

January 13, 2004

From Ruth Najacht

To the DuPage County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners, the DuPage County Board & DuPage County Sheriff John Zaruba

The proposed impound lot for at least 250 vehicles is still being considered for the Greene Valley Forest Preserve area. Sheriff Zaruba is anxious to have this lot in the Greene Valley Forest Preserve area. Over eleven acres of Forest Preserve land was signed over to DuPage County jurisdiction in 2002. In the last few weeks the Village of Woodridge has annexed part of this land.

So with this jigsaw puzzle we are now in a power play of politics. Who will win? Whatever the game plan, the proposed Zaruba impound lot would be surrounded on 3 sides by the Greene Valley Forest Preserve and next to the East Branch of the DuPage River. The East Branch is of particular concern because of the high phosphorus pollution. Stop the games people - whatever the argument-the impound lot would be adjacent to the Greene Valley Forest Preserve.

Neither the people of Woodridge, the Preserve the DuPage Forest Preserve group, the Sierra Club, and the Village of Woodridge approve of this parking lot. It is time to say no once and for all to this absurd plan that would clutter up the area, promote traffic in and out of the area, and cause environmental problems.

It is time for the Forest Preserve Commissioners, the DuPage County Board & Sheriff Zaruba to begin thinking clearly about what is a forest preserve and its purpose. The priority of the DuPage County Forest Preserve District is to protect the flora, fauna and open space (from shooting ranges and a junkyard).

We want the DuPage County Board to return these acres given away by the DCFPD and the DCFPD to commit to accept these acres and recommit to protecting the Greene Valley forest preserve and the flora and fauna of all the forest preserves.

Ruth Najacht, Email: rnajacht@hotmail.com

If you agree with the above statement please contact the DuPage County Forest Preserve District at forest@dupageforest.com and both the DuPage County Chairman Schillerstrom and Sheriff Zaruba at their email addresses: rschillerstrom@dupageco.org & sheriff@dupageco.org and tell them to stop their destructive plans (shooting ranges and a junkyard) and return the 11.6 acres to the forest preserve district.