

Application Review Inspection Customer Report Mgmt.Rpts Window

Service #	199916178	Problem Date	06/09/2004 11:49
Scheduled Date	06/09/2004 12:13	Start Date	10/14/2004 10:28
Inspection Date	10/14/2004 10:28	Inspected By	MARTI
Resolution Date	10/14/2004 13:28	Resolution Code	CLOSE

An inspection of the property revealed that it was for sale. Ralph Cellog 258-4291. Inspection revealed that there was a fence in front of the property with fence permit. Bus was present along with a van HD M-83660. The van had advertisement for Pro Now landscaping 240-418-0464. Mr. Houston stated that i was the eight inspector to visit the property. He stated that Jerry Burgess from housing visited the property. Pete of Building referred the case too me. I spoke with the owner Mr. Huston. He stated that he lives at 16637 South Westlawn Drive Gaithersburg, Maryland with a Mr. Lance Smith. The Mci bus was present. The property is zoned RDT. Bus permitted/ May live in it & day or night. Truck and trailer OK. Close.

Property Browser

17900 To 17900 TRUNDLE RD

Addresses
17900 TRUNDLE RD DICKERSON

- Parcels
- Permits/Licenses/Cases
- Customer Calls
- Service: 199916178
- Contacts

Service #	199916178	Res Date	10/14/2004
Problem	Z17		
	ZONING-RES-LANDSCAPING		
Address	17900 TRUNDLE RD	DICKERSON MD	20842-0000
Location			

NOTES TO FILE -- 17900 TRUNDLE ROAD

04-26-04

Drive-by inspection conducted—I noticed a tour bus parked in the woods off Trundle Road. There were numerous pine trees planted around the perimeter of the bus and a gravel drive with a cable across it to prevent entry off the road. Property appears to be partially to completely wetlands. There was a van parked on the gravel drive inside the cable.

04-28-04

Drive-by inspection conducted with Gene von Gunten—tour bus still parked in the woods at the same location, but there was a 7-foot tall chain link fence around the bus vicinity and across the gravel drive. There was a van parked on the drive inside the fence. There was a “for sale” realty sign near to the bus location (ReMax Realty, Ralph Colling at 301-258-4291).

04-29-04

I spoke to Mr. Colling, listing agent for the property—the property owner is Steve Houston. Mr. Colling explained that “people” from the County (Housing inspector and DEP inspector) had recently inspected the property. Housing inspector is Jeri Burgess. DEP inspector is John Kirschener. I left a message for Jeri.

05-04-04

I received a message from Jeri—she explained that her inspection revealed that the bus was used mainly for storage of equipment, with no evidence that anyone was living in the bus.

06-01-04 thru 11-23-04

I made several drive-by inspections to monitor any change in activity on the property. I did not observe much activity during the daytime hours.

11-24-04

I conducted a drive-by inspection and noticed that the previous chain link fence has been replaced with 7-foot tall wood stockade fence and “no trespassing” signs. On or about this date, I spoke with an anonymous complainant and I explained what I’ve observed about the property thus far. I suggested that they submit a written complaint so that I could follow-up with the respective agencies.

12-07-04

I received a written complaint regarding 17900 Trundle Road. I called and left messages for Housing and DEP relative to the complaint. I also called the Montgomery County Police and requested they patrol the area during the evening hours, since the complaint reported activity only in the evenings and on weekends. I spoke to Kevin Martel at Housing—he requested that I fax a copy of the complaint to him, but that he did not find any violation during previous visits. I

received a message from Officer Martin who had conducted a drive-by inspection of the property at about 5:30 p.m., but saw no sign of activity. She said that the property was completely dark and needed to spotlight the area to find it. (Officer Martin works Saturday thru Tuesday only)

12-08-04

I spoke with John Kirschener at DEP—he explained that they did not find any violation during previous inspections of the property and that the property appeared to be used for storage only. He offered to inspect the site with me, but that I would need to get permission from the owner. He also indicated that they had received prior complaints for this same property, but found no violations in the past. I spoke to Jim Martin (Zoning inspector for the area) who has previously inspected the property. Mr. Martin did find any violation (see complaint #199916178)—property inspected 10-14-04.

12-14-04

I called Officer Martin to confirm message—she had indicated that she was unable to see much at the property due to the tall fence, but that there was no activity that she could find.

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PERMITTING SERVICES
WELL & SEPTIC SECTION
255 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Md. 20850
(240) 777-6320
FAX (240) 777-6314

Date: DEC 7, 2004

TO: Kevin Martel

Facsimile Machine Number: _____

FROM: Kim Beall

Number of Pages 3 Cover Sheet Plus 2

Description/Comments/Special Instructions: _____

I can be reached at (240) 372-7503

Thank you.

EIVER

November 29, 2004

DEC 02 2004

OPEN

PERMIT SERVICES

Ms Kimberly Beall
Montgomery County Dept. of Permitting Services
Well & Septic Division
255 Rockville Pike
2nd floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Ms. Beall:

This letter is to inform you of a serious well and septic situation that exists at 17900 Trundle Road, Dickerson, MD 20842. The property is owned by Steve Houston formerly Steve Sweeney who lives on the property in a large MCI bus .According to the tax records this property is zoned rural density transfer, the property use is zoned residential. Steve Houston lives there every day and there is no well or septic system on the property. He also uses this property as a commercial site for his lawn business.

There are large piles of trash which is a serious fire hazard and at night he runs his noisy equipment and generator cutting up materials using large flood lights, this area is not zoned for commercial use.

Steve Houston says he is not living on the property and is giving out 16637 South Westland Drive, Gaithersburg, MD as his permanent address. He leaves in the morning around 9:00 AM and returns in the evening around 7:00PM. He is there every weekend. He lives in the MCI bus every night and every weekend. Where is all of his waste going? He got a permit to put up a fence in front of the property, but this does not take care of the septic system that he should have living on the property every day .

He put the property up for sale last April 2004 with the asking price of \$ 237,000.00 for 1.79 acres. The for sale sign is up there as a front to cover his commercial lawn business. The property is up for sale with a ridiculous asking price. He knows no one will make him an offer at that price so he can continue to live on the property with the pretense that it is for sale and still keep his commercial lawn business. He has the county thinking that he does not live there , but this is not true. He lives there everyday and is violating well and septic as well as zoning laws with his commerical lawn business on Trundle Road. The property has not been put into the real estate computer system since the sign went up in April 2004.

As long as it does not go in the system and the county thinks he is going to sell the property with the for sale sign up, then he does not have to comply with county regulations.

This property has never been listed in the real estate computer system .

According to Montgomery County regulations if you are living on a piece of property you must have the proper well and septic system according to the county codes. Steve Houston is clearly breaking the law for well and septic.

John Kershner from the Department of Environmental Protection was contacted by several residents on Trundel Road. He informed them that Steve Houston was not violating any county codes . He also informed them that he checked that property and did not find any violations, which we find extremely hard to believe since Steve Houston lives on the property everyday. John Kershner said that living on the property and having a bus was permissible without a septic system. Notwithstanding the fact that this is a wetland area and a stream runs through the property and the bus is parked beside the stream.

The Montgomery County Fire Department needs to be called and apprised of the situation due to the tremendous amount of wood and dry vegetation that is commercially produced there everyday in an area that is not commercially zoned. Steve Houston runs a noisy generator with large bright flood lights late at night to cut commercial wood and mulch for his lawn business. This area is not zoned for a commercial wood cutting operation. He also breeds cats and dogs for sale on this property.

