

Knights Pond Questionnaire

#1 Keep the pond area as is? (NO camping, NO restrooms)

| Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| 53 | 45 |

Comments:

- #1 Camping yes! Restrooms yes!
- #1 I would close the pond area from dark to dawn.
- #1 Camping should be allowed.
- #1 Yes, a public camping area would increase traffic to, and at a quiet beautiful Northport gem. Reducing its value for residents.
- #1 No. Site development would be good.
- #1 No, make it feel safer and less of a party zone.
- #1 Yes, keep it as it is because any improvements will require policing to try to keep from being destroyed by vandals
- #1 A port-a-potty would be good and maybe a couple of campsites but I wouldn't go overboard...and NO camping on the beach!
- #1 This is how it was originally meant to be.
- #1 Restrooms should be available
- #1 Restrooms would be great (much more usable for a family) camping may have a good effect - reducing vandalism
- #1 Leave it be-i have fished swam and kayaked there and enjoy it's private untouched serenity
- #1 Not answering this because my answer would depend on some of the results of answers below.
- #1 Maintenance of such areas is impractical.
- #1 i have great memories of camping there with my parents in the 1950's,make it a fee based type of activities
- #1 It would be nice to have the area cleaned up so it does not look like such a dump. Keep it rural though. Restrooms would be nice, but doesn't that also invite misuse & additional maintenance costs?
- #1 Knights Pond is a great facility and I grew up camping there.
- #1 It is sad this is not available to residences, summers are so short, it is so beautiful
- #1 It's a small area, so when people have been camping (illegally) it's cramped, uncomfortable, and sometimes dangerous with their pets.
- #1 So much trash as it is!!! Changing this would make it even more of a health-safety hazard. There's always so much broken glass, toilet paper (!!!), cigarette butts, etc. It's disgusting.

#2 Develop camping/tent sites?

| Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| 35 | 62 |

Comments:

- #2 Don't need trouble/drinking
- #2 It's a great spot and should be used.
- #2 Folks do it anyway.
- #2 Yes, there is plenty of room for tent sites
- #2 How many? What size? Tent? RV?
- #2 No, trash, waste, traffic, trouble
- #2 No, day use only.
- #2 No, camping if allowed will have transient workers camping here 7 months a year.
- #2 What makes the pond special is the lack of people/buildings there
- #2 A couple...but NOT on the beach! Perhaps one off to the left facing the pond and maybe another one or two across the road.
- #2 This makes sense if we can support it with the proper fees
- #2 Maintaining and policing would be difficult and a fire hazard
- #2 If people are always around, it could limit vandalism and other problems at the park
- #2 But only if they can be regulated without great cost. Current campers sometimes leave garbage, dirty dishes and so forth, making it very unpleasant for other visitors.
- #2 Charge fees put people to work patrolling the area
- #2 Not at all required
- #2 Basic, safe place to cook, level, smooth place to pitch tent, create new sites....
- #2 Traffic to the pond in the summer months is high enough as it is. Let's keep it unique and beautiful - our town treasure. I'm happy to have others enjoy it, but allowing them to live there is too high of an impact on that serene place.
Additionally adding camp sites creates a lot of cost and maintenance.
- #2 See above . . .

#3 Assess Camping Fees

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
| 33 | 62 |

Comments:

- #3 Small fee to Non-residents
- #3 Assess use fees.
- #3 Yes, to cover cost of parttime attendant and improve - fire pits, picnic tables.
- #3 In a separate area.
- #3 By the day? By the week?
- #3 No camping!
- #3 Don't like the idea of charging a fee but if you don't, the same person(s) could take advantage and spend the whole summer. The money from camping could be used to put back into the pond rather than using property taxes...
- #3 It should not be considered without it!
- #3 If we end up having would need to defray cost...but collecting them will be hard and a new process
- #3 it would keep the park (hopefully) self sustaining

- #3 To cover costs of maintenance, at least partially
- #3 beautiful area capitalize on that
- #3 2 level, res and non res, \$20, \$45
- #3 No camping at Knights Pond. Maybe there should be day fees to pay for cleaning up all the trash people leave.
- #3 PLEASE no camping period. The land around the pond is in conservancy and it's being destroyed by squatters.

#4 Provide port-a-potty?

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
| 70 | 29 |

Comments:

- #4 Otherwise people are peeing and pooping all over the woods.
- #4 Yes, as long as they are regularly maintained by the town.
- #4 or out-house
- #4 But has to be checked and cleaned.
- #4 Not a bad idea
- #4 Yes, that would keep the area cleaner.
- #4 Composting toilet
- #4 Port-a-poty and changing area.
- #4 Depends on price
- #4 Gets gross - encourages camping. No camping, no real need.
- #4 Yes, or build a cement block outhouse.
- #4 No, if camping is allowed it will require toilets which have in the past been destroyed by vandals.
- #4 If there is camping this is necessary
- #4 More permanent and protected from vandals
- #4 or some type of restrooms/changing facility
- #4 as long as it is secure (safe from vandalism) and timely maintained by the town.
- #4 I can go either way w this one
- #4 a must...
- #4 It's a good idea but I fear people will vandalize it - maybe even dump it over polluting our pond.
- #4 I'm happy to have my tax dollars go toward an attendant's salary -- things are really out of control at the pond, especially in the summer.

#5. Hire summer attendant?

