

Karen Edwards

From: Sally Needell <sneedelltc@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2020 12:09 PM
To: James Bubar (james@bubar.org); Coleen Fuerst (cfuerst@durhamboat.com); Mary Ann Krebs; Jacob Kritzer (Jake.kritzer@gmail.com); John Nachilly (nachilly@gmail.com); walter rous (walterrous@gmail.com); Roanne Robbins; Liz Durfee; Michael Behrendt; Rick Taintor; Karen Edwards
Subject: Fwd: loss of ecological services

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sally Needell <sallyneedell@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Oct 23, 2020 at 12:04 PM
Subject: Fwd: loss of ecological services
To: Sally Needell <sneedelltc@gmail.com>

This letter was sent directly to me, and John asked me to forward it to you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Carroll, John <John.Carroll@unh.edu>
Date: Thu, Oct 22, 2020 at 10:56 AM
Subject: loss of ecological services
To: Sally Needell <sallyneedell@gmail.com>

TO: Chair Needell and Members of the Durham Conservation Commission,

I want to remind the Members of the Commission that when 10% of the land area of our Oyster River Watershed is paved over (i.e., hard-surfaced), the land loses its ability to provide ecological services (i.e., cleansing services of water and air, among others). According to UNH forest ecologist Tom Lee, the Oyster River Watershed is over 7% paved/impervious and thus is now approaching this threshold. This is further substantiated by the USGS Deacon-Soule Report, "Effects of Urbanization on Stream Quality at Selected Sites in the Seacoast Region of New Hampshire, 2001-2003", prepared in cooperation with NHDES by the U.S. Geological Survey as Scientific Investigation Report 2005-5103, and authored by Jeffrey R. Deacon, Sally A. Soule and Thor E. Smith. (See especially "Impervious Surface and Stream Quality Measures", p. 13.)

This affects your decision-making relative to Church Hill woodlands, in Oyster River watershed via College Brook (proposed conversion to a proposed parking lot); certain aspects of the Mill Plaza development, also in Oyster River watershed via College Brook); and the Gerrish Extension wetlands and associated Mulhern development, in Oyster River watershed via Gerrish Brook and Johnson Creek (construction and paving of roads, culverts and housing development).

Thank you for giving attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

John Carroll