



# Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan

Framingham, MA  
October 2013



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The Plan was prepared by the Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group (OSRPIWG) and staff from the Department of Parks and Recreation, Conservation Commission and Department of Community and Economic Development.

Special thanks go to all the residents who responded to the survey or provided comments and suggestions at public forums or meetings; your thoughtful comments are reflected in this plan.

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## **CHAPTER 1: Plan Summary**

### **A. Purpose**

The overall purpose of the 2013 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) is to serve as a guide for protecting, managing, improving, and expanding Framingham's open space and recreation resources in the face of continuing development pressures. More specifically, the purposes of this OSRP are:

- To identify unique open space and recreation assets and places that have ecological, recreational, civic, historic and/or scenic value;
- To prioritize the open space and recreation needs for all citizens of Framingham;
- To identify specific goals, objectives, and recommended priority actions; and
- To qualify the Town for State and Federal cost-sharing funds that might be available for capital improvement and acquisition projects.

### **B. Process**

This Open Space and Recreation Plan is an update of an earlier version of the Plan completed in 2008. As part of the implementation of the 2008 Plan, an Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group (OSRPIWG) was established in 2010. The OSRPIWG is a policy and implementation group that includes representatives from the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager's office, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Department of Public Works and the Community and Economic Development office. The OSRPIWG met throughout 2010 to 2013 to discuss and implement priority recommendations from the 2008 Plan. As the group most familiar with the 2008 Plan the OSRPIWG was the logical choice to prepare the 2013 update. The OSRPIWG represents the various boards and commissions involved in open space and recreation lands and programs. Assisted by staff from Community and Economic Development, Conservation Commission, Planning Board and Parks and Recreation, the OSRPIWG Committee undertook a comprehensive analysis of Framingham's Open Space and Recreation resources. Inventories of the Town's open space, recreation, and historic and cultural resources were updated. The Town's open space preservation and recreation needs were assessed through public forums, widely distributed surveys, and meetings with municipal staff and various boards, commissions and committees. The labors of this effort have resulted in the seven (7) year action plan.

### **C. Goals**

The end result of the planning process is a coordinated set of goals and objectives and a seven-year action plan that outlines specific tasks to meet the Town's open space and recreation goals. The open space and recreation goals are as follows:

- Maintenance and improvement of the current inventory of active recreational facilities;
- Maintenance and improvement of the current inventory of conservation and open space parcels;

- Conservation of natural resources and open space to protect water resources, wildlife habitat, and horticultural, agricultural and sylvan opportunities, and passive recreational opportunities;
- Creation of new recreational facilities and programs to meet resident needs as appropriate; and
- Undertake other town-wide efforts that will support open space and recreation.

## **D. Implementation**

Action items designed to achieve each goal are enumerated in the Seven Year Action Plan. The Action Plan identifies goals, objectives, detailed actions and responsible parties. Since this OSRP reflects the substantive input from and the broad consensus of many Town departments, boards, commissions and committees, non-profit organizations, and resident volunteers, and spells out specific attainable tasks, we are hopeful that implementation will be swift and effective.

## **E. Highlights of the Action Plan**

The OSRPIWG believes that a few of the objectives and actions are particularly important; they are critical in achieving the stated goals or because they support other objectives and actions. They are discussed briefly below.

### **1. Ensure aggressive implementation of the plan.**

Action 5A1: Continue the Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group (OSRPIWG) to monitor progress of the plan, communicate with involved departments, and conduct research and develop recommendations as noted in this plan

Action 5B1: Research the list of possible funding mechanisms listed in Ch 7 and develop a report recommending funding strategies for Framingham

Action 5B2: Appoint a new CPA study committee

### **2. Focus on the maintenance of existing facilities and programs.**

Action 1A1: Undertake actions identified in Table 7-1 and Map 10 for Recreation Facilities in Need of Improvements

Action 2A3: Continue and expand the conservation land steward program and workdays to help maintain and improve open space parcels

### **3. Protect open space in Framingham**

Action 3A1: Research private land, tax title land, other town land, etc. and identify priority parcels for acquisition (based on size, current land use, ecological diversity, presence of rare species, adjacency to protected land, etc.)

#### **4. Create non-motorized corridors in Framingham**

Objective 4A: Create and complete corridors for non-motorized passage that serve as greenways and provide access to passive and active recreation facilities, places of work, school, public transportation connections, or other points of interest in town

Objective 4B: Create new parks, playgrounds and passive facilities

Objective 4E: Coordinate enhanced public access to the aqueducts with the MWRA

## **CHAPTER 2: Introduction**

### **A. Introduction to the 2013 Plan**

This edition of the Open Space and Outdoor Recreation Plan (Framingham has had five (5) previous OSRPs: 1981, 1990, 1996, 2003 and 2008) has been updated to reflect new priorities for the protection of open space and enhancement of recreation, and new opportunities for Framingham to realize its open space and recreation goals.

### **B. Statement of Purpose**

The overall purpose of an OSRP is to serve as a guide for protecting, managing, improving, and expanding Framingham's open space and recreation resources in the face of continuing development pressures. More specifically, the purposes of this OSRP are:

- To identify unique open space and recreation assets and places that have ecological, recreational, civic, and/or scenic value;
- To prioritize the open space and recreation needs for all citizens of Framingham;
- To identify specific goals, objectives, and recommended priority actions; and
- To qualify the Town for State and Federal cost-sharing funds that might be available for capital improvement and acquisition projects.

### **C. Vision for Framingham**

Given Framingham's variety of natural resources, the town has the potential to provide residents and visitors with access to open space and recreation as integral parts of their daily lives, and to preserve open space for the long-term. Through this Open Space and Recreation Plan, Framingham shall commit itself to making sure that future planning, development, maintenance, and public education efforts will help:

- Preserve natural ecosystems, corridors, and historic landscapes;
- Provide passive and active recreational opportunities that are accessible for all citizens of Framingham;
- Provide pedestrian opportunities for all citizens of Framingham; and
- Enhance the quality of life, economic health, and sense of community in Framingham.

This vision will help Framingham realize many of the benefits of open space protection\*:

- Parks and open space often increase the value of nearby properties, along with property tax revenue;
- Parks and open space attract businesses and trained employees in search of a high quality of life;
- Parks and open space attract tourists and boost recreation spending;
- Parks and open space reduce obesity and health care costs by supporting exercise and recreation;
- Working lands, such as farms and forests, usually contribute more money to a community than the costs of the services they require; and,

- Conserved open space helps safeguard drinking water, clean the air, and prevent flooding – services provided much more expensively by other means.

*(\*From the fall 2007 issue of the Trust for Public Land's "Land and People" publication)*

#### **D. Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group**

In September 2012 the OSRPIWG was tasked with undertaking the 2008 Plan update. This Working Group was comprised of representatives of:

- Parks and Recreation Commission,
- Conservation Commission,
- Planning Board,
- Community and Economic Development,
- Department of Public Works, and
- Board of Selectmen.

The Working Group was staffed by:

- Parks and Recreation Department,
- Community and Economic Development,
- Planning Board, and
- Conservation Commission.

Staff was responsible for:

- Coordinating meetings,
- Gathering data and updating information, and
- Drafting the revised document.

The Working Group was also supported by:

- Framingham's GIS Coordinator.

#### **E. Public Participation and Input**

Public input was an essential component of this plan revision. Every effort was made to assess the needs of all population groups represented in Framingham. Public input was obtained in a variety of ways:

- OSRPIWG meetings: Ten (10) regular meetings were held between September 2012 and July 2013. At those meetings, Working Group members brainstormed, reviewed the 2008 plan, vetted and annotated maps and lists, achieved consensus on drafts, discussed comments from the public and other municipal boards, and voted on the final plan to be submitted to the state.
- Public forums: Two public forums were held (on February 7, 2012 and on May 29, 2013). These public forums were publicized through press releases, flyers, and direct mailings to Town Meeting Precinct Chairs and other individuals active in open space and recreation. The forums introduced attendees to the open space and recreation activities in town, the 2008 OSRP, and the revision process. Facilitators then solicited input from the attendees.

- Local cable television: Both public forums were videotaped and aired on the local cable network.
- Citizen questionnaire: The Working Group re-formatted the 2008 questionnaire (to facilitate comparison across the years). The survey consisted of forty-seven questions that focused on the types of recreational facilities and activities and open space priorities that Town residents may believe to be important for Framingham's future. The questionnaire was translated into Spanish and Portuguese. The questionnaire was made available on the town web site and made available at the public libraries, Board of Selectmen office, Conservation Commission office, Park and Recreation Office, Community and Economic Development office. Over 400 postcards were mailed to residents informing them of the survey. The Community and Economic Development office received 567 online surveys and 17 paper surveys.
- Other town boards' input: OSRPIWG members went to each of their respective boards and solicited comments on a draft of the plan. OSRPIWG members also met with other committees involved in open space and recreation issues such as the Agricultural Advisory Committee, Disability Committee, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Comments from these groups were incorporated into the final plan.

Framingham is considered an environmental justice community with a large low income and minority population compared to adjacent communities (see Map 2: Environmental Justice Communities). The dense south side of Framingham especially contains Census tracts that meet all three environmental justice criteria (see Population and Housing Characteristics in Chapter 3). Special outreach measures were taken throughout the planning process to gain participation from the environmental justice neighborhoods. For example, the OSRP public hearings were held in environmental justice neighborhoods, downtown in Town Hall and the main library, and the public survey was available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese (**see Appendix D**). The kick-off meeting for the Town's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan in 2014 was also held in an environmental justice neighborhood and outreach included surveys in English, Spanish and Portuguese (**see Appendix E**). Inequities in open space and recreational facilities within environmental justice neighborhoods were analyzed and considered in the development of this plan. In addition, ongoing discussions about a town-owned park, Mary Dennison Park, located in the heart of Framingham's south side environmental justice community, have been undertaken by the Parks and Recreation department in a very inclusive and proactive manner. Starting with a kick-off meeting in early May 2014, at which translators were available, outreach to surrounding neighborhoods has been bilingual in Spanish and Portuguese. The Town has built relationships with the managers of specific high-poverty housing developments and works closely with them to engage the residents in those areas.

## **CHAPTER 3: Community Setting**

### **A. History of the Community**

#### **1. Introduction**

Framingham, was originally inhabited by the Native American group known as Nipmuc, a loose federation of tribes which at various times were allied with, or subjected to the more powerful Native American confederacies that surrounded them. They were a part of the Algonquin language group, agriculturalist and hunters, living by the streams and ponds of the area, from central Massachusetts to Connecticut. It is difficult to ascertain the population prior to the arrival of the Europeans, though it possibly reached 10,000. A census taken after the King Philip's War totaled a mere 1,000. Many of those were bonded into slavery and sent to Jamaica or other islands in the Caribbean. Some were melded into "Christian tribes" which were interned on Deer Island in Boston Harbor.

"Danforth Farms", after Thomas Danforth, the holder of the royal land grant, was incorporated as a town in 1700. The incorporated town was eventually renamed Framingham, after Danforth's birthplace in England: Framingham.

Framingham was settled first for farming, but soon small industries sprang up along the river.

Framingham now has over 68,000 residents, and a diverse mixture of residential areas, industries, commerce, agricultural and horticultural land, and natural open space.

#### **2. Historic Town Centers**

Framingham has four (4) major historic Town centers: Saxonville, Framingham Centre, Downtown Framingham in South Framingham, and Nobscot. These areas developed at different times-mostly due to changes in transportation modes and routes. In addition, smaller villages have developed along secondary roads.

Saxonville: was the first to be settled in the mid-17th Century due to its close proximity to the Sudbury River. A succession of mills were built along the river, which influenced the growth of the surrounding area. The most dramatic changes occurred after Michael Simpson bought the mill complex in 1858 and began manufacturing carpets. The Roxbury Carpet Company was a highly successful business, and Saxonville shared in its prosperity. Simpson owned a considerable amount of land surrounding the village, which he landscaped extensively-building scenic drives, overlooks, and rustic bridges to islands in Wildwood Pond, a man-made pond off Mill Pond. Simpson's Park was noted for its fine zoo and picnic grounds. The former park and the now covered pond are the site of the Pinefield Shopping Center.

The former village of Saxonville is now surrounded by post World War II subdivisions and the Massachusetts Turnpike cuts through what was previously Simpson Garden Park. The Danforth Street Playground on a hillside above the river and the athletic fields of Framingham High School are all that remain of the Simpson Garden Park.

Framingham Centre: Framingham Centre developed when a new meeting house was built in 1735 on a knoll above the Sudbury River at the intersection of the river and the main route from Boston (now Route 30). The old Main Street burial ground is what remains of the first meeting house. The character of Framingham Centre remained rural until the Framingham-Worcester stagecoach turnpike, built in 1806, transformed it into a center of business activity.

In 1845, after a lengthy court battle (in which the court in Cambridge had to intervene and ordered the town to be surveyed, and a new town hall to be placed in the precise center of town), a new town hall was built on town-owned grazing land to the north of the original town hall.

Being halfway between Boston and Worcester (i.e., 20 miles or one day's walk), Framingham was chosen as a repair station and a place for the changing of horses. The end of the stagecoach era and the establishment of a major railroad junction in South Framingham caused a decline in public activity at Framingham Centre. However, the area retained its Federal-era character of large homes and public buildings surrounding a common into the mid-20th century.

The Framingham Normal College, founded in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century as the first teachers' college in the Commonwealth, has evolved into Framingham State University. The school continues to serve as a cultural center for the community.

The transformation of Worcester Road (Route 9) into a four-lane limited-access highway in 1963 bisected Framingham Centre and essentially destroyed its 19th century commercial center. The area northwest of Framingham Centre along Grove Street still retains an open quality due to the Edgell Grove Cemetery. Edgell Grove, donated by the Edgell family, was designed as a garden cemetery by the designer of Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, and is one of the best preserved, despite being bisected by the Massachusetts Turnpike in the 1950s. The Barbara Gray soccer fields on Auburn Street, the Sudbury River canoe landing at Central Street, and the Centre Common are the remains of public access open space in Framingham Centre.

Downtown Framingham: Downtown Framingham became the new growth center with the building of the railroad in 1835. New industries located near the rail line, while a new downtown grew up around the railroad station, and new housing spread north and south of the tracks. The railroad also spurred the development of pleasure parks at Mount Wayte (then called Lakeview) for the Chautauqua lecture programs, camp meetings, and preaching and Harmony Grove pleasure park on the shores of Farm Pond. Large numbers of people would come by train for daily excursions. Although Harmony Grove, between Downtown Framingham and Farm Pond, has been built up with railroad yards and a mixture of urban uses, part of the Lakeview area on the other side of Farm Pond is publicly owned and is still used for outdoor recreation. The former Cushing Hospital, a facility for recovery and rehabilitation of WWII Veterans, has been transformed for open space and recreation purposes. This also led to the restoration of Cushing Chapel.

The Muster Field area, just north of downtown has been developed since World War II as the site for schools and hundreds of apartments for veterans and the elderly. The Muster Field was the encampment for soldiers preparing to ship out from the port of Boston, but it was also the site of one of the first military airfields in the country. Early pilots training at the Muster Field would have their commissioning papers signed by Orville Wright.

At present, Downtown Framingham is the governmental center of Framingham and the location of important public buildings such as the Memorial Building, Danforth Museum, Callahan Center for the elderly, the central library, and County, State, and Federal offices, as well as important mercantile buildings such as the Hemenway block and the Arcade.

Nobscot: Nobscot (originally Brackett's Corner and known for a while as New Boston) has many 17th and 18th Century rural homes on the winding old roads. Nobscot today consists of a community shopping center at the intersection of two secondary roads surrounded by new subdivisions and apartments. West of Nobscot is a large area that has remained undeveloped

due to its hilly topography and to a lack of public sewer and water service. There remains an extensive undeveloped area of land in the Northwest district including the Callahan State Park and Nobscot Mountain. The diversity of landscapes and scenic farmland are still reflective of the Towns agricultural heritage.

## **B. Growth and Development Patterns**

### **1. Town-wide Patterns of Development and Land Protection**

Located between Boston and Worcester, Framingham is considered an “urban-fringe” community. Like many other “urban-fringe” communities, Framingham experienced dramatic suburbanization during the 1950’s and 1960’s. While much of the Town has relatively high residential and commercial density, large portions of the town retain a somewhat rural character.

The town's transportation networks have greatly affected development patterns. The town's major population centers developed around highway (and rail) corridors. Two large transportation corridors run east-west and bisect the town: State Route 9 is a heavily developed commercial corridor and the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate 90) has limited access and associated development.

I-90 and I-495 to the west link the area to the Interstate Highway network, providing easy access to regional markets. Direct access to I-90 is provided by two Framingham interchanges, Exits 12 and 13. Development is concentrated on state highways, particularly the area bordered by State Route 9 (Worcester Rd.), State Route 30, and Speen Street a regional retail district known as the Golden Triangle. Commercial development has also clustered on Routes 126 and 135.

In the northwest, gently rolling hills and fields give way to more sizeable hills. The northwestern portion of the town is low-density suburban development, working and pleasure farms, and large tracts of state, municipal, and private protected open space, so is a large-scale patchwork of forests and fields. The eastern half of town is much more densely developed. Northeastern Framingham is predominantly single-family homes on small lots. North Framingham contains the old town center, Saxonville, and Nobscot. Southeastern Framingham holds Downtown Framingham, and is predominated by multi-family homes on smaller lots.

### **2. Development Trends**

The Town's development has historically occurred along major transportation routes. Commercial development in particular continues to develop along these routes.

Recent development within the Town includes the redevelopment of 343 Cochituate Road, 30 Worcester Road and 500 Worcester Road along Route 9. Green featured projects include 375 Cochituate Road solar carports, 900 Edgell Road green building design with a large outdoor open space area and 500 Staples Road with solar photovoltaic energy features and a decrease in impervious area.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Annual Town Report: The Town of Framingham produces a yearly Annual Town Report. The Report provides a detail description of development within the Town.

Recent development includes the expansion of Genzyme, Inc.'s technology park in southwestern Framingham, a few new subdivisions in northwest Framingham, and numerous single family homes scattered across the town.

A large planned unit development (PUD) secured permits in 2013 on a 130-acre site in northeast Framingham. It will include roughly 360 residential units (town houses and condominiums) and 88 acres of open space preservation.

### **C. Regional Context**

Framingham is located within the MetroWest Sub-Region of Boston and is bordered by Sudbury to the north, Wayland and Natick to the east, Sherborn and Ashland to the south, and Southborough and Marlborough to the west. (**Map 1: Regional Context**) The MetroWest region is located midway between the two largest cities in Massachusetts, Boston and Worcester, and is easily accessible via the Massachusetts Turnpike, Route 9 and Route 495. Framingham is very diverse in terrain and demographics. In sharp contrast to the densely developed northeast and southeast portions of Framingham, the northwest portion of Framingham is characterized by gently rolling hills and fields, working and pleasure farms, and large (over 20 acres) tracts of state, municipal, and private forest and other open space.

Framingham is located within the Sudbury-Assabet-Concord (SuAsCo) River watershed. The Sudbury River bisects Framingham, entering in the southwest from Ashland, flowing for seven miles to Wayland in the northeast. Two (2) miles of the river were designated as "scenic" under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

State Route 9 and Interstate 90 run east-west through the middle of Framingham. Rte. 9 has been developed as a major commercial corridor. Interstate 90 has two interchanges in Framingham.

Framingham has two major greenway systems, essentially continuous corridors that allow the passage of wildlife (and humans). The first is the Sudbury River that runs from the southwest to the northeast. The second is the MWRA aqueduct system, comprised of the grassy-topped Hultman, Weston, and Sudbury Aqueducts that run east-west across Framingham.

As the largest urban center in the MetroWest sub-region, Framingham is a regional urban center for employment and services. Framingham's position as MetroWest's urban center also means that the Town contains a significant portion of the region's lower-cost housing and lower-income residents. Due to the easy accessibility of the region, combined with a highly educated work force and the availability of less expensive housing compared to the greater Boston area, the area has attracted many new residents and businesses. Some of the recreational resources in Framingham are important regionally as well as locally. Lake Cochituate State Park, with its main entrance on Route 30 just over the town line in Natick, is a major regional attraction for swimming and boating. Callahan State Park in Framingham's northwest quadrant provides opportunities for passive recreation such as hiking and cross-country skiing. Sudbury Valley Trustees owns several large tracts of open space with miles of trails in Framingham. The Bay Circuit Trail passes through Framingham. The New England Wild Flower Society's Headquarters are in northeast Framingham. Boat ramps at Farm Pond (non-motorized use) and Waushakum Pond provide access to these water bodies for boaters from the surrounding area. The skating rink at Loring Arena is an important regional resource, as is the indoor swimming pool at Keefe Regional Technical High School. The MetroWest YMCA serves Framingham and many of the surrounding communities with its facilities and diverse recreational and educational programming.

The Town of Framingham is a member of several regional planning bodies. Framingham is a member of the Metro West Regional Collaborative (MWRC), one (1) of eight (8) Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) sub-regions.

The Metro West RTA is a locally controlled, regional bus system currently incorporates nine (9) towns: Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, Natick, Ashland, Sherborn, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston.

**D. Local Context**

Framingham has areas of very different landscape character, from the urban downtown, through suburban areas, to very rural and natural areas. With a considerable and growing number of recent immigrants from Brazil and other Latin American countries, as well as large and growing numbers of immigrants from Asia, Europe, and Africa. Framingham is more culturally and racially diverse than the immediately surrounding communities.

There are many fairly distinct/distinguishable neighborhoods in Framingham, roughly defined around commercial areas, demographics, landscape features, and transportation and waterway corridors. There is value in considering different open space and recreation resource demand and availability based on neighborhoods.

There are many local recreational resources in Framingham, including playgrounds, soccer fields, baseball fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, local swimming beaches, etc. For a complete listing of the Town’s recreational resources see Chapter 5 of this plan.

**E. Population and Housing Characteristics**

**1. Population Growth**

In 2010, Framingham’s population was 68,318. Between 1940 and 1970 Framingham experienced a substantial population growth (Table 3-1) and this has had a dramatic effect on land use. Abundant developable land, excellent highway access to Boston, and a high demand for suburban housing helped to stimulate residential construction. Population growth was accelerated by a high birth rate. Population growth rates during this period strained the ability of the Town to preserve open space and provide outdoor recreational facilities.

<b>Table 3-1. Population Growth in Framingham, 1940-2010</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>
1940	23,214	N/A
1950	28,086	21.0
1960	44,526	58.5
1970	64,048	43.8
1980	65,113	1.7
1990	64,989	-0.2
2000	66,910	3.0
2010	68,318	2.1

*Source: U.S. Census 2010*

## 2. Age of Population

The age distribution of Framingham between 2000 and 2010 is shown in Table 3-2. For the past ten (10) years there has been growth in young children (0-5 years) and older-middle-aged residents (55-64 years). At the same time, there has been a decline in youth (5-14 years) and adult residents (25 - 44 years).

<b>Age distribution</b>	<b>Number 2000</b>	<b>Percent 2000</b>	<b>Number 2010</b>	<b>Percent 2010</b>	<b>% Change 2000-2010</b>
Under 5 years	4,324	6.5	4546	7.8	5.1%
5 to 9 years	4,059	6.1	3735	6.0	-8.0%
10 to 14 years	3,825	5.7	3657	5.1	-4.4%
15 to 19 years	3,724	5.6	4340	4.8	16.5%
20 to 24 years	4,410	6.6	4581	5.9	3.9%
25 to 34 years	11,622	17.4	10285	13.5	-11.5%
35 to 44 years	11,462	17.1	10188	17.6	-11.1%
45 to 54 years	9,019	13.5	9951	15.5	10.3%
55 to 59 years	3,278	4.9	4094	6.4	24.9%
60 to 64 years	2,496	3.7	3579	5.0	43.4%
65 to 74 years	4,337	6.5	4381	6.5	1.0%
75 to 84 years	3,001	4.5	3161	4.0	5.3%
85 years and over	1,353	2.0	1766	1.9	30.5%

Source: US Census 2010

The age of the population creates a demand for specific types of recreation facilities. Families with young children need neighborhood playgrounds. Youth and young adults need playfields for team sports and areas for healthful exercise such as running, skateboarding, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing. Activities such as boating, fishing, gardening, and golf are popular with mid-life adults. Elderly residents, especially renters, need pleasant and safe places to walk and sit outdoors, as well as places to go for group outings.

## 3. Cultural Demographics

With a considerable and growing number of recent immigrants from Brazil and other Latin American countries, as well as large and growing numbers of immigrants from Asia, Europe, and Africa, Framingham is more culturally and racially diverse, than of the immediately surrounding communities (Table 3-3).

<b>RACE</b>	<b>Framingham, MA</b>	<b>United States</b>
White	79.8%	71.9%
Black	5.1%	5.8%
Asian	5.3%	6.3%
American Indian	0.2%	0.3%
Other	6.3%	2.3%
Hispanic	10.9%	13.4%

Source: 2010 US Census

#### 4. Environmental Justice Communities

Low-income households, including the majority of Framingham’s immigrant and minority populations, which have been growing rapidly over the decade, are concentrated in downtown and southeast Framingham. These neighborhoods are home to four US Census tract blocks that meet all three of the Environmental Justice (EJ) criteria (Census Tracts: 383100.02, 383400.03, 383100.01 and 383100.04; EJ Criterion met<sup>2</sup>: Income, English Isolation, and Minority Population) and five more Census tract blocks that meet at least one criteria in this same area. It should be noted that only 4.8% of the land area in all of Massachusetts meet any EJ criteria. Thus, these four Framingham Census tracts epitomize the inequitable distribution of the town’s environmental contamination and underserved population. Framingham’s percentages of minority, Hispanic and Latino populations are dramatically higher than regional percentages. The percentage of linguistically isolated households in the target area is 18.5%--over four (4) times higher than that of the region. (**Map 2: Environmental Justice Communities**)

#### 5. Population Density

With a land area of 26.5 square miles and a current population of 68,318 residents, the Town’s overall population density is 4.0 persons per acre, but the density ranges from 9.3 persons per acre in southeast Framingham, to 2.0 persons per acre in northwest Framingham.

Population density strongly influences the demand for open space and public outdoor recreation facilities. In high-density residential areas, the houses generally lack private yard space sufficient to be of recreational value. Typically, such areas need parks for children. In residential areas with lower density the need for small parks is less significant.

#### 6. Employment & Major Industries

According to the most recent Massachusetts Labor and Workforce Development data, in June 2014, there were 39,386 residents in Framingham’s labor force. Out of this number, 37,715 were employed resulting in a 4.2% unemployment rate. This is lower than the state’s unemployment rate during the same time which was 5.6%. Unemployment in Framingham reached a high in 2009 and 2010 and has since decreased, displaying a positive turn since the economic recession (Table 3-4).

<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
4.0%	6.2%	6.2%	5.4%	5.0%	5.4%

The number of private establishments has increased since 2008 from 2,146 to 2,202 in 2013. In 2013, the professional and business services industry made up the highest number of establishments (530) and provided the most employment (13,329) in Framingham. This includes professional and technical services, management of companies and enterprises, and administrative and waste services.

<sup>2</sup> According to Census 2010 Block Group and Tract-level Data.

Large employers in Framingham include Staples, Bose, Genzyme, Adesa, MetroWest Medical Center, TJX, Verizon's engineering facility, Framingham State University, Massachusetts Correctional Institution (MCI) Framingham, Perini Corporation, the Massachusetts State Police Headquarters, a Shoppers World, Target, Walmart, and other retail outlets, banks, and hotels.

Framingham also has numerous small retail businesses, particularly in what is called the "Golden Triangle" (between Route 9, Route 30 and Speen Street in Natick). The Town has adopted overlay-zoning regulations, which apply to the Route 9 and Golden Triangle areas. One of the main purposes of these regulations is to increase the amount of landscaped open space provided by businesses. It is likely that business growth, both commercial and industrial, will continue. Industrial development, however, is somewhat constrained by the limited availability of large parcels to accommodate manufacturing plants.

Framingham contains a diverse mixture of employers and opportunities for employment. As the key economic driver of the MetroWest region, Framingham has been a net importer of jobs for many years with approximately 45,000 workers coming to work here every day. Successfully weathering the most recent recession was due largely to Framingham's strong bio-tech and medical sectors as well as the Town's high quality of life. As a result of amenities, including extensive and diverse open space and recreation opportunities, the Town remains a desirable location for new businesses to grow and existing businesses to grow.

## **7. Income**

According to the 2006 American Community Survey, the median household income in Framingham was \$58,207, slightly lower than the state-wide median household income, which was \$59,963.

Income level influences demand for public recreation facilities and open space. While higher-income households have a greater ability to pay for private recreation and have the resources to travel to recreation centers outside the Town, low and moderate-income families depend more heavily on free public recreation.

## **8. Housing Tenure**

According to the 2006 American Community Survey, 42.7 percent of Framingham's housing units were renter-occupied, a 4.4 percentage-point increase over the 2000 estimate of 38.3 percent. Renter occupancy ranges from roughly 70 percent in the southeast to 11 percent in the northwest. This pattern of renter tenure parallels the population density factors.

Residents in rental units generally have a greater need for public outdoor recreation facilities. Although some luxury apartment complexes provide private outdoor recreation facilities for tenants, most renters lack access to private outdoor areas and must depend on public parks and playgrounds.

## **F. Framingham's "Gray Infrastructure"**

### **1. Transportation Systems**

The MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) operates the local bus service formerly called the LIFT (Local Inter-Framingham Transit) which provides service to other local routes. LIFT system that was initiated in September 1984 to provide low cost intra-town transportation. The MWRTA/LIFT, system currently includes six (6) routes. The system operates six (6) days a week and connects all sections of the town. The MWRTA also serves the towns of Ashland, Hopkinton, Holliston, Milford, Southborough and Marlborough.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) also provides THE RIDE, a door-to-door, paratransit service for the elderly and disabled.

Peter Pan Bus Lines a private carrier provides bus service connecting Framingham to Boston and Worcester. Logan Express, a service of Massachusetts Port Authority, provides non-stop express bus service between Framingham and Logan airport.

Commuter rail service is available on the MBTA system, with lines from its Boston hub to Framingham, Worcester, Providence, Lowell and other communities. In September of 1994, commuter rail service to Worcester was initiated and express commuter trains between Framingham and Boston became available. The downtown rail station can be accessed via the MWRTA bus system. Amtrak provides passenger rail service from Framingham on its Boston-Washington and Boston-Chicago routes.

These systems increase access to recreation facilities for residents who do not have access to private automobiles, particularly the physically disabled, the elderly, and children.

## **2. Water Supply Systems**

The Framingham Water Division Program is responsible for the distribution of a public water supply and for the provision of a fire suppression service to the 17,000 residential and commercial accounts within Framingham. Depending upon demand, the Town receives 6 to 9 million gallons per day of water from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's (MWRA) via the new MetroWest Water Supply Tunnel. The water is subsequently distributed throughout the Town by means of a complicated system of pumps, valves, and reservoirs. Less than 1% of the Town relies on private wells for potable water or irrigation purposes.

Three (3) "surface" aqueducts cross Framingham, the Weston, the Hultman, and the Sudbury. With its leaks and aging valves, the Hultman needed to be taken off-line for major repairs. MWRA constructed and activated the deep MetroWest Water Supply Tunnel in November 2004. The new tunnel greatly enhances the security, capacity and reliability of MWRA's entire water transmission system. MWRA began rehabilitating the Hultman Aqueduct in 2009 in order to provide a redundant water supply network and completion is scheduled for 2014.

The Town maintains in reserve several wellheads, and is planning to reestablish those wellheads to supply approximately half of the total municipal demand.

The Framingham Water Division provides for the maintenance and repair of the water distribution infrastructure that includes; 250 miles of conduit, 2,000 hydrants, 4,800 water gate valves, four (4) pumping stations, three (3) booster stations, and six (6) above ground water tanks having a storage capacity of nearly nine (9) million gallons.

In the late 1800s a series of reservoirs along the Sudbury River were constructed to provide Boston and the metropolitan area with a public water supply. The Sudbury Reservoir in Southborough and Marlborough and the Framingham Reservoir #3 remain classified as emergency backup supply sources. Framingham Reservoirs #1 and #2 are contaminated with material from the Nyanza Chemical Superfund Site.

## **3. Sanitary Sewer Service**

The municipal sewage system serves about 95 percent of the Town's population. The remaining 5%, primarily the northwest part of Town and near Salem End Road utilize on-site

disposal systems and do not contribute flow to the sewage system. The Sewer Division Program is responsible for the collection and sanitary disposal of 7 million gallons of sewage each day from the 17,000 residential and commercial accounts within the community. All wastewater is discharged through the MWRA's Framingham Extension Sewer to the Deer Island sewage treatment plant in Boston Harbor. The collection system consists of 226 miles of gravity sewer mains, 18 miles of sewer force mains, roughly 50 sewer pumping stations, 6,600 manholes, and 40 miles of cross country easements.

The Town is in the midst of major reconstruction and reconfiguration of its sewer system as a result of a Consent Order issued by the MA Department of Environmental Protection in 2007, the primary purpose of which is to alleviate recurring sanitary sewer overflows.

The existing wastewater collection system is quite extensive, servicing approximately 70% of the acreage of the Town. The wastewater collections system is sparser to the western corners of the Town, with the northwest being entirely absent of sewer. A needs analysis was conducted as part of the Town's Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan which concluded that most study areas were either suitable for on-site disposal systems or cost-effective alternative disposal methods possible for long-term disposal needs. Based on the needs analysis results there will not be a significant expansion to the existing wastewater collection system.

## **G. Framingham's "Green Infrastructure" (Environmental Resources Used by Residents)**

Framingham is fortunate to have a great deal of protected and publicly accessible open space and natural resources. Inter-connected ecosystems of uplands, wetlands, and open water allow for wildlife survival and human recreation. Natural and developed trails are available for recreation and transportation. Agricultural, horticultural, and silvicultural opportunities abound in the northwest. Together, these comprise the Town's valuable "green infrastructure".

Details of these individual resources appear in Chapter 5, the land inventory. Summary lists are provided here.

### **1. Land**

#### ***(Map 3: Protected and Unprotected Open Space and Recreation Properties)***

- Protected open space and recreation land, including:
  - Callahan State Park: 820-acre day use, primarily forested area crisscrossed with trails;
  - Framingham Conservation Commission land: 418 acres of mostly forested land, with 6 parcels with established trails;
  - Framingham Parks and Recreation Department parks, playgrounds, sports facilities, and passive facilities;
  - Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) owns approximately 323 acres of open space in Framingham. Some of the land is managed for passive recreation, some for agricultural use, and some for watershed and wildlife habitat protection; and
  - Metropolitan Water Resources Authority (MWRA) owns three (3) aqueducts that pass through Framingham.

- Unprotected open space and recreation land, including:
  - New England Wildflower Society headquarters and botanic garden (Garden in the Woods) occupies 31.96 acres in the northeast of Town. It is a demonstration of native plants and a variety of ecosystem types;
  - Private farmland and forest land: There are over 545 acres of land (32 parcels) in active agriculture, horticulture, and/or silviculture; and
  - Private recreation land: There are 267 acres (12 parcels) in recreation use.

## **2. Water Resources**

### ***(Map 4: Water Resources)***

- Sudbury River and reservoirs – 9 miles of which flow through Framingham.
- Lake Cochituate – a 614-acre lake divided into three (3) major basins located in three (3) towns (Framingham, Wayland, and Natick), the waters are owned and managed by the state, but utilized through town beaches and a large state park.
- The major ponds – Framingham has seven major ponds: Waushakum, Learned, Norton's, Farm, Sucker, Little Sucker, and Mohawk. All but Sucker, Little Sucker, and Mohawk support recreational activities.
- Wetlands – Framingham is blessed with a rich variety of wetlands that provide habitat for a diversity of wildlife as well as providing natural flood control.
- Water supply aquifers – Framingham has large areas designated as Zone II aquifer recharge areas.

## **3. Canoe Landings**

Framingham has several established canoe launch/landing locations:

- On Central St. near the intersection with Edgell,
- At the dead end of Little Farms Rd,
- At the dead end of Centennial Place,
- On Farm Pond,
- On both sides of the Fenwick St. Dam and
- On Waushakum (the landing is in Ashland).

## **4. Trails and Corridors**

### ***(Map 5: Trails)***

- Framingham Conservation Land - There are a few areas for potentially new trails. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is used to locate said areas. Members from the Conservation Commission's Stewardship Program also look for potential areas
- On town-owned land - GPS technology and other technical measurements are required for finalizing a proposed trail in order to update GIS. These efforts are ongoing.
- Callahan State Park
- Sudbury Valley Trustee (SVT) properties

- The Bay Circuit Trail – The Bay Circuit Trail, located between Route 128/I-95 and I-495, is a 200-mile corridor through 50 cities and towns stretching from Newburyport to Duxbury, connecting conservation areas and enhancing recreation opportunities in a long arc through the suburbs of Boston. Roughly 5 miles of the trail traverses Framingham. It is routed through the Boy Scouts’ Nobscot Reservation; DCR Division of State Parks’ Nobscot parcel and Callahan State Park; Framingham’s Wittenborg Woods; SVT’s Gross Tract, Henry’s Hill, and Welch Tract; and the DCR Division of Water Supply Protection’s Sudbury Reservoir.
- The MWRA Aqueducts – three (3) “surface” aqueducts cross Framingham: the Weston, the Hultman, and the Sudbury. Pedestrian use of these grassy corridors is common. OSRPIWG prepared a Public Trails Report that was adopted by the Board of Selectmen in February 2012. This report recommended that a pilot project be implemented to improve public access to a portion of the Weston Aqueduct.
- Weston Aqueduct Pilot Project – In May 2012, the MWRA announced a new public access policy. Framingham was able to take advantage of the work completed for our Public Trails Report to become the first community to work with the MWRA to open up a trail segment of an aqueduct. The Weston Pilot Project, a 1.1 mile trail segment from Water Street to Elm Street was formally opened to the public in fall 2012 after a comprehensive public comment period.
- Rail Trails (Existing and Proposed) - The Massachusetts Bicycle Plan was completed in September 2008. Its website ([www.massdot.state.ma.us/GreenDOT/BikeTransportation.aspx](http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/GreenDOT/BikeTransportation.aspx)) contains maps and descriptions of all existing and proposed rail trails in the state. A few of the most pertinent are listed below.
  - The Cochituate Rail Trail (CRT) - Is a proposed multi-use trail which will extend from the Village of Saxonville in Framingham to Natick Center, a distance of 4 miles. The Framingham section of the trail is currently under development. The Town acquired the right-of-way in 2010; construction began in 2010 and is expected to be completed in 2014.
  - The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail - Begins along the unused Old Colony rail line, thirty miles from Sudbury to the junction of Routes 3 and 495 in Lowell. The railroad right-of-way, running through Sudbury, Concord, Acton, Westford, and Chelmsford, is slowly being converted into a multi-use trail. The Sudbury to Lowell trail will connect the Minuteman Commuter Bikeway Extension in Acton, the Central Mass Bikepath/Wayside Trail in Sudbury, and the Merrimac River in Lowell. Phase I from Rte 495 south to Rte 225 opened in 2011. Phase II from Rte 225 through Acton, Concord, and Sudbury, and Phase III from Sudbury to Framingham. Phase III is still early in the development process. The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail would be situated on a right-of-way currently owned by CSX. A real estate appraisal for this land has been completed.
  - The Northeast Marlborough Greenway - Starts at the proposed Wayside Rail Trail near the Hudson/Marlborough line. The greenway includes the City of Marlborough’s Desert Conservation Area and a portion of Marlborough State Forest in northeast Marlborough. The proposed greenway/trail system continues in a southwesterly direction towards the Mount Ward/Ghaloni Park area. From this area existing and proposed trails lead both southerly towards the DCR Division of Water Supply Protection’s Sudbury Reservoir, and

southeasterly towards Callahan State Park where the greenway/trail system links with the Bay Circuit Trail.

- The South Sudbury Rail Trail -- Development of a north-south rail trail along the South Sudbury Industrial Track railroad right-of-way has been envisioned. This proposed rail trail would link the proposed Weston Aqueduct Greenway in Framingham to the proposed Wayside Rail Trail. There is still some limited use of the railroad track, so trail development may not occur in the near future.
- The Southborough/Callahan South Link – People are attempting to establish a hiking trail that will provide a direct link from the Pine Hill area of Southborough to the southern portions of Callahan State Park in Framingham. The trail will start at Pine Hill Road south of Graystone Way, and run easterly parallel to a private road to be constructed as part of a recently approved subdivision in eastern Southborough along the Framingham boundary. The trail will cross Angelica Brook in Southborough, follow a utility easement, and access a 50 feet wide access easement/right of way across from Currier Drive in Framingham (between 84 and 86 Angelica Drive). From there the trail will head easterly for 0.25 mile along Currier Road to Callahan State Park where it will connect with the park's trail system.
- The Wayside Rail Trail - A proposed hiking trail that would utilize 23 miles of MBTA right-of-way from Waltham to Berlin. In the project area the rail trail cuts across Sudbury through SVT's Memorial Forest, and into the Desert Conservation Land in the most northeasterly portion of Marlborough. This rail trail is connected to several other existing and potential regional trails including the Central Mass Rail Trail, the Minuteman Commuter Bikeway, the Red Line Linear Park, the Assabet Rail Trail, and the South Sudbury Rail Trail. It would be used for the Bay Circuit trail from Sudbury to Wayland, and has significant potential as a greenway linking several protected open spaces.
- The Upper Charles Trail is a state-funded project to convert a 20-mile, abandoned rail bed in six (6) communities into a scenic, recreational path for bicycling, walking, cross-country skiing, roller-blading, and other non-motorized uses. It would come very close to the southern corner of Framingham.
- The Weston Aqueduct Greenway and Trail System -- Development of a greenway and related hiking and biking trail system using the MWRA-managed Weston Aqueduct and adjacent open space parcels is likely to occur as a follow up to the ongoing Pilot Project mentioned above. The proposed Weston Aqueduct Greenway and Trail System will provide access to Callahan State Park from eastern Framingham. The Weston Aqueduct trail(s) would connect to a series of other trails including the Saxonville Nature Trail and the Cochituate Rail Trail. The greenway/trail system would eventually connect Callahan and Cochituate State Parks. This trail system would provide residents of Natick and Wayland access to the Bay Circuit Trail.

## **H. Framingham's Regulatory and Planning Framework**

Framingham has a strong framework of laws, by-laws, regulations, and plans that govern new development and redevelopment. Some of the most pertinent to this plan are described below.

### **1. Laws, Bylaws, and Regulations**

#### **Zoning By-laws**

##### ***(Map 7: Zoning)***

Framingham's Zoning By-laws divide the Town into ten (10) zoning districts. The Town employs a pyramidal zoning structure with residential districts being the most restrictive. Generally, each successive district permits uses allowed in the former district. The Town also has four (4) overlay districts that impose supplementary requirements and offer incentives to encourage or shape development.

**Residential Districts:** Over 85 percent of the Town is zoned for residential use. The Town has established two types of residential districts: "R" Single Residence and "G" General Residence. The Single Residence District is divided into four (4) categories, (R1, R2, R3, & R4) the primary distinction being the minimum lot size required for each. Uses permitted in Single Residence Districts include single-family dwellings, home occupations, family day care homes, public buildings, farms and related uses, and non-profit uses by right. Charitable and welfare institutions, licensed establishments for the care of sick, crippled or convalescent persons, golf clubs, outdoor recreational facilities, and conversion of single-family detached dwellings in existence on March 15, 1939 to multifamily dwellings are allowed by special permit. The General Residence District allows all uses permitted in Single Residence Districts. Two family dwellings are allowed by special permit. Cluster zoning (Open Space Residential Development) is also allowed by special permit. This provision was extended to the R1 and R2 zoning districts in 2012.

**Business Districts:** Business Districts allow all uses that are permitted in General Residence Districts. In addition, this district allows a variety of retail and professional offices. Light manufacturing, commercial amusement places, gasoline stations, billboards, retail dealers of structural materials, milk depots, hotels, ice dealers, trucking terminals, restaurants, and car wash facilities require a special permit.

In May of 1996, the Town adopted changes to the Zoning By-law that created a hierarchy of Business Districts (B1, B2, B3 and B4). The intent of this effort was to encourage commercial development that is compatible with the scale and density of development in the surrounding area. The Districts range from the Neighborhood Business District (B1) that is intended to promote a scale of development that serves the immediate surrounding area to the General Business District (B4) that is designed to serve the Route 9 regional commercial center. At present, only a small portion of the Nobscot neighborhood has been rezoned from B to B2.

**Central Business District (CB):** The Central Business District promotes a live-work environment for the Downtown area of Framingham. This district works to preserve the area as the Town's financial, civic, cultural and governmental center. While allowing a multitude of activities and pedestrian presence through a walkable commercial center mixed with residential apartments and condominiums.

**Office and Professional Districts (P):** In addition to uses allowed in Single Residence

districts, the Town's "P" District allows branch banks and administrative, clerical, statistical and professional offices by special permit.

Planned Reuse District (PRD): The "PRD" District is designed to permit and encourage the appropriate reuse of land and buildings that are no longer needed or suitable for their original use, and to permit reuses that are compatible with the character of the neighborhood. The district allows all uses permissible by right or by special permit in a Single Residence District (subject to dimensional regulations applicable to R3). The regulations for this district establish a Special Reuse Permit provisions to allow multi-family or single-family residences at a greater density than normally allowed, a variety of medical and office uses, and retail establishments.

Manufacturing District: Approximately 9 percent of Framingham is zoned for manufacturing activity. The Town has established two manufacturing districts: M-1 Light Manufacturing and M General Manufacturing. The Light Manufacturing District allows any non-residential use permissible in Business Districts, laboratories, research and testing facilities, bottling works, stone or monument works, municipal plants, and a variety of light manufacturing uses. Office and commercial uses permitted in the Business District, which require the provision of 50 or more parking spaces, require a special permit. In addition to any non-residential uses permissible in Light Manufacturing Districts, the General Manufacturing District allows wholesale lumber, fuel and oil manufacturing establishments. Manufacturing of any description utilizing processes free from neighborhood disturbing odors and/or agencies are also allowed. Uses which would be offensive because noise, vibration, smoke, gas, fumes, odors, dust, or other objectionable features, or because hazardous to the community on account of fire or explosion or any other cause require a special permit.

Open Space and Recreation District: The Town's "OR" District is designed to encourage, preserve and protect land for use for recreational purposes and to conserve natural conditions, open space, wildlife and vegetation for the general welfare of the public. This district allows agricultural uses, outdoor recreational facilities, wildlife reserves, nature areas and similar conservation uses. Greenhouses, indoor non-profit recreational facilities, mixed use cultural and education centers, public driving ranges on parcels of at least 40 acres, and ancillary structures necessary to serve recreational uses. Less than two percent of the Town is in this zoning district.

Geriatric Care/Elderly Housing District: The purpose of the Town's "G-E" District is to encourage the development of a continuum of geriatric care facilities, including housing and community services for the elderly, with a design compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and internally cohesive. This district allows housing, health care facilities, and community and social services for the elderly. The district also allows greenhouses, mixed use cultural and educational centers, health clubs, outdoor recreational facilities and accessory retail uses. Health clubs and accessory retail uses must be intended for the primary use and convenience of the residents and staff of Geriatric Care/Elderly Housing Districts and elderly residents. Indoor non-profit recreational facilities require a special permit.

Technology Park District: The Town's "TP" District is intended to promote technological and light industrial development so as to enhance employment and economic viability by allowing certain land uses at a higher density, without a corresponding increase in traffic, than is otherwise permitted in other districts. New Technology Park districts must be comprised of land located in an existing Manufacturing District and must be at least 150 acres. The district allows research and development facilities, printing, delivery services,

storage and distribution facilities, business and professional offices, educational training facilities and conference centers accessory to a permitted use, and day care facilities. Non-automotive commercial uses intended for the primary use and convenience of the employees of the Technology Park District, performing arts centers, and accessory retail outlets are allowed by special permit.

Overlay Districts: The Town also has four (4) overlay districts: the Floodplain Districts, the Planned Unit Development District, and the two Highway Overlay Districts consisting of the Regional Center District and the Highway Corridor District:

Floodplain Districts: Areas of special flood hazard in the Town are shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. All proposed development in a Floodplain District requires a permit from the Building Commissioner and the Conservation Commission. In addition, any construction, enlargement, extension, or substantial improvement of a new or existing building for human habitation, normally allowed by right or special permit in a land area underlying a Floodplain District, requires a special permit. In the regulatory floodway, any development or encroachment, including fill, which would result in any increase in flood levels during the base flood is prohibited.

Planned Unit Development District (PUD): The Town's "PUD" District allows, by special permit, an alternative use and pattern of development for large tracts of land (50 acres or more) zoned for manufacturing, light manufacturing or business, by allowing single-family and multi-family clustered residential development and other uses while encouraging the conservation of significant open space in the district and providing affordable housing opportunity. One of the main purposes of the PUD district is to preserve significant areas of open space in perpetuity. However, the utility of this zoning district as a method of preserving open space is limited by the lack of manufacturing or business sites of at least 50 acres in the Town of Framingham. To date, only one PUD zone has been designated in the Northeast corner of the Town.

Highway Overlay Districts: The Town has also established two highway overlay districts: the Regional Center District ("RC") encompassing the area known as the "Golden Triangle" which is bounded by Routes 9, 30 and Speen Street; and the Highway Corridor District ("HC"), the Route 9 Corridor from the Southborough town boundary to the intersection of Routes 9 and 30. The regulations are intended to limit congestion, preserve environmental qualities, improve pedestrian and vehicular circulation, and mitigate adverse impacts resulting from increased development in a complex regional center. In addition, the regulations are also designed to increase open space and landscaping within the overlay districts. The Highway Overlay District Regulations also established consistent zoning regulations for highway corridor areas that are shared by the Towns of Framingham and Natick. Development in the RC or HC District may attain a higher density than allowed by right, in return for providing public benefit amenities.

Wetland Regulations: Wetland resource areas and buffer zones are regulated by the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and regulations and even more stringently through the Framingham's Wetlands Protection Bylaw and regulations.

Sub-Division Rules and Regulations: These rules and regulations were adopted for the purpose of protecting the safety, convenience and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Framingham, by regulating the lay-out and construction of streets and municipal services in subdivisions and ensuring the sanitary conditions in said subdivisions. Requirements related to preliminary and definitive plans are laid out. Design standards and specifications are clearly stated.

For lots thought not to require sub-division approval, three (3) standards must be met:

- (1) At least one side of the lot must be on one of three (3) types of ways;
- (2) the lot must have minimum frontage on the way; and
- (3) the Board must be able to determine the existence of adequate access to the portion of the lot where the building will be placed.

Land Disturbance By-law: As part of the Framingham Zoning By-laws, (Section H. Supplemental Regulations) this portion of the Zoning By-law is designed to protect natural resources including but not limited to land, water, wetlands, trees and vegetation, wildlife, and scenic vistas and historic resources and to prevent or minimize the negative impacts of erosion, sedimentation, clearing, earth removal and fill, earth moving and stormwater runoff both on and off of the project site. Additional protection was adopted in 2010 with provisions regulating alterations to steep slopes.

## **2. Municipal Plans and Policies**

### Master Plan

The Framingham Master Plan was adopted in 2012. This plan prescribes goals and policies as well as implementation strategies and actions for the Town's land uses. The adopted Master Plan incorporates the policies and goals of the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan by reference.

The Master Plan is a policy guide and a framework for future land use and development. It includes assessments of existing resources and issues, projections of future conditions and needs and consideration of community goals. The purpose of the master plan is to provide strategies that will enable municipal officials to better manage change based on a clear understanding of the community's desired vision.

The master plan provides information, direction and support to residents, businesses and developers as they seek to understand their impacts on land use, resources and services in Framingham.

### Water Master Plan

The Town's Water Distribution System Master Plan was published in 2008. It sets forth a master plan for renovating and upgrading the Town's water distribution system over a twenty (20)-year time frame. The Plan highlights that Framingham's water system including its pumping systems and storage capacities are both adequately sized to meet the Town's requirements for the foreseeable future. However, there are challenges the system faces, including: upgrading aging pipes; upgrading aging pump station electronics; improving mixing systems at the storage tanks; improving the security at certain locations; and moving forward with activation of the Birch Road Wells in the Saxonville Area.

### Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan:

This was a large-scale effort by the DPW in 2008 that was designed to holistically assess, rate, and prioritize needed improvements to the town's sewer system using an asset management tool, allowing the town to prioritize capital expenditures using a common measure (utility risk factor) for all of its assets (sewers, manholes, siphons, force main, pumping stations).

### Land Use Policies

The Town has adopted land use and zoning controls with particular emphasis on promoting open space and creating opportunities for landscaping and buffers to screen development and preserve critical natural resource areas. Policies from the Town's 2012 Master Plan particularly relevant to this Open Space and Recreation Plan include:

#### 1. *Preserving Agriculture, Habitat and Rural Quality Policies*

- a. Preserve the existing agricultural areas, critical habitat values, and remaining areas with value for preservation.
- b. Provide additional tax incentives for maintaining agricultural lands.
- c. Promote agricultural education (e.g., 4-H), community-supported farming, and outdoor education programs.

#### 2. *Cluster Development Policy*

- a. Encourage cluster residential development as an alternative to standard platting for residential subdivisions. Design new development in the context of the physical characteristics of the land according to the existing site resources, resource values, and existing density allowances according to zoning.
- b. Consider the use of Open Space Residential Development (OSRD) By-law or open space cluster by-law for residential development throughout the Town.
- c. Encourage alternatives to traditional subdivision platting for residential subdivisions, and expand applicability to appropriate residential districts in order to protect scarce open space and local ecology.
- d. Promote land use patterns and new investment that preserves tracts of open space land or creates new open space in urban areas for passive or active recreational opportunities.

#### 3. *Active Recreation Area Policies*

- a. Maintain and improve the current inventory of active recreational facilities and open space parcels.
- b. Promote conservation of natural resources and open space to protect water resources, wildlife habitat, horticultural, agricultural, and sylvan opportunities and passive recreational opportunities.
- c. Create new recreational facilities to fulfill unmet needs.
- d. Undertake other efforts that will support open space and recreation.
- e. Maximize use of the Town's open space and recreation areas, and determine carrying capacity of facilities matched with population and demographics.
- f. Provide open space and recreation opportunities for individuals of all ages, socioeconomic levels and physical abilities now and for future generations.

