

COLLECTION OF EMAILS AGAINST 1362 PLANDOME RD. DIRT PLATEAU

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 10:08 PM

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of the Town of North Hempstead and homeowner in the watershed that connects my house in Port Washington to Plandome, I feel driven to submit a Public Comment re. the Village of Plandome Manor BZA Meeting on June 15, 2023.

I, Hildur P. Dello-Iacono, live just steps away from Manhasset Bay and quite naturally feel deeply concerned about Leeds Pond health and the continued overdevelopment around the pond. I'm especially concerned about deforestation, application of (high Nitrogen) fertilizers to lawns leading to the pond, and most critically the recent landfill in this new development of interest here, that negatively affects pond health. Also, of critical concern here is the detection of fecal coliform matter in the pond as measured by Dr. Gobler's lab, Stonybrook University.

As a co-founder of the movement of Rewild Long Island, I feel sincerely concerned about how on land activities, destruction of ecosystems and harmful land mis-management affects our waterways. Manhasset Bay is in bad shape and needs all the help it can get. You can visit this website <http://www.soundhealthexplorer.org> to get a copy of latest Save The Sound 2023 Long Island Sound Beach Report where in terms of swimability the nearby Manorhaven Beach is rated among the worst in this region, or at a Grade C. Here at Leeds impoundment we must collectively aim at ecological restoration to reclaim what once was, or else surrender to toxic algal bloom with associated harm to public health.

At this critical juncture in human history, with air pollution levels at unprecedented high here on Long Island, it is timely we turn towards stewardship and efforts to reduce pollution. We must actively restore health to local ecosystems and curb pollution both on land, in waterways and in the air.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hildur P. Dello-Iacono

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 9:14 PM

Dear Sirs,

As an informed Citizen, I attended the last Village hearing regarding the excessive dumping of 'landfill' adjacent to Leeds Pond. It was plainly clear that the 'developer', without the proper "Permit", had exceeded the Villages acceptable requirements by 100%.

You are the "Authority" of the Village and must act as such.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Shipman

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 5:52 PM

I have been Port Washington and Manhasset resident for the last 59 years. Currently I am living in Plandome on Plymouth Road. My family and I are very concerned about the cleanliness and ecological safety of Leeds Pond in the surrounding waterways of our beautiful hometown. It is imperative that we keep these places sacred and clean. I would like to know what the town is doing to make sure of this.

Best, Anthony

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 10:58 AM

To whom it may concern,

Save. Leeds. Pond.

I reject the developers proposal, and request the removal of all landfill now and restore Leeds pond to its natural condition.

I've lived here and fished in our waters around Leeds pond my whole life. I'm also the manager at a local bait and tackle store, where I see dozens of people and kids come in talking about fishing at Leeds pond. Leeds pond is the source of entertainment, food, and inspiration for people of all ages and races. It's protection is critical for our community and sustaining our waterways.

Please do the right thing, and SAVE LEEDS POND.

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 10:34 AM

I have been a Manhasset Resident for 63 years and have NO plans to leave Manhasset. I have Enjoyed and passed by Leeds Pond thousands of times and it is an essential part of Manhasset And Plandome.

It is part of our history. Manhasset doesn't need more housing it needs the open space and The interaction with nature that occurs on and around the pond and the surrounding areas.

The Pond deserves to be properly maintained and more access provided to the surrounding Land so that more residents can take advantage of it.

Keep Leeds Pond, Say NO to more housing, it will be a great Win for our current residents and Future generation.

Thank you – Paul Iskyan

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 6:01 AM

As a 40-year resident of the community, I am deeply concerned , as are many others, with maintaining the health and safety of our surrounding waterways. Runoff from the sub watershed including Leeds Pond into Manhasset Bay directly affects the water quality in the Bay.

We all have a continuing responsibility to protect our waterways. On July 20, 2023, the Village of Plandome Zoning Board of Appeals (BZA) will be voting on whether to approve the pending compromise proposal to grant the Developer and new owners of 1362 Plandome Rd a variance for 300 cubic yards of fill. This is 6 times the amount of fill allowed under Village laws which allows issuance of permits for only 50 cubic yards. Although this has been reduced from the 500 cubic yards that is currently on the property which was dumped there without a permit or prior notice, it still presents a serious risk to the health of Leeds Pond and Manhasset Bay.

This is a serious issue for not only the Village of Plandome , but also for the entire community on the Port Washington peninsula. I am calling on you to reject the developer's proposal and require all landfill be removed, and that the shoreline of Leeds Pond be restored to its natural condition.

This is an issue of importance to the greater community, and much attention is now focused on this issue and your decisions. I also urge you to leave the public comment period open until after your next meeting on July 20, 2023.

