

2019 ACEC of Maine Engineering Excellence Awards

Sevee & Maher Engineers, Inc. (SME) of Cumberland received an **Honor Award for Social and Economic Impact** for its exemplary work on a project to expand and modernize the Bath municipal landfill in Maine. The Maine Chapter of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) presented the environmental engineering firm with the 2019 Engineering Excellence Award, in the Environmental category, for the firm's performance as consultant for the City of Bath Landfill Phase 3 Project.

The project increased the landfill's lifespan, reduced capital and landfill operational costs, and enhanced environmental protection. SME's innovative approach and technical design made it possible for the City to gain critical landfill space without expanding the facility's footprint. The firm's solution eliminated the need for an existing leachate storage pond, which freed up space while making the landfill more secure and economical to operate. The new design applied modern landfill technology to support the City's objective to optimize capacity of the municipal solid waste disposal resource.



Diminishing landfill capacity is a growing concern for municipalities. Maine and other New England states face a critical shortage of disposal options for the solid waste that cannot be recycled or reused, as existing landfills and incinerators reach capacity and/or are closed. "The new design optimized the available disposal capacity and made the landfill more efficient to operate and environmentally secure, which will save the City money over time," according to Senior Project Manager Mike Booth, who oversaw the project for SME. He said the company worked closely with the City to understand the project's unique complexities and challenges. The upgrade and modernization project increased the landfill's capacity by approximately 214,000 cubic yards, allowing it to remain open until at least 2029. "Being recognized by our peers and for the work we do is a real honor," said SME President Peter Maher. "We're proud of the work we do every day, and I'm really pleased to share this tribute with our whole team."

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