

On Line Survey Responses
Written comments
Lamoine Comprehensive Plan, Fall 2015

GRAVEL PITS

Lamoine must move towards a more equitable tax structure. The heavy dump truck traffic is the cause for the rapid deterioration of our roads. Therefore, for example, the sand and gravel industry should pay for the reconstruction of Rt. 184 north of the town hall.

Reclaim gravel pits. Creative thinking. Limit new gravel extraction.

Noise reduction of the quarry, particularly before 7am.
Expanding gravel industry.

Gravel pits out of control and present an environmental problem while town officials appear unconcerned!!!

We may want to ask if residents if gravel operations are affecting our town. If so, "How?" Do people want to see more restrictions on the gravel industry? Is the beauty of our woods being threatened?

I support the limitation of large industrial activities in Lamoine – such as sand and gravel excavation – to current volume

Gravel extraction monitoring is a municipal responsibility for the future.

The destruction of the land by the gravel industry with little or no regard for the protection of the water systems overburden flora and fauna with no remuneration to the town for the items listed above and with the obvious bias of the selectmen and boards towards extraction industry with little or no regard to needs and desires of the voting public.

Get the gravel pits out of Lamoine !! No more new ones.

Discourage the opening of new, undisturbed areas within the residential zone to gravel mining operations.

The gravel pits/mining: their threat to the quality/supply of our water.

Continued control of the gravel industry.

Would like to see the town putting a higher interest and effort in protecting the rural town atmosphere, residents, and property values from the gravel industry.

Limit commercial development and mining. Please!

Lamoine MUST remain a quiet residential community, no manufacturing or big businesses;
STOP ALL MINING & GRAVEL EXTRACTION

I do not like the way gravel pit issue has been dealt with and continues to be handled.

Very concerned about town government's double standard – to be completely confident that it has the right to regulate residents on all kinds of activities in order to preserve Lamoine's lovely resources and character while allowing the vast increase in open-pit mining over the last 40 years with virtually no restoration of unused pits, threats to water, and persistent noise, truck traffic, and general environmental degradation. Even more concerned that the town government is willing to spend countless hours and costs to placate the industry's desires in lieu of standing up once and for all to significantly curtail and regulate this heavy industry in a residential town. The constant threat of lawsuits against the town by the industry and its complete failure over decades to clean up its act will not end until the town stands up to it, even if that requires going to court. Re-writing of ordinances that were hard-won and giving in to industry demands in return for only trusting it to do the right thing, although it has no history of doing so, is exactly the wrong thing to do, rather than to stand up and represent and defend its resident constituents.

Gravel operations.

Control gravel mining and make mining companies reclaim land properly. Charge them more taxes for taking away land.

I'd like the town to consider plans to redevelop abandoned/old gravel pits and restore them to a community use.... parks or ball fields. They are ugly.

Gravel pits; noise concerns from gravel pits.

Stop the gravel mining. It is damaging our property values, adds to noise pollution, and will change the nature of our water quality.

Why do gravel trucks start so early in the AM?

Final resolution of gravel pit discussions to eliminate episodic recurrence – maybe invest in a moderator to resolve and write into comp plan, ordinances, zoning etc. --- to get past bad feeling and slurs, etc. from both sides

Ending the property devaluation and the degrading of the land by the gravel industry

Water quality degradation by gravel extraction. Property value degradation by gravel industry. Poor Town government due to gravel industry influence.

You haven't addressed the issue of the gravel industry and the deleterious effect on the town.

We need to encourage limited commercial development that is compatible with the overall residential character of the town (and discourage industrial development, including unfettered (i.e. w/o restoration) gravel extraction of the sort we've experienced so far).

TRAFFIC AND SPEEDING

Mud Creek Rd. Pinkham Flats to Jordan River Rd offer a well-used shortcut for folks who live further east but work on the island. Is there a way to get them to take another route or at least slow down? Hopefully some of this will be alleviated when Jackson Lab open up their Ellsworth facility.

Speeding/reckless driving on route 204 Partridge Cove Rd. area. Dangerous to walk or ride bikes.

More patrolling of speeders on the Jordan River road!

Q29: Use three routes: Douglas Highway, Buttermilk Rd. Through Trenton. Why do gravel trucks get started so early in the AM? A traffic light should go on RT2 by Cheese House – too much traffic coming and going on Rt.3 – Jackson Lab. Acadia Nat'l Pk.

Q29: use Douglas Highway, Buttermilk Road, through Trenton for traveling to work or shop.

I would like to see a sidewalk on Shore Road to allow the many people and their pets who walk there a safer place. In the near term a reduced speed limit on all of shore road to keep everyone walking there safe.

So many people are traveling much faster than the posted speed limit.

Speeding throughout the roads of Lamoine is rampant. I'm fearful of walking our roads.

HOUSING

Residential development in relation to green space preservation and access.

Maintain focus on rural/residential aspects of town.

I would like to see the zoning changed to *Residential” where there are a number of only residences or housing developments along a stretch of road or an area. Lorimer Road/Marlboro Beach Road would be such an area.

Low income housing is non-existent and the rules and regulations in town does not promote it

Change zoning to cluster housing areas.

Change rules to allow denser building. Big start would be with road frontage setbacks and acreage rules.

I would like to see a total rewrite of the town’s Building and Land Use ordinance and zoning map.

Overbuilding in some areas, parking mobile homes for long periods of time

Land use ordinance addition: no new construction or new projects (such as planting large trees) can obstruct the views of existing residences

The community needs to make itself more desirable and affordable for young people and especially young families in order to remain a balanced community.

