



## BROWNING MILL POND: RIDEM DEVELOPMENT PLANS

RIDEM is going to build a 12,700 square foot office building/visitor center on Arcadia Road at Browning Mill Pond. The cost will be approximately \$6.9 million with **construction scheduled to start in March 2017.**

## WHY SHOULD THIS MATTER TO YOU?

This project will change the character of our community by:

- Increasing traffic (and potentially litter) on Arcadia Road;
- Blocking the view of Browning Mill Pond; and
- Eliminating priceless recreational space.

When a State agency, funded by taxpayer dollars, plans a project of this size without providing opportunities to include the public in the process, nobody wins.

The public should be allowed to provide input into the process and the State should consider our questions and concerns. Development of State lands without public notification and input sets a dangerous precedent that must be addressed to protect our community's future interests.

The Browning Mill Pond Recreational Area is an important local natural resource. Besides being a popular spot for many different user groups to fish, picnic, mountain bike, hike, or just enjoy the scenery, Browning Mill Pond and the surrounding area provides important habitat for many different types of animals who are already under stress from loss of habitat, most notably the eastern box turtle and northern long-eared bat.

We are losing an important chance to include our community in a discussion that affects many of us.

## You must act fast!

If you're interested in having your voice included in the development process, start by contacting these people:

### Governor Gina Raimondo

Phone: 401-222-2080

Website:

<http://www.governor.ri.gov/contact/>

### Representative Justin K. Price

Phone: 401-364-0295

Website:

<http://justinpriceri.com/contact/>

### Senator Elaine Morgan

Phone: 401-744-0505

Email: [ElaineforSenate@aol.com](mailto:ElaineforSenate@aol.com)

### Richmond Town Council

Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday.  
Requests to be put on the agenda must be received by the Wednesday prior to the meeting:

<http://www.richmondri.com/aga/Town-Council>

### RIDEM

Catherine Sparks, Assistant Director  
– Bureau of Natural Resources

1-401-222-2445 ext. 2301

[Catherine.Sparks@dem.ri.gov](mailto:Catherine.Sparks@dem.ri.gov)

**This list isn't inclusive, but it's a start. If you can think of someone else that should be contacted, do it!**

## Who We Are:

We are a group of local residents concerned about the lack of public input in the State's plan to build a large office/visitor center at the Browning Mill Pond Recreational Area located in the towns of Exeter and Richmond, RI.

Contact Us:

[FriendsofBrowningMill@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofBrowningMill@gmail.com)