

September 13, 2007

Mr. John Howard
Wenonah Borough Councilman
111 North Lincoln Avenue
Wenonah, NJ 08090

Dear John,

Enclosed is a copy of our letter expressing the concerns we have with the use of motorized recreational vehicles on residential property in town. We would like the letter presented and documented as part of tonight's Wenonah Borough meeting.

Sincerely,



Kathleen and Michael Nerz

September 13, 2007

To the mayor and members of council,

We regret that we can not be present to address you directly but we appreciate the consideration that you are giving us concerning a situation that we feel affects the quality of life in one neighborhood but may set a precedent for other neighborhoods in Wenonah.

When my husband and I decided to move to Wenonah with our daughter in 1996, we were attracted by the reputation that the town had for a high quality of life and, in our many visits to the town from the early 1970's on, we had no reason to believe that this was anything but true. We felt fortunate to live in a community that valued the quality of the environment and strived to emphasize its importance, when other towns in the area paid little attention to such matters. Friends who visit us from other parts of town have always remarked on the peace and quiet that our location provides. In the past few years, our neighborhood has seen changes that seem to run counter to the qualities that we felt Wenonah has embodied in the past. The changes that have happened in our neighborhood involve use of a property that borders the conservation area as a site for a motorcycle jump. This weekend, we heard the revving of engines, literally for hours, on Saturday and Sunday (9/8 and 9/9), as the riders of motorcycles took their turns to try out the jump in the backyard of the property at 106 North Jackson. We know of nowhere else in town (or in any of the adjacent towns, for that matter) that this situation exists.

Recently, several large dump trucks entered the property at 106 North Jackson Avenue in the Borough of Wenonah and dumped their loads to create a large pile of soil at the rear of the property. A towable ramp was moved into position next to the soil pile. This past weekend, the site began to receive visitors arriving in pick-up trucks carrying their motorcycles. Bikers unrelated to the property owner came and went, when apparently the word got out that there was a place to ride in town. As a result of the rapid acceleration of the motorcycles driven on the bare soil of the property, this contributed to the release of dust and exhaust to the air which affected the air quality on our property. There is also the potential for soil erosion and sediment runoff into the adjacent conservancy areas from the disturbed soils on this property. The noise caused by the motorcycle operators as they revved their engines in preparation for their jump was very disturbing to us both outside and inside our home.

We feel that the recent motorcycle activities occurring on 106 North Jackson Avenue are inappropriate in a residential neighborhood and have caused a disturbance to our environment affecting the quality of life for not just us, but others in the neighborhood. The noise and air pollution that we experienced this weekend made it impossible for us to enjoy outdoor activities at our home. When we are at our home, there is uncertainty and anxiety for when these motorcycle activities may recur. Since the property owner has permitted use of his property for the recreational activities involving the use of motorcycles, it has had a direct influence on the noise levels and air quality in our neighborhood. We would like the town to develop an ordinance that will ensure the peace, quiet, and health in the neighborhood by prohibiting this type of activity. We are asking the elected officials of the town for their help in this matter. We would be available at any time should you have questions.

Handwritten signatures of Kathleen Nerz and Michael Nerz in black ink. The signatures are written in a cursive style and are positioned above the printed name and address.

Kathleen and Michael Nerz
105 North Jackson Ave.
Wenonah, NJ 08090