

Canaan Source Water Protection Committee

April 5, 2006 Field Trip.

4:00 PM Meeting opened at the Cardigan Mountain School Maintenance Building.

Persons present were Heidi Brannon, GSRWA; David Shinnlinger, Chair; Jay Waldner, Vice Chair; John Bergeron, Secretary; Bob Reagan, selectman; Wally Medeiros, Water and Sewer Advisory Committee; Tim Jennings, Cardigan Mountain School; Joe Damour, Water Systems Operators; Scott Clang, GSRWA; and Milt Wilson, Water and Sewer Advisory Committee.

We traveled by Cardigan Mountain's bus to various sites around Canaan Street Lake.

Site one was the watershed boundary north of the maintenance building, where we viewed Cardigan's extensive leach fields. These fields are located just outside the watershed of Canaan Street Lake.

Site two was to the Cardigan Mountain School well water pump house serving a population of 300.

Site three was an athletic field containing two bedrock wellheads. The protection area for these wells covers most of Canaan Street Lake and the adjacent lands on the east, north, and west.

Site four was an infiltration swale, which managed rain runoff and improved water infiltration into the soil.

Site five were the tennis courts, which was an example of a large impervious surface that interfered with water infiltration.

Site six was a wetland, which provides several ecological functions.

Site seven was new development, which had cleared many trees near the lake. Within 250 feet of the water, the Shoreland Protection Act provides several limits to minimize water body impact. Because Canaan has no zoning, site design is not regulated.

Site eight was a recovering forestry site, where no vegetation buffer had been left adjacent to the stream. This increases sedimentation.

Site nine was an inlet stream with considerable road runoff.

Site ten on Corno Road included a poorly maintained leach field sprouting pine trees, which will lead to failure, and beach erosion that is fouling the lake.

Site eleven was the Canaan Water Treatment Plant which is currently failing some water requirements due to the interaction of organic materials and chlorine.

Site twelve was the town beach, where road runoff, including salt are entering the lake. Canaan is unusual, in that gasoline engines are allowed on a water body also serving as a reservoir.

Site thirteen was a return to the maintenance building. The vehicle fuel tanks are close to a drain, which dumps close to the dam. This summer these fuel tanks are being moved to the north side of Backbay road, which will reduce this potential contamination source.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM by unanimous consent.

Thank you to Heidi for providing sandwiches, drinks, and chips. And thank you to Cardigan Mountain School for providing transportation, and opening their facilities.

These minutes were approved at the April 19th meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:

John H. Bergeron, Secretary