



# *Town of Danvers*



## *2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan*

*Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee:*

*Joan Townley*

*George Saluto*

*David Saunders*

*Beth Klemm*

*Bruce Symmes*

*Thom DeCoff*

*Jamie Perkins*

*Staff:*

*Susan Fletcher*

*Kate Day*

*Kristan Tarricone*



# **Table of Contents**



<b>Section 1:</b> Plan Summary.....	pg. 1
<b>Section 2:</b> Introduction.....	pg. 5
<b>Section 3:</b> Community Setting.....	pg. 7
<b>Section 4:</b> Environmental Inventory and Analysis.....	pg. 14
<b>Section 5:</b> Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest.....	pg. 23
<b>Section 6:</b> Process and Purpose.....	pg. 39
<b>Section 7:</b> Analysis of Needs.....	pg. 41
<b>Section 8:</b> Goals and Objectives.....	pg. 51
<b>Section 9:</b> Five-Year Action Plan.....	pg. 67
<b>Appendix:</b> Introduction .....	i
Resident Survey Sample .....	ii
Summary of 2006 Survey Findings .....	iv
Focus Group Questions .....	v
Focus Group - High School Students .....	vi
Focus Group - Families .....	ix
Focus Group - Residents 30+ Years Old .....	xii
ADA Access Self Evaluation .....	xv
Grievance Procedure .....	xx
Planning Board Endorsement .....	xxi



# Section 1

## PLAN SUMMARY

*“A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.”*

*~ John James Audubon*

## **Building on the Past**

The protection of undeveloped space and the establishment of recreational areas are vital to the health of a community and the quality of life of its residents. The Town of Danvers is fortunate in that it has recognized this importance over the years.

This is the sixth Open Space and Recreation Plan and its approach is both global and focused. It builds on the work of the past 27 years by the Town's administration and four preceding Open Space and Recreation Task Forces. Past plans targeted various parcels, creating a patchwork of building blocks throughout the Town. This plan was developed by the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC), a group established based on a recommendation in the previous report. It expands upon and more specifically defines the networks of open space including contiguous properties and greenbelts.

## **A Neighborhood Focus**

The 2009 Plan focuses, as before, on individual neighborhoods in the Town and takes into consideration the various and unique needs of each. This approach requires both an intimate understanding of each neighborhood's unique characteristics as well as consideration of existing resources. Identifying specific needs and considering how these needs may be addressed is included in this report.

Each member of OSRAC "walked" one of the neighborhoods comprised of West Danvers, Hathorne, Putnamville, Northfield/Prep/Lindall Hill, Woodvale, East Danvers, Danversport, South Central Danvers, and Danvers Square. This technique enabled OSRAC to consider the town-wide survey of needs and strive to answer the question: "What is established and what can be established here, in this neighborhood, to meet its needs & goals?" Neighborhood residents representing all ages and interests attended meetings to collect data and discuss the information.

## **Recommendations from the 2001 Plan**

### **Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee**

The creation of an Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee was recommended to aid the Town Manager with the implementation of the goals, objectives, and actions outlined in earlier plans. The Committee has and will continue to provide constant advisement on open space and recreation issues and will continue to serve as a resource for future open space and recreation plans, acquisition, and management. Initial actions could be the development of the 22-acre Choate Farm and management plans for the other Town-owned open space parcels. The concept of a Stream Team is still, as yet, a concept that is being discussed.

### **The Concept of Contiguous Green Space**

It is recommended that areas of protection be expanded by connecting already existing open space parcels thus creating networks of contiguous green space and increasing the accessibility of the lands for residents of Danvers. Computer-generated maps enabled OSRAC to consider concepts that wove together patterns of protected and unprotected plots into contiguous "usage areas" such as the Nike Knoll, the Park-to-Clark Link, and Lebel's Crescent (which would greatly benefit from the Town's acquisition of Lebel's Grove). A new area called the Choate-Putnamville Connector is also described in this plan. Furthermore, the town-wide survey reflected a significant interest in multi-use trails

including use of existing right-of-ways and easements. Second to the interest of multi-use trails was the construction of an ice rink and a dog park. The development of new sports fields for lacrosse, baseball, and other field sports was not as highly supported as the multi-use trail, ice rink and dog park. Providing access through several neighborhoods connecting all areas of the town furthers the concept of continuous green spaces.

#### Protection and Enhancement of Unique Resources

The continued protection and enhancement of resources unique to Danvers is highly recommended and emphasized by this plan and OSRAC. Such unique resources can be recognized in the concept of the Four Rivers Estuaries, which is comprised of over nine miles of waterfront along the Waters, Crane, and Porter Rivers. These, in turn, become the confluence of the Danvers River.

#### Improvement of Recreation Opportunities

It is recommended that the existing recreational facilities be expanded and provisions for new recreation facilities be established as Town residents overwhelmingly recommended in the most recent Open Space survey. The “neighborhood focus” of the Plan allowed OSRAC to review and identify recreational needs specific to each neighborhood. Their recommendations include a proposal for West Park, a neighborhood park in West Danvers where currently no such park is provided and the expansion of the John George Park and Sandy Beach Recreation Area, the only waterfront park, public beach, and multi-use pathway in Danvers. The Plan also recommends that the Town consider working with privately-owned properties that hold sizable “open spaces”, such as the Rebecca Nurse homestead and the former Danvers State Hospital grounds, to provide additional passive recreational areas.

Additional details on the process, methodology, and recommended actions are presented in the subsequent sections of this Plan.

With this plan in hand, Danvers can continue to maintain its existing open space and recreation areas in the same excellent condition as it has been and preserve the level of protection that the Town has been able to accomplish in the past several years.

## Section 2

# INTRODUCTION

*"The conservationist's most important task, if we are to save the earth,  
is to educate."*

*~ Peter Scott, founder chairman of the World Wildlife Federation*

## **Statement of Purpose**

An Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee was appointed by the Town Manager as a recommendation of the 2001 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the fifth plan developed for the Town of Danvers. The mission of the Committee was to further update and refine the Open Space and Recreation Plan for the Town by conducting an inventory of its existing open space and recreation facilities and recommending strategies for acquisition, use, and protection of open space and conservation land. It also recommends continued improvement, enhancement, and development of existing recreational facilities.

The Committee membership includes representatives from the Conservation Commission, Recreation Committee, Finance Committee, a former Town assessor, a former Conservation Commission member, a business-owner, and a member of a former Open Space and Recreation Task Force.

## **Planning Process and Public Participation**

The Committee initially met monthly to gather information and data. An extensive town-wide survey was conducted by the Committee in November 2006 to gather specific input from the Town residents on their perspectives of current and future active and passive recreational needs. This survey was mailed directly to all households and businesses throughout town.

Results of the survey allowed the Committee to assess the use of existing public properties and facilities within the Town and to gain input from residents on their priorities for the Town with respect to open space and recreation, funding for protection and property improvements, and any other open space and recreation needs. The Committee strongly felt that the survey was an important component of the public participation process because all Town residents and business owners were provided an equal opportunity to supply input and participation was outstanding. The survey and its results are discussed more specifically in Appendix A of this Plan.

Data collection also involved dividing the Town into four geographic regions, with each region assigned to a two-member subcommittee. These four regions were then further divided into nine neighborhoods, which narrowed the focus and allowed the Committee to inventory Town's existing resources and its needs from a more intimate perspective. This also enabled the evaluation of the relationship between the neighborhoods and their needs to each other, as well as to the Town as a whole.

A public workshop was held for final public input on the draft plan prior to submission to the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. After this public workshop, the Committee finalized its recommendations and the various sections of the Plan. These recommendations were then distributed to various Town boards and committees and made available to the public. The recommendations were then formally presented to the Board of Selectmen.

This 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan is the result of this total process.



## **Section 3**

# **COMMUNITY SETTING**

*“Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul.”*

*~ John Muir*

## **Regional Context**

The Town of Danvers, located approximately 19 miles north of Boston, is one of the communities comprising the North Shore of Massachusetts. Danvers' central location within the North Shore, its close proximity to the Cities of Boston, Beverly, Salem, and Peabody, and its intersection by a number of major highway corridors has resulted in a unique development pattern within the Town. While commercial development in the Town is concentrated along the highway corridors and the shared borders of these other municipalities, the remainder of Danvers is residential. The Town's historic rural and agricultural character is still evident, in the northern portion of Danvers, which is closer to the more rural communities within the North Shore.

Danvers shares a number of resources with the surrounding communities. As mentioned in Section 1, the Town has over nine miles of coastline and is within the Salem Sound watershed. The Ipswich River forms the westerly border for the Town and this freshwater resource is shared within the adjacent municipalities as well as those downstream and upstream of Danvers. This is a particularly important resource, as the Town's two public well sites are located along the Ipswich River.

