

March 21, 20205  
Harrison Village Hall  
3PM

March 3, 2025

To: Allison Blackmer & Scott Handschke

RE: Ditch Pavers for west side of Mountain Ash Lane, Cotton Wood Creek III Subdivision

Dear Allison & Scott:

Your feedback & support is requested by a group of residents of Cottonwood Creek III Subdivision for a mutually agreeable solution to address the safety and sanitary problem of water pooling in the ditch for approximately seven residents on the west side of Mountain Ash Lane. These are the last seven properties furthest downstream on the Ditching/Resurfacing project completed in 2023.

Our understanding is that McMahon's original proposal for the Ditching/Resurfacing project included storm sewers that the Village staff rejected due to expense. After the Cottonwood Creek project was completed, the Village and residents rejected a follow-up proposal to incur the additional expense and disruptions for a subsequent storm sewer project.

- "As was determined previously the issue with the ditches in the neighborhood is that they are flat. The Village did a survey and 70% of the neighbors that took the survey did not want to pay for storm sewer and the Village Board voted against adding storm sewer as well. So, at this stage, **I am not sure there isn't much the Village staff can do.**" (Chad Pelishek, 12/17/24)

**Village staff is saying residents cannot do anything to the ditches.** My neighbors and I are forced to accept the pooling water that is unsanitary and inhibits our ability to safely maintain our properties. Our scope starts at N9123 Mountain Ash Lane where the village has installed concrete ditch pavers. A possible solution to extend the ditch pavers further upstream.

Would you support working with us to align on a mutually acceptable solution with limited scope that will enable us to address the pooling water concern?

Sincerely,

Greg Tomasik  
N9143 Mountain Ash Lane  
920-202-4199



March 21, 2025  
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March 10, 2025

*Highlighted addendums were made after a face to face discussion with Scott Handske on March 9*

To: Allison Blackmer & Scott Handske

RE: ~~Ditch Pavers~~ **Water pooling** on west side of Mountain Ash Lane, Cotton Wood Creek III Subdivision

Dear Allison & Scott:

Your feedback & support is requested by a group of residents of Cottonwood Creek III Subdivision for a mutually agreeable solution to address the safety and sanitary problem of water pooling in the ditch for approximately seven residents on the west side of Mountain Ash Lane. These are the last seven properties furthest downstream on the Ditching/Resurfacing project completed in 2023.

Our understanding is that McMahon's original proposal for the Ditching/Resurfacing project included storm sewers that the Village staff rejected due to expense. *On July 3, 2024, the Village informed the property owners "...due to the amount of water that comes from sump pumps in this neighborhood, it was determined the best alternative to the problem is to install a mini-storm sewer system to handle sump pump water."* -The Village and Cottonwood Creek III residents rejected a follow-up proposal to incur the additional expense and disruptions for a subsequent storm sewer project.

- "As was determined previously the issue with the ditches in the neighborhood is that they are flat. The Village did a survey and 70% of the neighbors that took the survey did not want to pay for storm sewer and the Village Board voted against adding storm sewer as well. So, at this stage, **I am not sure there isn't much the Village staff can do.**" (Chad Pelishek, 12/17/24)

**Village staff informed the residents they cannot do anything to the Village ditches.** My neighbors and I are forced to accept the pooling water that is unsanitary and inhibits our ability to safely maintain our properties. Our scope starts at N9123 Mountain Ash Lane where the village has installed concrete ditch pavers. A possible solution is to extend the ditch pavers further upstream.

Would you support working with us to align on a mutually acceptable solution with limited scope that will enable us to address the pooling water concern?

Sincerely,

Greg Tomasik  
N9143 Mountain Ash Lane  
920-202-4199



March 21, 2025  
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3PM

March 11, 2025

To: Allison Blackmer, Village President, Scott Handschke, challenger

RE: Water pooling on west side of Mountain Ash Lane, Cotton Wood Creek III Subdivision

Dear Allison,

Concerned residents met with Scott Handschke this past Sunday to review the water pooling concerns outlined in the amended attachment dated March 10, 2025. Would you support working with us to align on a mutually acceptable solution with limited scope that will enable us to address this concern in 2025? We would like to hear from you in person or by teleconference.

