

Dear Sirs:

I have been resident of the town of Pawling for over 40 years and I have seen many changes to our area, some good and some bad. I have noticed that many of us are well intentioned but one of the most serious situations that environmentalists encounter is the common concept that saving land is good thing but what the general public fails to understand is the concept of niche and biodiversity. What must be understood and what is really most important is to understand the concept of ecosystems. Of course land is important but without proper understanding of the complex interactions between the land and the total concept of niche ultimately results in a sterile environment devoid of any viable fauna or flora. To accomplish biodiversity and produce a true functioning ecosystem conserved land must be continuous and buffered. Fragmented parcels are useless as disconnected beads of a necklace. What must be done to preserve parcels of land that can guarantee a non-fragmented unified area.

I strongly suggest that when planning any development the result is a plan which also takes into consideration true and proper land management. Aquifer depletion resulting in septic pollution and increases in aquatic toxic load must be considered. Well draw down, lack of buffer zones of at least 200 to 300 feet and aquifer alterations will result not only in contaminated water for the local development but may result in total aquifer toxicity.

I strongly suggest that competent environmentalists with expertise in aquatic toxicology join with environmentalists expert in biodiversity to plan a well thought out future for the town

I hope these comments will be of some help in guiding your decisions.

Sincerely

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*"The law says that if you poison your water you will suffer.  
The law says if you poison your air you'll suffer.  
The law says if you degrade where you live you'll suffer.  
The law says all of this, and if you don't learn that, you can only suffer.  
There is no discussion."  
Oren Lyons*