

Mr. Paul Garriepy
Director of Properties Catholic Diocese of Lansing
300 West Ottawa Street Lansing, MI 48933-1577

June 20, 2003

Dear Mr. Garriepy:

On behalf of the Allen's Creek Watershed Group (ACWG, acwg.org), I write to express support for the preservation of Dicken Woods as a natural area.

Our group is dedicated to the preservation and improvement of Allen's Creek in Ann Arbor, an important urban tributary of the Huron River. Due largely to urban development and its typical effects, this creek suffers from pollution, sedimentation, surcharging and regular flooding.

Allen's creekshed is almost entirely urbanized, with close to 60% imperviousness, and Dicken Woods is one of the very few remaining natural land parcels. It continues to function, as it always has, to retain and filter fresh water in the area. If developed Dicken Woods would work against our efforts to improve the quality and reduce the quantity of fresh water runoff into the Allen's Creek watershed.

This parcel is in the critical headwaters area of both the Allen's and Malletts creeksheds.

Our efforts benefit not only the citizens of Ann Arbor, but also all the communities down river from Ann Arbor to Lake Erie. Preserving Dicken Woods as a natural area fits well with our creekshed management recommendations and would help in our efforts.

Much more information is available on our web site at WWW.ACWG.ORG.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our support of the preservation efforts underway by the Friends of Dicken Woods.

Sincerely yours,



Vince Caruso

Coordinating Member ACWG

ACWG.ORG

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