Not only is Steve Houston violating the well and septic codes , but he is also violating housing and fire codes. The trees and dry vegetation from the lawn business is a serious fire hazard to the area not counting the diesel fuel stored in the bus.

This serious situation needs the attention of not only well and septic, but also housing, fire and zoning departments. They all need to come and see the serious situation that exists on Trundle Road. Enclosed please find pictures of the county violations.

Sincerely,
Concerned Citizens of Trundle Road

KIM:

It seems obvious there is a problem here. I would suggest we take the complaint at face value and involve all the agencies mentioned. The best approach would be a meeting at the site involving:

1. Well & Septic
2. Housing
3. Evn. Protection- Mr. Kershner
4. MCDPS-Zoning
5. MC Fire & Rescue

You might also contact the Montgomery County Police. Ask them to have a patrol officer drive down Trundle Road a few nights after 7:30 and verify the property is occupied.

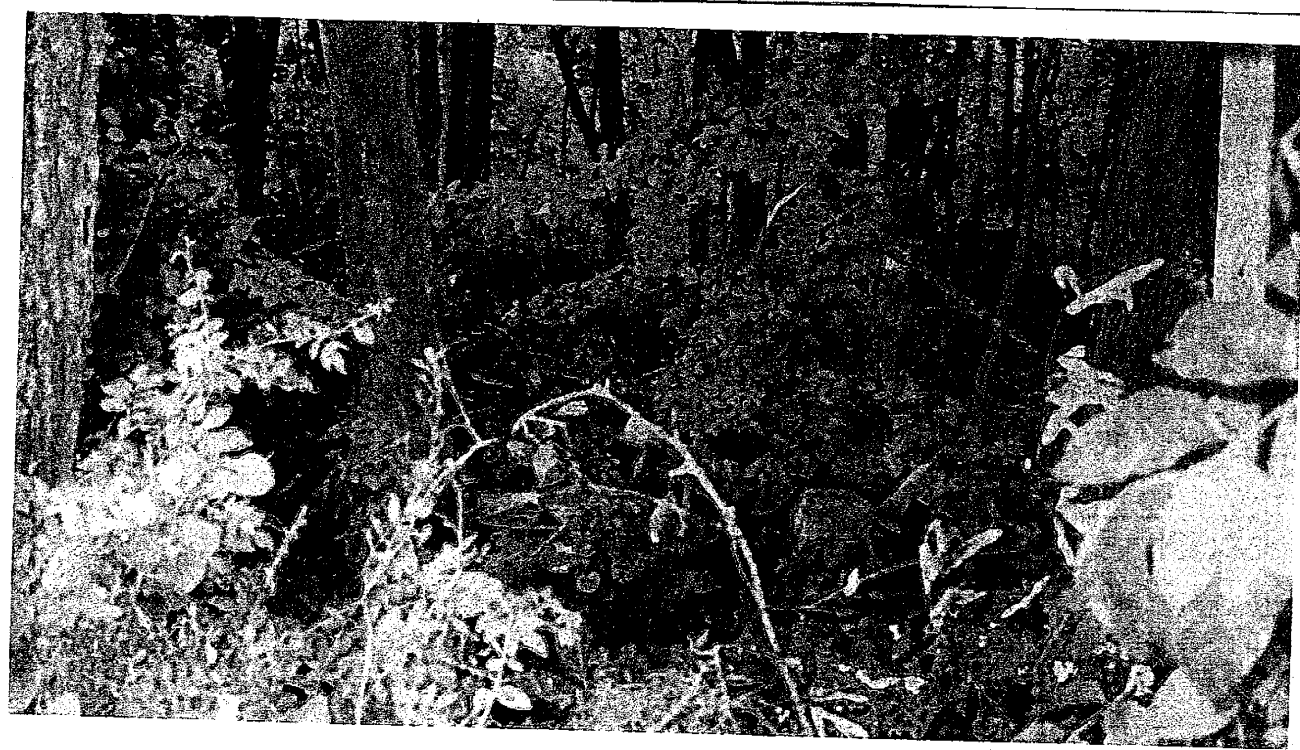
I'll go along for the meeting if you like.

Gvg

12/7/04







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DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES

Douglas M Duncan
County Executive

Robert C Hubbard
Director

FENCE
PERMIT

Issue Date 5/4/2004

Permit No. 343172
Expires 5/5/2005
X Ref
Rev No
ID: AC946547

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

STEVE HOUSTON
16637 S WESTLAND DRIVE
GAITHERSBURG MD 20877

HAS PERMISSION TO:

CONSTRUCT

FENCE

6 Feet 6 Inches in height

PROPERTY LINE N OWNERS LAND Y RIGHT OF WAY N

PERMIT CONDITIONS

PREMISE ADDRESS:

17900 TRUNDLE RD
DICKERSON MD 20842-0000

LOT
LIBER
FOLIO
PERMIT FEE \$38 50

BLOCK
ELECTION DISTRICT
TAX ACCOUNT NO
SUBDIVISION

ZONE
PLATE

GRID
PARCEL
PS NUMBER 0

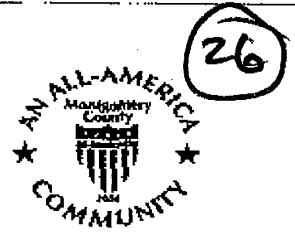
MUST BE POSTED ON JOB SITE

Director, Department of Permitting Services



Montgomery County Maryland
Department of Permitting Services

255 Rockville Pike, 2nd Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850-4153
(240) 777-6300 Fax (240) 777-8262
http://permits.emontgomery.gov



APPLICATION FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT

Sediment Control # _____ Building AP #(s) 343112 Demolition # _____

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: (check all that apply)

- ADD
- ALTER Gross Sq. Ft. of Area Created _____
- CONSTRUCT or Affected by this Action _____
- DEMOLISH Estimated Cost: \$ _____
- MOVE Disturbed Land Area _____
- FOUNDATION ONLY
- RESTORE and/or REPAIR

USE OF STRUCTURE:

- SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING
- TOWNHOUSE
- FENCE*
- RETAINING WALL
- TRAILER**
- MODULAR HOME**
- HOT TUB
- OTHER _____

- DECK *RST*
- DUPLEX *22 JAN 22*
- BASEMENT
- POOL IN GROUND
- POOL ABOVE GROUND
- DETACHED GARAGE
- SHED

*** IF BUILDING A FENCE OR RETAINING WALL**

HEIGHT: 6 ft 6 in Note: (A signed approval letter from the adjacent lot owner(s) is required)

- Located entirely on the land of the owner
- Public Right of Way/Easement
- Located on the lot line

****NOTE:** _____
Manufacturer's Name and Model # for All Trailers and Modular Homes

MODEL HOUSE PROGRAM: to build new homes

- INITIAL SUBMITTAL or
- PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PERMIT # _____

REFER-BACK SYSTEM: to build new homes & pools

- INITIAL SUBMITTAL or
- PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PERMIT # _____

New Home Model Name or # _____

REVISION to ORIGINAL PERMIT # _____

(Original permit has been issued and is active)

- SITE
- STRUCTURAL
- HOUSE TYPE
- OTHER: _____

BUILDING PREMISE ADDRESS:

Add? House #'s if building new townhouses

House Number _____ Street 17900 Trundle Rd City Dickerson MD Zip _____

Lot(s) _____ Block _____ Subdivision _____

Nearest Cross Street Whites Ferry Rd

APPLICANT INFORMATION: Contact ID # _____ Fax # _____ Email _____

Name of Applicant Steve Houston Daytime Phone # 240.418.0464

Address 16637 S Westland Pl City Gaithersburg State MD Zip 20877

CONTACT INFORMATION: Contact ID # _____ Fax # _____ Email _____

Contact Person _____ Daytime Phone # _____
(if other than Applicant)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contractor _____ MHIC or Montgomery County Builders License # _____

Contractor Address _____ Daytime Phone # _____

EXPEDITED PLAN REVIEW: I request an Expedited Plan Review, when available, which is subjected to additional fees.