- g. Make capital improvements and improve maintenance of recreation facilities to meet demands.
- h. Acquire land for future recreation needs.
- i. Promote recreational fields or courts throughout the Town. Plan parks within close proximity to neighborhoods that allow residents to walk or bicycle to them.

### 3. Other Plans and Policies

Other plans that address open space and recreation issues in Framingham include:

- *The Greater Callahan Open Space Preservation and Greenway Plan* (October 2000) (revised 2006);
- *The Greenways Plan for the SuAsCo Watershed* (SVT, April 2000);
- *Greenprint for Growth, SuAsCo Watershed* (SVT and MAPC, August 2001);
- *Commonwealth Connections, a Greenway Vision for Massachusetts* (2002);
- *SuAsCo Action Plan*;
- *Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River Watershed Action Plan* (2005);
- *Sudbury Reservoir System Public Access Plan 2002 Update* (May 2003);
- *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan* (2006);
- *Stearns-Brackett Reservoir Nyanza Report* (2011);
- *Status Report on the Implementation of the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan* (2012);
- *Metrowest Regional Connectivity Plan* (2012); and
- *Framingham Master Plan* (2012).

### 4. Analyses

Analyses that address open space and recreation issues in Framingham include:

- *EOEA Build-Out Analysis* (2002);
- *Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Wild and Scenic Rivers: Unprotected Land Inventory*, SVT, (January 2003);
- BioMap With funding made available by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, the Natural Heritage Program developed the BioMap to identify the areas most in need of protection in order to protect the native biodiversity of the Commonwealth. BioMap focuses primarily on state-listed rare species and exemplary natural communities but also includes the full breadth of the State's biological diversity. (2013); and
- *SuAsCo Watershed 2001 Water Quality Assessment Report* (2001).

## **CHAPTER 4: Environmental Inventory and Analysis**

### **A. Landscape Character**

A community's character is often defined by its natural features. Natural features provide both active and passive recreation opportunities for a community. Framingham is laid out over the broad Sudbury River valley and gently rolling terrain. The western portion of the town is low density suburban development, rural farming land, and large tracts of park land. It is there that numerous working and pleasure farms, and large tracts of state, municipal, and private protected open space are found. It is, therefore, a patchwork of forests and fields. The eastern half of town is much more densely developed, with single-family and multi-family residential neighborhoods surrounding four (4) small commercial hubs: Downtown Framingham, Framingham Centre, Saxonville, and Nobscot. Two large transportation corridors run east-west and bisect the town. Worcester Rd. (State Route 9) is heavily commercially developed. The Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate 90) has limited access and associated development. (*Map 8: Land Use*)

### **B. Geology, Soils, and Topography**

(*Map 9: Soils, Geology, and Other Limitations to Development*)

#### **1. Geology**

In Framingham, as throughout New England, most landforms were created by glaciation. At the end of the last Ice Age (approximately 10,000 years ago), glaciers retreated. Large lakes were formed, including what is known geologically as Glacial Lake Sudbury, which extended from Framingham to Concord (about four (4) miles wide and twenty (20) miles long). This glacial lake spilled over into the Charles River at three (3) different places and times. The rivers began to cut their way through the glacial till to assume their present character with the complete retreat of the ice sheet.

Framingham is part of a broad lowland belt in Eastern Massachusetts where glacial soil deposits cover much of the bedrock. A thin veneer of till (a mixture of pebbles, cobbles, and boulders deposited by melting glaciers and embedded in a mix of sand, silt, and clay) overlays much of the bedrock and is most extensive in the hills in the western half of the Town. In the lower elevations of the western half, glacial streams deposited sandy gravel soils. Drumlins (small rounded hills formed by deposits of till) are found in various parts of the Town.

#### **2. Soils**

Most of Framingham's soil is composed of deposits left when Glacial Lake Sudbury covered the eastern part of Framingham. The landforms created by the melting glacier are gently sloping deltas or flat-lying lake-bottom deposits. The delta soils are generally coarse gravel overlying finer-textured sands. Lake bottom deposits found in the southeast corner of Framingham are made up of fine sand.

Post-glacial soil deposits include alluvium (unstratified silt, sand and gravel) and swamp deposits. Alluvium is found in the Sudbury River floodplain and is generally considered to be good for agriculture. The most common types of soils in the Sudbury River area are located in meadows consisting of muck and peat, which are associated with a high water table. The Hinckley soil types, derived from granite rocks, drain excessively and are a low crop producing soil. The Merrimac fine sandy loam is free from stones and gravel, easy to cultivate and desirable for building. Large deposits of Ondawa fine sandy loam are located along the River

from the Saxonville Dam to the aqueduct. These deposits are close to the water level and are supplied with moisture even during dry seasons. Small swamps are found in poorly drained areas in various parts of Framingham and consist of peat and muck together with some silt and sand (Hofman, Stein).

The most economically important soil resources in Framingham are sand and gravel deposits, which have been mined in the recent past from pits in the northeast corner of Town. Swamp soils are useful as soil enriching agents, but on the whole, Framingham's soils are not agriculturally productive.

### **3. Topography**

The central section of Town is fairly flat with an elevation of about 200 feet above sea level and rises to an elevation of about 400 feet in the Northwest Quadrant. This area is characterized by a combination of wetlands, steep slopes, and exposed bedrock. Throughout the remainder of the town, topographical levels range from a low of 114 feet above sea level at the surface of the Sudbury River below the Saxonville Dam, to a high of 602 feet at the top of Nobscot Hill.

### **4. Effect of geology, soils, & topography on development & recreational opportunities**

Certain land and soil types can limit development.

Bedrock outcrops are present throughout the town but several large clusters are concentrated in the northwest. Septic tanks cannot be placed on bedrock outcrops due to the inadequacy of the topsoil for proper leaching. Development in areas with outcrops would require costly sewer system connections or excavation. There are areas in Framingham that have severe limitations for development due to depth to bedrock. The soil series associated with this constraint are 7B, 7C, and 7D (Carlton-Hollis-Rock outcrops); 8C and 8D (Hollis-Rock outcrop-Carlton complex); 17C (Narragansett-Hollis-Rock outcrop complex); and 265 (Charlton-Hollis-Urban land Complex, rocky).

Steep slopes (gradients in excess of 15%) are a problem in several areas north of Edmands Road. The development costs associated with construction on steep slopes are extremely high. Necessary expenses in order to develop these slopes include grading, retaining walls, and vegetation in order to reduce run-off, erosion, lateral creep, or frost heaving. The soils that are associated with severe limitations on development due to steep slopes are: Charlton, Narragansett, Broadbrook, Canton, Paxton, Montauk, Hinckley, Quonset, and Bernardston.

Soils of low permeability, wetness and/or tendency to flooding also occur in Framingham. These soil series include the following: Scituate, Ridgebury, Whitman, Scarboro, Pootatuck, Rippowam, Saco, Swansea muck, Freetown muck, Woodbridge, Limerick, Suncook, Winooski, Wareham, Occum, Raynham, Raypol, and Birdsall.

The areas with severe limitations on development would be prime areas for acquiring for open space. The development limitations would allow for lower acquisition costs, preservation would limit costly maintenance of public services, and by their diverse nature, they would provide valuable ecological niches and recreational opportunities.

## **C. Water Resources**

### **1. Wetland Functions and Values**

Wetlands include streams, ponds, marshes, swamps, bogs, and vernal pools. These water features serve a number of vital roles in both the natural and built environments. Wetlands provide vital habitat for many different species of wildlife. They provide water for drinking and irrigation. They also absorb and retain surface waters which help maintain relatively stable groundwater levels and prevent downstream damage from flooding. They also protect water quality by filtering out pollutants and thereby reducing the contamination of streams, lakes and groundwater. They provide recreational opportunities and scenic views. Water resources also play an important regional role as communities are linked through watersheds and surface water which often cross town boundaries.

It is essential that wetlands be protected due to the vital roles they play. Any activities occurring within lake or river watersheds affect that body of water and may have implications on another community downstream. Development and other activities that damage or replace wetlands with impervious surfaces, result in increased runoff rates, reduced flood storage, and elevated peak flows. This leads to greater damage from storms, reduces wildlife habitat and plant diversity, and increases the contamination of water bodies due to reduced filtration of pollutants.

#### **Wetland Regulations**

Any activity within 100-feet of wetlands and 200-feet of perennial streams falls under the jurisdiction of the Framingham Conservation Commission under the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, sec. 40). The Framingham Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Article V, Section 18) increases the Commission's review authority to 125 feet from wetland resource areas and adds stricter protection for vernal pools.

### **2. Sudbury River System and Other Major Streams**

#### **Overview of the Sudbury River in Framingham**

Framingham is part of the Sudbury River Watershed. Approximately 7.6 miles of the Sudbury River flow through Framingham. The headwaters are in Cedar Swamp in Hopkinton and Westborough. The river flows easterly through Southborough and Ashland, entering Framingham from the southwest.

The river in Framingham passes over a series of two (2) dams. Its tributary, Stony Brook, passes over a third dam. The dams that form the Reservoirs were constructed in the late-1800s to provide Boston and the metropolitan area with a public water supply. By the mid-1900s use of the Stearns Reservoir (Reservoir No. 1) and the Brackett Reservoir (Reservoir No. 2) system was discontinued as a source of drinking water due to the construction of the Quabbin Reservoir and discovery of extensive pollution in the sediment of the Sudbury River. The thirty (30)-foot river channel broadens dramatically as it flows through two reservoirs in the southern portion of the town. The first is Brackett Reservoir (Reservoir No.2) and the second is Stearns Reservoir (Reservoir No. 1). These Reservoirs range from 200-800 feet wide. The Reservoirs are no longer designated as back-up emergency drinking water supplies. Uncontaminated Stony Brook flows through the Foss Reservoir (Reservoir No. 3); therefore, the Foss Reservoir and the upstream Sudbury Reservoir are maintained as emergency backup water supplies.

The Sudbury River regains its narrower channel as it flows northeasterly past Route 9 and the Massachusetts Turnpike. The river channel again widens considerably to a width of 700 feet in the area known as Mill Pond above the Saxonville Dam, a dam at the bend of the river in the center of Saxonville. From an elevation of 146 feet above the Saxonville dam, the river falls to 114 feet as it winds north to the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Wayland and Sudbury.

#### Wild and Scenic River Designation

In 1999, a 29-mile segment of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord (SuAsCo) was designated by Congress to be added to the National Wild and Scenic River system. Designated rivers must possess at least one "outstanding remarkable resource value." The study found that the SuAsCo segment has five (5) of these qualities: ecological, recreational, historical and/or archaeological, scenic, and literary. 14.9 miles of the Sudbury River have been designated as scenic by the National Park Service. The section of the Sudbury River so designated begins in Framingham at the Danforth Street Bridge, includes the oxbow, and continues downstream (north) through Wayland, Sudbury, and Concord. Wild and Scenic designation protects the rivers from "federally initiated, funded, or permitted actions that would harm the values for which the rivers were designated" (US Department of Interior Wild and Scenic Designation Q and A).

#### Sudbury River Tributaries

Major tributaries entering the Sudbury River in Framingham are:

- Stony Brook flows into Reservoir 3 which then flows to Reservoir 1, Stearns Reservoir;
- Eames Brook (which drains Farm Pond) flows into the Sudbury River just below the Stearns Reservoir dam at the Mount Wayte neighborhood;
- Cochituate Brook (which drains Lake Cochituate) flows into the Sudbury River below the Concord Street (Route 126) bridge;
- Dunsdell Brook flows into the Sudbury River near the Massachusetts Turnpike; and
- Baiting Brook flows into the Sudbury River just below the Reservoir outflow.

#### Other Major Streams in Framingham include:

- Hop Brook, which flows north into Sudbury and eventually into the Sudbury River; and
- Beaver Dam Brook, which flows from Waushakum Pond through southeast Framingham, into Natick, and thence into Lake Cochituate.

#### Water Quality of the Sudbury River and Major Tributaries in Framingham

The Aquatic Life Use is assessed by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as "support" status for this segment of the Sudbury River based primarily on the benthic macro invertebrate, water quality and fish community data. The use is identified with an "alert" status, however, because of slightly elevated total phosphorus concentrations. Additionally, the lower portion of this segment is identified with an "alert" status because of the mercury contamination from the Nyanza Superfund Site.

Based on Division of Water Management (DWM) data that found elevated concentrations of mercury in edible fish tissue, Mass. Department of Public Health (MDPH) issued site-specific fish consumption advisory that the general public should not consume any fish from the Sudbury River from Ashland to the confluence with the Assabet and Concord rivers, including Framingham Reservoirs #1 and 2.

DWM conducted dry weather fecal coliform and E. coli bacteria sampling at Winter Street in Framingham (Station SU04) in July and September 2001. Four (4) of ten (10) samples were elevated, during both wet and dry weather conditions. (See the end of this chapter for further discussion of water quality in Framingham.)

### 3. Ponds and Lakes

In addition to the Sudbury Reservoirs, Framingham has the following eight major ponds and lakes (Table 4-1). The five (5) listed with an asterisk and identified on Map 10 are recognized as “Great Ponds” by the state. Any pond or lake that contains more than 10 acres in its natural state is a “Great Pond” and requires public access.

<b>Pond Name</b>	<b>Ac.</b>	<b>Public Access?</b>	<b>Public Uses</b>	<b>Abutter Uses</b>
Farm Pond Big	124	Yes	Boating, fishing	n.a.
Farm Pond Little	23	No	Fishing	n.a.
Gleason Pond	12	Yes	Fishing	Boating, fishing
Lake Cochituate (North Pond)	195	Yes	Boating, swimming, fishing	n.a.
Learned Pond	34	Yes	Swimming	Boating
Mohawk Pond	2	Yes	Fishing	n.a.
Norton Pond	5	Yes	Fishing	Boating, fishing
Sucker Pond	6	No	none	none
Waushakum Pond	82	Yes	Boating, swimming, fishing	Boating, swimming, fishing

Farm Pond (Big and Little)\* together are recognized by the State as a Great Pond. They are located in the south side of Town, paralleling Dudley Road and Franklin Street. Farm Pond is divided by a dike that carried a MWRA (Massachusetts Water Resources Authority) aqueduct. Big and Little Farm Ponds are approximately 124 and 23 acres respectively. They were once used to supply the Town's drinking water. Both water bodies are fed by numerous storm drains as well as groundwater recharge and surface water runoff. The only outlet is Eames Brook, located in the northern end of Big Farm Pond. Eames Brook drains directly into the Sudbury River. A town-owned park is located on the eastern shoreline and provides boat and fishing access to the pond.

Gleason Pond\* is approximately 12 acres and is located at the intersection of Concord Street and Prindiville Avenue. It is recognized by the State as a Great Pond. The shoreline has moderate development, consisting of single family homes along the northern, western, and southern shoreline.

Lake Cochituate\* is a 614-acre lake divided into three (3) major basins or ponds, which are connected by navigable culverts. It is recognized by the State as a Great Pond. The 195-acre North Basin is the only basin partially within the town of Framingham and on the Wayland border. It has a maximum depth of 69 feet (in Wayland) with transparency of five (5) to seven (7) feet. The bottom is predominantly muck, but there are considerable areas of sand in the shallows at the southern end. Aquatic vegetation is common in the shadows. Lake Cochituate was a reservoir which supplied water via a 14-mile (23 km) aqueduct to the City of Boston from 1848 until 1951 when it was replaced by the Wachusett and Quabbin Reservoirs. Lake Cochituate was the first major water supply system for the city.

Learned Pond\* is 34 acres with a maximum depth of 13 feet. It is recognized by the State as a Great Pond. It is located in a semi-urban area between Union Ave and Warren Road. The pond receives stormwater runoff from most of the surrounding streets. There are no natural inlets or outlets. The town beach is located on the eastern shore.

Mohawk Pond, located south of Mohawk Drive, is roughly 2 acres with an estimated depth of 4 feet. Most of the pond is bordered by wetlands and woods with a single house along the northern edge. The pond is fed by a small unnamed stream that drains a wetland in Callahan State Park. The only outlet is a concrete weir on the south side of the pond which empties into a tributary to Hop Brook.

Norton Pond is a small 5 acre pond, located in the northern portion of Framingham. It is surrounded on 3 sides by single family homes and stormwater runoff comes into the pond from the north. Water from the ponds southeastern outlet creates Norton Pond Brook, which flows downhill and enters the Sudbury River.

Sucker Pond is a small 6 acre pond (made of two separate basins), located in central Framingham. There is development around much of the pond, but the shoreline is well buffered by woodland.

Waushakum Pond\* is an 82-acre, irregularly shaped glacial kettle pond on the border of Framingham and Ashland. It is recognized by the State as a Great Pond. The major part of Waushakum Pond is in Framingham but 80% of its drainage area is in Ashland. The pond has an unnamed inlet stream in its southeast corner. Its outlet is on the northeastern shore next to Hollis St. This outlet feeds a tributary of Beaver Dam Brook.

#### **4. Vegetated Wetlands**

##### Wooded wetlands and marshes

Most of the vegetated wetlands in Framingham are swamps dominated by woody vegetation. Some border on waterways, some are isolated. See Section D below for more details.

##### Floodplains

Along the Sudbury River and many of the major tributaries are areas that are periodically inundated, known as floodplains. These areas may be vegetated with woody vegetation or only herbaceous vegetation. They provide flood storage capacity and unique habitat functions.

##### Vernal Pools

Most of Framingham's vernal pools are in depressions created by glacial action that took place thousands of years ago. Other pools occur as the result of more recent events, such as stream channel migration and changes to the forested landscape due to human influences in the past (Colburn, 2004). Vernal pools provide unique habitat for a variety of forest and wetland organisms, some of which depend on this habitat for their survival. The absence of fish within these pools is essential, as the breeding strategies of many amphibian species have evolved to the point of total reliance of these depressional wetlands (Colburn, 1997).

Seventeen vernal pools have been certified in Framingham though many others are known to exist. In fact, there are over 100 potential vernal pools in Framingham according to the Massachusetts Aerial Photo Survey of Potential Vernal Pools (Spring 2001, Mass. Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program). Vernal Pool certification through the State requires evidence that a vernal pool exists physically and that it contains the biological indicators that define it as a vernal pool. The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program has established specific criteria for certification of a vernal pool including: (1) land

area that has a confined basin depression, (2) holds water for a minimum of two continuous months during spring and/or summer for most years, (3) be free of adult fish populations or dry up sometime during the year; and (4) provide essential breeding habitat for certain amphibians and/or food, shelter, migrating, and breeding habitat of other wildlife.

## **5. Aquifer Recharge Areas**

An aquifer is a geologic formation that can easily yield a significant amount of groundwater. As water is withdrawn from an aquifer, it is replenished by water that is carried from the surface through permeable materials. The aquifer's "recharge area" is an area on the surface of the land below which groundwater moves to replenish the aquifer. These areas must be protected from actions that might reduce the downward flow of water or contaminate groundwater supplies. Although they are not currently in use, there are public water supply well-heads in Framingham.

## **6. Water-Based Recreation and Access**

The Sudbury River, lakes, and ponds in Framingham provide opportunities for canoeing, power-boating, sailing, fishing, swimming, skating and other water-based activities. The Park and Recreation Department manages three (3) town beaches at Waushakum Pond, Learned Pond, and Lake Cochituate. There is a public boat launch at the north end of Farm Pond for non-powered boats and the canoe landings noted in Chapter 3, G.3. A public access canoe launch is available at the end of Little Farms Road. Lake Cochituate is the only nearby water body suitable for power boating. Currently, boating and shore fishing are not specifically allowed on any of the three (3) MWRA Reservoirs in Framingham but people fish in the Reservoirs from the Fountain Street Bridge, Winter Street Dam, and areas near Route 9/ Mass. Pike.

## **D. Common and Rare Habitats: Vegetation and Associated Wildlife**

### **1. Natural Communities**

Though Framingham consists of over 26 Natural Communities as described in the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program's 'Classification of the Natural Communities of Massachusetts', only the 8 most widespread natural communities are described below. Examples of Conservation Land with trails that allow visitors to observe these community types are included in each section.

#### **White Pine – Oak Forest**

Typically found on dry, moraine or till soils, this is the largest natural community in Framingham and is expressed in wide distribution throughout Town. Often times the community has transitioned from a successional White Pine community and grades into mixed oak forests. Trails along Wittenborg Woods provide visitors with an opportunity to explore this community type. The canopy is dominated by white pine (*Pinus strobus*) and oak species (*Quercus rubra*, *Q. velutina*, and *Q. alba*), with regular but low occurrences of pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), white birch (*Betula papyrifera*) and black birch (*B. lenta*). Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) is frequently present as a shrubby tree. The pine-oak communities in Framingham typically display a prominent shrub layer of lowbush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*) and huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*), and have a sparse herb layer of bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), wild sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*), Canada

mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*), wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*), partridge-berry (*Mitchella repens*) and pink lady's slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*).

Associated wildlife includes white footed mice (*Peromyscus leucopus*), gray squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*) short-tailed shrew (*Blarina brevicauda*), redbacked vole (*Clethrionomys gapperi*), and chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*). Birds that nest in white pine -oak forests include Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*), Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*), Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*), Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*), Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*), and Red-tailed Hawks (*Buteo lineatus*). In most cases these communities have interspersed woodland vernal pools.

#### Successional White Pine Forest

Often times these communities are found where old fields have been left to grow in or along the transitional edge between woodlands and fields. While this edge habitat is valuable to the Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*), Yellow Warbler (*D. dominica*), Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*), and Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*), it is particularly susceptible to the encroachment of non-native species such as buckthorn (*Rhamnus frangula*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*) and Asian bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculata*) and must be actively managed. Examples of this community type can be found near the fields of Mohawk Pond Natural Area.

#### Oak-Hemlock-White Pine Forest

This community is common on midslopes on rocky, shallow well-drained soils, with few nutrients. Examples of this community type can be found at Macomber Woods. It is often interspersed with the white pine-oak and mixed oak communities.

Associated plant species include: Oaks (*Quercus alba*, *Q. prinus*, *Q. rubra*), black birch (*Betula lenta*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) and white pine (*Pinus strobus*) and Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*). Relative proportions of the species vary greatly among sites. Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) sprouts are common and the shrub layer is patchy and sparse, with witch-hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), lowbush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), and maple-leaved viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*). The herbaceous layer also tends to be sparse and with wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*), wild sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*), wild oats (*Uvularia sessilifolia*), star flower (*Trientalis borealis*), and Canada Mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*).

Associated wildlife include a large suite of neotropical migrant birds including warblers, Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*), and the Great Crested Flycatcher (*Miarchus crinitus*). Common small mammals include masked shrew (*S. cinereus*), short-tailed shrew (*Blarina brevicauda*), woodland jumping mouse (*Napaeozapus insignis*), white-footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus*) and gray squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*), chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*) and red squirrels (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*). Amphibians include the ubiquitous Northern Redback Salamanders (*Plethodon cinereus*).

#### Oak-Hickory Forest

Several of Framingham's conservation areas have woods that are dominated by a mixture of oak and hickory. Located along SVT's Henry's Hill and the Nobscot Boy Scout property, these areas are well drained, upper slopes, with west and south-facing aspects. The canopy is dominated by one or several oaks (*Quercus rubra*, *Q. alba*, and *Q. velutina*) with hickories (*Carya ovata*, *C. tomentosa*, *C. glabra*, and *C. ovalis*) mixed in at lower densities. Other trees include white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), black birch (*Betula lenta*), sassafras (*Sassafras*

*albidum*) and red maple (*Acer rubrum*). The sub canopy commonly includes hop hornbeam (*Ostrya americana*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), shadbush (*Amelanchier arborea*), chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) and witch-hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) and the diverse shrub layer includes maple-leaved viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*), blueberries (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), beaked and American hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta* and *C. americana*) and gray dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*). The herbaceous layer is also richer than in many oak forests and includes Hepatica (*Hepatica nobilis*), goldenrod (*Solidago bicolor*), wild sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*), rattlesnake weed (*Hieracium venosum*), false Solomon's seal (*Maianthemum racemosum*) and Pennsylvania sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*).

The oak-hickory community is highly valuable to wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) and supports a mix of animal species including short-tailed shrew (*Blarina brevicauda*), red-backed vole (*Clethrionomys gapperi*), white footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus*) and chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*). Birds that nest in these forests include Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*), Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*), Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) and Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*).

### Cultural Grassland

Cultural grasslands are created by humans and are typically maintained by an annual mowing. Framingham has few areas of cultural grassland. These areas have historically been open and are not suitable for farming because of their dry, rocky and sandy, low-nutrient soils. An example of cultural grassland exists at Callahan State Park and Henry's Hill. Grasslands are dominated by graminoids including little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), Pennsylvania sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*) and poverty grass (*Danthonia spicata*) and typically include some mix of herbaceous species, such as goldenrods (*Solidago* and *Euthamia* spp.) and milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.).

Invasive exotic plants, especially cool season grasses that form mats are a particular threat to this community and include sheep fescue (*Festuca ovina*), sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odorata*), velvet-grass (*Holcus lanatus*), bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), timothy (*Phleum pratense*) and others. European buckthorn also poses a significant threat to the cultural grasslands in Framingham.

### Red Maple Swamp

Many of Framingham's wetlands are red maple swamps. The trail at Cedar Swamp off Mellon Street skirts the edge of this community type. These areas are characterized by acidic soils that are seasonally flooded by groundwater seepage or surface water flow. Red maple is the dominant canopy tree, but may associate with yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), white pine (*Pinus strobus*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) and swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*). The shrub layer is often dense and well-developed with sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*), swamp azalea (*Rhododendron viscosum*), highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), northern arrow-wood (*Viburnum dentatum*), speckled alder (*Alnus incana*) and nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*). The herbaceous layer is variable, but cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*) and wood fern (*Dryopteris carthusiana*) are often common. Herbaceous species include skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*), false hellebore (*Veratrum viride*), spotted touch-me-not (*Impatiens capensis*), swamp dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*), marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) and the bugleweeds (*Lycopus* spp.).

Red maple swamps provide habitat for song sparrows (*Melospiza melodia*), northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), red-eyed vireos, and black-throated green warblers. Mammals that commonly utilize these habitats include beavers, raccoons (*Procyon lotor*), mink (*Mustela vison*) and deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*).

Vernal pools in these habitats provide important amphibian breeding and red maple swamps contain several rare plants and animals. The Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Framingham Wetlands Protection Bylaw limit common threats to these critical resource areas.

### Deep Emergent Marsh

Framingham has areas of deep emergent marsh along the Sudbury River and adjacent to both its natural and man-made ponds and low-grade streams. Deep emergent marshes form in broad, flat areas where there are saturated, mucky mineral soils that are seasonally inundated and permanently saturated. There is typically a layer of well-decomposed organic muck at the surface and standing or running water covers the area during much of the year. Deep emergent marshes are dominated by tall graminoids, like cat-tail (*Typha latifolia*) and wool-grass (*Scirpus cyperinus*), along with tussock-sedge (*Carex stricta*), beggar-ticks (*Bidens* spp.), marsh-fern (*Thelypteris palustris*) and slender-leaved goldenrod (*Euthamia tenuifolia*). These marshes often transition into shallow emergent marshes, wet meadows and shrub swamps.

These wetland communities provide critical waterfowl habitat and are home to leopard, pickerel, green and bull frogs and red-spotted newts. Wood frogs use areas that are fish free and many rare plants and animals are associated with these communities. Bird species commonly found in marshes include common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*), tree swallow, swamp sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*), common grackle (*Quiscalus quicula*) and red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*). While the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Wetlands Protection Bylaw limit common threats to these critical resource areas they remain threatened by nutrient loading from adjacent lawns, roads and septic systems and the abundance of purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and phragmites (*Phragmites australis*).

### Woodland Vernal Pool

As mentioned in the water resources section, Framingham's rolling topography makes for great vernal pool habitat. An estimated 100 vernal pools are thought to exist in town. Visitors can observe this habitat at SVT's Cowwassock Wood off Salem End Road and Macomber Woods on Badger Road. These small, shallow depressions often have hydric soils, are temporarily flooded and provide important breeding habitat for wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*), spotted turtles and two (2) local species of mole salamanders (*Ambystoma* spp.). Vernal pools also support a diverse invertebrate fauna, including fairy shrimp (*Eubbranchipus* spp.) which complete their entire life cycle in vernal pools. Woodland vernal pools often have little or no vegetation, but they are ringed by upland trees or shrubs, such as sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*).

## **2. Public Shade Trees**

Framingham was designated a Tree City USA community 22 years ago by meeting four standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation. The Town strictly follows the statutes outlined in Massachusetts General Law Chapter 87: Public Shade Trees and has a designated Tree Warden to help abide by these regulations and maintain the community's current public shade tree inventory.

The Town is pursuing the possibility of conducting a Complete Shade Tree Inventory, documenting trees town-wide located within the roadway right-of-way. With this inventory and associated Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data, the Town can analyze the tree canopy percentage and benefits. According to 2005 land use data through the Massachusetts Office of Geographic Information (MassGIS), there are 5,018 acres of area where coniferous and deciduous tree canopy covers at least 50% of the land in Framingham.

In honor of Arbor Day 2014, the Town planted approximately 30 trees with a 4-5 inch diameter along Edgell Road in Framingham's Historic Centre with assistance from regional volunteers. These trees not only create a more welcoming visual corridor along Edgell Road, it also helps in reducing stormwater runoff, decreasing urban heat effects, cleaning the air by removing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and further providing habitat for wildlife among other benefits.

### 3. Framingham’s Exemplary Habitats

#### Core and Supporting Habitats

In 2011, the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) published ‘*BioMap2: Guiding Land Conservation for Biodiversity in Massachusetts*’, which identified:

- Core Habitats: most viable habitat for rare plants, rare animals, and natural communities, and
- Critical Natural Landscapes: buffer areas around Core Habitats, large undeveloped patches of vegetation, and undeveloped watersheds.

The Biomap2 report for Framingham was issued in 2012. Framingham has seven (7) areas of Core Habitat including three (3) wetland and four (4) aquatic core habitats. The town also contains nine (9) areas of Critical Natural Landscape, including one (1) landscape block, three (3) wetland core buffers and four (4) aquatic core buffers. More information on BioMap2 is included in Section F: Scenic Resources and Unique Environments.

#### Priority Habitats (All Rare Plants and Animals)

According to NHESP, Framingham has three (3) areas of Priority Habitat of Rare Species. Priority Habitat is the known geographical extent of habitat for all state-listed rare species, both plants and animals, and is codified under MESA.

#### Estimated Habitat (Rare Wetlands Wildlife)

Framingham also has three (3) areas of Estimated Habitat of Rare Wildlife. Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program has developed town maps of Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife. These maps show habitat that is based on documented occurrences of rare wetlands wildlife within the last twenty-five (25) years. Section E. discusses further rare wildlife.

### 4. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants

Eight (8) species of vascular plants found or once found in Framingham are listed with the Mass. Wildlife, Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program in May 2013 as Endangered (E), Threatened (T), or of Special Concern (SC) under MESA (the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act) and/or the Federal endangered species list (Table 4-2). It is interesting to note however, that several of these species have not been observed since the 1800s.

<b>Taxonomic Group</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>MESA Status</b>	<b>Most Recent Observation</b>
Vascular Plant	<i>Sparganium natans</i>	Small Bur-reed	E	1890
Vascular Plant	<i>Dichanthelium dichotomum ssp. mattamuskeetense</i>	Mattamuskeet Panic-grass	E	1892
Vascular Plant	<i>Aristida purpurascens</i>	Purple Needlegrass	T	1911
Vascular Plant	<i>Lipocarpa micrantha</i>	Dwarf Bulrush	T	1911
Vascular Plant	<i>Cyperus engelmannii</i>	Engelmann's Umbrella-sedge	T	2001

Vascular Plant	<i>Nabalus serpentarius</i>	Lion's Foot	E	1909
Vascular Plant	<i>Asclepias purpurascens</i>	Purple Milkweed	E	1885
Vascular Plant	<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	American Bittersweet	T	1912

## 5. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

There are no Areas of Critical Environmental Concern designated or proposed within the town. The Secretary of Environmental Affairs may designate Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) for natural areas of regional or statewide significance. The designation requires that all new developments within the ACEC be reviewed under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA, an interdisciplinary program which examines environmental impacts of major new developments). No proposed uses or developments are allowed in an ACEC that might environmentally degrade the area.

## 6. Threats to Framingham's Natural Communities (See section G)

### E. Wildlife and Fisheries

The size and relative location of natural community types present as well as the nature of the surrounding landscape largely determines the distribution and abundance of wildlife species (DeGraaf, 2005). Framingham's diverse assemblage of natural communities of ponds, marshes, forests, and fields allows for a great assemblage of wildlife. However, in order to evaluate wildlife abundance and diversity in Framingham, one needs to look beyond town boundaries. Much of Framingham's protected open space found along its border abuts conservation land located in surrounding towns. Examples of this include: Nobscot Boy Scout Reservation (located partially in Sudbury), Callahan State Park (located partially in Marlboro), Wittenborg Woods (which abuts Sudbury Conservation Land to the north) and Cowassock Woods (which abuts Ashland Town Forest to the south). Several wetland and riverine systems also cross town boundaries including Sudbury River, Beaver Dam Brook, and Stony Brook. These linkages create wildlife corridors and larger patches of protected open space which in turn allows a greater variety of wildlife present.

### 1. Inventory of Wildlife and Fisheries

Framingham's wildlife diversity and abundance has been measured using a number of methodologies. These include Biodiversity Day tallies, Christmas Bird Counts, Breeding Bird Counts, and previous studies and reports that are listed as referenced in Chapter 11.

#### Mammals

Many mammal species have adapted to coexist with humans and have increased in abundance over the last 15 years. Once rare in Framingham, Fishers are now quite common. Beaver are well established in Town, particularly along the Sudbury River, Beaver Dam Brook, and Sucker Pond. The abundance of deer in Framingham is evident by the number of reported deer/car collisions, transmission of Lyme's disease and over browsing of shrub and groundcover vegetation. Raccoons, squirrels, cottontail rabbits, woodchucks, and Opossum inhabit the wooded land, especially in the northern section of Saxonville.

## Birds

Bird populations have been variable. More people feed birds by putting up outdoor feeders and planting landscaping that attracts birds. This seems to enable southern birds, such as Carolina Wrens, to survive in the area year round. But large flocks of northern birds, such as evening grosbeaks, pine grosbeaks, and purple finches are diminishing. Still rebounding from the 1972 ban on DDT, bald eagles are reported occasionally around the Sudbury Reservoirs and Cooper's hawks are often seen. After a number of attempts by the state to reintroduce the wild turkey, they are now common, sometimes observed in flocks of 20-40 birds. Turkey vultures uncommon in Framingham 20+ years ago are observed regularly during warm weather. Flocks of bluebirds have been reestablished, thanks in part to many residents and organizations (such as Sudbury Valley Trustees) erecting and monitoring bluebird houses in fields. Not only is the red-bellied woodpecker increasing but also the pileated woodpecker. Mute swans, an introduced species from Europe, are becoming regulars in the vicinity of Farm Pond and the reservoirs. The oxbow of the Sudbury River in Saxonville serves as a refuge for many water birds since it is too shallow and weed-grown to permit boating for most of the breeding season (US Department of Interior).

Birds whose numbers have declined in recent years include indigo buntings, barn swallows (*Hirundo rustica*), wood ducks (*Aix sponsa*), eastern towhees, many species of warblers, chimney swifts, ruffed grouse, and pheasants.

## Reptiles/Amphibians

There appears to be a general downward population trend for many of Massachusetts Reptile and Amphibians. Framingham has identified five (5) vernal pools where rare amphibian species exist. Conservation staff and residents routinely assist the spotted salamanders, wood frogs, and spring peepers as they cross Hemenway Road in their quest to reach their ancestral vernal pools.

## Fish

Framingham water bodies are home to a variety of fish species including Chain Pickerel, Sunfish (*Enneacanthus obesus*), Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), Redfin Pickerel (*Esox americanus*), and Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*) among many others. The most diverse fish populations are in the Sudbury River, the MWRA Reservoirs, Lake Cochituate, and Waushakum Pond (Keller). Though, fish caught in the Sudbury River are not recommended for eating due to high mercury content.

## 2. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Wildlife

The following animals were listed with the Mass. Wildlife, Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program in May 2013 as Endangered (E), Threatened (T), or of Special Concern (SC) under MESA (the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act) and/or the Federal endangered species list (Table 4-3).

<b>Taxonomic Group</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>MESA Status</b>	<b>Most Recent Observation</b>
Amphibian	<i>Ambystoma laterale</i>	Blue-spotted Salamander	SC	2010
Amphibian	<i>Terrapene carolina</i>	Eastern Box Turtle	SC	2001
Amphibian	<i>Scaphiopus holbrookii</i>	Eastern Spadefoot	T	Historic
Beetle	<i>Cicindela duodecimguttata</i>	Twelve-spotted Tiger Beetle	SC	1907
Beetle	<i>Cicindela rufiventris hentzii</i>	Eastern Redbelly Tiger Beetle	T	1908
Beetle	<i>Cicindela purpurea</i>	Cow Path Tiger Beetle	SC	1928
Bird	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	Golden-winged Warbler	E	1982
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Apodrepanulatrix liberaria</i>	New Jersey Tea Inchworm	E	Historic
Butterfly/Moth	<i>Metarranthis apiciaria</i>	Barrens Metarranthis Moth	E	Historic
Fish	<i>Notropis bifrenatus</i>	Bridle Shiner	SC	1962
Mussel	<i>Ligumia nasuta</i>	Eastern Pondmussel	SC	1911

## 3. Important Bird Areas

An Important Bird Area (IBA) is a site providing essential habitat to one or more species of breeding, wintering, and/or migrating birds. The IBA program is a national program that utilizes conservation partnerships to identify and monitor places that are critical to birds during some part of their life cycle, in order to minimize the effects of habitat loss and degradation on bird populations. These sites contain vulnerable, threatened or endangered species, endemic species, species representative of a biome, or concentrations of seabirds, waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds, waders, or migratory land birds. Massachusetts Audubon Society has identified two (2) IBA's in Framingham: (Sudbury & Foss Reservoirs and Sudbury/Concord River Valley).

## 4. Wildlife Corridors

Framingham's most expansive wildlife corridor follows the Sudbury River throughout the Town. The Sudbury River is a warm water fishery and supports such species as catfish, Bluegill and Pumpkinseeds, Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Perch and Pickerel. It also supports introduced species such as carp. The Sudbury River corridor also supports several species of turtle and frog, but protection of adjacent riparian areas and upland is critical to maintain diversity along the Sudbury River corridor. The Sudbury River also supports a number of confirmed mammal species including river otter, muskrat, beaver, and mink and the corridor, and associated upland open spaces support coyote, deer, fox, fisher and numerous

small mammals such as voles, moles, mice, etc. These species then support the presence of several raptor species such as hawk and owls, while osprey and even eagle, which rely primarily on fish as food sources also inhabit the Sudbury River Corridor.

According to the SuAsCo Biodiversity Plan (2000), Nobscot Hill, Baiting Brook, Great Meadows, and Pod Meadow in Framingham are important areas of habitat for biodiversity. The shrub and cultivated field habitats of Baiting Brook are home to a diverse group of species. Bird species such as blue-winged warblers, brown thrashers, and mockingbirds thrive here. Field edges and utility right-of-ways are other examples of shrub habitat, which are characterized by a dense mixture of young trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers. Nobscot Mountain is one of the few homes available to porcupines in the SuAsCo Watershed as they prefer hemlock stands with rock outcrops. Grassland bird species are present in Callahan State Park, which are declining as they need large tracts of land typical of agricultural areas. Abandoned field habitat is declining along the River corridor as successional growth overtakes the field and meadow habitat. This type of habitat often requires management to maintain and more open space must be preserved along the Sudbury River Corridor in order to sustain wildlife corridors and biodiversity of the species and habitats.

The Hultman, Sudbury, and Weston Aqueducts traverse the Town from east to west. These grassy-topped, naturalized areas are prime examples of continuous, linear wildlife corridors. As sections of the aqueducts are open for low impact walking trails to the public, they will continue to serve their wildlife corridor functions allowing the passage of critters and other larger animals. Other continuous, linear corridors such as existing bike and pedestrian trails and railroad right-of-ways also serve as wildlife corridors. There are numerous examples of open space parcels that abut these trail corridors and provide nesting and hunting habitats to support the various species that may use these wildlife corridors. However, some of these open space parcels are not protected through outright ownership or by conservation restriction and the threat of development always looms. The Town is proactive in land protection and conservation efforts and actively pursues land acquisition to support biodiversity habitats/open space areas. Additionally, combinations of state and Town owned conservation lands including Sudbury Valley Trustees owned lands in the northwest quadrant of Town are sufficient for wildlife corridors.

## **F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments**

Historic and cultural resources are aspects of the environment that reflect the activities and human contributions of an area. These resources give communities their character, sense of time and place, and contribute to the quality of life in an area. They include historic buildings and structures, scenic roads and landscapes, important institutions and landmarks, streetscapes, geologic features, and other elements. The river is a historical resource as it was important in Indian and Colonial settlements and to the historic evolution of the town. It also provides natural open space for recreation today. Unusual and unique bedrock outcroppings at the Nobscot Scout Reservation along Edgell Road, and gneiss and granite rock layers apparent in the northwest quadrant of Town also contribute to the history and landscape character of Framingham. All these elements, in conjunction with the other natural features, define a community's unique or special character. (***Map 6: Unique Cultural Features***).

Framingham benefits from the existence of privately owned resources as well as the Town-owned conservation and recreation areas. The value attributed to scenic landscapes is based on values that most people consider to be intrinsic with their own well-being. These include clean air and water, open space, solitude, and harmony between man and nature.

## 1. Scenic Resources

### State Scenic Landscape Designation

As part of a statewide preservation effort, the Department of Environmental Management (now the Department of Conservation and Recreation) conducted a survey in 1983 to assess the Commonwealth's scenic landscape inventory. The inventory uses three (3) classes of scenic quality: "distinctive", "noteworthy", and "common." Distinctive landscapes include areas of the highest visual quality and include only about 4% of the Commonwealth. "Noteworthy" landscapes consist of somewhat less significant, although still important, visual quality and are limited to only 5% of the Commonwealth. The "common" landscapes, comprising 91% of the Commonwealth's landscape, contain smaller sections of scenic quality but do not have the consistently high levels found in distinctive and noteworthy areas.

DEM's 1983 survey indicates that much of northwest Framingham is designated as "Distinctive" or "Noteworthy" (MDC Public Access Plan). This area is dominated by farms, horse fields, wooded hills, and stream corridors.

### Additional Scenic Areas

The expanses of state park land, municipal conservation land, and private open space and agricultural land in the northwest of Framingham, and the expanse of reservoirs, free flowing river, and open space in the southwest of Framingham, are all true treasures.

### Scenic River Views

Scenic areas along the Sudbury River were identified during field investigations for the report entitled The Sudbury River-A Community Resource: Opportunities and Strategies. The report lists 18 vantage points for visual access to scenic locations and interesting river views from land. The river is most scenic by the Fenwick Street Dam, near the Massachusetts Turnpike; near the Wickford Road Bridge; in the wide areas of the river before the Saxonville Dam; and around the Oxbow near the town line (Margolis, Fairbairn).

### Scenic Roads

The roads listed in Table 4-4 below are designated as "scenic roads" by the Framingham Planning Board. In general, the roads represent the town's historic and rural qualities. Any repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving work along scenic roads which involves the cutting or removal of trees, or the destruction of a portion of a stone wall requires the approval of the Planning Board. The Framingham Planning Board shall conduct a study to determine if any roadways within the Town not currently classified as a scenic road should be designated as a scenic road.

Auburn Street	In its entirety
Auburn Street Ext.	In its entirety
Barber Road	In its entirety
Belknap Road	From Pleasant Street to a point 300 feet West of Grove Street and from a point about 850 feet East of Grove

	Street to Edgell Road
Bethany Road	Winthrop Street to Ashland town line
Central Street	From Edgell Road to Concord Street
Dennison Avenue	In its entirety
Edgell Road	In its entirety
Edmands Road	In its entirety
Fenwick Street	In its entirety
Grove Street	In its entirety
Hemenway Road	In its entirety
Kellogg Street	In its entirety
Lake Road	In its entirety
Lakeview Road	In its entirety
Main Street	In its entirety
Mansfield Street	In its entirety
Maple Street	In its entirety
Merchant Road	In its entirety
Mill Street	In its entirety
Millwood Street	In its entirety
Nixon Road	In its entirety
Parker Road	In its entirety
Parmenter Road	In its entirety
Pond Street	In its entirety
Prindiville Avenue	In its entirety
Prospect Street	In its entirety
Salem End Road	Winter Street to Ashland Line
Singletery Lane	In its entirety
State Street	In its entirety
Warren Road	In its entirety
Wayside Inn Road	In its entirety
Winch Street	In its entirety
Winter Street	Salem End Road to Fountain Street

Recommendations for Scenic Roads: Review all roadways in Framingham to determine if additional roads or streets shall be included in a revised list of Scenic Roads.

## 2. Archaeological Resources

Native Americans of the Red Paint tribe are considered to be the first settlers of the Sudbury River area. Their appearance as hunters and fishermen can be dated as early as 2000 BC. At least three (3) distinctive Indian settlements have been discovered along the river: the Mt. Wayte area, the falls southeast of Saxonville, and the vicinity near Lake Cochituate (Hofman, Stein).

The significance of these sites represents prehistoric settlement patterns that developed within the Sudbury Watershed areas. Areas of concentrated prehistoric activity exist at the confluence of the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord riverways (MDC Public Access Plan).

## 3. Historic Resources

Framingham has numerous entries in historic listings shown in Table 4-5 below.

<b>Listings</b>	<b>Number of Entries</b>
National Historic District	4
National Historic Individual Thematic Resource Areas	4
National Historic Thematic Resource Area Districts	3
State Register of Historic Places	21
Framingham Local Historic District	2
Framingham Local Historic District (LHD) properties	72
Framingham Historical Commission (FHC) marker	103
Framingham Historical Society (FHS) listing	39
Properties with preservation restrictions	2
Historic American Building Survey (HABS)	9

Framingham’s current Cultural Resource Inventory was completed in 1998 and updated in 2001. Its principal purpose was to provide the Town and the Massachusetts Historic Commission (MHC) with a list of resources which should have their architectural and/or historical value considered before any work is done by Federal, State or Town agencies which might harm those values. The inventory was uneven in quality and coverage, surveying some areas well, and others poorly. The inventory can be found in the 2002 Historical Preservation Plan.

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the American cultural resources worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. These resources contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the nation. The National Register program provides federal, state, and local governments and the general public with: (1) National recognition of the value of historic properties individually and collectively to the nation; (2) Eligibility for federal tax incentives and other preservation assistance; and (3) Assistance in cultural resource planning. Listing a resource is not simply honorary, but also offers protection from federally funded projects that would negatively affect it, and makes properties eligible for some grants and important tax incentives.

Framingham has four (4) historic districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places. They are areas of historic or architectural significance. Each of the districts contains buildings that are among the almost 600 buildings listed in the Mass Cultural Resource Information System inventory for the Town of Framingham. Framingham also has seven (7) thematic resource areas listed on the National Register shown in Table 4-6 below.

Historic Districts	Year Listed
Irving Square District (Irving and Hollis Streets)	1981
Concord Square District (Concord and Park Streets)	1983
Framingham Centre Historic District (Common)	1990
Saxonville Historic District (Center and Elm Streets)	1992
Individual Thematic Resource Areas (related to water supply systems)	
Framingham Reservoir #1 Dam and Gatehouse (Off Winter Street)	1990
Framingham Reservoir #2 Dam and Gatehouse (Off Winter Street)	1990
Framingham Reservoir #3 Dam and Gatehouse (Off Worcester Road)	1990
Lake Cochituate Dam (NW side Lake Cochituate)	1990
Thematic Resource Area Districts (related to water supply systems that involve several towns)	
Weston Aqueduct Linear District	1990
Sudbury Dam District	1990
Sudbury Aqueduct Linear District	1990

State Register of Historic Places

Framingham has 21 historic sites or areas listed in the State Register of Historic Places. The unique listings are found in Table 4-7 below.

Area of Fram.	Historic Site or Area
Fram. Centre	Framingham State University campus
Downtown Fram.	Framingham Army National Guard Armory Complex
Saxonville	Saxonville Mill Complex
South Fram.	Dennison Manufacturing Company complex
South Fram.	South Framingham Common
South Fram.	South Framingham Freight Office
South Fram.	Mass. Correctional Institution, Framingham
South Fram.	Gossamer Rubber Clothing Company
South Fram.	Mount Wayte area
South Fram.	Upper Singletary Lane area
South Fram.	Fountain Street Industrial Area
Southwest Fram.	United Church of Christ Conference Center
Southwest Fram.	Framingham Reservoirs
Northwest Fram.	Windswept Farm, Grove Street
Northeast Fram.	Garden in the Woods, Hemenway Road

Local Historic Districts

Framingham has 2 Local Historic Districts listed in Table 4-8 below.

Table 4-8. Local Historic Districts	
Area of Fram.	Historic Site or Area
Fram. Centre	Framingham Centre Local Historic District
Fram. Centre	Jonathan Maynard Historic District

### Historic Village Centers

The preservation of the four (4) distinct village centers has maintained the historic character of the town despite its growth in the past few decades.

- South Framingham: This Downtown became the town's commercial center in 1834 when the Boston and Maine Railroad was constructed. This area is now recognized with two National Historic Districts. The Railroad station was completed in 1885, at a time when more than 100 trains a day passed through the station. It is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Saxonville: is the location of the first mill in the town and later, the Roxbury Carpet Mill. This area, also a National Historic District in Framingham, includes Athenaeum Hall and several historic homes.
- Framingham Centre: was the town's civic center from 1701 until 1926. The area surrounding the old Town Hall contains both a National Register District and, with different boundaries, a Local Historic District. The Jonathan Maynard Local District, along Pleasant Street, contains historically and architecturally significant 19th century homes.
- Nobscot: Nobscot (originally Brackett's Corner and known for a while as New Boston) has many 17th and 18th Century rural homes on the winding old roads.

### Historic Buildings, Sites, Structures, and Objects

Framingham has 582 historic buildings listed with the Mass Cultural Resource Information System. Many of these buildings are scattered throughout Framingham and may not be located within a distinct district. The buildings are too numerous to map but the listing is on file with the Community and Economic Development Department, Framingham Historical Commission, Framingham Library and the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Some buildings are part of a grouping of structures that gives them extra meaning in terms of their cultural value. These groupings may be neighborhoods, historic districts, or institutional complexes (such as buildings of Framingham State University).

Framingham also has 20 objects, three (3) cemeteries ("burial grounds"), and thirty-six (36) structures (e.g., bridges) listed with the Mass Cultural Resource Information System. Stone's Bridge over the Sudbury River, just north of Potter Rd. was built in 1857 and is jointly owned by Framingham and Wayland. It is a special case as it was damaged by a hurricane and is no longer an active vehicle bridge that would be covered by a routine bridge maintenance program.

In 1991 Town Meeting passed an Historic Preservation By-law that provides for a delay period before historically or architecturally significant structures can be demolished. The Historical Commission must determine if any building over fifty years old that is to be demolished is significant. While listing in this inventory does not automatically indicate significance, it would be an important factor in making the determination. Other factors include some form of recognition in the National Register of Historic Places, or by some other organization such as

the Framingham Historical Society. An Historic Reuse Zoning By-law was adopted at the 2008 Annual Town Meeting. The By-law provides an opportunity to preserve larger historic buildings by allowing multi-family use.

#### 4. Core Habitats and Critical Natural Landscapes

As mentioned previously, the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy developed the BioMap2 strategy, with the intention of conserving biodiversity across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. By combining elements of geospatial data pertaining to the state’s species, ecosystems, and landscapes, two key areas are identified: Core Habitats and Critical Natural Landscapes. Core Habitats refer to areas which “ensure the long-term persistence of species of conservation concern, exemplary natural communities, and intact ecosystems”<sup>3</sup> in the State. Critical Natural Landscapes are those areas “better able to support ecological process, disturbances, and wide-ranging species.”<sup>4</sup> Identification of these areas promotes land development that serves to protect the rich biodiversity in Massachusetts.

According to the latest BioMap2 analysis, Framingham contains eight (8) Core Habitats and seven (7) Critical Natural Landscapes. Each Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape contains elements (aquatic/forest/wetland cores, buffers of these cores, species of conservation concern, etc.) which make it an important and unique conservation area to protect. Table 4-9 describes these areas in more detail:

<b>BioMap2 Habitat</b>	<b>Elements of Habitat</b>
Core 1590	4-acre Core Habitat Aquatic Core Species of Conservation Concern (Engelmann’s Umbrella-sedge)
Core 1652	79-acre Core Habitat Aquatic Core Species of Conservation Concern (Engelmann’s Umbrella-sedge)
Core 1753	10-acre Core Habitat Wetland Core
Core 1754	767-acre Core Habitat Aquatic Core Species of Conservation Concern (Eastern Pondmussel)
Core 1781	11-acre Core Habitat Wetland Core
Core 1792	6-acre Core Habitat Wetland Core
Core 1798	29-acre Core Habitat Species of Conservation Concern (Four-toed Salamander)

<sup>3</sup> Massachusetts Energy and Environmental Affairs. BioMap2: Overview and Summary. <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/natural-heritage/land-protection-and-management/biomap2/biomap2-overview-and-summary.html>

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

Core 1830	1,533-acre Core Habitat Aquatic Core Species of Conservation Concern (Blue-spotted Salamander, Eastern Box Turtle)
CNL 807	4-acre Critical Natural Landscape Aquatic Core Buffer
CNL 838	204-acre Critical Natural Landscape Aquatic Core Buffer
CNL 881	36-acre Critical Natural Landscape Wetland Core Buffer
CNL 882	849-acre Critical Natural Landscape Aquatic Core Buffer
CNL 888	33-acre Critical Natural Landscape Wetland Core Buffer
CNL 907	1,600-acre Critical Natural Landscape Aquatic Core Buffer Landscape Block
CNL 1016	4,343-acre Critical Natural Landscape Aquatic Core Buffer Wetland Core Buffer

## **G. Environmental Problems: Impacts of Development**

### **1. Introduction**

It is important to identify environmental problems to rectify them and to capitalize on open space and recreation opportunities they may offer. Residential and commercial developments have affected and continue to affect open space and recreation in many ways.