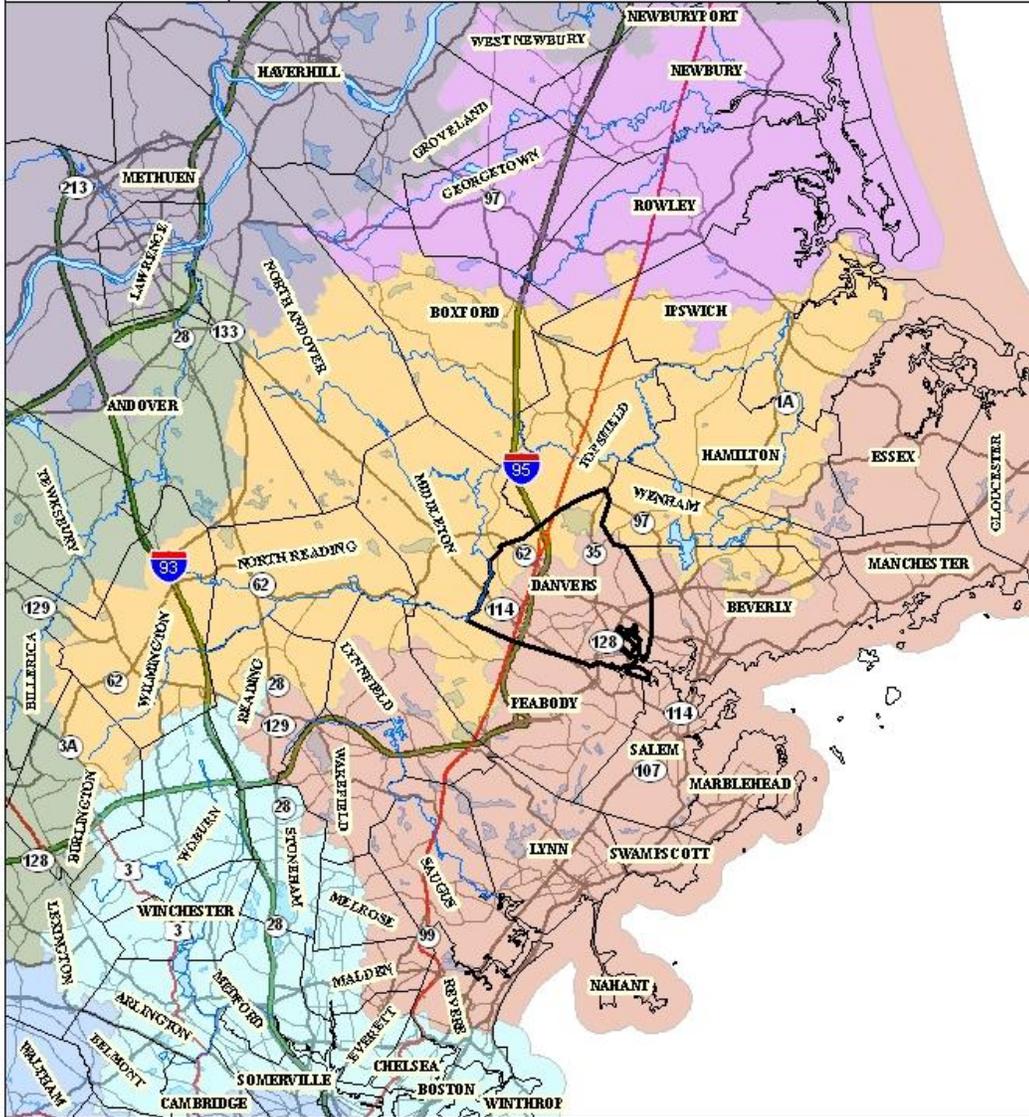
Drinking water forms a common link between Danvers and its neighbors. The Town of Danvers actually supplies water for both Danvers and the Town of Middleton. While the Town's two well sites are located in Danvers, the water treatment facility and reservoir are located in Middleton. The reservoir for the Cities of Salem and Beverly is located in Danvers.

Likewise, groundwater does not follow municipal boundaries. The zones of contribution or "Zone II" areas for public wells for the City of Peabody extend into Danvers as does Danvers' Zone II extends into Peabody. Zone II for the Towns of Wenham and Hamilton shared well also extends into Danvers. These communities have all worked together to adopt measures to protect each other's water supplies.

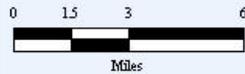
Danvers has been actively involved in the North Shore Task Force, a group organized by the regional agency of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). As the regional planning agency for 101 cities and towns of the Boston metropolitan area, one of MAPC's legislative mandates is to prepare a "comprehensive regional plan for the physical, social and economic improvement of the region". On May 23, 2008 the MAPC Council adopted MetroFuture as the new regional plan, a detailed vision for the future which includes specific goals and objectives as well as implementation strategies.

Danvers is also involved with the Network of Conservation Commissions and maintains established relationships with the adjacent municipalities. The Town is dedicated to continue working with, coordinating, and building upon the shared open space and recreation resources within the Town and area.

# Regional Context



June 2009  
Sources: Town of Danvers GIS  
MassGIS



### Major Watersheds

- |           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| Charles   | North Coast        |
| Ipswich   | Parker             |
| Merrimack | Shawsheen          |
| Mystic    | Rivers and Streams |
|           | Lakes and Ponds    |

## **History of Community**

In 1752, Danvers, formerly known as Salem Village, was officially established as a District and was made a township in 1757. During the 1760's and 1770's, Danvers took a politically active role in the growing revolutionary turmoil and her record during the Revolutionary War is indeed a proud one. Seven Danvers minutemen were killed in the first armed struggle during the Lexington Alarm of April 19, 1775. Three hundred Danversites actively served in the war and Danversport built and outfitted four privateers. Danvers also contributed such famous sons as Brigadier General Israel Putnam, a significant figure in America's war for Independence in 1776, and Doctor Samuel Holten, a member and President of the Continental Congress and signer of the Articles of the Confederation.

At the time of the Revolution, Danversport became a prominent shipping and shipbuilding center where tidal mills prospered. The Town's local bricks boasted national fame, while the later leather tanning industry brought a diverse and colorful mixture of new immigrant labor to the area.

The 19th century saw Danvers growing industrially and culturally. From 1820 - 1850 Danvers was the midst of the New England reform era as numerous cultural and reform societies were formed.

Tapleville emerged in the 1830's as a center for the production of woven carpets where English and Scottish weavers settled and made their homes. Danvers Plains took advantage of important crossroads and the introduction of the railroad in the 1840's to become a prominent commercial center. Putnamville and Danvers Highlands were noted for their important and early shoe manufacturing industry, while farms throughout Danvers became known far and wide for the Danvers half-long carrot and the Danvers onion, still popular today.

Considered a fine area for country residence, Danvers saw the growth of numerous fine and elegant country estates, one of which, Glen Magna, can be visited today. Among the known literary giants were John Greenleaf Whittier, Lucy Larcom, and Nathaniel Hawthorne who wrote about many town sites, scenes, and people.

Though a number of Danvers structures have been lost to fire and "progress". Much of the Town's period architecture still survives and its written records have been preserved, making Danvers an important and accessible area for period study.

## **Population Characteristics**

Danvers experienced its greatest growth during the 1950s and early 1960s, when the population swelled from 15,720 persons in 1950 to 24,764 persons in 1965. The population explosion in the adjacent Town of Middleton over this same period should be noted particularly with regard to the potential impact of this growth on the shared resources between the two municipalities, including the public water system. The 2000 Census reported a growth of 57.3% in Middleton! Since that time, however, the population within the Town has remained fairly constant. The last ten-year period saw a growth of 4.3%, a number consistent with the 4.9% growth in the Boston metropolitan region.

The population increase in Danvers can be observed by an 8.7% increase in the number of households within the Town. Interestingly, however, the percent of overall households which are comprised of families (family being defined as a household containing related persons, either by marriage, birth or adoption) decreased from 73.4% in 1990 to 68.7% in 2000. In other words, a greater portion of Danvers population is comprised of single persons. This statistic may explain some of the development trends experienced by the Town in recent years. Specifically, the

construction of apartment and condominium buildings in close proximity or adjacent to the highway corridors attract young professionals to the Town. This statistic may also be explained by the 20.5% increase in the number of seniors living alone. These segments of the population differ in their open space and recreation needs than those of families with children. An increase in the participation at the Danvers Senior Center as well as in the recreation programs offered by the Town (such as trips and band concerts held at the Rotary Pavilion during the summer) has occurred. The development of additional trails, as suggested by respondents to the survey conducted in conjunction with this Plan, should be pursued.

While the number of family households relative to the number of total households decreased, the number of households with children increased slightly by 5.9% over a 10-year period. This, and a 14.2% increase in the number of children under the age of 18 (reported by the 2000 Census), did not come as a surprise to the Town. These numbers are reflected by the rise in enrollment at local schools and higher participation in the recreation programs. There has also resulted in a need to expand the playgrounds within the Town, as the surrounding neighborhoods have outgrown the existing facilities, and warrants examination of the need for additional active recreational facilities.

