

THE PARK ADVOCATE

Memo

Re: Suffolk County's Final Report
Smithtown and Kings Park
Sewering Feasibility Study
Leaching Fields on the Nissequogue River State Park
Date: 1/29/2010
By: Linda Henninger

The feasibility study prepared by Suffolk County is deficient and threatens the Nissequogue River State Park.

Regarding sewers benefiting downtown Kings Park, with the imminent capping of the Kings Park landfill, which presently utilizes the existing sewage treatment facility, an upgrade to this facility would not be needed. The landfill now contributes 42,000 gallons of waste to the facility per day. Once capped, this stops, leaving more than enough capacity to service Kings Park. Therefore, property on the Nissequogue River State Park, or any other Kings Park property, would never have to be used as leaching fields in order to service the sewer needs of downtown Kings Park.

Regarding Smithtown's needs, there are very serious environmental ramifications to moving any sewage over or adjacent to the Nissequogue River. A viable solution would be to build a separate facility in Smithtown, where vacant land is available. This would cost far less than the price tag of \$40 million dollars that is attached to the County's present plan.

The County's study seems to reveal that the County never considered any other possible alternative sites for the sewage effluent recharge system. The State has made it clear that this must be done before the Park would ever be considered as a potential site for leaching fields.

Additionally, the State has never allowed any State Park property to be used in this manner. The Nissequogue River State Park should not be used by any politicians and/or county officials in a manner detrimental to the growth of this Park.

Finally, the feasibility study was conducted without any public input, Sequa process or an Environmental Impact Study. Without these safeguards, the best interests of the people of Kings Park, and all of Smithtown, are not protected. There are no assurances that any conclusions reached or statistics used are based in fact, not just pure conjecture. This study is poorly prepared and the County's preparation of a final design based on this study is unconscionable.

KINGS PARK IS NOT EVERYONE'S DUMPING GROUND