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
| 28 | 71 |

Comments:

- #5 Someone to keep it clean maybe once a week
- #5 To do what? Policing power?
- #5 No. What duties? Life guard?
- #5 Check sites once a day/week?
- #5 maybe someone to manage "campground"
- #5 A summer attendant would help but if people are going to vandalize, they'll just wait until the attendant isn't there. Perhaps you could also ask for volunteers that could check things out along with an attendant..
- #5 If you want to expand the beach area too. Would you need to have someone live there?
- #5 have the sherrif check n once in a while and have someone empty trash, etc
- #5 Not needed on more than a very part-time basis. It would be good to have someone check in once a day, maybe, on an unannounced schedule.
- #5 put some americans back to work for the love of god!
- #5 It is rather disolate over there, is there really that much traffic? Need more information.
- #5 meaning, someone who checks on the area and keeps it in shape like each Monday
- #5 I'd be interested in establishing a Knights Pond Association to help keep it clean and to help police its use.
- #5 I beg of you to make this happen.

6. Install a gate?

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
| 29 | 67 |

Comments:

- #6 Yes - on the ramp like Pitcher Pond
- #6 Yes - for boats like on Pitcher Pond
- #6 No. Don't all bodies of water have a public access by law. Knights Pond is not private.
- #6 Off-season - maybe
- #6 Lock at dusk.
- #6 Yes to keep cars and and trucks that want to party to excess.
- #6 A gate will only keep honest people out...don't see much sense..
- #6 Don't think it would be effective.
- #6 no brainer here
- #6 Too many gates in the world today.
- #6 lots of reasons not to do this, including someone have to open and close gate
- #6 In the summer months many cars go down there to "party." I assume they leave most of the trash, burn what shouldn't be burned, and create a lot of unwanted noise and disturbance.
- #6 It depends on the ultimate number of camp sites

#7. Improve picnic area?

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
| 74 | 24 |

Comments:

- #7 They would be destroyed.
- #7 Yes, that way people wouldn't trash it.
- #7 No, in the past tables etc. have been destroyed, over and over again.
- #7 it will only get damaged and or burned by party-ers as everything else does
- #7 I'd clean it up a little but I wouldn't bother putting in anymore picnic tables or fireplaces... people have destroyed cement changing rooms, metal picnic tables...so what's the point?
- #7 Improvements should be available for all
- #7 Yes. Make area and beach more inviting
- #7 clean up and pick up trash
- #7 Very modest cleanup around the beach a couple times a season.
- #7 Tables, fire pits or barbecue facilities.
- #7 clean up, but keep rural
- #7 basic, safe place to cook, level, smooth place to pitch tent
- #7 I'd add boulders to deter camping in the obvious spots and add some trash cans that can't be removed.

#8. Add a swim float?

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
| 45 | 53 |

Comments:

- #8 No - liability
- #8 Creates liability with increased chance for accidents
- #8 Years ago there was a float. What happened and why?
- #8 Yes, at adequate depth
- #8 No - liability
- #8 There should be one, or what's left of one at the town garage. Been sitting there for years. Don't see any point when ppl will just destroy/burn it...
- #8 good idea boat ramp for kayacks
- #8 nice touch
- #8 encourage a donation...
- #8 This will just invite more people that means it has to be policed more, cleaned up more. Plus a float is a liability without a lifeguard - right?

#9. Pay for improvements/maintenance through taxes?

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
| 59 | 40 |

Comments:

- #9 Yes or through fund raising
- #9 Yes and donations and camping fees
- #9 Could start a Knights Pond Committee to raise funds, beautify, educate
- #9 Yes - Hiring an attendant and collecting "admission" would cost twice as much.
- #9 No, it was left to the people of Northport.
- #9 No, pay for itself with revenue from sites fee?
- #9 Yes or fund raising events.
- #9 No, don't try to improve.
- #9 Other than camping fees or the Park Fund itself, why waste the money?
- #9 ANYTHING done should be self-sustaining financially
- #9 Except for the small amount necessary to clean up and keep safe.
- #9 the area should be preserved and maintained in the manner it currently is.
It is a public benefit available to the town as a whole and thus best supported by the general tax as a whole. It is a slippery slope when citizens begin to argue that only those who "use" should "pay." it is there for all of us and all of us should bear its burden in proportion assessed by the general mil rate.
- #9 Prefer use fees. Property taxes in Northport are already quite high.
- #9 Oh, you got us here. Forget the whole thing and keep it natural
- #9 Only for the gate and the sign.
- #9 in addition to reasonable fees to get a permit to camp there, Northport should be a nice place to live, not just east of Rout 1
- #9 Property taxes are high enough. As mentioned earlier, I think a Knights Pond Association of interested community members would suffice in ensuring the future beauty of one of the town's best natural resources.

General comments:

Full of leaches, big bog hole, should be entrusted to the Coastal Land Trust

Monitor by police occasionally night time

Post on a sign - Closed dusk to dawn; No motor boats in pond; No jet skis in the pond.

The park there (Wyman Park) should be closed from dusk to dawn.

Keep as natural as possible to discourage destructive use of area.

Post signs - No camping; for use of Northport residents; Police take notice

Print sign and post between April and November

"Town of Northport; No camping; Public Area/Swimming; Please (keep clean) remove trash"

Improve road to Knights Pond. It is a great spot, pure as it is.

Prefer camping fees and season day pass.

Maybe a volunteer built trail; minimal development around tables and sites

We have owned land on the pond road for over 50 years. We have seen destruction and improvement over and over again. It is not likely to change without policy constant patrol which Waldo SO can't afford to do. Call if you have any more questions. We have over 50 years of experience down here in the pond area.

Total people responding:

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Survey Monkey: | 48 |
| In the office: | <u>58</u> |
| | 106 |