### **Growth and Development Patterns**

Development within the Town of Danvers has historically been dictated by its resources. The extensive waterfront along the four rivers in Danvers was home to a number of industrial uses that were attracted there for water-based transportation purposes. The prime agricultural soils found throughout the Town supported a significant farming industry. Residences were established based on their proximity to businesses and to Danvers Square, the Town's historic social and cultural center.

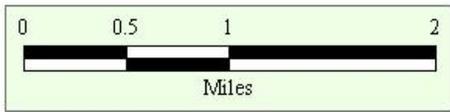
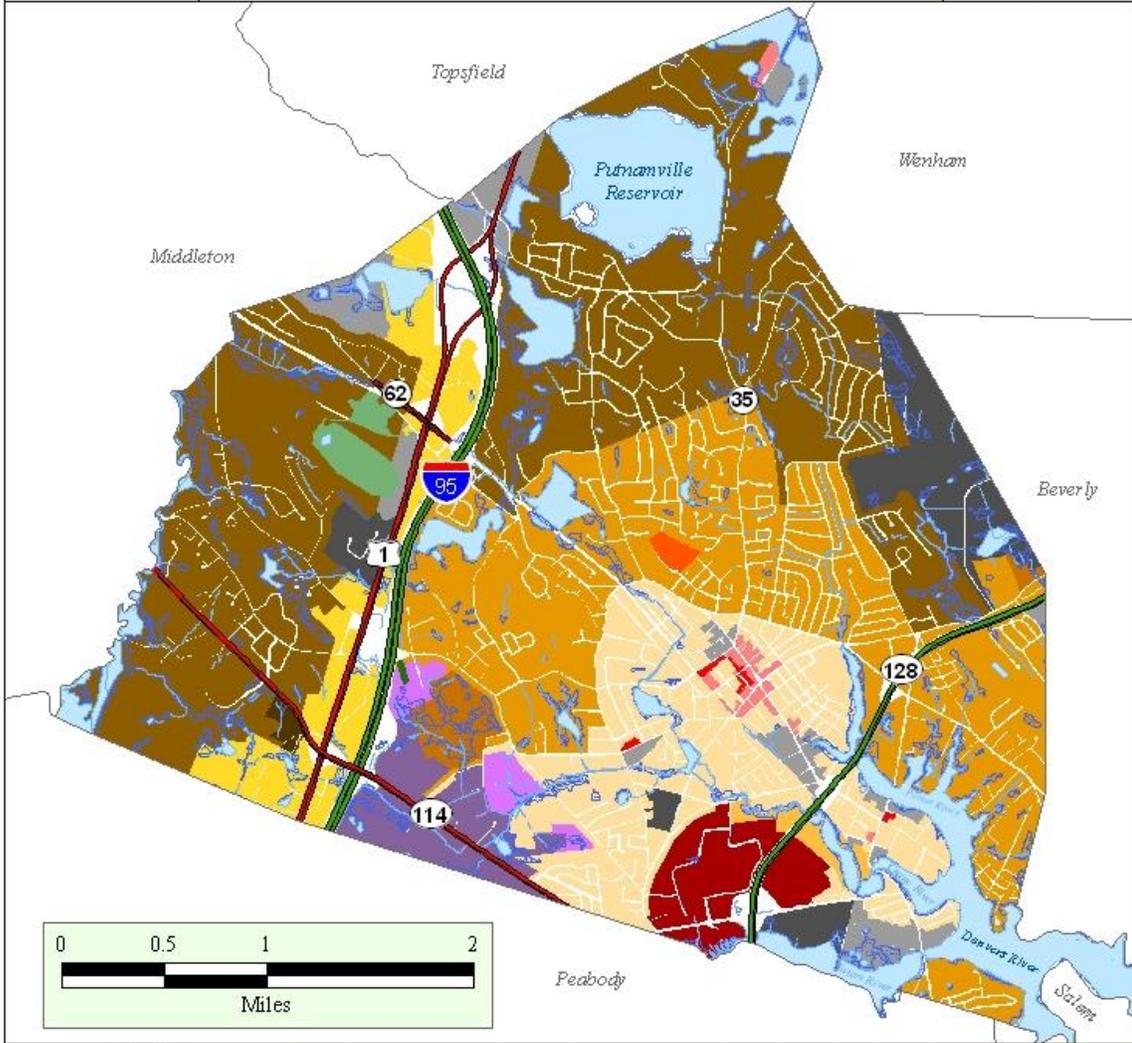
Growth and development has changed since the Town's adoption of zoning bylaws and the construction of major highway corridors now bisecting Danvers. Commercial development is currently concentrated along the highways and the farms, which once dominated the landscape, have almost all been turned into residential subdivisions. The majority of the Town is now provided with both public water and sewer, thus eliminating a number of the environmental concerns associated with on-site septic systems which have impeded development in other communities.

The majority of commercial and industrial developments now existing within Danvers have been redeveloped on older commercial properties. While residential development also involves some redevelopment, most residential construction involved "infilling", or development on the remaining vacant lots scattered throughout the Town. A recent boom in the construction of multi-family housing has occurred, a result of Danvers' location and easy access provided by highways.

As noted above, the Town has outgrown some neighborhood playgrounds because of the increase in families with children. The Recreation Committee is working to improve and expand these existing playgrounds as well as other recreation facilities. Danvers will continue to work with the developers to provide recreation facilities on various properties, such as tot lots and walking trails, as a supplement to the public recreation facilities located throughout the Town.

Town of Danvers  
2009  
Open Space and  
Recreation Plan

# Zoning Map



June 2009  
Sources: Town of Danvers GIS  
MassGIS

## Legend

- |                       |                  |                      |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Residential I         | Residential IIIA | Health Care District |
| Residential IA        | Commercial I     | Industrial I         |
| Residential II        | Commercial IA    | Industrial II        |
| Residential IIA       | Commercial III   | Village District     |
| Residential III       | Hathorne West    | Route 114A           |
| Highway Corridor Zone | Route 114B       |                      |

**Section 4**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY AND**  
**ANALYSIS**

*“Man shapes himself through the decisions that shape his environment.”*  
*~ Rene Dubos*

## **Geology, Soils, and Topography**

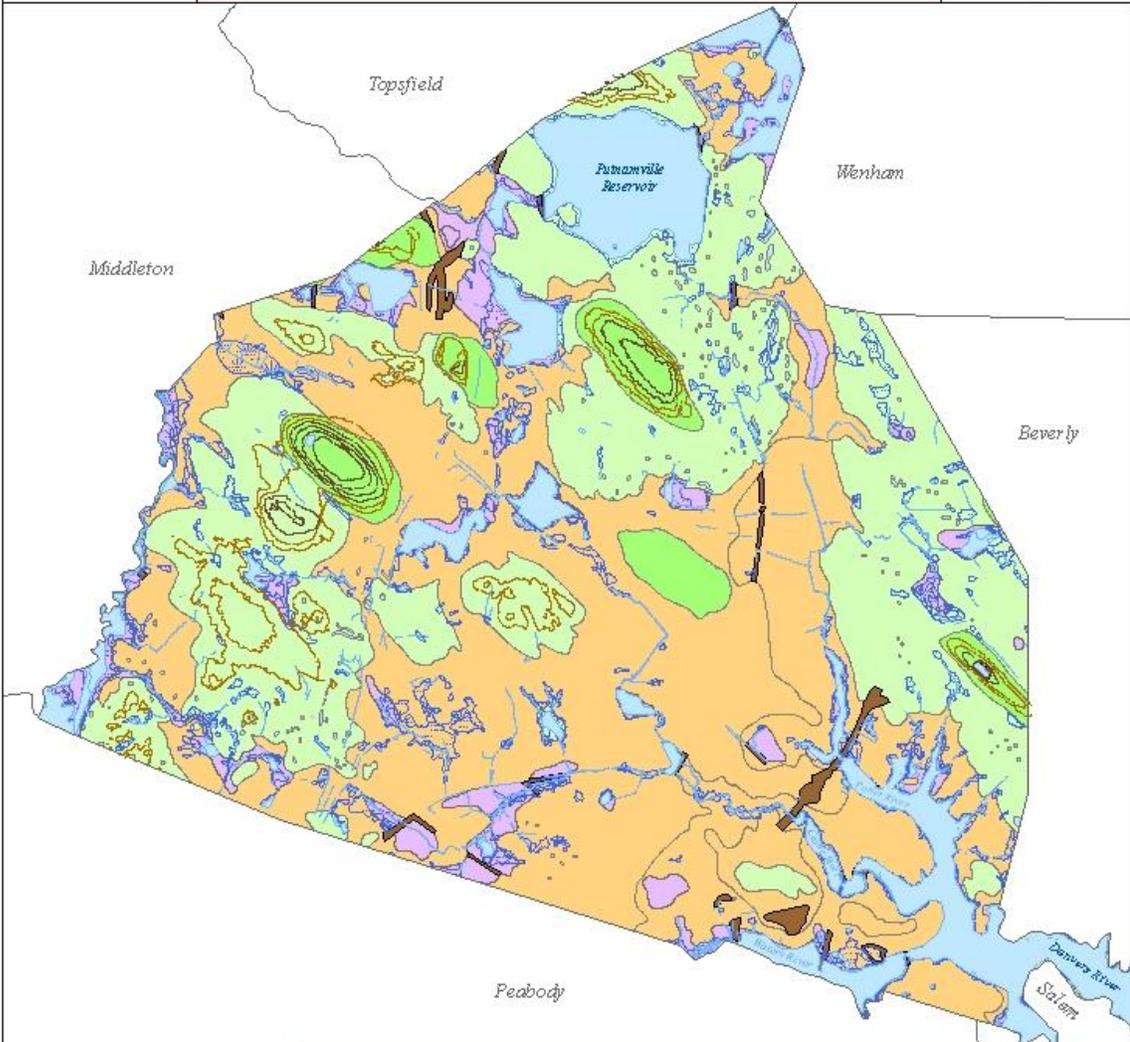
The geology of the Town of Danvers is, to a great extent, a product of continental glacial activities, which worked to mold and shape much of the northeast section of Massachusetts. Drumlins and exposed bedrock which dominate the topography of the northern and central sections of Town are indicative of the grinding and shaping forces of a glacier. The highest point in Danvers is found on the former State Hospital property, reaching nearly 240 feet above sea level. Some of the lower lying areas of this property are used for crop fields under the jurisdiction of the Department of Food and Agriculture and an Agricultural Preservation Restriction has been placed on a portion of this land. Restrictions have also been placed over the remaining functioning farms, which are located in north and south-central Danvers, and total approximately 115 acres.