(Applicant's Signature) Date (Print Name)

ADDITIONAL APPROVALS:

Properties located within historic districts, municipalities and special taxing districts may require additional approvals beyond the required Department of Permitting Services (DPS) building permit. For projects located in the City of Takoma Park's Commercial Revitalization Overlay, certain permits must be approved by the City prior to commencing construction. Please refer to "Permit Procedures for Properties within a Montgomery County Municipality" for more information.

TYPE OF WATER SUPPLY WSSC WELL OTHER (specify) _____

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WSSC SEPTIC OTHER (specify) _____

MPDU ... 20% of this new home development will be built as Moderately Priced Dwelling Units Yes No

IMPACT TAX ... New Homes will be assessed an Impact Tax based on the area where the house is built ... (see Impact Tax guide)
 I will exercise an approved Impact Tax Credit, a copy of which is attached

DAP & EDAET AGREEMENTS.... Agreement must be attached for new homes when applicable

SPECIAL EXCEPTION: Is this lot subject to a Special Exception? Yes, Case # _____ No

VARIANCE: Has a Variance been granted to perform this work? Yes, Variance # _____ No

HISTORIC AREA IN ATLAS or MASTER PLAN: Is the property a Historic resource? Yes No

AUTHORIZED AGENT AFFIDAVIT: I hereby declare and affirm, under the penalty of perjury, that:

- I am duly authorized to make this permit application on behalf of _____ (please print property owner's name)
- The work proposed by this building permit application is authorized by the property owner; and
- All matters and facts set forth in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

(Signature of Authorized Agent) Date (Print Name)

HOMEOWNER ACTING AS NEW HOME BUILDER AFFIDAVIT:

By this instrument, I, as the property owner, am applying for an exemption from the licensing requirements for a building contractor. I hereby declare and affirm, under the penalty of perjury that

- I or a member of my immediate family will perform any and all construction associated with the foregoing building permit application; and
- The type of improvement indicated on the building permit application is designed for use as a residence or dwelling place for my own or my immediate family's use, and
- I take full responsibility for all and any code violations.
- All matters and facts set forth in this affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

SR Houston 5.4.04 Steve R. Houston
(Signature of Property Owner) Date (Print Name)

TO BE READ BY THE APPLICANT:

Any information that the applicant has set forth in this application that is false or misleading may result in the rejection of the application. A condition for the issuance of this permit is that the proposed construction will comply at all times with the plans as approved by all applicable government agencies. I hereby declare and affirm, under the penalty of perjury, that all matters and facts set forth in the building permit application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

SR Houston 5.4.04 Steve Houston
(Applicant's Signature) Date (Print Name)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Permit Fee \$ _____ + Impact Tax, DAP or EDAET: \$ _____ Balance: \$ _____
Bldg.appl.res.4/03

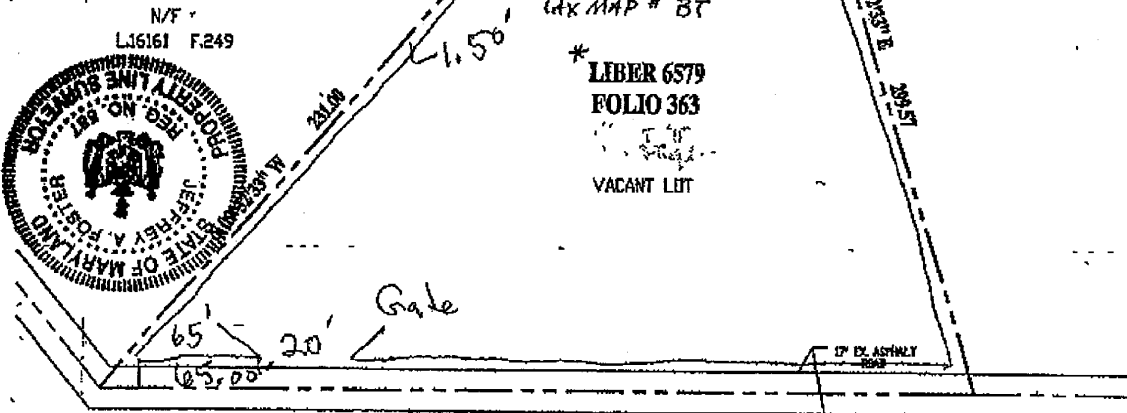
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
 DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES
 APPROVED *[Signature]* DATE 5-20-04
 ZONING CLASS _____ PAGE 22
 BOARD OF APPEALS CASE
6.5' Fence

CONSUMER INFORMATION NOTES:

1. This plan is a benefit to a consumer insofar as it is required by a lender or a title insurance company or its agent in connection with contemplated transfer, financing or re-financing.
2. This plan is not to be relied upon for the establishment or location of fences, garages, buildings, or other existing or future improvements.
3. This plan does not provide for the accurate identification of property boundary lines, but such identification may not be required for the transfer of title or securing financing or re-financing.
4. Building line and/or Flood Zone information is taken from available sources and is subject to interpretation of originator.

Notes

1. Flood zone "C" per H.U.D. panel No 245208-0026 B
2. Setback distances as shown to the principal structure from property lines are approximate. The level of accuracy for this drawing should be taken to be no greater than plus or minus *N/A*.
3. No property corners have been confirmed.
4. Title deed does not provide a meets & bounds description for this parcel (SEE NOTE 6). Outline shown is taken from the description of the adjoinder parcel in L16161 F249.
5. A boundary survey would be required for a higher level of accuracy.
6. *INDICATES THAT BACK REFERENCE TO L. 580 F. 282 DOES NOT DESCRIBE LOT SHOWN.
7. FENCES AND SECONDARY IMPROVEMENTS (IF ANY) HAVE NOT BEEN SHOWN.



S 40° 27' 26" W 351.83' CORNER

TRUNDLE ROAD

LOCATION DRAWING

J. & L.R. BUTT PROPERTY
 * LIBER 6579 FOLIO 363
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE

"THE INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN BASED UPON THE RESULTS OF A FIELD INSPECTION PURSUANT TO THE DEED OR PLAT OF RECORD. EXISTING STRUCTURES SHOWN HAVE BEEN FIELD LOCATED BASED UPON MEASUREMENTS FROM PROPERTY MARKERS FOUND OR FROM EVIDENCE OF LINES OF APPARENT OCCUPATION."