### **2. Habitat Fragmentation due to Development**

Connectivity of open space and green space is continually diminishing with increased development. Development in Framingham continues, and continues in ever more marginal lands. Because of high property value in the region, development of open space is profitable, even the development of wet, steep, or rocky land.

Expansion of existing development continues as well.

- Expansion of homes, driveways, and lawns
- In-fill development in existing commercial and industrial developments
- Sub-division of large residential parcels
- In-fill development of “wood lots” in residential neighborhoods

### **3. Stormwater Management, Erosion and Sedimentation**

Stormwater is the water that runs over land after a rain fall event. It carries with it sediment, nutrients, and toxicants that it picks up from the ground. Sediment (clean or contaminated) is then deposited in catch basins, wetlands, and stream channels. In Framingham, as everywhere, such sedimentation smothers natural habitat and introduces contamination into wetland complexes. With the great expanses of pavement and roof tops, and the piping of

stormwater to catch basins and storm sewers (to limit flooding and/or ponding), natural infiltration of stormwater and the resultant natural filtration of contaminated waters and the natural recharge of aquifers are greatly decreased. Wetland health and ground water supply are both severely compromised.

Stormwater is managed to increase recharge, minimize flooding, limit erosion, and limit sedimentation. Recharge of stormwater into the ground, i.e., infiltration of stormwater, is critical for the maintenance of groundwater supply, maintenance of stream and river base flow during dry months, flood control, removal of pollutants and the maintenance of ecosystems. Historically, drainage systems have been built as networks of catchments and pipes designed to quickly collect and transport stormwater away from impervious surfaces and developments to prevent flooding. These systems, therefore, bypass the local area and transport stormwater directly to nearby water bodies without opportunity for infiltration.

The land area adjacent to streams, lakes, or rivers that is likely to be inundated during snowmelt, storm, and flood events is known as the "floodplain". Floodplains are categorized according to the average frequency of flooding. Thus, the "100-year floodplain" is that area of land that is likely to be flooded once every 100 years. In other words, there is a 1 percent chance that the land will be flooded in any given year.

Environmental quality is notably diminished when erosion and permanent soil loss are prevalent. Erosion reduces the land's capability for maintaining vegetative cover, habitat, increased infiltration, etc. Steep slopes are particularly susceptible to erosion when vegetation is removed and/or soils are disturbed. Fortunately, no serious or chronic erosion problems are known to exist in Framingham at this time.

Sedimentation, the deposition of sediment from flowing waters, alters the physical features of a water body or buffer zone, by means of modifying vegetation, water depth, surface characteristics, circulation patterns, and flow rates. These physical changes can have a significant effect on water quality (due to the alteration of the natural self-purification processes), and habitat quality. Framingham actively tracks, monitors, and cleans its catch basins and stormwater outfalls on a pre-determined schedule and on an as-needed basis.

Framingham’s Current Stormwater System

Approximately one-third of the drainage system is over 50 years old. Approximately 10 percent of the system dates from before 1925, and is constructed using clay pipe and stones, with very little mortar to prevent infiltration (Table 4-10).

<b>Table 4-10. Town of Framingham Drainage System Components</b>		
<b>Drainage Component</b>	<b>Total Quantity</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Pipe	200 mi (or 1,050,000 ft)	4,100 pipe lines built before 1955
Catch Basins	8,200	2,500 catch basins built before 1955
Manholes	2,200	1,200 manholes built before 1955
Outfalls (includes headwalls)	500+	
Culverts	600+	

Stormwater infrastructure requirements for Framingham include:

- Several areas require an increase in capacity (even though speedy conveyance of stormwater is no longer the single goal of the system);
- Improvements to infrastructure and maintenance;

- A comprehensive maintenance program for the drainage system;
- Management of the Saxonville Levee; and
- Maintenance of its construction standards, including standards for materials and construction of the drainage system.

### Stormwater Planning

Framingham is in the process of developing a comprehensive stormwater management plan to address these and other needs. Framingham has submitted a Stormwater Drainage System Summary for inclusion in the Town's Master Plan, and the Town manages the federally mandated program overseen by EPA called the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Management Phase II permitting program. The purpose of the Phase II program is to reduce pollutants in US water bodies from stormwater (or drainage) by addressing water quality (addressed in other sections of this report), erosion and sedimentation, and recharge. The Phase II program applies to municipalities with fewer than 100,000 residents and other selected legal bodies [by contrast the Phase I program applies to municipalities with populations over 100,000]. The Town of Framingham's drainage system, also known as a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4), operates under such a permit. The federal regulation governing this permit is 40 CFR 122.34(b)(3), known as the Storm Water Phase II MS4 Regulations. Framingham has evaluated the seven most impaired of the 22 sub-basins in Framingham and is currently evaluating another four (4) sub-basins. Subsequent efforts will address the remaining sub-basins. Framingham is also addressing areas of chronic flooding.

Stormwater Regulatory Frameworks

Several regulatory frameworks in town actively address stormwater management:

- Under the Phase II program, a new Illicit Discharge Elimination Bylaw was passed in May 2008. It will help Framingham detect and address illicit discharges by instituting procedures for: (1) locating priority areas likely to have illicit discharges; (2) tracing the source of an illicit discharge; (3) removing the source of the discharge; and (4) evaluation and assessment.
- Wetland protection laws, bylaws and regulations, implemented by the Conservation Commission addresses erosion through the wetland permitting process, regulating pre-construction, during, and post-construction site characteristics.
- Subdivision rules and regulations and zoning bylaw now reference DEP's stormwater regulations that bring LID requirements to construction and redevelopment projects.
- Framingham's new land disturbance bylaw combines and strengthens three old bylaws that address earth removal, erosion control, and land clearing.

Chronic Flooding

Floodplains are delineated on the basis of topography, hydrology, and development characteristics of the area. In Framingham, the 100- and 500-year floodplains were analyzed and mapped in 1972 by the National Flood Insurance Program in the form of Flood Insurance Rate (FIRM) maps and again in 2007, though only draft maps are available at the time of this report. The 100-year floodplain is an accurate indicator of flood-prone areas, unless the area has experienced a dramatic increase in impervious area since the mapping done in 1972, in which case, flood-prone areas may extend beyond the 100-year floodplain. The areas most susceptible to recurrent flooding in the recent past are listed below in Table 4-11.

<b>Stream section</b>	<b>Flooding Location</b>	<b>Nature of Flooding</b>
Beaver Dam Brook	From a point approximately 180' downstream of Second St. to a point approx. 2.2 miles upstream	This historically low-lying area (now with channelized brook) floods during intense storms
East Outlet of Baiting Brook	From its confluence with the Sudbury River to divergence from Baiting Brook by Edgell Grove and Central St.	Numerous sources contribute to flooding
Circle Dr., Auburn St. Extension, & Union Ave.	Residential areas	The Sudbury River "backs up" into this area
Walnut St.	The "Sucker Brook" area	The Sudbury River "backs up" into this area
McAdams St.	West of Livoli St.	This tributary to Dunsdell Brook can overflow into the street
The Sudbury River	Various bridge locations	Some bridges flood and become impassable

Much has been done to reduce flood potential.

- The Sudbury Reservoir and the Framingham Reservoir system provide some storage volume which decreases peak flood flows on the Sudbury River within the Town.
- Saxonville used to be prone to flooding, but the Saxonville Local Flood Control Protection Project was completed in 1979 at a cost of \$4.75 million. The project extends from the Saxonville Dam to the Danforth Street Bridge and consists of 3,850 feet of earthen dikes and concrete walls, pump station at Watson Place, steel vehicular gate at Concord Street, and sluice gate at the Central Street Dam. The project straightened a 1,000-foot section of the Sudbury River upstream from the Danforth Street Bridge. The Town of Framingham operates and maintains the project. (Note: The project does not include the Central Street Dam itself which is privately owned and operated.) In May, 2007, FEMA sent notices to all levee owners in the U.S. requiring certification by August 2009 for the 100-year flood, or risk losing designation as a levee-protected area. FEMA certification of the levee is likely without significant physical repairs, however we can't be certain of this until the analyses are conducted, which will take until September 2008.
- The Soil Conservation Service (now National Resource Conservation Service) constructed a flood control project for the Baiting Brook watershed that reduces the severity of flooding along major portions of Baiting Brook and Birch Meadow Brook. The project includes a dry dam on Baiting Brook and culvert and channel modifications to the east outlet diversion channel.
- Framingham installed a gate on Eames Brook that can be lowered to prevent the Sudbury River from backing up. During times of high water, the DPW lowers the gate and installs a pump, then pumps water from Farm Pond into the Sudbury River to alleviate flooding around Farm Pond.
- Development in the floodplain can increase the likelihood of flooding by decreasing flood storage and increasing the surface runoff into the stream channel. In addition, water contamination from flood-damaged sewage or septic systems and debris swept downstream from flooded properties can result in unnecessary hazards to those downstream. Therefore, development in floodplains is regulated by the Conservation Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals in order to protect the health and safety and property.
- In 2011 the Town installed five (5) river level sensors, two (2) along the Sudbury River at Main Street and at Watson Place, one along Beaver Dam Brook at Taralli Terrace, one along Hop Brook at Hemenway Road, and one along Dunsdell Brook at McAdams Road. These sensors provide real-time information for the Highway Department to manage flooding in areas of greatest concern.

## **4. Decreased Ground and Surface Water Quality**

### General Sources of Water Pollution

Water pollution can generally be described in terms of non-point source pollution and point source pollution.

Non-point source pollution results from surface runoff from parking lots, roadways, driveways, lawns, and other impervious surfaces that collect oil, fertilizers, and other harmful substances. Water (with all its associated pollutants) can no longer be absorbed into the soil and is carried over the impervious surfaces directly to streams, ponds, lakes and other water bodies.

Point source pollution, as the name suggests, is related to a particular source of pollution. Point source pollution is caused by a particular storm drain or other identifiable drainage source. Significant sources of point source pollution in Framingham include Adessa (the former GM plant on Western Blvd.) and the Nyanza Superfund Site upstream in Ashland.

### General Results of Water Pollution

Algal blooms are nutrients that contribute to blooms of nuisance aquatic vegetation such as milfoil and algae. The algal and vascular plant blooms are unpleasant in and of themselves, covering whole water bodies with thick layers of green algae, watermeal, or duck weed. Then further problems occur. Decay of the plant matter results in depletion of the dissolved oxygen within the water, and therefore, fish kills and thence high bacteria counts. This cycle often forces the Town to close the swimming beach. Eutrophic conditions and nuisance aquatic vegetation have been documented in most of the Town's ponds. An active weed control program has been in place since 1992 wherein chemical controls are employed on an as-needed basis in the town's major ponds to address blooms of exotic and nuisance macrophytes and algae.

Murkiness is caused by suspended sediment that contributes to murkiness which reduces visibility, but also affects aquatic wildlife and native aquatic plants

Toxic pollution is the result of toxicants, such as E. coli and heavy metals, that cause ill-health and disallows certain uses of water bodies.

### Water Quality in the Sudbury River and its Major Tributaries (Table 4-12)

- Water quality problems in the Sudbury and Concord Rivers are generally related to non-point source pollution such as run-off.
- Depressed dissolved oxygen levels during low-flow summer months is the major water quality problem. This problem is predominately caused by wetland drainage into the rivers.
- High bacterial levels occur throughout Framingham
- Mercury contaminated fish have been found in the Sudbury River since 1970 and the river has been posted indicating warnings since 1986 (US Department of Interior). Elevated levels of chlorinated hydrocarbons, PCBs, and mercury found in fish have been attributed to past pesticide applications in swamps and agricultural lands and may indicate pesticide pollution of the river system (US Department of Interior). The sediment in Reservoirs 1 & 2 (now "off-line") has also been contaminated with mercury from the Nyanza Superfund Site upstream in Ashland.

**Table 4-12. SuAsCo Watershed Water Quality Assessment Report (2001)**

RIVER SEGMENT	Sudbury River	Eames Brook	Sudbury River	Cochituate Brook
Description	From outlet of Res #1 to inlet of Saxonville Pond	From outlet of Farm Pond to confluence w/ Sudbury River	Saxonville Dam to Wayland line (and beyond)	from outlet of Lake Cochituate to confluence w/ Sudbury River
Length	2.8 miles	0.6 miles	5.5 miles	1.3 miles
Classification	Class B, Warm Water Fishery	Class B	Class B, Aquatic Life	Class B
Sub-watershed area	82.1 mi2	1.24 mi2 watershed	116.4 mi2	20.2 mi2 watershed
Land-use estimates	Forest: 44%	Commercial: 13%	Forest: 39%	Commercial: 9%
	Residential: 28%	Residential: 17%	Residential: 33%	Residential: 40%
	Open land: 7%	Open land: 25%	Open land: 7%	Forest: 27%
Impervious area	10.9mi2 (13.3%)	0.34 mi2 (27.4%)	17.1 mi2 (14.7%)	4.5 mi2
State segment coder	MA82A-26	MA82A-13	MA82A-03	MA82A-22
<b>Assessment sum'y</b>	<b>Cat 5 impaired</b>	<b>Cat 5 impaired</b>	<b>Cat 5 impaired</b>	
Notes	requires a TMDL for metals, four closed or inactive landfills in sub-watershed	noxious aquatic plants, and exotic species (non-pollutant) and a TMDL is required; Framingham Compost Site and former landfill is located within this sub-watershed	requires a TMDL for metals	
<b>Use: Aquatic Life</b>	<b>Impaired</b>	<i>Not Assessed</i>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Impaired</b>
Cause	Benthic macro-invertebrate assessment			Organic enrichment biological indicators
Source	Upstream Impoundment			Upstream impoundment, Municipal urbanized high density area, discharges from municipal separate storm sewers (MS4s)
Cause	Mercury		Mercury	
Source	Nyanza Superfund Site		Nyanza Superfund Site, Atmospheric deposition	
<b>Use: primary contact</b>	<i>Not Assessed</i>	<b>Impaired</b>	<i>Not Assessed</i>	<i>Not Assessed</i>
Cause				
Source				
<b>Use: secondary contact</b>	<i>Not Assessed</i>	<b>Impaired</b>	<i>Not Assessed</i>	<i>Not Assessed</i>
Cause		Trash/debris, excess algal growth, sediment odor, fecal coliform bacteria		
Source		Discharges from municipal separate storm sewers (MS4s), landfill, municipal urbanized high density areas		
<b>Use: Aesthetics</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Impaired</b>	<i>Not Assessed</i>	<b>Support</b>
Cause		Trash/debris, excess algal growth, sediment odor		
Source		Discharges from municipal separate storm sewers (MS4s), landfill, municipal urbanized high density areas		

From: SuAsCo Watershed Year 2001 Water Quality Assessment Report <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/resources/82wqar3.pdf>

The Nyanza Chemical Waste dump is located off Megunko Road in Ashland, MA. From 1917 to 1978 several companies involved in the manufacture of chemical textile dyes and other products occupied the site, with Nyanza operating from 1965-1978. Mercury was the primary contaminant discharged into the Sudbury River. It is estimated that approximately 45-57 metric tons of mercury were released to the river. Since 1983 EPA has conducted extensive studies of the site to determine the distribution and levels of mercury in the Sudbury River. These studies confirmed that mercury was dispersed intermittently along the 26 miles of river that traverses Ashland, Framingham, Sudbury, Wayland, Lincoln and Concord.

The U.S. EPA is responsible for overseeing the cleanup of the Nyanza Site. Mitigation has begun. The landfill used for the consolidation of on-site contaminated materials was capped and completed in 1992. A plume of volatile organic compounds is present in the groundwater from the Nyanza property to about ¾ of a mile to the north and east, where it enters the Sudbury River. The EPA has installed vapor mitigation systems in local homes and will install extraction wells to remove the plume in the spring of 2008. Clean-up and restoration of the wetlands adjacent to the source and associated drainage areas was completed in 2001. Signs have been installed warning of mercury contamination along the edges of the reservoirs and river. EPA completed the Final Supplemental Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) in 2008. The Nyanza Natural Resource Damages (NDR) Trustee Council released a Final Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment in 2012 that identifies twelve (12) restoration projects to restore natural resources and natural resource services that were injured as a result of the release of mercury and other hazardous substances. A major project for Framingham is the restoration plan for the Stearns-Brackett Reservoir. This project would set aside twelve (12) miles of shore land and 175 acres for a permanent wildlife preserve, transfer ownership to a nonprofit organization of other appropriate entity and complete and implement a stewardship plan. After reviewing this proposal in January 2012, the Framingham Board of Selectmen issued a letter in part stating "The Town of Framingham looks forward to working with the NDR Trust and the various state and federal agencies involved in creation of this new project."

*(From: Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Nyanza Chemical Waste Dump Superfund Site, August 2012)*

#### Water Quality in Framingham's Lakes and Ponds

All lakes and ponds in Framingham exhibit some signs of pollution, most prevalently, excessive nutrients (eutrophic conditions) and consequent nuisance aquatic plant growth.

For Waushakum Pond, a watershed management program is underway by both Ashland and Framingham, partially funded by a state "Section 319 Grant" to address non-point source pollution. It will include Low Impact Development (LID) best management practices such as tree filters and porous pavement. More is needed.

Learned Pond has suffered from non-point source pollution. The Town has begun addressing some of the issues of stormwater runoff. More is needed.

Water quality has been good in Lake Cochituate in recent years. However, there has been a recent burst in growth of nuisance aquatic vegetation and reduction in visibility which must be aggressively addressed.

Weekly testing is performed for total coliform and fecal coliform at all three Framingham town beaches during the 8-week swimming season. If the results are high (abnormal), the beach is

closed for swimming and the tests are performed on a daily basis. Problems are generally attributable to geese, intense human use, and pet waste.

## **5. Invasive plants**

One of the most conspicuous and unfortunate changes in Framingham is the rapid spread of non-native, invasive plants. In spite of efforts by the town and individuals to control these alien plants, they are establishing themselves on roadside, fields, woods, and ponds and displacing native plants and the native wildlife which rely upon the native plants.

Some of the most common invasive land plants include oriental bittersweet, buckthorn, Japanese knotweed, burning bush, honeysuckle, Garlic mustard, wisteria, and Asian bittersweet. They continue to spread throughout town's varied natural communities.

Some of most common invasive aquatic or wetland plants include Eurasian milfoil, purple loosestrife, water chestnut, and phragmites. Together, they choke out large areas of the Sudbury River and local ponds.

## **6. Brownfields**

The US EPA defines "brownfields" as abandoned or underutilized properties (especially industrial and commercial facilities) wherein redevelopment or expansion is complicated by possible environmental contamination (real or perceived). Mass DEP currently lists 522 brownfield sites in Framingham. The list is available at

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/cleanup/sitesloc.htm>

The Town of Framingham's Community and Economic Development Department has been conducting a Brownfields Program since 2008. The town has received a total of \$800,000 in Brownfields Assessment Grants from the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, most recently in 2012. These grants are intended to "provide funding for recipients to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct cleanup and redevelopment planning and community involvement related to brownfield sites." The grants are "community-wide" as opposed to a "site-specific", allowing the Town to investigate and assess a number of brownfields sites in the Downtown and Southeast Framingham. The bulk of the funding pays for a state-approved Licensed Site Professional (LSP) to inventory brownfields sites in the study area and to perform more detailed assessments on a series of sites chosen based on their potential for redevelopment and re-use. The grant provides for a targeted public outreach campaign that includes multi-lingual education and opportunities for community feedback on both brownfields and redevelopment issues. This project can have far-reaching effects including mitigating environmental impacts, stimulating economic development, and the engagement of under-served and minority populations.

Brownfield properties tend to be located in environmental justice communities and this is the case in Framingham. One of the goals of the program has been to seek out and leverage brownfields funds to support open space or recreation opportunities. Through a joint effort of the town's Agricultural Committee, the Parks and Recreation Department and Community and Economic Development a community garden was established on Pratt Street in south Framingham in 2011.

## 7. Hazardous Waste

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) identifies hazardous waste sites using a tiered system. Tier 1 sites are considered to be high priority and are themselves ranked: Tier 1A (pose the most serious environmental risk by impacting air and water), Tier 1B (of concern but do not require direct oversight by DEP) and Tier 1C (pose less serious risks), and Tier 1 D (lowest priority Tier 1 sites). Tier 2 sites are generally less serious contaminations, such as Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUSTs), small-scale spills, etc. 448 hazardous waste release sites in Framingham are listed by the DEP. The Tier 1 sites are listed in Table 4-13 below.

RTN	Release Address	Site Name/Location Aid	Reporting Category	Notification Date	Compliance Status	Date	Chemical Type
3-0004045	825 WAVERLY ST	AT&T	None	8/15/1991	Tier 1B	3/23/2012	Oil
3-0000318	530-532 UNION AVE	ZIP COPY QUALITY CLEANERS	None	9/23/1986	Tier 1C	2/15/2012	Haz Mat
3-0025155	125 Irving St	Parking Lot (manufactured gas plant)	2 hr	8/17/2005	Tier 1D	8/24/2006	Haz. Mat
3-0002587	192 Irving St	Commercial Property (manufactured gas plant)	None	1/15/1990	Tier 1D	7/7/2008	

From: <http://public.dep.state.ma.us/SearchableSites/Search.asp>

In addition to these sites in Framingham, the Nyanza Chemical Waste Dump in Ashland was placed on the National Priorities List in September 1983. Groundwater, sediments, and surface water are contaminated with four (4) types of contaminants including heavy metals and chlorinated organics. Contaminants have migrated off-site and now affect the entire Sudbury River in Framingham, including the reservoirs.

## 8. Landfills

Framingham has no active landfills, but there are two (2) former landfill sites.

The Dudley Road Dump Site, approximately 9.3 acres, lies just to the north of Farm Pond. In 1977 the Department of Public Works received notice from the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (now DEP) that improper covering and grading at the Dudley Road site had resulted in leachate pollution to Eames Brook. The Town was asked to take corrective actions. In 2004, DEP studies of leachate in Eames Brook showed that concentrations of bacteria were relatively low, especially in the vicinity of the landfill, indicating that the landfill was not a source of bacterial pollution in the brook. In addition, the EPA 2004 studies indicated that there were no water quality impairments to the brook. Because of its proximity to Farm Pond and the adjacent park and recreation complexes, this site is planned for eventual recreation reuse.

A second former landfill exists near the Staples complex off Crossing Blvd. The landfill ceased operations and has been capped in accordance with required regulations with bituminous pavement and clean, granular soil. The site has been developed with a three-story, 100,000 square foot office and light manufacturing building and a parking lot.

## 9. Litter

The accumulation of litter has become a substantial problem, especially in small pockets of natural areas within heavily developed areas. Trash is dumped in "abandoned" lots (often municipal open space, trash is let go from cars or pedestrians, and litter is blown from trash barrels that await pick-up. Not only is litter unsightly, and tends to attract further dumping, it degrades habitats, and chokes and poisons wildlife.

## 10. Environmental Equity

In order to evaluate whether there is an equal distribution of open space and recreation lands across the Town, census tracts and open space data were compared to determine average open space acreage per person in Framingham. This ratio was then compared to the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) average of 10 acres per 1000 people.<sup>5</sup> On a town-wide scale, the total open space acreage and population shows an average of 39 acres per 1000 people across the Town.

Ten of fourteen census tracts in Framingham exceed NRPA's average (see Table 4-14 and image below). Census Tract 383902, located in the northwest area of Town where Callahan State Park is located, contains the most open space per person with 138 acres for every 1000 residents. Four census tracts however do not meet the 10 acres per 1000 people standard. Census Tracts 383102, 383200, 383101, and 383400 are all located in the most densely populated area of the Town within the downtown and south side of Framingham. These census tracts also contain environmental justice neighborhoods. The deficit in these areas ranges from 1 to 5 acres. While implementing new open space lands in the densest part of the community poses challenges, this information will help the Town, including the Parks and Recreation Department and Conservation Commission, in deciding where to create new facilities and where to direct open space funding and land acquisition opportunity efforts.

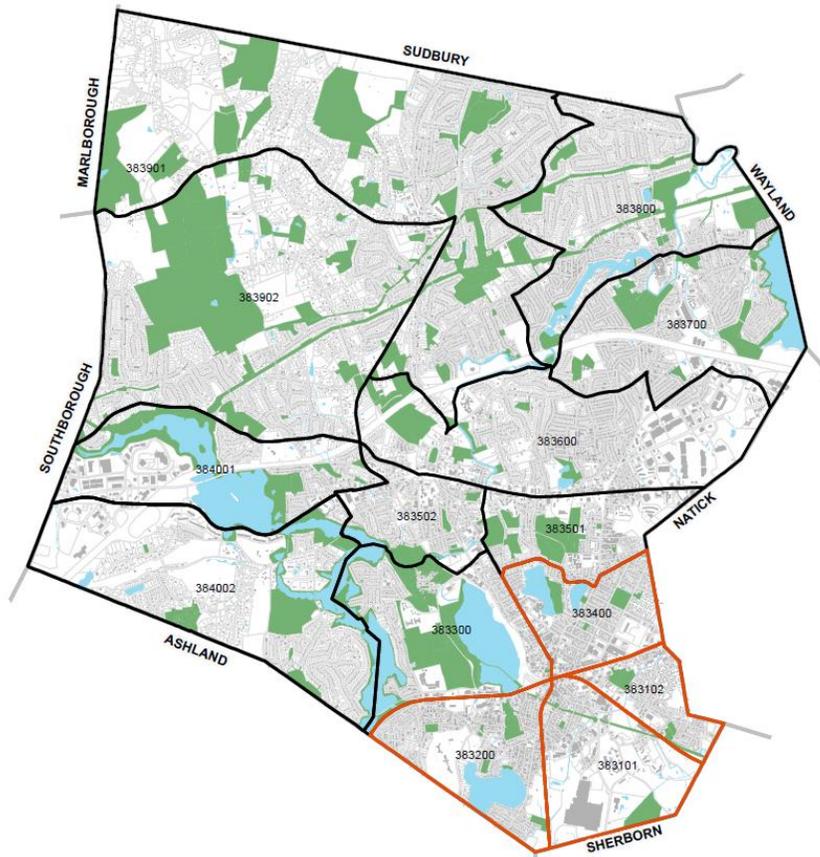
Reaching environmental equity through the increase of new conservation and recreation facilities where needed most on the south side of Framingham, as noted in this Environmental Equity and Open Space Analysis is an important goal of the Town.

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<sup>5</sup> It is important to note that the NRPA averages were used merely for comparison purposes in this analysis. Every community has their own open space to person ratios. There are no required numbers.

<b>Table 4-14. Environmental Equity and Open Space Analysis</b>			
Census Tract	Open Space (acres)	Population	Ratio (acres per 1000 pop)
383102	24.1	4923	4.90
383200	33.0	6046	5.46
383101	36.7	4217	8.70
383400	29.0	5540	5.23
383300	232.7	3042	76.50
383501	103.9	4259	24.40
383502	42.2	3773	11.18
384002	170.8	5515	30.97
384001	149.8	1437	104.24
383600	112.5	6138	18.33
383700	139.8	5213	26.82
383800	183.1	5360	34.16
383902	724.1	5227	138.53
383901	684.8	7628	89.77
<b>TOTALS</b>	2,666.5	68,318	

Contains EJ populations/Does not meet NRPA standards of open space for the population



## **CHAPTER 5: Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest**

### **A. Overview**

Open space can mean a variety of things, but to most, and for the purposes of this Open Space and Recreation Plan, open space is referred to conservation, undeveloped, forested, and recreation lands. This can be wetlands, parks, walking trails, agricultural areas, forests, meadowlands, etc. Open space provides a range of benefits to citizens of a community, beyond the benefits that accrue to private landowners. Parks and natural areas can be used for recreation; wetlands and forests supply storm-water drainage and wildlife habitat; farms and forests provide aesthetic benefits to surrounding residents. In rapidly growing urban and suburban areas, any preserved land can offer relief from congestion and other negative effects of development. In a time of intense development pressures within a community already mostly built out, protecting (or conserving) open space lands has never been more important. The environmental and social benefits of such lands are being recognized at a greater rate, and the need to save these lands has become a priority.

Article 97 of the State Constitution provides permanent protection for certain lands acquired for natural resources purposes, meaning “conservation, development and utilization of the agricultural, mineral, forest, water, air and other natural resources.” Lands of this nature are often owned by the municipal conservation commission, recreation commission, water department, or by a state or federal conservation agency (i.e., the EOEEA or the Division of Fish & Wildlife). Private, public and non-profit conservation and recreation lands are also protected under Article 97. Removing the permanent protection status of such lands is extremely difficult, as is evidenced by the following required steps:

- The municipal conservation commission or recreation commission must vote that the land in question is surplus to its needs;
- The removal of permanent protection status must be approved at a Town Meeting/City Council vote and pass by a two-thirds (2/3) vote;
- The municipality must file an Environmental Notification Form with the EOEEA’s Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA);
- The removal of permanent protection status must be approved by the State Legislature and pass by a two-thirds (2/3) vote; and
- In the case of land either acquired or developed with grant assistance from the EOEEA’s Division of Conservation Services, the converted land must be replaced with land of equal monetary value and recreational or conservation utility.

In other words, it is intentionally difficult to remove a property’s permanent protection status so that it may be developed. Private lands can also be protected in perpetuity through deed restrictions or conservation easements. Municipal lands under active use (schools, town halls, highway department facilities, police/fire facilities, etc.) are not considered permanently protected, nor are private lands that are within the State’s special taxation programs (Chapter 61).

This chapter is divided into an Inventory (Sections B. – E.) and a list of priority parcels for protection (Section F.)

## 1. Summary of the Resources

Lands of conservation and recreation interest may be defined as un-built land (e.g., land used for farming and forestry, woodlands and fields used for passive recreation, and woodlands and wetland preserved for wildlife habitat and ecosystem function) as well as land developed for or developable for active recreational use (e.g., soccer fields, beaches, and playgrounds).

- Protected land
  - Open space:
    - State land preserved as open space, water resource protection land, and aqueduct land
    - Framingham Conservation Commission land protected under Article 97 of the State Constitution
    - Town ponds protected under Article 97 of the State Constitution
    - Framingham Parks and Recreation land protected under Article 97 of the State Constitution
    - Sudbury Valley Trustees land protected
    - Agricultural Preservation Restrictions protected through state law
    - Conservation Restrictions (perpetual deed restrictions)
  - Recreation land:
    - Parks and Recreation land protected by M.G. L. Chapter 45
    - Cemeteries
    - Bicycle and pedestrian corridors
- Unprotected land
  - Open space:
    - Tax title land
    - Chapter 61 and 61A land
    - other private open space
    - other municipal open space
  - Recreation:
    - Chapter 61B
    - Private recreation land

## 2. Uses of the Resources

### Public Access

Public access is afforded on all Town Conservation land (although only six (6) have well-developed and maintained trails), Town Parks and Recreation land, Callahan State Park land, open portions of the rail trails, open portions of the aqueducts and Chapter 61B lands. Public access is technically denied on the State Division of Conservation and Recreation reservoirs, the Metropolitan Water Resources Authority aqueducts, and portions of the not-yet-opened rail trails, as well as on private open space.

### Individual Use

Many residents use open space and active recreation facilities on their own or in small groups during their own free time. Favorite activities include walking, jogging, hiking, use of playground equipment and practicing individual sports.

## School Use

Team sports, Field Days and Special Events take place on the various School Fields.

## Framingham Park and Recreation Sponsored Programs

The Park and Recreation Department offers over 250 recreation programs in eighty-four (84) categories throughout the year for a wide range of age groups. Detailed information on these programs is provided in flyers, brochures, the department web page and newspaper advertisements. A listing of the current offerings is included in **Appendix A**.

### **3. Accessibility for People with Disabilities**

Since 1968, under 521 CMR Rules and Regulations of the Architectural Access Board (AAB), all new construction and renovation of public facilities is required to be accessible to people with disabilities (Margolis, Fairbairn). Amendment Article 114 of the Massachusetts Constitution states, "No otherwise qualified handicapped individual shall solely, by reason of his handicap, be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be the subject to discrimination under any program or activity within the Commonwealth" (Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs – For Our Common Good, V. 2 p. 183). Also, in 1990 the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) law was passed. The ADA rewrote the Federal ADA Accessibility Guidelines (new ADAAG) in 2010 that includes access standards for outdoor activities (e.g., hiking trails and rail trails). A summary of the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan is included in the Appendices.

Framingham has made significant efforts to improve access to people with disabilities in recent years. In 2006 an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan was completed that identified and outlined access issues which need to be addressed (**see Appendix B**). Though much has been done, additional accessibility improvements are needed in an effort to better accommodate the needs of people with disabilities. The Framingham Disability Commission has been consulted for this plan update. The Disability Commission has provided a letter of support (Chapter 10). The Parks and Recreation Department and Conservation Commission has undertaken a recent ADA inventory and compliance analysis of their managed lands which are publically accessible. These have also been included in Appendix B.

## ADA Compliance

Framingham Conservation trails can be steep and often have rough terrain. The trails would need to be flattened and have almost no rocks or roots present. Trails would have to be at least 36" wide for wheelchairs (doubled for two way traffic). Paving or some form of a board walk would have to be placed on the trails. This is a costly method for even small portions of trails. Providing handicapped parking is feasible. Regular maintenance of trails would be needed in order to ensure that no obstacles have fallen in the way. In addition, parcels cannot have a large slope; the slope would have to be gradual. DCR has several parks throughout Massachusetts with boardwalks and most of these places have accessible trails that are state funded parks. Pull-off areas for resting are required for ADA compliance on the trails. These areas with said accessibility are usually staffed by state employees for safety purposes.

The accessibility guidelines apply to those trails which are designed and constructed for pedestrian use. These guidelines are not applicable to trails primarily designed and constructed for recreational use by equestrians, mountain bicyclists, snowmobile users, or off-highway vehicle users, even if pedestrians may occasionally use the same trails. However, a multi-use trail specifically designed and designated for hiking and bicycling would be considered a pedestrian trail. The proposed guidelines apply only to trails that "connect to an accessible trail" or "designated trailhead."

While the proposed accessibility guidelines address the special circumstances where designers and operators may not be able to achieve accessibility, they are encouraged to always provide access to the greatest extent possible. Departures from specific accessibility guidelines are permitted for any portion of the trail where compliance would:

- cause substantial harm to cultural, historic, religious, or significant natural features or characteristics;
- substantially alter the nature of the setting or the purpose;
- require construction methods or materials that are prohibited by Federal, State, or local regulations or statutes; and
- not be feasible due to terrain or the prevailing construction practices.<sup>6</sup>

## **B. Protected Open Space**

Protected open space is land set aside and permanently restricted for conservation, agriculture, or passive recreation purposes.

Protected open space includes:

- predominantly un-built parcels protected from development and managed by the Conservation Commission;
- Town-owned parcels not intended for sale or development but managed by an organization other than the Conservation Commission; and
- parcels owned by the State or Federal government; quasi-public; and private properties.

Many of these parcels are developed for passive recreation with walking, biking, and skiing trails. Many are preserved as natural open space.

Protection is granted in different ways; some ways are listed below.

- Article 97 of the State Constitution grants citizens of Massachusetts a right to a clean environment and the enjoyment of natural resources on publicly owned land. The article requires that public land acquired for natural resource purposes (Parks and Conservation lands) not be used for other purposes or otherwise disposed of without a two-thirds (2-3) vote of Town Meeting and of each branch of the legislature. Unfortunately, conversion of land acquired for natural resource purposes to other uses has been sanctioned frequently by towns and the legislature with little examination, debate, or opposition. The protection conferred, therefore is limited.
- Deed restrictions lend protection to some parcels of land.
- Some land is protected through charitable trusts enforceable by the donor and the Massachusetts Attorney General.

### **1. State Open Space**

The Commonwealth owns and manages several areas of open space and recreation land in Framingham.

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/accessible/ADASummFeb00.html>

- Callahan State Park (DCR): The largest public property in Framingham is Callahan State Park managed by Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Callahan State Park is an 820-acre day use area located in northwest Framingham and eastern Marlborough. Callahan has seven miles of marked trails and is used for activities including fishing, hiking, biking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing. Within the park are nearly hundred (100) acres of open fields, seventy (70) acres of which are currently under an agricultural lease.
- Lake Cochituate: the Saxonville beach portion of the 195-acre North Pond of Lake Cochituate is owned by the State, managed by the Division of Conservation Resources (DCR), and leased to the Town of Framingham. Land around the Lake is owned and managed by the DCR.
- Framingham State University land.
- Framingham Reservoirs: the impounded portions of the Sudbury River and the shores of the impoundments are owned by the State and managed by DCR.
- There are three aqueducts in Framingham, owned and managed by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA).
- The Sudbury River is a navigable waterway, and so is under federal jurisdiction. Land along the Sudbury River is also protected open space.

## **2. Town Conservation Properties**

The Conservation Commission manages forty-six (46) properties (a total of 108 parcels) (Table 5-1). This is a combined total of approximately 418 acres. About half of the properties have been delineated and bounded with small markers nailed into trees. Six (6) properties have well-marked trails. The majority of the properties are not maintained for public use, but are managed for their wildlife habitat value or wetland resource value.

For all of the properties listed in Table 5-1, the Conservation Commission is the property owner and property manager. Many of the properties are used for passive recreation and all are open to the general public.

**Table 5-1. Conservation Commission Properties**

File Name	St #	Street Name	Assessor's #	Acres	Condition	Potential	Zoning	Current Use	Type of grant	Public Access?	Degree of protection
Arlene Drive	0	Arlene Dr	266-133-97	4.01	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreation purposes
Bacon Rd	0	Bacon Rd	745-1-41	11.79	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned; conservation purposes
Bates Rd Extension	40	Bates Rd Extension	165-346-3	2.50	Excellent	Passive rec.	M	Natural & ballfield	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Bishop St	0	Bishop St.	769-1-36B	1.42	Good	Passive rec.	G	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned; conservation purposes
Brook Meadow	0	Brook Meadow	438-2-0000A	5.66	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Brook St	0	Brook St	367-1-19D	1.30	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Brook St	545	Brook St	367-101-19B	1.04	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; conservation purposes
Brook St	547	Edgell Rd RR	367-101-9B	4.92	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 12442, Page 211
Carol Getchell	81	Little Farms Rd	293-184-22	1.90	Excellent	Scenic view	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Carol Getchell	0	Little Farms Rd, end	293-184-23	1.30	Excellent	Scenic view	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Carol Getchell	1	Sudbury Landing	301-208-931*	3.3	Excellent	Scenic view	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title
Cedar Swamp	117R	Cedar St.	139-289-101	4.61	Fair	Scenic view	G	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Cedar Swamp	0	Cedar St	138-286-9B	1.98	Fair	Scenic view	G	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Cedar Swamp	32	Cypress St.	140-290-31	6.20	Fair	Scenic view	G	Natural needs clean	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Cedar Swamp	0	Mellen St, off	138-286-10	1.25	Fair	Scenic view	G	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Cedar Swamp	0	Waverly St	138-286-8A	0.39	Fair	Scenic view	G	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Cedar Swamp	618	Waverly St, RR	138-286-8B	1.40	Fair	Scenic view	G	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Central St	0	Central St	335-100-18	0.03	Fair	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Central St	425	Central St ABT	335-13-22	9.90	Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	No - boat	Town Owned Tax Title; ConCom
Chickatawbut Rd	0	Chickatawbut Rd	684-1-54	6.54	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Circle Drive	60	Circle Dr	213-26-28	2.66	Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Clearview Dr	29	Clearview Drive	535-1-23	0.76	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Cochituate Brook Res	0	Speen St., Off	311-235-7	0.70	Excellent	Passive rec.	M	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Cochituate Brook Res	619	Old Conn Path	312-236-14	26.70	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Cronan Park	0	Thelma & Duffet Rds	65-129-10	0.66	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 11577, Page 649
Crosby Circle	0	Crosby Circle, off	776-1-B	4.38	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Flannagan Dr	0	Flanagan Dr	773-1-B	0.23	Good	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Florita Dr	0	Florita Dr	363(A)-90-95*	7.04	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	View	Town Owned Tax Title Book 13283. Page 107; ConCom
Goodnow Lane	21	Goodnow Ln	733-1-41	1.14	Good	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned; conservation purposes
Grove St	0	Grove St	359-3-22	0.57	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	0	Grove St	359-3-12	0.51	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	0	Grove St	359-3-18	0.64	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	0	Grove St	359-3-20	0.81	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	0	Grove St	359-3-14	0.71	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	0	Grove St	359-3-6D	4.38	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	0	Grove St	359-3-16A	0.68	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	8	Grove St	359-3-13	0.59	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	8	Grove St	359-3-15	0.70	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	8	Grove St	359-3-17A	2.30	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Grove St	0	Grove Street	359-3-21	1.65	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Hemenway-Catharine Rd	0	Hemenway & Catherine	713-1-1	1.47	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes/view	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Hiram Pond	0	Baldwin Ave., RR	403(B)-1-13B*	2.65	Very Good	Scenic view	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes/view	Board of Selectmen owned; conservation purposes
Hiram Pond	0	Hiram Rd	193-1-1111	2.36	Very Good	Scenic view	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes/view	Town Owned Tax Title Book 12633, Page 394
Hiram Pond (access)	0	Apple D'Or Rd	403-1-0000*	0.43	Fair	Pub. access	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned; conservation purposes
Hop Brook	963	Edgell Rd., RR	403-8-19	1.38	Good	Scenic view	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned – Conservation Commission

**Table 5-1. Conservation Commission Properties**

File Name	St #	Street Name	Assessor's #	Acres	Condition	Potential	Zoning	Current Use	Type of grant	Public Access?	Degree of protection
Lamphere Circle	0	Lamphere Cir	545-1-B	0.98	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 12507, Page 242
Lillian Rd Extension	0	Lillian Rd Extension	228-88-9B	2.61	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Lyman-McAdams	6	McAdams Rd	558-1-C	0.41	Very Good	Scenic view	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned
Lyman-McAdams Rd	5	Lyman Rd	558-1-B	0.71	Very Good	Scenic view	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned
Macomber	18	Badger Rd	447-2-3	6.50	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	Land & Water	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Macomber	26	Badger Rd	447-2-2	51.32	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	Land & Water	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Macomber	0	Hickory Hill Lane	758-1-C	0.03	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Reclaim this access	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Main St Cemetery	0	Main St	210-23-44	4.08	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Cemetery	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Mohawk Pond	0	Edmands Rd	411-1-17B	14.96	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Mohawk Pond	1	Ferrazzi Dr	410-1-24	6.19	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Mohawk Pond	3	Ferrazzi Dr	410-1-25	1.08	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Mohawk Pond	4	Ferrazzi Dr	410-1-29	1.02	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Mohawk Pond	5	Ferrazzi Dr	410-1-26	1.13	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Mohawk Pond	6	Ferrazzi Dr	410-1-28	1.01	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Mohawk Pond	0	Juniper Lane	410-1-27	2.59	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Mohawk Pond	0	Mohawk Dr	684-1-A	0.44	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – Conservation Commission
Morency	67	Morency St NATICK		14.50	Excellent	Passive rec.		Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Mt Wayte	0	Mt Wayte Ave	188-12-7(A)*	9.00	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Mt Wayte	23	Vincent Ave	187-8-66L	0.43	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 8953, Page 569
Mt Wayte	14	Vincent Ave	187-8-54L	0.09	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 7224, Page 211
Mt Wayte	0	Vincent Ave	187-8-343	0.06	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Mt Wayte	15	Vincent Ave	187-8-338	0.05	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 6908, Page 260
Mt Wayte	17	Vincent Ave	187-8-346	0.11	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 12591, Page 480
Mt Wayte	21	Vincent Ave	187-8-340	0.06	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 5825, Page 7
Mt Wayte	0	Vincent, pvt	187-8-339	0.05	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural needs clean	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Nobscot Park	0	Edgell Rd, off	371-120-34A	0.43	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Nobscot Park	840	Edgell Road	371-120-13	0.61	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Nobscot Spring	1244	Edgell Rd	412-1-13	5.86	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Norton Pond	0	Elm St	496-1-1	2.78	Good	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 10942, Page 28
Norton Pond	212	Elm St	496-1-425	0.60	Good	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 10275, Page 376
Norton Pond	230	Elm St	495-1-409	0.50	Good		R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 10275, Page 376
Old Worcester Rd	0	Old Worcester Rd, Off	407-1-9	8.82	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen; conservation purposes
Old Worcester Rd	0	Old Worcester Rd, off	407-1-8	2.03	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 11745, Page 622
Old Worcester Rd	0	Westgate Rd	407-1-47	0.96	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned
Perry H Henderson Dr	0	Perry H Henderson Dr	784-1-A	3.14	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Perry H Henderson Dr	8	Perry H Henderson Dr	489-1-16	0.21	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 16606, Page 555
Perry H Henderson Dr	10	Perry H Henderson Dr	489-1-17	0.23	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 16606, Page 556
Perry H Henderson Dr	12	Perry H Henderson Dr	489-1-18	0.30	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 16606, Page 557
Perry H Henderson Dr	34	Perry H Henderson Dr	365-1-29	0.50	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Perry H Henderson Dr	38	Perry H Henderson Dr	365-1-30	0.30	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Perry H Henderson Dr	40	Perry H Henderson Dr.	365-1-31	0.29	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Prindiville Ave	0	Prindiville Ave	52-104-000*	0.23	Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Prindiville Ave	21	Prindiville Ave	50-98-4	0.40	Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Shortiss Park	585	Central St	335-100-6	0.15	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Sucker Pond	6	Fairbanks Rd	240-75-8(C)*	4.00	Good	Scenic view	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Park Commissioners
Spring Lane Woods	746	Water St., RR	375-104-3	3.1	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Spring Lane Woods	235	Brook St. RR	377-106-17	8.7	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 7224, Page 213

**Table 5-1. Conservation Commission Properties**

File Name	St #	Street Name	Assessor's #	Acres	Condition	Potential	Zoning	Current Use	Type of grant	Public Access?	Degree of protection
Sucker Pond	0	Hastings Street	240-75-4	4.03	Good	Scenic view	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned
Sundial Place	0	Worcester Rd	943-9-26	2.48	Very Good	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned
Travis Dr	0	Fountain St, off	763-1-10A	7.21	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned
Travis Dr	29	William J Heights, RR	446-2-263	7.49	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned
Union Ave Terrace	571	Union Ave RR	203-5-9	0.91	Good	Passive rec.	G	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 6505, Page 491
Union Ave Terrace	0	Union Ave Terr	203-5-25	0.22	Good	Passive rec.	G	Natural state	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 5824, Page 175
Walnut St	141	Walnut St	32-88-4	1.89	Good	Passive rec.	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Whiting Rd	3	Whiting Rd	749-1-101	0.47	Good	Passive rec.	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Winch St	297	Winch St	840-1-18C	3.29	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 14842, Page 64
Wittenborg Woods	55	Wayside Inn Rd	414-1-39	83.73	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Wittenborg Woods Ponds	43	Wayside Inn Rd	414-1-38	3.00	Excellent	Passive rec.	R-4	Natural state	N/A	Yes	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Woodmere Rd.	Lot 1	Woodmere Rd.	602-1-1	0.46	Excellent	Scenic view	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 491333, Page 347
Woodmere Rd.	Lot 2	Woodmere Rd.	602-1-2	0.46	Excellent	Scenic view	R-3	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Town Owned Tax Title Book 491333, Page 347
Worcester Rd	1161	Worcester Rd	73-04-7178	1.53	Very Good	Scenic view	B	Natural state	N/A	Limited	ConCom G.L.c.40, sec. 8C; Art.97
Worcester Rd	1325	Worcester Rd	408-1-48	0.24	Good	Scenic view	R-1	Natural state	N/A	Limited	Board of Selectmen owned
Total				418.5							

\* Parcel numbers do not come up in the Town's GIS, but are accurate according to Town Meeting vote records



The Conservation Commission continually monitors the status of available land and pursues land protection strategies.

### **Stewardship of Framingham's Conservation Properties**

The Conservation Commission has an ongoing program to better manage its properties.

The Commission retained the services of a GPS (global positioning systems) expert to help delineate and mark the boundaries of its properties. Most of the parcels the Commission owns have been delineated and marked. The remaining parcels are small, do not have ready public access, or are surrounded by otherwise protected lands.

The Commission has created trail maps of all parcels (six in total) on which it maintains trails, and made these maps available to the public in digital and electronic versions. **See Map 10.**

The Commission has also established a Stewardship program that has identified 1 to 3 volunteers for each "major" (trailed) parcel who are responsible for monitoring their parcels and reporting on problem, needs, and opportunities. The Commission also sponsors monthly workdays on different parcels of Conservation land around town, engaging Stewards and other volunteers in trail maintenance, trash pick-ups, trail creation, etc. Residents alert staff or Commission members of any issue on a major parcel such as a fallen tree, an invasive species that is growing, or general comments about the trail or parking areas. The stewards also assist in some of the events that the Commission holds. Currently, staff and commission members are exploring new ways to advertise the stewardship program and ways to advertise the major parcels.

Staff encourages stewardship with sign-up sheets at education and outreach events. Staff will explain the role of a steward in order to receive some interest. In addition, if someone sends staff an email about a fallen tree or something similar on a trail, staff immediately responds. Staff points out that since they care about the parcel and brought this item to the town's attention the resident is asked if they would like to participate in the stewardship program.

### Educational Programs by the Framingham Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission holds various educational events (**see Appendix C**). These events assist Framingham residents in understanding the crucial role that the Commission plays for the protection of wetland resource areas. These events include Riverfest, Wildlife Tracking, Geocaching and Letterboxing, scavenger hunts, and lectures at local educational facilities. Riverfest brings awareness for the preservation, protection and enhancement of the Sudbury River. This event is a joint effort among several municipalities and a local organization known as OARS (Organization for the Assabet River). Geocaching and Letterboxing uses GPS coordinates or clues to find hidden containers with small items. Educational signs are posted regarding the Commission's jurisdiction at the location of the Geocaching/Letterboxing event. This event is annual and will be going into its third year in 2013; it is also targeted for young families. In addition to these annual events, the Commission also participates in local events such as Earth Day held by the Sierra Club and Environmental Night at Potter Elementary School, The Conservation Commission is currently planning events for the 2013 calendar year and will have it finalized by the end of January 2013.

### Encroachment Policy

Baseline documentation is used as the primary method to determine boundaries of land in the

care of the Conservation Commission. GPS (Global Positioning Satellite), survey plans, GIS maps, and other supporting materials are used for locating property boundaries. When encroachment is noted on Conservation Land, a letter is sent to the appropriate parties to initiate discussions with Conservation Staff and the Commission in order to identify the best course of action. The overall goal is to receive compliance and ensure that Conservation Land goes back to its natural state; therefore, the best course of action may vary from one property to next. This process is ongoing and ever changing.

#### Invasive Species Management

Invasive species management deals with both plants on land and aquatic plants in lakes and ponds throughout the Town.

In large parcels of open space, the Conservation stewards will remove oriental bittersweet, glossy buckthorn, wisteria, Japanese knotweed, multiflora rose, etc. If the plants can be removed safely without the use of mechanical devices, then trail maintenance days are held to remove these from trail systems. However, if the plants are too large and require removal from vehicles, then the Highway Division of the Department of Public Works assist with those plants from the trails.

Please note that the Framingham Conservation Commission encourages the removal of invasive plant species as applicants receive wetland permitting. Applicants will then manage the invasive plant over time and will plant native species, when possible.

Currently, there is a smart phone application known as Outsmart Invasive Species. This application allows an individual to report invasive species (including plants, insects, and animals) and then maps its location using the phone's GPS.

#### DCR Weed Control

The Conservation Commission participates in the Department of Conservation Partnership Grant each year. The Wayland Surface Water Quality Committee attends a Conservation Commission at the beginning of each year seeking permission and support for the Department of Conservation Partnership Grant Program. The program manages invasive aquatic species within Lake Cochituate and allows the Town to hire contractors to do the work. In addition, the Framingham Conservation Commission granted \$4,000 to assist with the treatment budget of the program for the 2012 year. In addition to this program, the Framingham Conservation Commission manages a contract that goes out to bid for pond maintenance for the local ponds. This occurs annually. Finally, there is a Generic Order of Conditions which permits private property owners on Lake Cochituate to hire contractors to pull invasive aquatic plants in the portions of the lake that they own.

### 3. Town Ponds and Lakes

The Town of Framingham has an abundance of ponds (Table 5-2). The major ponds are Waushakum, Farm, Learned, Mohawk, Sucker, Gleason, and Norton. Lake Cochituate's North Pond is partially within Framingham. Swimming, fishing and boating are permitted in many of these ponds.

<b>Pond Name</b>	<b>Ac.</b>	<b>Public Access?</b>	<b>Public Uses</b>	<b>Abutter Uses</b>
Farm Pond Big	124	Yes	Boating, fishing	n.a.
Farm Pond Little	23	No	Fishing	n.a.
Gleason Pond	12	Yes	Fishing	Boating, fishing
Lake Cochituate	195	Yes	Boating, swimming, fishing	n.a.
Learned Pond	34	Yes	Swimming	Boating
Mohawk Pond	2	Yes	Fishing	n.a.
Norton Pond	5	Yes	Fishing	Boating, fishing
Sucker Pond	6	No	none	none
Waushakum Pond	82	Yes	Boating, swimming, fishing	Boating, swimming, fishing

### 4. Town Parks and Recreation Property

Some Park and Recreation Department parcels are natural open space and vital wildlife habitat and should remain in their current natural condition. These parcels are protected from development only in so far as Article 97 of the State Constitution prohibits disposal without a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Town Meeting and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the State Legislature. These parcels are listed below in Table 5-3.

The Parks and Recreation Department owns and manages all of the properties listed below in Table 5-3. All of the properties are available for passive recreation and allow for general public access. The parklands were either purchased by the Town or were donated by generous citizens.

