

Memorandum for Record

RE: Public Hearing – Case No. 16-1593
Conditional Use Permit Parcels 74641, 88057, 88068

Kay Roberts
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Apex, NC 27523

I am here to express my concerns about the proposed nature resort pet boarding and training facility to be located on Horton Pond Road.

Pet waste is an environmental toxin that can also kill wildlife, pass parasites and even infect drinking water in wells and reservoirs. The CDC warns that a single dog dropping can contain 3 million fecal bacteria and viruses which can be passed to humans as well as other pets. The parasites (hookworm, ringworm, tapeworm, and Salmonella) found in dog or cat feces can contaminate soil with parasite eggs for month or years. Bacteria and viruses (E. coli and fecal coliform) found in pet waste can contaminate both the soil and water supplies. Studies have found that 20% of the bacteria contaminating some waterways can be traced back to dog waste.

Water from washing down the outdoor potty yards will also attract a variety of flies that carry diseases and bacteria into homes, onto human skin, food and other areas that can cause people to become sick. Water that remains after wash down will also become a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

The issue of animal waste has not been addressed with regards to the outdoor play yards, walking trails or outdoor potty yards. When the outdoor potty yards are hosed down where shall the wash water be directed? Will the grounds also be disinfected at regular intervals to minimize the potential health risks?

The potential contamination of private wells from the massive amounts of animal waste in water that will be generated at such a facility has not been addressed. Placing such a facility at this site has the potential to be detrimental to the health of residents and their pets living in the area.

Although not required because the total undisturbed area will be less than 2 acres I feel an Environmental Impact Assessment should be completed prior to any further consideration because of the proximity of the site to Jordan Lake and the potential for ground water contamination. Other issues that need to be addressed prior to any Conditional Use Permit being issued should include the following:

- The septic system proposed is vague and designed for human waste, not animal waste more details should be provided for review
- Emergency Plan for the animals in the event of a natural disaster
- Ground water monitoring

Such a facility has the potential to impact the water quality of Jordan Lake Reservoir therefore the Conditional Use Permit should not be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Roberts