

The first thing you need to do when writing a letter to the Town Supervisor is have the right address:

Supervisor Daniel Panico
1 Independence Hill
Farmingville, NY 11738

You put this at the top of your letter and on the envelope.

Next, you start the letter with something like:

Dear Supervisor Panico,

It's important to use the Supervisor's title as a show of respect. When writing to elected officials, like with any person, you don't want to come across as challenging or attacking them. You're just a concerned citizen looking to express your concern, and they are obligated to hear that concern since they were elected (you may have heard in your social studies classes the term "social contract" – this is that!).

After the first line, you have plenty of room to do what you want with the body of your letter. The goal is to express your concern about the landfill, and about all the problems with it. A few ideas for points you can mention are:

- Tell the Supervisor how far away your house is from the landfill
 - The landfill's address is 350 Horseblock Road, Brookhaven, NY 11719 – use Google Maps or some similar app to figure out how many miles that is from your house!
- Talk about how the landfill's plume has continued to grow every year you've been alive.
 - You can find a map showing the growth of the plume on this webpage <https://www.pinebarrens.org/middle-school-kids-go-to-college/>

The point is to talk about how the problems related to the landfill affect you, your friends, your family, your community, and so on. An important thing to remember is that the Supervisor knows the facts of the landfill. When writing to an elected official, and when trying to persuade them, you need to be personal. How this affects you, those you love, and your community will go a long way to doing that. You can find lots more information about the landfill here <https://www.pinebarrens.org/inspiring-youth-resources/>, which may help you figure out what angle you want to take for your letter.

And then, finally, you can keep things simple by ending with:

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]