Thank you,

Paul Merkelson

Date: Wed, Jun 28, 2023, 9:37 PM

TWIMC,

My parents moved to Long Island about 15 years ago. While I kept in frequent contact with them, I stayed housed with a friend for two years longer, still living in my original hometown of Omaha, Nebraska in the Midwest. Eventually I followed my parents, having a desire to attend the universities this state contains. I have experienced wonderful opportunities in New York, with regard to my education and personal growth. I consider Nassau County my home, and my home here introduced me to the shoreline wildlife that I anticipate seeing (nearly) every day in Port Washington during my work commute.

It was recently after my beloved mother's passing that I walked the footpaths of the parks she visited. The geese, the fish and all the other native inhabitants of the shoreline areas she frequented became a comfort. Now, I am urging those responsible for the fate of Leeds Pond to consider its wellbeing. I know my voice represents other Long Islanders', whose numbers would be greater if they knew the danger facing our environment. It's my hope that they are not aware only after the damage has been done. Thank you for your time,

Mona M. Bidhendi

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 6:29 PM

I am writing, because I am very concerned about the pollution that is being caused by development at Leeds Pond. Not only does it pollute the pond directly but also Manhasset Bay.

The Village of Plandome has a duty to protect the ecological health and well-being of our community and therefore must reject the developer's proposal by removing ALL landfill now and restore Leeds Pond to its natural condition.

The Village of Plandome Manor must also restore the Democratic process and leave public comment open until after next meeting on July 20 2023.

Sincerely,

Margaret Galbraith

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 5:50 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am concerned about the recent development occurring around Leeds Pond. This pond represents an important segment of the Manhasset Bay and along Island Sound watershed as well as an essential habitat for native flora and fauna in our peninsula. Moving forward with development without careful evaluation and critical guidelines to limit the damage to the pond would be a grave mistake. The landfill already placed endangers the delicate balance of the pond ecosystem and should be carefully remediated. Please protect this precious resource within our community.

Thank you,
Heather Clark

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 3:48 PM

Dear Mayor Donno et al,

I am responding to your letter regarding the Leeds Pond Situation,

Before one discredits citizen action which arose out of concern for protecting the ecology of Leeds Pond and by extension its watershed with a long term view, I suggest that the big picture be looked at. And not with an institutional response of trust us, we have the correct perspective, Why? Because that misses an opportunity to advance dialogue and gain a broad look at an issue that is not a one off, or a little matter of dirt. The issue is pervasive—negatively impacting an already compromised ecology. One can drive trucks through guidelines, regulations and codes when they do not address the small issue that embodies the big picture. Specifically, governance oversight that is fragmented, incomplete and inadequate to embrace the issue of the fragility of small bodies of water.

As an officer in a lake twice the size of Leeds Pond with restrictions, inspections of septics, no watercraft coming in and out from other water, a statewide water testing protocol, no building within 100 ft of the lake, septics checked, and a lake committed to learning lake ecological issues, I suggest the town steep itself in the nitty gritty issues of water ecology.

When you lose water quality, we know the fixes are not quick, easy, inexpensive and sometimes cannot be remediated.. I recommend that your town, village and lakes join the New York State Federation of Lake Associations (<https://nysfola.org/>). It's collaboratively run through NYSDEC, Cornell and lakes and ponds all over the state, with annual conferences addressing a wide range of issues. Issues that clearly press on Leeds Pond.

Always at issue is proportion. One person's big dream home on an undersized but legal lot becomes an issue. Imbalance. The dirt and elevation maneuvers are endemic to the island. Satisfying lifestyle and aspirations have environmental impacts not just aesthetic impacts. Especially, when municipalities shy away from the potential harmful impacts of small decisions when doing housing—run off, asphalt leaching, culvert corrosion/collapse, saltification of water, nutrient loading, herbicide spraying and dirt importing..

Learning, getting up to speed with the basic science available and connecting it to building and landscaping trends and impacts are necessary for local governments and by extension developers, homeowners, and engineers. DEC is not always the standard.

Much development on Long Island and upstate is a sad testimony to failure to look at land and water use consequences. How we live, treat water and our land is fundamental, not just a voting issue. Outreach to the community in a positive frame is critical. The disappearance of buffer zones of trees and shrubs along the Leeds Pond is but one impactful example.. Lake science, limnology is very revealing.

Being good stewards is the bottom line. Connecting to communities with similar ecological issues is the name of the game.

Share and be positive with your learning. There are higher values than those of the marketplace. Protect or lose.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Woodard

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 12:45 PM

Please protect the pond at all costs and please do not side with the developer, you represent the public's interest.