The southern and southeastern parts of Danvers consist mainly of glacial river and estuarine deposits that were formed by outwash of the melting glacier. This area is characterized typically by level topography with sandy/silty soils. Numerous streams discharge to the southeast and eventually feed the Crane, Waters, and Porter Rivers, which join to form the Danvers River, a major feeder of the Salem Harbor.

The Town's soils are characterized by glacial tills, which exhibit an extremely unsorted mixture of grain sizes, ranging from fine silt to cobblestone in size. Much of the soil in the Town exhibits a wide variation in local permeability with exposed bedrock in areas of higher elevation. Bedrock exposures often accompanied by abutting wetlands have proven to be difficult hurdles for building in central Danvers. Soils high in silt and clay are found on the outer boundaries of Town, and pose greater difficulties with regard to soil stabilization, erosion, groundwater recharge and drainage.

Woodland stands are scattered in the central and western sections of Danvers, and mostly occur on upland sites. Some of these stands are located on the Town-owned conservation land that offer passive recreation trails and some fresh water access to the public. There are some large tracts of privately-owned land (most notably those of St. Johns Preparatory School and those comprising the area known as Muddy Boo) that have significant wetland resource issues, lending to unfavorable development conditions.

# Soils and Contours



June 2009  
Sources: Town of Danvers GIS  
MassGIS

## Surficial Geology

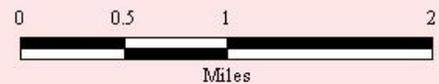
-  Thin Till
-  Thick Till
-  Glacial Stratified Deposits
-  Postglacial Deposits
-  Artificial Fill

## Contours in Feet

(20 ft. Intervals)

 120 - 160

 160 - 240



## **Landscape Character**

Danvers' physical landscape is characterized by a varying topography which includes hills, flat lands, wetlands, and tidal coastline. Each of these features contributes to the character of the Town, be it through a scenic vista, a particular development pattern, or a recreational attraction.

Many of the Town's hills rise significantly above the surrounding land, offering impressive views. The Boston skyline is visible from Hathorne Hill, site of the former Danvers State Hospital. Views from Folly Hill include the expanse of the Danvers saltwater shores.

Much of Danvers' flat lands have already been developed. The once numerous farms have long since been converted to residential neighborhoods. The few farms which still remain protect large tracts of open space for the benefit of nearby residents.

More abundant than agricultural lands are the wetlands which are scattered throughout the Town. While development has begun to encroach upon some of these wetlands, the majority remain undisturbed because of their physical development limitations as well as the protection by local and state wetland regulations. These wetlands serve to provide open space, wildlife habitat, stormwater detention, and limited recreation.

Danvers' coastline, on the other hand, provides limitless recreation opportunities. The four tidal rivers which form the eastern boundary of the Town have been an important component of the Town's physical, historical, and cultural landscape. As stated above, the rivers separate the Town from the adjacent communities and the Atlantic Ocean. Impressive views of these rivers can be seen from various locations along their banks. Equally impressive views are visible from the banks of the tidal estuaries.

Historically, industry dominated the landscape of the waterfront. Industrial development (including shipping and manufacturing) has been located along the rivers. While remnants of this past remain, most of the waterfront has since been developed residentially. Houses have always been located along the water, first as homes for the industrial workers, and later as summer camps for Town residents. Although a few camps remain, most have been replaced with larger, year-round homes.

Some obvious recreation opportunities offered by the rivers include boating, fishing, and swimming. As described in more detail below, Danvers has a very active waterfront and is home to a number of marinas, both private and public. Several water access points also exist, providing access to the water for canoeing, and kayaking. Fishing activities are frequently observed along the road bridges which cross the rivers at various points. Also located along the banks of the Crane River is John George Park, which provides playgrounds and ball fields for organized sports.

## **Water Resources**

With over nine miles of saltwater shores and miles of freshwater frontage, water resources are an important characteristic of the Town.

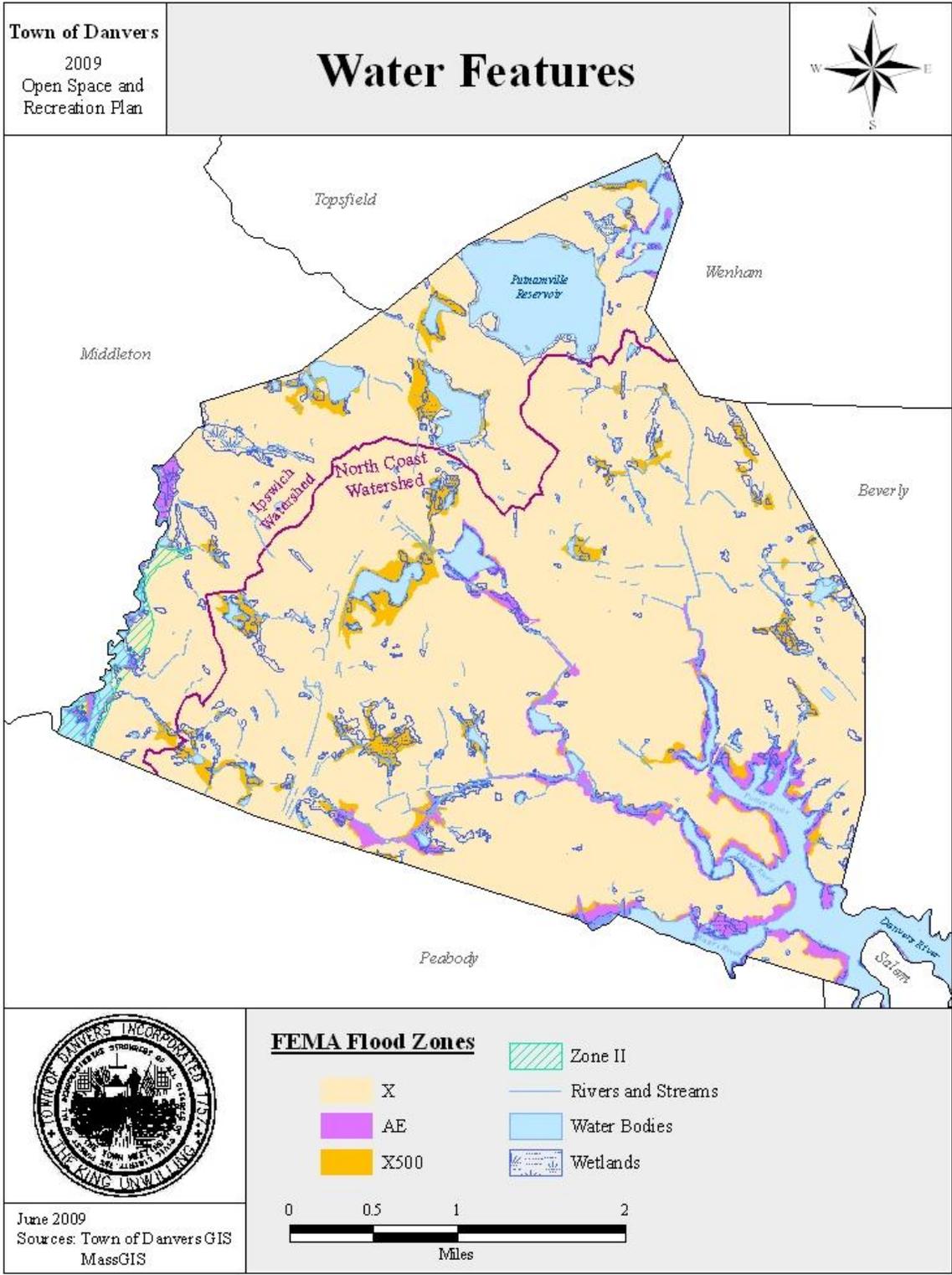
On the East side of Town, the Waters, Crane, Porter, and Danvers rivers provide a direct outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. Recreational access to the rivers is also provided by five private marinas or boatyards and four public water access points located along the shoreline, which may also be used for launching a canoe or kayak. The two public marinas managed by the Town, Pope's Landing and Crane Marina, provide public water access. Pope's Landing offers a scenic waterfront park with a public boat launch ramp. The Crane River Marina is the Town's only public marina and provides slip space for up to 68 boats. Benches are also available at several of these points, offering a quiet spot to enjoy a sunrise or picnic.

