

## Joanna Arendarczyk

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**From:** Chris Evans <chrisevansnh@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 12, 2021 11:40 AM  
**To:** Joanna Arendarczyk  
**Cc:** tami.defrancesco@verani.com  
**Subject:** Northeast Watercross

Greetings,

re: Kabota Trust / Northeast Watercross events on upcoming planning board meeting

We are Chris Evans and Debbie Bennett, we reside at 8 Tuckaway Shores Rd Nottingham, and on Pawtuckaway Lake. We are about a mile from the event as the crow flies.

We are in favor of and support this event for several reasons:

- 1) Tourism is one of the main income producers for our state. Bringing people into the area for such events is a tremendous benefit to our local and state economies. Particualry, people that attend will stay locally, eat locally, buy supplies locally from local businesses. Local police and fire personelle are paid to watch over these events. Some of the proceeds from the events were donated to local charities.
- 2) This is a great family event and outdoor event, which both tourist and locals people can enjoy.
- 3) While such events do generate some noise, so don't fireworks radomly shot off at any times all around Pawtuckaway Lake; motorboats and jet skis at any hour of the day or night without time or noise restrictions; we just had sea plane landing on the lake; planes flying overhead; traffic and trucks driving through out the town at any hour of the day or night, endless Amazon deliery trucks, plow trucks in the middle of the night 100 feet from our window; 100's/ 1000's of vehicles travelling to and from Pawtuckaway state park with 1000's of vistors to the area; neighbors cutting their lawns, chainsaws, chippers; people firing guns in our area; New England dragway, Star speedway, Lee Speedway, NH Motor Speedway bringing both large numbers of both tourist and local peoples and noise; Outdoor concerts; etc. With this event, the hours of operations are specified and limited. These are the sounds of summer. These are the sounds of fun.
- 4) I have brought my family to moto cross and monster truck shows at the the SNHU arena in Manchester. It was extremely loud inside. We have all attended other races and concerts where we have to travel, park, wait in long lines, and have loud noises while there. It took hours to get into the NH Motor speedway. We went up to the Scottish Games last year, there were so many people that they had to bus people in and out. This event occurs right in the middle of the National Forrest. People who live nearby do have noise and traffic durring these events. SNHU arena in in a very high density populated area, but nevertheless these events occur somehwere, why not in Nottingham?

This site location is remote from much of the town, and sparsely populated nearby. It is located on a state highway with great access to major highways. We are very lucky to have a great location like this in our town where such an event can be successfully put on. This is a great and appropriate location for such events.

- 5) We are lucky to have local taxpayers / residents / business owners to take the time, effort and investment to put on such great family events in and for our town. Instead of trying to overly regulate and control reasonable property rights and local businesses, the Planning Board and the Town should welcome and support these events as a great benefit to the town, the people of the town, businesses in the town, and tourism dollars to town businesses and the local economy.

Welcome summer, welcome fun!

Chris Evans  
Debbie Bennett

## Joanna Arendarczyk

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**From:** Contact form at Town of Nottingham NH <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 11, 2021 12:50 PM  
**To:** Joanna Arendarczyk  
**Subject:** [Town of Nottingham NH] No Northeast Watercross Event (Sent by Mary Colvard, mpcolvard@icloud.com)

Hello jarendarczyk,

Mary Colvard ([mpcolvard@icloud.com](mailto:mpcolvard@icloud.com)) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/user/91/contact>) at Town of Nottingham NH.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/user/91/edit>.

Message:

Hello,

My husband, John Bartsch and I live at 14 Indian Run in Nottingham. The Northeast Watercross events that are presently being proposed to be held throughout the summer will negatively affect the people and wildlife living in the surrounding area. The noise from last summer's events carried for miles. We do not support these events.

The noise created by the Northeast Watercross events is much more than a nuisance! There is overwhelming evidence that exposure to environmental noise has adverse effects on the health of humans. Noise pollution is ranked second among environmental threats to public health (the first being air pollution).

Just as noise pollution negatively impacts human health, it also affects wildlife. It can interfere with animal communication, hinder their foraging abilities and impact where they live. In general, a growing number of studies indicate that animals, like humans, are stressed by noisy environments (Shannon et al. 2015). Animals cannot leave town for the weekend during Watercross!