REFERENCES

PLAT BK.
 PLAT NO

LIBER 6579
 FOLIO 363



SNIDER & ASSOCIATES
 SURVEYORS - ENGINEERS
 LAND PLANNING CONSULTANTS
 2 Professional Drive, Suite 216
 Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
 301/948-6100, Fax 301/948-1286

DATE OF LOCATIONS

SCALE: 1" = 60'

WALL CHECK:

DRAWN BY: BMG

HSE LOC.: 08-25-03

JOB NO.: 08-4178

Jeffrey A. Foster
 MARYLAND PROPERTY LINE SURVEYOR REG. NO. 307

MC Department of Permitting Services

255 Rockville Pike, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850-4166
(240)777-6300 Fax (240)777-6262

Service Request Inspection Detail

Report Date 02/03/2005 01:16 PM

Submitted By

Service # 199919744
Problem WS1 WELL & SEPTIC VIOLATIONS
Address 17900 TRUNDLE RD
DICKERSON MD 20842-0000

Location
Area District
Sub-Area Parcel

# of Calls	1	Duration of Call	00:00	Call Date	01/26/2005 10:27
Template Type				A/P #	
Taken By	GRANT	GRANT, TERRI		Source	
Responsibility				Priority	HIGH HIGH
Scheduled Date	01/26/2005 10:27			Start Date	02/03/2005 00:00
Inspector	CLARI	CLARK, KIMBERLY		Inspection Date	02/03/2005 00:00
Due Date				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Work Orders Required	
Resolution Code	CLOSE	CLOSED		Resolution Date	02/03/2005 09:30
Avg Insp Duration		Service Request Progress		<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Contact Requested	
Avg Insp Days	0	Schedule By		Budget #	
Avg Insp Hrs	0	Start By		Map #	
Avg Insp Mins	0	Complete By		Project #	
		Resolve By			

Primary Caller

Title
Last Name ANONYMOUS
First Name, MI
Address
City, State/Province, ZIP/PC
 Foreign Reference #
Day Phone Evening Phone Call Date 01/26/2005 10:27
Caller Comments Previous complaint filed 6/2004. See attached previous service request and attached letter from concerned citizens of Trundle Road. Violating well and septic laws. No well or septic system on property.

Call List


There are no calls for this service number

Problem Comments I went with Jay Calloway (Zoning) and Mr. Deiter (Housing) to conduct an inspection of the property in response to the complaint. We knocked on the bus door and spoke to the owner, Mr. Steve Houston. I observed no evidence that Mr. Houston was living at the premises, nor did I find any evidence of sewage on the ground's surface. However, we did observe the tour bus and a series of fenced areas for cats (20 to 30). Mr. Houston is reportedly part of an animal rescue group. Mr. Houston indicated that all of the animals were current on their vaccinations. We inspected the interior of the bus--food for the animals is stored there, but no area for human habitation. There were several small structures in the vicinity of the bus for the cats, as well as storage of equipment for Mr. Houston's lawn care business. Mr. Calloway and Mr. Deiter cited Mr. Houston for several violations relative to the vehicles and commercial equipment on the property, as well as the structures. Well and septic issues resolved--I found no violation and issued no citation.

End of Report



Click here for a plain text ADA compliant screen.

	Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation MONTGOMERY COUNTY Real Property Data Search	Go Back View Map New Search Ground Rent
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Account Identifier: District - 03 Account Number - 00041421

Owner Information

Owner Name:	MEREOS, ANTHONY A & RUTH M	Use:	RESIDENTIAL
		Principal Residence:	NO
Mailing Address:	17900 TRUNDLE RD DICKERSON MD 20842	Deed Reference:	1) /30356/ 292 2)

Location & Structure Information

Premises Address 17900 TRUNDLE RD DICKERSON 20842	Legal Description WILLIAMS RESURVEY
--	---

Map	Grid	Parcel	Sub District	Subdivision	Section	Block	Lot	Assessment Area	Plat No: Plat Ref:
BT32		P120		1				1	

Special Tax Areas	Town Ad Valorem Tax Class	42
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Primary Structure Built	Enclosed Area	Property Land Area	County Use
0000		77,972.00 SF	910

Stories	Basement	Type	Exterior
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Value Information

	Base Value	Phase-in Assessments		
		Value As Of 01/01/2004	As Of 07/01/2005	As Of 07/01/2006
Land:	40,610	87,110		
Improvements:	0	0		
Total:	40,610	87,110	71,610	87,110
Preferential Land:	0	0	0	0

Transfer Information

Seller: HOUSTON, STEVEN R	Date: 07/22/2005	Price: \$65,000
Type: IMPROVED ARMS-LENGTH	Deed1: /30356/ 292	Deed2:
Seller: BUTT, JOSEPH & L R	Date: 07/24/2003	Price: \$48,500
Type: UNIMPROVED ARMS-LENGTH	Deed1: /24631/ 429	Deed2:
Seller:	Date: 11/26/1984	Price: \$0
Type: IMPROVED ARMS-LENGTH	Deed1: / 6579/ 363	Deed2:

Exemption Information

Partial Exempt Assessments	Class	07/01/2005	07/01/2006
County	000	0	0
State	000	0	0
Municipal	000	0	0

Tax Exempt: NO
Exempt Class:

Special Tax Recapture:

* NONE *

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Fax Cover Sheet

FedEx Kinko's of Gaithersburg

Telephone: 301-921-7873 Fax: 301-921-0021

Date _____

Number of pages _____ (including cover page)

To:

From:

Name Mont. County Dept. of

Name Concerned Citizens of

Company Permitting Services

Company Trundle Rd

Telephone Well + Septic

Telephone _____

Fax Housing & Zoning

240-777-6262

Comments _____

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**COMPLAINT FORM
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING
SERVICES**

WELL & SEPTIC

HOUSING

ZONING

Please see attachment

3 pages

Concerned Citizens of Trundle Road



Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services
255 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20850
240-777-6259 Fax: 240-777-6262
dps@montgomerycountymd.gov



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COMPLAINT FORM

Building [checked] Zoning [checked] Sediment Control [] Right-of-Way [] Well & Septic [checked]

Date Complaint Received: [] Time Complaint Received []

How Complaint is Received: Phone [] Fax [] Email [] Director's office []

Address of Complaint: 17900 Trundle Rd Suite []

City Dickerson, MD Zip: 20842

Complainant Information: (Person making the complaint)

Wishes to Remain Anonymous Yes [X] No []

Name: []

Address: []

City: [] State: [] Zip: []

Day Phone: [] Evening Phone: []

Email Address: []

Complainant Comments: See attachment

Staff Person Taking Complaint [] Date: []

Service Request # [] Inspector []

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**Director of Department of Permitting Services
Well & Septic Division
Housing Division
Zoning Division**

**Complaint Form
Attachment
Marius
17900 Trundle Rd
Dickerson, MD.20842**

The owner of this property has been cutting down trees and clearing in a wetlands area without obtaining a permit, this activity began on August 12, 2005 and has continued up to the present time. Every weekend starting on Fridays and continuing through the weekend he has rented bull dozers and backhoe equipment to cut down trees. We checked with the permitting department on August 28, 2005, and as of that date he had not obtained any kind of permit. Trees were pushed on to the road and during the process of up rooting trees, the backhoe sank into the swampy sod. In order to remove the backhoe a crane had to come and extract it. In the process asphalt in the road was broken and now there is a gap in the road. The Highway and Road Department need to come and check Trundle Road for damages. The owner has been cutting down trees 3 days in succession on the following dates: August 12-14, August 19-21, August 26-28 and Sept. 2-5, 2005.

Sept.1, 2005— A backhoe with tree and earth moving equipment was delivered to be used starting on Friday and over the long Labor Day weekend.

Sept. 2, 2005—Spoke with Mr. Rick Watson at 8:15 A.M. He said that we did not need to file a written complaint form and that he was scheduled to meet with the owner of the property in question on Tuesday, September 6, 2005.

We cannot understand how someone can come in very aggressively, bulldoze and cut down trees with out following county regulations. The violation of these county ordinances should be immediately examined by all the divisions of permitting services. Well & Septic, Housing and Zoning.