STREET LIGHTS

Should have a street light installed, corner of 184 & 204, in front of Lamoine store.

It would also be nice to have more streetlights around town like at some intersections that are heavily used.

PRESERVATION OF LAND AND ENVIRONMENT

Enact a “dark sky” ordinance to protect the gorgeous stars we are fortunate to have as a resource.

Restrict use of pesticides/herbicides/insecticides within XXX feet of wetlands, ocean and ponds.

The conservation and beauty of Lamoine.

Preservation of land, especially Pinkham Flats, remaining forests, shoreland.

Keep Lamoine residential and recreational

Good agricultural land being taken for housing.

Zoning and residential development in relation to green space, preservation and access.

Protect our ground water and aquifer.

LAW ENFORCEMENT/ CODE ENFORCEMENT

Fund the Code Enforcement position for more hours than current funding/time commitment in a growing town, there is a need.

The Town should be more aware of enacting and enforcing ordinances (consistently) that increase, not decrease, the property values.

The Town needs to do more to increase property values via proper ordinances and consistently enforcing them. Therefore, resulting in more revenue to fund projects.

Vandalism, mailbox damaging, stealing road signs, stealing owner name signs. Drugs and alcohol usage.

It would be nice if we had a local constable or officer that was dedicated to Lamoine.

Also, the Buttermilk Road is a dumping ground for litterers. It's disgusting. At least start enforcing the littering law there. I am concerned for the animals with all of the plastic.

A big concern for me is public safety. I was in a car accident in Lamoine and it took an hour for a state trooper to arrive. It makes me fearful for situations in town that require urgent police presence.

ROAD ISSUES

Some non-paved roads are in poor condition (#29 checked all 4 instead of just one)

Safety on the roads (gravel trucks) and the financial benefit that Lamoine gets for allowing this to continue?

More “pull of “places with picnic tables for enjoying the beauty throughout the Town.

Q17 Very poor road edges

Would like to see areas near intersections trimmed back a little more i.e. Walker Rd and the Mill Road and the Walker Road and Pinkhams Flat Rd. I think line of the site is poor in these locations especially.

Again, please add bike lanes to the roads. I am flipped the middle finger by rednecks at least once a ride just for biking on the road.

Regulate waste water dumping from recreational vehicles after extended stays when their holding tanks are full.

Disposal for yard waste (vs. burning)

TAXES

Need new Tax Appraisal of our property.

I am concerned about the valuation system for property taxes. The homestead exemption somewhat addresses this, but owners who purchased land and homes long ago should not be taxed on the resale value of their land today forcing them to sell their property, in some cases.

Our taxes are out of line. They are much too high for the property we own.

OTHER COMMENTS

Are we prepared to deal with issues of global warming? Lamoine should identify these issues that relate to a small rural town with a very distributed population (no significant neighborhoods to speak of) and to develop a plan to deal with them in order “to be resilient”.

How is common core going to affect the town?

More better choices in high-speed internet and access in all homes, including the most remote, esp. to open up more job possibilities.

Regulation of noise/height of low-flying aircraft (like sight seeing craft) over Lamoine residential areas

Need for a wind farm ordinance that addresses setbacks, noise and view-shed protections.

Q 17: Do not feel safe in my home

More ways to bring all ages together to create wholistic sense of community.

Promoting small businesses.

I would like to see a total rewrite of the town's Building and Land use ordinance and Zoning map.

The argumentative manner in which some board meetings are conducted, particularly the Planning Board, leaves one with the feeling that Lamoine is a dysfunctional community. A "comprehensive plan" should include resolving issues, i.e. gravel pit vs. environmental issues etc. with a true community sprit instead of open animosity.

Someday I'd like to see a free standing library in Lamoine. Could be connected to the school but open to the general public. Also a nice space for community groups to meet.

Our Town meeting should be on Saturday and on daytime. I have not attended one meeting since it was changed.

The town has been taken over by folks that want to drive out the original people and replace them with fellow travelers. Not much we can do about it if we don't vote.

Lamoine should coordinate with neighboring towns to provide bus transportation to John Bapst High School

Harbor access should be free for Lamoine residents – either via passes to state park or moving boat ramp/harbor away from state park.

GET RID OF THE TREE HUGGERS

We also need to continue encouraging citizens to volunteer and have a voice in making Lamoine a more fulfilling place for everyone to live in.

I think Lamoine needs to be more business friendly

The school needs to be more opened to the Lamoine people it is real hard to find out what is going on and what the school board and staff is doing (very little TV and web info). Would like to see them more open to parents.

I would like the town to implement a community solar project that would allow town residents to invest in solar power generated from panels installed on the school.

There are many utility poles especially on roads near the coast (ex. Seal Point Road), that are in poor condition and should be replaced.

Better internet connection

Is the comprehensive plan committee looking at the future of Lamoine, to protect it from development, or to make it more viable for families and businesses to want to come to Lamoine? Thank you!

The cell phone service is TERRIBLE for Beach Road residents!!

Town government organization: Planning Board should be elected; Town manager needed.

Future of the Lamoine school.... Should always evaluate opportunities to share resources and coordinate services with other communities/agencies.

Please, please, please consider bringing reliable internet access to Lamoine !!! Our only choice currently is DSL with Fairpoint which is completely unreliable, on a good day. They are the only game in town, and that is not appropriate; must have access for work!!!

Residents should have free access to the Lamoine State Park. Especially senior citizens and folks walking their dogs. To have to pay for this seems outrageous.

Barking dogs late at night.

No dump areas for brush, tree limbs and other garden debris.

Lamoine needs a coffee house, café, as a gathering place.