

Dear Senator Hettleman and all members of the MD Senate and House,

My name is Vaughan (Scott) Henry and I am a resident and homeowner of 3 Dipping Pond Ct in Lutherville-Timonium MD, 21093. My wife and I have owned the home for 2 and a half years now. We reside directly across the street (Broadway) from a pilot hemp farm.

I would like to state that I am in no way against hemp farming or hemp products – they may offer a wide range of benefits. I am against allowing hemp to be farmed in close proximity to residential areas. There are a number of concerns I and other neighbors have:

1. The health effects of being extensively exposed to intense hemp odor in the air is unknown....many states are passing regulations to be on the safe side and avoid exposing residential neighborhoods to the potentially noxious fumes. The fumes are 24/7 over many months encompassing growing and harvesting/drying. Many of our friends and neighbors have experienced issues from irritations to coughing/breathing issues and increased headaches. In our family we noticed eye irritations and coughing/wheezing in our dog coincident with the beginning of the fumes in the neighborhood. Why take a chance when so much is still not known/studied regarding the potential effects of exposure?????
2. The odor is completely overwhelming and very pungent/rank. My wife originally thought it was odor from fox urine or the result of a dead deer in the vacant woods adjacent to our backyard. I met a couple I did not know at a restaurant, and when I told them where I lived they asked what the smell was as they drove Broadway daily to take their grandson to a camp. They thought it was a dead skunk but realized it was there every day, week after week, so it was not that. I told them it was the hemp..... It permeates everything 24/7, and honestly prevents us from enjoying the outdoors in our own backyard. We invested 250,000 dollars in a beautiful pool, hardscaping and porch to enjoy our home and last year our plans to enjoy all that were 100% ruined. It is simply horrible and frankly if the hemp farm stays we will need to go.

Please support the move to keep hemp farms away from residential areas. The odor is repulsive, the potential health effects are unknown and we who live in the area are in need of relief from this. Please help....

Sincerely  
Vaughan Scott Henry