<b>Table 5-3. Parks and Rec. Open Space Parcels</b>									
<b>Parcel Name</b>	<b>Street Reference</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Property Condition</b>	<b>Expansion Potential</b>	<b>Zone</b>	<b>Current Use</b>	<b>Type of grant</b>	<b>Public Access?</b>	<b>Degree of protection (per deed)</b>
Cushing Memorial	Dudley Rd.	57.5	Excellent	Yes	R-1	Passive Rec	USH & PARC	Yes	P&R G.L.c.45, sec. 14; Art.97
Edgell Rd	87 Edgell Rd, RR	6.08	Good	No	R-3	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	P&R G.L.c.45, sec. 14; Art.97
Edgebrook	21 Edgebrook	6.5	Very Good	No	R-3	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Farm Pond	Dudley Rd.	26.6	Excellent	Yes	R-1	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Hemenway	Hemenway Rd.	4.49	Very Good	No	R-3	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Kellog St.	Kellog/Prospect	5.35	Very Good	No	R-3	Street Island	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Lanewood Ave	1 Lanewood Ave	5.00	Good	No	R-4	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Lyman Rd	Lyman Rd	1.09	Very Good	No	R-4	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
McManus Park	Pearl /Thompson	0.21	Very Good	No	CB	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Merriam Park	74 Dennison	13.3	Very Good	Yes	R-1	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Nobscot Park	850 Edgell Rd.	3.2	Very Good	Yes	R-4	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	P&R G.L.c.45, sec. 14; Art.97
Old Conn Path	OCP, RR	4.01	Good	No	R-1	Street Island	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Park Street	2 Park St.	0.43	Good	No	CB	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Pratt St.	48 Pratt St, RR	1.24	Fair	Yes	G	Public Garden	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
Reardon	Brownlea Rd/14R Foley Dr	3.00	Very Good	No	R-1	Playground	N/A	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 48639, Page 218
Salem	Salem End Rd	0.11	Good	No	R-4	Street Island	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Simpson Dr	110 Simpson Dr	1.61	Good	Yes	R-1	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Veterans Park	Concord St.	1.00	Very Good	No	G	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
Walnut St.	105 Walnut St.	6.83	Good	No	R-1	Trail	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Water St.	Water St	11.00	Good	No	R-3	Passive Rec	N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
<b>Total</b>		<b>149.7</b>							

## 5. Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) Property

Approximately 323 acres of open space in Framingham are owned by SVT. Some of the land is managed for passive recreation, some for agricultural use, and some for watershed and wildlife habitat protection (Table 5-4). All SVT properties are protected by an implied charitable trust enforceable by the donor and the Massachusetts Attorney General.

**Table 5-4. SVT Properties in Framingham**

SVT RESERVATION NAME	ACRES	PARCEL ID	PARCEL LOCATION
Baiting Brook	66.442	64-34-7860	862 Edmands Rd.
Baiting Brook	25.963	64-53-1736	862 Edmands Rd.
Baiting Brook	18.061	64-36-8286	862 Edmands Rd.
Baiting Brook	0.421	64-36-6688	862 Edmands Rd.
Centennial Place	0.845	84-23-1239	End of Centennial Place
Ciampa Woodland	5.013	74-26-3495	1016 Edgell Rd.
Cockell Island	0.575	74-90-2969	Near 397 Central St.
Cowassock Woods	16.929	Many paper parcels & roads	888 Salem End Rd.
Cowassock Woods	9.014	Many paper parcels & roads	888 Salem End Rd.
Ferreira	1.102	74-94-5046	307 Water St.
Framingham Fields	6.946	64-64-8733	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Fields	5.550	64-57-9079	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Fields	3.956	64-47-8054	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Fields	2.874	64-57-9079	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Fields	1.698	64-66-0712	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Fields	1.367	64-56-1919	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Fields	1.033	64-57-7470	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Fields	1.003	64-57-1207	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Fields	0.771	64-73-4661	Grove/Edmands, Grove/Winch
Framingham Woodlots	17.136	64-84-0556	Grove/Edmands/Sage
Framingham Woodlots	9.966	74-03-0253	Grove/Edmands/Sage
Framingham Woodlots	6.007	64-66-7664	Grove/Edmands/Sage
Framingham Woodlots	2.002	64-95-9130	Grove/Edmands/Sage
Framingham Woodlots	0.270	64-66-7664	Grove/Edmands/Sage
Gordon's Corner	9.587	73-47-4568	211 Edgell Rd.
Gordon's Corner	2.658	73-46-5603	175 Edgell Rd.
Henry's Hill Conservation Area	29.566	64-58-2718	~30 Wayside Inn Rd.
Henry's Hill Conservation Area	17.810	64-69-4234	~30 Wayside Inn Rd.
Henry's Hill Conservation Area	4.115	64-57-1968	~30 Wayside Inn Rd.
Henry's Hill Conservation Area	3.951	64-57-1968	~30 Wayside Inn Rd.
Henry's Hill Conservation Area	3.476	64-59-2547	~30 Wayside Inn Rd.
Henry's Hill Conservation Area	0.970	64-58-7240	~30 Wayside Inn Rd.
Pigor's Land	3.781	63-91-0814	Near 385 Salem End Rd.
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	9.654	73-29-0438	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	6.210	73-29-4064	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	5.786	73-08-1741	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap

Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	4.004	73-08-6298	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	2.403	73-09-0051	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	1.930	73-18-1170	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	1.801	73-08-5628	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	1.632	73-08-0515	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	1.335	73-19-7023	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	1.163	73-18-3615	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	1.159	73-08-9447	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	1.113	73-18-1170	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	0.820	73-18-4527	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	0.757	73-18-1170	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Pike-Haven-Foster Environs	0.205	73-29-4064	Edgell, Belknap, Grove/Belknap
Rendell Reservation	2.320	73-64-5547/5734	94 Prospect St
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>323.15</b>		

## 6. Agricultural Preservation Restrictions

The APR program allows the State, Town, or combination of the two (2), to purchase the development rights on farmland in order to preserve the land's use for agriculture. The owner is compensated by the difference between the full market value (development value) and the agricultural value (the current use). The only property in Framingham falling under this APR classification is the portion of Hanson's Farm on the west side of Nixon Road.

## 7. Conservation Restrictions

A conservation restriction (CR) permanently protects private property from development. The land remains in the ownership of the landowner, but the "development rights" have been permanently restricted. A CR ensures that land will remain in its predominantly natural condition. Lists of parcels in Framingham with conservation restrictions, conservation restrictions in progress, and deed restrictions follow (Tables 5-5, 5-6, and 5-7).

<b>Table 5-5. Conservation Restrictions (Existing)</b>						
<b>Parcel</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Grantor</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Ac.</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Expir.</b>
Aronson-Combs	Wayside Inn Rd., 33	B. Aronson	SVT	6.7		none
Baiting Brook Meadow Farm	Nixon Rd., 32	G. and D.D. Harrington	SVT	80.0	2007	none
Belknap	Belknap Rd., portions of 153, 85, 59, & 37	B Plympton	Con Com	13.9	25-Oct-73	none
Belknap	Belknap Rd., portion of 289	L Kendal	Con Com	4.3	25-Oct-73	none
Campanelli/Knox Trail	Dartmouth Dr., 0	Campanelli, Inc.	Con Com	1.2	31-May-79	none
Hilltop Lane	Parmenter Rd., portions of 93, and Hilltop Ln., portion of 7	G. Harrington	Con Com	4.0	22-Feb-80	none
Overly	Edmands Rd., 1101	E. Overly	SVT	19.0	2007	none
Riverpath Dr	Birch Rd., wellfield	Riverpath Assoc	Con Com	5.6	13-Sep-04	none
Shady Lane	Shady Ln., east portions of 4, 6, 8, 10, 12	Creative Housing Co. Inc.	Con Com	0.1	05-May-82	none
Wittenborg Woods	Wayside Inn Rd., 55	Town of Framingham	State	62.7	1999	none

<b>Table 5-6. Deed Restrictions (Existing)</b>						
<b>Parcel</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Grantor</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Ac.</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Expir.</b>
Perry Henderson Dr.	Easterly portions of 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 Perry Henderson Dr.	National Development Corp.	Con Com	1.8	1983	2013
Legatt-McCall	8 Legatt-McCall Connector	Lambda Ltd. Part.	Con Com	2.8	1994	2024

<b>Table 5-7. Conservation Restrictions (In-Process)</b>						
<b>Parcel</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Grantor</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Ac.</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Expir.</b>
Brimstone Lane	Brimstone Ln., portion of 287	Albermarle Realty Corp.	Con Com	21.0		NA

## **C. Protected Active Recreation Land**

Active recreation land includes land owned and managed by the Framingham Parks and Recreation Department as well as several privately owned facilities. This land is protected by the M.G.L. chapter 45.

### **1. Framingham Park and Recreation Property (and School Property)**

Approximately 364 acres of recreation land are under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Department which is protected by M.G.L. Chapter 45. Below is a list of the park and recreation facilities owned by the Town of Framingham and managed by the Parks and Recreation Department (Table 5-8). Park and Recreation properties vary in size, type of facility, and intensity of use. Some are designed to serve nearby residents in surrounding neighborhoods while others may serve users from other towns.

Many of the recreation properties have been improved and upgraded within the past five (5) years. A Capital Improvement Plan is in place for all areas.

An additional eighty (80) acres of athletic fields on school property are owned by the School Department, but maintained and managed by the Park and Recreation Department. All other areas of the school grounds are maintained by the School Department. Due to the present arrangement, scheduling of events at school facilities and the maintenance of thirty-two (32) school fields are the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department. This arrangement has been very beneficial to both parties.

The Parks and Recreation Department owns and manages all of the properties listed on the following page in Table 5-8. All of the properties allow for general public access. The parklands were either purchased by the Town or were donated by generous citizens.

The Parks and Recreation Department is also involved in several projects that they hope will soon be added to the list of facilities in Table 5-8:

- 21 Edgebrook Road – This 5.9 acre parcel was recently acquired by the town through a gift from former owners. Parks and Recreation Department will be developing a management and use plan for this parcel.
  
- Danforth Green – It is expected that this 88 acre parcel will be deeded to the town in 2013. The Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of developing a management and use plan for this parcel.
  
- Pratt Street Community Garden – This formerly unused town recreation land was converted to a community garden in 2011. This project was a joint effort of Parks and Recreation, the Agricultural Committee, and the Community and Economic Development Division. The Parks and Recreation Department hopes to expand the community garden concept to other recreation lands in town

**Table 5-8. Parks and Rec. Recreational Properties and Associated Facilities**

Park Land	Acres	St. Address	Condition	Expansion Potential	Zone	Current Use								Type of grant	Public Access?	Degree of protection (per deed)
						Basketball	Beach	Baseball/ Little League	Football	Playground	Softball	Soccer	Tennis			
Anna Murphy Park	3.00	Cove & Lake Av.	Excellent	No	G			1					1	Marathon	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Apple Street Park	0.50	Bethany Rd.	Excellent	Yes	G	1				1				CDBG	Yes	Town Owned
Arlington St. Playgrnd	1.80	61 Arlington St.	Excellent	No	G	1				1				CDBG	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Bates Road Park	2.60	40 Bates Rd.	Excellent	Yes	G	1		1		1	1			Trust	Yes	Town Owned
Bowditch Field	18.17	475 Union Av	Excellent	No	R-1	1		1	1				4	PARC	Yes	P&R G.L.c.45, sec. 14; Art.97
Brackett Road	2.35	Brackett Rd.	Fair	Yes	M									N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Brophy School	5.12	575 Pleasant St.	Excellent	No	R-3						2	2		Donation	Yes	Town Owned
Butterworth Park	10.50	261 Grant St.	Excellent	Yes	G	1		1	1	1	1	1	4	CDBG/donation	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Callahan Senior Center	2.20	535 Union Ave	Excellent	No	R-1									N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Carter/Keefe Tech	29.40	Dudley Rd.	Excellent	No	R-1			1						N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Danforth St	9.13	Danforth St.	Excellent	No	R-1					1	1			CDBG/donation	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Forest Ave Ext.	0.66	Forest Ave	Fair	No	R-1									N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
Furber Park	3.78	Fairbanks Rd.	Excellent	No	R-1			1		1				N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
Gallagher	1.30	380 Concord St.	Very Good	No	G									N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Juniper Hill	2.59	29 Upper Jocynl	Fair	No	R-1									N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Keefe Football Field	1.84	750 Winter St.	Good	No	R-1				1					N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Learned Pd. Beach	1.00	Lower Shawmut Ter.	Very Good	No	R-1		1							CDBG	Yes	Town Owned
Longs/Ryan Complex	5.59	Dudley Rd.	Excellent	No	R-1	1		1			1			N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Mary Dennison	14.00	54 Beaver St.	Very Good	Yes	M	1		1	1	1	2	1		CDBG	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
Mason Park	4.70	Maple & Franklin	Good	No	R-1					1				N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Merchant Road Fields	29.00	Merchant Rd.	Excellent	No	R-4							1		N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Mount Wayte	1.00	Chautauqua Ave.	Very Good	Yes	R-1					1				N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Musterfield/ Galvani	9.17	Guadalcanal Rd.	Excellent	No	G						2	2		CDBG	Yes	Town Owned
Oakvale Park	3.20	46 Hadley Rd.	Very Good	Yes	R-3					1				N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Reardon Park	10.00	2 Laclede Ave	Very Good	No	R-1	1		1		1				CDBG	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
Roosevelt Park	3.80	80 Fay Rd.	Excellent	No	PRD	1				1				USH	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
Saxonville Beach	1.84	17 Lake Rd.	Excellent	Yes	R-1		1							CDBG	Yes	Town Owned Tax Title Book 10275 Page 376
Temple Street Playgrnd	1.80	Temple St, RR	Excellent	Yes	R-1					1				N/A	Yes	Town Owned
Victory Field	6.50	Auburn St.	Very Good	Yes	R-3							2		USH	Yes	P&R G.L.c.45, sec. 14; Art.97
Waushakum Beach	1.11	Nipmuc Rd.	Very Good	Yes	R-3		1			1				N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
Winch Park	11.32	67 A St.	Very Good	No	R-1								6	N/A	Yes	Town Owned – P&R Department
Winter Street	5.72	340 Winter St	Very Good	No	R-1									N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned; recreational purposes
Woodfield	7.00	Sloane Drive	Very Good	Yes	R-3					1				N/A	Yes	Board of Selectmen owned
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>209.49</b>					<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>			

<b>School Property</b>	<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>Athletic Fields Maintained by Parks &amp; Rec. (Acres)</b>	<b>Basketball</b>	<b>Beach</b>	<b>Baseball</b>	<b>Football</b>	<b>Playground</b>	<b>Softball</b>	<b>Soccer</b>	<b>Tennis</b>	<b>Track</b>
Barbieri	18.48	8.27			1		1		1	2	
Brophy	28.13	5.12	1				1		1		
Cameron	30.75	2.11			1						
Dunning School	23.51	see Walsh			1		1				
Fuller	27.35	2.70							1		
Hemenway	13.67	5.79									
High School	44.41	11.32	1		1	1		2	2	6	
Juniper Hill	16.94	2.59			1		1				
King	13.70	3.53	1					1			
McCarthy	22.63	1.00	1		1		1		1		
Potter Road	12.75	6.71	1		1		1		1		
Walsh/Dunning	12.65	22.16			1		1	1			
Mass Bay	22.00	8.95			1						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>294.7</b>	<b>80.25</b>									

## 2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Corridors

The Rail Trails are on corridors of varying forms of state and municipal ownership and agreement, and so varying degrees of protection.

- The Cochituate Rail Trail (CRT) is a proposed multi-use trail which will extend from the Village of Saxonville in Framingham, southeast to Natick Center, a distance of four (4) miles. The Framingham section of trail is currently under construction. The Town of Framingham acquired the right of way from the MBTA in 2010 after the town's Department of Public Works identified a portion of the right of way as suitable for the installation of a new sewer line (as part of the East Framingham Sewer Interceptor Project). This project was completed in 2012 and includes a 12' wide maintenance road for sewer maintenance purposes. In 2010, the town received a CMAQ (congestion mitigation and air quality) grant from MassDOT for \$700,000. These funds will be used to upgrade the maintenance road to function as a rail trail with the addition of fences, street crossings, pavement markings, landscaping, benches, bicycle racks and information kiosks. It is anticipated that the trail will be completed in 2014.
- The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail is a proposed multi-use trail on a right-of-way that extends thirty (30) miles northward from Rte 30 to the junction of Routes 3 and 495. This project has been divided into three (3) phases. Phase I from Rte 495 south to Rte 225 has been completed, Phase II from Rte 225 through Acton, Concord, and Sudbury is in the design phase and Phase III (the Nobscot right-of-way) from Sudbury to Framingham. Phase III is still very early in the development process. Phase III will require acquisition of the right-of-way which is currently owned by CSX. The Town

removed an adjacent parcel from the tax title list in 2009 for possible future use as a trail head for the Bruce Freedman Rail Trail (BFRT).

The Bay Circuit Trail is a 200 mile corridor running through fifty (50) cities and towns around greater Boston. It connects the "jewels" of the "Emerald Necklace." It was first proposed in 1929 as an outer "emerald necklace," linking parks, open spaces and waterways from Plum Island to Kingston Bay. The Bay Circuit idea, a precursor of today's national greenways movement, continues to take shape.

The Town's 2012 Master Plan includes a Bicycle Collector Path system.

Bicycle lanes should be incorporated into the town's roadway system wherever possible. This would allow safe travel by residents throughout the town. The process for developing a town-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was kicked off in 2013. Staff from DPW, Planning Board, and Community & Economic Development have teamed up to take on this endeavor by meeting regularly to share ideas and create such a plan. In September 2014, the Town in collaboration with the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) held its Livable Community Workshop, Bike and Pedestrian Plan Kick-off public meeting. Extensive outreach for the event was completed and the Town was able to gain valuable feedback from the number of participants who attended. Framingham will continue the process in order to identify areas lacking bike and pedestrian amenities and create plans for expansion of this multi-modal network.

### **3. Aqueduct and Reservoir Lands**

Framingham is fortunate to be the home of a series of public water reservoir and aqueduct lands. Improving public access to these resources was a key recommendation of the 2008 Plan and considerable staff time has been spent since 2009 implementing this recommendation.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation Resources (DCR) manages three public water reservoirs in Framingham – the Foss, Stearns and Brackett reservoirs. The Foss Reservoir, north of Route 9, is designated as a standby water resource, and could be used in an emergency as a backup supply for the MWRA system's sixty-one (61) communities. Due to contamination associated with the Nyanza superfund site in Ashland, the Stearns and Brackett reservoirs, comprising twelve (12) miles of shore land (the dams are excluded) and 175 acres, are no longer used for public water supply and the state is seeking to divest itself of the ownership and management of these reservoirs and adjoining lands. The Town has been involved in discussions with the state regarding the future use and disposition of the Stearns and Brackett reservoirs. In particular, there is an eight (8) acre parcel at 322 Salem End Road that has potential for enhanced recreational use and public boat access on both sides of the dams will open the entire Sudbury River downstream of Ashland for navigation.

The Metropolitan Water Resources Authority (MWRA) manages three aqueducts that traverse through Framingham. The Weston and Hultman Aqueducts parallel each other for approximately 5.1 miles from the Sudbury Reservoir off of Pleasant Street in Southborough to Saxonville and then into Wayland. The Sudbury Aqueduct begins at the Stearns Reservoir on Winter Street and moves in a southeasterly direction for approximately three (3) miles to the Sherborn town line.

The Hultman Aqueduct was taken off-line in 2003 and its rehabilitation is underway. When work is completed in 2014, the Hultman Aqueduct and the new Metrowest tunnel can be used

interchangeably. If one line needs repair, the other will be activated, with little or no interruption to service. The Hultman will serve as the primary backup to the Metrowest Tunnel system. According to the MWRA staff, the need for the Hultman Aqueduct to serve as primary backup to the Metrowest tunnel places it in a more restricted category and improved access for residents is not likely at the present time.

Given the Hultman Aqueduct’s status as a primary back up, the potential use of the Weston and Sudbury Aqueducts has been the Town’s focus for improved public access. In 2011, the Town prepared a Public Trails Report that provided recommendations for enhanced public access. Working closely with the MWRA, and concurrently with the MWRA’s new public access policy announced in the fall of 2012, the town obtained an 8m Permit to open a segment of the Weston Aqueduct for public use in October 2012. Building on this relationship, the Town is continuing to work with the MWRA to open additional segments of the Weston and Sudbury Aqueducts in 2013 and 2014.

**D. Unprotected Open Space**

Following is a description of categories (and some lists of parcels) of unprotected open space in Framingham; this is the list of properties from which we will select priorities for protection.

**1. Town-Owned Property**

The Town owns some choice pieces of land that should be evaluated for possible protection through the Conservation Commission and/or Parks and Recreation Department.

**2. Town-Owned “Tax Title Land”**

The Town owns many parcels of land that were taken for tax delinquency. This list is ever changing as new parcels come onto the list and periodically parcels are disposed of at auction and to other town departments. Some parcels have value as open space, others have recreational value. All should be periodically vetted for potential public value.

Several parcels have been identified as priorities for acquisition by Conservation or Parks and Rec. Upon further analysis, others may be identified. In 2010, the parcel at 1093 Worcester Road was taken off this list and set aside for recreation purposes. The parcel is adjacent to the proposed Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and is being retained by the town for rail trail purposes.

<b>Table 5-10. Tax-Title Land Of Conservation and Recreation Interest</b>		
<b>Parcel Number</b>	<b>Parcel Address</b>	<b>Interested Dept.</b>
74-63-2303	235 Brook St. RR	Conservation
74-53-8438	746 Water St. RR	Conservation
74-63-8399	410 Water St. RR	Conservation
930-9-24	1093 Worcester Rd.	Parks and Recreation
306-215-13.B	Old Conn Path (Reardon Park)	Parks and Recreation
53-90-1190	0 Parker Rd., off	Conservation
53-90-6648	0 Worcester Rd., off	Conservation
363A-90-95	9999 Florita Dr.	Parks and Recreation
282-160-24	1535 Concord St.	Parks and Recreation
282-160-01	1545 Concord St.	Parks and Recreation

### 3. Chapter 61 and 61A Lands

Parcels taxed under the Chapter 61 (Forestry) and Chapter 61A (Agriculture and Horticulture) tax classification are in private ownership and are not protected open space areas. The tax classification enables the lands to be taxed at their use value rather than the full fair market value. The Town has the right of first refusal if the parcels are sold prior to the expiration of the tax abated status. Owners of land classified under Chapters 61 and 61A must notify the Town before selling or converting the land to another use.

The Town has 120 days to decide whether to exercise the option to purchase the land. This allows the Town to protect individual open space parcels as they enter the market or become threatened by development.

Approximately 503 acres of land (a total of 27 parcels) in Framingham are under this tax classification. Parcels taxed under Chapter 61 and 61A are listed below. Note that those parcels with Conservation Restrictions on them are listed separately at the bottom. In addition, approximately forty-one (41) acres (5 parcels) of agricultural/horticultural land are not included in the Chapter 61 or 61A tax classification.

**Table 5-11. Parcels taxed under Chapter 61 and 61A**

St #	Street	Owner	Acres	Chapter	Parcel Number
131	Kendall Ave,	Geoghegan, JH & RC	5.69	61 A (Ag/Hort)	101.0-0209-0010.0
0	Leland St	Geoghegan, JH & RC	0.51	61 A (Ag/Hort)	178.0-0230-0005.0
93	Leland St off	Geoghegan, JH & RC	2.60	61 A (Ag/Hort)	178.0-0230-0004.0
19	Nixon Rd	Hanson, CD & PM	12.09	61 A (Ag/Hort)	421.0-0001-0012.0
0	Edmands Rd,	Hanson, CD & PM	4.30	61 A (Ag/Hort)	423.0-0003-0012.D
0	Parmenter Rd	Hundred Acre Wood RT	3.71	61 (Forest)	422.0-0002-0003.J
0	Parmenter Rd	Hundred Acre Wood RT	3.11	61 (Forest)	422.0-0002-0003.K
0	Parmenter Rd	Hundred Acre Wood RT	8.76	61 (Forest)	422.0-0002-0003.L
0	Edmands Rd,	Overly, Edith H	6.03	61 A (Ag/Hort)	423.0-0003-0012.B
1084	Grove Street	Stephan, Doug	24.00	61A (Ag/Hort)	431.0-0001-0002.A
1062	Edmands Rd	Stephan, DW,Tr	111.98	61 A (Ag/Hort)	432.0-0001-0016.0
0	Dartmouth Dr	Wayside/Realty Inn,	24.52	61 A (Ag/Hort)	686.0-0001-0067.0
0	Wayside Inn	Wayside/Realty Inn,	26.93	61 A (Ag/Hort)	686.0-0001-0067.A
1	Edmands Rd	Whittemore, D & S	16.72	61 (Forest)	421.0-0001-0013.0
815	Edmands Rd	Whittemore, D & S	1.00	61 (Forest)	421.0-0001-0016.0
19	Parmenter Rd	Hundred Acre Wood RT	9.64	61 A (Ag/Hort)	422.0-0002-0003.H
80	Nixon Rd	Webster, H & C	17.58	61 A (Ag/Hort)	422.0-0003-0001.0
33	Wayside Inn	Aronson, B	13.60	61 A (Ag/Hort)	422.0-0002-0003.H
1064	Grove St	Leone, M	10.92	61 A (Ag/Hort)	431.0-0001-0002.B
949	Grove St	Deignan, J & L	15.04	61 A (Ag/Hort)	430.0-0001-0009.B
250	Grove St	Bernardi, S & D	13.02	61 A (Ag/Hort)	378.0-0039-0009.0
110	Mill St	Robinson, D & J	27.76	61 A (Ag/Hort)	695.0-0001-0012.0
51	Wayside Inn	Howes, A	10.00	61 A (Ag/Hort)	414.0-0001-0017.0
736	Edmands Rd	Schneider, R & P	14.01	61 A (Ag/Hort)	431.0-0001-0007.0
20	Nixon Rd	Hanson, CD & PM	23.19	61 A (Ag/Hort)	423.0-0003-0008.0
152	Grove St	Robertson, D & R	5.37	61 A (Ag/Hort)	379.0-0039-0020.0
1147	Grove St	Quirk, R D Tr	10.85	61 A (Ag/Hort)	423.0-0003-0014.0
0	Nixon Rd*	Baiting Brook, LLC	44.62	61 A (CR)	423.0-0003-0007.0

**Table 5-11. Parcels taxed under Chapter 61 and 61A**

St #	Street	Owner	Acres	Chapter	Parcel Number
32	Nixon Rd*	Baiting Brook, LLC	35.67	61 A (CR)	422.0-0003-0005.0
	<b>Total</b>		<b>597.95</b>		

\*These parcels are Ch 61A land, but are protected under Conservation restrictions

#### 4. Additional/Other Unprotected Private Open Space Over 5 Acres

There are many parcels of private land in Framingham that have significant open space and are not protected from potential development. Below are listed such parcels of five (5) acres or more. Some may have portions or be entirely open space with conservation or recreation value. Of those listed, 21 Edgebrook Road was preserved by a 99 year lease by the Parks and Recreation Department in 2012. The nine (9) Riverpath Associates Ltd. parcels were subject to a Planned Unit Development Permit from the Planning Board in 2013 (Danforth Green). Approximately eighty-eight (88) acres of this site will be deeded to the town and permanently preserved for open space use. The two (2) Marist Fathers parcels on Pleasant Street were placed on the market for sale in 2013.

The two Hemenway Road properties constitute the local Garden in the Woods horticultural preserve. New England Wild Flower Society is developing a comprehensive master plan for Garden in the Woods, its 45-acre native plant botanic garden founded in 1931. The plan, which will be implemented in phases over approximately 20 years, takes an ecological approach to managing the natural resources of the site in an era of climate change and then layers in the horticultural, aesthetic, and visitor services goals for the Garden. It includes new and renewed displays, a path system that gives visitors access to more of the property, and new facilities. Current organic management in the Garden will become the foundation for sustainable practices in all aspects of operations.

**Table 5-12. Additional Unprotected Private Land Over 5 Ac with Significant Open Space**

St. #	Street	Owner	Parcel ID	Acres	Land Use Code
0	Carter Dr	Albemarle Realty Corp	65-70-5952	6.71	Res Dev Land
	Summer St	Anderson Maria A L	73-97-2385	6.19	Priv Tax Ex
60F	Nixon Rd	Aron, Robert L Tr	65-00-8672	5.90	Res Pot Dev
211	Edgell Rd	Boudreau, Blair & Perry	73-47-4568	9.86	Priv Tax Ex
863	Central St	Carmelite Sisters For	73-57-1442	22.54	Priv Tax Ex
	Leland St	Century Estates Condo	82-23-9001	6.54	Res Dev Land
77	Bethany Rd	Congregation Of The	72-42-2777	73.40	Priv Tax Ex
0	Pearl St	Consolidated Rail Corp	73-50-1096	13.91	Priv Tax Ex
415	Cochituate Rd	DDR MDT Shoppers	83-66-1011	39.35	Com Pot Dev
91	Leland St	Exelon Framingham, LLC	82-32-5204	15.93	Indly Zoned Pot
40	Winch St	Fafard, Madlyn A &	64-54-8157	21.90	Res Dev Land
261	Edmands Rd	Fram Com Rec Center	74-07-3089	19.22	Priv Tax Ex
3	Western Ave	General Motors Corp	71-99-2449	15.65	Ind Undev Land
80	Wayside Inn	Gibbons, Debra H	65-42-4026	5.75	Res Dev Land
458	Old Conn Path	Gustin, Sarah Trustee	83-48-2856	6.32	Com Dev Land
1400	Edgell Rd	Knox Trail Council, BSA	75-01-2517	10.30	Priv Tax Ex
1300	Edgell Rd	Knox Trail Council, BSA	75-11-7059	42.80	Priv Tax Ex
1294	Edgell Rd	Knox Trail Council, BSA	74-19-6802	96.92	Priv Tax Ex
830	Edgell Rd	Leach Charles E	74-23-5980	10.44	Res Undev Land
505	Pleasant St	Marist Fathers Boston	63-76-1034	7.62	Priv Tax Ex
518	Pleasant St	Marist Fathers Boston	63-75-4400	28.80	Priv Tax Ex
49	Badger Rd	Mass Congregation	62-67-3351	18.10	Priv Tax Ex

<b>Table 5-12. Additional Unprotected Private Land Over 5 Ac with Significant Open Space</b>					
<b>St. #</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Parcel ID</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Land Use Code</b>
1	Badger Rd	Mass Congregation	62-69-5158	44.40	Priv Tax Ex
180	Hemenway Rd	NE Wildflower Soc., Inc.	74-59-7362	31.95	Priv Tax Ex
	Hemenway Rd	NE Wildflower Soc., Inc	74-59-3884	6.57	Priv Tax Ex
43B	Nixon Rd	Nexum Development	64-39-1805	7.02	Res Dev Land
43C	Nixon Rd	Nexum Development	64-39-1309	10.10	Res Pot Dev
264	Elm St	Novak, William J	84-27-3005	5.31	Res Dev Land
0	Parker Rd	Paul, Linda Tr	53-90-1190	9.38	Res Pot Dev
89	Mt Wayte Rd	Perini Corp.	73-40-9649	8.43	Warehouse
1147	Edmands	Quirk, Robert D	423-3-14	10.84	Multiple Res
1624	Worcester Rd	RDC Water LLC	63-32-7897	6.30	Com Dev Land
0	Worcester Rd	Regan Catherine M	53-90-6648	6.81	Res Undev Land
90	Stearns St	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-44-5708	5.82	Res Undev Land
0	Meadow St Ns	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-67-0197	9.80	Res Undev Land
200	Danforth St	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-65-5937	10.23	Indly Zoned Pot
160	Meadow St	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-45-5042	10.69	Indly Zoned Pot
125	Elm St	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-45-5464	12.91	Ind Land: S&G
0	Elm St	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-46-4276	13.27	Indly Zoned Pot
0	Meadow St	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-56-8338	25.68	Indly Zoned Pot
220	Danforth St	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-55-9239	26.26	Ind Land: S&G
0	Elm St	Riverpath Associates Ltd	84-57-5122	28.76	Res Undev Land
1	Fenwick St	Roman Catholic	74-70-4106	22.70	Priv Tax Ex
1824	Worcester Rd	Rose Holdings Inc	53-92-3565	12.52	Ind Undev Land
567	Salem End Rd	Sons Of Mary	63-61-6262	29.12	Priv Tax Ex
750	Winter St	South Middlesex Reg	72-35-6956	25.75	Priv Tax Ex
225	Crossing Blvd	Staples, Inc	53-71-9725	33.55	Ind Dev Land
2	Winch St	Sudbury Valley School	64-53-8238	10.08	Priv Tax Ex
0	Nixon Rd	Talmo, Robert D	64-27-0481	14.70	Res Dev Land
300	Pleasant St	Temple Beth Am	63-95-1546	10.09	Priv Tax Ex
0	Cherry St	The Catholic Cemetery	83-09-0599	14.02	Priv Tax Ex
29	Pleasant St	Thibideault, Steven	73-25-9003	5.92	Res
121	Beaver St	Verelli, Domenic Et Al Trs	82-14-9933	5.24	Com Pot Dev
21	Edgebrook Rd	Walker, B.J.	73-38-7335	5.74	Res Dev Land
96	Worcester Rd	Westate Llc	83-32-3892	6.53	Com Pot Dev
103	Guild Rd	Zani Donald P	71-89-3216	11.23	Res Undev Land
		<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>797.47</b>	

## **E. Unprotected Active Recreation Land**

### **1. Chapter 61B Lands**

Parcels taxed under the Chapter 61B (Recreation) tax classification are in private ownership and are not protected. The tax classification enables the lands to be taxed at their use value rather than the full fair market value. The Town has the right of first refusal if the parcels are sold prior to the expiration of the tax abated status. Owners of land classified under Chapter 61B must notify the Town before selling or converting the land to another use.

The Town has 120 days to decide whether to exercise the option to purchase the land. This allows the Town to protect individual open space parcels as they enter the market or become threatened by development. Parcels taxed under Chapter 61B are listed below.

<b>St #</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Acres*</b>	<b>Chan</b>	<b>Parcel Number</b>
1037	Edmands St.	David Maynard	12.3	61 B	423.0-0003-0012.C
16	Gates St	Framingham Country Club	41.82	61 B	456.0-0005-0003.0
0	Parker Rd	Framingham Country Club	0.83	61 B	456.0-0005-0004.0
60	Parker Rd	Framingham Country Club	62.58	61 B	454.0-0004-0018.0
0	Parker Rd, R	Framingham Country Club	29.86	61 B	457.0-0005-0007.0
351	Belknap Rd	Fram Swimming Pool Assoc	6.00	61 B	435.0-0001-0018.F
818	Grove St	Millwood Farms Golf Course	14.38	61 B	435.0-0001-0007.0
	Grove St	Millwood Farms Golf Course	50.62	61 B	435.0-0001-0009.0
110	Mill St	Robinson, D & J	27.76	61 B	695.0-0001-0012.0
0	Pleasant St.	Robertson, D & R Secrest	2.16	61 B	379.0-0039-0016.B
95	Wayside Inn R	Ruth Snow	13.6	61 B	414.0-0001-0001.0
62	Nixon Rd	Simonelli, J & L Fratalia	4.73	61 B	422.0-0003-0002.D
	<b>Total</b>		<b>266.64</b>		

\*Acres in Chapter 61B status

### **2. Private Recreation Land**

One parcel of this nature, with potential for protection, exists in Framingham: the Framingham Swimming Pool Association owns 7.28 acres of land, much of it undeveloped, at 351 Belknap Rd.

## **F. Priority Parcels for Protection**

### **1. Criteria for Protecting Open Space Parcels**

The Conservation Commission has a Policy on Accepting Land Donations that informs all discussions about what parcels or types of parcels the Commission would most like to acquire.

- Parcels that have high ecological value, i.e.:
  - Are connected to other protected open space (to serve as an expansion, a link, or a buffer)
  - Are large
  - Have high-quality wildlife habitat for native species
  - Protect wetlands and water resources
  - Are ecologically unique or diverse
- Parcels that have cultural value, i.e.:
  - Are publicly accessible

- Have alternative transportation value
- Offer opportunities for public education
- Protect water resources
- Protect scenic vistas or viewsheds
- Are agriculturally productive
- Are historically significant
- Are located in areas with little protected open space
- Parcels that will be able to be appropriately used and maintained
  - Parcels with few invasive, exotic, hazardous, or noxious weeds or materials

## **2. Criteria for Protecting Recreation Parcels**

The Town would like to acquire affordable parcels for recreation that:

- Offer geographic equity of recreational resources
- Require limited preparation for development
- Are readily accessible

## **3. Priority Parcels for Acquisition or Protection**

Opportunities for acquisition or creative protection come and go and vary from situation to situation. Therefore, priorities will change as fiscal, political, and developmental circumstances change. There are, however, some parcels of such high priority, that they are worth setting forth here. The parcels listed below are identified on Map 10 Seven Year Action Plan.

The Town successfully obtained a \$500,000 Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) grant from the Ma Department of Conservation and Recreation in 2011 to assist in protecting the Eastleigh Farm (Table 5-15; 1062 Edmands Road). While this amount proved inadequate to secure the property, the Town is committed to continuing our preservation efforts. The property at 1093 Worcester Road (Table 5-16) has been removed from the tax title list and been set aside for possible use with the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. A portion of the Weston Aqueduct (Table 5-18) is open for public use as part of a joint pilot project between the Town and the MWRA. Parks and Recreation acquired title to a vacant parcel on Edgebrook Road.

**Table 5-14. Large Parcels of High Quality Private Land**

St. #	Street	Owner	Parcel ID	Acres	Map 10 Code
77	Bethany Rd	Congregation of Sisters	72-42-2777	73.40	1
0	Pearl St	Consolidated Rail Corp	73-50-1096	13.91	2
261	Edmands Rd	Fram Com Rec Center	74-07-3089	19.22	3
3	Western Ave.	RACER, LLC	71-99-2449	15.65	4
1400	Edgell Rd	Knox Trail Council, BSA	75-01-2517	10.30	5
1300	Edgell Rd	Knox Trail Council, BSA	75-11-7059	42.80	6
1294	Edgell Rd	Knox Trail Council, BSA	74-19-6802	96.92	7
830	Edgell Rd	Leach Charles E	74-23-5980	10.44	8
874	Edgell Rd	Nobscot Realty TR*	74-24-5231	4.14	9
462	Edgell Rd, off	Nobscot Realty	74-23-7556	3.89	10
505	Pleasant St	Marist Fathers of Boston	63-76-1034	7.62	11
518	Pleasant St	Marist Fathers of Boston	63-75-4400	28.80	12
180	Hemenway Rd	NE Wildflower Preservation	74-59-7362	31.95	13
	Hemenway Rd	NE Wildflower Presev Soc	74-59-3884	6.57	14
0	Eaton Rd.	NE Wildflower Presev Soc	74-69-0925	4.91	15
89	Mt. Wayte Ave	Perini Corp.	73-40-9649	8.43	16
0	Mt. Wayte Ave	Perini Corp.*	73-40-3803	3.15	17
0	Elm St	Fram Con ComCCFram	84-57-5122	28.76	18
567	Salem End Rd	Sons Of Mary	63-61-6262	29.12	19
225	Crossing Blvd	Staples, Inc	53-71-9725	33.55	20
103	Guild Rd	Zani Donald P	71-89-3216	11.23	21
0	Bracket Rd, off	Consolidated Rail Corp*	71-79-8231	4.5	22
65	North St. RR	Donald Askin	286-161-91	4.79	23

\* Small but contiguous parcels that should be considered

**Table 5-15. Large Parcels of Ch 61, Ch 61A, and Ch61B Land**

St #	Street	Owner	Parcel Number	Acres	Map 10 Code
16	Gates St	Framingham Country Club	456.0-0005-0003.0	41.82	24
0	Parker Rd	Framingham Country Club	456.0-0005-0004.0	0.83	25
60	Parker Rd	Framingham Country Club	454.0-0004-0018.0	62.58	26
0	Parker Rd, R	Framingham Country Club	457.0-0005-0007.0	29.86	27
818	Grove St	Millwood Farms Golf Course	435.0-0001-0007.0	14.38	28
	Grove St	Millwood Farms Golf Course	435.0-0001-0009.0	50.62	29
95	Wayside Inn R	Ruth Snow	414.0-0001-0001.0	13.6	30
0	Dartmouth Dr	Wayside/Realty Inn, LLC	686.0-0001-0067.0	24.52	31
0	Wayside Inn	Wayside/Realty Inn, LLC	686.0-0001-0067.A	26.93	32
1	Edmands Rd,	Whittemore, D & S Hollis	421.0-0001-0013.0	16.72	33
815	Edmands Rd	Whittemore, D&S Hollis Trs	421.0-0001-0016.0	1.00	34
1062	Edmands Rd	Stephan, DW,Tr (Eastleigh)	432.0-0001-0016.0	111.9	35
1084	Grove Street	Stephan, Doug	431.0-0001-0002.A	24.00	36

<b>Table 5-16. Tax-Title Land Of Conservation and Recreation Interest</b>				
<b>Parcel Address</b>	<b>Interest. Dept.</b>	<b>Parcel Number</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Map 10 Code</b>
746 Water St. RR	Conservation	74-53-8438	3.10	37
235 Brook St. RR	Conservation	74-63-2303	8.73	38
410 Water St. RR	Conservation	74-63-8399	3.22	39
1093 Worcester Rd.	Parks and Rec	930-09-0024	.44	40
Old Conn Path (Reardon Pk)	Parks and Rec	84-61-8974	3.26	41
0 Parker Rd., off	Conservation	53-90-1190	9.38	42
0 Worcester Rd., off	Conservation	53-90-6648	6.81	43

<b>Table 5-17. Town Parcels to be Considered for Internal Transfer/Protection</b>					
<b>St #</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Parcel ID</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Map 10 Code</b>
	Pamela	Town of Framingham	74-53-7758	3.22	44
403	Hemenway Rd	Parks and Recreation	74-69-5228	4.49	45
356	Edgell Rd	Town of Framingham	73-28-5119	12.89	46
3	Carlson Rd.	Fram Housing Authority	82-35-7083	17.20	47
*	Glenn St., off	Natick Village Apart.	82-45-1346	1.89	48
21	Edgebrook Rd	Town of Framingham	358-88-0002	5.87	49
9999	Worcester Rd.	Town of Framingham	211-43-002	2.62	50

<b>Table 5-18. Other Parcels for Protection if/as They Become Available</b>	
The Sudbury Aqueduct and the Weston Aqueduct	
The Stearns and Brackett Reservoirs Wildlife Preserve	

<b>Table 5-19. Conservation Lands with Trails</b>					
<b>St #</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Parcel ID</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Map 10 Code</b>
55	Wayside Inn Rd	Wittenborg Woods	414-1-39	83.73	U
840	Edgell Rd	Nobscot Reservation	371-120-13	1.04	V
619	OldConn Path	Cochituate Brook Res.	312-236-14	26.7	W
81	Little Farm Rd	Carol Getchell	293-184-22	3.20	X
26	Badger Rd	Macomber	447-2-23	57.82	Y
67	Morency St	Morency Woods	65A-1-37	14.5	Z

## CHAPTER 6: Community Needs

The Town of Framingham consists of a blend of urban, suburban, and rural neighborhoods, which leads to a great diversity of open space and recreation needs and desires. These needs and desires were solicited by means of a public opinion survey, public forums, public meetings, and personal conversations.

Responses to the citizen survey were collected from December 2012 to the end of February 2013. There were 584 responses to the survey (**see Appendix D**).

Of the survey's 47 questions, perhaps the most telling were:

- Question 10: What do you like most about Framingham?
- Question 11: What do you like least about Framingham?
- Question 16: Most attractive features of Framingham?
- Question 22: What should the Town's priority be?
- Question 23: Most frequent recreational activities?
- Question 24: What does the Town need more of?
- Question 38-47: How important is it to preserve different land uses?

The charts below indicate the survey results for those questions.

### 10. What do you like most about living in Framingham?

*answered question*                      529  
*skipped question*                      55

Diversity	73
Convenience to.....everything, Boston, shopping...	64
Access to ..Boston/shopping/everything, easy access, accessibility	54
Location	48
Proximity	17
Close proximity	16
Schools	15
Central location	14
Affordability	6
Other Responses	219

**11. What do you like least about living in Framingham?**

*answered question* 516  
*skipped question* 68

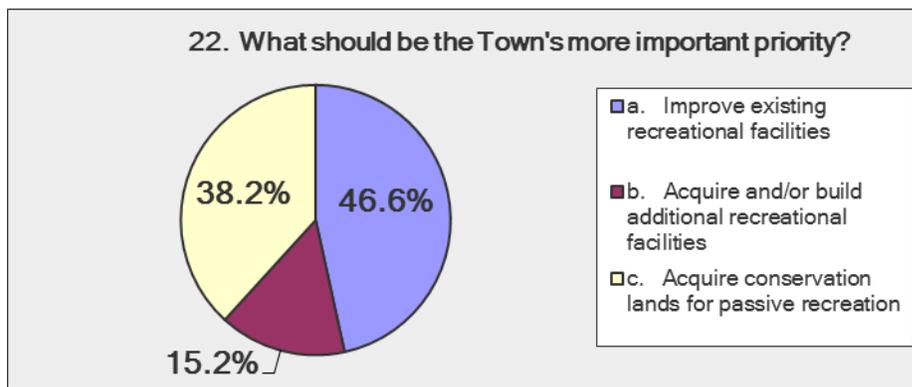
Traffic	118
Downtown appearance	60
Taxes	13
Crime	12
Congestion	10
Route 9 traffic	10
Schools	8
Other Responses	302

**16. What do you consider to be our Town's most attractive landscapes or natural features?  
 (Name up to three in order of preference)**

*answered question* 488  
*skipped question* 96

Callahan State Park	268
Cushing Park	175
Garden in the Woods	60
Town Common	52
Farm Pond	49
Sudbury River	44
Nobscot area, hill, woods, reservation etc.	42
Framingham Centre	40
Lake Cochituate	34
Reservoirs	30
Lakes and ponds	26
North Framingham open lands	23
Aqueduct	17
Bowditch Field	16
Eastleigh Farm	15
Parks	12
Macomber	11
Saxonville Beach	11
Tercentennial Park	10
Other Responses	283

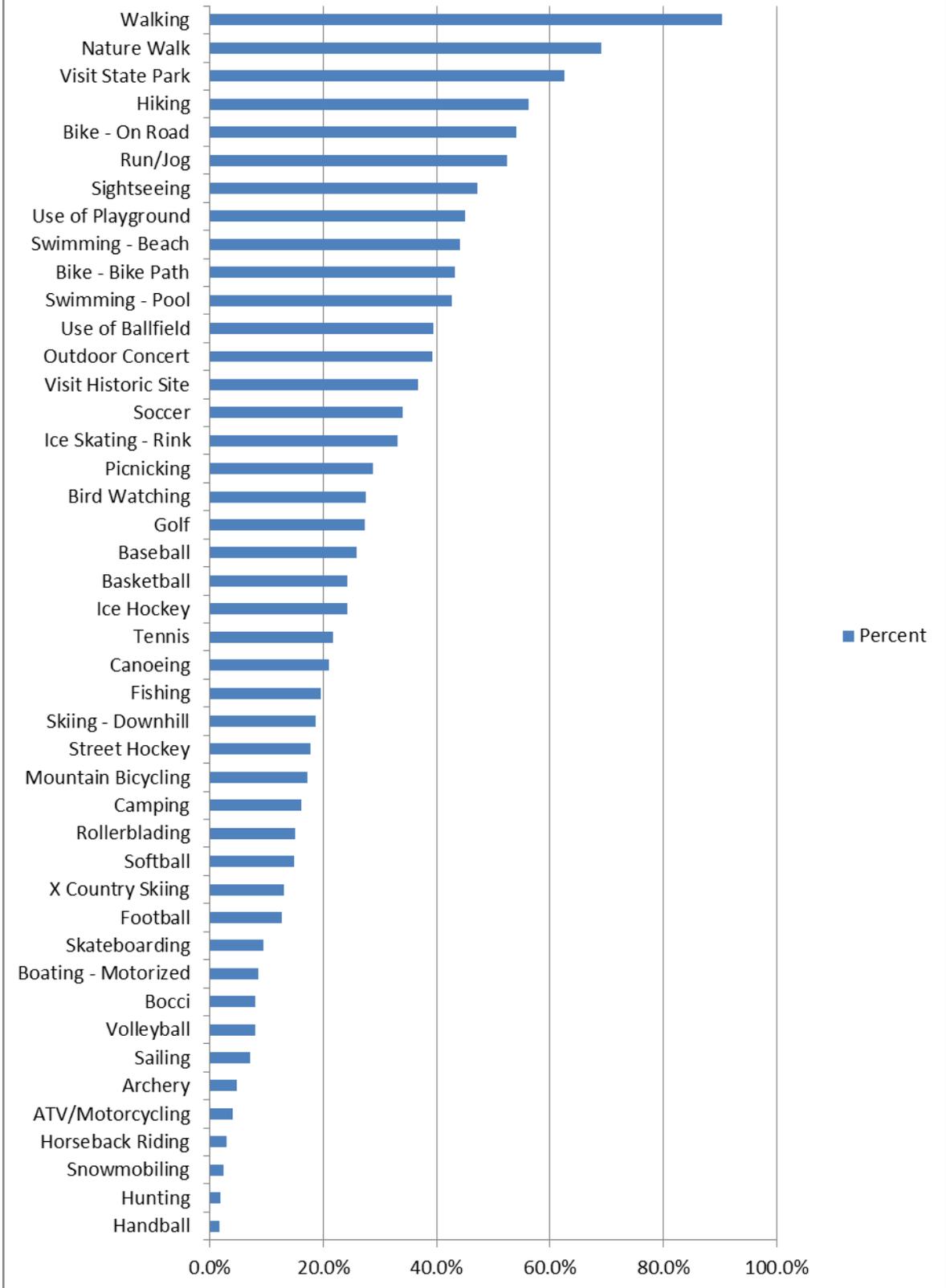
22. What should be the Town's more important priority?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
a. Improve existing recreational facilities	46.6%	257
b. Acquire and/or build additional recreational facilities	15.2%	84
c. Acquire conservation lands for passive recreation	38.2%	211
<b>answered question</b>		<b>552</b>
<b>skipped question</b>		<b>32</b>



23. Indicate approximately the number of times you or a family member participate in each recreational activity during an average year.

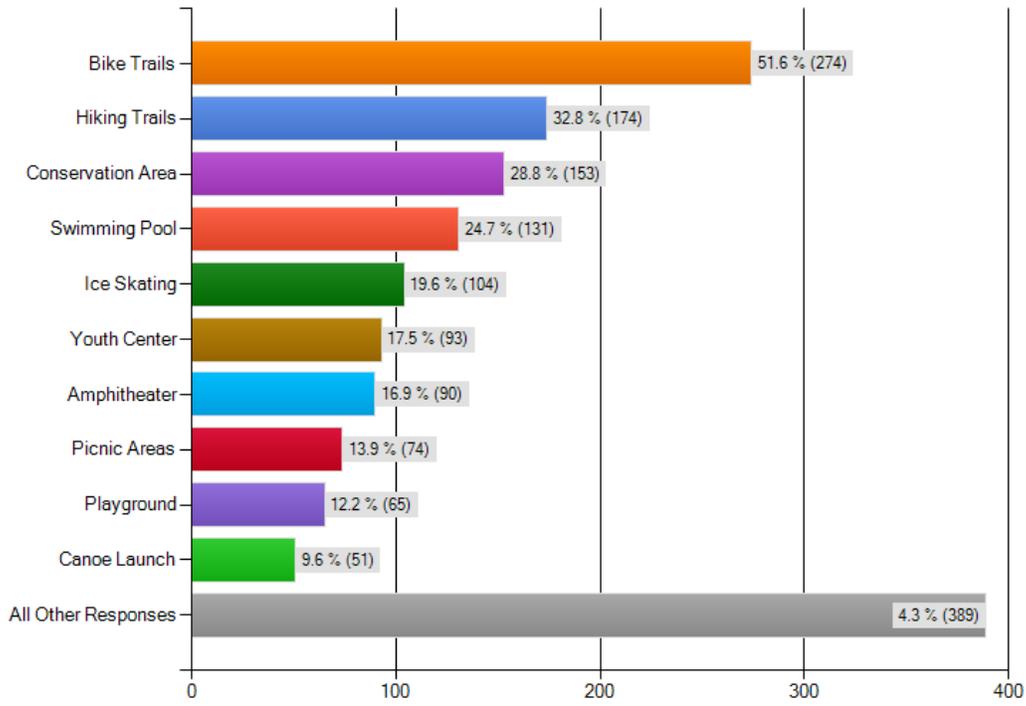
**A = 1-3 times; B = 4-10 times; C = more than 10 times**

## Frequency of Activity (4 or more times)

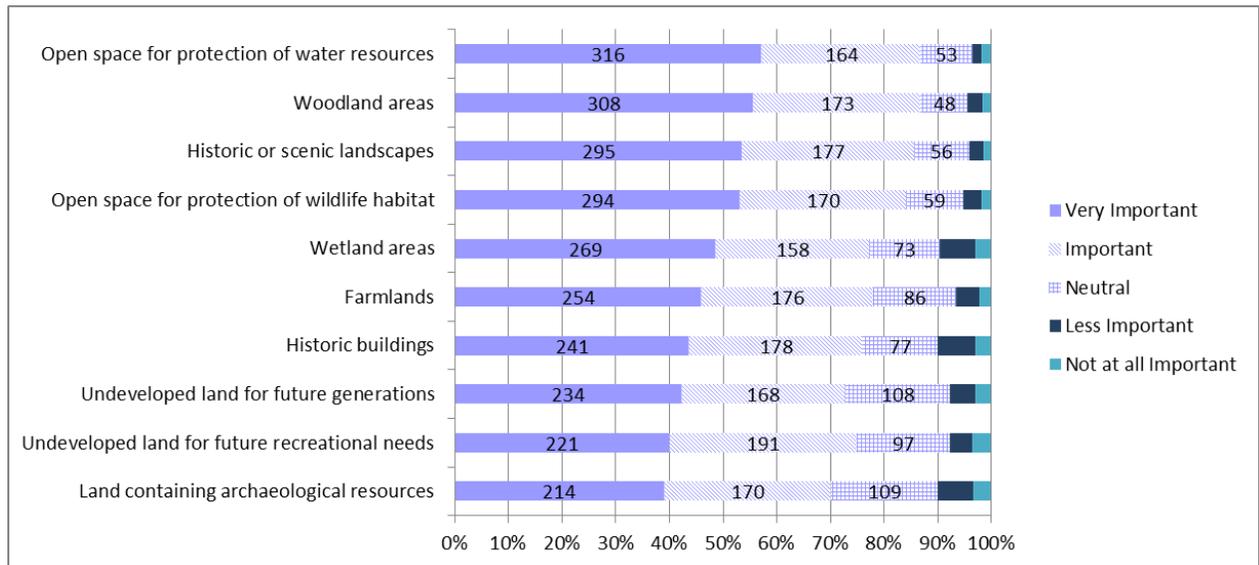


**Question 24**

**Which of the following does the Town need more?(Check off the top three (3) facilities you feel are needed.)**



**Questions 38 – 47 How Important is it to Preserve...?**



Together, the survey and the public forums generated many good narratives, comments, and suggestions, from which parcels of land residents felt were the most important to protect, to what actions the town should take to improve recreational opportunities for different user groups. From the public survey, the public forums and input from various boards and commissions, the Working Group gleaned five (5) major interests to be addressed by this Plan, and many supporting suggestions.

