

Over the last year, I have been horrified by what I call the rape of our trees, beautiful healthy trees that have been cut down just in case a storm might bring one down. That is totally ludicrous. At a hearing I attended here in Hamden, representatives from UI admitted that by cutting down 1000s of trees they may be able to restore power after a storm a day early. A single DAY in exchange for the loss of 100s of trees!

- Street trees offer many benefits to our state, from reduced stormwater runoff to improved property values.
- Unhealthy trees must be removed, but indiscriminate cutting of healthy trees is bad for residents, bad for the environment, and bad for quality of life.

As for Plum Island:

- Plum is an important bird area for migratory birds, both nationally and internationally.
- Nearly 80% of Plum Island remains undeveloped and should not be sold to the highest bidder at public auction, which would virtually eliminate the chance for a conservation sale.
- The waters around Plum Island support many aquatic species, including those valuable to the food chain of Long Island Sound and our local fishers.

Sincerely,
Maria Brandriff
Hamden, CT