A number of other recreational uses also exist along this coastline. John George Park, was constructed with partial funding from the Dept. of Environmental Management. The park is located adjacent to Crane Marina and includes a playground, ball field, and picnic area. Across the street from John George Park is the only public beach in Danvers, Sandy Beach. Improvements to this beach such as a bathhouse and expansions to both parks are being contemplated by the Town and proposed by this plan.

Other water resources in Danvers include numerous wetlands and freshwater rivers, some of which ultimately drain into the tidal rivers. Wetlands are scattered throughout Danvers and serve a number of important functions, such as providing open space. These wetlands include surface waters, stormwater detention areas, and vegetated wetlands. Ferncroft Pond and College Pond are two open space properties that provide opportunities for passive recreation through walking trails and picnic areas. Muddy Boo, located in south central Danvers, collects stormwater runoff from the surrounding area and eventually discharges via Crane Brook and Mill Pond into the Crane River. The Meadow, another stormwater detention area, is a wetland which is flooded during winter and serves as a popular outdoor ice skating rink.

The intermittent and perennial streams which crisscross Danvers serve a number of functions such as providing habitat for wildlife and aiding in stormwater management. The Ipswich River, which forms the Town's western border and links 19 communities, provides additional recreation opportunities, and serves as a major public water supply. The Town's two public wells are located within the river's watershed. In conjunction with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Town has fortunately been able to protect the majority of the water frontage along the Ipswich River. This plan recommends acquisition of the last significant piece of private property on the river in Danvers which would protect an additional 1,000 feet of river frontage.

Acquisition of the above property would also protect the zone of contribution to the two public wells. Zone II for these wells extends the along the length of the Ipswich River to the former Danvers State Hospital property and also coincides with Zone II of a public well which serves City of Peabody located on the opposite side. In May 2001 the Groundwater Protection District was implemented to protect the public water supply. Included in this protection was Zone II for the Wenham/Hamilton public well which extends into northeast Danvers. The water supply reservoir for the Cities of Salem and Beverly, known as the Putnamville Reservoir, overlaps the limits of the Groundwater Protection District for the Wenham/Hamilton well and therefore some additional protection indirectly provides for this surface water supply.



## **Vegetation**

While predominately a suburban community, Danvers has still been able to preserve significant amounts of open space and large expanses remain undisturbed due to development constraints.

Much of this once abundant farmland has been developed over the years. Connors, Clark, and Folly Hill farms are three of the largest remaining tracts of land still in agricultural use. Connors and Clark farms are protected by Agricultural Preservation Restrictions. The third, Folly Hill Farm, is proposed for permanent protection by this plan. In 2001 the Town acquired 22 acres of Choate Farm and recreation uses are currently being developed on this property. The remainder of this land, however, has been developed into a cluster subdivision.

Danvers owns and manages five major open space parcels, all of which provide passive recreation opportunities for residents. One of these, the Town Forest, is the largest protected tract of woodland in Danvers, consisting mainly of white pine, black oak, hickory, and ash trees. The forest boasts an extensive trail system with picnic areas and space for camping. This land is contiguous to other privately owned woodlands which are proposed for protection by this plan. This plan proposes the development of a management plan for the Town Forest as well as the other larger tracts of Town-owned property to ensure proper use, protection, and maintenance.

Danvers boasts numerous brooks and streams as well as several acres of bordering, vegetated wetlands. The vegetated inland wetlands, including areas of isolated land subject to flooding and five certified vernal pools, are host to an abundance of wildlife, and provide vegetation, valuable habitat, and food sources. In 1999, the Danvers Conservation Commission amended the local wetland regulations to require a 25-foot "no disturb" buffer and a 35-foot "no build" buffer from any wetland. These buffers provide an added protection for wetlands.

Despite the heavy development of areas along the waterfront, the salt marsh along the Danvers river banks and the intertidal zone consists of plentiful species of spartina alterniflora and spartina patens. The constant threat of continuous bank erosion, however, results in effectively blanketing the salt marsh and smothering it. This situation also increases the "silting in" of the rivers. Public and private efforts to minimize this activity can be difficult, because of the lack of engineering technologies available and allowed today. Today, stabilization efforts include emphasis on "soft solutions" by means of vegetation where possible.

## **Wildlife and Fisheries**

The Town-owned open space parcels, as well as the numerous wetlands and stormwater detention areas, provide an abundance of habitat for wildlife in Danvers. This wildlife is typical of that found in the North Shore region and New England in general. Many species of small mammals observed throughout the community such as beaver, muskrat, weasels, fishers, and raccoons. Larger mammals include the foxes, coyotes, and white tailed deer.

Both native and migratory birds can be observed in Town. Native birds visible year-round include the chickadee, swallow, goldfinch, house finch, wren, sparrow, thrush and turkey. Several species of owl such as the great horned owl or the barred owl can also be found in many wooded areas. Black-throated blue, yellow, and other types of warbler can be observed during spring. Several

species of hawk are abundant, especially the red-tailed hawk. Annual migrating species include Baltimore orioles and ruby-throated hummingbirds. Canada geese have unfortunately become permanent residents of several ponds and waterways in Danvers, causing a health concern which the Town's Board of Health is trying to address.

Danvers' tidal shorefront is a habitat for a small number of shellfish, particularly clams, and, in some sections such as near Sandy Beach, there are several horseshoe crabs. Fish inhabit the tidal rivers and there have been recent attempts by the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries to encourage migration of smelt up the Crane River to Mill Pond.

Danvers is not home to any known rare, threatened, or endangered species.

### **Scenic Resources and Unique Environments**

Danvers' scenic resources include many of the aspects of the Town's landscape discussed above. The high points in Town, including Hathorne Hill and Folly Hill, are significant and unique locations and provide views of Boston and Danvers' coastal waters. The coastal waters themselves (the four rivers and their estuaries) are also examples of unique scenic areas. Connors Farm and nearby Choate Farm are included in the Department of Environmental Management's Scenic Landscape Inventory. Endicott Park which consists of over 165 acres of former farmland is owned and managed by the Town and attracts over 123,000 visitors annually.

Other unique resources in Danvers are the historic buildings. The Rebecca Nurse Homestead, a 27-acre property owned by the Danvers Alarm List Company, provides a representation of life during the colonial period as well as a direct link to the Salem witch trials. Glen Magna, the 11-acre country mansion of William C. Endicott, Jr. is owned and managed by the Danvers Historical Society. The "Old Salem Village" historic district includes structures from the 1600's. The Danvers Historic District Commission oversees the alteration of any structure within this district.

