

**Dawn Ryan's Statement to the Town of Wilton ZBA  
On behalf of The Dawn Ryan Revocable Trust of 2021**

March 11, 2025

I am writing to correct the false implications found in correspondence submitted in opposition to my application to make a trail to access 3 acres (the so-called "Parcel B") out of 11 acres of my property lying westerly of Mill Brook.

This correspondence falsely states that I have committed several violations of local laws involving Mill Brook. Note that I have never been found to have committed any violation regarding the use of my land. Rather, Wilton authorities demanded a remedy for removing vegetation along Mill Brook and I promptly responded. This removal was not an intentional disregard for state and local regulations.

I retained engineers and a certified wetland and soil scientist, at significant expense, to create a remedy for the harm caused by the cutting. The Town has inspected the remedy and is satisfied with it.

Nevertheless, my neighbors have gone to great lengths to challenge my use and enjoyment of my home. For example, I have been sued to prevent me from taking care of a rotting bridge within my easement that provides me with access to the other side of Mill Brook. They were not successful. They also failed to prevent me from cutting vegetation within my easement to allow farm vehicles to use the bridge to access my otherwise stranded parcel of land. On the other hand, they successfully prevented me from using the bridge to access Parcel B relying on a legal technicality. That is the reason for my application to the Zoning Board.

Certain neighbors have needlessly posted several unsightly "No Trespassing" signs that can only be seen from my property or from my easement. They are monitoring my movements with cameras. One neighbor warns of voice recordings that can be made.

Finally, the opposition's correspondence makes numerous unsupported statements to the effect that the foot bridge and path I am applying for would be an environmental disaster. The professionals I have hired have shown that is not true.

I grew up on a small Iowa farm and I and my two daughters moved to Wilton from Pennsylvania in 2019. I dreamed of providing them with a horse and maybe a few goats. The land westerly of Mill Brook is ideal for that use. I wanted a peaceful life in a small town for myself and my girls. The last six years have not been peaceful.

I hope you will see the merits of my application and then approve it.