

map 59-17

# TOWN OF HARRISON, MAINE

# STOP NOTICE

The Code Enforcement Officer of the Town of Harrison inspected these premises on 10/18/94  
and found violations of the Building Code or Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. You are hereby  
ordered to stop all work at this site until you have contacted the Code Enforcement Officer at \_\_\_\_\_  
or contact the Town Office at 583-2241.

Specifically the Violation is: Placing culvert in drainage ditch  
and covering with soil.

10/18/94

Date

Michael [Signature]

Code Enforcement Officer  
Town Manager

Sam Cousins  
Road Commissioner  
Town of Harrison  
Harrison, Maine 04040

46 Island Pond Road  
Harrison, Maine 04040  
September 11, 2008

Dear Sam,

I am writing to you regarding your last site visit concerning the recommendations of the Island Pond Watershed Survey.

The Island Pond Watershed Association hired a consultant to survey the watershed and determine sources of negative impact on Island Pond. We provided the Town of Harrison with a copy of the report and, as per your request, I consolidated all the information pertaining to road maintenance and provided you with a copy.

We are pleased to see the first of the remedies completed on Temple Hill. It appears to be well done and hopefully will permanently correct that problem. Thank you.

One of the other identified sites was the culvert that runs under the Island Pond Road between my property and the LaBay property. The washed-out road over the culvert two years ago was caused by the increased velocity of water from the newly-paved driveway to the left of the culvert. You said you would have that side cleaned out and lowered slightly so that the driveway runoff would flow directly into the culvert. I, as landowner, gave you permission to do just that.

The survey also recommended that the culvert be replaced with a larger one if possible, it be realigned and armored with rocks. When you were here you indicated you would also have a ditch dug to the right of the culvert along my property and riprap installed. I asked why that was necessary as it was not suggested in the survey and there has never been a problem that that would address. I do not recall receiving a clear answer.

At such time as the town allocates the money to properly rebuild the road with a crown in the center, then it may make sense to build ditches along the entire road.

I am now asking in writing that you not disturb my property on the right side of the culvert, that is, the area between the culvert and my driveway. I have planted rose bushes and maintained vegetation there, and lacking sufficient reason to remove them, would like them to remain. Thank you.

Yours truly,

Corinne Allen

September 15, 2008

Dear Connie,

I hope your day is going well. Ours has been beautiful, and both of our New England teams, the Red Sox and Patriots, were on the winning side of the ledger yesterday.

Well, this is the way the day started for us. Mickie and I were looking forward to celebrating her birthday today. She was getting some things done in the house and I spent the morning doing errands and some follow up from Sunday's bus trip to see the Red Sox/Blue Jays game with a group of Little Leaguers from the mid-coast area. About 2:00 p.m. I received a phone call that changed our focus and prompts me to write this letter.

I understand from the call that you have written a letter to the Harrison Road Commissioner stating that you do not wish to have any work done in front of your property. Is this accurate? As you know from my memo sent to you and e-mailed to each of our IPWA officers and trustees, the town road crew had scheduled work on Island Pond Road for the week of September 15<sup>th</sup>. As you will recall, we have discussed this need for this sometime at both the Annual Meeting and at our meeting with the Town Manager and Road Commissioner on Monday following the Annual Meeting. At both of these meetings we stressed the need for cooperation between the residents around the pond, the town officials responsible for maintaining and improving our roads, and this relationship's impact on the health of the pond.

Connie, I understand from conversations we have had that you are struggling to retain control of your property and at the same time you are equally concerned and a strong advocate for maintaining and improving the water quality of the pond. That being said, I am concerned that, if my understanding is accurate, the town maintenance program that includes ditching, replacing culverts, improving the road surface, and re-seeding (all of which will have a positive impact on the water quality of Island Pond) will be in jeopardy. In my opinion, any impediment to this process at this point will further delay the improvement process and possibly cause the whole effort initiated through the watershed survey which has involved many volunteer hours and donations from many of our members, past and present, to be interrupted at best and possibly dropped from the road maintenance schedule.

I am writing this letter to you to be on record as supporting efforts to improve the road, its' drainage, its' surface and any other effort which may be chosen to minimize the run off into the pond. I believe that we have come to the point where we must balance and/or set aside personal agendas for the common good of all if the goal of maintaining and improving the health of the pond is to be achieved.

As a resident of the pond and one who hopes to see much done to improve the pond water quality through cooperative efforts of residents and non-residents I hope you understand my concerns. That being said, I will continue to support the town's efforts to improve Island Pond Road for ALL property owners who live on it and/or use it as access to their property.

Sincerely,



Sam Cousins  
Road Commissioner  
Town of Harrison  
Harrison, Maine 04040

46 Island Pond Road  
Harrison, Maine 04040  
September 15, 2008

Dear Sam,

When you made a site visit this morning. I referred to the survey the Island Pond Watershed Association paid over \$3000 to have done. The Town of Harrison received a copy and you received a consolidated copy of the road maintenance recommendations. Association members have met with you several times and you and the previous town manager agreed that the recommended work would be done.

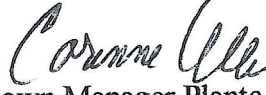
There are many recommendations concerning Temple Hill Road because the runoff from the steep hills have a severe impact on Island Pond. Recommendations numbered 9TR, 10TR, 11TR, 12TR, 13TR, 14TR, 16TR, and 17TR found on Pages 6,7,9 and 10 recommend ditch work and installing check dams, plunge pools, and vegetation. Page 12 "Municipal Officials," Line 5 reads "Decrease water velocity in steep road ditches by installing check dams."