1. Maintenance and improvement of the current inventory of passive and active recreational facilities
  - Emphasize accessibility and user-friendliness of facilities
  - Promote resources and facilities that already exist
  - Continue improvements at Cushing Memorial Park
  - Better snow removal at Cushing Memorial Park, Wittenborg Woods, and other open space and recreational facilities
  - Better monitoring and removal of litter and dumping from town lands and rail corridors
  
2. Conservation of natural resources and open space to protect water resources, wildlife habitat, and horticultural, agricultural and sylvan opportunities, and passive recreational opportunities
  - Promote more stewardship and “policing” of conservation lands
  - More actively manage and promote Framingham’s water resources (ponds and the Sudbury River)
  - Pursue more aggressively the protection of parcels of open space to keep a balance of developed and rural land in Framingham
  - Research to determine if deer are causing ecological problems at Macomber and Wittenborg
  - Address deterioration of encroachment into wetlands
  - Reduce outdoor lighting that scatters skyward to increase night-time darkness
  
3. Creation of corridors for non-motorized passage for recreation and transit: i.e., expanded pedestrian access to municipal amenities, access to public transport, safe, accessible, walkable recreation areas, etc.
  - Complete development of rail trails: Cochituate, Bruce Freeman, Upper Charles
  - Greater public access to the aqueduct lands
  - Complete trail to and around Farm Pond and connect it to downtown
  - Acquire rail rights-of-way for trail creation
  - Promote alternative transportation opportunities and facilities such as racks, lockers, restrooms, benches, etc.
  - Refurbish trails that lead to the schools
  - Create dedicated bike trails, bike lanes, bike lockers, etc. to increase the bicycle friendliness of Framingham
  - Connect neighborhoods to one another, commercial areas, and public transit with trails
  - Provide more opportunities for hiking, mountain biking, road biking, pedestrian traffic, etc.
  - Increase access opportunities for non-motorized boats
  - Develop historic walking trails

4. Creation of new recreational facilities to meet unmet needs
  - Build a town pool, wading pool, and sprinkler playground
  - Create natural history education facilities throughout town
  - Create new neighborhood parks
  
5. Other efforts (fiscal, educational, managerial, etc.) that will support open space and recreation goals
  - Develop permanent Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
  - Increase youth recreation programming
  - Increase “green-ness” of cemetery maintenance
  - Educate all town departments about the value of and means of protecting open space, wetlands, etc.
  - Increase public engagement with conservation, stewardship, and maintenance of public resources and facilities
  - Increase focus on protection of historic resources
  - Green the downtown
  - Improve restroom facilities at public outdoor facilities
  - Explore ways to utilize DCR reservoirs and MWRA aqueducts for recreation

## **CHAPTER 7: Analysis of Need**

This section is a compilation of needs and a prioritization of those needs.

### **A. Selection of What Has Been Accomplished from the 2008 Plan**

Some of the most significant accomplishments from the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan are listed below.

#### New Development/Regulations/Implementation

- Developed Cushing Memorial Park Phase I-IV.
- Developed the old Roosevelt School property as a park.
- Worked with the Cochituate Rail Trail (CRT) Committee to develop the CRT, which once completed will be accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- Completed an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan
- Established an ADA Transition Plan Sub-Committee to oversee and implement recommendations outlined in the Plan
- Updated the Action Plan with the many achievements that have occurred since its creation.
- Formed a Public Trails Task Force as recommended in action item 4A1 and specifically mentioned by the OSRC during their presentation to the Board of Selectmen.
- Focused on additional properties which need protection as open space as in action item 3A1.
- Investigated funding mechanisms for protection of open space, item 5B1.
- Parks and Recreation received a \$500,000 PARC grant in 2008 to make improvements to Bowditch Field.
- Parks and Recreation received \$279,000 PARC grant for Cushing Memorial Park.
- Parks and Recreation received \$33,500 from the Disabilities Commission to install a handicapped playground at Farm Pond.
- Improvements at Butterworth Park paid by Rotary Donations and CDBG funds.
- Installed Storm Sponge filters at Learned Pond and Waushakum Pond Beaches. Installation of a rain garden at Waushakum Pond is in progress
- Conservation/GIS Div. completed GIS layers of all parcels of interest referenced in the OSRP (tables 5.1-5.7)
- Parks and Recreation has implemented an adopt-a-tree and traffic island program.
- Eagle Scouts have completed projects at: Macomber Woods, Wittenborg Woods, Grove St Conservation Area, Carol Getchel Trail, Nobscot Park, Bay Circuit Trail, & Edmands Rd SVT land
- Community & Economic Development has created a GIS layer for the Bruce Freeman and Cochituate rail trails.
- The Town has contributed to DCR partnership grant applications with the Town of Wayland for weed control in 2009, 2010 and 2011 is pending
- Several departments performed annual reviews of tax title parcels; however, better coordination is still needed.

- Parks and Recreation created a community garden on unused town land on Pratt St. Project was aided by CED Brownfields grant
- Flyers have been created and are available at the Conservation Commission office and Town library. Lectures and nature walks have taken place.
- Cochituate Rail Trail - Town has acquired trail right-of-way. Town secured Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funding to complete the CRT (target date: 2014).
- The Town has received an appraisal to buy the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail right-of-way from CSX. Requests for funds to buy the ROW have been included in various economic stimulus applications. Town staff has periodically attended quarterly regional coordination meetings.
- Parks and Recreation installed 43 bike racks at various park locations. Installation of 8 bike racks at main library completed.
- OSRPIWG continued to meet through 2010 to 2013.
- Forming a Community Preservation Act committee was discussed with Town Manager in the fall of 2008 – advised not to pursue at present time.
- Community and Economic Development secured a \$500,000 LAND grant for Eastleigh Farm in 2011. Although unsuccessful in securing protection at that time, efforts continue.
- Town worked closely with MWRA to obtain an 8m permit and open a segment of the Weston Aqueduct for public use in the fall of 2012. Town efforts to expand public access to the aqueduct lands are ongoing.

#### Maintenance

- Restore, reconstruct and enhance Bowditch Field Complex according to the Master Plan.
- Monitored the quality of water in ponds and treated ponds annually to improve the water clarity and quality.
- Annual weed control and invasive species management programs.
- Establishment of a conservation land area encroachment policy and abutter notification process.
- Marked trails on 6 major conservation parcels; developed and distributed trail maps for each parcel; established a volunteer stewardship program to assist with trail maintenance.

#### Education and Outreach

- Parks and Recreation ensures that events, programs, and services they offer are held in accessible locations. They provide an ADA statement in their public notices.
- Sponsored Salamander Big Night which First Graders have participated in; approved Eagle Scout Projects along Carol Getchell N.T. which students access; hold spring and fall nature programs on conservation land.

## **B. What Remains to be done from 2008 Plan**

Many of the recommendations from the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan are in progress; some are yet to be addressed. Some of the most significant on-going or outstanding recommendations are listed below.

### **1. Maintenance Projects**

- Evaluate Parks and Recreation and Conservation Commission properties for access issues.
- Identify open space parcels under private ownership and continually update the status of the parcel and degree of protection if applicable.

### **2. New Development/Regulations/Implementation Projects**

- Investigate opportunities for land acquisition and or protection.
- Continue Cushing Memorial Park Parcels B & C in accordance with the Master Plan.
- Develop small neighborhood parks and improve/enhance existing parks in several locations. Parks Develop Neighborhood Tot-Lots.
- Upgrade existing paths at Farm Pond Park and create a path for travel through the park that is accessible to people with disabilities.
- Create a process for review by appropriate departments and commissions to assess whether or not the Town should retain ownership before a parcel is sold at auction for tax default.
- Encourage Board of Selectmen to appoint new CPA Study Committee to re-evaluate Framingham's CPA proposal with modification of percentage and/or exemptions.
- Create a database or tracking system to monitor Chapter 61, 61A and B lands and assign priorities for acquisition if removed from the program.
- Continue development of the Cochituate Rail Trail.
- Pursue connection from Downtown (near Rt. 126 and Rt. 135) to Farm Pond area by a pedestrian and bicycle route.
- Look at possibility of developing a loop trail around Farm Pond.
- Develop a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.
- Develop trails to connect to Framingham State College property, Mount Wayte, Cushing Memorial Park, Farm Pond, and eventually Downtown.
- Develop Historic Trails throughout Town.
- Develop a use and management plan for the 88 acre Danforth Green property.
- Develop a use and management plan for the 5.9 acre Edgebrook Road property.
- Expand the community garden concept to additional areas.

### **C. Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan**

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) describes the open space and outdoor recreation policies of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). The document is used by the EOEA to guide expenditures authorized by the legislature. The Draft 2012 SCORP was released in 2012. A series of four (4) public meetings were held in November, 2011 by DCS prior to the release of the draft plan. The SCORP uses a method of determining demand based on the results of a series of surveys of Massachusetts residents including a phone survey, youth survey, web-based surveys, and public meetings throughout the state. They provided multiple forums for residents to voice their wishes for the types of outdoor recreation they would like to see developed and maintained across the state.

Trails and multi-use fields were the two (2) types of facilities that public officials said “require more resources” – 57.9 percent and 49.5 percent respectively. Other high ranking activities are, in decreasing rank order, playgrounds, baseball fields, community gardens, picnic areas, and fresh water swimming areas. The need for more trails, especially those closer to where people live, was most frequently mentioned as a real need across the state. There is also a strong desire for more car-free recreation options. Respondents want more town or city-wide trail systems, loop trails within long distance trail networks that can be completed in a shorter amount of time, and urban trails that connect to water bodies. Rail trails are popular, as is making roads more bike-friendly. Water-based recreation came up frequently at the public meetings. Respondents cited a need for more water access, whether for swimming or boating.

### **D. Environmental / Resource Protection Needs -- From Chapter 4**

The primary environmental challenges facing Framingham (and most communities in the region) were discussed at some length in Chapter 4. They are summarized here.

- Wildlife habitat and green corridor fragmentation
- Stormwater management
- Decreased water quality (groundwater and surface water)
- Invasive plants and loss of rare and common plants and wildlife habitat
- Hazardous and toxic waste discharges
- Litter
- Sedimentation and Erosion
- Landfills

## **E. Community's Needs -- From Chapter 6**

The primary goals for open space and recreation gleaned from the residents of Framingham and the professional municipal employees and volunteers on the Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group. They are reiterated here.

- Maintenance and improvement of the current inventory of passive and active recreational facilities.
- Conservation of natural resources and open space to protect water resources, wildlife habitat, and horticultural, agricultural and sylvan opportunities, and passive recreational opportunities
- Creation of corridors for non-motorized passage for recreation and transit: i.e., expanded pedestrian access to municipal amenities, access to public transport, safe, accessible, walkable recreation areas, etc.
- Creation of new recreational facilities to meet unmet needs
- Other efforts (fiscal, educational, managerial, etc.) that will support open space and recreation goals

### Special Groups Needs

These primary goals include multiple objectives and suggestions to accomplishing the overall goals. Through maintaining and improving the current inventory of passive and active recreational facilities, accessibility and the user-friendliness of these facilities will be emphasized. The Town will continue to design all new park and recreation amenities following ADA compliance. The anticipated 'Children's Grove' at Cushing Park will be developed as handicap accessible. Additionally, the Callahan Senior Center will continue to update their programs and services to meet the Center's mission of promoting healthy, successful aging for senior citizens. To date, the most successful activities provided include yoga classes, various trips throughout the year, computer literacy courses, community education sessions, fitness classes, and bingo. The Town's Parks and Recreation Department will continue to provide such activities.

## **F. Board/Commission/Committee Priorities**

Based on feedback from the Boards and Commissions and Committees represented on the OSRPIWG, the following were identified as priorities.

- Agriculture Commission – Protect agricultural, horticultural, and silvicultural land
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – develop multi-use trails linking work and recreation destinations, neighborhoods, public transportation, etc. Develop supporting facilities such as racks, benches, and rest areas
- Community and Economic Development – improve linkages between open spaces and facilitate planning for long-term trail development
- Conservation Commission – Expand stewardship program and address encroachments onto conservation land
- Disabilities Commission – Work with town departments to ensure that current regulatory standards are implemented in all new construction and maintenance efforts, implement recommendations in the ADA plan, and increase education and outreach to the disability community about existing accessible facilities

- Historic Commission – Elevate scenic landscapes in their priority for protection, promote scenic roads, expand historic districts
- Planning Board – Increase incentives for land preservation by adopting an agricultural preservation or transfer of development rights (TDR) by-law.
- Parks and Recreation Commission – Focus on maintenance and improvements to existing facilities (See Table 7-1 below); completing management plans for new facilities at Edgebrook Rd and Danforth Green and expand the town’s community garden network.

<b>Table 7-1. Recreation Facilities in Need of Improvement</b>		
<b>Park</b>	<b>Needed Improvements</b>	<b>See Map 10</b>
Bates Road Park	Renovate basketball court	A
Bowditch	Baseball Bleachers, Track refurbishing	B
Butterworth Park	Full irrigation, Parking Improvements	C
Cushing Memorial Park	Update Master Plan & Implement Phase V	D
Danforth Park	Basketball Resurfacing	E
Dennison Park	Facility Upgrades	F
Farm Pond Recreation Area	Shelter and restroom facilities	G
Furber Park	New retaining wall & Irrigation	H
Loring Arena	Design and Development Improvements	I
Mason Park	New Playground Equipment & Basketball Court	J
Mt. Wayte Park	New basketball court	K
Nobscot Park	Facility Upgrades	L
Oakvale Park	New Playground equipment, new backstops	M
Saxonville Beach	Landscaping and storm drain system	N
Temple Street Playground	Additional fencing and playground equipment	O
Lake Waushakum Beach	Plumbing fixtures, handicapped accessibility	P
Winch Park	New basketball court, tennis, playground	Q
Victory Field	Irrigation wells	R
Edwards/Main St Cemetery	Tomb and road repairs	S

### **G. A Focus on Implementation and Funding**

A plan is only effective in so far as it is implemented. Implementation requires leadership, coordination, and, very often, funding.

Based on the 2008 Plan's recommendation, an Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group was formed to serve alongside Town staff, to help oversee the implementation of the 2008 Plan. The Working Group's responsibilities include periodically reviewing this plan over the course of its life; working with the various departmental (and non-government) leaders to ensure that their actions are being accomplished; and undertaking research that furthers the Plan's recommendations. The existence of this Working Group also allowed the Town to expeditiously update the 2008 Plan in 2013. The Working Group will continue to meet after completion of the 2013 Plan to discuss and implement recommendations from the new plan.

The OSRPIWG also understands the need for new sources of revenue to pay for those initiatives that require new funding. Following is list of possible funding mechanisms that should be researched for feasibility.

1. Passing a bond for open space protection (like Ipswich, Boxford and West Newbury)
2. Establishing a local land trust which can partner with the town to purchase land (like Bolton)
3. Setting aside a small amount of money at Town Meeting on a regular basis to build up a land conservation fund that could be used to do appraisals for land purchases or to supplement other money for actual land purchases.

4. Placing cell phone towers on town property and dedicating the yearly rental to land protection. This concept was presented to Town Meeting in fall 2008 and rejected.
5. Establishing quasi-public utilities (electric and/or water), then taking steps to protect land (Littleton's department has worked on protecting critical land crucial to the protection of water resources).
6. Operating farm land, then sinking profits back into the land protection fund.
7. Passing the CPA, one of the best opportunities for towns to protect important natural spaces, as well as protecting historically significant properties and landscapes and providing good affordable housing (7 of 10 of the towns surrounding Framingham have passed the CPA).
8. Establishing a process for channeling back taxes received due to the sale or transfer of Chapter lands into a revolving land protection fund.
9. Aggressively pursuing grant opportunities such as the state Land and Water Conservation Fund and Self Help grants. A LAND Grant was successfully obtained in 2011 to assist in preservation of Eastleigh Farm. As the funding was insufficient, this preservation attempt was unsuccessful. A CMAQ grant for \$700,000 was obtained for the CRT in 2010. This grant will allow completion of the CRT.
10. Continue to work with non-profit entities such as the Sudbury Valley Trustees on land protection and acquisition issues.

## **CHAPTER 8: Goals and Objectives**

1. Maintenance and improvement of the current inventory of active recreational facilities
  - A. Improve routine maintenance and continue to improve existing facilities
  
2. Maintenance and improvement of the current inventory of Conservation and open space parcels
  - A. Increase active stewardship and land management of Conservation land and other municipal open space parcels
  - B. Address encroachments by abutters to Conservation land
  - C. Address invasive aquatic weed infestations
  - D. Address and identify invasive species in conservation and open space parcels
  
3. Conservation of natural resources and open space to protect water resources, wildlife habitat, and horticultural, agricultural and silvicultural opportunities, and passive recreational opportunities
  - A. Identify priority parcels for acquisition/protection for ecological value, agricultural value, and recreational value
  - B. Coordinate with regional land protection efforts
  - C. Develop coordinated administrative processes associated with land acquisition and protection
  - D. Aggressively pursue purchase or protection of priority open space parcels as they become available
  - E. Provide more education and outreach addressing the preservation of natural resources (e.g., stormwater management, invasive species, illicit discharge, nutrient loading)
  
4. Creation of new recreational facilities and programs to meet resident needs as appropriate
  - A. Create and complete corridors for non-motorized passage that serve as greenways and transit corridors, and provide access to passive and active recreation facilities, places of work, school, public transportation connections, or other points of interest in town
  - B. Create new parks, playgrounds, and passive facilities
  - C. Determine what new recreation programs are needed
  - D. Determine what new Conservation land amenities are needed
  - E. Coordinate enhanced public access to the town's aqueducts with the MWRA
  
5. Undertake other town-wide efforts that will support open space and recreation
  - A. Pursue aggressive implementation of this plan
  - B. Identify possible sources of funding for implementation of this Action Plan
  - C. Aggressively pursue the recommended funding strategies noted in the report cited in Action Item, 5B1.
  - D. Maintain current and complete records of municipal resources

- E. Ensure that departmental budgets have adequate maintenance line items
- F. Inform and educate citizens about the open space and recreation facilities that exist in Framingham
- G. Preserve scenic, historic, archeological, ecological, cultural, and geologic features and the open space surrounding significant historic and landscape features.
- H. Maximize preservation of open space in development projects
- I. Support an ecology that encourages interaction within the neighborhood-walking paths, gardens and outdoor spaces friendly for older adults, parents and children

## **CHAPTER 9: The Seven-Year Action Plan**

### **A. Introduction**

In 2010, the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services (DCS) modified its open space planning requirements to allow communities to prepare seven year, rather than five (5) year plans, in order to qualify for state grant funding. Consequently, this chapter is the seven (7) year action plan the Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group feels is necessary to achieve the goals and objectives identified in the previous chapter. It is critical that this plan remain an active document, used by all relevant departments in their planning and day-to-day operations. This will require dedicated coordination at the departmental staff level, as well as continued oversight and coordination by the implementation Working Group with broad representation and vision (see below). The implementation Working Group should develop a roughly quarterly meeting schedule to ensure that efforts are being undertaken and well-coordinated. The implementation Working Group formed in response recommendations in the 2008 Plan should continue its role, meet roughly quarterly, and serve as a guiding body that undertakes research and issues recommendations to the Board of Selectmen and other relevant boards.

### **B. Highlights/Priorities of the Action Plan**

The OSRPIWG believes that a few of the objectives and actions are particularly important; they are critical in achieving the stated goals or because they support other objectives and actions. They are discussed briefly below and highlighted on **Map 10: Seven Year Action Plan**. The important conservation and recreation facilities identified on Map 10 include large parcels of privately owned land (#1-22); chapter 61 lands (#23-35); tax title lands (#36-48); recreation facilities in need of repair (A-Q); conservation lands with existing trail networks (U-Z); local historic districts and water resources including the great ponds (#1-5).

#### **1. Ensure aggressive implementation of the plan.**

Action 5A1: Continue the Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group (OSRPIWG) to monitor progress of the plan, communicate with involved departments, and conduct research and develop recommendations as noted in this plan

The OSRPIWG feels that continuing the Working Group's efforts is vital in order to maintain focus on the goals, objectives, and actions of the plan and to promote creative solutions to accomplish them.

As seen in the "Lead Dept." column, the leadership required to accomplish the actions in this chapter will have to come from many different groups within town. Coordination and oversight are essential. In Framingham, the Conservation Commission has the primary responsibility of ensuring that the Open Space Plan is updated every 7 years, but coordination of diverse departments must be supported by the Board of Selectmen. To that end, the OSRPIWG should continue to meet as a coordinating body. This Working Group is charged with periodically reviewing this plan over the course of its life, working with the various departmental (and non-government) leaders to ensure that their actions are being accomplished, and undertaking research and developing recommendations.

The Action Plan includes specific objectives and actions that the OSRPIWG needs in order to fully implement this plan. The relevant objectives and actions include: (1) Increase active stewardship and land management of Conservation land and other municipal open space parcels, (2) Identify priority parcels for acquisition/protection for ecological value, agricultural value, and recreational value, (3) Develop coordinated administrative processes associated with land acquisition and protection, (4) Aggressively pursue purchase or protection of priority open space parcels as they become available, (5) Identify possible source of funding for implementation of this Action Plan, (6) Maintain current and complete records of municipal resources, and (7) Inform and educate citizens about the open space and recreation facilities that exist in Framingham

Action 5B1: Research the list of possible funding mechanisms listed in Ch 7 and develop a report recommending funding strategies for Framingham

The OSRPIWG understands that the town is struggling with a difficult financial situation. That will make it more difficult to achieve many of the objectives and actions in this Plan. The OSRPIWG would like to see new funding sources identified and pursued aggressively.

Action 5B2: Appoint a new CPA study committee

The surveys and forums identified an interest in taking another look at the Community Preservation Act (CPA) as a means to fund some of the actions in this chapter. This would provide one means of funding.

## **2. Focus on the maintenance of existing facilities and programs.**

Action 1A1: Undertake actions identified in Table 7-1 and Map 10 for Recreation Facilities in Need of Improvements

One of the most important activities identified in the surveys, forums, and OSRPIWG discussions is the need to adequately maintain the current inventory of active recreational facilities. Table 7-1 in this plan identifies recreational facilities in need of improvements and maintenance. It is necessary that the Parks & Recreation Department be given the resources it needs to accomplish this action.

Action 2A3: Continue and expand Conservation land steward program and workdays to help maintain and improve and make consistent open space parcels

This is a similar maintenance theme as in Action Item, 1A1 for our active recreation land. Trails and access points are of little value if they are poorly marked, overgrown, or difficult to access. It is necessary that the Conservation Commission have the resources it needs to accomplish this action.

### **3. Protect open space in Framingham**

Action 3A1: Research private land, tax title land, other town land, etc. and identify priority parcels for acquisition (based on size, current land use, ecological diversity, presence of rare species, adjacency to protected land, etc.)

The surveys and forums identified a strong desire on the part of the citizens of Framingham to identify parcels of open space and establish priorities for protection. This is an area where much research is needed as it falls outside the boundaries of most departments' daily responsibilities. There must be time put in to characterizing properties, prioritizing characteristics for acquisition, and identifying sources of funding. The OSRPIWG should take the lead in identifying parcels and seeking grants and other funding sources to finance preservation.

This effort will involve Action 3C1: Develop a coordinated administrative process for review of tax title land prior to it being auctioned off. A major concern of the OSRPIWG is that there is no standard procedure or checklist now being used to identify parcels of land taken by the town that the town may wish to preserve. The implementation Working Group should advise the Board of Selectmen on policies and best practices to review land taken by tax title

### **4. Create non-motorized corridors in Framingham**

Objective 4A: Create and complete corridors for non-motorized passage that serve as greenways and provide access to passive and active recreation facilities, places of work, school, public transportation connections, or other points of interest in town.

The surveys and forums identified a very strong interest on the part of the citizens of Framingham to create safe passages that could be used by walkers and bicyclists to move about town. It will be especially important to address aqueduct lands, rail-trail corridors and south/north connectivity, since Framingham is so effectively divided by Route 9 and the Massachusetts Turnpike. Recent Town efforts to open aqueduct lands for public access should continue.

Objective 4B: Create new parks, playgrounds and passive facilities

The town should take advantage of creating new parks, playgrounds and passive facilities wherever the opportunity presents itself. As reflected in the action plan, high priority examples include developing a management plan for 21 Edgebrook Road (4B4); acquiring the parcel at 322 Salem End Road (4B5); developing a reuse plan for Danforth Green (4B6); expanding land holdings at Cushing Park (4B7) and expanding the town's community garden network (4B8).

Objective 4E: Coordinate enhanced public access to the aqueducts with the MWRA.

The town should continue to take advantage of the MWRA's 2012 policy change that encourages public access and use of the aqueducts.

## **C. The Full Seven-Year Action Plan**

### **1. Key to the Lead Municipal Agencies**

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Body Name</b>
Agri. Com	Agricultural Commission
B&PAC	Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
BOS	Board of Selectmen
CED	Community and Economic Development
CC	Conservation Commission
DC	Disability Commission
DPW	Department of Public Works
HC	Historic Commission
HDC	Historic District Commission
OSRIWG	Open Space and Recreation Implementation Working Group
P&R	Parks and Recreation Department
PB	Planning Board
Sch D	School Department

## 2. The Action Plan

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
1A1	1. Maintenance and improvement of the current inventory of active recreational facilities	A. Improve routine maintenance and continue to improve existing facilities	1. Undertake necessary improvements of recreation facilities identified in Table 7-1 and Map 10. Those facilities in need of upgrades are listed below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bates Road Park (A)</li> <li>• Bowditch Field (B)</li> <li>• Butterworth Park (C)</li> <li>• Cushing Memorial Park (D)</li> <li>• Danforth Park (E)</li> <li>• Dennison Park (F)</li> <li>• Farm Pond Recreation Area (G)</li> <li>• Furber Park (H)</li> <li>• Loring Arena (I)</li> <li>• Mason Park (J)</li> <li>• Mt. Wayte Park (K)</li> <li>• Nobscot Park (L)</li> <li>• Oakvale Park (M)</li> <li>• Saxonville Beach (N)</li> <li>• Temple Street Playground (O)</li> <li>• Lake Waushakum Beach (P)</li> <li>• Winch Park (Q)</li> <li>• Victory Field (R)</li> <li>• Edwards and Main St cemetery (S)</li> </ul>	P&R	PARC grant, Federal Land & Water Conservation grant, town funds	2014-2020
1A2			2. Continue to use GIS technology to keep up-to-date lists of parcels managed by the Parks and Rec. Department	P&R	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2020
1A3			3. Seek opportunities modernize technological support for facilities tracking and maintenance	P&R	Municipal staff, town funds	2014-2020
1A4			4. Continue coordination with schools and the private sector for maintenance and use of facilities	P&R, Sch D	Municipal and school staff – no funds necessary	2014-2020
1A5			5. Encourage the development of “neighborhood” stewardship groups	P&R	Municipal staff, volunteers and town funds	2014-2020
1A6			6. Implement ADA improvements needed as outlined in the ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan as well as any other access improvements needed at existing recreational facilities	P&R, DC	CDBG grant program, PARC grant, Land & Water Conservation grant, town funds	2014-2020

**Table 9-2. Seven-Year Action Plan (2013-2020)**

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
1A7			7. Undertake stormwater improvements near the town's recreational beaches	P&R, DPW	DEP grants and town funds	2014-2020
1A8			8. Update Cushing Park Master Plan and implement recommended improvements	P&R	Municipal staff, town funds	2014-2020
1A9			9. Continue to coordinate efforts to manage the Town Common	P&R, DPW, HC, HDC	Municipal staff, town funds	2014-2020
2A1	2. Maintenance and improvement of the current inventory of Conservation and open space parcels	A. Increase active stewardship and land management of Conservation land and other municipal open space parcels	1. Continue to use GIS technology to keep up-to-date lists of parcels managed by the Conservation Department	CC	Municipal staff and volunteers – no funds necessary	2014-2020
2A2			2. Encourage the development of stewardship groups such as "Adopt-a-Park", "Adopt-a-CC Parcel", "Adopt-a-River", "Adopt-a-Tree", and "Adopt-a-Trail" programs	OSRPIWG, P&R, CC	Municipal staff and volunteers – no funds necessary	2014-2020
2A3			3. Continue and expand Conservation land steward program and workdays to help maintain and improve trails and infrastructure	CC	Municipal staff and volunteers – no funds necessary	2014-2020
2A4			4. Encourage Eagle Scouts, community service students, and other volunteers to undertake conservation projects	CC	Municipal staff and volunteers – no funds necessary	2014-2020
2A5			5. Ensure that each trailed parcel of Conservation land is welcoming, informative, and user-friendly (i.e., all parcels should have trail head signs, maps and map boxes, trail markers, land use regulations, etc.)	CC	Municipal staff, DCR Recreational Trails grant, Land & Water Conservation grant, town funds	2014-2020
2A6			6. Create and maintain new trails layer in town GIS	CC	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2020
2A7			7. Implement ADA/access improvements needed at all conservation and open space parcels	DC CC	Municipal staff, DCR Recreational Trails grant, Land & Water Conservation grant	2014-2020
2A8			8. Coordinate with Wayland for preservation of Stone's Bridge	DPW	Municipal staff, town funds	2014-2020
2B1		B. Address encroachments by abutters to Conservation land	1. Create an encroachment policy, identify major and minor violations and begin pursuing compliance	CC	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2020

**Table 9-2. Seven-Year Action Plan (2013-2020)**

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
2C1		C. Address invasive land and aquatic species infestations	1. Continue the Town's pond management program	CC	Municipal staff, town funds, DEM Lakes & Ponds grant	2014-2020
2C2			2. Support DCR in their efforts to address species infestations in Lake Cochituate	CC	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2020
3A1	3. Conservation of natural resources and open space to protect water resources, wildlife habitat, and horticultural, agricultural and silvicultural opportunities, and passive recreational opportunities	A. Identify priority parcels for acquisition/protection for ecological value, agricultural value, and recreational value	1. Research private land, tax title land, other town land, etc. and identify priority parcels for acquisition and/or protection (based on size, current land use, ecological diversity, presence of rare species, adjacency to protected land, etc.). See Tables 5-14 to 5-18	OSRPIWG, CC, P&R, BOS	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2020
3A2			2. Research and identify parcels for suggested voluntary addition to Chapter 61 program or Agricultural Preservation Restriction or Conservation Restriction	OSRPIWG, Agri. Com	Municipal staff – Chapter program, APR, Conservation Restriction	2014-2020
3A3			3. Evaluate zoning and other approaches for preserving agricultural lands, including agricultural preservation and transfer of development rights regulations	PB OSRPIWG CED	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014
3B1		B. Coordinate with local and regional land protection efforts	1. Remain engaged in the Greater Callahan State Park land protection effort to enlarge the protected open space network near Callahan State Park	CC	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2015
3B2			2. Remain engaged in the effort to protect the Sudbury River Oxbow	CC	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2015
3B3			3. Support efforts of the Garden in the Woods to improve and enhance its grounds	CED CC	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2015
3C1		C. Develop coordinated administrative processes associated with land acquisition and protection	1. Develop coordinated administrative process for review of tax title land prior to it being sold at auction and undertake annual review of tax title list for possible acquisition priorities	BOS, OSRPIWG	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2014-2020

**Table 9-2. Seven-Year Action Plan (2013-2020)**

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
3C2			2. Develop coordinated administrative process for dealing with Ch 61 land when it becomes available through the right of first refusal (i.e., consider adopting the Mt. Grace process)	Agri. Com, BOS	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2015
3C3			3. Bring town departments together to identify land management needs; then develop a recommendation for the BOS for a coordinated program for addressing maintenance of town-owned land	OSRPIWG	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2015
3C4			4. Ensure currently owned open space and recreation lands are designated and protected under Article 97.	C&ED, CC, P&R	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2017
3D1		D. Aggressively pursue purchase or protection of priority open space parcels as they become available	1. Pursue priority lands identified in Tables 5-14 through 5-18.	OSRPIWG	PARC grant, Land & Water Conservation grant, CPA, town funds	2014
3E1		E. Provide more education and outreach addressing the preservation of natural resources (e.g., landscaping and land stewardship practices, water resource protection, stormwater management, invasive species, illicit discharge, nutrient loading)	1. Increase general public education and outreach efforts through the development and distribution of flyers, initiation of cable TV programming, lectures, or nature walks, etc.	CC	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	Ongoing
3E2			2. Develop and distribute educational materials, seek sources of funding and support, encourage the development of “neighborhood” advocacy groups	CC	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	Ongoing

**Table 9-2. Seven-Year Action Plan (2013-2020)**

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
4A1	4. Creation of new recreational facilities and programs to meet unmet needs	A. Create and complete corridors, including bicycle lanes and trails, for non-motorized passage that serve as greenways and transit corridors, and provide access to passive and active recreation facilities, places of work, school, public transportation connections, or other points of interest in town	1. Continue to implement the work of the public trails taskforce to develop an integrated long-term plan for public trails in Framingham. Include existing trail corridors (e.g., Bay Circuit Trail, Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Cochituate Rail Trail, municipal trails, SVT trails, state park trails, and school trails), proposed major "arteries" (e.g., CSX right-of-way, South Sudbury Aqueduct, and Weston Aqueduct), proposed destination trails (e.g., Farm Pond loop trail and new historic trails), and proposed connector trails (e.g., downtown-train station, Carol Getchell-CRT, downtown-Farm Pond). The OSRPIWG should act as advocates for new trail projects and provide support for existing trails in Framingham	BOS, OSRPIWG, P&R, CED B&PAC	Municipal staff, local rail-trail groups, volunteers – no funds necessary	2014
4A2			2. Complete and open the Cochituate Rail Trail	CED, DPW	CMAQ grant, town funds	2015
4A3			3. Continue preliminary studies and advanced planning in support of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	CED, B&PAC	Recreational Trails grant, Greenway Trail grant, ISTE, town funds	2015-2017
4A4			4. Support the planning for the South Sudbury Rail Trail, Upper Charles Trail, the Southborough/Callahan South Link, and the Weston Aqueduct Greenway and Trail System	BOS, B&PAC	Recreational Trails grant, Greenway Trail grant, ISTE, town funds	2015-2017
4A5			5. Develop mass transit connection points at trail heads where feasible (e.g., MWRTA bus stops at trail heads)	CED	Recreational Trails grant, Greenway Trail grant, ISTE, town funds	2016
4A6			6. Install bike racks throughout downtown Framingham and bike lockers at train station or where appropriate	CED, DPW	state funds, town funds	2016-2018
4A7			7. Support the Bay Circuit Trail effort by attending meetings, implementing recommendations and obtaining MWRA public access permits	B&PAC P&R	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2015-2017
4A8			8. Re-establish trails leading to the Framingham schools	Sch D	Volunteers – no funds necessary	2015-2020

**Table 9-2. Seven-Year Action Plan (2013-2020)**

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
4A9			9. Complete a townwide Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan	B&PAC, CED, P&R, PB, DPW	Municipal staff – no funds necessary	2015
4A10			10. Ensure that all new facilities are adequately lit, patrolled, and maintained, and that they meet current AAB and ADA laws. Ensure that existing and new public trails meet ADA and AAB regulations where feasible.	PB, DC	Recreational Trails grant, Greenway Trail grant, ISTEA, town funds plus staff time	2013-2020
4B1		B. Create new parks, playgrounds, and passive facilities	1. Study the need for and develop a report that identifies priority locations/areas for new recreation facilities (consider: multi-use neighborhood fields/parks, basketball courts, tot lots, skate parks, river and pond and lake access/boat launches, dog parks, golf courses, softball fields, tennis courts, swimming pools, an amphitheater, facilities for elderly residents).	P&R	Town funds and staff time	2017
4B2			2. Implement the report cited in 4B1 as much as possible; ensure that all new facilities are adequately lit, patrolled, and maintained; and ensure that they meet current AAB and ADA laws	P&R, DC	PARC grant, Land & Water Conservation grant, Recreational Trails grant, Greenway Trail grant, ISTEA, town funds	2017-2020
4B3			3. Pursue Brownfields grants to accommodate new facilities	CED	Federal Brownfields grant	2014
4B4			4. Develop a Management Plan for the 21 Edgebrook property	P&R	Town funds and staff time	2015
4B5			5. Acquisition of 322 Salem End Road excluding perimeter of reservoir and work with entity selected to manage the Stearns and Brackett Wildlife Preserve	P&R	Town funds and staff time	2016
4B6			6. Develop a management and reuse plan for the 88 acre Danforth Green property	P&R CED	Town funds and staff time	2014
4B7			7. Explore expanding Cushing Park by acquiring additional land	P&R	Town funds and staff time	2014
4B8			8. Pursue new community garden locations	P&R	Town funds and staff time	Ongoing

**Table 9-2. Seven-Year Action Plan (2013-2020)**

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
4B9			9. As part of restoration following the sewer crossing of the Sudbury River at Concord St. develop a new park, including river access, that is integrated with the park for the 2 School St. development	P&R CC, PB	Town funds and staff time	2020
4B10			10. Reach environmental equity through the increase of new recreation facilities where needed most on the south side of Framingham, as noted in the Environmental Equity and Open Space Analysis.	P&R, CC	Town funds and staff time	Ongoing
4C1		C. Determine what new recreation programs are needed	1. Study the need for, develop a report, and implement new and varied programs for “youth at risk”, “disabled”, and “special needs” populations	P&R DC	Staff time and volunteers – no funding necessary	2016-2020
4D1		D. Determine what new Conservation land amenities are needed	2. Identify locations for possible new trails, outdoor classrooms, public access points, and camping areas on conservation land. Implement as possible	CC	Staff time and volunteers – no funding necessary	2016-2020
4E1		E. Coordinate public access to the Aqueducts with the MWRA	1. Prepare Management Plan for Weston Aqueduct	P&R	Town funds and staff time	2015
4E2			2. Amend the 8m permit to expand public access to the Weston Aqueduct	P&R OSRPIWG	Town funds and staff time	2014
4E3			3. Evaluate the Sudbury Aqueduct for enhanced public access	P&R OSRPIWG	Town funds and staff time	2014-2015
5A1	5. Undertake other town-wide efforts that will support open space and recreation	A. Pursue aggressive implementation of this plan	1. Continue the work of the Open Space and Recreation Implementation Working Group to monitor progress of the plan, communicate with involved departments, and conduct research and develop recommendations as noted in this plan	BOS, OSRPIWG	Staff time and volunteers – no funding necessary	Ongoing
5A2			2. Develop routine staff meeting schedule to discuss and coordinate implementation of this plan	BOS, CC, P&R	Staff time – no funding necessary	Ongoing
5B1		B. Identify possible sources of funding for implementation of this Action Plan	1. Research the list of possible funding mechanisms listed in Ch 7 and develop a report recommending funding strategies for Framingham	OSRPIWG	Staff time – no funding necessary	2016

**Table 9-2. Seven-Year Action Plan (2013-2020)**

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
5B2			2. Appoint a new CPA Study Committee to determine the feasibility, costs, and benefits of passing the CPA in Framingham	BOS	Staff time and volunteers – no funding necessary	2016
5C1		C. Aggressively pursue the recommended funding strategies noted in the report cited in 5B1.	1. Develop a recommendation to establish, through Town Meeting, a fund (and a policy) to channel money from Ch 61 back taxes to a fund dedicated to land conservation efforts	Agri. Com	Staff time and volunteers – no funding necessary	2016
5C2			2. Pursue other funding mechanisms identified in the report cited in 5B1 as appropriate	OSRPIWG	Staff time – no funding necessary	2016
5C3			3. Develop a better system to track the status of priority parcels so that the town is in a better position to respond to pending sales	OSRPIWG	Staff time – no funding necessary	2015
5D1		D. Maintain current and complete records of municipal resources	1. Ensure the routine updating of inventories of Conservation land and Parks and Recreation land and routine coordination with the Assessor's Office	BOS, OSRPIWG	Staff time – no funding necessary	2016
5E1		E. Ensure that departmental budgets have adequate maintenance line items	1. Issue directive to pertinent departments (e.g., Conservation, Parks and Recreation) to include maintenance in their annual budgets	BOS, CC, P&R	Town funds and staff time	2016
5F1		F. Inform and educate citizens about the open space and recreation facilities that exist in Framingham	1. Develop a comprehensive and consistent set of maps and lists of facilities of Parks and Recreation and Conservation lands and facilities; identify handicapped access; post on the town website, public access television, and MRRS	OSRPIWG	Staff time and volunteers – no funding necessary	2016-2017
5G1		G. Preserve scenic, historic, archeological, ecological, cultural, and geologic features and the open space surrounding significant historic and landscape features.	1. Develop recommendation for Town Meeting for the expansion of local historic districts	HDC	Staff time – no funding necessary	Ongoing
5G2			2. Develop historic landscapes as historic districts	HDC	Staff time – no funding necessary	2018-2020
5G3			3. Undertake stonewall preservation education	HC, HDC	Staff time – no funding necessary	Ongoing

**Table 9-2. Seven-Year Action Plan (2013-2020)**

#	Goal	Objective	Action	Lead Dept.	Potential Funding Source	Target Date
5G4			4. Add signs to designate all historic districts	HC, HDC	Town funds and staff time	2014
5G5			5. Review the list of scenic roads	PB	Staff time – no funding necessary	2016
5G6			6. Undertake scenic road marking and outreach to address tree preservation along scenic roads	PB	Staff time – no funding necessary	2018-2020
5H1		H. Maximize preservation of open space in development projects	1. Provide incentives for developers to practice low impact development and cluster development by developing changes to the zoning bylaw that addresses incentives in the special permit process	PB	Staff time – no funding necessary	2014-2016

## **CHAPTER 10: Public Comment**

*Town of Framingham  
Park & Recreation Department*

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BOWDITCH FIELD  
475 UNION AVE. FRAMINGHAM, MA 01702  
TEL: (508) 532-5960  
FAX: (508) 872-2591

DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND  
RECREATION  
Robert L. Merusi

June 19, 2013

Eugene Kennedy  
Framingham Community & Economic Development Department  
Concord Street  
Framingham, MA 01702

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

The Framingham Park & recreation Commission has reviewed the Town of Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan dated October of 2013. We have found the process described in the plan appropriate and thorough. The identified goals are consistent with the department's mission.

The Open Space plan will be a good overall guide for the Town and provide added credibility for the capital planning efforts of the department. We would like to thank you as well as the working group for all of your hard work, time and commitment and wholeheartedly endorse the plan.

Sincerely,



Barry Bograd

Chairman of the Framingham Parks & Recreation Department



# TOWN OF FRAMINGHAM

Memorial Building, 150 Concord Street, Room 121, Framingham, MA 01702  
508-532-5400 | 508-532-5409 (fax) | selectmen@framinghamma.gov | www.framinghamma.gov

**Town Manager**  
Robert J. Halpin

**Assistant Town Manager**  
Jennifer L. Thompson

**Board of Selectmen**  
Dennis L. Giombetti, Chair  
Laurie Lee, Vice Chair  
Michael J. Bower, Clerk  
Charles J. Sisitsky  
Jason A. Smith

August 6, 2013

Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group  
Town of Framingham  
150 Concord St  
Framingham, MA 01702

Dear OSRPIWG:

We have received and reviewed the draft 2013 Framingham Open space and Recreation Plan. We found it thorough, thoughtful, and appropriately targeted.

The Board of Selectmen is in unanimous agreement that this plan reflects and honors the unique features and characteristics of Framingham.

The seven year action plan sets forth a creative structure for implementation and reasonable objectives focused on the maintenance of existing resources, the creation of non-motorized corridors, and on an increase in education and outreach.

We endorse this plan as one that will well serve the needs of the residents of Framingham and the municipal staff that works hard to protect and promote its unique resources.

The goals, objectives, and action items in this plan align themselves well with the goals of the Board of Selectmen. This plan will complement the efforts outlined in the Master Plan.

Again, we appreciate the effort involved in compiling this plan and the product that resulted. We look forward to working with the contributing boards during the implementation of this plan.

On Behalf of the Board,

Dennis L. Giombetti, Chair

Cc: Board of Selectmen



## FRAMINGHAM PLANNING BOARD

MEMORIAL BUILDING • ROOM B-37 • 150 CONCORD STREET • FRAMINGHAM, MA 01702-8373  
TELEPHONE [508] 532-5450 • FAX [508] 532-5722 • EMAIL: [planning.board@framinghamma.org](mailto:planning.board@framinghamma.org)

**Planning Board Members:**

Christine Long, Chair  
Stephanie Mercandetti, Vice Chair  
Lewis Colten, Clerk  
Victor A. Ortiz  
Thomas F. Mahoney

**Planning Board Staff:**

Amanda L. Loomis, Interim Administrator / Associate Program Planner  
Thomas J. Begin, Finance Analyst / Administrative Assistant

August 8, 2013

Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group,  
150 Concord Street  
Framingham, MA 01702

Dear Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group,

The Planning Board is receipt and has reviewed the 2013 Draft Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Board agrees that the updated 2013 Plan will continue to serve the Town of Framingham in its efforts to preserve open space, open trails, create access to points of interest and promote alternative modes of transportation while encouraging recreational opportunities.

The following comment was noted by the Board during their review of the 2013 Plan:

- Chapter 3.H.1: Scenic Roads – “Review of all roadways in Framingham to determine if additional roads or streets shall be included in a revised list of scenic roads” as noted and included in the Plan.

Thank you for allowing the Planning Board the opportunity to review the 2013 Framingham Open-Space and Recreation Plan.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Long  
Planning Board Chair



TOWN OF FRAMINGHAM  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE DIVISION

*"Dedicated to  
Excellence  
in Public  
Service"*

PETER A. SELLERS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | FDPW  
PAUL G. BARDEN  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | FDPW  
WILLIAM MERRIAM  
CHAIRMAN | CONSERVATION COMMISSION

August 21, 2013  
Open Space and Recreation Committee  
c/o Framingham Conservation Commission  
150 Concord Street, Room 213  
Framingham, MA 01702

Members of the Open Space and Recreation Implementation Working Group,

We have received and reviewed the draft 2013 Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan. We found it thoughtful, and appropriately targeted.

Our Commission is in unanimous agreement that this plan reflects and honors the unique features and characteristics of Framingham.

The seven-year action plan sets forth a creative structure for implementation and reasonable objectives focused on the maintenance of existing resources, the creation of non-motorized corridors, and an increase in education and outreach.

We endorse this plan as one that will well serve the needs of the residents of Framingham and the municipal staff that work hard to protect and promote its unique resources.

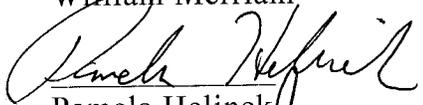
We appreciate the effort involved in compiling this plan and the product that resulted. We look forward to working with the contributing boards during the implementation of this plan.

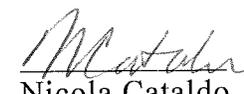
Sincerely,

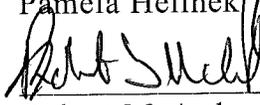
  
William Merriam

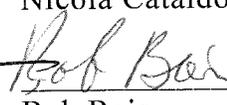
  
Kevin O'Neill

  
Jennifer Forman Orth

  
Pamela Helinek

  
Nicola Cataldo

  
Robert McArthur

  
Bob Bois



**TOWN OF FRAMINGHAM**  
Framingham Historical Commission  
Memorial Building  
150 Concord Street  
Framingham, MA 01702

Frederic Wallace, Chair  
Paul Silva, Vice Chair

29 July, 2013

To: Mr. Eugene Kennedy  
Town of Framingham  
Community and Economic Development

From: Mr. Frederic A. Wallace  
Chair, Framingham Historical Commission

Subject: DRAFT Framingham Open Space and Recreational Plan – Feedback

At our regular meeting on July 10, 2013, the Historical Commission reviewed the subject document. Ms. Alison Steinfeld of the E.D.I.C. was the presenter. In general, the plan met with enthusiastic support from this Board.

Recommendations:

We find that there are several references to the Historical Commission and the Historic District Commission throughout, and think perhaps there should be representation from one of these on your OSRPIWG.

Mention is made of updating the inventory of cultural and historic resources. (B. Process of Revising the Plan). This is clearly a responsibility of the Historical Commission.

Under Highlights of the Action Plan, Action 5B2: Appoint a new CPA study committee. The Historical Commission whole-heartedly supports this proposal.

Seven Year Action Plan: Goals 5G2 through 5G5, we are complete agreement with.

On behalf of the Commission, thanks for the opportunity for input to the plan.

  
Frederic A., Wallace, Chair



October 17, 2013

Eugene Kennedy, Interim Director  
Community and Economic Development Department  
Town of Framingham  
150 Concord Street, Room B-2  
Framingham, MA 01702

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

Thank you for submitting the draft "Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan October 2013" to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) for review.

The Division of Conservation Services (DCS) requires that all open space plans must be submitted to the regional planning agency for review. This review is advisory and only DCS has the power to approve a municipal open space plan. While DCS reviews open space plans for compliance with their guidelines, MAPC reviews these plans for their attention to regional issues generally and more specifically for consistency with *MetroFuture*, the regional policy plan for the Boston metropolitan area.

The following are MAPC's recommendations for amendments to the Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan.

**Consistency with *MetroFuture*** - *MetroFuture* is the official regional plan for Greater Boston, adopted consistently with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law. The plan includes goals and objectives as well as 13 detailed implementation strategies for accomplishing these goals. We encourage all communities to become familiar with the plan by visiting the web site at <http://www.metrofuture.org/>.

The Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan does not specifically mention *MetroFuture*. We encourage communities to include a brief paragraph about *MetroFuture* in Chapter III under Regional Context. Ideally this paragraph should explain ways in which Framingham's Open Space and Recreation Plan will help to advance some of the goals and implementation strategies that relate specifically to open space, recreation, and the environment generally.

In the case of Framingham's plan, this shouldn't be too hard to do since we see many positive connections between your plan and *MetroFuture* such as the discussion of regional open space resources, involvement in regional open space planning efforts such as the Metrowest Regional

Connectivity Plan, and the use of innovative zoning tools. These activities are highly consistent with *MetroFuture*.

**Community Preservation Act** – Adoption of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a key strategy recommended by *MetroFuture*. We are pleased to see that one of the high priority action items is the appointment of a new CPA study committee and we strongly urge Framingham to adopt the CPA.

You are undoubtedly aware of the fact that state matching funds for CPA communities have declined precipitously in recent years. However, reforms to the program and potential additional funding were passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in July 2012. Reforms include broadened eligibility of recreational facilities, the option to exempt up to the first \$100,000 of commercial property value from the CPA surcharge, and the ability to use additional municipal revenue to qualify for state matching funds. Annually, up to \$25 million in additional funding will be available to cities and towns (dependent on surplus state revenue) bringing the state's match up to an estimated 48% from its current 26%. More detailed information on all of these changes can be found at <http://www.communitypreservation.org/news/401> or by contacting MAPC's Government Affairs staff.

The plan is very thorough and it should serve the town well as it continues its efforts to preserve open space and provide for the recreational needs of its residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan.



Marc D. Draisen  
Executive Director

cc: Melissa Cryan, Division of Conservation Resources  
Laurie Lee, MAPC Representative, Town of Framingham

## **CHAPTER 11: References**

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (2006)
- BioMap2 Report for Framingham 2012 (Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and the Natural Heritage Program)
- Commonwealth Connections, A Greenway Vision for Massachusetts (2002)
- EOEA Build-Out Analysis (2002)
- Greater Callahan Open Space Preservation and Greenway Plan (Greater Callahan Working Group, October 2000, revised 2006)
- Greenprint for Growth, SuAsCo Watershed (SVT and MAPC, August 2001)
- Greenways Plan for the SuAsCo Watershed (Sudbury Valley Trustees, April 2000)
- Greenways Plan for the SuAsCo Watershed (SVT, April 2000)
- Mass. Statewide Bicycle Transportation Plan (Massachusetts Highway Department, draft 2008)
- Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (draft 2012)  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
- Massachusetts Cultural Resources Inventory
- Open Space Connectivity Plan, MetroWest Regional Collaborative, 2012.
- Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements (2008) (Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services)
- Open Space Planner's Workbook (2008) (Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services, Revised February 1993)
- Public Access Plan for the MDC Sudbury Watershed (Metropolitan District Commission, June 1994)
- Final Report, Framingham Public Trails Task Force (Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan Implementation Working Group, October 2011)
- Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Nyanza Chemical Waste Dump Superfund Site (Nyanza Natural Resource Damages (NRD) Trustee Council, 2012)
- SuAsCo Action Plan
- SuAsCo Watershed 2001 Water Quality Assessment Report (2001)
- Sudbury Reservoir System Public Access Plan 2002 Update (May 2003)
- Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Wild and Scenic Rivers: Unprotected Land Inventory (SVT, January 2003)
- Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Wild and Scenic Rivers: Unprotected Land Inventory (Sudbury Valley Trustees, January 2003)
- Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River Watershed Action Plan (2005)
- Town of Concord Open Space and Recreation Plan (2004)

Town of Framingham Build-out Analysis of Residential Zoning Districts (Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, 2000).

Town of Framingham Build-out Analysis of Residential Zoning Districts (Planning Board, 2003).

Town of Framingham Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (Department of Public Works, 2010).