This situation needs the attention of all departments immediately.

Concerned Citizens of Trundle Road

ATTACHMENT F

Email from Ms. Ellie Trueman, May 26, 2006

Johnsen, Douglas

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2006 12:11 PM
To: Johnsen, Douglas
Subject: Re: trundle

Re: 17900 Trundle Road

When Steve Houston sold the property he owned at 17900 Trundle Road, (as I recall it was July) he called me right before he left for the last time to say he was concerned that he may not have been able to get all his cats from the property. I told him I would check the property a few times to ensure any cats that were still there were captured and got homes. (Steve did not tell me where he was going or how to contact him)

I did visit the property about four to five times in late summer. Although I cannot give a specific date, my recollection is that it was in late July and early August. I can confirm that when Steve Houston sold the property, it was primarily a wooded lot with the exception of an approximate 100' x 100' section where he had parked his bus and two large caged areas that he had built for his cats in the wooded area. To get beyond his bus, or the front of the property, you had to travel on a small trail that wound through the property. If you deviated from that small trail, you got wet as there were several small streams running throughout the property and areas where the water just sat. When I went to the property to look for cats, i always wore rubber boots as it was extremely wet throughout the property. Having been through and graduated from an Outward Bound Survival School, and having spent much of my solo in a marsh area, many of the plants on Steve's property were very familiar to me as they comprised many meals while at Outward Bound: cattails (roots) and arrowhead. There were also numerous ferns that i associate with wetlands.

I did not witness the cutting of any trees from the property. I did witness that nearly every weekend beginning late August, trucks with heavy equipment were going and coming. Some of these trucks were from a rental company. I did ask some of the neighbors on the street what the new owners of the property were doing. One of the neighbors, Mrs. Leak, told me the man who purchased the property told Dr. leak he was going to build a house and live there with his family. I was amazed as i felt that building on the property would be impossible given the overall wet conditions of the land.

On September 7th, I left for New Orleans as a member of an animal rescue team for the Humane Society of the US. When i returned the first time on September 12, while walking my dogs, i was shocked to see that several of the trees had been cut down on the property. It appeared they were making space for a large home site. Before i returned to New Orleans, I spoke to several of the neighbors and asked how was it possible they could build a home there. The Stoners, the Leaks, Bill Davis and the Ericksons were all surprised that the land was being cleared and that the new owner could build there. I was told by two of the neighbors that the new owner did not have any permits...for cutting the trees, for disruption to the wetlands or for a septic.

I did not see the property again until mid winter...January-February. I remember my shock to see the entire site bare of all trees. It also appeared that the numerous small streams had been diverted into one central water flow area. The large culvert that went below the road way, seemed to have been altered. Although it was winter, there was virtually no vegetation on the site that had once been extremely overgrown with plants, ferns and numerous trees.

I personally did not see the person/persons cutting the trees down or diverting the water, however, I can state without reservation, that when Steve Houston sold the property, it was wooded, largely a wetlands area, and undisturbed with the exception of 3 large cages Steve had built for his cats in the woods and a small area in front where he had parked his bus.

Ellie Trueman
18401 Trundle Road
Dickerson, Maryland

ATTACHMENT G

Email from Mr. William Jones, June 13, 2006

Johnsen, Douglas

From: William Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2006 11:14 PM
To: Johnsen, Douglas
Subject: clearing on Trundle Rd

Dear Mr. Johnsen,

As per your conversation with my wife on 6-13-06 we are writing to present our account of the clearing of the property at the end of Trundle Rd in the form of a rough timeline.

To the best of our recollection some time in the late spring of 2005 we were approached by the owner at the time, Mr. Steve Houston, about the possibility of providing foster care for a number of his animals as he was being forced to vacate the property. We were unable to help Mr. Houston.

Approximately two weeks later we witnessed Mr. Houston departing in what had been his home; a converted charter bus. At that time the property in question was a fully wooded wetland. Mr. Houston had had a for sale sign on his property for many weeks prior to his departure.

A few weeks after Mr. Houston had departed we walked the property to see the kind of habitats that he had built for the animals he had been fostering while he lived there. We were both impressed with the ingenuity of his cages which he had woven into the natural environment, and amazed by how wet and overgrown the property was. It was obvious he had made every attempt to leave the land as it was, with minimal, if any disruption to the small streams and rivulets that criss-crossed his property.

The real estate sign remained up for a number of weeks. Some time during the summer the sign came down. At that time the property was still intact.

At some point during the summer, perhaps mid to late August, we noticed a great deal of unprecedented heavy equipment traffic on Trundle Rd, as well as noise at the end of the street. We initially assumed that the Leeks, the only full-time residents beyond our house, were doing some work on their property. One evening after about a week of this activity we drove down the road to visit the Leeks and see what they were doing. When we got to the bottom of the hill we were stunned to see the almost complete clear cutting of the said property.

The following day (I'm sorry; we just can't remember the date) we placed a call to the County and were put in contact with Sediment Control and were told that they were already responding to other previous calls concerning this issue. We were satisfied with this answer and let the matter drop.

However, a few months later (again, we cannot recall the exact date) we placed another call because we were seeing dump trucks of blue stone and dirt heading down Trundle to the property. We were again told that the County was already responding to this new activity.

Approximately six weeks ago we were approached by a neighbor and asked if we would be willing to tell you about the sequence of events as we saw them regarding the property.

Again, we apologize for the lack of exact dates. But there is no question in our minds that at the time the for sale sign was removed from the property it was still in its natural, wooded, swampy state.

Please feel free to contact us with any further questions.

-William J. Jones
18311 Trundle Rd
Dickerson, MD 20842

ATTACHMENT H

**Email and letter from Mr. Richard Watson, DPS Inspector,
June 28, 2006**

Bunnag, Candy

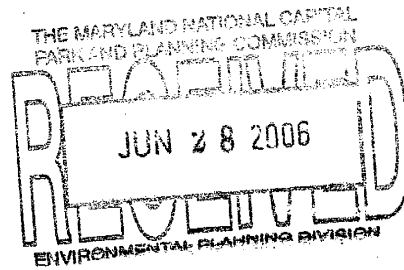
From: Watson, Richard [Richard.Watson@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2006 4:04 PM
To: Bunnag, Candy
Subject: RE: Testimony Letter

Let me know if you get this

Richard A Watson
Inspector
Department of Permitting Services
255 Rockville Pike
Rockville Md. 20850
richard.watson@montgomerycountymd.gov

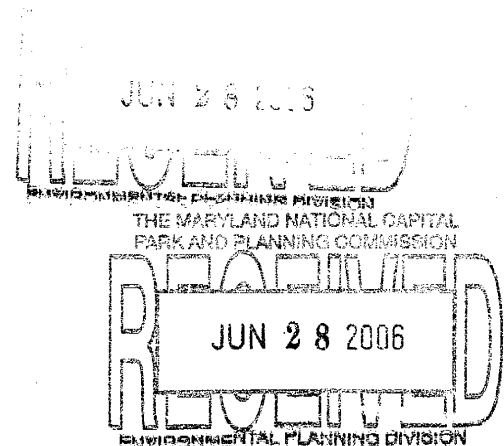
-----Original Message-----

From: Bunnag, Candy [mailto:Candy.Bunnag@mncppc-mc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2006 3:46 PM
To: Watson, Richard
Subject: RE: Testimony Letter
Importance: High



Candy Bunnag
MNCP&PC
8787 Georgia Ave.
Silver Spring, Md. 20910

Richard A Watson
Inspector II
Montgomery County
Department of Permitting Services
255 Rockville Pike
Rockville Md. 20850



Dear Candy:

I am writing this letter in response to the Planning Board hearing regarding the illegal forest clearing at 17900 Trundle Rd. site conducted on June 15, 2006. I was unable to testify at that hearing. However I do have some information that may be helpful to the Board. This information is in regard to the inspections that were carried out by me at the site during the time period from August 2005 to present.

