

# Petition Against the Proposed Levy-Norvell Gravel Mine

## Protecting Our State Parks, Camp Dainava, and Community Quality of Life

To the Norvell Township Board of Trustees:

I, the signer of this document, am strongly opposed to the development of the Levy-Norvell Gravel Pit in Norvell Township by American Aggregates of Michigan/Levy Corp. The proposed mine—located on **Horning and Arnold Roads**—directly threatens adjacent residential communities, precious public lands, and historic local institutions.

Less than 2 miles northeast of the proposed gravel mine, **Camp Dainava**, for 70 years, has served as a vital Lithuanian cultural and spiritual sanctuary, as well as a retreat location for local organizations, welcoming at least 1,000 campers from across the country and internationally every year. The proposed industrial mining operation risks devastating this historic camp, our local state parks, and most importantly the health and safety of our families and children. The impacts include:

**Unacceptable Air Pollution and Public Health Risks:** Mining operations will generate significant dust, fine particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5), crystalline silica, diesel exhaust, blasting emissions, and other airborne pollutants. These contaminants are linked to **respiratory illness, silicosis, lung cancer**, and other health hazards, while ongoing dust from active operations, waste piles, and haul roads threatens the health, quality of life, and enjoyment of nearby residents. These impacts extend beyond the mine site, threatening neighboring homes, Camp Dainava campers, Watkins Lake State Park, and other public lands with persistent dust, degraded air quality, and **reduced quality of life**.

**Traffic makes our communities unsafe:** The preferred haul route sends heavy gravel trucks down Hardcastle Road to Wampler's Lake Road, and directly through Hayes State Park to US 12. The company projects **18 gravel trucks per hour** (one every three minutes), roaring at speeds up to 50 MPH for 10–13 hours a day, Monday through Saturday. This poses a massive **safety risk** to pedestrians, cyclists, local residents, and families entering the state parks or camp facilities.

**Plummeting Property Values:** Studies of similar Michigan gravel mines show property value reductions of up to 30% near the site, and declines of 7.5% as far as five miles away, **degrading the value of our homes** and community investments.

**Zoning and Master Plan Violations:** This industrial development **violates** current Norvell Township zoning laws and directly contradicts the community's long-term vision established in the Township Master Plan.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS PETITION TO:** IHCC, P.O. BOX 72, BROOKLYN, MI 49230

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PRINT NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS



NOTES: This petition is not offered, nor intended, as a legal document as defined by the laws governing the initiative process in Michigan, but simply as a formal expression of the opinions of the signers. Signers include Camp Dainava users to be negatively affected by the proposed project, plus local businesses and visitors to Camp Dainava, Watkins Lake State Park and Hayes State Park to be severely impacted by the proposed project.