

OIL LEAK AT JORAKU-AN (BEECHER HOUSE)

This June, we discovered that the lines hooked up to the fuel oil tanks beneath Joraku-an were leaking in many places due to old, corroded connectors. Oil was seeping through the soil across the lawn, making its way down the hill, and threatening to contaminate Beecher Lake, which flows into the Beaverkill River and its tributaries throughout the Catskills.



Fortunately, the leak was discovered and taken care of by a team of specialists before the oil seeped into the lake. All of the contaminated soil has been removed from the premises and disposed of in an ecologically responsible manner by a professional environmental agency. Additional soil samples will be taken and examined by a geologist for traces of contaminants, and removed if necessary. The fuel tank beneath Joraku-an has been unearthed, emptied and discarded. As a preventative measure, the other fuel tanks on the property, underneath the monastery and the gatehouse, will likewise have to be emptied and removed.



This process has been very time-consuming and extremely costly. So far, Dai Bosatsu Zendo has incurred expenses totaling more than \$30,000 for the clean-up effort at Joraku-an alone. The removal of the other tanks on the property is projected to cost another \$20,000. Despite having launched our 2009 fundraising campaign only weeks ago, these unforeseen expenses are far beyond anything that we have planned for in our yearly budget, and drastically exceed our typical operating costs.



Dai Bosatsu Zendo depends on the sangha to come together and march on through this unexpected turn of events. We are deeply grateful for the ongoing generosity and support which has enabled our Dharma practice to flourish and grow for 33 years, and sincerely hope that we may continue together, unimpeded by these challenging circumstances. Your tax-deductible donations are especially appreciated at this crucial time.

DAI BOSATSU ZENDO