



Lake Accotink Dredge Comments
From Friends of Accotink Creek

February 7, 2021

Sent to DPWES and the four Lake Accotink supervisors, Braddock, Lee, Springfield, and Mason:

When the decision was made to preserve the full size of Lake Accotink, a 1.5 mile pipeline in the woods and a further 5-acre loss of wooded habitat for a dewatering site were not part of the bargain citizens understood. We must ask ourselves "Is this too much sacrifice?"

However, the December 10th public meeting on the dredge project makes clear that the pipeline to Wakefield Park is the only option being considered.

It is our recollection that community support for the full lake was not premised on a no truck solution, because no such practical alternative was proposed. To be sure, many impractical ideas were suggested by the public for avoiding trucks in neighborhoods.

We understand that the time between future maintenance dredges is now estimated to be eight to ten years, roughly the same time that has elapsed since the last dredge. This begs the question of what will be done with a dewatering site in the woods of Wakefield Park in the years between dredges.

Our suggestion:

- o Skip the initial dredge and go directly into regular maintenance dredging. If sediment accumulation is 20,000 tons per year, we need only average 30,000 tons per year removed to steadily make progress. This would reduce all infrastructure demands, making on-site dewatering a practical possibility and reducing truck traffic to perhaps 20% of what is estimated now. Small dredges may cost more, but the value of the wooded habitat that would be preserved must not be discounted or disregarded

Additionally, with the dam remaining in place, fish/eel passage solutions need to become a part of the future life of the dam, Lake Accotink, and Accotink Creek.

Sincerely,

Friends of Accotink Creek

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