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**\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*DECEMBER 5, 2022 \*\***

***Sand mining, drinking water wells subject of local hearings on sand and gravel mining Dec. 7 in Plymouth and Carver***

***Concerned residents will hold a rally before the Carver Earth Removal Committee Meeting at 7 p.m.***

***Rally 6 p.m. Carver Town Hall, 108 Main Street, Carver***

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**December 5, 2022**

Concerned residents across Southeastern Massachusetts are challenging local permits for sand and gravel mining that clear-cuts forests and threatens the drinking water aquifer. The permits are being given under the ruse that the mining is for cranberry agriculture. This is not true, according to the opponents.

The opponents will be presenting their cases at two public hearings on December 7, 2022:

- *Plymouth Zoning Board of Appeals at 7 p.m. Town Hall, Court Street.*

Save the Pine Barrens is challenging a claim by AD Makepeace that its 214 acre sand and gravel mine is a cranberry bog project. The group wants the Zoning Board to over turn the 2014 special permit issued to Makepeace, shut down the operation and issue penalties for permit violations.

- *Carver Earth Removal Committee 7 p.m. Town Hall, 108 Main Street.*

Concerned residents are opposing an earth removal permit application from Bette Maki and The Lopes Companies to continue an illegal sand and gravel mine on Meadow Street. Maki's 2011 permit expired and the project has illegally expanded from 10 acres to 20 acres. The Earth Removal Committee gave the permit under the false pretense that Maki is building a cranberry reservoir. The project is a stand alone mining operation and has nothing to do with cranberry farming. The Committee issued a cease and desist in September 2022 but the mining is continuing in violation of the cease and desist and Bylaw.



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