

Petition to Regulate Logging In Flat Rock

Logging in North Carolina is not required to follow any of the minimum standards that most land disturbing activities are governed by. This results in incalculable damage to watersheds, viewsheds and scenic byways, it lowers property values and puts local communities at the mercy of state regulators in Raleigh.

Whereas the Village of Flat Rock is a beautiful, well canopied place that is cherished due to its protected natural resources and scenic byways and;

Whereas logging operations in the village of Flat Rock, Henderson County may disregard our local tree ordinances and local scenic byway rules; and

Whereas logging operations in Flat Rock need not follow local soil and erosion or steep slope rules even though the damage they cause can be as great or greater than development; and

Whereas logging operations can be a pretext for development by using the weaker timbering rules to clear land which is then developed; and

Whereas the current logging rules are undemocratic and un-American because they remove the residents and their local government from any oversight of major land disturbances in their own backyard,

Therefore, We the undersigned residents of Flat Rock demand that the North Carolina Legislature exempt the Village of Flat Rock from NC statutes **§153A452, § 160A458.5, § 113A52.01(2)** and **§ 153A340(b)(2)** with respect to the oversight of timbering operations within the boundaries of the village and allow local village government, local planning and water quality experts and the residents of the Village of Flat Rock to decide what rules they wish to enact to protect their natural heritage and how best to balance property rights with land use protections.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
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Please return this petition to: **ECO, the Environmental and Conservation Organization**, 121 Third Ave West, Hendersonville, NC 28792 www.eco-wnc.org