**Our Key take-away from Scott Handschke:**

- As a Village Board member, Scott cannot bring issues to the Village Board
  - Residents are to contact Chad Pelishek to request the process to escalate concerns to the board. "This gets the ball rolling"
  - Scott agreed to give Chad a "heads-up" regarding this matter

**Our Meeting Notes (3/10/25):**

- **WE DO NOT WANT POOLING WATER IN OUR DITCHES**
  - **Residents feel it's unacceptable to live with unsafe, unsanitary conditions**
- We do want assurance and/or clarification that this initiative is exempt from the following:

"The Village Board approved a policy that stops the Village from giving financial help to residential development. People can submit residential projects, but the village won't provide any financial aid for them." (Source: Facebook group by Village of Harrison)
- We want a collaborative solution between the village and residents
  - Village Staff:
    - Review results of the most recent elevation survey completed by McMahon
    - Offer various solutions, explain the pros /cons of each
    - Help concerned residents align on plans that will address the overall concern of pooling water in ditches
    - If a resident chooses to do nothing, then help neighbors understand the cadence for which the village will maintain that ditch at that property owners expense
  - Residents: Work with neighbors
    - At a minimum, solutions require alignment between 3 adjacent neighbors
- This collaborative initiative with 6-7 concerned residents, may serve as a role model or a standard that the Village Staff can use to help others in our community who are facing similar challenges.

Sincerely,

Greg Tomasik  
N9143 Mountain Ash Lane  
920-202-4199



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## Draft Meeting Agenda

### Attendees:

Chad Pelishek – Village Manager / Meeting Facilitator    Greg Tomasik – Concerned Resident  
Allison Blackmer - President    Scott Handschke – Trustee / Challenger  
Jeff Funk – Public Works Operations Manager    Lee Leibold – Village Engineer, McMahan

### Purpose:

- Safety & Sanitary problem with standing water in ditches on the west side of Mountain Ash Lane, Cottonwood Creek III Subdivision

Concerned Residents		Address
1	Joe & Paula	N9155 Mountain Ash Lane
2	Barry & Lori Stumpf	N9149 Mountain Ash Lane
3	Greg & Carrie Tomasik	N9143 Mountain Ash Lane
4	Scott & Phyllis Rieder	N9135 Mountain Ash Lane
5	Alex & Andrian	N9129 Mountain Ash Lane
6	Chad & Beth	*N9123 Mountain Ash Lane

\*Village installed ditch pavers at N9123 to W6849 where a drain & culvert routes the subdivisions run-off to Manitowoc Road

Special assessment policy  
Tuesday

### Process: Discussion / Information Sharing

- Fall 2023: Ditching & Resurfacing Project completed
- July 3, 2024: The Village informed the property owners "...due to the amount of water that comes from sump pumps in this neighborhood, it was determined the best alternative to the problem is to install a mini-storm sewer system to handle sump pump water."
  - -The Village and Cottonwood Creek III residents rejected a follow-up proposal to incur the additional expense and disruptions for a subsequent storm sewer project.
- December 17, 2024: "As was determined previously the issue with the ditches in the neighborhood is that they are flat. The Village did a survey and 70% of the neighbors that took the survey did not want to pay for storm sewer and the Village Board voted against adding storm sewer as well. So, at this stage, **I am not sure there isn't much the Village staff can do.**" (Chad Pelishek, 12/17/24)
- March 2025: Six concerned residents request the Village of Harrison fund a limited scope project to address the standing water in their ditch so that it can be more safely maintained.

### Outcome:

- Alignment on what needs to be brought forward to the board meeting on March 25, 6PM
  - Overall Objective from Board Meeting: Resources & funding for a Village of Harrison 2025 project to address the Safety & Sanitary concerns for these concerned residents