### **Environmental Issues**

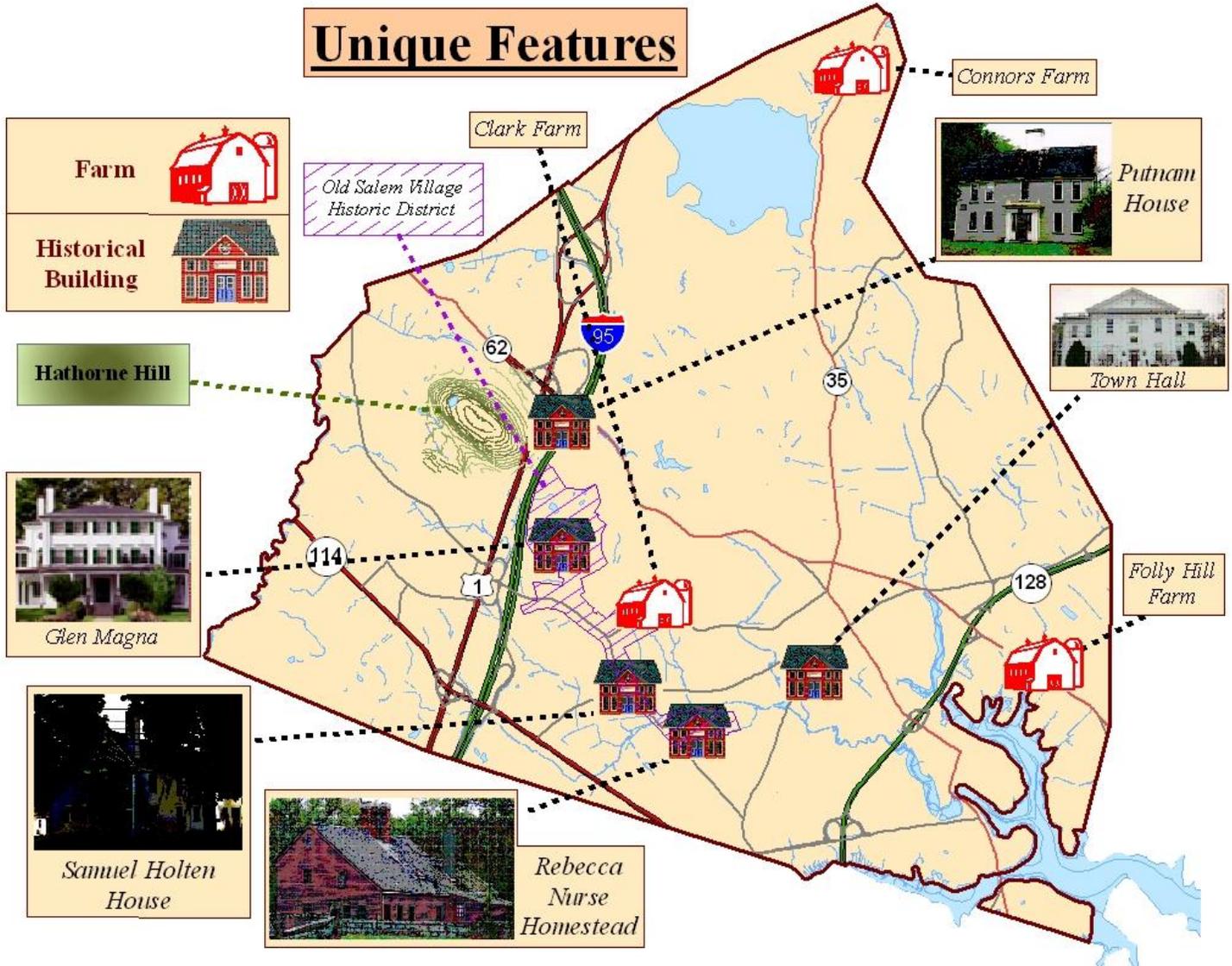
Issues such as increasing traffic volumes, air and noise pollution, and the constant decrease in available open space results in a decrease of residents' quality of life and continue to be concerns. These problems are not unique to Danvers and the Town has undertaken the preparation of a comprehensive transportation plan to address them.

Cleanup of groundwater contamination caused by former industrial properties continues. Several vacant properties on the Crane River are moving forward with remediation.

The closure of the Danvers landfill has finally received the necessary approvals. The Town continues to provide curbside pick-up of household trash, recycling, yard waste, and "white" goods. A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is held each year.

Danvers takes an active role when it comes to catch basin maintenance. Cleaning on all catch basins within the Town roadways is competed annually. Furthermore, street sweeping is a quarterly event for all streets in Town and the Downtown Business District is swept weekly.

# Unique Features



**Section 5**  
**INVENTORY OF LANDS OF**  
**CONSERVATION AND RECREATION**  
**INTEREST**

*“For the bow cannot possibly stand always bent, nor can human nature or human frailty subsist without some lawful recreation.”*

~ [Cervantes](#)

The Town of Danvers open space and recreation resources include an array of publicly and privately-owned land that are utilized for active and passive recreation activities. Danvers is also the host for a regional water supply and the Town's well system. This inventory serves to call out the existing open spaces and offers a baseline which can be used to evaluate existing and future needs.

Open Space refers to land that is preserved to protect existing and future well fields, aquifers and recharge areas, watershed land, agricultural land, grasslands, fields, forest land, fresh and salt water marshes, and other wetlands. Open Space also protects ocean, river, stream, lakes, ponds, beaches, dunes, other coastal lands, and lands that include scenic vistas, wildlife habitats or nature preserves. Open space may also include any undeveloped land with unique recreation and/or conservation importance.

Preserving these vulnerable properties is critical because a lack of protection may potentially lead to major, unwelcome changes and decreases in quality of life. Lack of protection and unmonitored, careless development could bring on negative consequences such as diminishing the Town's appearance. Also, the condition of natural resources could be greatly altered in a relatively short amount of time. Protecting open space and planning for future development allows for assurances that the attractiveness and quality of life of Town inhabitants will remain.

This Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interests includes public, nonprofit, and private properties. Properties owned by private and non-profit entities include agricultural land such as the Clark Farm, less than fee interests such as open space in cluster subdivisions, estates like Glen Magna and the Rebecca Nurse Homestead, privately owned cemeteries including the Walnut Grove Cemetery, and institutional holdings such as St. John's Preparatory School. Public properties listed in this inventory consist of land owned by any public entity such as a municipality, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Beverly-Salem Water District, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), or the United States government.

Over the years, the Town of Danvers has accumulated several acres of protected land. Some of this land is under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission and has been selected to be developed with trail systems, parking areas, picnic areas, and other minor amenities to encourage passive recreation such as hiking, fishing, or canoeing. Other areas, which are under the control of the Town of Danvers Recreation Department, include various athletic fields and playgrounds, John George Park, Endicott Park, Plains Park, Crane River Marina, and Pope's Landing. Within the 14.09 square miles that make up Town of Danvers, the following areas hold open space acquisition interest either in whole or in part: Muddy Boo, Lebel's Crescent, West Park, Four-Rivers Estuary, Nike Knoll, Lobao Swamp/College Pond/Bishop's Meadow, Ferncroft Conservation Area, Choate Farm-Putnamville Connection, Putnamville playground expansion, Lindall Hill, the former New England Home for the Deaf, John George Park and Sandy Beach Recreation Areas, Park-to-Clark Connector, Gates Field Trails, Rebecca Nurse Easement, and Riverside School Playground Annex. These areas are more specifically listed and described in the Section 9 of the 2008 Open Space & Recreation Plan. They do include some land that the public may perceive to be protected but are not, such as the Walnut Grove Cemetery on Ash Street.

### **Protected Parcels**

Open space can be protected by various means and to varying degrees. Highly restricted conservation and recreation land includes land that is held in fee simple ownership by a non-profit conservation organization, municipality, state, or Federal agency if the land is owned and managed specifically for the purpose of conservation and/or recreation. This includes land controlled by the Danvers Conservation Commission, the Department of Public Works (such as the Town's water supply), the Commonwealth under Article 97, a non-profit land trust, or land the Town has acquired through the use of State or Federal funds. Once land is owned by a municipal conservation commission or serves as a playground or park, it is difficult to transfer or sell the property for a different purpose.

Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, Section 8C and Chapter 45, Section 3 protect open space through use restrictions. Restricted open land which is private is

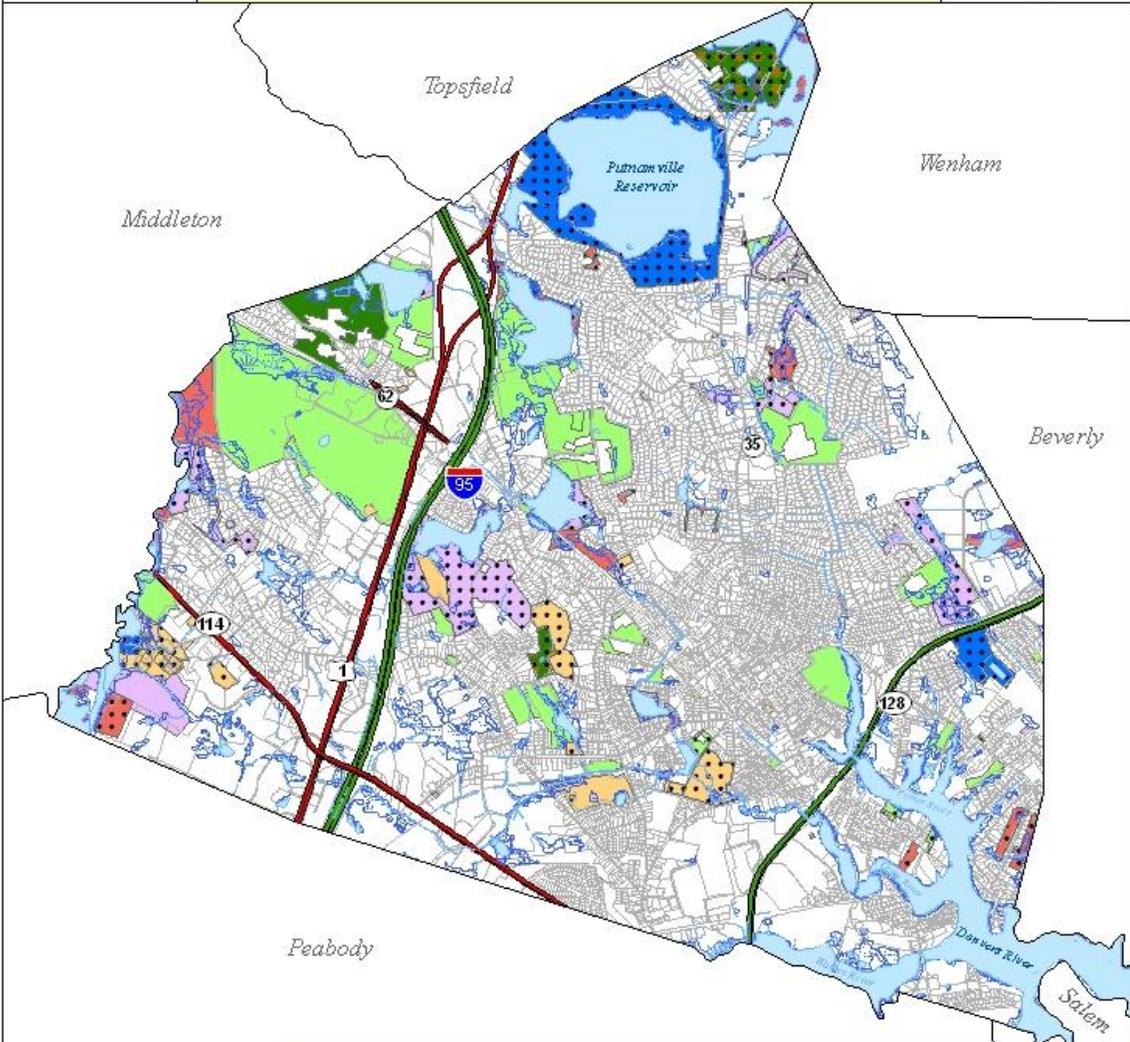
protected if it has a deed restriction in perpetuity, an agricultural preservation restriction, a conservation restriction in perpetuity, or if it is part of the Wetlands Conservancy Program. Under Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution, Chapter 184, Section 11, a conservation restriction in perpetuity may be placed on a property to provide the State, town or non-profit entity with development rights. Another means of ensuring the land will remain as open space is with the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program. Through the APR program the State and/or the Town may purchase the development rights on farmland in order to preserve it for agricultural use.