"A recent study published in "Biology Letters" found that human-created noise is affecting a wide range of animals — from birds, fish, mammals and amphibians, to arthropods, mollusks and reptiles. Noise pollution, also known as anthropogenic noise, is caused by cars, trucks, airplanes, ships, oil extraction, factories, industrial activities and sounds from cities, among others. Researchers found that wildlife in many different land- and aquatic-based ecosystems showed significant responses to human-created noise." Source: <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/en/blog/human-created-noise-pollution.h...> For example, bats use ultrasonic sound waves to get around and to locate their prey. Noise pollution interferes with this.

Noise pollution is a serious health concern worthy of our attention...so why generate more when it is not necessary?

Further References: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/sound/resources.htm>

Please do not approve the Northeast Watercross events.

Sincerely,  
Mary Colvard

## Joanna Arendarczyk

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**From:** Contact form at Town of Nottingham NH <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 12, 2021 11:34 AM  
**To:** Joanna Arendarczyk  
**Subject:** [Town of Nottingham NH] Water Cross Weekend (Sent by MICHAEL ST. LAURENT, locomikel@gmail.com)

Hello jarendarczyk,

MICHAEL ST. LAURENT ([locomikel@gmail.com](mailto:locomikel@gmail.com)) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/user/91/contact>) at Town of Nottingham NH.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/user/91/edit>.

Message:

Dear Select Board,

I am writing to express my vote against allowing the Water Cross events. Here are my concerns.

The events are very noisy for a three day period for three weekends. Yes, the noise is very aggravating. Yes, we can hear it distinctly over the Dolloff Damn like it is right next door, especially when the wind is coming from the East. It often sounds like several chain saws going at once. Over and Over and over again.

Additionally, the property where the events are held is directly on an important watershed.

I have registered a complaint with the DES

Complaint:Nottingham Sand and Gravel, Raymond Rd, Nottingham, NH.

The Nottingham Sand and Gravel company, a working gravel pit, has started having snowmachine events at their facility. The events are three weekends this year, with maybe more planned for next year.

Here is a website with more information.

<https://forumhome.org/water-crossing-comes-to-nottingham-p33219-129.htm>

The overall issue with groundwater is as follows.

Gravel pits are very pervious and gas and oil leaking into the ground and get into the groundwater.

These events are held with no regard for the pollution that they may create, noise and groundwater.

This is a very small body of water and the snowmobiles go over it hundreds of times with a potential for leakage.

More details.

A) Up to and over 700+ spectators with cars are parking on the property with a potential for leakage. (even though permit is for 200)

B) The events are held for 2 and a half days, or over 20 hours per event. (three weekends this year)

C) The snowmobiles race across a very small body of water - which is over gravel multiple times.

D) I assume that many racers need to fill up their machines with gas and oil, with a potential for a spillage.

E) These events are held in an area designated as a residential area.

F) Camping is encouraged and allowed.

One question that I cannot find the answer for in the State of NH Zoning laws.

Special events are allowed by exception. That exception is granted by the BOS.

However, at what point, that is how many special events are allowed until they no longer qualify as "special" events. To go down the slippery slope, if I asked for a special event for 100 people and a beer license for one Sunday, that is a special event. However, if I ask for one for 3 Sundays, or 5 Sundays, at some point it's not really a "Special" event, it is basically a way around the zoning laws. A Race Track does not fit within the prescribed uses. Neither does a Campground. I strongly object to the continuance of these events and the board should strongly review this for legal and environmental concerns..

"Camps" on Pawtuckaway represent a very large tax base in the Town of Nottingham as you know. Significant intrusive noise from events like this reduce the property value of all residents and camps within hearing distance.

Homes near the NE Dragway and other very noisy venues have reduced property values. Reduced property values on these camps from the continuance of these events will have a detrimental affect on the Tax basis of the Town of Nottingham.