Town of Framingham Master Plan (Planning Board, 2012).

Town of Framingham Open Space and Recreation Plan (Conservation Commission, 2008).

Town of Framingham Tercentennial Park Master Plan (Parks and Recreation Department, 2001)

Town of Framingham Water Master Plan (Department of Public Works, draft 2008).

Town of Framingham River Views (Margolis and Fairbairn, 2003)

Town of Framingham Zoning By-law (Planning Board, 2012)

Town of Lincoln Open Space and Recreation Plan (2008)

***Appendix A***

***Parks and Recreation Department Programs***

# Framingham Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs



www.FraminghamParks.com



## 2012 SPRING & SUMMER PROGRAMS

**\*\* REGISTRATION BEGINS THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2012 \*\***  
**\*\* AT THE RECREATION OFFICE (9am - 5pm) \*\* UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

### PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

#### Find Your Movement Dance Class - Ages 3-5 yrs.

Wednesdays, May 9 - June 13  
3:15-4:00pm ~ \$55 per child  
Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.

#### Pre-School Playgroup Open House!

Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>  
9:45am - 11:15am ~ At the Cushing Building at Cushing Memorial Park.  
Children ages 2.5-5 years are welcome to come with a parent/guardian to see what the Preschool Playgroup is all about! Come play, do an art project, hear a story and have a snack - just like we do in our regular weekly sessions. This Open House is free of charge, but please pre-register by Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> by calling the Parks & Recreation Office at 508-532-5960. Numbers are limited, so reserve your spot today!

#### Pre-School Playgroups - Ages 2½ - 4 yrs.

Week of April 23 - Week of June 11 from 9:45am - 11:15am  
Wednesdays for age 2 ½ yrs. ~ ~ Thursdays for ages 3 & 4 yrs.  
\$32 per child ~ ~ Proof of age REQUIRED @ registration! (2yrs. by 9/1/11)  
Class held at Cushing Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.

#### Skyhawks MiniHawk Sports Clinic - Ages 4 - 6 yrs.

Monday - Friday, July 2 - July 6 (no clinic July 4)  
9:00am - 12:00pm ~ \$85 per child per session  
Clinic will be held at the Long's Field Complex on Dudley Rd.

#### Start Smart Baseball - Ages 3 - 5 yrs.

Saturdays, May 12 - June 16 (no class 5/26)  
9:00am - 10:00am **OR** 10:00am - 11:00am  
\$55 per child ~ ~ Parent MUST participate with child.  
Class will be held at the Hemenway School baseball field. Focus is on fundamentals and proper techniques. Children keep their equipment.

#### Whimsical Wednesdays - Ages 3 - 5

Wednesdays, May 2 - May 23  
10:15 - 11:00am ~ \$45 per child  
If you enjoyed our 'Kids Just Love Crafts' program, then you'll LOVE 'Whimsical Wednesdays'!! Class held at Whimsy Arts and Crafts Studio, 686 Worcester Road, Framingham.

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### A Girl's Way - ages 11 - 14 yrs.

Wednesday, August 8  
5:15pm - 8:15pm ~ \$40 per child  
A dynamic course designed specifically for girls. Raising self-esteem, setting boundaries, and identifying potentially dangerous relationships are some of the topics covered. Class held in the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.

#### Aikido - Ages 8 - 14 yrs.

Saturdays, April 28 - June 9 (No class May 26)  
10:15am - 11:15am ~ \$40 per child  
Class held at Framingham Aikikai, 61 Fountain St.

#### Baby Sitting Class - Ages 11 - 15 yrs.

Saturdays, May 5 & May 12 ~ ~ Student MUST attend BOTH classes.  
9:30am - 2:30pm ~ \$85 per child  
Class held at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.

#### Basketball Clinic - Ages 7 - 16 (girls) & 7 - 15 (boys)

June 25 - 28 from 9:00am - 3:00pm ~ \$95 per child  
Clinic held at Framingham High School.

#### Camp Arrowhead

Day Camp in Natick for youths who are physically challenged. Please call 508-532-5960 for more information.

#### Creative Movement Dance Class - Ages 5 - 7 yrs.

Wednesdays, May 9 - June 13  
4:15pm - 5:00pm ~ \$55 per child  
Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.

#### CyberSafe ~ Internet Safety - Ages 8 - 11

Wednesday, August 8  
3:00pm - 5:00pm ~ \$35 per child  
Covers internet safety through interactive and entertaining lessons. Learn how to stay safe while enjoying everything the internet has to offer. Class held at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.

#### Flyer Football Clinic - Ages 8 - 16 yrs.

**Tony Gonzalez Skills Clinic (no contact)**  
July 16 - 19 from 9:00am - 12:00pm ~ \$85 per child  
Clinic held at the Framingham HS turf field.

#### Karate - Ages 7 - 12 yrs.

Tuesdays, April 24 - May 29  
5:30pm - 6:15pm ~ \$70 per child  
Class held at Nick Cerio's Studio, 885 Waverly Street.

#### Kids Golf - Ages 7 - 12 yrs.

Tuesdays, April 10 - May 1  
4:00pm - 5:00pm ~ \$120 per child ~ equipment supplied  
Class held at Southborough Golf & Learning Center, 20 Turnpike Rd, Southborough.

#### McCarthy Day Center

Special Needs Day Center. Activities encourage social interaction and emotional development. Call in early May for info. Appt. needed for first year campers.

#### PAL Gym Schedule - Grades 6 - 12

Wednesdays - 6:45pm-9:00pm - Danforth Gym  
Thursdays - 6:45pm-9:00pm - Danforth Gym  
Friday - 7:00pm-9:00pm - Danforth Gym  
Sundays - 6:00pm-9:00pm - Danforth Gym

#### Safe Kids - Ages 5 - 7 yrs.

Wednesday, July 11  
4:00pm - 6:00pm ~ \$20 per child  
Learn about injury prevention and how to respond in an emergency in a fun and memorable way! Class held in the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.

#### Skyhawks Flag Football Clinic - Ages 7 - 14 yrs.

Monday - Thursday, July 23 - 26 ~ (7/27 rain day if needed)  
9:00am - 12:00pm ~ \$85 per child  
Clinic will be held at the Long's Field Complex on Dudley Rd.

**\*\* PAYMENT FOR ALL RECREATION PROGRAMS IS CASH OR CHECK ONLY ~ ~ ALL RECREATION PROGRAMS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE \*\***

**Skyhawks Co-Ed Lacrosse Clinic** - Ages 7 – 10 yrs.  
Monday – Thursday, August 13 – 16 ~ (8/17 rain day if needed)  
9:00am – 12:00pm ~ \$85 per child  
Clinic will be held at the Long's Field Complex on Dudley Rd.

**Skyhawks Volleyball Clinic** - Ages 7 – 14 yrs.  
Monday – Friday, July 2 – 6 (no clinic on 7/4)  
9:00am – 12:00pm ~ \$85 per child  
Clinic will be held at the Long's Field Complex on Dudley Rd.



**Skyline**  
Programs for persons with disabilities. Bowling, Art, Sports, etc.  
Please call 508-647-6530 for more info.

**Soccer Clinic** - Ages 5 – 13 yrs.  
Session I – April 17 – 20 ~ Inside @ Barbieri School (school break week)  
Session II – July 9 – 12 ~ Outside @ Long's Field  
Session III – August 6 – 9 ~ Outside @ Long's Field  
9:00am – 12:00pm ~ \$85 per child per session



**Come for Session I of the Soccer Clinic and Stay for the Skyhawks Multi-Sport Clinic!!**

Pack a lunch!  
Supervision will be provided for those children who choose to attend both clinics!

**SkyHawks Multi-Sport Clinic** - Ages 5 – 13 yrs.  
Tuesday, April 17 – Friday, April 20 (Vacation Week)  
12:30pm – 3:00pm ~ \$75 per child  
SkyHawks staff will provide an array of games, sports, and activities.  
Held at the Barbieri School Gym.

**Summer Recreation Centers** - Ages 5 – 13 yrs.

Session I – July 9 – July 20  
Session II – July 23 – August 3  
Session III – August 6 – August 17  
9:00am – 3:30pm ~ \$250 per child per session  
\* **Please Note** - Centers are located at **Brophy and Hemenway Schools** but may change due to school availability. \*\*  
*\* Parents are responsible for transportation to and from Centers. \**

**Register at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. from 5:30pm – 6:30pm.**

**Swim Lessons at the Town Beaches** - Ages 3 – 18 yrs.  
Session I – July 9 – July 18 ~ Register June 28 from 9:30-10:30am  
Session II – July 30 – August 8 ~ Register July 19 from 9:30-10:30am  
\$30 per child per session ~ **Register at the office on the dates above.**

**Swim Team** - Ages 6 – 18 yrs.  
Practice times TBA ~ \$110 per swimmer  
**Register at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm – 6:30pm.**



**Taekwondo for Beginners** - Ages 4 – 6 yrs.  
Mondays, April 30 – June 11 ~ **OR** ~ Thursdays, May 3 – June 7 (no class 5/28)  
3:30pm – 4:15pm ~ \$75 per child ~ Class held at Baystate Taekwondo Academy, 25 School St. Fram. Class for first time beginners only. *We ask that children who would like to repeat the class to please wait until April 26<sup>th</sup> to register if space is available.*

**Track Clinic** - Ages 8 – 14 yrs.  
Mondays, April 23 – June 4 (no clinic May 28)  
6:00pm – 7:00pm  
\$30 per child  
Clinic is held at Bowditch Field.



**Tennis Lessons** - Ages 5 – 17 yrs.  
Monday - Thursday - July 9 – August 9  
9:15am for ages 5 – 8 yrs. ~ 10:15am for ages 9 – 12 yrs.  
11:15am for ages 13 – 17 yrs.  
\$50 per child for 6 classes (additional classes \$10 each)  
Class held at the Bowditch Tennis Courts.



**Tennis Clinic** - Ages 5 – 17 yrs.  
August 13 – 16 (8/17 rain day if needed)  
9:00am – 12:00pm ~ \$100 per child  
Clinic will be held at the Bowditch Tennis Courts.



**Ukrainian Egg Painting** - Ages 8 – 18  
Thursday, April 12  
4:00pm – 6:00pm ~ \$25 per child  
Learn the traditional candle/wax method of Ukrainian Egg Painting. Class held at Whimsy Arts and Crafts Studio, 686 Worcester Rd. Framingham.



**Weight Lifting** - Grades 7 – 12  
July 9 – August 9 (Mondays – Thursdays) Subject to change.  
7:00am – 9:00am @ Framingham High ~ ~ Register on-site.

**Whimsy Wednesday** - Ages 5 – 12 yrs.  
Wednesday, April 18 – School Vacation Drop Off Day!  
10:00am – 1:00pm ~ \$50 per child  
Students bring lunch. Class includes snack, select art projects and mining experiences. Class held at Whimsy Arts & Crafts, 686 Worcester Rd, Fram.



**Wrestling** - Ages 13 – 19 yrs.  
Begins Mondays, April 9  
6:00pm – 8:00pm  
\$30 per child for USA Wrestling Membership, payable first evening  
Class held at Framingham High School in the back gym.

**\*\* For more Wrestling Information, please call Wrestling Coach Jon Kanavich at 508-733-3979 \*\***

FAMILY PROGRAMS



An **EGG**citing Event

At Cushing Memorial Park

Saturday, March 31 at 9:30am

(rain, snow, or shine)

**Adult & Family Trips**

May 17 – Foxwoods  
August 19 – Cape Cod Sunset Cruise  
October 14 – Putney Inn  
July 1 – Tall Ships  
September 29 – Ellis Island

**Bowditch & Winch Park Tennis Court Lights**

End of May – Mid-October from dusk to 10:00pm

**Bowditch Movie Night!**

Thursday, July 19 at sunset  
Come out to Bowditch field for a fun filled family movie night. This event is FREE to all Framingham residents. More details TBA.



**Concerts on the Green**

Fridays, June 22 – August 10  
6:30pm – 8:30pm  
Watch for our concert line-up on our website in late May!



**DCR Parks Pass**

This pass entitles the bearer to free parking for one vehicle at over 50 facilities in the Massachusetts State Parks systems that charge a day-use parking fee. (parks listed at [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr).) Framingham Residents can reserve the pass, 7 days in advance, by leaving a \$35.00 refundable deposit. Passes will be issued on a first come first serve basis.



**PAL VS Patriots**

April 4  
7:00pm ~ \$5.00 per person (at the door)  
Framingham High School



**GREEN UP DAY!!! -- Volunteers Needed !!**  
Town Wide Clean Up Day! ~ April 28 ~ [www.greenupday.org](http://www.greenupday.org)



**Public Town Beaches**

**Open June 21 – August 16 ~ 10:00am – 7:00pm**

*Learned Pond ~ Lake Waushakum ~ Saxonville Beach*



**Stroller Strides**

Mondays, April 30 – June 25  
9:30am – 10:30am ~ \$110 per adult  
Outdoor Class. Meet at the Academy Building in Cushing Memorial Park. Total fitness, includes power walking, strength training and body toning exercises. Moms should be at least 7 weeks postpartum. Children remain in their stroller during class.

**Track Meets** - All Ages - Sponsored by the Greater Framingham Track Club

Wednesdays, June 6 – August 8  
5:30pm at the Bowditch Field Track  
Register on-site each week.



## ADULT PROGRAMS

### **Adult Aikido - Ages 15 – Adult**

Saturdays, April 28 – June 9 (No class May 26)  
11:30am – 12:30pm ~ \$45 per person  
Class held at Framingham Aikikai, 61 Fountain St.

### **Adult Golf Lessons**

Tuesdays, April 10 – May 1  
5:00pm – 6:00pm

\$120 per person ~ equipment supplied  
Class held at Southborough Golf & Learning Center's Golf Range, 20 Turnpike Rd, Southborough. \*\* *Additional Golf Lessons may also be offered at Framingham Country Club. More information TBA.* \*\*



### **First Aid & CPR Certification**

Wednesday, July 11

6:15pm – 9:15pm ~ \$65 per person  
American Heart Association Certificate – good for 2 years. Class will be held at the Academy Building at Cushing Memorial Park.



### **Ladies Golf Clinic**

Wednesdays, April 11 – May 2  
9:00am – Noon

\$120 per person  
Class includes 1 hour of instruction, 5 holes of golf on course, and lunch. Class held at Millwood Golf Course, 175 Millwood Street, Framingham.



### **Men's 'Over 40' Basketball League**

Monday evenings at the Long's Field Basketball Court. ~ *Looking for teams!* ~  
End of May – July. Uniforms & referees supplied. \$450 per team  
Contact Rich at 508-320-6543 or [celticsp1@aol.com](mailto:celticsp1@aol.com) for more information.

### **Men's Slow Pitch Softball**

\$575 (team registration only)  
League plays May through August.



### **Open Gym Schedule**

Danforth Gym ~ ~ Basketball Court Only ~ \$2 per person  
Tuesdays – 5:30pm-8:00pm \* Saturdays – 3:30pm-7:00pm  
Sundays – 12:00pm-3:00pm

### **Step Up To Health - Walk With The Parks**

Stay in Shape through the Spring and Summer! Walk in the parks, to school or in the mall. Walk wherever you'd like! Keep track of how many steps you take from April – August!  
Prizes will be awarded!! ~ ~ \$5 per person  
(Registration includes a free pedometer to help you count your steps)



### **Tennis Lessons**

Monday – Beginner ~ Tuesday – Advanced Beginner  
Wednesday **OR** Thursday - Low Intermediate  
Week of April 30 – Week of June 4 ~ \$75 per person  
6:30pm – 8:00pm ~ Class held at Bowditch Courts - Enter on Walnut Street



### **Violence Prevention Forum Community Meeting**

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Violence Prevention Roundtable  
April 23 at 7:00pm ~ McPherson Hall, MetroWest Medical Center (Fram.)  
John Arlebach, commissioner of Public Health, Keynote Speaker



### **Yoga**

Mondays, April 30 – May 21  
6:00pm – 7:00pm ~ \$30 per adult (\$35 Non-Residents)  
Class held at Brophy School gym.



## SENIOR PROGRAMS

### **Play Pickleball!**

Ongoing Classes at The Longfellow Club in Wayland  
Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:15pm OR Fridays at 10:00am  
First session is FREE! ~ \$5 per person (doubles), \$10 per person (singles) Please call 508-358-7355 to reserve a court or ask about lessons!

### **Senior Citizen Exercise**

Ongoing Classes at the Callahan Center  
Tuesdays 10:00am – 11:00am  
No Fee!



Additional classes have been arranged at Focus on Fitness, 63 Fountain St. Class held on Wed. at 10:30am. \$5.00 per class.



### **Senior Softball**

Age 55 & over, League Play ~ ~ [www.emass-seniorsoftball.com](http://www.emass-seniorsoftball.com)  
Contact Gerry Yaffe at 508-877-7244 or [gyaffe@aol.com](mailto:gyaffe@aol.com)

## Sponsored Events

### **Susan G. Komen 3-Day For The Cure -- Boston**

Opening Ceremony at Farm Pond Park, Dudley Rd, Framingham  
Friday, July 27 ~ 7:00am

The Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure® is an amazing 60-mile walk that helps mothers, sisters, spouses and friends get one step closer to a world without breast cancer. Join us for three inspirational days where together we'll walk so long, so far and with so much hope, the world will hear our footsteps. For more information, please visit [www.the3day.org](http://www.the3day.org)



### **First Annual Motorcycle Run to benefit the Friends of Framingham Recreation**

Saturday, May 5  
For more information, please visit O'Connells Pub & Sports Bar.  
700 Worcester Road, Framingham. 508-283-1079



# Framingham Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

## 2012 FALL PROGRAMS

**REGISTRATION BEGINS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2012**

**\*\* AT THE RECREATION OFFICE (9am – 5pm) \*\* UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED \*\***

### PRESCHOOL

**Find Your Movement Dance Class - Ages 3-5 yrs.**

Tuesdays, October 9 – November 20 (no class Nov. 6)  
3:15-4:00pm ~ \$55 per child  
Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.

**Goldfish Swim Lessons - Ages 6mo.-3 yrs.**

Tuesdays, Oct. 30 – Dec. 11 (no class Nov. 20)  
9:30-10:00am ~ \$85 per child  
Classes held at and sponsored by Suburban Athletic Club, 10 Roxanna St. Framingham  
A responsible adult must accompany the child in this class.

**Pre-School Playgroups - Ages 2½ - 4 yrs.**

Week of Oct. 9 – Week of Dec. 31  
Wednesday for ages 2 ½ yrs.  
Tuesday **OR** Thursday for ages 3 & 4 yrs.  
9:45-11:15am ~ \$35 per child  
Classes held at Cushing Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.



**Start Smart Soccer - Ages 3-5 yrs.**

Saturdays, Oct. 13 – Nov. 10  
9:00-10:00am **OR** 10:00-11:00am  
\$55 per child  
Fundamentals and proper soccer techniques will be taught. Parent MUST participate with child. Children keep their equipment at the end of the program. Maximum 20 children. Classes held at the Brophy School Gym.



**Whimsical Wednesdays - Ages 3-5**

Wednesdays, October 10 - 31  
11:00 – 11:45am ~ \$48 per child  
If you enjoyed our 'Kids Just Love Crafts' program, then you'll LOVE 'Whimsical Wednesdays'!! Class held at Whimsy Arts and Crafts Studio, 686 Worcester Road, Framingham.



**Tiny Trotters Riding Program - Ages 4-6 yrs.**

Wednesdays, Oct. 17 – Nov. 14 from 9:30-11:30am ~ **OR** ~ 1:00-3:00pm  
Thursdays, Oct. 18 – Nov. 15. from 9:30-11:30am ~ **OR** ~ 1:00-3:00pm  
\$245 per child  
Begin to explore the wonderful world of ponies and farm life. Grooming, tacking, handling, and care will be taught. The program will also consist of a private riding lesson. Classes held at Lil Folk Farm, Holliston.



## PLEASE NOTE

- ALL RECREATION PROGRAMS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE
- CLASSES ARE LIMITED & BASED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS – REGISTER EARLY!

### YOUTH

**A Girl's Way - Ages 11-14 yrs.**

Monday, November 5  
6:00pm – 8:30pm ~ \$40 per child  
A dynamic course designed specifically for girls. Topics covered are; Setting boundaries with friends & acquaintances, Increased critical thinking, Drug & alcohol awareness, Identifying potentially unhealthy relationships, and Raising self esteem. Class held at the Academy Building in Cushing Memorial Park.

**Aikido - Ages 8-14 yrs.**

Saturdays, Oct. 13 – Nov. 17  
10:15-11:15am ~ \$45 per child  
Martial art system of self-defense.  
Classes held at Framingham Aikikai, 61 Fountain St.

**Babysitting Certification Course - Ages 11-15 yrs.**

Saturday, October 27  
9:30am-4:00pm ~ \$85 per child  
Class held at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.



**Creative Movement Dance Class - Ages 6-8 yrs.**

Tuesdays, October 9 – November 20 (no class Nov. 6)  
4:15-5:00pm ~ \$55 per child  
Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.



**CyberSafe ~ Internet Safety - Ages 8-11**

Monday, November 5  
3:45pm – 5:45pm ~ \$35 per child  
Covers internet safety through interactive and entertaining lessons. Learn how to stay safe while enjoying everything the internet has to offer. Class held at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.

**Futsal Academy - Ages 5-14 yrs.**

Saturdays, November 10 – January 5 (no class 11/24 & 12/29)  
Times TBD ~ \$135 per player  
This Academy will be a combination of lessons & games. Futsal is the official indoor soccer game of FIFA. Class will be held at Suburban Athletic Club, 10 Roxanna St.  
\* There will be a Futsal Open House on Thursday, Oct. 11 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Come and watch a wonderful demonstration of the game! \*



**Home Alone Safety - Ages 8-11 yrs.**

Thursday, October 11  
3:45pm-5:45pm ~ \$35 per child  
Learn different techniques to help you stay safe when you are home alone. Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.

**Introduction to Horsemanship & Riding - Ages 6-16**

Sunday, October 28  
12:00 – 3:00pm ~ \$75 per child  
This introductory class will teach your children the basics of riding, tacking, leading, care, and feeding. Class held at Lil Folk Farm, Holliston.



**Karate - Ages 7-12 yrs.**

Wednesdays, Oct. 10 – Nov. 14  
6:00-6:45pm ~ \$70 per child  
Classes held at Nick Cerio's, 885 Waverly Street Studio.



**Kids Golf - Ages 7-12 yrs.**

Tuesdays, Oct. 9 – Oct. 30  
4:00pm – 5:00pm ~ \$120 per child ~ equipment supplied  
Class held at Southborough Golf & Learning Center, 20 Turnpike Rd, Southborough.

## **PAL Gym Schedule - Grades 6-12**

September 24 - April 2013



Mondays - 6-8pm - Grades 6-8 - Woodrow Wilson Gym

Wednesdays - 7-9pm - Grades 9-12 - Danforth Gym

Thursdays - 7-9pm - Grades 9-12 - Danforth Gym

Fridays - 7-9pm - Grades 9-12 - Danforth Gym

Sundays - 6-9pm - Grades 6-12 - Danforth Gym

\*\* 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament - October 28 - 4:00pm

Danforth Gym ~ Grades 6-12 ~ Register on site \*\*



## **Piano Lessons - Grades 2-8**

**SESSION I** - Saturdays, October 6 - 27

10:00 - 10:50am - Introductory Class - Grades 2-3 ~ \$75 per child

11:00 - 11:50am - Introductory Class - Grades 4-5 ~ \$75 per child

12:00 - 12:50pm - Software Class - Grades 6-8 ~ \$75 per child

**SESSION II** - Saturdays, November 3 - 24

10:00 - 10:50am - Introductory Class - Grades 2-3 ~ \$75 per child

11:00 - 11:50am - Introductory Class - Grades 4-5 ~ \$75 per child

12:00 - 12:50pm - Software Class - Grades 6-8 ~ \$75 per child

Class will be held at Piano Pear, 1 Edgell Road, Suite 2, Framingham.

## **Skating Lessons - Ages 5-10 yrs.**

Saturdays, Nov. 3 - Dec. 8

9:00am-10:00am **OR** 10:00am-11:00am

\$35 per child (\$40 non-residents)

**\*APPROVED SKATE HELMETS REQUIRED FOR ALL SKATERS!\*** Birth Certificates REQUIRED for all 5 year olds! \*Instructors/volunteers needed! Please contact the Parks & Rec. Office at 508-532-5960 if interested!

**\*\* Residents register from 5:30-6:30pm, Monday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> at Loring Arena, Non-Residents may register on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at the recreation office if space is still available. \*\***



## **Swim Lessons - Ages 3-18 yrs.**

Saturdays, September 22 - November 17 (no class Oct. 27)

\$35 per swimmer

Lessons will be held at the Keefe Tech. Pool, Winter Street.

**\* Residents register on Wednesday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30pm at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park. Non-Residents may register on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at the recreation office if space is still available \***



## **Swim Start & Turn Clinic - Grades 4-10**

Sunday, November 4

6:30 - 8:30pm at Keefe Tech Pool

\$40 per swimmer

Focus will be on basic forward start technique and basic turns. Swimmers must be able to perform a basic standing dive from the side of the pool into deep water PRIOR to registering for this class.



## **Swim Team - Ages 6-18 yrs.**

Begins in November ~ Evening practice times TBA

\$110 per child / \$200 per family

**Registration will be on Sat., Oct. 13 from 9-10am at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.**



## **Taekwon-Do - Ages 4-6 yrs.**

Mondays, Oct. 15 - Nov. 19 **OR** Thursdays, Oct. 18 - Nov. 29 (no class 11/22)

3:30pm- 4:15pm ~ \$65 per child ~ Classes held at 25 School St. Class

for first time beginners only. *We ask that children who would like to repeat the class to please wait until Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> to register if space is available.*

## **T-Shirt Tye-Dye Tutorial - Ages 8-12 yrs**

Thursday, November 8

2:00 - 4:00pm (early release day)

\$15 per person ~ Please bring a white t-shirt to dye

Spend an afternoon creating a tie-dye t-shirt! Learn how to make a heart, star, or other design. Class held at the Academy Building in Cushing Memorial Park.



## **Tennis Lessons - Ages 4-14 yrs.**

Sundays, Oct. 14 - Nov. 18

2:30pm- 3:15pm = Ages 4 & 5 \*\* 3:15pm-4:00pm = Ages 6 & 7

4:00pm-5:00pm = Ages 7 & 8 \*\* 5:00pm-6:00pm = Ages 8 - 10

6:00pm-7:00pm = Ages 10 - 14

\$75 per child ~ Classes held at the Longfellow Club in Wayland.



# FAMILY

## **Fall Festival at Farm Pond**

Saturday, October 13 ~ 12:00 - 4:00pm

Bring the family & come down for some music, food, and lots of fun outdoor activities for kids & adults! Festival sponsored by the Framingham Downtown Renaissance. Please visit [www.downtownframingham.com](http://www.downtownframingham.com) for more information.



## **New York Shopping Spree**

December 1 ~ \$43 per person

7:00am departure from Bowditch Field

11:00pm return to Bowditch Field

Travel by motor coach and be dropped off at Rockefeller Center. Shop until you drop, and meet the bus for a relaxing ride home! An optional Yankee Gift Swap will help to pass the time on your return trip. No stops will be made between Framingham and New York City. All children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.



## **! COMMUNITY BONFIRE AT BOWDITCH FIELD !**

**Wednesday, November 21, 2012**

**6:30pm**

**Free event!**

**Kick-off your Thanksgiving with a show of community spirit as your Framingham High Football Team prepares to take on Natick!**



## **Public Swim**

All Ages - at Keefe Tech. Pool

September 22 - December 16 (No open swim on 10/27 & 10/28 -- dates subject to change without notice)

Saturdays, 3:00-4:30pm \* Sundays, 2:00-3:30pm

\$4 per adult / \$2 per child

## **Public Skate**

September 9, 2012 - April 13, 2013

Mondays - 10:00am-2:00pm \* Tues.- Fridays - 10:00am-Noon

Saturdays - 2:00pm-3:45pm \* Sundays - 2:00pm-3:45pm

\$4 per adult/\$3 ages 12 and under

**Stick Time: (Helmets Required!)**

Tues.- Fri. - 12:00pm-2:00pm \* \$5 per person

Call Loring Arena at 508-532-5950 or check

[www.framinghamma.gov/index.aspx?NID=678](http://www.framinghamma.gov/index.aspx?NID=678) for more information.



## **! PUMPKINS IN THE PARK ! - Ages 3-12 yrs.**

Saturday, Oct. 27

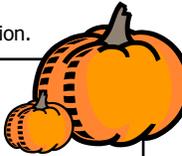
1:00-3:00pm

\$5 per child

Costume parade, pumpkin decorating, hayrides, and more at the Cushing Building in Cushing Memorial Park!

Fun event for Framingham residents! Rain or Shine!

**Must Pre-Register no later than Friday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>**



# ADULT

## **Adult Aikido - Ages 15-Adult**

Saturdays, Oct. 13 - Nov. 17

11:30am-12:30pm ~ \$50 per person

Classes held at Framingham Aikikai, 61 Fountain St.

## **Adult Pickleball**

Ongoing Classes at The Longfellow Club in Wayland

Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:00pm OR Fridays at 10:00am

First session is FREE! ~ \$5 per person (doubles), \$10 per person (singles)

Please call 508-358-9675 to reserve a court or ask about lessons!

## **Adult Riding Lessons**

Mondays, Oct. 15 - Nov. 5 ~ **OR** ~ Tuesdays, Oct. 16 - Nov. 6 ~ **OR** ~

Mondays, Nov. 12 - Dec. 3 ~ **OR** ~ Tuesdays, Nov 13 - Dec. 4

9:30 - 11:00am ~ \$230 per person

Riding is great exercise! Whether you are a beginner or looking to get back in the saddle, you will love this program! Classes held at Lil Folk Farm, Holliston.



## **Adult Swim Lessons**

Wednesday Oct. 31- Dec. 12 (no class Nov. 20)

6:00- 6:45 pm ~ \$85 per adult

Classes held at and sponsored by Suburban Athletic Club. 10 Roxanna St. Framingham

### **Adult Golf Lessons**

Tuesdays, Oct. 9 – Oct. 30

6:00pm - 7:00pm

\$120 per person ~ equipment supplied

Class held at Southborough Golf & Learning Center's Golf Range, 20 Turnpike Rd, Southborough.



### **Adult Piano Lessons**

**SESSION I** - Saturdays, October 6 – 27

9:00 – 9:50am – Beginning Piano ~~ \$75 per person

**SESSION II** - Saturdays, November 3 – 24

9:00 – 9:50am - Beginning Piano ~~ \$75 per person

Class will be held at Piano Pear, 1 Edgell Road, Suite 2, Framingham.

### **Adult Trips**

September 29 ~ Ellis Island, NY

October 14 ~ Putney Inn, VT

October 24-26 ~ Atlantic City, NJ

Nov 8 ~ Mohegan Sun

June 7-14, 2013 ~ Boston - Bermuda Cruise! Must register by 11/19/12

Detailed itineraries available at Recreation Office.



### **Basic Dog Obedience Training**

Thursdays, October 4 – November 15

6:30pm – 7:30pm ~~ \$100 per dog/adult couple

For dogs over the age of 6mo. Topics will include attention, sit, down, stay, wait, give and take. Not appropriate for aggressive dogs and pinch/choke collars are not permitted. Classes will be taught by Sweet Wag Dog Training and held at the Academy Building in Cushing Memorial Park.



### **Cardio Tennis**

Mondays, Oct. 15 – Nov. 26 (no class 11/12)

11:00am-12:00pm ~~ \$75 per person

Get your cardio in while hitting tennis balls to drills & fun, upbeat music!

Classes held at the Longfellow Club in Wayland.

### **First Aid & CPR**

Thursday, October 11

6:00pm-9:00pm ~~ \$65 per adult

American Heart Association certificate – good for 2 years. Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.



### **Open Gym Schedule**

September – April 2013 ~~ \$2 per person

Danforth Gym (Basketball Court Only)

Tues. – 6:00pm-8:00pm \* Sat. – 3:30pm-7:00pm \* Sun. – Noon-3:00pm



### **Qi Gong**

October 15 – November 26 (no class Nov. 12)

7:00pm – 8:00pm ~~ \$40

Series of slow, fluid movements designed to release tension and improve flow of energy through the body. Classes held at Brophy School Gym.



### **Step Up To Health - Walk With The Parks**

Stay in Shape through the Fall and Winter! Walk in the parks, to school or in the mall. Walk wherever you'd like! Keep track of how many steps you take from October – December!

Prizes will be awarded!! ~~ \$5 per person

(Registration includes a free pedometer to help you count your steps)



### **Tennis Lessons - Ages 15 - Adult**

Sundays, Oct. 14 – Nov. 18

7:00pm-8:00pm (Beginner & Intermediate)

\$75 per person ~~ Classes held at the Longfellow Club in Wayland.



### **Yoga**

Mondays, Oct. 15 – Dec. 10 (No Class Nov. 12)

\$60 per adult (\$65 Non-Resident)

6:00pm-7:00pm

Gentle, Kripalu, yoga classes held at Brophy School gym.



### **Zumba**

Thursdays, October 4 – November 8

5:30pm-6:30pm ~~ \$40 per adult (\$45 Non-Residents)

Classes will be held at the Danforth Gym, Pearl Street. Please wear comfortable clothing.



## SENIOR

### **Senior Citizen Exercise**

Ongoing Classes at the Callahan Center

Tuesdays 10:00am-10:45am \*\* No Fee!



### **Senior Citizen Swim**

Saturdays, September 22 - December 16 at Keefe Tech. Pool

(No Senior Swim on 10/27 - - dates are subject to change without notice)

2:00pm-3:00pm \*\* No Fee!

# Framingham Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

## 2012 WINTER PROGRAMS

**REGISTRATION BEGINS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2012**

### PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

#### **Find Your Movement Dance Class - Ages 3-5 yrs.**

Tuesdays, February 26 – April 2  
3:15-4:00pm  
\$55 per child  
Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.

#### **Music, Dance, Yoga & Me - Ages 10 months – 3 yrs.**

Mondays, February 25 – April 1  
9:30 – 10:15am for ages 10 mo. – 24 mo.  
10:30 – 11:30am for ages 2 & 3 yrs.  
\$60 per child/parent unit  
This program provides the thoughtful movement of yoga, self-expression of dance, and the rhythmic beats of musical instruments. Parents participation and proper clothing and sneakers are required. Class will be held in the Cushing Bldg. (next to the playground) in Cushing Memorial Park. Please enter Park through the Keefe Tech. entrance on Winter Street.



#### **Pre-School Playgroups - Ages 2½ – 4 yrs.**

Week of January 7 – Week of March 18  
Tues. for ages 3 & 4 yrs. **OR** Wed. for age 2½ yrs. **OR** Thur. for ages 3 & 4 yrs.  
9:45 - 11:15am  
\$40 per child  
Proof of age REQUIRED @ registration! (2 yrs. by 7/1/12)  
Teacher-led playgroup. Includes story time, arts & crafts, play time, and more.  
Parental participation required. Classes held at the Cushing Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park.

#### **Start Smart Basketball - Ages 3 – 5 yrs.**

Saturdays, January 12 – February 9  
9:00 – 10:00am **OR** 10:00 – 11:00am  
\$55 per child  
Class will be held at Potter Rd. Elem. School. Fundamentals and proper basketball techniques will be taught. Parent **MUST** participate with child. Children keep their equipment at the end of the program.



#### **Tiny Tyke Gym Class - Ages 6 months – 13 months**

Tuesdays, January 8 – February 26 from 11:35am – 12:20pm ~ **OR** ~  
Thursdays, January 10 – February 28 from 1:15pm – 2:00pm  
\$120 per child/parent unit ~ Price includes Lifetime Membership to 'My Gym' and admission to ALL open-gym times.  
A variety of beginning stretches, exercises, and introductory tumbling. Class is designed to help babies with their natural abilities while enhancing cognitive development. Classes held at *My Gym*, 855 Worcester Rd, Fram. (Trolley Sq. Plaza).



#### **Whimsical Wednesdays - Ages 3 – 5**

Wednesdays, January 9 – 30  
11:00 – 11:45am  
\$48 per child  
If you enjoyed our 'Kids Just Love Crafts' program, then you'll LOVE 'Whimsical Wednesdays'!! Class held at Whimsy Arts and Crafts Studio, 686 Worcester Road, Framingham.



### YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### **A Girl's Way - Ages 11-14 yrs.**

Monday, January 14  
4:30pm – 6:30pm ~ ~ \$40 per child  
A dynamic course designed specifically for girls. Topics covered are; Setting boundaries with friends & acquaintances, increased critical thinking, drug & alcohol awareness, identifying potentially unhealthy relationships, and raising self-esteem. Class held at the Academy Building in Cushing Memorial Park.



#### **Aikido - Ages 8 – 14 yrs.**

Saturdays, January 5 – February 9  
10:15 – 11:15am  
\$45 per child  
Martial art system of self-defense.  
Classes held at Framingham Aikikai, 61 Fountain St.

#### **39<sup>th</sup> Annual Basketball Clinic - Grades 4 – 8**

Thursdays, March 7 – April 11  
6:00 – 8:00pm  
\$35 per child  
Clinic will be held at Walsh Middle School. Instruction in individual skill development and team play.  
**Registration begins Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Parks & Rec. Office.**



#### **Basketball - Grades 1 – 3 Boys & Girls**

Saturdays, January 5 – February 9  
9:30 - 11:00am **OR** 11:00am - 12:30pm **OR**  
12:30 - 2:00pm **OR** 2:00 - 3:30pm (Girls Only)  
\$35 per child  
Class will be held at Stapleton School, and will focus on skill development with some limited team play.

#### **Basketball - Grades 4 – 6 Boys & Girls**

Saturdays, January 5 – February 9  
11:15am - 12:45pm (Boys Only) **OR** 12:45 - 2:15pm (Girls Only)  
\$35 per child  
Class will be held at Potter Rd. School, and will focus on skill development with some limited team play.



#### **Champions Gym Class - Ages 6 – 8 years**

Wednesdays, January 9 – February 27  
5:45pm – 6:45pm  
\$160 per child ~ Price Includes Lifetime Membership to 'My Gym' and admission to ALL open-gym times.  
Emphasis will be on working towards goals and gaining self-confidence while increasing self-control in a fun, noncompetitive atmosphere. Classes held at *My Gym*, 855 Worcester Rd, Framingham (Trolley Sq. Plaza)



#### **Creative Movement Dance Class - Ages 6 – 8 yrs.**

Tuesdays, February 26 – April 2  
4:15 – 5:00pm  
\$55 per child  
Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.



#### **February Vacation Riding Camp - Ages 6 – 16 yrs.**

Monday, February 18 – Friday, February 22  
8:30am – 12:30pm ~ ~ Class held at Lil Folk Farm, Holliston.  
Riding boots and helmet required. Beginner, intermediate and advanced levels available. Heated warm-up facilities, group riding lessons, and other activities. Please bring a lunch and snack. For more information & to register, please call Nancy at Lil Folk Farm at 508-429-1700.



#### **Futsal Academy - Ages 5-14 yrs.**

Futsal Leagues (all ages) will start January 5<sup>th</sup>. This Academy will be a combination of lessons & games. Futsal is the official indoor soccer game of FIFA. Class will be held at Suburban Athletic Club, 10 Roxanna St. For more information, please contact Suburban Athletic Club at 508-879-6544.

#### **Home Alone Safety - Ages 8 – 11 yrs.**

Monday, February 11  
4:30 – 6:30pm  
\$35 per child  
Class held at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.



#### **Indoor Soccer**

Indoor Soccer Leagues (all ages) will start January 26<sup>th</sup>. Games will be held at Suburban Athletic Club, 10 Roxanna St. For more information, please contact Suburban Athletic Club at 508-879-6544.

#### **Lifeguard Training - Ages 15+ yrs.**

Saturdays, March 2 – April 20  
12:30 – 3:30pm  
\$275 per resident  
**Register on Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 6:30pm at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.**



### Soccer Clinic - Ages 5 - 13 yrs.

Tuesday, February 19 - Friday, February 22 (Vacation Week)

9:00am - 12:00pm

\$85 per child

Sponsored by Mass. Premier Soccer. Held at the Barbieri School Gym.



**COME FOR ONE .....  
STAY FOR ANOTHER!**

*Pack a lunch!*

*Supervision will be provided for those children who choose to attend both clinics!*

### SkyHawks Multi-Sport Clinic - Ages 5 - 13 yrs.

Tuesday, February 19 - Friday, February 22 (Vacation Week)

12:30pm - 3:00pm

\$75 per child

SkyHawks staff will provide an array of games, sports, and activities.

Held at the Barbieri School Gym.

### My 1<sup>st</sup> First Aid Class - Ages 8 - 11 yrs.

Thursday, March 21 (early release day)

3:30pm - 5:30pm

\$35 per child

Kids will learn simple & effective techniques to respond in an emergency. Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.



### PAL Gym Schedule ~ Dec. 2012 - April 2013 - Grades 6 - 12

Mondays - 5:45 - 8:00pm - Grades 6-8 - Woodrow Wilson Gym

Wednesdays - 6:45 - 9:00pm - Grades 9-12 - Danforth Gym

Thursdays - 6:45 - 9:00pm - Grades 9-12 - Danforth Gym

Fridays - 6:45 - 9:00pm - Grades 9-12 - Danforth Gym

Sundays - 5:45 - 9:00pm - Grades 9-12 - Woodrow Wilson Gym

**\*\* Watch for PAL v. NE Patriots in April! \*\***



### Piano Lessons - Grades 2 - 8

Saturdays, March 2 - 23

10:00 - 10:50am - Intro. to Piano Lessons - Grades 2-3 ~ \$75 per child

11:00 - 11:50am - Intro. to Piano Lessons - Grades 4-5 ~ \$75 per child

12:00 - 12:50pm - Intro to Piano Software Class - Grades 6-8 ~ \$75 per child

Class will be held at Piano Pear, 1 Edgell Road, Suite 2, Framingham.

### Skating Lessons - Ages 5 - 10 yrs.

Saturdays, January 5 - February 9

9:00 - 10:00am **OR** 10:00 - 11:00am

\$40 per child (\$45 non-residents)

**\* APPROVED SKATE HELMETS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL SKATERS! \***

**\* Birth Certificates REQUIRED for all 5 year olds! \***

Please contact the Parks & Recreation Office if you have any questions.

**\*\* Residents register from 5:30-6:30pm, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> at Loring Arena.**

**Non-Residents may register on December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Recreation Office if space is still available. \*\***



### Ski & Snowboard Lessons at Nashoba Valley - Grades 4 - 12

Sundays, January 6 - February 10

7:30am - 1:30pm (1 hr. lesson, 2 hour open ski)

\$275 per child / includes transportation (plus \$95 extra for rentals)

Transportation from Bowditch Field.



### Swim Lessons - Ages 3 - 18 yrs.

Saturdays, March 2 - April 20

\$40 per swimmer

**\*\* Residents register from 5:30pm - 6:30pm, Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Academy Bldg. in Cushing Memorial Park. Non-Residents may register on February 13<sup>th</sup> at the Recreation Office if space is still available. \*\***



### Taekwon-Do - Ages 4 - 6 yrs.

Mondays, January 28 - March 11 ~ **OR** ~

Thursdays, January 31 - March 14

3:30 - 4:15pm ~ \$75 per child

Intro. class to martial arts instruction and games. Classes held at 25 School St.



### Tennis Lessons - Ages 4 - 14 yrs.

Session I: Sundays, January 6 - February 10

Session II: Sundays, March 3 - April 14 (no class March 31)

2:30 - 3:15pm = Ages 4 & 5 \*\* 3:15 - 4:00pm = Ages 6 & 7

4:00 - 5:00pm = Ages 7 & 8 \*\* 5:00 - 6:00pm = Ages 8 - 10

6:00 - 7:00pm = Ages 10 - 14

\$75 per child ~ Classes held at the Longfellow Club in Wayland.



### tubing at Nashoba Valley

Thurs., January 17 (early release - Grades 6 - 12 only) - 12:30 - 4:30pm ~ **OR** ~

Thurs., February 7 (no school - All Ages) - Families Welcome! - 11:15 - 4:30pm

\$35 per person - \* Under 13yrs must be accompanied by an adult \*

Bus will depart from Bowditch Field.

### Whiz Kids Gym Class - Ages 4 1/2 - 6 yrs.

Mondays, January 7 - February 25 from 5:30pm - 6:30pm ~ **OR** ~

Thursdays, January 10 - February 28 from 3:45pm - 4:45pm

\$160 per child ~ Price includes Lifetime Membership to 'My Gym' and admission to ALL open-gym times.

Children further their gymnastic ability and work on gross motor skills while building confidence and self-control in preparing for group sports in a fun, noncompetitive atmosphere. Classes held at My Gym, 855 Worcester Rd, Framingham (Trolley Sq. Plaza)



### Wrestling - Grades 4 - 8

Mondays & Wednesdays, December 10 - February 13

Mondays 7:00 - 8:00pm & Wednesdays 6:00 - 7:30pm

\$75 per child

Registration fee includes uniform and t-shirt. Class held at the Brophy School Gym.

## **FAMILY PROGRAMS**

### Adult & Family Day Trips

December 1<sup>st</sup> - NYC Shopping

February 7<sup>th</sup> - Foxwoods

\*\*Look for Atlantic City trip in April!

Detailed information available at the Recreation Office.



### Cocoa In The Park

Saturday, February 9 from 11:00am - 1:00pm ~ ~ FREE for Framingham Residents!

Get out of the house and have some Winter fun!! Come for an afternoon walk or participate in some outdoor activities. Still River Outfitters will be on site to show you how to make the winter months active!



### ! Count the Cans !

December 3 - 19

As you enter the foyer of the Parks & Recreation Office, you will see a huge jar of candy canes!! If you guess the correct amount in the jar, or are the closest, without guessing over, you will win a \$30 program voucher!!!

### Gunstock Ski Trip

Wednesday, February 20 (Vacation Week)

Bus will depart from Bowditch Field. Anyone under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult. More information will be available on our website at [www.framinghamamparks.com](http://www.framinghamamparks.com)

www.framinghamamparks.com



### Holiday Shoppers Shuttle to Shopper's World & Natick Mall

Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

FREE for Framingham Residents!

Must pre-register by December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Hate Holiday Parking? Avoid the headache! Park your car at Bowditch

Field and take our bus! Stops will be made at Shoppers World and the

Natick Mall. **First bus leaves Bowditch field at 9:30am.**

\*\* Bus provided by Durham Transportation \*\*



### Public Swim

All Ages - at Keefe Tech. Pool - Through April 28, 2013 ~ \$4 per adult / \$2 per child (No public swim on the following dates; 12/1, 12/2, 2/2, 2/3, 2/16, 2/17, 3/31 - Dates are subject to change without notice)

Saturdays, 3:00-4:30pm \* Sundays, 2:00-3:30pm

### Public Skate

September 10, 2012 - April 12, 2013

Mondays - 10:00am-2:00pm \* Tues.- Fridays - 10:00am-Noon

Saturdays & Sundays - 2:00-3:45pm

\$5 per adult/\$3 ages 12 and under

**Stick Time: (Helmets Required!)**

Tuesdays- Fridays - 12:00 - 2:00pm \* \$7 per person

Call Loring Arena at 508-532-5950 or check

<http://www.framinghamma.gov/index.aspx?NID=678> for more info.



### "Santa's Little Sports"

Re-create the Holiday Spirit with the Recreation Department. If you know a needy family, please call the Office at 508-532-5960. Names will be taken from November 5 - December 14, 2012. If you would like to donate a toy for a child (birth - 10 yrs.), please drop it off at the Recreation Office anytime until Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. The Recreation Office is open Monday - Friday from 9:00am - 5:00pm.

## **ADULT PROGRAMS**

### Adult Aikido

Saturdays, January 5 - February 9

11:30 - 12:30pm ~ \$50 per person

Martial art system of self-defense for ages 15 - adult.

Classes held at Framingham Aikikai, 61 Fountain St.

### **Adult Piano Lessons**

Saturdays, March 2 - 23

9:00 – 9:50am – Beginning Piano/Digital Piano Lessons ~ \$75 per person  
Class will be held at Piano Pear, 1 Edgell Road, Suite 2, Framingham.

### **Adult Pickleball**

Ongoing Classes at The Longfellow Club in Wayland

Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:00pm OR Fridays at 10:00am

First session is FREE! ~ \$5 per person (doubles), \$10 per person (singles) Please call 508-358-9675 to reserve a court or ask about lessons!

### **Cardio Tennis**

Session I: Fridays, January 4 – February 8

Session II: Mondays, March 4 – April 8

11:00am – 12:00pm

\$75 per person

Get your cardio in while hitting tennis balls to drills & fun, upbeat music! Classes held at the Longfellow Club in Wayland.



### **First Aid & CPR**

Thursday, March 21

6:00 - 9:00pm ~ \$65 per adult

American Heart Association certificate – good for 2 years.

Class will be held at the Academy Bldg. at Cushing Memorial Park.



### **Framingham High School Fitness Center**

Open Monday – Thursday from 6:00 – 8:00pm

\$20 per month / per person

Don't get cabin fever - Stay in shape for the Winter! Take advantage of the strength-training and cardiovascular equipment at this wonderful facility. For more information, please contact Mike Bissanti at 508-620-4963 x27493.



### **Open Gym Schedule ~ October 2012 – April 2013**

Danforth Gym (Basketball Court) \*\* \$2 per person

Tuesdays – 5:00 - 8:00pm \* Saturdays – 3:30 - 7:00pm

Sundays – 12:00 - 3:00pm

### **Tennis Lessons**

Session I: Sundays, January 6 – February 10

Session II: Sundays, March 3 – April 14 (no class 3/31)

7:00-8:00pm (Beginner & Intermediate)

\$75 per person ~ Classes held at the Longfellow Club in Wayland.

### **Yoga**

WINTER SESSION: Mondays, February 4 – March 25 (no class 2/18)

SPRING SESSION: Mondays, April 8 – June 3 (no class 4/15, 5/27)

6:00 - 7:00pm

\$55 per adult (\$60 Non-Residents) – 7 sessions

Classes held at Brophy School gym.



## **SENIOR PROGRAMS**

### **Computer Classes at the Callahan Senior Center**

Tuesdays – 10:00 – 11:30am ~ Personal Computers, Beyond the Basics

Tuesdays – 1:00 – 2:30pm ~ Introduction to Personal Computers

Wednesdays – 10:00 – 11:30am ~ Introduction to the Internet and E-mail

Wednesdays – 1:00 – 2:30pm ~ Introduction To Microsoft Word Processing

For more information, and to register, please call the Callahan Senior Center directly at 508-532-5980 x4118.



### **Senior Exercise**

Ongoing Classes at the Callahan Center

Tuesdays – 10:00 - 11:00am

No Fee!

Additional classes have been arranged at Focus on Fitness , 63 Fountain St. Classes held on Wednesdays at 10:30am. \$5.00 per class.

### **Senior Swim**

October – April 27, 2013 at Keefe Tech Pool

Saturdays – 2:00 - 3:00pm ~ No Fee!

(No swim on the following dates; 12/1, 2/2, 2/16, - Dates are subject to change without notice)



***Appendix B***

***Framingham's ADA Access Self-Evaluation***

## ***Appendix C***

### ***Conservation Commission Programs***

#### **Conservation Commission Public Education and Outreach Efforts**

In 2012, Conservation Staff turn-over and compliance verification with permitting from the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Framingham Bylaw limited the Conservation Commission to five (5) education and outreach efforts:

- (Annual) Geocaching/Letterboxing Program with environmental clues (1)
- Winter Tracking Event (1)
- Riverfest (1)
- Environmental workshops and forums (2)

Attendance varied between events.

The amount of outreach events are anticipated to increase between the Fall of 2013 to 2017 when the Conservation Office can be fully employed. 2013 is planned to hold various nature trails, the annual geocaching/letterboxing event, Riverfest, Earth Day, winter tracking, and a canoe/kayak event.

The Conservation Office continued to expand and improve its web site.

The Commission continued to collaborate with local organizations such as Sudbury Valley Trustees, New England Wildflower Society, Bay Circuit Trail Alliance, SuAsCo Wild and Scenic River Stewardship Counsel, New England Wildflower Society, and Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation to protect the Town's wetland resource areas and open space.

***Appendix D***  
***Citizen Recreation Survey***

## Framingham Open Space and Recreation Planning Study

### 2012 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION QUESTIONNAIRE

This survey is being conducted to understand the needs and concerns of the residents of Framingham. **Please take 10 minutes** to fill in the survey and play an active role in planning Framingham's future. We value and need your input. Please **complete both sides** of the questionnaire. If you wish to qualify your answers or give general comments, please fill out the comment section at the bottom of page 2 or **attach additional sheets**. If you need this questionnaire in an alternative format, please contact the Community and Economic Development Department, 508-532-5455. Thank you for your assistance.

