

It is late on May 26, 2000, and you may be wondering why I am so late with my comments. I just found out I could do so. Last night, between 11:30 p.m. and 12:15 a.m., there were eight noisy trains that went past my bedroom window. I live just south of one of the crossings where trains will be required to blow their horns. At 11:30 this evening (Friday, May 26, 2000) the trains began again and reminded me I had not sent in my comments. Even though there is a large field with trees between my apartment and the train tracks at the intersection of River Road and the tracks, the noise and shaking of the ground/building can be frightening. Sometimes the windows rattle, and I wonder if we are having an earthquake. And this building has very sturdy construction! I shudder to think what will happen if this new federal rule goes through. No one will get any sleep! People won't be able to concentrate during the daytime. (There goes another train, I mean two, going in different directions. There are three sets of rails on the BNSF line and it carries Metra, Amtrak and freight). There are fifty or more condominiums that are even closer to the tracks than I am! Families with young children, singles and the elderly all live in this type of housing. DuPage County is even encouraging more multiple family units be built near railroad tracks. How can blowing whistles in such heavily populated areas be sensible? Please do not let the ruling go through, it will have an extremely negative impact in this suburban environment!