

The following was written for promotion of Remington Woods preservation on WICC:

Industrialization of Remington Woods for jobs and taxes is unnecessary. Downtown Bridgeport is revitalizing and GE will develop when the Seaview Avenue Corridor is brought to its door.

Industrializing the Woods is proposed by the business community as part of a larger plan to concentrate in Bridgeport as much of the future upper Fairfield County industrialization as possible.

The larger plan is not a bad idea – let Fairfield County be seen as a whole with Bridgeport as a business center.

But – it has to be done well. This is a port town, potentially very wealthy. And industrializing the Woods does not fit the idea of “well done.”

Why?

Because Bridgeport will have to begin to promote itself as a nice place to work. It will have to be able to compete with the interesting town of Norwalk: Remington Woods is one of the most interesting things in Bridgeport. The city will have to be able to compete with the beautiful New Haven – Remington Woods is one of the most beautiful things we have. To throw away a ready-made, massive science resource and unique urban attraction like a historic 400 plus acre wildlife preserve with a 23-acre lake right in the heart of town is a very bad business idea.

The idea was originally proposed before generalized Bridgeport revitalization was on deck. At that time, an office park in the Woods may have appeared essential to some. But even then – and certainly now - Remington Woods was and is far more valuable preserved in its natural state as a science and tourist resource which, as well, serves an essential function – to buttress the air quality of Fairfield County, particularly Bridgeport slated for extensive economic industrial development.

And at one and the same time, this 419-acre oasis would become secure as a historic Bridgeport jewel for the future.

Let all concerned realize that to industrialize Remington Woods means to trade in most of 419 acres of the breath of life for 8,000 cars and trucks a day.

Susan Harris, Vice President  
Friends of Remington Woods  
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