In addition, moderate restrictions can be placed on private land that is then taxed as forest, farm, or recreational land under M.G.L. Chapter 61, or land on which development is restricted by a short-term conservation restriction of up to 30 years. One purpose of short-term conservation restrictions is to lower taxes until development or sale is economically feasible. Due to the time limit on the restriction, however, the land is not protected from development. If the land is for sale prior to the expiration of the tax abatement status, the Town has the right to the first refusal to purchase the property. The use of land protected under Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B may not be changed or sold by the owners without notification to the town. The Town then has 120 days to decide to purchase the land which allows for the acquisition of space as it becomes available on the market and threatened by development.

### **Unprotected Parcels**

Unprotected open space includes all under-developed land not utilized for residential, commercial, industrial, or transportation related purposes. Areas in which non-conservation use is valued higher than open space use, such as major public or private institutions, are not protected by any means also fall into this category. Although general perception might be that open spaces are protected from development because of the length of time they have served the same function, this may not always be the case. Such areas that fit this category may include schools, colleges, cemeteries, hospitals, golf courses, other commercial recreational facilities, or military installations. Unprotected parcels may be owned by a municipality but not protected by Article 97 or Chapter 45S, controlled by a school department or other town department (not including the Conservation Commission), owned by an office of the U.S. Government such as the Department of Defense, or by a State Office such as the Department of Mental Health. Less than fee interests that are not protected include areas with watershed protection restrictions under M.G.L. Chapter 184's wetlands restrictions. Private recreation lands may be protected under M.G.L. Chapter 61B such as country clubs, marinas, fish and game clubs, or agricultural land incentive areas.

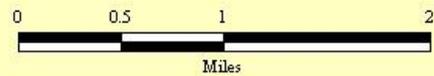
# Open Space Areas



June 2009  
 Sources: Town of Danvers GIS  
 MassGIS

## Open Space by Primary Use

- |                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Agriculture                 | Protected Land     |
| Recreation and Conservation | Water Bodies       |
| Conservation                | Rivers and Streams |
| Historical/Cultural         |                    |
| Recreation                  |                    |
| Water Supply                |                    |



## Private Lands

### *Agricultural Lands:*

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
02-05	30 Valley Rd.	44.95	Robert & Patrick Connors, Trust. Book 16544 Page 241	Private	Connors Farm; Development rights purchased under DFA's APR Program
02-12	31 Valley Rd.	14.08	Robert & Patrick Connors, Trust. Book 16544 Page 241	Private; use/Pub custody	Connors Farm; Development rights purchased for fields under DFA's APR Program
41-107	163 Hobart St.	11.55	Elaine & William Clark, Jr. Book 23099 Page 493	Private	Clark Farm; Development rights and recreation easement purchased
06-05	3 Valley Rd.	4.00	Ruth A. Connors Book 6948 Page 284	Private	Chapter 61A Land
06-12	9 Valley Rd.	13.35	Robert D. Connors Trustee/9 Valley Rd. Trust Book 24440 Page 442	Private	Chapter 61A Land
24-09	19A Putnam Ln.	10.00	Wadsworth Farm Inc Book 13722 Page 169	Private	Chapter 61A Land
53-104	40 Foster St.	11.90	George Koban et al Book 13355 Page 496	Private	Chapter 61A Land
53-104A	36 Foster St.	.46	George Koban et al Book 13355 Page 495	Private	Chapter 61A Land
61-03	64 Andover St.	4.92	Seaside Realty Associates, LLC Book 16823 Page 333	Private	Kane's Flower World; Chapter 61A Land
66-02	13 South Liberty St.	.69	Lee H. Gibney Book 1221 Page 560	Private	Gibney Gardens
53-106	126 Elliott St.	3.38	Albert F. & Pamela R Petronzio	Private	Folly Hill Farm
23-51	43 Putnam Ln.	9.33	Lanes End Farm, Inc Book 14974 Page 136	Private	Lanes End Farm
23-53	45 Putnam Ln.	.70	Lanes End Farm, Inc Book 14974 Page 136	Private	Lanes End Farm

### *Less than Fee Interests:*

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
09-42	29 Reservoir Dr.	.20	Rogers Farm Trust Book 6893 Page 25	Private	Open Space parcels lying between cul-de-sacs on west and east of Reservoir Dr. for 10-lot Rogers Farm subdivision on Salem-Beverly Reservoir (aka Putnamville Reservoir)

09-38	35 Reservoir Dr.	2.71	Rogers Farm Trust Book 23250 Page 53	Private	Open Space parcels lying between cul-de-sacs on west and east of Reservoir Dr. for 10-lot Rogers Farm subdivision on Salem-Beverly Reservoir (aka Putnamville Reservoir)
10-20	16 Wildwood Rd.	11.43	Francis R. Conway, Trustee Book 11169 Page 446	Private	Open Space for Wildwood Estates cluster subdivision a 3-lot development
15-91	13 Wildwood Rd.	2.78	Francis R. Conway, Trustee Book 9562 Page 551	Private	Open Space for Wildwood Estates cluster subdivision a 3-lot development
21-39B	27 Neal Rd.	7.20	Richard McAdoo Jr Book 9458 Page 394	Private	Open Space
21-95	21 Rocky Hill Cir.	1.74	DiBiasi Builders Inc. Book 7388 Page 562	Private; Open Space with fee remaining w/developer	30'-wide easement to the west of cul de sac and east of Putnamville Playground. Land-locked open space west of cul-de-sac & east of Putnamville Playground; w/ 30'-wide easement from Parcel 87 Open Space across Parcel 86 and from Robin Hill cul de sac over Parcels 84 & 85
27-176	4 Germano Dr.	3.8	Dennis Delgenio Et al c/o Tomahawk Ln. Trust Book 7059 Page 568 Page 571 Conservation Restriction	Private; Open Space	Chapter 40, Sec 8C & Zone. B-law XV,D3; Open Space of 20-lot Arrowhead Estates Subdivision
34-01	12 College Pond Dr.	14.79	College Pond Trust/Alan Grenier Trustee Book 7986 Page 548 Conservation Restriction to Town on Page 557	Private with owners & their guests allowed internal combustion devices use on space	Abuts Greenleaf Open space on north; Electric easement on College Pond Open Space in 17-lot cluster subdivision (Plan Book 198, Plan 24.) Primarily wetlands crossed by Beaver Brook
36-229	21 Thorpe Cir.	5.96	240 Locust Limited Partnership; Woodvale Section D Trust gave Conservation Restriction to Town Book 20275 Page 557	Private Open Space	Open Space of lot Thorpe Circle Cluster Subdivision with managed by the developer.
036-229A	4 Avon Rd.	.38	240 Locust Limited Partnership Book 20275 Page 559	Private	Open Space of lot Thorpe Circle Cluster Subdivision with managed by the developer.
53-226	33R Cardinal Rd.	.77	Thomas Bachini & John Bachini Trust Book 7152 Page 473	Private	Open Space of a 5-lot cluster subdivision
16-37A	206 Old Burley St.	1.08	Ralph E. Innis Trust; Book 9938 Page 126	Private	Open Space of Lester Rd. Cluster Subdivision, CR on open space

