

My name is Karen Cavanaugh, I am a concerned Willits Valley resident. I have a 15 acre parcel at 1800 Hearst-Willits Road. On my way home I have several large Marijuana Grows most of which have recently put in new wells. These grows that pretty much surround us are tapping into water that is going to affect our well. The rivers and creeks already are showing signs of disruption and green algae.

I have been complaining about a grow on a parcel at 1875 Hearst-Willits Road. That property is too small to grow on as I have been told by Building and Planning and they continue every year. I have provided aerial pictures and that hasn't even stopped them. Another property that has a similar situation that I'm sure is illegal is 1075 Hearst-Willits Road. They put in a well and have hoop houses right next to their neighbors house. They are suppose to be 100 feet from the property line and this property is too small for any of this.

I have heard all they have to do is complete an application. Once this is in they seem to move forward with their plans with no regard to the land or environment and they get away with it. Why is this being allowed? As a home owner I have to get a permit before any work can be done on my property otherwise I get fined. Why are these people not being held accountable?

We are in a drought and these plants take a alot of water, more than a household would. So why are they being able to put in wells for land that has no residence on them? This sounds like poor planning from years past on how to deal with this issue.

With fire season right on us with little rain in sight I implore you to please consider the people that live in and near these grows that are taking over and raping the land and resources. They are not paying taxes, tracking sales or paying sales tax. The County is not benefiting from these extreme grows, so why are they being allowed to operate without hefty fines.

Please help our County to get a handle on this growing situation. This is not only a water issue but people are dying, having to move due to treats of violence's, etc. This needs to stop and you need to find a way to get a handle on this industry.

Sincerely,

Karen Cavanaugh