

Paul Foley

From: Daryl Alexander [checama@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 6:18 PM
To: foley@mvcommission.org
Subject: Goodale's Quarry

Dear sir or madam:

People don't miss their water until their well runs dry. Sad but true.

We who love the Island Way of Life like to think things won't change. We wish and hope.

But nothing stays the same whether on the Vineyard or any place where the hand of man is at work and nature lies unprotected.

I urge the Land Use Planning Committee to study whether Goodale's plans and intentions for its sprawling quarry are indeed in concert with those of our beautiful island. Yours is the hard job of being a steward of the land.

I am concerned about the public aquifers near Goodale's and the shallow glacial streams flowing beneath the quarry that may be periodically breached by the excavations there. Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and Block Island were formed by the same forces eons ago, and their underpinnings need shoring up, not chiseling down.

Please study all facets and weigh the goals of Goodale's against those of the island. The Vineyard should come first.

Also, if the Goodale quarry has a finite lifespan, what becomes of the area when it is mined out? And when will that time arrive? Certainly, it can be predicted.

Or is that an idea we need not consider? Is that a moment in the future when we might all say: Wish we had done something.

The time is now to decide if all the ideas and questions are on the table for airing and discussion. The yardstick should ultimately be what is good for the Vineyard Way of Life -- something that is increasingly fragile.

Daryl Alexander
New York and on Martha's Vineyard

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