

Community Land and Water Coalition



March 15, 2024
NEWSLETTER

communitylandandwater.org
sandwarsseasouthernma.org

Hello Friends,

Check out the latest victories and updates from Southeastern Massachusetts and the growing grassroots effort to preserve, protect and steward our land and water resources!

From the Community Land & Water Team

Sand Mining

Victory for people and the planet!

Town of Kingston (MA) Denies Sand Mining Permit!

On March 12, 2024, the Kingston **Board of Selectmen denied a permit for a proposed sand mine** on Indian Pond. **Plympton Sand & Gravel sought a permit for millions of dollars in sand and gravel mining to process at its abutting commercial facility.** In an attempt to exploit the legal loophole for “agriculture,” the company claimed they would build a cranberry bog after the 5+ year operation. [Read more here.](#)

Residents in Wareham, Carver and Plymouth **continue to report new unpermitted sand mining operations to local officials and demand action.** Hundreds of trucks a day are permanently removing the vegetation, forests and sand and gravel that filter and protect the Plymouth Carver Sole Source Aquifer. Seven towns get their water from the Aquifer.

Take Action:

- **Attend the next Carver Earth Removal Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 27, 4 p.m. at Carver Town Hall**
- [Click here](#) to sign the petition to Governor Healey for a moratorium on sand mining in Southeastern Massachusetts!

Learn More:

- See drone videos of over 50 local sand mining sites, check out educational videos and webinars all on our YouTube Channel [Save the Pine Barrens](#).
- Check out the new report: [Sand Wars in Cranberry Country: An investigation into the money, politics and corruption behind sand mining and its silent environmental crisis in Southeastern Massachusetts](#).

Solar Gone Wrong

News: Wareham: A.D. Makepeace Co.'s new proposed 54-acre ground-mounted solar near Frogfoot Brook on Plymouth border

March 8, 2024: State says A.D. Makepeace Cranberry Co. must do an environmental study of the cumulative effects of its 15 existing and proposed ground-mounted solar projects in Plymouth, Carver and Wareham.

Over 120 comment letters were sent to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) office demanding a review of A.D. Makepeace's decade of environmental damage and deforestation from solar and sand mining. >> [Read more here](#)

Read more:

- Makepeace's operations are [harming the aquifer](#) and are being conducted under sham permits from the Carver Earth Removal Committee.
- [Expert evidence here](#) on how sand mining harms our drinking water supply, the underground aquifer.
- Makepeace's [bait and switch](#) on land conservation.
- How in [May 2022 the state MEPA office rubber stamped a defective](#) environmental study.

Take action on energy siting by March 15, 2024! [Sign the letter](#) to Governor Maura Healey opposing her plan to strip local control over siting energy projects including solar! Read more from the [Greenfield \(MA\) Recorder](#) here.

More bad news about A.D. Makepeace's forest destruction:

At the proposed Wareham solar sites, A.D. Makepeace has been logging forests. The State's March 8, 2024 MEPA Certificate says this is not allowed while they have plans for a permit for solar.



More Threats to Drinking Water

Plymouth Airport Expansion: West Plymouth residents continue to advocate for answers about the Airport expansion and its impacts on health, the environment and real estate values. [Sign the petition demanding accountability here!](#) Read more about the state-mandated MEPA environmental study and the US EPA's directive to [study the Sole Source Aquifer](#).

Plymouth Wastewater Treatment Expansion: Residents are asking the Town Select Board to create a Citizens Advisory Committee for the proposed Wastewater Treatment Facility expansion. Read more about the state-mandated [MEPA environmental study here](#). [Get involved here: Chiltonville.org](#)

Upcoming Events

Follow CLWC's [online calendar](#) for weekly updates

Protecting Our Land & Water

Open Forum

March 27, 4-6 pm

In person at the Plymouth Public Library

Also live on Zoom

[More info here](#)

Save the Dates!

Elders Climate Action Podcast: Meg Sheehan and Katherine Harrelson, Presentation, March 25

[Herring Run Festival](#), Plymouth, April 20

Southeastern Mass Forest Walk with Sierra Club, May 18



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