

Mr. Gordon Stanley  
Chairman, Wyckoff Planning Board  
Memorial Town Hall  
340 Franklin Avenue  
Wyckoff, NJ 07481  
Fax 201 891 9359

Dear Mr. Stanley:

I have been a resident of Wyckoff for almost 14 years and although I did not grow up in town, I am strongly against the development of the Deep Voll Ravine. I was raised in Mahwah and have seen what overdevelopment has done there. When my parents moved our family from Oakland to Mahwah, there were approximately 12,000 residents. I grew up running and playing in the woods, hiking in the Ramapo Reservation, skiing at Campgaw Mountain and enjoying the open space that Mahwah used to be known for. I camped on part of the old Sun Valley Farm off Route 202 in Mahwah and was happy when the Werhan Family sold the property and preserved the area from development, Wyckoff has the same opportunity on a smaller scale.

I would hate to see Wyckoff become another Mahwah. I have defended New Jersey to friends and strangers across the country. There is a reason New Jersey is known as the "Garden State" and you have the power to help keep that nickname accurate. There is more value to land than just the profits it can generate.

I remember visiting a friend who boarded some of his horses where Barrister Farms stands today. Many people never realized that there was a horse farm bordered by Route 208 and Grandview Avenue and though the homes are beautiful, the beauty and nature of that open space is gone forever.

I am an avid runner and many of my running routes pass the Ravine. As I run on hot summer mornings, I look forward to the refreshing cool air that rises from the Ravine, to provide momentary relief to my overheated body. There is an added serenity in my runs as I pass the Ravine, feeling the difference in the air temperature, hearing the breeze blow through the trees, even for the few moments I run along the Ravine. Allow our residents to experience the Ravine and say NO to the variances requested.

Your vote must be for the greater good and compliance with the Master Plan.

Very truly yours,

**Bill Gahwyler**

Wyckoff

cc: Mayor Joseph Fiorenzo  
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