I first visited the site as a result of a service request (complaint) from my office. I visited the site on August 29, 2005 and found that there had been about 2 acres cleared? of most of the trees. There were a few stumps and at least 1 to 3 trees still standing. I do not have the pictures that I took on that date. However I do have pictures on 9/16 & 9/20/2005 that show the remaining trees (see attached photo 1, 2, &3). I wrote Notice of Violation # 199924563.

At the hearing on June 15, 2006 the attorney for Mr. Mereos asked Mr. Johnson several questions.

- 1) Are you aware that MDE ordered Mr. Mereos to clean up the property? Mr. Johnson's answer was, "I believe after September 1st". I don't believe Mr. Mereos was ordered to clean up the property until about February or March 2006 at which time he was ordered to remove the cut trees and branches from the stream. I am still waiting on verification of the date of the first notification from the Maryland Department of the Environment?.
- 2) The attorney for Mr. Mereos asked if the equipment that was provided by United Rentals could be used to cut down trees. Mr. Johnson responded no, not to specifically cut the trees down. However having operated heavy equipment for 12 or so years, I can tell you that the equipment could be used to clear the trees. That is to uproot the trees and load them on a vehicle.
- 3) Another question asked by the attorney: Is there evidence of any other equipment that was rented or used by Mr. Mereos? Mr. Johnson responded no, just what is in the staff report. However my answer is yes, I do know of other equipment. When I first visited the site, there was a 951 or a 955 caterpillar Track loader and a skid loader on site. I have cleared trees with a caterpillar loader. The attorney or Mr. Mereos never mentioned that equipment.

- 4) Mr. Johnson was asked how long it would take to clear 1.9 acres. He answered unknown. I can tell you with the right equipment you could clear that much area on a matter of a few days. I would receive phone calls on Friday evening that equipment was being moved onto the site and again Monday morning that it was being removed. On one of my visits, I, in fact discovered the United Rental trucks leaving the site with equipment. If Mr. Mereos had enough men with chain saws and the right equipment he could uproot the trees, cut the logs up and load them on a truck or trailer.
- 5) Mr. Johnson was asked several questions regarding the previous owner. I, in fact, spoke to the previous owner, Mr. Houston (that's how I got the phone number for Mr. Mereos.) and he informed me that the property was wooded when Mr. Mereos took ownership.

On September 7, 2006 I met Mr. Mereos on site and issued the Notice of Violation, two Civil Citations and posted a Stop Work Order. Mr. Mereos at that time signed the Notice of Violation, but not only refused to sign the Civil Citations, but refused to accept them. I dropped the first citation at his feet and said "you're served". He then got into his vehicle and I placed the second citation at the window; he then started to drive off and I said "your served".

I re-inspected the site on September 12, 2005 and found that Mr. Mereos had not completed the corrective work required in the Notice of Violation. (See Site Inspection Report 199924563 Dated 9/12/05.

My Inspection on 9/16/05 found the site had been stabilized. However the silt fence and erosion control measures ? still had not been installed as directed.

Finally, sometime around the end of October or the first of November, the corrective work had been completed.

On December 20, 2005 the Citations I issued went to trial. Mr. Mereos was found guilty and fined \$100.00 Dollars per citation for a total of \$200.00. The Judge at that time issued an abatement order. Mr. Mereos was ordered to stop all work on the property except as directed and/or authorized by the County, MDE, and the Corp of Engineers.

On January 27, 2006 I re-visited the site because of a call I received regarding stone being hauled onto the property. I did in fact find not only stone being hauled onto the property but approximately 5 to 6 truck loads of dirt. (See attached photos 4 & 5) I asked the truck foreman on site at the time who told him to dump the dirt on the site and he told me Mr. Wojciechowski showed him where to dump the dirt. I then placed a call to Mr. Mereos and asked him if he knew anything about the dirt and he told me that he did not.

On March 21, 2006 I re-visited the site and found that Mr. Mereos had met with MDE and was directed to remove the brush tree limbs and other material from the stream area. The contractor doing the work was a registered forester in the state of Maryland. I believe Mr. Wojciechowski said he removed the material.

4

On May 15, 2006 I re-visited the site as a result of a phone call from Doug Johnson regarding trenches being dug across the property. I did in fact find trenches had been dug across the property. (See attached photos 6, 7, 8, & 9)

On May 25, 2006 I sent an email to the County Attorney requesting to invoke the abatement order because Mr. Mereos had from time to time conducted un-authorized work over the stop work order that I posted, the cease and desist order posted by Park and Planning, by MDE, the Corps of Engineers and the District Court of Md.

Sincerely



Richard A. Watson

ATTACHMENT I

**RE/MAX Realty Group Listing for 17900 Trundle Road property,
May 25, 2005**

Courtesy of Toni Koerber

Result 1 of 1.

Previous | Next | [1] | [Bottom](#)



Metropolitan Regional Information Systems, Inc.

**MC5157026 - MONTGOMERY
17900 TRUNDLE RD, DICKERSON, MD 20842**

**Short Listing
Lot-Land**

Status: EXPIRED

Listing Type: Excl. Right

List Price: \$69,000

Adv Subdivision: Poolesville Outside

Map Coord: 15E7

Leg Subdivision: POOLESVILLE OUTSIDE

Area:

HOA Fee: /mo pd

Other Fees: /mo pd

Lot AC/SF: 1.790 / 77,972

TOTAL TAX: \$722

Tax ID #: 160300041421

Tax Year: 2004

Tax Map:

Lot/Block/Square:

Parcel: P120

Liber: 6579

Folio: 363

Road Frontage:

Roads:

Development Status: Raw Land

Building Permits: Unknown

Present Use: Other, Recreation

Potential Use: Hunting, Other, Recreation

Heat: None

Water: None

Cool:

Sewer/Septic: None

Perc Type:

Perc Sites:

Bedroom Perc:

EXTERIOR: Fenced - Partially Stream/creek, Trees/Wooded

INTERNET REMARKS: CONTRACT FELL APART -PICTUREST WOODED LOT NEXT TRUNDLE FARM. UNKNOWN IF LOT WILL PASS OR FAIL A PERK TEST - BUYER NEEDS TO INVESTIGATE IF BUILDABLE. MAKE US OFFER WITH NO CONTINGENCIES AND QUICK SETTLEMENT AND WE'LL TRY TO MAKE IT WORK.GO TO WEB FOR PLAT

DIRECTIONS: West On Rt 28 To West 107 Past Poolesville Continue On Whites Ferry Left On Trundle - Go To End Just Before Gate - Last Lot On Right

Listing Broker: RE/MAX Realty Group, RMX1

Original Price: \$130,000

List Date: 09-Feb-2005

DOM-MLS: 25

Prior Price: \$120,000

DOM-Prop: 53

Disclosures: None

Possession: Settlement

Current Finance Type:

1st Trust Balance:

P&I:

Rate:

Orig Date:

Yrs Left:

2nd Trust Balance:

P&I:

Rate:

Orig Date:

