

Sandra Nadeau, Kennebunk, ME.

I am a veteran teacher of more than 50 years and the founder of Cocoons Day School located in Kennebunk. Environmental education is a priority at Cocoons. Students at Cocoons become “fishermen” with their wiggly worms and nets; birders with their first binoculars and muck boots; and explorers where they observe 1st hand the myriad of wildlife that depend on their wetlands, rivers, and ocean. As adults, many of these children will be the voices of Maine environmentalists. Protecting the natural resources that they, and many other children in town, fall in love with is essential. Removing the dams is clearly a major part of revitalizing the health of our river but equally important the defunct dams must be removed for children’s safety.

Children of all ages are naturally curious. Many in our town will be attracted to the dams as climbing structures, fishing posts, and diving platforms. It will be virtually impossible to police these dams 24/7. As well intended maintenance funds inevitably continue to be reallocated and these dams fall into further disrepair, they will become even more dangerous. None of us can afford to wait for a serious accident to occur.

Giving all of the children in our town – and their children – the gift of a safe revitalized river would be priceless.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Sandy Nadeau

Sandy.a.nadeau@gmail.com

207-423-2355