

Leicester High School  
Envirothon- Research

We focused our attention on a 310 acre town owned piece of property - Hillcrest Country Club. This property was purchased in 2004 to insure that 374 homes would not be built on it. It touches Henshaw Reservoir at its northern point which is a drinking water reservoir for 60% of the town of Leicester. We proposed many different recommendations to our residents to not only protect groundwater in our town, but to protect the aquifer beneath Hillcrest Country Club.

Here they are:

- First....recycle. The more we recycle, the less toxic waste will be put into landfills leaching into the aquifer. This is simple, relatively cheap...and required BY LAW!!!
- Second, find and repair septic systems which are failing. These can cause ground water pollution from medicines dumped down the drain along with undigested human waste.
- Third, reduce water usage would help save the limited supply we currently have. Low flow shower heads, low flush toilets and repairing leaky faucets would allow us to save our vital resources.
- Fourth, protect our storm water drains, insure that they are inspected, cleaned periodically-and whenever necessary by the highway department along with continued educating the public by painting white frogs in front of these to bring attention to their location.
- And fifth, utilizing Hillcrest Country Club in an environmentally friendly way. With the possibility of 60% of the drinking water in our town being affected it is clear that we need to focus much of our attention upon this venue.