of the plan are:

- To provide beneficial future use of the landfill site
- To take advantage of its proximity to, and commanding view of, the Housatonic River
- To provide public access to the river for recreational purposes
- To enhance the ecologic value of the site
- The plan calls for several ecological improvements at the site to transform it from its prior use as a landfill to a public recreational area. Chief among those are the following features:
- A system of multiple greenway trails
- An estuary observation deck
- A small craft boat launch area for canoes and kayaks
- Osprey nesting platforms

"This facility's life as an active landfill has ended, and now our focus is on innovative ways to enhance its value to the people of Shelton as a gateway to the Housatonic, a home for wildlife and a handicapped-accessible venue for people to connect with nature," said CRRA President Robert E. Wright. "We are certainly anxious for the community's participation and input."