**Hand in questionnaire by Jan. 31, 2013 to:**

- Framingham Board of Selectmen's Office;
- Framingham Town Clerk's Office; or
- any Framingham Public Library

**Mail questionnaire by Jan. 31, 2013 to:**

- OR
- Open Space and Recreation Planning Study  
 Department of Community and Economic Development  
 150 Concord St., Room B2, Framingham, MA 01702

<p>1. In which precinct do you live? _____</p> <p>2. On what street do you live (optional)? _____</p> <p>3. Does anyone in your household own real estate in TOWN (other than your home)? Yes No</p> <p>4. Number of people in your household? _____</p> <p>5. Number in household under the age of 18? _____</p> <p>6. Number in household over the age of 60? _____</p> <p>7. Number in household with access problems due to mobility impairments? _____</p> <p>8. Which of the following best describes your living situation?</p> <p>a. Single adult - living alone. _____</p> <p>b. Single adult - sharing living quarters. _____</p> <p>c. Single parent - children at home. _____</p> <p>d. Young Couple - no children. _____</p> <p>e. Young family with young children. _____</p> <p>f. Family with older children. _____</p> <p>g. Family, children no longer at home. _____</p> <p>h. Senior couple or family. _____</p> <p>i. Senior living alone. _____</p> <p>j. Other _____</p> <p>9. How long have you lived in Framingham?</p> <p>a. Less than 5 years _____</p> <p>b. 5 to 10 years _____</p> <p>c. 10 to 20 years _____</p> <p>d. More than 20 years _____</p> <p>10. What do you like most about living in Framingham?          _____</p> <p>11. What do you like least about living in Framingham?          _____</p> <p>12. What is the most critical problem facing our Town?          _____          _____</p> <p>13. Has anyone in your household ever participated in a Town of Framingham sponsored recreational activity? Yes No</p>	<p>14. Are there sufficient sidewalks or walkways in your neighborhood? Yes No</p> <p>15. Should major roads in Framingham be striped for bikes lanes? Yes No</p> <p>16. What do you consider to be our Town's most attractive landscapes or natural features? (Name up to three in order of preference.)</p> <p>a. _____</p> <p>b. _____</p> <p>c. _____</p> <p>17. What residential growth policy do you favor for Town?</p> <p>a. No growth. _____</p> <p>b. Growth evenly spread. _____</p> <p>c. Additional residential units in existing developed areas. _____</p> <p>d. Concentrate new residential development in undeveloped areas. _____</p> <p>e. Other _____</p> <p>18. Is there privately-owned open space in Town in need of permanent protection? Not Sure Yes No          If yes, please describe: _____</p> <p>19. Would you support Town appropriations for acquisition or construction of additional recreational facilities**? Yes No</p> <p>20. Would you support seasonal or annual user fees to support specific recreational facilities** or conservation areas? Yes No</p> <p>21. Would you support Town appropriations for acquisition of open space**? Yes No</p> <p>22. What should be the Town's more important priority?</p> <p>a. Improve existing recreational facilities** _____</p> <p>b. Acquire and/or build additional recreational facilities** _____</p> <p>c. Acquire conservation lands for passive recreation _____</p>
---	--

**Over, please**

\* For the purpose of this survey, "open space" is defined as any private or publicly owned undeveloped lands. These properties may be permanently protected or unprotected. They may be owned by non-profit organizations, corporations, private citizens, the Town, the State, or other entity.

\*\* For the purpose of this survey, "recreational facilities" are either Town-owned park properties, Town-sponsored recreation activities, or other public or private properties used for active or passive recreation.

<p>23. Indicate approximately the number of times you or a family member participate in each recreational activity during an average year. (Fill in the corresponding letter.)</p> <p><b>A</b> = A few (1-3) times/yr      <b>B</b> = 4-10 times/year  <b>C</b> = Many (10+) times/yr      <b>blank</b> = zero times/year</p> <table style="width:100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;">Use of Playground _____</td> <td style="width:50%;">Walking _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Use of Ballfield _____</td> <td>Run/Jog _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boating - Motorized _____</td> <td>Hiking _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Street Hockey _____</td> <td>Baseball _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ice Skating - Rink _____</td> <td>Softball _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X Country Skiing _____</td> <td>Basketball _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Horseback Riding _____</td> <td>Football _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Swimming - Pool _____</td> <td>Soccer _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Swimming - Beach _____</td> <td>Canoeing _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bird Watching _____</td> <td>Sailing _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ATV/Motorcycling _____</td> <td>Fishing _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Snowmobiling _____</td> <td>Hunting _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Outdoor Concert _____</td> <td>Camping _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visit Historic Site _____</td> <td>Archery _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visit State Park _____</td> <td>Handball _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Skiing - Downhill _____</td> <td>Tennis _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rollerblading _____</td> <td>Picnicking _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bike - On Road _____</td> <td>Volleyball _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bike - Bike Path _____</td> <td>Golf _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mountain Bicycling _____</td> <td>Sightseeing _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nature Walk _____</td> <td>Ice Hockey _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Skateboarding _____</td> <td>Bocci _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Other (Please specify) _____</td> </tr> </table>	Use of Playground _____	Walking _____	Use of Ballfield _____	Run/Jog _____	Boating - Motorized _____	Hiking _____	Street Hockey _____	Baseball _____	Ice Skating - Rink _____	Softball _____	X Country Skiing _____	Basketball _____	Horseback Riding _____	Football _____	Swimming - Pool _____	Soccer _____	Swimming - Beach _____	Canoeing _____	Bird Watching _____	Sailing _____	ATV/Motorcycling _____	Fishing _____	Snowmobiling _____	Hunting _____	Outdoor Concert _____	Camping _____	Visit Historic Site _____	Archery _____	Visit State Park _____	Handball _____	Skiing - Downhill _____	Tennis _____	Rollerblading _____	Picnicking _____	Bike - On Road _____	Volleyball _____	Bike - Bike Path _____	Golf _____	Mountain Bicycling _____	Sightseeing _____	Nature Walk _____	Ice Hockey _____	Skateboarding _____	Bocci _____	Other (Please specify) _____		<p>Please enter the number corresponding to your choice.  <b>5</b> = Very Satisfied; <b>4</b> = Satisfied; <b>3</b> = Neutral;  <b>2</b> = Dissatisfied; <b>1</b> = Very Dissatisfied.</p> <p>25. How satisfied are you with the places available in Town for recreational use by adults? _____</p> <p>26. How satisfied are you with the places available in Town for recreational use by children? _____</p> <p>27. How satisfied are you with the places available in Town for recreational use by seniors? _____</p> <p>28. How satisfied are you with the places available in Town for recreational use by people with disabilities? _____</p>
Use of Playground _____	Walking _____																																														
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Other (Please specify) _____																																															
<p>24. Which of the following does the Town need more? (Check off the top three (3) facilities you feel are needed.)</p> <table style="width:100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%;">Amphitheater _____</td> <td style="width:50%;">Swimming Pool _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Softball Field _____</td> <td>Canoe Launch _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Baseball Field _____</td> <td>X Country Trail _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bike Trails _____</td> <td>Boat Launches _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pocket Park _____</td> <td>Conservation Area _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Track _____</td> <td>Basketball Court _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Picnic Areas _____</td> <td>Skateboard Park _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hiking Trails _____</td> <td>Town Beach _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Playground _____</td> <td>Golf Course _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ice Skating _____</td> <td>Bocci Court _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bridle Paths _____</td> <td>Youth Center _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tennis Court _____</td> <td>Senior Center _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Camp Ground _____</td> <td>Handball Court _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Soccer Field _____</td> <td>Other (Specify below) _____</td> </tr> </table> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	Amphitheater _____	Swimming Pool _____	Softball Field _____	Canoe Launch _____	Baseball Field _____	X Country Trail _____	Bike Trails _____	Boat Launches _____	Pocket Park _____	Conservation Area _____	Track _____	Basketball Court _____	Picnic Areas _____	Skateboard Park _____	Hiking Trails _____	Town Beach _____	Playground _____	Golf Course _____	Ice Skating _____	Bocci Court _____	Bridle Paths _____	Youth Center _____	Tennis Court _____	Senior Center _____	Camp Ground _____	Handball Court _____	Soccer Field _____	Other (Specify below) _____	<p>To preserve open space in Town, would you:</p> <p>29. Contribute land to the Town or other organization?      NA      Yes      No</p> <p>30. Donate money to buy land?      Yes      No</p> <p>31. Rewrite your deed to limit future development of your land?      NA      Yes      No</p> <p>32. Sell land to the Town at a bargain price?      NA      Yes      No</p> <p>33. Sell land to the Town at fair market price?      NA      Yes      No</p> <p>34. Sell or contribute conservation restrictions to protect your land from future development?      NA      Yes      No</p> <p>35. Vote for Town supported land acquisition if it can be done without raising taxes?      Yes      No</p> <p>36. Vote for Town supported land acquisition if it meant an increase of 25 to 50 cents on the present assessed value of real estate per \$1,000?      Yes      No</p> <p>37. Approve the use of zoning bylaws to guide growth in areas that can support increased development (e.g., areas with municipal water and sewer), and discourage development in areas that are less suitable for development?      Yes      No</p>																		
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<p><b>Comments</b> _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Please enter the number corresponding to your choice.  <b>5</b> = Very Important; <b>4</b> = Important; <b>3</b> = Neutral;  <b>2</b> = Less important; <b>1</b> = Not at all important.</p> <p>How important is it to you to preserve:</p> <p>38. Historic buildings? _____</p> <p>39. Historic or scenic landscapes? _____</p> <p>40. Land containing archaeological resources? _____</p> <p>41. Farmlands? _____</p> <p>42. Wetland areas? _____</p> <p>43. Woodland areas? _____</p> <p>44. Undeveloped land for future generations? _____</p> <p>45. Undeveloped land for future recreational needs? _____</p> <p>46. Open space* for protection of water resources? _____</p> <p>47. Open space* for protection of wildlife habitat? _____</p>																																														

# Estudio para la Planificación de Áreas Abiertas y de Recreación

## 2012 CUESTIONARIO DE PARTICIPACION CIUDADANA

Esta encuesta se está llevando a cabo para mejor entender las necesidades y las preocupaciones de los residentes de Framingham. Por favor toma unos 10 minutos y completa la encuesta y así participará en el planeamiento del futuro de Framingham. Valoramos y necesitamos su opinión. Por favor completa ambos lados del cuestionario. Si desea calificar sus respuestas o dar comentarios en general, completa por favor la sección de comentarios al final de la página 2 o añada hojas adicionales. Si necesita este cuestionario en un formato diferente, por favor llama al Departamento de Comunidad y Desarrollo Económico, 508-532-5455. Gracias por su ayuda.

**Entrega el cuestionario antes del 1/31/13 a: O Envía el cuestionario antes del 1/31/13 a:**

- La oficina de: Framingham Board of Selectmen;
- La oficina de: Framingham Town Clerk o
- Cualquiera de las bibliotecas públicas

Open Space and Recreation Planning Study  
Department of Community and Economic Development  
150 Concord St., Room B2, Framingham, MA 01702

<p>1. ¿En cual recinto reside? _____</p> <p>2. ¿En que calle reside? (Opcional) _____</p> <p>3. ¿Hay alguien en su hogar que además de su propio hogar sea propietario de bienes raíces? <span style="float: right;">Sí      No</span></p> <p>4. ¿Numero de personas en su domicilio? _____</p> <p>5. ¿Cuántos menores de 18 años en su domicilio? _____</p> <p>6. ¿Cuántos mayores de 60 años en su domicilio? _____</p> <p>7. ¿Cuántos con impedimentos o dificultades de movilidad en su domicilio? _____</p> <p>8. ¿Cuales de los siguientes mejor describen su situación doméstica?</p> <p>a. Adulto soltero - viviendo solo. _____</p> <p>b. Adulto soltero - compartiendo domicilio. _____</p> <p>c. Pariente solo - hijos en casa. _____</p> <p>d. Pareja joven - sin niños. _____</p> <p>e. Pareja joven - con niños pequeños _____</p> <p>f. Familia - con niños mayores _____</p> <p>g. Familia - con niños ya no presentes _____</p> <p>h. Pareja mayor de edad o familia _____</p> <p>i. Mayor de edad viviendo solo _____</p> <p>j. Otra _____</p> <p>9. ¿Cuanto hace que reside en Framingham?</p> <p>a. Menos de 5 años _____</p> <p>b. De 5 a 10 años _____</p> <p>c. De 10 a 20 años _____</p> <p>d. Por más de 20 años _____</p> <p>10. ¿Que es lo que más le agrada de vivir en Framingham? _____</p> <p>11. ¿Que es lo que menos le agrada de vivir en Framingham? _____</p> <p>12. ¿Cuál es el problema más grave que afecta Framingham? _____</p> <p>13. ¿Hay personas en su hogar que hayan alguna vez participado en una actividad recreativa patrocinada por el pueblo de Framingham? <span style="float: right;">Sí      No</span></p>	<p>14. ¿Hay suficientes aceras o andamios en su barrio? <span style="float: right;">Sí      No</span></p> <p>15. ¿Deberían pintar las calles principales de Framingham con carriles para bicicletas? <span style="float: right;">Sí      No</span></p> <p>16. ¿Cuales considera Ud. ser los sitios más pintorescos o naturalmente bellos de Framingham? (Indica hasta tres sitios en su orden de preferencia.)</p> <p>a. _____</p> <p>b. _____</p> <p>c. _____</p> <p>17. ¿Que póliza de crecimiento residencial favorece Ud.?</p> <p>a. Ningún crecimiento _____</p> <p>b. Un crecimiento regado _____</p> <p>c. Unidades residenciales adicionales en áreas ya desarrolladas _____</p> <p>d. Concentrar el desarrollo residencial en áreas sub-desarrolladas. _____</p> <p>e. Otro _____</p> <p>18. ¿Existen áreas silvestres privadas en Framingham que merecen protección permanente? <span style="float: right;">No sé      Sí      No</span> Si sí, describa el sitio: _____</p> <p>19. ¿Apoyaría Ud. el gasto de fondos públicos para la adquisición o construcción de adicionales instalaciones de recreo? ** <span style="float: right;">Sí      No</span></p> <p>20. ¿Apoyaría Ud. la cobranza anual o por temporada por el uso de instalaciones de recreación o áreas de conservación? <span style="float: right;">Sí      No</span></p> <p>21. ¿Apoyaría Ud. el gasto de fondos públicos para la adquisición de espacio abierto **? <span style="float: right;">Sí      No</span></p> <p>22. ¿Cuál debe ser la prioridad más importante en Framingham?</p> <p>a. Mejora de instalaciones de recreo existentes _____</p> <p>b. Adquirir y construir más instalaciones de recreo _____</p> <p>c. Adquirir terrenos de conservación para el recreo pasivo _____</p>
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**Continúa atrás**

\* Para esta encuesta, el "espacio abierto" se define como tierras sub-desarrolladas privadas o públicas. Estas características pueden ser protegidas permanentemente o desprotegidas. Pueden ser poseídas por organizaciones no lucrativas, corporaciones, ciudadanos privados, la ciudad, el estado, o por otra entidad

\*\*Para esta encuesta las "instalaciones de recreo" se refiere a aquellos parques pertenecientes al pueblo, actividades recreativas dirigidas por el pueblo, o terrenos privados usados para actividades o el uso pasivo.

23. Indique aproximadamente cuantas veces Ud o miembros de su familia participan en las actividades recreacionales durante un año. (Llene con la letra correspondiente.)

A = Poco (1-3) veces al año      B = 4-10 veces/año  
 C = Mucho (10+) veces/año      En blanco = 0 veces/año

Uso parques de niños	_____	Caminando	_____
Uso campo de pelota	_____	Corriendo	_____
Lancha motorizada	_____	Caminatas	_____
Hockey en calle	_____	Beisbol	_____
Patínaje de hielo	_____	Sofbol	_____
Esquí de campo	_____	Basketbol	_____
Montada de caballo	_____	Football	_____
Piscina	_____	Fútbol	_____
Playa	_____	Canoas	_____
Mira de pajaros	_____	Velero	_____
Motociclismo/ATV	_____	Pesca	_____
Snowmobiling	_____	Casería	_____
Concierto al aire libre	_____	Acampando	_____
Visita a sitio histórico	_____	Arco y flecha	_____
Visita a parque estatal	_____	Handbol	_____
Esquí de montaña	_____	Tennis	_____
Rollerblading	_____	Picnicking	_____
Ciclismo en carretera	_____	Voleybol	_____
en pista de bicicleta	_____	Golf	_____
en montaña	_____	Turismo	_____
Caminata en bosque	_____	Hockey en hielo	_____
Skateboarding	_____	Bocci	_____
Otro (Porfavor indica)	_____		_____

24. ¿Qué es lo que mas se necesita en Framingham?  
 (Marque los tres (3) mas importantes para Ud.)

Anfiteatro	_____	Piscina	_____
Campos de Sofbol	_____	Sitio para canoas	_____
Campos de Beisbol	_____	Esquí de campo	_____
Pistas de bicicletas	_____	Sitios para Lanchas	_____
Pocket Park	_____	Áreas de Conservación	_____
Pistas	_____	Canchas de basketbol	_____
Parques de Picnic	_____	Parque para Skateboard	_____
Senderos de caminata	_____	Playas	_____
Parques para niños	_____	Campo de golf	_____
Patínaje en hielo	_____	Campo de Bocci	_____
Caminos para caballos	_____	Centro para jovenes	_____
Canchas de Tenis	_____	Centro para mayores	_____
Area de Campamentos	_____	Canchas de handball	_____
Campos de Futbol	_____	Otros (Especifica)	_____

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Comentarios:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Seleccione el numero que mejor corresponde a su opinion.  
 5 = Muy satisfecho; 4 = Satisfecho 3 = Neutral;  
 2 = Desatisfecho; 1 = Muy Desatisfecho;

25. ¿Qué tan satisfecho se siente con los sitios disponibles para la recreación adulta en Framingham? \_\_\_\_\_

26. ¿Qué tan satisfecho se siente con los sitios disponibles para la recreación de niños en Framingham? \_\_\_\_\_

27. ¿Qué tan satisfecho se siente con los sitios disponibles para el recreo de ancianos en Framingham? \_\_\_\_\_

28. ¿Qué tan satisfecho se siente con los sitios disponibles para la recreación para personas con incapacidades en Framingham? \_\_\_\_\_

¿Para preservar el espacio abierto en Framingham, Ud:

29. Contribuiría terrenos al pueblo u a otra organización?      NA      Sí      No

30. Donaría dinero para la compra de terrenos?      Sí      No

31. Escribir el título legal de manera que limite el futuro desarrollo de sus terrenos?      NA      Sí      No

32. Venderle al pueblo sus terrenos a un precio descontado?      NA      Sí      No

33. Venderle al pueblo sus terrenos a un precio justo?      NA      Sí      No

34. Vender o contribuir restricciones de conservación que proteja sus terrenos contra el desarrollo en el futuro?      NA      Sí      No

35. Votaría por la adquisición de terrenos por el pueblo si pudiera hacerse sin el aumento de impuestos?      Sí      No

36. Votaría por la adquisición de terrenos por el pueblo si esto requeriría un aumento de 25 a 50 centavos por cada \$1,000 de la presente valorización de bienes raíces?      Sí      No

37. Aprobaría el uso de las ordenanzas en zonas municipales para dirigir el crecimiento en las áreas que pueden apoyar el desarrollo (por ejemplo; áreas con agua y la alcantarilla municipales), y desalentar el desarrollo en las áreas que son menos convenientes para el desarrollo?      Sí      No

Seleccione el numero que mejor corresponde a su opinion.  
 5 = Muy Importante; 4 = Importante; 3 = Neutral;  
 2 = Menos importante; 1 = De ninguna importancia.

¿Que tan importante es la preservación de:

38. Edificios históricos? \_\_\_\_\_

39. Paisajes bellos o históricos? \_\_\_\_\_

40. Terrenos con recursos arqueológicos? \_\_\_\_\_

41. Fincas o granjas? \_\_\_\_\_

42. Áreas mojadas? \_\_\_\_\_

43. Áreas bosquejadas? \_\_\_\_\_

44. Áreas no desarrolladas para futuras generaciones? \_\_\_\_\_

45. Áreas no desarrolladas para uso de recreación? \_\_\_\_\_

46. Espacios abiertos\* para la protección del agua \_\_\_\_\_

47. Espacios abiertos\* para la protección de hábitat de la fauna? \_\_\_\_\_

# Estudo do Planejamento do Espaço Aberto e Recreação de Framingham

## 2012 - QUESTIONÁRIO DE PARTICIPAÇÃO DOS CIDADÃOS

Esta pesquisa está sendo conduzida para entender as necessidades e preocupações dos moradores de Framingham. Por favor, tire 10 minutos do seu tempo para preencher esta pesquisa e ter um papel ativo no planejamento do futuro de Framingham. Nós valorizamos e precisamos de sua opinião. Por favor, complete os dois lados do questionário. Se você deseja ampliar suas respostas ou escrever comentários gerais, use a parte para comentários no final da página 2 ou anexe outras folhas. Se precisar deste questionário em um outro formato, entre em contato com o Departamento de Desenvolvimento Comunitário e Econômico, 508-532-5455. Agradecemos sua participação.

**Entregue o questionário até 1/31/13 para:**

- Framingham Board of Selectmen's Office;
- Framingham Town Clerk's Office; ou
- qualquer Biblioteca Pública de Framingham

**Envie o questionário até 1/31/13 para:**

- OU** Open Space and Recreation Planning Study  
 Department of Community and Economic Development  
 150 Concord St., Room B2, Framingham, MA 01702

<p>1. Em que distrito você mora? _____</p> <p>2. Em que rua você mora (opcional)? _____</p> <p>3. Alguém em sua casa tem outro imóvel na cidade (além de sua casa)? <span style="float: right;">Sim Não</span></p> <p>4. Número de pessoas em sua residência? _____</p> <p>5. Número de pessoas menores de 18 anos em sua residência? _____</p> <p>6. Número de pessoas acima de 60 anos em sua residência? _____</p> <p>7. Número de pessoas em sua residência com problemas físicos de locomoção? _____</p> <p>8. Qual dos seguintes melhor descreve sua situação de moradia?</p> <p>a. Adulto solteiro – morando sozinho. _____</p> <p>b. Adulto solteiro – dividindo a moradia. _____</p> <p>c. Pai/mãe solteiro – crianças em casa. _____</p> <p>d. Casal jovem – sem crianças. _____</p> <p>e. Família jovem com crianças pequenas. _____</p> <p>f. Família com filhos mais velhos. _____</p> <p>g. Família, filhos moram fora de casa. _____</p> <p>h. Casal idoso ou família idosa. _____</p> <p>i. Idoso morando sozinho. _____</p> <p>j. Outro _____</p> <p>9. Há quanto tempo você mora em Framingham?</p> <p>a. Menos de 5 anos _____</p> <p>b. 5 a 10 anos _____</p> <p>c. 10 a 20 anos _____</p> <p>d. Mais de 20 anos _____</p> <p>10. O que você mais gosta sobre morar em Framingham?          _____</p> <p>11. O que você menos gosta sobre morar em Framingham?          _____</p> <p>12. Qual é o problema mais crítico de nossa cidade?          _____          _____</p> <p>13. Alguém de sua família já participou de uma atividade recreativa patrocinada por Framingham (Town of Framingham)? <span style="float: right;">Sim Não</span></p>	<p>14. Existem calçadas suficientes em sua vizinhança? <span style="float: right;">Sim Não</span></p> <p>15. Deveriam haver faixas marcadas para bicicletas nas ruas principais de Framingham? <span style="float: right;">Sim Não</span></p> <p>16. Na sua opinião, quais são os locais ou cenas da natureza mais atrativas de nossa cidade?          (Escreva até três locais em ordem de preferência.)</p> <p>a. _____</p> <p>b. _____</p> <p>c. _____</p> <p>17. Qual regra de crescimento residencial você apoia para a cidade?</p> <p>a. Nenhum crescimento. _____</p> <p>b. Crescimento distribuído igualmente. _____</p> <p>c. Unidades residenciais adicionais em áreas já existentes. _____</p> <p>d. Concentração de novas residências em áreas novas. _____</p> <p>e. Outro _____</p> <p>18. Existe algum espaço aberto particular na cidade com necessidade de proteção permanente?          Se sim, por favor descreva: <span style="float: right;">Não sei Sim Não</span></p> <p>_____</p> <p>19. Você apoiaria apropriações pela cidade para aquisição ou construção de facilidades recreativas adicionais**? <span style="float: right;">Sim Não</span></p> <p>20. Você apoiaria taxas de uso para as estações ou ano para apoiar facilidades recreativas específicas** ou áreas de conservação? <span style="float: right;">Sim Não</span></p> <p>21. Você apoiaria apropriações pela cidade para aquisição de espaços abertos*? <span style="float: right;">Sim Não</span></p> <p>22. Qual deve ser a prioridade mais importante da cidade?</p> <p>a. Melhorar as facilidades recreativas** existentes. _____</p> <p>b. Adquirir e/ou construir facilidades recreativas** adicionais. _____</p> <p>c. Adquirir áreas de conservação para recreação passiva. _____</p>
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**Vire, por favor**

\* Para esta pesquisa, "espaço aberto" significa qualquer terreno particular ou público, sem construção. Essas propriedades podem ser permanentemente protegidas ou não. Elas podem ser possuídas por organizações não-lucrativas, corporações, cidadãos, a cidade, o estado, ou uma entidade.

\*\* Para esta pesquisa, "facilidades recreativas" podem ser propriedades de parques pertencentes à cidade, atividades recreativas patrocinadas pela cidade, ou outras propriedades públicas ou privadas usadas para recreação ativa ou passiva.

23. Indique aproximadamente o número de vezes durante o ano que você ou um membro da sua família participa de cada atividade recreativa (Favor usar a letra correspondente.)

<b>A = 1-3 vezes por ano</b>	<b>B = 4-10 vezes/ano</b>
<b>C = Mais de 10 vezes/ano</b>	<b>branco = zero vezes/ano</b>

Uso de Playground _____	Caminhada _____
Uso de Campo _____	Corrida _____
Barco - Motorizado _____	Escalada _____
Street Hockey _____	Beisebol _____
Patinação/gelo _____	Softball _____
X Country Skiing _____	Basquete _____
Andar à cavalo _____	Futebol/american _____
Natação - Piscina _____	Futebol _____
Natação - Praia _____	Canoagem _____
Observar pássaros _____	Veleiro _____
ATV/Motociclismo _____	Pescaria _____
Snowmobiling _____	Caça _____
Concertos/Ar Livre _____	Acampar _____
Visita/Locais Históricos _____	Arco/flecha _____
Visita/Parques Estaduais _____	Handball _____
Esqui - Colinas _____	Tênis _____
Patinação _____	Piquenique _____
Bicicleta - nas ruas _____	Voleibol _____
Bicicleta - Ciclovias _____	Golfe _____
Mountain Bicycling _____	Turismo _____
Caminhada p/ natureza _____	Ice Hockey _____
Skateboarding _____	Bocci _____
Outro (Por favor, especifique) _____	

24. Quais das seguintes opções a cidade mais precisa? (Marque as três (3) opções mais necessárias.)

Anfiteatro _____	Piscina _____
Campo/Softball _____	Cais p/canoas _____
Campo/beisebol _____	Trilha/X Country _____
Trilhas/bicicletas _____	Cais p/barcos _____
Pocket Park _____	Área/conservação _____
Pista/corrida _____	Quadra/basquete _____
Áreas/piquenique _____	Parque/Skateboard _____
Trilhas/escalada _____	Praia/lago _____
Playground _____	Campo/golfe _____
Patinação/gelo _____	Quadra/Bocci _____
Bridle Paths _____	Centro infantil _____
Quadra/tênis _____	Centro/idosos _____
Camp Ground _____	Quadra/Handball _____
Campo/futebol _____	Outro (especifique abaixo) _____
_____	
_____	

**Comentários** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Por favor, entre o número correspondente para sua escolha.

**5 = Muito Satisfeito; 4 = Satisfeito; 3 = Neutro; 2 = Insatisfeito; 1 = Muito Insatisfeito.**

25. Você está satisfeito com os locais disponíveis na cidade para uso recreativo dos adultos? \_\_\_\_\_

26. Você está satisfeito com os locais disponíveis na cidade para uso recreativo das crianças? \_\_\_\_\_

27. Você está satisfeito com os locais disponíveis na cidade para uso recreativo dos idosos? \_\_\_\_\_

28. Você está satisfeito com os locais disponíveis na cidade para uso recreativo das pessoas com deficiências? \_\_\_\_\_

Para preservar espaço aberto na cidade, você:

29. Doaria terreno para a cidade ou outra organização? NA Sim Não

30. Doaria dinheiro para a compra de terreno? Sim Não

31. Mudaria sua escritura para limitar desenvolvimento futuro de seu terreno? NA Sim Não

32. Venderia terreno para a cidade por um preço baixo? NA Sim Não

33. Venderia terreno para a cidade pelo preço do mercado? NA Sim Não

34. Venderia ou doaria restrições conservadoras para proteger seu terreno de um futuro loteamento? NA Sim Não

35. Votaria para a aquisição de terreno pela cidade, isso for possível sem o aumento de impostos? Sim Não

36. Votaria para a aquisição de terreno pela cidade, se isso significasse um aumento de 25 a 50 centavos no valor estimado atual do imóvel para cada \$1,000? Sim Não

37. Aprovaria o uso de zonas regionais para guiar o crescimento nas áreas que podem suportar novos loteamentos (ex: áreas com água e esgoto municipal), e desencorajaria o crescimento de áreas menos preparadas para crescimento? Sim Não

Por favor, entre o número correspondente para sua escolha.

**5 = Muito Importante; 4 = Importante; 3 = Neutro; 2 = Menos Importante; 1 = Nada Importante.**

Para você, o quanto é importante preservar:

38. Prédios históricos? \_\_\_\_\_

39. Paisagens históricas ou cênicas? \_\_\_\_\_

40. Terreno contendo recursos arqueológicos? \_\_\_\_\_

41. Terrenos com fazendas? \_\_\_\_\_

42. Áreas com manguezais? \_\_\_\_\_

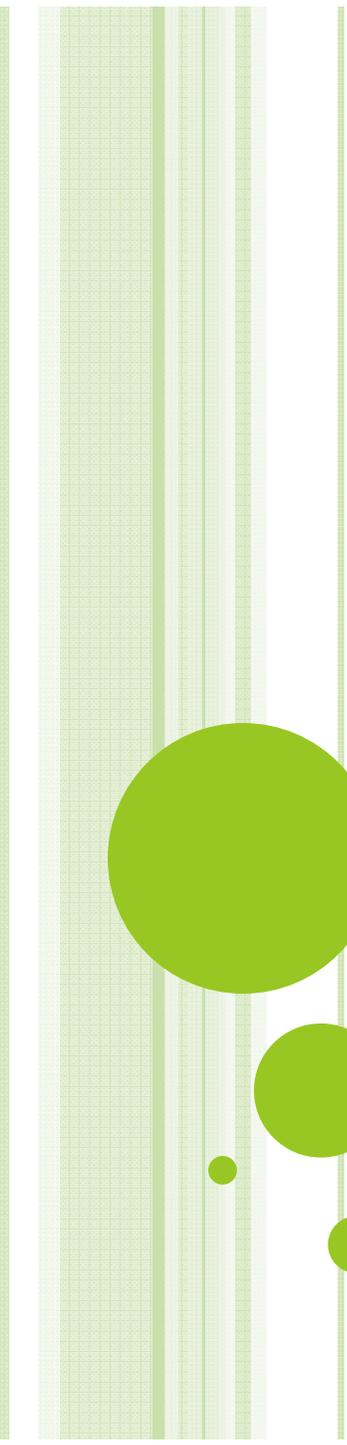
43. Áreas com florestas? \_\_\_\_\_

44. Terras virgens para futuras gerações? \_\_\_\_\_

45. Terras virgens para futuras necessidades recreativas? \_\_\_\_\_

46. Espaço aberto\* para proteção de recursos aquáticos? \_\_\_\_\_

47. Espaço aberto\* para proteção de habitat silvestre? \_\_\_\_\_

The left side of the slide features a decorative design. It includes a vertical bar with a fine grid pattern, a solid green vertical line, and a series of five overlapping green circles of varying sizes arranged in a descending curve from top to bottom.

**2013**

# **OPEN SPACE & RECREATION**

**Data from Citizen Survey**

Prepared by Community & Economic Development

March 29, 2013

A citizen survey was conducted as part of the town of Framingham’s update to the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The survey contained 47 questions and was designed to understand resident needs and concerns. The survey was available in three languages – English, Portuguese and Spanish. Paper copies were available at town hall and at the town Library. The three surveys were also posted online in mid-December 2012 and responses were collected until the end of February 2013. The availability of the survey was announced on the town website, in a local newspaper article, at a public meeting that occurred on February 7, 2013 and via postcards to over 400 residents, including town meeting members and representatives on various town boards and commissions. A total of 584 survey responses were collected (567 via the web site, 13 paper copies and 2 Portuguese and 2 Spanish).

**1. In which precinct do you live?**

	Response %	Response #
1	11.50%	52
2	6.20%	28
3	7.10%	32
4	11.50%	52
5	8.60%	39
6	8.40%	38
7	7.50%	34
8	6.40%	29
9	4.40%	20
10	2.00%	9
11	10.40%	47
12	4.40%	20
13	6.20%	28
14	1.80%	8
15	1.80%	8
16	0.70%	3
17	0.20%	1
18	0.90%	4
Answered		452
Skipped		132

**2. On what street do you live? (optional)**

*Various responses obtained.*

**3. Does anyone in your household own real estate in Town (other than your home)?**

	Response %	Response #
Yes	6.70%	39
No	93.30%	540
Answered		579
Skipped		5



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**4. Number of people in your household?**

	Response %	Response #
1	10.30%	58
2	27.60%	156
3	15.00%	85
4	29.90%	169
5	13.30%	75
6	3.00%	17
7	0.70%	4
8	0.20%	1
	Answered	565
	Skipped	19

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**5. Number in household under the age of 18?**

	Response %	Response #
0	45.70%	258
1	14.00%	79
2	27.80%	157
3	9.60%	54
4	2.10%	12
5	0.70%	4
	Answered	564
	Skipped	20

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**6. Number in household over the age of 60?**

	Response %	Response #
0	72.00%	404
1	12.50%	70
2	15.50%	87
	Answered	561
	Skipped	23

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**7. Number in household with access problems due to mobility impairments?**

	Response %	Response #
0	85.50%	530
1	4.10%	23
2	0.20%	1
3	0.20%	1
	Answered	555
	Skipped	29

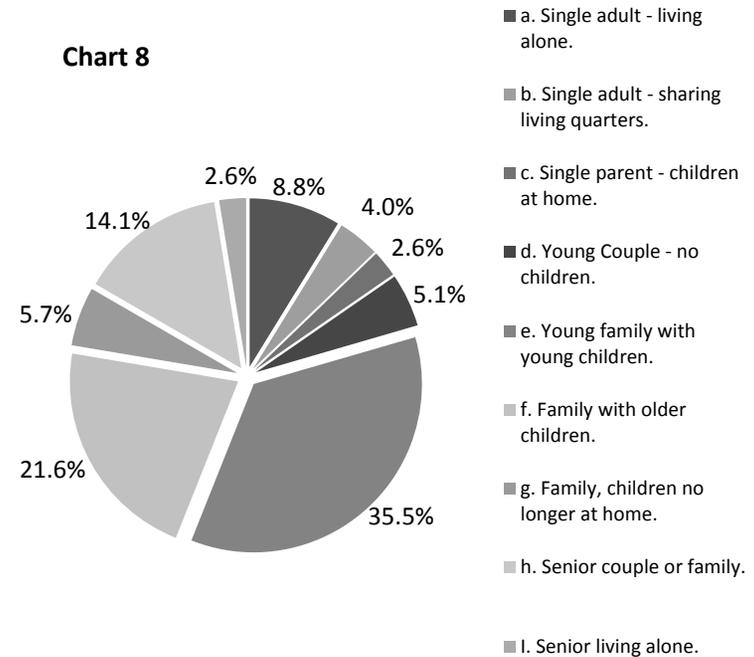
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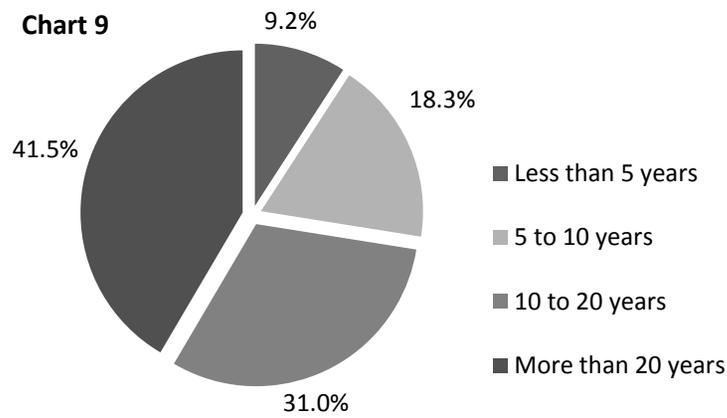
**8. Which of the following best describes your living situation?**

	Response %	Response #
a. Single adult - living alone.	8.80%	48
b. Single adult - sharing living quarters.	4.00%	22
c. Single parent - children at home.	2.60%	14
d. Young Couple - no children.	5.10%	28
e. Young family with young children.	35.50%	194
f. Family with older children.	21.60%	118
g. Family, children no longer at home.	5.70%	31
h. Senior couple or family.	14.10%	77
i. Senior living alone.	2.60%	14
	Answered	546
	Skipped	2

**Chart 8**



**Chart 9**



**9. How long have you lived in Framingham?**

	Response %	Response #
Less than 5 years	9.20%	53
5 to 10 years	18.30%	106
10 to 20 years	31.00%	179
More than 20 years	41.50%	240
	Answered	578
	Skipped	6



**10. What do you like MOST about living in Framingham?**

	Response #
Diversity	73
Convenience to.....everything, Boston, shopping...	64
Access to ..Boston/shopping/everything, easy access, accessibility	54
Location	48
Proximity	17
Close proximity	16
Schools	15
Central location	14
Affordability	6
Other Responses	219
	Answered 529
	Skipped 55

**11. What do you like LEAST about living in Framingham?**

	Response #
Traffic	118
Downtown appearance	60
Taxes	13
Crime	12
Congestion	10
Route 9 traffic	10
Schools	8
Other Responses	302
	Answered 516
	Skipped 68

**12. What is the most critical problem facing our Town?**

	Response #
Taxes	33
Budget, finances	28
Downtown	24
Traffic	22
Attracting more business, families	15
Illegal Immigration	14
Schools	12
Lack of funding...	12
Crime	9
Education	8
Other responses	303
	Answered 481
	Skipped 103

**13. Has anyone in your household ever participated in a Town of Framingham sponsored recreational activity?**

	Response %	Response #
Yes	73.40%	422
No	26.60%	153
	Answered	575
	Skipped	9



**14. Are there sufficient sidewalks or walkways in your neighborhood?**

	Response %	Response #
Yes	64.10%	370
No	35.90%	207
Answered		577
Skipped		7

**15. Should major roads in Framingham be striped for bike lanes?**

	Response %	Response #
Yes	56.50%	315
No	43.50%	243
Answered		558
Skipped		26

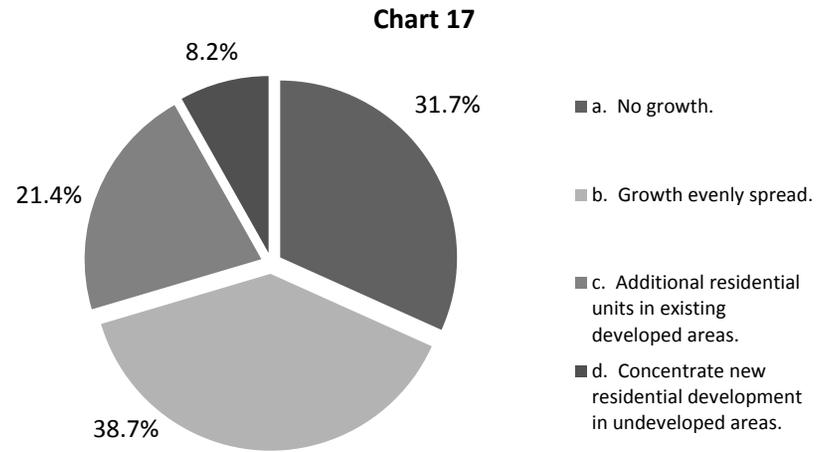
**16. What do you consider to be our Town's most attractive landscapes or natural features? (Name up to three in order of preference.)**

	Response #
Callahan State Park	268
Cushing Park	175
Garden in the Woods	60
Town Common	52
Farm Pond	49
Sudbury River	44
Nobscot area, hill, woods, reservation etc	42
Framingham Centre	40
Lake Cochituate	34
Reservoirs	30
Lakes and ponds	26
North Framingham open lands	23
Aqueduct	17
Bowditch field	16
Eastleigh Farm	15
Parks	12
Macomber	11
Saxonville Beach	11
Tercentennial Park	10
Other Responses	283
Answered	488
Skipped	96

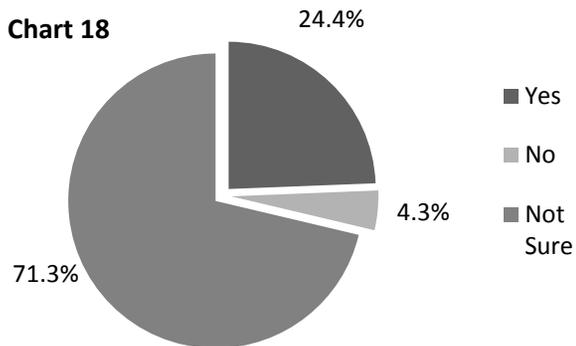


**17. What residential growth policy do you favor for Town?**

	Response %	Response #
a. No growth.	31.70%	163
b. Growth evenly spread.	38.70%	199
c. Additional residential units in existing developed areas.	21.40%	110
d. Concentrate new residential development in undeveloped areas.	8.20%	42
Other (please specify)		91
	Answered	514
	Skipped	70



**Chart 18**



**18. Is there privately-owned open space in Town in need of permanent protection?**

	Response %	Response #
Yes	24.40%	135
No	4.30%	24
Not Sure	71.30%	395
If Yes, please describe:		118
	Answered	554
	Skipped	30



**19. Would you support Town appropriations for acquisition or construction of additional recreational facilities?**

	Response %	Response #
Yes	82.90%	462
No	17.10%	95
Answered		557
Skipped		27

**20. Would you support seasonal or annual user fees to support specific recreational facilities or conservation areas?**

	Response %	Response #
Yes	67.80%	383
No	32.20%	182
Answered		565
Skipped		19

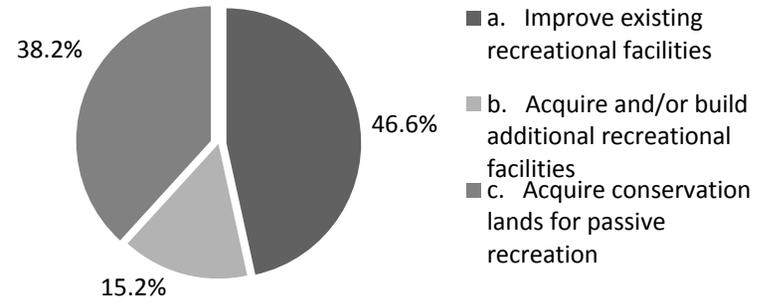
**21. Would you support Town appropriations for acquisition of open space?**

	Response %	Response #
Yes	78.10%	452
No	16.90%	98
Answered		579
Skipped		5

**22. What should be the Town's more important priority?**

	Response %	Response #
a. Improve existing recreational facilities	46.60%	257
b. Acquire and/or build additional recreational facilities	15.20%	84
c. Acquire conservation lands for passive recreation	38.20%	211
Answered		552
Skipped		32

**Chart 22**

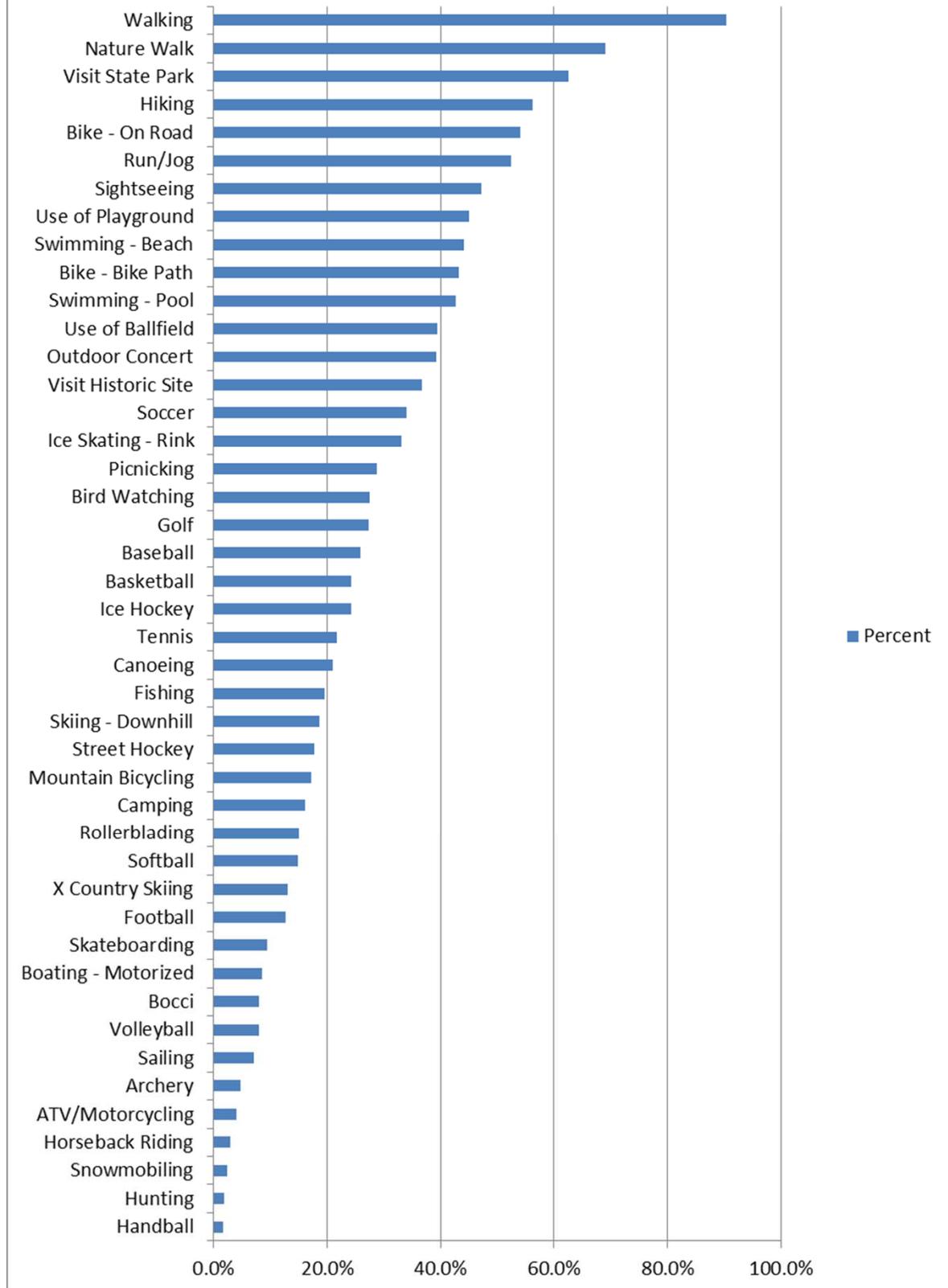


**23. Indicate approximately the number of times you or a family member participates in each recreational activity during an average year.**

	A	B	C	D	Response #
	1-3 times	4-10 times	10+ times	Zero times	
Use of Playground	121	66	180	179	546
Use of Ballfield	94	48	165	233	540
Boating - Motorized	58	25	21	435	539
Street Hockey	50	22	73	390	535
Ice Skating - Rink	101	47	133	264	545
X Country Skiing	73	42	28	392	535
Horseback Riding	41	4	12	476	533
Swimming - Pool	67	63	166	241	537
Swimming - Beach	119	92	146	182	539
Bird Watching	81	63	84	306	534
ATV/Motorcycling	26	5	16	488	535
Snowmobiling	24	7	6	495	532
Outdoor Concert	234	144	71	98	547
Visit Historic Site	237	142	54	102	535
Visit State Park	144	144	198	60	546
Skiing - Downhill	85	56	44	349	534
Rollerblading	79	41	39	376	535
Bike - On Road	87	114	178	161	540
Bike - Bike Path	112	100	133	194	539
Mountain Bicycling	69	44	46	366	525
Nature Walk	104	120	253	63	540
Skateboarding	47	27	22	428	524
Walking	38	52	447	15	552
Run/Jog	60	65	217	195	537
Hiking	97	104	199	138	538
Baseball	66	29	110	332	537
Softball	55	24	55	395	529
Basketball	88	54	76	317	535
Football	70	32	35	392	529
Soccer	51	24	157	300	532
Canoeing	162	56	55	257	530
Sailing	69	19	19	424	531
Fishing	107	54	50	322	533
Hunting	22	6	4	496	528
Camping	101	56	30	345	532
Archery	46	14	11	458	529
Handball	25	2	7	494	528
Tennis	97	50	66	319	532
Picnicking	185	93	60	195	533
Volleyball	60	24	18	428	530
Golf	89	58	87	298	532
Sightseeing	105	102	146	173	526
Ice Hockey	35	14	116	373	538
Bocci	61	32	10	425	528
Other (please specify)				45	45
				<b>Answered</b>	<b>560</b>
				<b>Skipped</b>	<b>24</b>

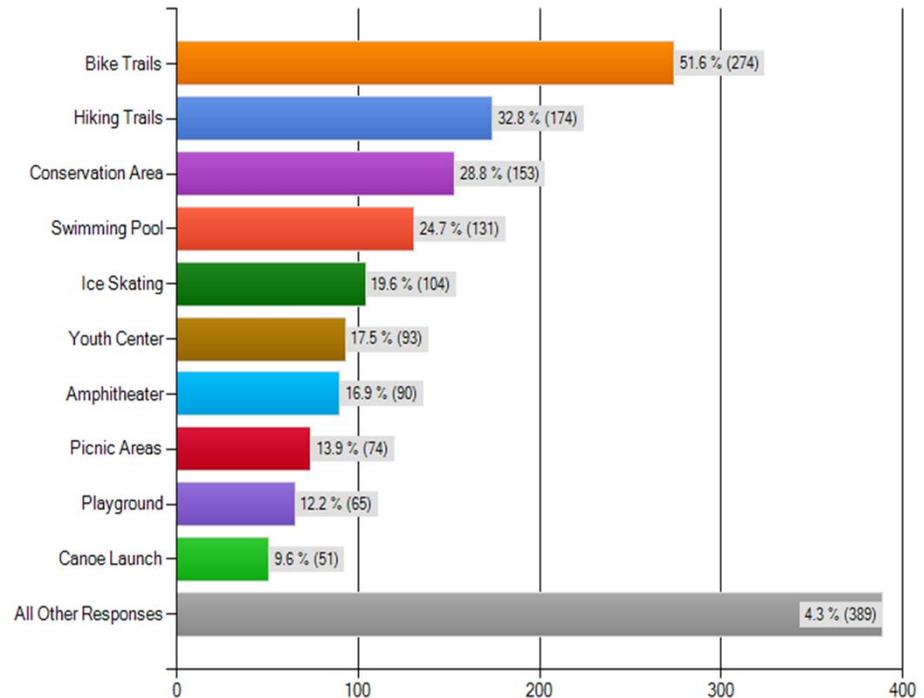


## Frequency of Activity (4 or more times)



**24. Which of the following does the Town need more?** (Check off the top three (3) facilities you feel are needed.)

	Response %	Response #
Bike Trails	51.60%	274
Hiking Trails	32.80%	174
Conservation Area	28.80%	153
Swimming Pool	24.70%	131
Ice Skating	19.60%	104
Youth Center	17.50%	93
Amphitheater	16.90%	90
Picnic Areas	13.90%	74
Playground	12.20%	65
Canoe Launch	9.60%	51
X Country Trail	9.60%	51
Tennis Court	7.20%	38
Town Beach	7.00%	37
Golf Course	6.20%	33
Pocket Park	5.80%	31
Soccer Field	5.50%	29
Senior Center	5.10%	27
Boat Launches	4.30%	23
Skateboard Park	4.00%	21
Track	3.80%	20
Basketball Court	3.60%	19
Camp Ground	3.20%	17
Baseball Field	2.60%	14
Softball Field	2.40%	13
Bocci Court	1.50%	8
Bridle Paths	1.10%	6
Handball Court	0.40%	2
Answered		531
Skipped		53

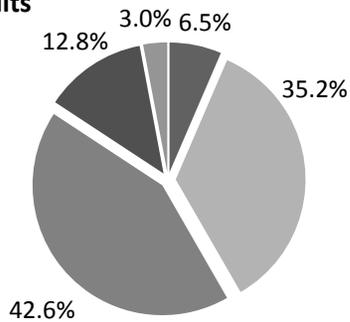


**How satisfied are you with the places in town for recreational use by:**

	5		4		3		2		1		Answered	Skipped
	(Very Satisfied)		(Satisfied)		(Neutral)		(Dissatisfied)		(Very Dissatisfied)			
	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#		
<b>25. Adults?</b>	6.50%	37	35.20%	201	42.60%	243	12.80%	73	3.00%	17	571	13
<b>26. Children?</b>	9.30%	52	36.20%	202	39.60%	221	12.90%	72	2.00%	11	558	26
<b>27. Seniors?</b>	6.80%	36	19.40%	103	61.50%	326	9.80%	52	2.50%	13	530	54
<b>28. People with disabilities?</b>	6.30%	32	12.10%	62	65.80%	336	12.10%	62	3.70%	19	511	73

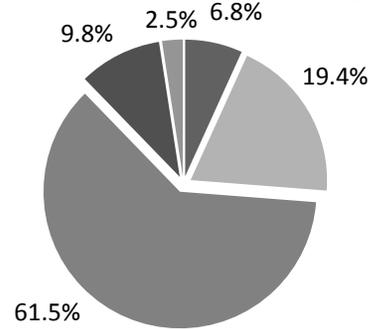
**25. Adults**

- 5 Very Satisfied
- 4 Satisfied
- 3 Neutral
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 1 Very Dissatisfied



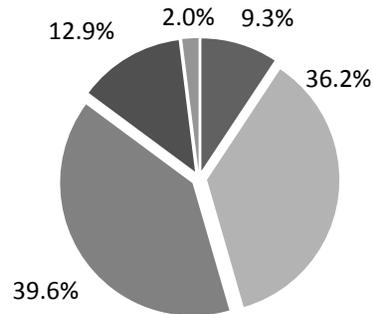
**27. Seniors**

- 5 Very Satisfied
- 4 Satisfied
- 3 Neutral
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 1 Very Dissatisfied



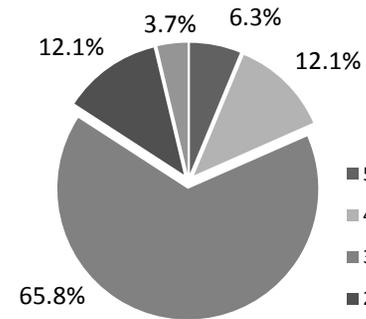
**26. Children**

- 5 Very Satisfied
- 4 Satisfied
- 3 Neutral
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 1 Very Dissatisfied



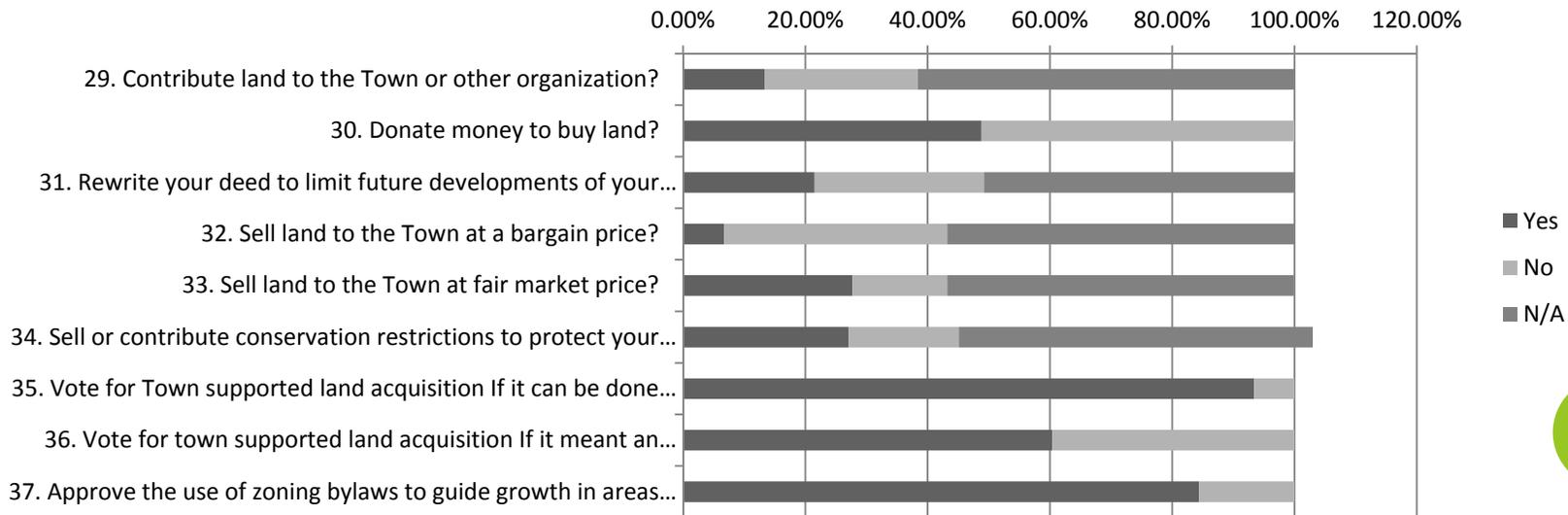
**28. People with disabilities**

- 5 Very Satisfied
- 4 Satisfied
- 3 Neutral
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 1 Very Dissatisfied

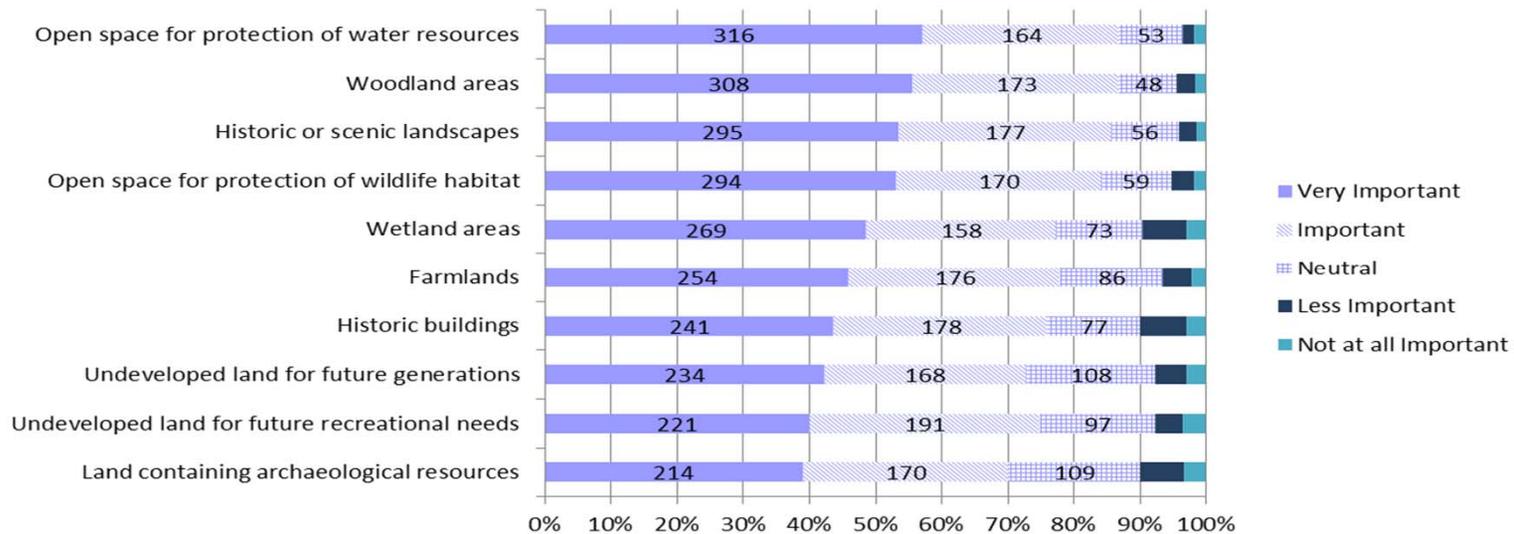


**To preserve open space in Town, would you:**

	Yes		No		N/A		Answered	Skipped
	%	#	%	#	%	#		
29. Contribute land to the Town or other organization?	13.30%	76	25.10%	144	61.60%	353	573	11
30. Donate money to buy land?	48.80%	274	51.20%	287			561	23
31. Rewrite your deed to limit future developments of your land?	21.50%	122	27.70%	157	50.80%	288	567	17
32. Sell land to the Town at a bargain price?	6.70%	38	36.50%	207	56.80%	322	567	17
33. Sell land to the Town at fair market price?	27.70%	157	15.50%	88	56.70%	321	566	18
34. Sell or contribute conservation restrictions to protect your land from future development?	27.10%	151	18.00%	100	57.90%	306	557	27
35. Vote for Town supported land acquisition If it can be done without raising taxes?	93.40%	524	6.60%	37			561	23
36. Vote for town supported land acquisition If it meant an increase of 25 to 50 cents on the present assessed value of real estate per \$1,000?	60.40%	335	39.60%	220			555	29
37. Approve the use of zoning bylaws to guide growth in areas that can support increased development (e.g. areas with municipal water and sewer), and discourage development in areas that are less suitable for development?	84.40%	467	15.60%	86			553	31



How important is it to you to preserve:	Rating					Average	Response #
	5 (Very Important)	4 (Important)	3 (Neutral)	2 (Less Important)	1 (Not at all important)		
<b>38. Historic buildings</b>	241	178	77	39	15	4.07	550
<b>39. Historic or scenic landscapes</b>	295	177	56	15	7	4.34	550
<b>40. Land containing archaeological resources</b>	214	170	109	37	17	3.96	547
<b>41. Farmlands</b>	254	176	86	24	11	4.16	551
<b>42. Wetland areas</b>	269	158	73	37	15	4.14	552
<b>43. Woodland areas</b>	308	173	48	16	8	4.37	553
<b>44. Undeveloped land for future generations</b>	234	168	108	27	15	4.05	552
<b>45. Undeveloped land for future recreational needs</b>	221	191	97	22	19	4.04	550
<b>46. Open space for protection of water resources</b>	316	164	53	10	9	4.39	552
<b>47. Open space for protection of wildlife habitat</b>	294	170	59	19	9	4.31	551
						Answered	556
						Skipped	28



## ***Appendix E***

### ***Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Outreach***

**ATTENTION FRAMINGHAM BICYCLISTS AND  
PEDESTRIANS!**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**LIVABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP  
KICK-OFF MEETING FOR FRAMINGHAM'S BIKE AND  
PEDESTRIAN PLAN**

September 4, 2014 at 6:30-9:00 PM

Blumer Community Room, Memorial Building Lower Level

Everyone is welcome!