Yrs Left:

New Finance Type:

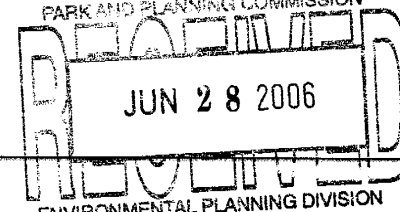
Owner Finance:

Rate:

Cash to Assume:

Years:

THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION



HOA Fee Includes:

HOA Community Amenities:

HOA Rules:

Previous | Next | [1] | [Top](#)

Toni Koerber

MC5157026
17900 TRUNDLE RD

EXPIRED
\$69,000

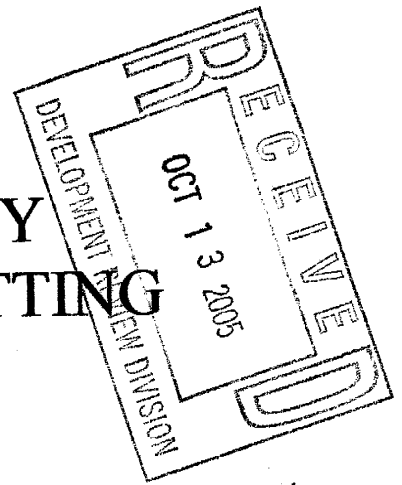


THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
RECEIVED
JUN 28 2006
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING DIVISION

ATTACHMENT J

**Complaint form from Concerned Citizens of Trundle Road, undated
(received in M-NCPPC Development Review Division October 13, 2005)**

COMPLAINT FORM
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING
SERVICES



WELL & SEPTIC

HOUSING

ZONING

PARK & PLANNING

**Please see attachment
3 pages**

Concerned Citizens of Trundle Road



Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services
 255 Rockville Pike
 Rockville, MD 20850
 240-777-6259 Fax: 240-777-6262
 dps@montgomerycountymd.gov



COMPLAINT FORM

Building Zoning Sediment Control Right-of-Way Well & Septic

Date Complaint Received: _____ Time Complaint Received _____

How Complaint is Received: Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____ Director's office _____

Address of Complaint: 17900 Trundle Rd Suite _____

City Dickerson, MD Zip: 20842

Complainant Information: (Person making the complaint)

Wishes to Remain Anonymous Yes No

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Complainant Comments:
See attachment

Staff Person Taking Complaint _____ Date: _____

Service Request # _____ Inspector _____

**Director of Department of Permitting Services
Park and Planning
Well & Septic Division
Housing Division
Zoning Division
Complaint Form
Attachment
Marius
17900 Trundle Road
Dickerson, Md. 20842**

This is a follow up to a complaint form sent on September 5, 2005. The owner of this property, Mr. Marius, at 17900 Trundle Road, Dickerson, Maryland 20842 does not have a permit to cut down trees on his 1.79 acres of woodland. According to the regulations if you have more than 5,000 square feet of land you need a permit from the county to do any kind of major excavating. Marius's 1.79 acres equals to around 76, 230 square feet. He has been clearing and working on the land in the afternoons and on weekends. He has never stopped working on the property since August 12, 2005 .He hires people from everywhere to run the bulldozers and machinery. This is not counting the damage to Trundle Road caused by his bulldozers and large machinery. The property was definitely a woodland before he purchased it and we have pictures to show the property before he purchased it in July 2005, and pictures to show Marius cutting down trees on August 12, 2005. These pictures will be sent under hard cover to the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services. He rented bulldozers to fell the trees, a shredder to shred and mulch the wood and the bulldozer was used to up root the tree stumps, which are piled up near the tree line on the back of the property that have been covered with hay mulch. It is obvious that Marius will stop at nothing to do what he wants to do regardless of the county rules and regulations This is a serious situation that needs immediate attention from the Departments of Permitting Services, Well Septic, Housing & Zoning & Park & Planning .

**Submitted by,
Concerned Citizens of Trundle Road**

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

Figures 1, 2, and 3 show the 17900 Trundle Road property prior to its purchase by the present owner.

Figures 4-8 show the 19900 Trundle Road Property after its purchase by the present owner.



