

## Alison Middleton

---

**From:** Michelle Crocker  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 1:38 PM  
**To:** Alison Middleton  
**Subject:** FW: Re Leland Twp Provemont Pond Nature Area Park/No recycling on it pdf: 20210512provmpondparkinfo  
**Attachments:** 20210512provmpondparkinfo.pdf

Alison – Please post email and attachment.  
Michelle

---

**From:** Stephen P. Mikowski <mikowskistephen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 1:33 PM  
**To:** Steve Mikowski <mikowskistephen@gmail.com>; Will Bunek <wbunek@leelanau.gov>; Melinda Lautner <mlautner@leelanau.gov>; Debra Rushton <drushton@leelanau.gov>; Ty Wessell <twessell@leelanau.gov>; Patricia Soutas-Little <psoutaslittle@leelanau.gov>; Gwenne Allgaier <gallgaier@leelanau.gov>; Rick Robbins <rrobbins@leelanau.gov>; Susan Och <lelandoch@gmail.com>; clerk@lelandtownship.com; treasurer@lelandtownship.com; Mariann Kirch <mklelandtrustee@gmail.com>; Clint Mitchell <clintmleland@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Michelle Crocker <mcrocker@leelanau.gov>; Chet Janik <cjanik@leelanau.gov>; Dan Korson <dk@jadetool.com>; Molly Steck <mollysteck@yahoo.com>; nickbierschbach@gmail.com; Juliana Lisuk <julianalisuk@gmail.com>; Karen Kirt <kkirt@lelandschool.com>; heidikruse@gmail.com; sam@goodharbor.com; Skip Telgard <bluebird@chartermi.net>; ross@ibcap.com  
**Subject:** Re Leland Twp Provemont Pond Nature Area Park/No recycling on it pdf: 20210512provmpondparkinfo

Dear Leland Twp Board Members:  
Dear Leelanau County Commissioners:

Greetings: County Clerk & Township Clerk **please acknowledge receipt.** Thanks

*(Note: Unable to send to County Planning Commission members because we're told they are exempt from receiving any direct communications from citizens[?].)*

**Challenges: Save Leland Twp 100 Acre Provemont Pond Nature Area Park (PPNA), recycle in Leland Village.**

PDF documents attached providing info on the controversial and untenable situation as to the subject item **Park**.

We respectfully request both Township and County Commission Boards, etc., to rescind any and all documents that acted to promote, propose, approve the costly construction of a dirty recycling facility for Leland Village residents 4-1/2 miles away on top of the "dump" at the Park. And, to expand all effort necessary to establish that recycling facility in the Village of Leland.

Thank You for your in interest.

Sincerely, Stephen P. Mikowski

Attached pdf documents:

1. Leelanau County and Leland Township Challenges doc.

20210512provmpondparkinfo

2. Issue Leland Twp Boards' abuse of PPNA 1 of 2 doc 20210204ltprkrecplan

3. As in (2) above **important chronology** of Township/County **abuse/destruction** of PPNA , 2 of 2 docs.

## **Leelanau County and Leland Township Challenges:**

- \* **Bad decision to locate a dirty recycling site at the remote 100 acre Provemont Pond Nature Area Park (PPNA) 4-1/2 miles away from Leland Village (LV)!**
- \* **Disregard of sensible opportunity to locate site in Leland Village!**
- \* **Information source for Leland (PPNA) Park "dump".** (Three pages w/doc. 20210204ltprkrecplan)

Prepared by Stephen P. Mikowski Lake Leelanau, MI

**DRAFT-1**

20210512provmpondparkinfo

According to County commissioner, Patricia Soutas-Little, at recent Leland Twp meetings, only one resident found in LV with knowledge of "dump" in PPNA **Park** near Lake Leelanau Village (LLV). We've resided in LLV for **52 years**. We've attended **99 %** of Leland Twp meetings and **75 %** of Leelanau County Commission meetings for past **33** years. My wife was born/raised near LLV. (Yet, some Township & County **elected** and **appointed** officials have deemed her/us & others [our knowledge]...persona non grata?)

To find only **one** individual residing in the LV magic kingdom 4-1/2 miles away as the **only information source** re PPNA **Park "dump"** seems odd. It's prudent to question "research" that is merely verbalized at local government meetings rather than contained in an impartial/unbiased report. (Hello Leelanau County Commission, Solid Waste Council and Planning Commission members?)

We're familiar with the PPNA **Park** as we've delivered materials to be deposited into that "dump", officially closed by MDEQ/MDNR in 1991.

### **ALL PUBLIC ELECTED OFFICIALS: Where do we go from here re PPNA PARK?**

Continue to abuse/desecrate with more business/commercialization:

- \* **Leelanau County Sewer facilities** (1991) ,
- \* **Leland Schools Bus Garage** (2000),
- \* **Leelanau County dirty recycling** (2021) (**40 acres already desecrated**)?

Appears these harmful/negative actions blessed/approved in seeming ex parte/secret discussions behind the backs of **Lake LeelaauVillage** area residents so LV elites can disgorge their **sewage & thrash** into/onto the PPNA **Park**, the apparent **groundwater source serving LLV well water a mile away**.  
(As seems indicated by the **MDEQ ordered 1998 Hydrogeological Study**.)

Should LLV area people hold their breath waiting for local public officials', in their sublime ecstasy for 35 years plus, to come to their (common) senses? Victor Hugo said: "Common sense is, in spite of, not because of education."

