

Updates from the Riverkeeper Sweep at Pocantico Lake County Park

On May 7th, volunteers gathered at Pocantico Lake County Park to participate in the 11th annual Riverkeeper Sweep! Although the weather was muggy and damp, volunteers put on their rain gear and collected items littering the trails of Pocantico Lake. Volunteers carefully sorted things found from the sweep into two categories: waste and recycling. So what oddities did they find? Here are a few examples:

- A broken fish tank • chandelier • stairway banister • old pay phone stand • fishing rod, fishing line, and bobbers • VHS cassette • pps • buckets of various sizes • 6 tires

The total weight of trash collected at park was **560 pounds: 290 lbs of trash, 150 lbs of recyclables, and 120 lbs in tires**). Unsurprisingly, the most commonly discovered item was the ubiquitous plastic bottle!

In case you haven't been following the Save Pocantico Lake (SPL) effort, here's a brief summary. Developers are planning to build a 31-home subdivision on the Mount Pleasant property that threatens the natural ecology, a potential water drinking source, and public space for residents to enjoy. In response, SPL is encouraging Westchester County residents to sign a petition asking that the County government purchase this property and protect it. So far, residents of 46 of the county's 48 municipalities have signed on. The petition will be presented to the County government in mid-July!

How can you be a part of this conservation effort? Learn more about Save Pocantico Lake at savepocanticolake.org. Take the [SPL petition](#) to your local farmers market or summer events, and get your friends, family, and neighbor to sign. Share the [Top 10 Reasons](#) to save Pocantico Lake.

Let's work together to ensure that this undeveloped landscape is protected. Let's be part of the solution, not the pollution.