Here is a better perspective on this

Professionals who appraise or assess property likely consult resources such as the Standard on the Valuation of Properties Affected by Environmental Contamination (See Market Value & Contamination) (5) which states "Noise pollution includes unwanted sound generated by airport, road traffic, and heavy industry. Effects should be considered similar to other locational and neighborhood desirability influences and may be incurable economic obsolescence." Incurable economic obsolescence is defined "as environmental, external, or location obsolescence, which is a type of depreciation that occurs outside the subject property. Typically, this form of obsolescence occurs sometime after the property is built, as the environment around the home changes. Examples include airport noise, freeway noise, changes in zoning, and more. For this reason, properties located next to the freeway or under a flight path will experience reductions in value." The Truth About Realty"

<https://www.thetruthaboutrealty.com/functional-and-economic-obsolescence/>.

Some studies have broken down the decrease in market value per vehicle based on proximity to roadway and noise generated by the vehicle at various speeds. A calculator based on noise damage to home prices is available on a research blog. An objective and quantitative discussion of noise pollution's impact on market value, available on a realty website, quotes an expert suggesting that "the presence of an airport could cause properties in near proximity to sell up to 20% lower than the average of homes in the next concentric circle,...". Keep in mind that the decibels produced by a race car are equivalent to a jet taking off.

Article one of the Towns Zoning ordinance is as follows Purpose The provisions of this Ordinance are intended to regulate the use of land for the purpose of protecting the public health, safety, convenience and welfare of the residents of Nottingham. This Ordinance is consistent with the goals of the Nottingham Master Plan 2004, as amended, specifically:

TO PRESERVE the rural character and natural resources of the Town.

TO INSURE that land use is consistent with the capability of the land to support such use with regard to ecological, aesthetic, and economic considerations.

TO ASSURE that basic needs of health, safety, education, housing and recreation will be met and maintained at satisfactory levels.

TO PROVIDE for orderly growth of the Town, consistent with the financial ability to provide increased services and facilities necessitated thereby. TO ASSURE that land use does not have a deleterious effect on other property, either ecologically, aesthetically or economically. TO SECURE safety from fire, panic, and other dangers by providing adequate areas between buildings and

Race tracks are not compatible with the purpose outlined in this ordinance.

I urge the Board to not approve any further permits which clearly violate the purpose of our approved zoning laws and also degrade the value of our property and most importantly directly contribute to a deleterious effect on our property

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## Joanna Arendarczyk

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**From:** NORTHEAST WATERCROSS <sreynolds0715@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:13 AM  
**To:** Joanna Arendarczyk  
**Cc:** Dirk.Grotenhuis@aecom.com; Chris Sterndale; Ben Bartlett; Tami Defrancesco; Tami Defrancesco; James Gregoire  
**Subject:** Northeast Watercross Championship

### To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to start by thanking the town and all parties involved for their time with the process of getting proper permitting to host these events in Nottingham. There has been tons of time and money invested in going about this the correct way. While this much work is an absolute first for us in the permitting process of holding events in a town we will continue to do what's needed to see this out and satisfy the needs of the town.

With that being said looking over the updated application summary all areas have been addressed and it seems we were only waiting for one or two reports back to submit to the town. Hosting these events takes a lot of time and planning and ordering of event products to make this all happen. Racers and staff requesting time off from work, child care arrangements, trophy orders and so much more it's literally thousands and thousands and takes weeks sometimes months. In no means do I mean to go above or around anything or anyone but last year I was told that had this only been 1 event none of this permitting or zoning process would be needed. I ask kindly Is it at all possible that while we move forward with the proper permitting process we be able to move forward with the 1 first event date. We have received the permits for all events through fish and game, purchased the insurance for the season and have everything in place to see things through just as smoothly as they were last year. I ask that this be discussed and voted on if needed Tonight as again there is much urgency in a fair notice to everyone involved whether it be for or against as much planning, time and money goes into seeing this through and want to give a fair notice to everyone involved including abutters. This would be greatly appreciated .

Lastly I have become very involved in the town media wise and personally. I have communicated with many residents and become friends with many. I have watched many town select and planning board meetings.

While I am sure our very generous donations to the food bank were greatly appreciated from what I am hearing there are other areas in the town that could use support financially as well. We would like to continue to make our 50/50 raffle donation to the town and would appreciate any guidance from the planning and select board as to which area needs it most. We appreciate all that has gone into this and thank this beautiful town for welcoming us and the business it brings to many during these hard weird times. Thank you!

Steven O. Reynolds  
Northeast Watercross Championship