Light refreshments served

RSVP to Marianne at [mei@framinghamma.gov](mailto:mei@framinghamma.gov)

508-532-5455

Come and help us decide:

Where improvements are needed for existing facilities

What new bike and ped trails are needed and where

Where the Town's trails, paths, and bike racks are located now

How we can advance Framingham as a bike and pedestrian community





Atenção ciclistas e pedestres de Framingham!

## **SALVE A DATA!**

### **Livable Community Workshop**

**Reunião inicial para discutir os planos de Framingham para bicicletas e pedestres**

4 de Setembro de 2014 às 18:30-21:00 horas

Salão da comunidade "Blumer", edifício Memorial no nível inferior

Todos serão bem-vindos!

Refrescos serão servidos

Confirme sua presença com Raphaela [rsmp@framinghamma.gov](mailto:rsmp@framinghamma.gov)

Ou para mais informações, ligue: 508-532-5455

Atención Los Ciclistas Y Peatones de Framingham!

## **Guarden la Fecha!**

### **Habitable Taller Comunitario**

**Reunión de arranque para las bicicletas de Framingham y el plan de peatones**

04 de septiembre 2014 a las 6:30-9:00 pm

Blúmer Salón Comunitario, El Edificio de Monumento Nivel Inferior

Todos son bienvenidos!

Refrescos servidos

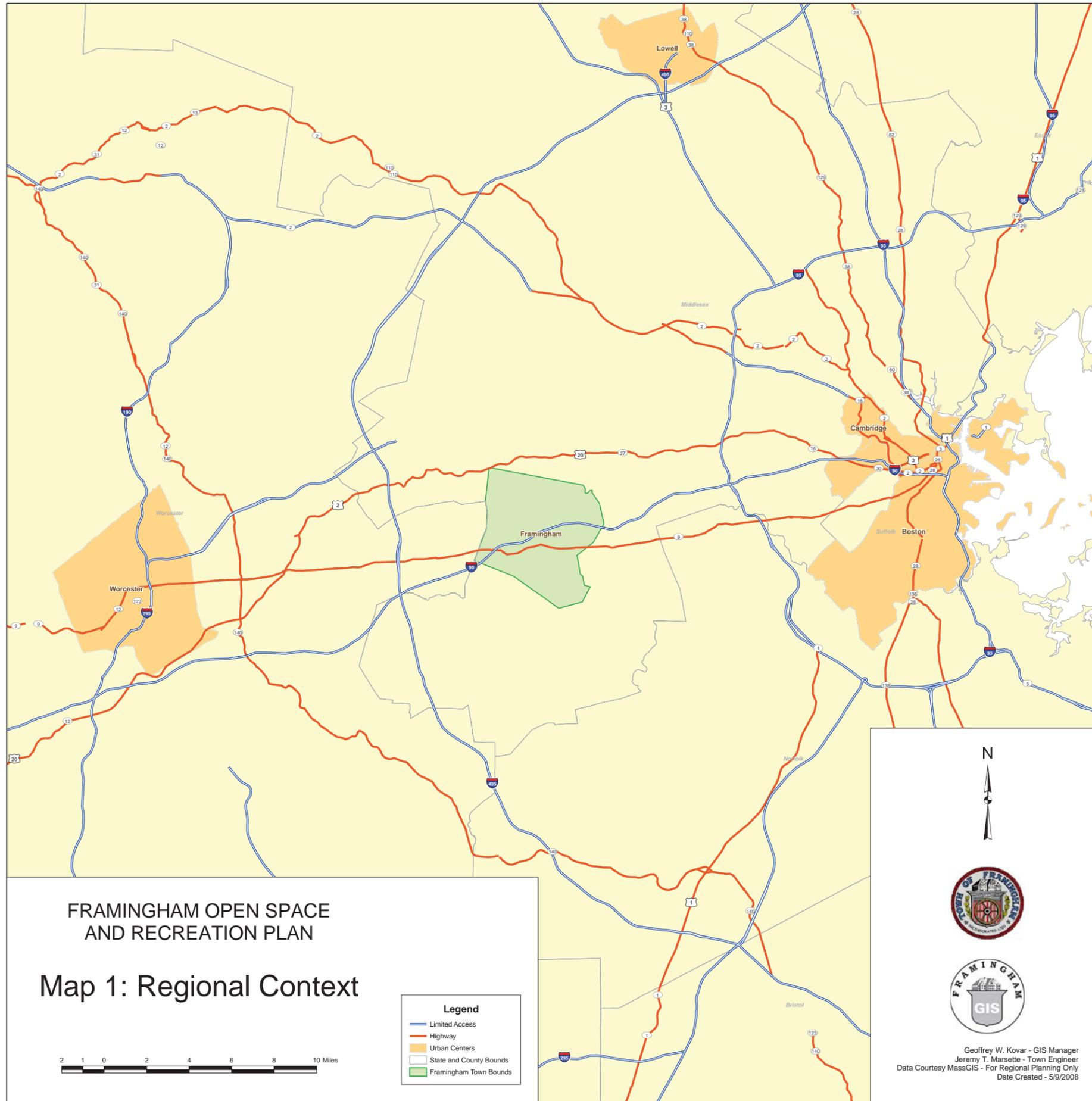
Reserven Su Puesto con Raphaela [rsmp@framinghamma.gov](mailto:rsmp@framinghamma.gov)

508-532-5455

*Choose*  
**FRAMINGHAM**

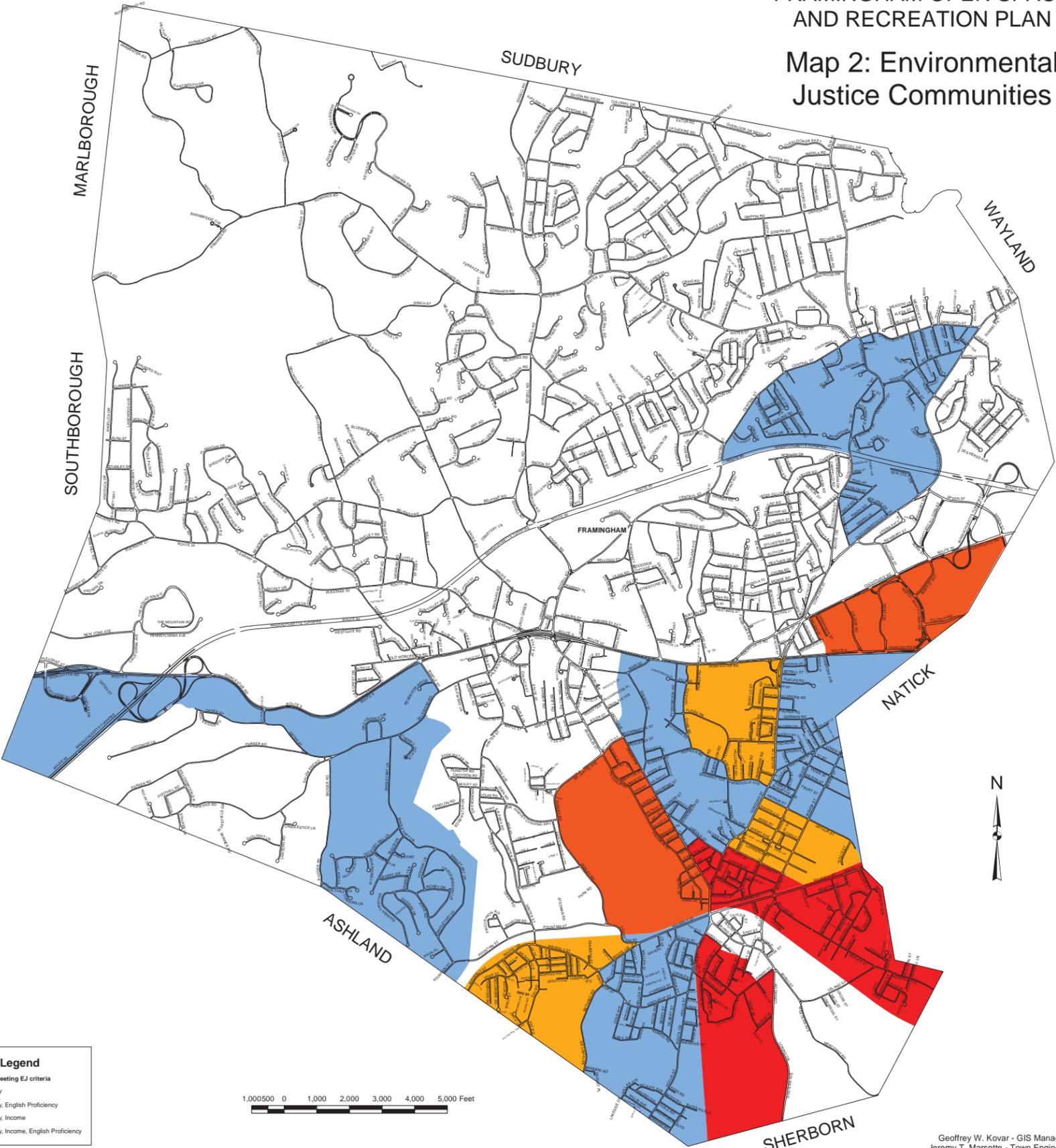


## ***Maps***



FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE  
AND RECREATION PLAN

Map 2: Environmental  
Justice Communities



**Legend**  
Populations meeting EJ criteria

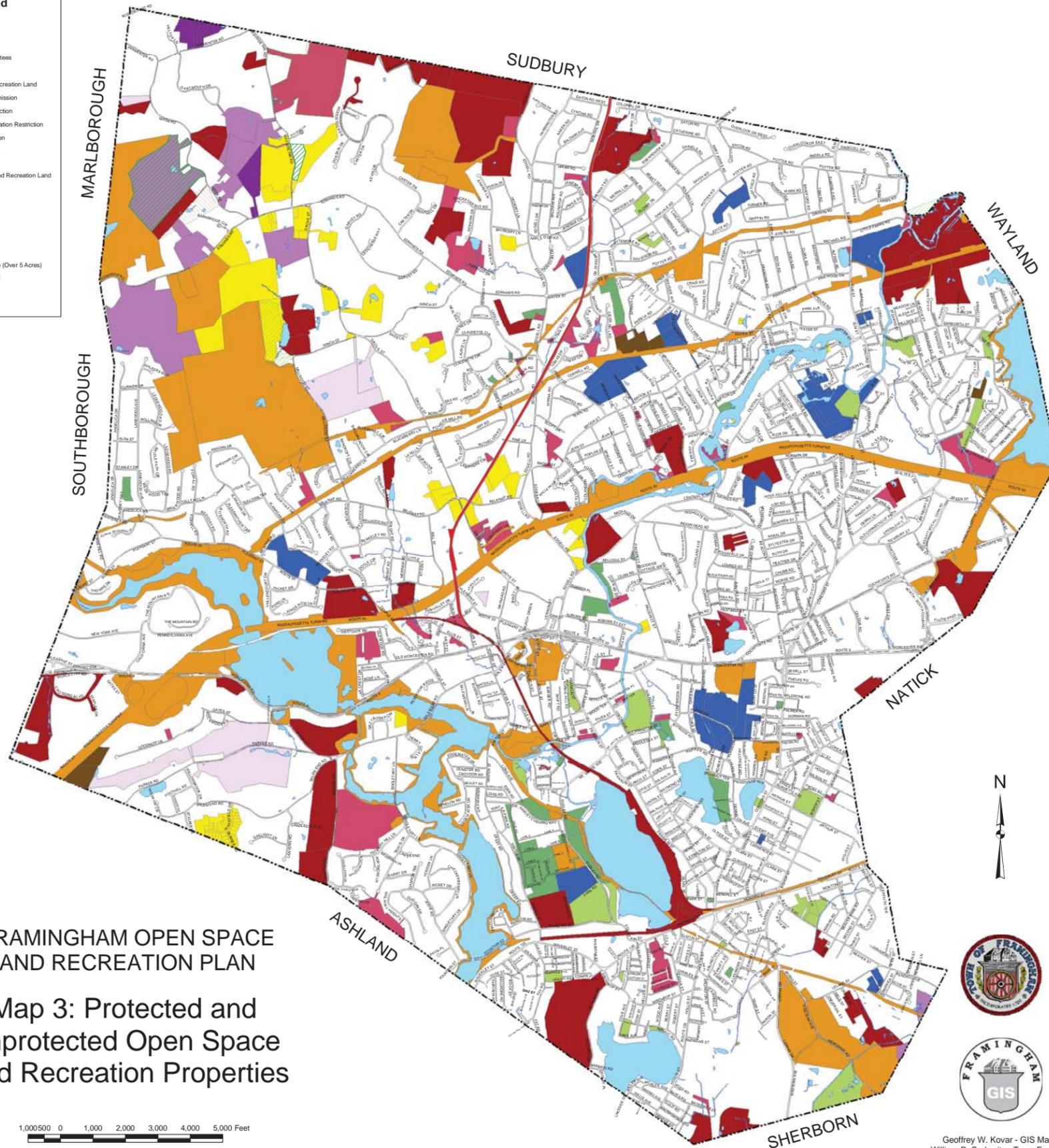
- Minority
- Minority, English Proficiency
- Minority, Income
- Minority, Income, English Proficiency

1,000 500 0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 5,000 Feet

Geoffrey W. Kovar - GIS Manager  
Jeremy T. Marssette - Town Engineer  
Data Courtesy MassGIS - For Regional Planning Only  
Date Created - 5/9/2013  
Modified by C&ED - 9/15/2014

**Legend**

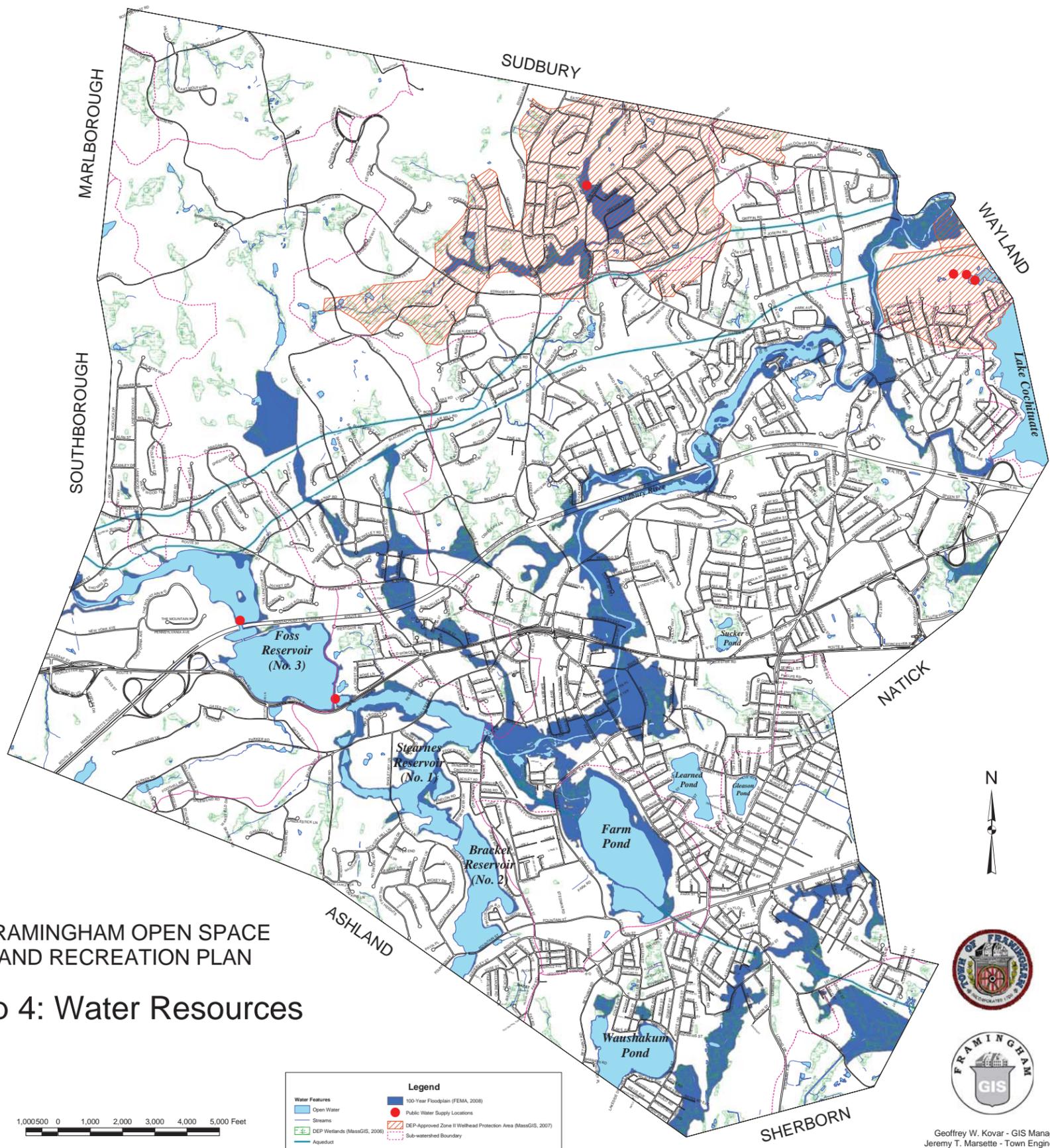
Protected Land	
Open Space	State Land
	Sudbury Valley Trustees
	Open Water
	Open Parks and Recreation Land
	Conservation Commission
	Conservation Restriction
	Agricultural Preservation Restriction
	CRI/APR Combination
	Other Legal Interest
Recreation Land	
	Developed Parks and Recreation Land
	Schools
	Rail Trails
Unprotected Land	
Open Space	Chapter 61
	Chapter 61A
	Private Open Space (Over 5 Acres)
	Open Tax Title Land
Recreation Land	
	Chapter 61B



FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE  
AND RECREATION PLAN

Map 3: Protected and  
Unprotected Open Space  
and Recreation Properties





FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE  
AND RECREATION PLAN

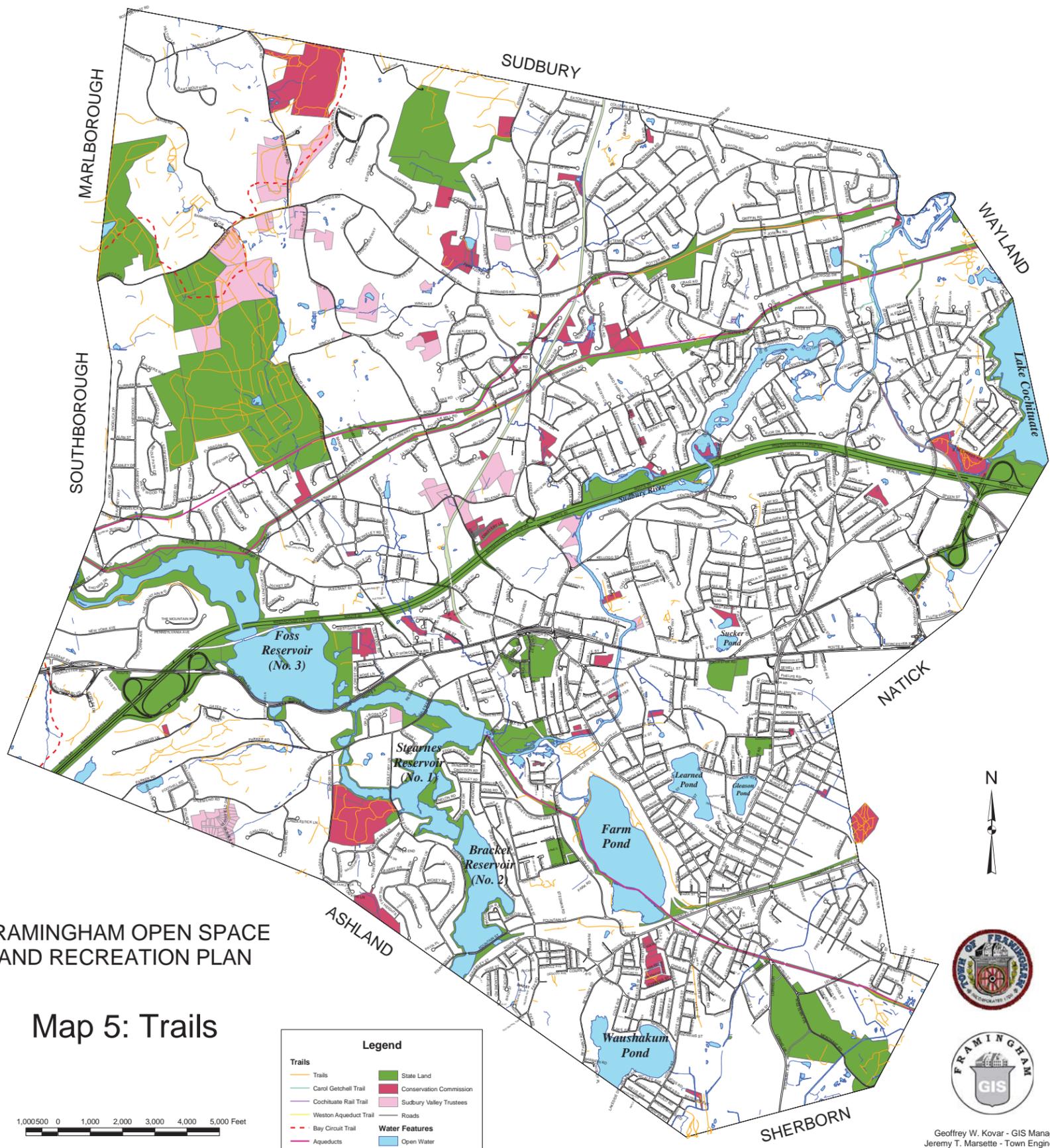
Map 4: Water Resources



Legend	
Open Water	100-Year Floodplain (FEMA, 2008)
Streams	Public Water Supply Locations
DEP Wetlands (MassGIS, 2008)	DEP-Approved Zone II Wellhead Protection Area (MassGIS, 2007)
Aqueduct	Sub-watershed Boundary



Geoffrey W. Kovar - GIS Manager  
 Jeremy T. Marssette - Town Engineer  
 Data Courtesy MassGIS and FEMA - For Planning Only  
 Date Created - 5/9/2013



FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

Map 5: Trails



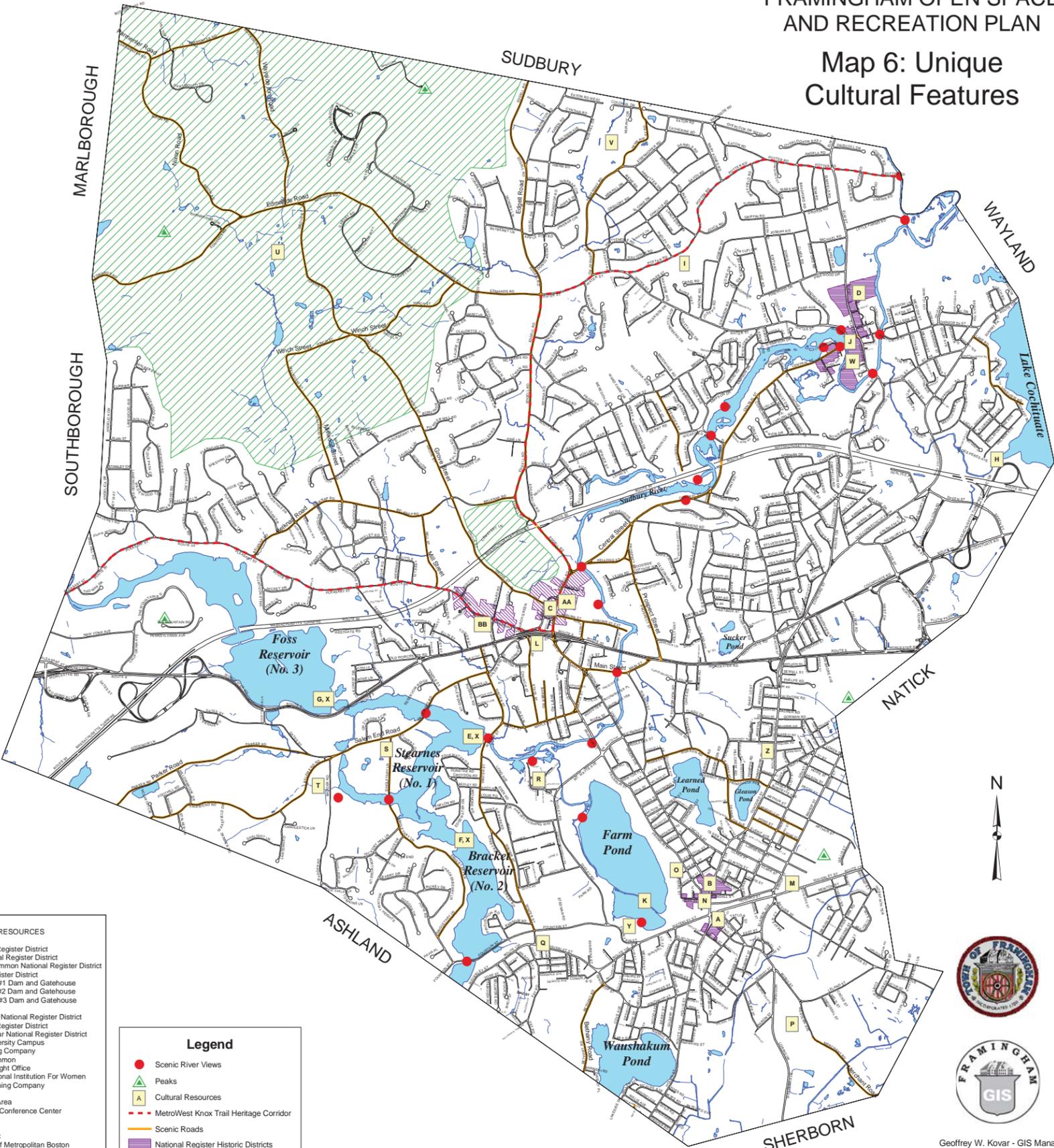
Legend	
<b>Trails</b>	
	Trails
	Carol Getchell Trail
	Cochituate Rail Trail
	Weston Aqueduct Trail
	Bay Circuit Trail
	Rail Trail Property
	State Land
	Conservation Commission
	Sudbury Valley Trustees
	Roads
<b>Water Features</b>	
	Open Water
	Streams



Geoffrey W. Kovar - GIS Manager  
 Jeremy T. Marssette - Town Engineer  
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 Date Created - 5/9/2013

FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

Map 6: Unique Cultural Features



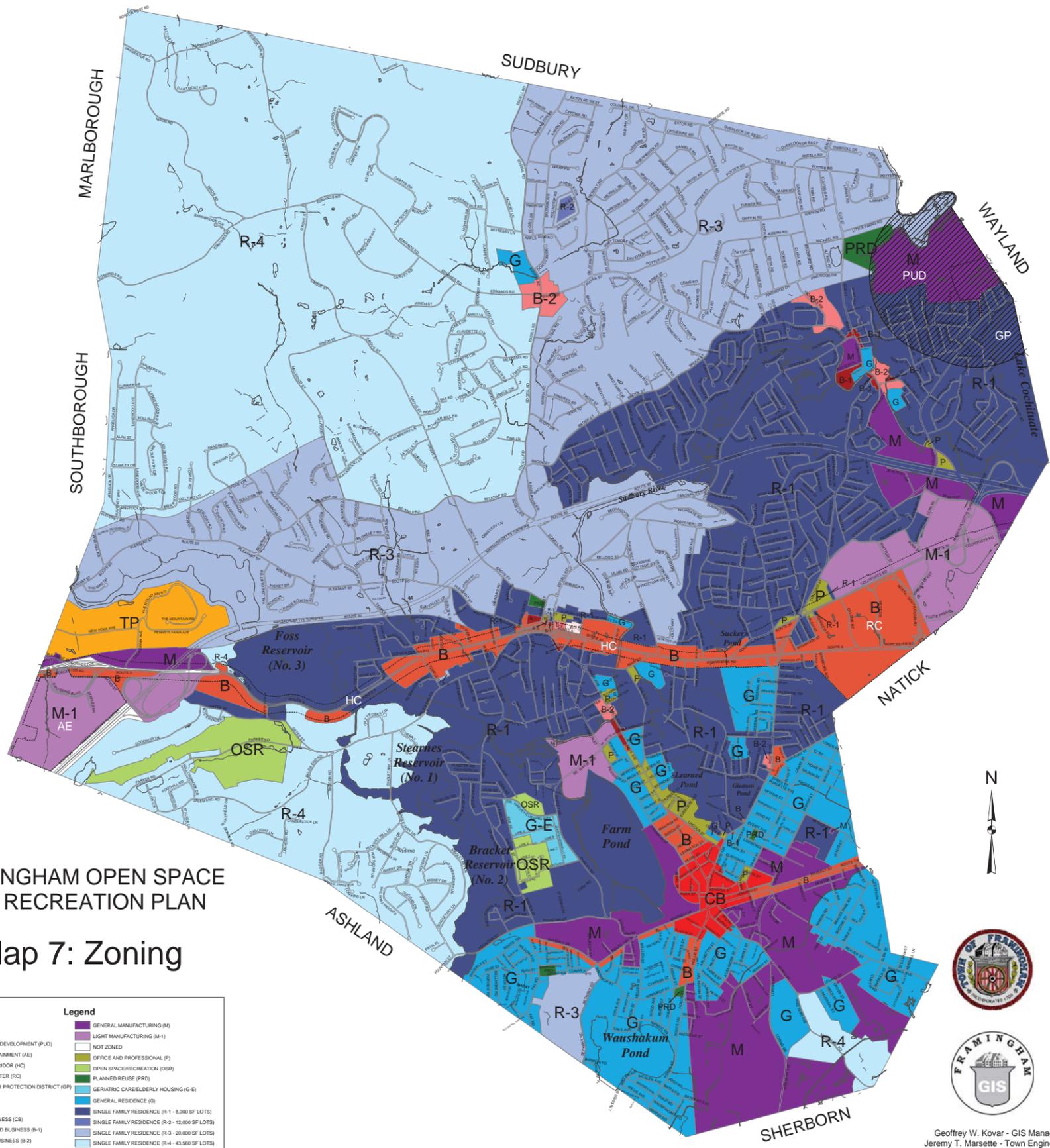
- CULTURAL RESOURCES**
- A Irving Square National Register District
  - B Concord Square National Register District
  - C Framingham Centre Common National Register District
  - D Saxonville National Register District
  - E Framingham Reservoir #1 Dam and Gatehouse
  - F Framingham Reservoir #2 Dam and Gatehouse
  - G Framingham Reservoir #3 Dam and Gatehouse
  - H Lake Cochituate Dam
  - I Weston Aqueduct Linear National Register District
  - J Sudbury Dam National Register District
  - K Sudbury Aqueduct Linear National Register District
  - L Framingham State University Campus
  - M Dennison Manufacturing Company
  - N South Framingham Common
  - O South Framingham Freight Office
  - P Massachusetts Correctional Institution For Women
  - Q Gossamer Rubber Clothing Company
  - R Mount Wayte Area
  - S Upper Singletary Lane Area
  - T United Church of Christ Conference Center
  - U Windswept Farm
  - V Garden In The Woods
  - W Saxonville Mill Complex
  - X Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston
  - Y Fountain Street Industrial Complex District
  - Z Framingham Army National Guard Complex
  - AA Framingham Centre Local Historic District
  - BB Jonathan Maynard Local Historic District

**Legend**

- Scenic River Views
- ▲ Peaks
- Cultural Resources
- MetroWest Knox Trail Heritage Corridor
- Scenic Roads
- National Register Historic Districts
- Local Historical Districts
- ▨ Scenic Landscapes



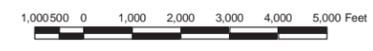
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 Jeremy T. Marssette - Town Engineer  
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 Date Created - 5/9/2013



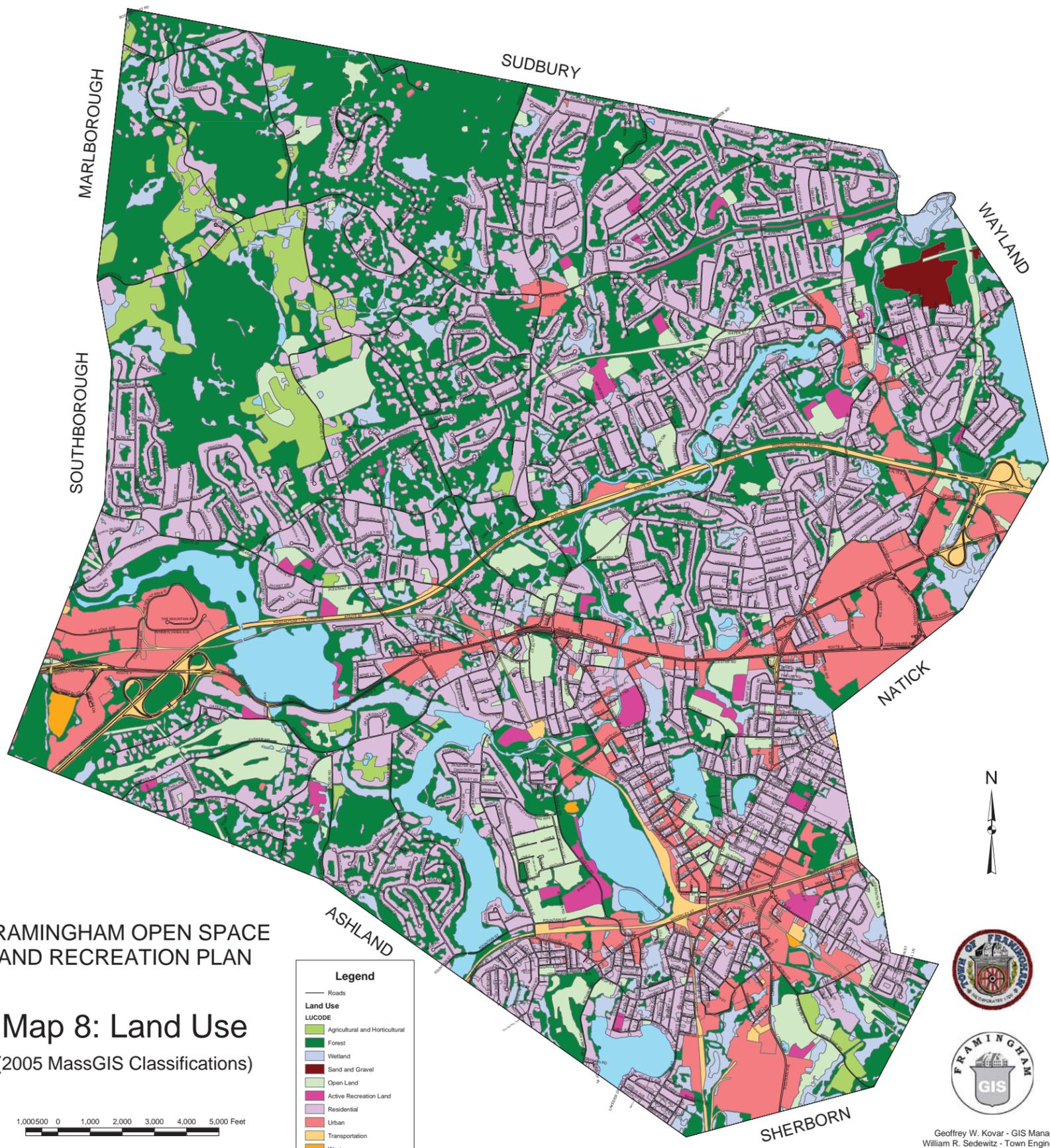
FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

Map 7: Zoning

Legend	
<b>Overlay Districts</b>	<b>Zoning Districts</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD)</li> <li>ADULT ENTERTAINMENT (AE)</li> <li>HIGHWAY CORRIDOR (HC)</li> <li>REGIONAL CENTER (RC)</li> <li>GROUNDWATER PROTECTION DISTRICT (GP)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GENERAL MANUFACTURING (M)</li> <li>LIGHT MANUFACTURING (M-1)</li> <li>NOT ZONED</li> <li>OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL (P)</li> <li>OPEN SPACE/RECREATION (OSR)</li> <li>PLANNED REUSE (PRD)</li> <li>GERIATRIC CARE/ELDERLY HOUSING (G-E)</li> <li>GENERAL RESIDENCE (G)</li> <li>SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE (R-1 - 8,000 SF LOTS)</li> <li>SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE (R-2 - 12,000 SF LOTS)</li> <li>SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE (R-3 - 20,000 SF LOTS)</li> <li>SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE (R-4 - 43,560 SF LOTS)</li> <li>TECHNOLOGY PARK (TP)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BUSINESS (B)</li> <li>CENTRAL BUSINESS (CB)</li> <li>NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS (B-1)</li> <li>COMMUNITY BUSINESS (B-2)</li> <li>GENERAL BUSINESS (B-3)</li> </ul>	



Geoffrey W. Kovar - GIS Manager  
 Jeremy T. Marselette - Town Engineer  
 For Planning Only  
 Date Created - 5/9/2008



FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

Map 8: Land Use  
(2005 MassGIS Classifications)



**Legend**

— Roads

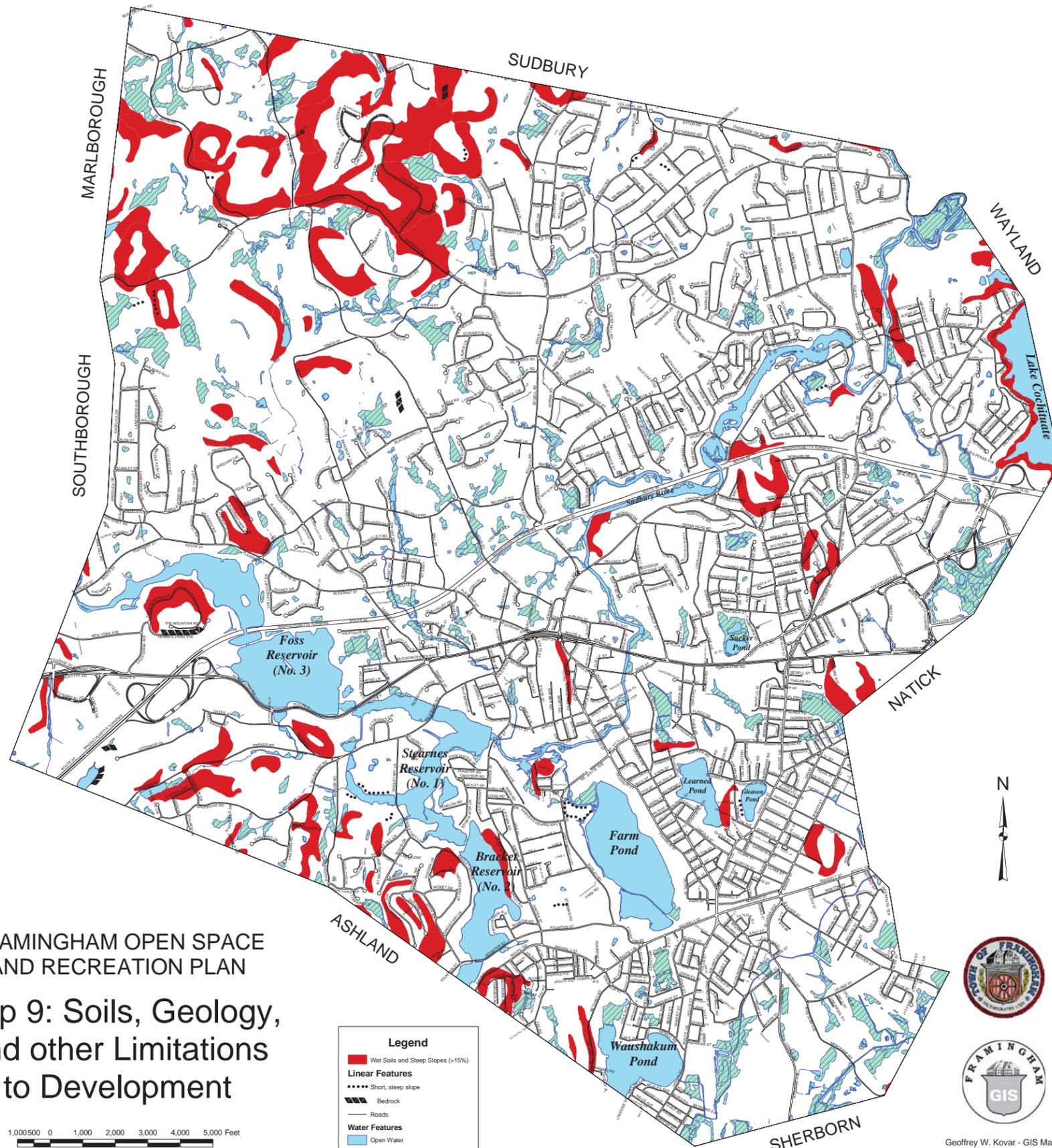
**Land Use**

**LUCODE**

	Agricultural and Horticultural
	Forest
	Wetland
	Sand and Gravel
	Open Land
	Active Recreation Land
	Residential
	Urban
	Transportation
	Waste
	Water



Geoffrey W. Kovar - GIS Manager  
 William R. Sedwitz - Town Engineer  
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 Date Created - 5/9/2013

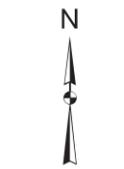


FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE  
AND RECREATION PLAN

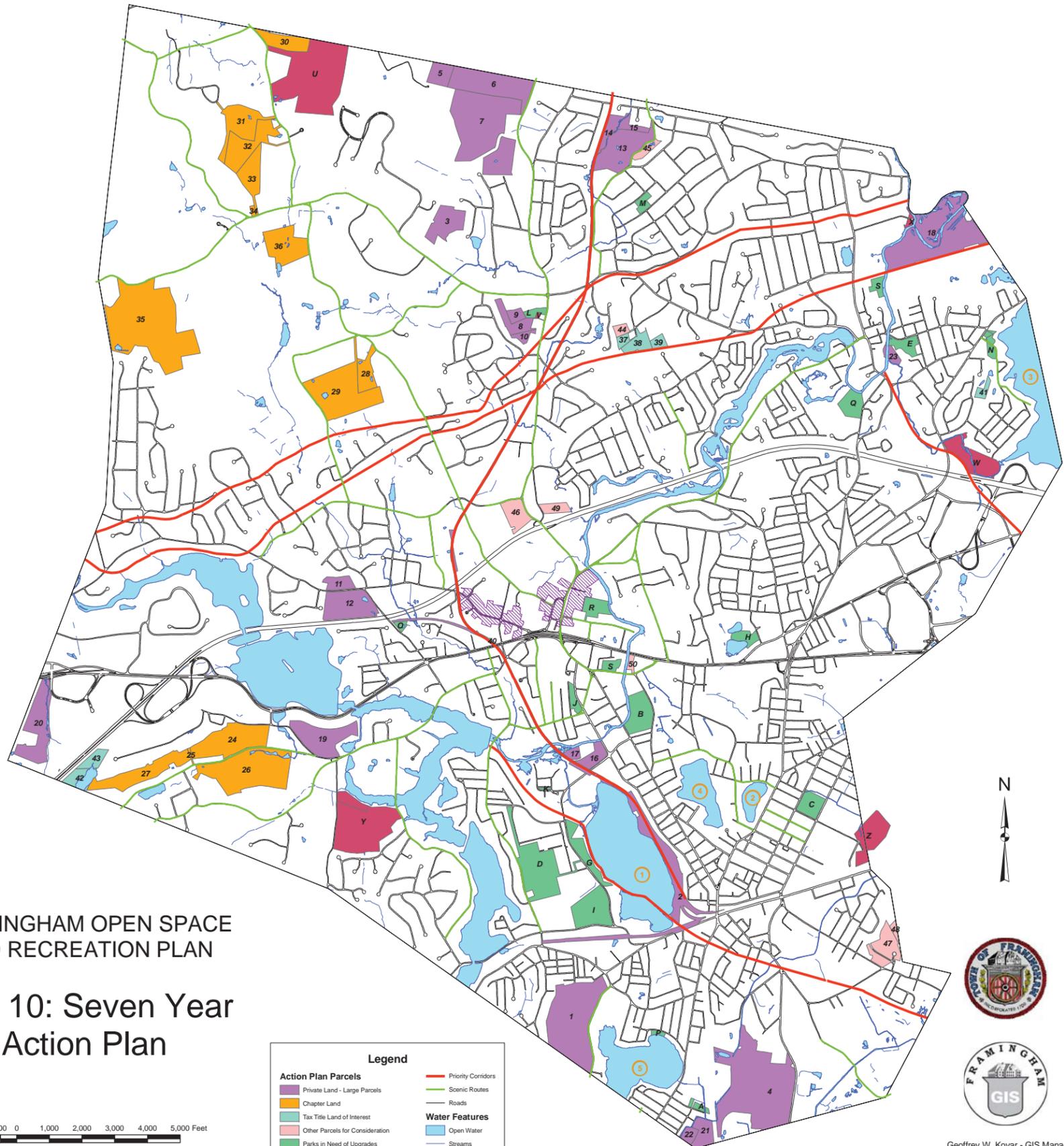
Map 9: Soils, Geology,  
and other Limitations  
to Development



Legend	
<span style="color: red;">■</span>	Wet Soils and Steep Slopes (>15%)
<b>Linear Features</b>	
.....	Short, steep slope
▨	Bedrock
—	Roads
<b>Water Features</b>	
■	Open Water
—	Streams
▨	Wetlands



Geoffrey W. Kovar - GIS Manager  
 Jeremy T. Marssette - Town Engineer  
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FRAMINGHAM OPEN SPACE  
AND RECREATION PLAN

Map 10: Seven Year  
Action Plan



Legend	
<b>Action Plan Parcels</b>	<b>Priority Corridors</b>
Private Land - Large Parcels	Priority Corridors
Chapter Land	Scenic Routes
Tax Title Land of Interest	Roads
Other Parcels for Consideration	<b>Water Features</b>
Parks in Need of Upgrades	Open Water
Conservation Commission Land With Trails	Streams
Local Historical Districts	Great Ponds



Geoffrey W. Kovar - GIS Manager  
William R. Sedwitz - Town Engineer  
For Regional Planning Only  
Date Created - 8/27/2013