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GERALD VAN WOERKOM

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NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

March 4, 2004

Owasippe Outdoor Education Center
c/o Mr. Joe Sener
1361 Foxwood Rd.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Dear Mr. Sener:

I am writing to express my support to save the Owasippe Scout Reservation and your efforts to preserve the Scout camp for future generations. Thousands of children are impacted every year – not just Scouts – and it is an experience worth preserving.

Being a part of a group like the Boy Scouts of America is an outstanding experience. Boys are taught life skills in a unique setting. Through scouting, virtues such as reverence of the outdoors, team work, and family values are instilled in young men.

The Owasippe campground is an asset to Muskegon County and all of West Michigan. Past campers have realized the positive impact this camp experience has had on their lives and they are looking to save the area from development so future generations can fish, camp, and build lifetime bonds with other boys – building a strong foundation for a bright future. Outdoor and environmental groups hail the pristine nature of the campground.

It is my hope that the efforts to preserve Owasippe are successful. The campground showcases the beauty of West Michigan and is something that we should all be proud of. I fully support these efforts.

Thank you for considering my support of the effort to save Owasippe Scout Reservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerald Van Woerkom".

Gerald Van Woerkom
State Senator
34th District

GVW/rkh