

Subject: Jordan Lake rules  
From: "Chris & Laurie Reinhart" <reinhart@netpath.net>  
Date: Tue, 31 Jul 2007 06:26:16 -0400  
To: <Rich.Gannon@ncmail.net>

Hi,

I support common sense rules that would insure clean rivers, streams and lakes. The Piedmont is growing at an unprecedented pace. There seems to be a head in the sand pigheadedness by most of our elected officials when any concerns are brought up about the problems that this growth brings. They only see increased tax revenues and refuse to acknowledge the costs that uncontrolled growth brings or that there are more enlightened, practical and cheaper ways of handling the rapid growth. Leaving flood plains and riparian areas intact instead of filling them in or clearing and straightening them for a little more buildable space is one easy solution. Greenways and wetlands are much more efficient and cheaper than curbs and gutters for handling and filtering storm water run off. Sewage treatment plants could also look at running their treated water through man made wetlands to be further filtered before it hits our watersheds. It is a much more affordable way to treat water. Our elected officials don't seem to understand that a few rules limiting how and where development occurs are in everyone's best interests. Americanforests.org is an excellent place to look at how other cities are dealing with their storm water runoff, heat island effect, loss of green spaces and wildlife, and clean air mandates by simply planting trees, recreating wetlands, and setting aside green spaces. It creates much more liveable communities when growth occurs with some foresight.

Frankly, I am disgusted at the devastation that has occurred to the communities I have lived in because of greed and uncontrolled growth. I still mourn the loss of the open space, beaches, clean water and a life built around the Chesapeake Bay and it's tributaries where I grew up. What has happened to the Bay area and its communities I am finding, is happening all around the country. There is no place left to run to get away from uncontrolled, poorly thought out growth. We must stand and fight for the health of our communities and the ecosystems that they depend on. Please support rules that would insure generations to come a clean and healthy watershed. These rules should also include green and affordable ways in which communities and meet these new requirements. Perhaps if this line of reasonable thinking is pursued, officials and uninformed citizens will be more supportive of the end goal. After all, who can say that they don't want clean water and healthy communities? It's just how we go about it.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Laurinda Reinhart