The work at 13TR has been completed and looks good. The work at 14TR pertaining to the culvert under Temple Hill Road also looks good. However, the survey explicitly says "Cross-culvert under Island Pond Road: DO NOT UNPLUG THIS CULVERT!" because of the vast amount of soil previously washed through it to the pond from Temple Hill. You had said you thought it was the winter sand that was the problem. Unfortunately it has been unplugged. Perhaps the plunge pool will be sufficient to catch all that sand as well as erosion from the side ditches, however, it appears that much more work on Temple Hill ditches needs to be completed before it will be and before Island Pond's water quality will be protected.

You expressed concern about runoff from my driveway even though the center of the driveway is vegetated from top to bottom, and crushed stone has been added to the tire paths and the survey evaluates the impact of runoff as "low." Although not recommended by the survey, you said you wanted to dig a ditch along the road to collect that runoff and to remove the berm created by road grading. The survey recommends adding additional surface material (crushed stone) to the driveway and after you left this morning, it occurred to me that simple raking would remove the berm along the road, and any driveway runoff could be diverted by way of a shallow ditch dug diagonally across the lower end of the driveway. If it is dug a few feet from the bottom of the driveway, water will run through it into the area that leads to the culvert. This will prevent the need for the large amount of soil and vegetative disturbance that a ditch running from my driveway all the way to the LaBay driveway would create.

Every time soil is disturbed, whether it is from grading or from ditching, some of the soil ends up in the pond, taking phosphorus with it. The phosphorus feeds algae and starves the pond of oxygen and brings us closer to having an algae bloom. If that happened, there would be a significant decrease in the value of the pond to Fernwood Camp, as well as to the other property owners.

I will take care of my driveway just as I have worked for 20 years to protect the pond. Will you keep your agreement and direct your work with that same goal in mind?

Yours truly,  
Corinne Allen   
cc: Harrison Town Manager Plante  
IPWA President Shibles

Town of Harrison  
20 Front Street  
Harrison, Maine 04040

46 Island Pond Road  
Harrison, Maine 04040  
March 3, 2011

Dear Mr. Finch:

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Island Pond Watershed Association, I would like to thank your able employees, Jimmy and Dustin, for correcting one of the problems identified in the watershed survey. That problem was the collapsed culvert which ran under the Town of Harrison right-of-way and was also on my property. The slightly larger size installed should help to accommodate runoff from the increasingly heavy rains.

The equipment operator, Dustin McAllister, did an excellent job of repositioning the culvert so that it is properly aligned and then replacing the rocks and granite stones. The ends were also properly armored. I gave permission to place rip rap and a plunge pool on my land at each end of the culvert and that also was done well. Dustin and Jimmy each conducted himself in a professional and courteous manner.

The work will help protect the pond from sediment runoff, while making the road safer to travel over.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Corinne Allen".

Corinne Allen

Town of Harrison  
20 Front Street  
Harrison, Maine 04040

46 Island Pond Road  
Harrison, Maine 04040  
March 3, 2011

Dear Mr. Finch:

In the years between 1946 and 1955, the Town of Harrison sold several lots along Island Pond. The Town of Harrison retained a right-of-way across the properties which accommodated traffic to the camps, three homes, and the summer children's camp in Waterford (Camp Chickawah) at the end of the right-of-way.

The road was single lane, ten to twelve feet wide, and served all including the heavy summer traffic to Camp Chickawah for over 60 years without incident. Camp Chickawah closed in 1983 and remained closed until a new camp was opened as Fernwood Cove in 1999.

Since that time, the road has been widened by taking frontage from property owners along the road. It was also widened by grading deeper and deeper until several inches had been removed.

The grading left loosened topsoil so that much of it blew into our yards and homes; we endured major dust storms each time a vehicle passed. The disturbed topsoil also washed into the pond with each rain, taking phosphorus with it and feeding algae, negatively affecting the pond's water quality.

In the future instead of grading, the potholes which develop each time it rains despite the grading, could be filled with the proper grade of gravel. Perhaps the same as was used to fill the hole when the culvert was replaced. It held up despite pounding rains.

Based on what has been said and been done, it appears the goal was to widen and then pave the road, against the wishes of the Harrison property owners, but in accordance with the reported wishes of the Waterford camp owners at the end of the road. In the present economy, we can little afford to spend Harrison dollars meeting the desires of Waterford campers. There would be little damage to the road without their tractor trailers and other heavy traffic. When Camp Chickawah was under contract for 39 condominiums, the Town of Waterford required a road be built from Temple Hill Road directly to the condos rather than use Island Pond Road. The condos were not built, but given that Fernwood Cove's property extends up to Temple Hill Road, they still have the option and the wherewithal to build a road between Temple Hill and their camp.

Whereas all the damage has been done despite protestations, without permission, and without recompense, I am requesting that my property be returned to the condition it was before it was altered including:

- replacing the embankment that was cut into over one foot in depth and thirty feet in length
- replacing the riprap I had installed on the pond side of the road, a width of 18 inches and 12 feet in length
- replacing the rocks that delineated my rock garden along the front of my rock wall which was built four feet in from the road to leave room for the garden
- replacing the vegetation on each side of the road which had been allowed to grow as an erosion control
- replacing two trees which were removed in addition to the one I gave permission to be removed when the culvert was replaced
- replacing sufficient gravel to bring the level of the road back to where it was before it was deeply graded
- replacing the stair railing to my pond-side patio which was destroyed when struck by a town vehicle
- replacing the ferns and flowers which were damaged and destroyed when the culvert was rolled over them.

Yours truly,

*Corinne Allen*