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 4



Fig 5



Fig 6

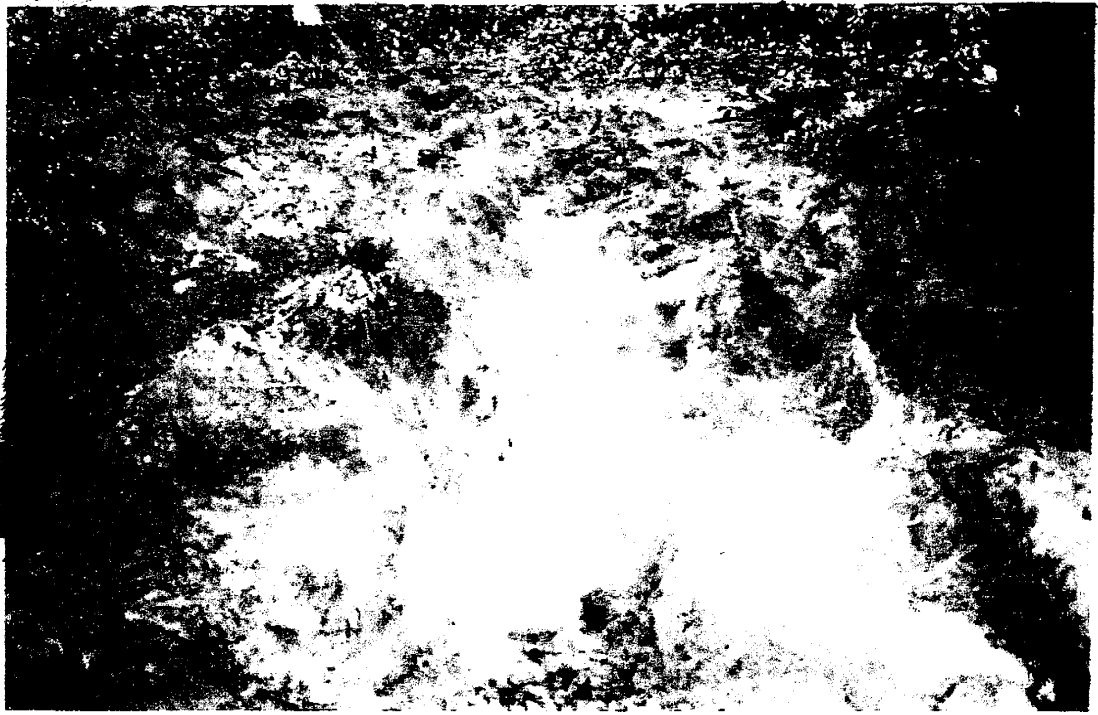


Fig 7

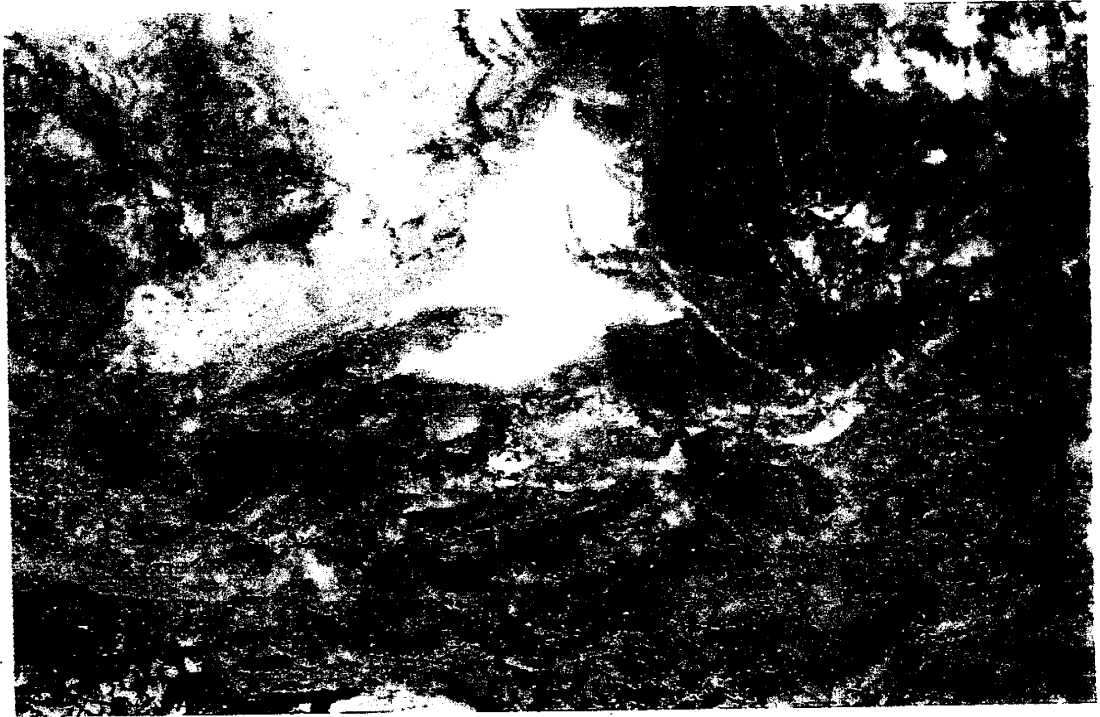


Fig 8.

ATTACHMENT K

**Site aerial photograph and reference information, June 2005,
USDA Database**

17900 Trundle Road
(June, 2005 aerial photograph)
USDA database



Legend

-  Property.shp
-  Stream
-  Road_1.shp
hydric soils
-  wetlands

1:2400



naip_1-1_1n_s_md031_2005_1.sid.txt

Identification_Information:

Citation:

Citation_Information:

Originator: USDA-FSA Aerial Photography Field Office
Title: Montgomery County, MD CCM metadata - naip_1-1_1n_s_md031_2005_1
Publication_Date: 20051206
Publication_Information:
Publication_Place: Salt Lake City, Utah
Publisher: USDA FSA Aerial Photography Field Office

Description:

Abstract:

This data set contains imagery from the National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP). NAIP acquires digital ortho imagery during the agricultural growing seasons in the continental U.S.. A primary goal of the NAIP program is to enable availability of ortho imagery within one year of acquisition. NAIP provides two main products: 1 meter ground sample distance (GSD) ortho imagery rectified to a horizontal accuracy of within +/- 3 meters of reference digital ortho quarter quads (DOQQ's) from the National Digital Ortho Program (NDOP); and, 2 meter GSD ortho imagery rectified to within +/- 10 meters of reference DOQQs. The tiling format of NAIP imagery is based on a 3.75' x 3.75' quarter quadrangle with a 300 meter buffer on all four sides. NAIP quarter quads are formatted to the UTM coordinate system using NAD83. NAIP imagery may contain as much as 10% cloud cover per tile.
This file was generated by compressing NAIP quarter quadrangle tiles that cover a county. MrSID compression generation 3, with mosaic option, was used. Target values for the compression ratio are (15:1) and the maximum compression levels are used.

Purpose:

NAIP imagery may be distributed on an interim basis to meet USDA program requirements. The interim product is a compressed county mosaic. Users should be aware that the interim compressed county mosaic may contain defects and have horizontal accuracy less than the specified tolerances. Defective imagery may be replaced within one year of image acquisition date.

Time_Period_of_Content:

Time_Period_Information:

Single_Date/Time:

Calendar_Date: 20050608, 20050618, 20050625

Currentness_Reference: Majority years of Photography Dates.

Status:

Progress: Complete

Maintenance_and_Update_Frequency: Irregular

Spatial_Domain:

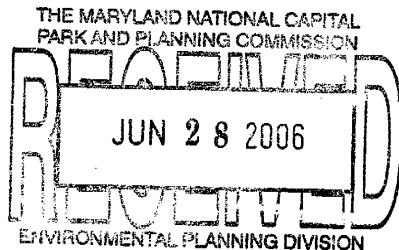
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East_Bounding_Coordinate: -76.8883
North_Bounding_Coordinate: 39.3536
South_Bounding_Coordinate: 38.9202

Keywords:

Theme:

Theme_Keyword_Thesaurus: None
Theme_Keyword: Digital Georectified Image
Theme_Keyword: Mosaic
Theme_Keyword: Georeferenced Image
Theme_Keyword: Quarter Quadrangle Centered
Theme_Keyword: Georectification
Theme_Keyword: compression
Theme_Keyword: MrSID
Theme_Keyword: NAIP



naip_1-1_1n_s_md031_2005_1.sid.txt

Theme_Keyword: Compliance
Theme_Keyword: Aerial Compliance
Theme_Keyword: Farming

Place:

Place_Keyword_Thesaurus: Geographic Names Information System
Place_Keyword: Maryland
Place_Keyword: Montgomery
Place_Keyword: USDA
Place_Keyword: FSA

Access_Constraints: None

Use_Constraints:

Users should be aware that this is an interim release. The interim compressed county mosaic may contain defects and have horizontal accuracy less than the specified tolerances. Defective imagery may be replaced within one year of image acquisition date.

Point_of_Contact:

Contact_Information:

Contact_Organization_Primary:
Contact_Organization: USDA-FSA Aerial Photography Field Office
Contact_Address:
Address_Type: mailing and physical address
Address: 2222 West 2300 South
City: Salt Lake City
State_or_Province: Utah
Postal_Code: 84119-2020
Country: USA
Contact_Voice_Telephone: 801-973-3500
Contact_Facsimile_Telephone: 801-975-3529

Browse_Graphic:

Browse_Graphic_File_Name: None
Browse_Graphic_File_Description: None
Browse_Graphic_File_Type: None

Native_Data_Set_Environment: Photogrammetric film scanned to TIFF/JPEG format on a high-resolution photogrammetric scanner

Data_Quality_Information:

Logical_Consistency_Report:

NAIP 3.75 minute tile file names are based on the USGS quadrangle naming convention.

Completeness_Report: None

Positional_Accuracy:

Horizontal_Positional_Accuracy:

Horizontal_Positional_Accuracy_Report: FSA Digital Orthophoto Specs.

Vertical_Positional_Accuracy:

Vertical_Positional_Accuracy_Report: N/A 2d only

Lineage:

Source_Information:

Source_Citation:

Citation_Information:

Originator: Aerial Photography Field Office
Title: naip_1-1_1n_s_md031_2005_1
Publication_Date: 20051206

Source_Scale_Denominator: 40000

Type_of_Source_Media: CD

Source_Time_Period_of_Content:

Time_Period_Information:

Single_Date/Time:

Calendar_Date: 20050608, 20050618, 20050625

Source_Currentness_Reference: Majority Aerial Photography Date

Source_Citation_Abbreviation: MrSID compressed image

Source_Contribution: Mosaicked County Image

Process_Step:

Process_Description: The following steps apply to the mosaicking process in

