

Thorndike place Landscape Restoration Peer Review

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To:ConComm <ConComm@town.arlington.ma.us>

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Dear Members of the Arlington Conservation Commision,

Please accept these comments about the Thorndike Place development.

I read the BSC/SWCA response to peer review letter.

The proposed plan to address and eradicate invasive plant species does not appear to include the northwest section of the Mugar property adjacent to the development section. There is a colony of garlic mustard on this section that invades my backyard every Spring. It is a Sisyphean task to attempt to eradicate it by hand as I do NOT use herbicides. I also believe I've seen Japanese Knotweed out there waiting for its turn. In a few weeks I'll take pictures to send to you. If the developer is not required to eradicate invasive plant species from the northwest section it would seem to effectively leave the means by which any species removal from the development section will fail as these surviving plants will again repopulate the property.

I do not believe there are adequate protections from the developer using the northwest section to dump debris and detritus from the development section. Some dumping in the northwest section could even be done in the name of restoration.

Please require the developer this Spring to monitor the water level in the wells on the Thorndike Place site.

Thank you for your constant diligence in holding the applicant accountable.

Peter Fiore
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