



Lake Accotink Dredge Pipeline Comments

[Annandale Blog](#)

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The public engagement that brought about the plan to retain Lake Accotink was an admirable example of local civic action at its best.

However, a main motivation for retaining the full lake is its aesthetic value. Now we learn that there is a high aesthetic cost attached in the form of an aboveground, 18 to 24 inch pipeline from Lake Accotink into Wakefield Park, routed along the Cross County Trail and Accotink Creek, plus 5 acres of woods cleared for a dewatering site.

This cost of what is lost is not what the neighbors expected and seems too high for what is being kept.

Issues with the pipeline:

- Industrialization of our parks is not acceptable
- The sacrifice of our dwindling forested habitats is not acceptable
- The pipeline, combined with its pumping stations and with the 5-acre dewatering clearing, will be a hideous eyesore, negating the aesthetic value of retaining the full lake
- No matter how carefully laid, the pipelaying heavy equipment will impair wetlands and habitat.
- The pipeline will block the movement of wildlife
- The pipeline will be 100% in the floodplain. Its interaction with the high water after heavy rain will not be good.

Possible alternatives to the pipeline:

- Dewater sediment on barges in the lake
- Mechanical dewatering to eliminate the need for offsite dewatering
- Adapt the methods employed by Lake Barcroft, with lesser infrastructure needs.
- Route the pipeline alongside the railroad for dewatering in one of several industrial parks along the tracks.
- Reconsider the smaller lake option

Friends of Accotink Creek

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