Finally, it appears **most** public officials have made and continue to make a mockery of Planning/Zoning Laws. **They've seemingly cleverly forgotten that in 1992 Leland Twp Electors voted to deny use of PPNA Park for a big sewage treatment plant!**  
**Leelanau County & Leland Twp (officais) disregarded that lawful vote of The People!**

# DRAFT - 2 (c)

## ISSUE: Leland Township Boards' misuse/abuse of Township's 100 Acre Provemont Pond Nature Area (PPNA)

Prepared by Stephen Mikowski Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

Page 1 of 2

20210204ltprkrecplan

=====**The following excerpted from LT Parks and Recreation Plan**=====

### **LELAND TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN 2020-2024**

Leland Township Board Adopted: December 9, 2019

Prepared by: Leland Township Parks and Recreation Commission (With Networks Northwest –see note below)

Leland Office 123 N. St. Joseph St. PO Box 238 Lake Leelanau, MI 49653-0238

\*\*\*Source: [https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/leland\\_township\\_recreation\\_plan\\_20202024.pdf](https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/leland_township_recreation_plan_20202024.pdf)

### **Township Facilities:**

#### **PROVEMONT POND** (From page 8)

Size: 90 acres (Actually 100 acres --spm)  
Park Type: Natural area  
Service Area: Leland Township  
Ownership/Management: Leland Township.  
Description: Woodland area with a pond a hiking trail. The access drive and small parking area are unpaved.  
Accessibility Assessment: 1  
Current Issues, Comments: Suggestions were for developing mountain and fat bike trails,  
and Suggestions: expanding uses of the property, enhancing access.

#### **ACTION PROGRAM** (From pages 18 & 19)

##### **Provemont Pond Nature Area:**

- Install signage
- Continue to add wood chips where needed
- Improve access drive and parking area, and explore/pursue alternate access options
- Regular (every 3-4 years) removal of brush and saplings from reconstructed berm 18
- Develop additional non-motorized trails
- Build small bridge across stream to complete trail
- Explore/pursue trail between the pond and town
- Phragmites monitoring

### **The Recreation Plan was developed by the Leland Township Parks and Recreation Commission with assistance from Networks Northwest.** (From Page 16)

The Plan was developed using the Systems Approach to Planning (MDNR, 2018), a three-part planning method that first examines the information already available; collects public input; and develops goals and objectives based on areas of need from public input and the existing information. This is one of the recommended planning methods by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.”

=====

**DRAFT-3** (c)

**ISSUE: Leland Township Boards' misuse/abuse of Township's Provemont Pond 100 Acre Nature Area Park (PPNA) with Leelanau County Commission approving its use for Sewer Treatment Plant.**

**Networks Northwest 2020 -2024 Leland Twp Parks & Rec Plan failed to report on the non-recreational/commercial uses of 40+ acres of 100 Acre Provemont Pond Nature Area Park (PPNA). See history below:**

1987: **Leland Twp Board** apparently secretly worked with **Leelanau County Commission, County Board of Public Works, DEQ, Progressive Engineers** to perform **Hydrogeological Study** to determine **PPNA Park** suitability for Sewage Treatment Facility.

1963(?): Leland Twp designates 5(?) acres of West Central area off Popp Road as Twp **DUMP**

1989: **Progressive Engrs. dismissed. Twp spent \$250,000 sewer engineering on NO BID BASIS!**

1989: **Leland Twp Supervisor recalled due to poor handling of sewer project.**

1991: **DEQ officially closes DUMP**--monitoring Wells indicated no groundwater contamination

1991: Leland Twp Board: **30+ acres** stolen by Leland Twp Board for Sewage Treatment Plant, Lagoon and Drainfields. Twp Board **disregarded 3/19/1984 Recreation Plan!** Twp Planning Commission **approved** PPNA sewer use **two months** before construction!

**Leelanau County Planning Commission denied** use of PPNA Park for sewer facility!

1992: **March: Electors voted to DENY PPNA Park use for Sewer. Twp Board disregarded vote!**

1998: **DEQ declares Leelanau County Sewer Project as failed and 1987 Hydro Study Defective.**

New Hydro Study ordered. **Lagoon overflows, 6 of 12 drain drainfields ponding on top.**

2000: New Hydro Study determines sewage effluent/groundwater flow due North/NorthEast(?) erupting into 'Pond' as determined by new monitoring test wells installed North of Pond.

2000: Leland Twp Board desecrates/abuses more: Approves 3(?) acres for bus storage

2018: Leland Twp Board authorizes more than \$100,000 to "preserve" the pond even though MDEQ strongly recommended it should be drained and **returned to natural state.** Seems to have been a unilateral decision by a Twp Board Member to **disregard(?) DEQ recommendation to return pond to Nature.**

2020: Leelanau County Commission **with** Leland Twp Board authorizes further desecration/abuse by authorizing the installation of a **dirty waste recycling facility...**

2020: Leelanau County Commission **with** Leland Twp approves "fat tire bike trails" in **PPNA Park** around (smelly) drainfields and lagoon (No Public Hearings)

**Comment:** To ordinary Leland Twp (LT) residents/electors/taxpayers, years of aberrant/odd behavior & conduct of Leland Twp/County Officials) and incomplete info re **PPNA Park** in Parks & Rec 'Plan', seems to indicate 'some' LT authority advised **Networks Northwest** to NOT disclose **significant information** about the **PPNA Park** in the Plan. Such omission appears to make a mockery of honest governance/planning/zoning. It confuses/misinforms everyone including **EGLE (DEQ)** re the **Park's true status** and to continue to be **safely** used. The status of **PPNA Park** and its **use** must be reviewed/evaluated to address years of misuse/abuse/commercialization. LT Board needs to adopt a resolution that It, any of its boards & commissions will stop this nonsense. Leelanau County needs to do same as **it appears that County elected/appointed officials, beginning in 1987, carry a significant load of blame for the harm done to the PPNA Park and LLV community.**