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GROUND WATER AND WATER WELL LEGISLATION

My rural home depends on ground water that feeds a private well. Please consider in your deliberations (in no order of importance/priority):

- Extensive Tree Removal – tree/forest graveyards are an annual event typically carried out by large farm operations. Why do they do this? : “spend the money on developing the land to reduce tax payments.” Minor fines don’t work. Make the offender return the area to what it was before the tree removal, along with a heavy fine.
- Increasing Use of Pesticides and Herbicides by Farmers – GMO crops are one of the culprits, as they have resulted in the “super weeds” – i.e. adapted to Roundup.
- Illegal Dumping of Manure – when a pig farmer boasts that it is cheaper to illegally “dump” and risk a small penalty, than pay big dollars to transport the manure, it is high time to substantially increase the fine for illegal dumping. Note too that they will do this on a weekend when no one is home at Conservation.
- Make Ditch Farming Illegal – In my area far too many cultivated fields run right up to and some even into the ditches and/or primary drains. A rain event following field fertilization and/or pest spraying results in quick pollution of runoff.
- Tiled Fields – are questionable in my mind as they are typically used in potato production which requires heavy fertilization and spraying, i.e. quick runoff through the tiles into major drains.
- Fertilization and Spraying of Fields in Areas of Steep Slopage. Further set back distances are required and must be enforced.
- Illegal Drainage – heavy fines are needed.
- Gas Fracking – needs extensive controls.
- Off Road Vehicles – should not be permitted in areas of water and forest when used for recreational purposes. Too many are running through creeks, streams and marshy areas, some of these machines are leaving oil trails. And, we all know that they have caused fires in dry grass.

Make note in your deliberations that there may be a large number of wells that were not drilled but dug by back-hoe for which there are no records.

Thank You,
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