



June 23, 2009

Stalemate continues over dredging issue

I suppose we should thank state Sen. Sean Kean and Assembly members David Rible and Mary Pat Angelini, all R-Monmouth, for organizing the Shark River Dredging forum June 16 — but they missed the mark again.

The Shark River Cleanup Coalition has been involved in the discussions regarding dredging of the Shark River since the beginning, and our group has been involved in this issue the entire time, yet our organization wasn't invited. I read about it in the paper and I went anyway.

It's a good thing Neptune Mayor Randy Bishop reads the paper also because he never received an invitation either. It seems the governing body in Wall has similar communication problems regarding whether it will accept dredge material. It seems its mind is already made up.

So Bishop and I, along with many other concerned citizens, sat through a three-hour meeting to find out that nothing has changed. The rallying cry in Wall remains, "It's not our problem, not in my back yard."

Everyone agrees that Shark River must be dredged for economic, environmental and aesthetic reasons. If this is the leadership we are relying on locally and in Trenton, then the Shark River is never getting dredged. Perhaps the real answer is new leadership.

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