- 1) REJECT the developer's proposal by removing ALL landfill now, STOP harmful run-off into Leeds Pond and restore Leeds Pond back to its natural condition
- 2) LEAVE public comment open until after next BZA meeting on July 20 2023
- 3) PROTECT and SAVE Leeds Pond now for the future

Respectfully,
William Lodise

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 11:41 AM

Hello,

I am sending this email in regards to the Leeds Pond in Plandome. I am asking the authorities to prevent the Leeds Pond from being damaged or possibly destroyed. These ponds and their natural environment are very important to me. I am sure they are as important to many others even if they don't voice their concern. I can't count the number of times my wife and I walked around some of these ponds in our area, and how we enjoyed watching the wildlife these ponds support. We saw many goslings grow up around these parks and ponds every single year. Some of these goslings knew us very well, and they even came very close to us. We monitored their growth without interfering with their natural and wild lives. Still, they saw us so often that they became used to us. This is only one visible example of wildlife these ponds support. There are many other living creatures inside the water of these ponds who live and need the clean and untainted water and their environment. These creatures can't live with all the dirt and soil artificially added to their environment and polluting their water and depriving them of their much needed oxygen. Please imagine what could happen to all the wildlife which depend on clean and natural water and their environment. If we allow the destruction of the water in these ponds, then it won't be long when all the geese, ducks, swans, and many other native birds become extinct in our area and from Long Island. Please note that fish and other aquatic animals depend on clean and uncontaminated water much more than birds do. I attended a Pond Discovery Day in one of our area ponds recently. It was a great learning experience. I was amazed and surprised how much life exists in one scoop of water from one of our ponds. I saw life I had never seen before with each one of them playing a vital role in the natural balance of our planet. We can't afford to lose the natural characteristics of our environment; that is equivalent to destruction of our nature and natural resources. The problem is not only the destruction of our ponds and the wildlife they support. Us humans, physically and mentally, need what every bit of nature provides to us, no matter how small it is. Every single pond matters in the natural balance of our environment and in our lives. Environment as a whole, is like a human body. Destruction of one pond, no matter it's size, is like removing a vital organ from a human body. Please save our

environment. Please save Leeds Pond.

Thank you,
Saeed Bidhendi

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 11:28 AM

BZA members,

Please reject the short sighted developer's proposal and remove all landfill as soon as possible in order to restore Leeds Pond to its natural condition.

In order to give the public adequate time to weigh in on this important issue I ask that you leave public comment open until after your next meeting on July 20 2023.

Please protect and save Leeds Pond now for the future.

Thank you.

Sent: Saturday, June 24, 2023 7:16 AM

Please reconsider the application for the construction and land fill on Leeds Pond. The disruption of the wild life, increase in traffic and effects on the ground water and life in Manhasset would be very disruptive.

Sent from my iPhone

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Sent: Friday, June 23, 2023 11:32 AM

Save our precious habitat please. Thanksgiving k you

Margaret Flannery

Sent from my iPhone

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:03 PM

Dear BZA,

I am a long-time resident of Plandome and I reject the developer's proposal, we must remove ALL landfill now and restore Leeds Pond to its natural condition

I also ask that you leave public comment open until after next meeting on July 20 2023.

It is very alarming that this project is not rejected on its face in light of the current climate change crisis, we must save, not destroy, our disappearing natural landscapes therefore it is your mandate to Protect and save Leeds Pond now, for the future. It is your duty listen to the public, consider what you want your legacy to be.

Thank you for your consideration

Elise Dadourian-Kline

Sent from my iPad

Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:58 PM

To whom it may concern,

As a local concerned citizen I write to encourage the Village of Plandome Manor to act with courage and integrity and require the removal of the pile at 1362 Plandome Road threatening the health of Leeds Pond and the life within it. Leeds Pond is a public jewel the provides natural beauty to the entire community as well as important environmental benefits. To allow those with the privilege to live on its shores to pollute it to the detriment of its entire ecosystem is inexcusable. It is government's job to protect its citizens, not cater to the few. Please exercise your authority and power to do the right thing in accordance with science for the public good.

Regards,
Lynn Singband

Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 11:16 AM

Good Afternoon!

I hope this email finds you well! Please save Leeds Pond from harmful human actions. I have grown up on Long Island and appreciate the natural beauty of our local bodies of water. I encourage you to protect Leeds Pond at all costs!

THANK YOU!

Maggie J

Sent: Sunday, June 18, 2023 5:59 PM

You can't dump next to Leeds pond.
You have to open up public commentary
Leeds pond looks terrible
Please do the right thing
Nadya Swedan

Sent from my iPhone