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Representative Elaine Gordon  
12100 NE 16th Ave  
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June 16, 1990

**RE: Arch Creek Water Quality Problems**

Dear Elaine:

Thank you for your support in opposing the chemical spraying of Arch Creek. As we discussed the reason for the spraying scheduled for June 15 was to make the Creek look "pretty" for the June 24 dedication of Enchanted Forest Park. The funding which you obtained for the Enchanted Park rescued a natural resource treasure from being destroyed by the invasion of exotics which were taking over and destroying native plants. In the same way the waters, flora and fauna of Arch Creek are being destroyed by the dumping of nutrient contaminants into the creek.

It is fairly well established that nutrients are entering the Creek from points of discharge that may be illegal. Unless and until the discharges to the Creek are stopped, the problem of excessive nutrients will continue and the duckweed will continue to proliferate out of control.

The legislature put a focus on the Arch Creek problems when it mandated through Chapter 87-97 FS that a management plan be prepared for Biscayne Bay and its tributaries. The Biscayne Bay SWIM plan, executive summary p.3, states:

" Water quality throughout much of the Bay is very good, although certain estuaries, such as Arch Creek, Miami River, Little River, Biscayne Canal, Maule Lake... have severe water quality problems."

Thanks to your efforts to support and fund this legislation, the S. Fla. Water Management District has budgeted \$40,000 this year to study Arch Creek and determine the source of pollution entering the creek so that it can be stopped. People have also observed that septic tank wastes have illegally been dumped in the creek.

Spraying for the dedication would have made it appear that the creek was in good health and would have added chemicals to a troubled body of water that needs to have chemicals eliminated.

If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to call.

Best regards,





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