

# Resident wants gun range off list of forest activities

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The DuPage County Forest Preserve District may dust off the issue of shooting ranges in order to put the topic to rest.

At the urging of Wheaton resident Ruth Najacht, commissioners Tuesday appeared willing to remove gun ranges from a list of possible forest preserve activities.

The district in October 2004 unanimously voted against locating a shooting range on any forest preserves. But the category still remains on the activities list although back in 2004 board members had indicated they would excise it.

Although it's been a quiet subject in recent months, the gun range topic has stirred up emotional reactions in the past.

While Executive Director Brent Manning assured Najacht it was a dead issue, she asked for official proof.

"It's dormant but it could raise its head," she said.

But Commissioner Joseph Cantore of Oakbrook Terrace argued that de-listing shooting ranges was a pointless action because future boards could overturn that decision.

Commissioner Gwen Henry of Wheaton, though, took Najacht's side, saying her concern was a legitimate one and that she remembered being told the de-listing matter would come to a vote.

District President Dewey Pierotti directed staff members to bring the issue back to the board in the near future.