*Estates and Privately Owned Cemeteries:*

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
59-02A	25 Clinton Ave.	.33	Russell & Endicott Cemetery Book 8339 Page 152	Private	Historic Russell and Endicott Cemetery
57-27A	65 Sylvan St.	2.50	St. Mary's Cemetery	Private	St. Mary's Cemetery at corner of Ash & Sylvan St.
51-1A	30 Sylvan St.	25.00	Walnut Grove Cemetery	Private	Walnut Grove Cemetery
50-60A	131 Holten St.	2.70	Holten St. Cemetery Book 4616 Page 569	Private	Holten St. Cemetery which abuts Map 49-100 (Stone St.) wetlands on north and west which drain to Crane Brook
42-08A	155 Hobart St.	27.90	Annunciation Cemetery Book 3941 Page 501	Private	Annunciation Cemetery
18-40A	57 Preston St.	.52	Preston Cemetery Book 10836 Page 124	Public Management by Town Health Inspector by default	Preston Cemetery; Historic gravesites
18-39A	485R Maple St.	.51	Putnam Cemetery; Health Inspector oversees by default	Public	Putnam Cemetery; Historic gravesites
34-08A	18 Summer St.	5.02	Wadsworth Cemetery; Town	Private	Wadsworth Cemetery. Rear of this irregularly-shaped parcel is traversed by Beaver Brook. Abuts College Pond Open Space & Electric Light M34-1A. Historical Significance from the 17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries.
15-28A	270 Locust St.	.23	Putnamville Cemetery Book 9937 Page 598	Public	Town Health Inspector by default; Putnamville Cemetery; Historic gravesites
33-01	29 Ingersoll St.	11.22	Danvers Historical Society Book 5136 Page 63	Private; only access Endicott Park	Glen Magna Estate; McIntire Tea House, Historic shoe factory buildings, gardens Westerly side Forest
57-203	149 Pine St.	27.00	Danvers Alarm List Co. Book 2779 Page 410	Private	Historic Rebecca Nurse House, farmlands and Nurse Cemetery property
57-254	149R Pine St.	.30	Danvers Alarm List Co. Book 2779 Page 410	Private	Historic Rebecca Nurse House, farmlands and Nurse Cemetery property
57-27B	47 Adams St.	1.00	Danvers	Public	Adams St. Cemetery, Paupers' Cemetery, no markers
38-03	59R Buxton Rd.	5.70	Temple Sinai Inc. c/o Henry Winkler Book 7573 Page 147	Private	Rear parcel primarily wetlands lying north and east of Danvers' Well Site #1 & south of Lebel's Grove
39-01	6 Cemetery Rd.	1.81	Temple Sinai of Swampscott	Private	Private Cemetery
39-70A	8 Buxton Rd.	6.60	Temple Emanuel Cemetery Book 7935 Page 566	Private	Private Cemetery
38-02	59 Buxton Rd.	2.40	Sons of Jacob Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-06	24 Buxton Rd.	.74	Temple Emmanuel of Chelsea Book 7990 Page 16	Private	Private Cemetery

38-06A	24 Buxton Rd.	.15	Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts Book 7990 Page 16	Private	Private Cemetery
38-07	54 Buxton Rd.	15.30	Sons of Jacob Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-08	58 Buxton Rd.	.92	Roumanian-American Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-09	56 Buxton Rd.	1.30	Congregation Anshi Sfiard Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-10	49 Buxton Rd.	2.00	Ezrath Israel Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery
38-11	49 Buxton Rd.	8.60	Temple Sinai Memorial Park	Private	Private Cemetery
38-12	19 Buxton Rd.	2.70	Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts, Inc Book 13796 Page 312	Private	Private Cemetery
31-68A	47R Green St.	.33	Abandoned cemetery; Town Board Health management by default	Private; with easement access	Situated off Green St & surrounded by Manter /Westover Farms Open Space; Historic significance; Accessed from Grace Rd.
56-03B	38 Garden St.	.28	Garden St. Cemetery Book 3985 Page 410	Private	Private Cemetery with historical significance
51-295A	45 High St.	.63	High St. Cemetery	Private	Private Cemetery with historical significance
53-106A	128 Elliott St.	.19	Danvers	Public	East Danvers Cemetery

*Institutional Holdings:*

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
20-49	65 Spring St.	30.60	St. John's Prep School/Northeastern Province of the Xavarian Brothers	Private	Campus buildings and grounds of St. John's Prep School on easterly side of Spring St.
25-74	21 Spring St.	23.10	St. John's Prep School	Private	Campus buildings and grounds of St. John's Prep School on easterly side of Spring St., partly cemetery
26-167	55 Spring St.	6.90	St. John's Prep School	Private	Baseball field
19-17	50 Spring St.	112.40	St. John's Prep School Book 5816 Page 553	Private	Campus, Xavarian Brothers' home, school buildings of St. John's Prep School
10-10	323 Locust St.	7.20	North Shore Unitarian Universalist Church Book 5315 Page 425	Private	Unitarian Universalist Church property The rear parcel is predominately pond and wetlands

10-16	321 Locust St.	4.50	NS Unitarian Universalist Church Book 5315 Page 425	Private	Unitarian Universalist Church property The rear parcel is predominately pond and wetlands
-------	----------------	------	---	---------	---

## Public Lands

*Public Conservation and Recreation Resources:  
(Federal/State/Local)*

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
12-18	80 Ferncroft Rd.	8.14	Commonwealth Massachusetts/Danvers State Hospital	Public; nature trails	Former ice pond for Danvers State Hospital under protection of the Danvers Conservation Commission who oversee maintenance per Chapter 40, Sec 8C
17-01	200 Dayton St.	40.25	Commonwealth Massachusetts/Danvers State Hospital	Public	Horace Clark Conservation Area; Danvers State Hospital Agricultural Land under Dept. of Food & Agriculture, protection under joint Conservation Restriction with Danvers Conservation Commission
10-12	320 Locust St.	454.00	Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board Book 3984 Page 448	Private; State Authorized Municipal Authority	Putnamville Reservoir and watershed area. Fishing in reservoir and passive recreation allowed on upland areas
10-09	2 Makushin Ln.	1.41	Danvers Book 27253 Page 149	Public	Open Space of the 4-lot Makushin Ln. cluster subdivision on the east side of Locust St. abutting Choate Farm to the rear and east; acquired by tax title
46-03	56R Buxton Rd.	6.40	State Book 5736 Page-310	Public	Elongated parcel of wetlands between Norris Brook on east & Ipswich River on the west
30-05	98 Green St.	2.37	State Book 6487 Page 720	Public	Site on South side West St. formerly part of Log Bridge layout (Sec 698 Acts of 1967)
30-07	93 Green St.	2.44	State Book 6063 Page 286	Public	Formerly Burley house site; Site on north side of West St. Abuts Town canoe launch-ramp, some trails (Sec 698 Acts of 1967)
41-01	16 Ingersoll St.	5.54	Danvers Dept. of Public Works/Parks & Recreation/Endicott Park Committee Book 4756 Page 413	Public	Original use intended for playground but has been Community Garden area for some time
41-10	85 Centre St.	1.26	Danvers Common	Public	Town Common
41-11	5 Ingersoll St.	.25	Danvers Common	Public	Training Field' Town Common Historic Revolutionary War Minute Man training site etc
41-120	190 Hobart St.	10.96	Danvers Dept. of Public Works/School Dept. Book 4051 Page 111	Public	Highlands School

41-161A	67A Centre St.	.30	Danvers Book 9966 Page 481	Public	Parris Parsonage Site
42-205	60 Pickering St.	.85	Danvers Playground	Public	Pickering Playground at intersection of Otis & Pickering St.
42-206	76 Pickering St.	10.42	Danvers Great Oak School	Public	Great Oak School
43-20	13 Puritan Rd.	.09	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Small parcel at right turn of St.
43-440A	4 Pickering St.	.29	Danvers Playground	Public	Pickering Playground
38-16	58R Buxton Rd.	2.00	Danvers Book 9275 Page 146	Public	Chapter 40, Sec 8C; Parcel on Ipswich River purchased for water supply protection
30-10A	19 West St.	18.50	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 5845 Page 728	Public	Chapter 40, Sec 8C; Danvers canoe launch-ramp, few picnic tables, unpaved trails abuts Ipswich River & Middleton line
30-17	401 Andover St.	2.88	Danvers Well Site #1	Public; no access	Danvers Well Site # 1 into ancient Ipswich River channel
32-42	30 Ingersoll St.	13.10	Danvers Endicott Park	Public; now with fee for parking	Federal, State & LWC Funds drawn upon for renovation & development; Endicott Park parcel containing Barn, Carriage House, and caretaker house. Conference Center, playground, picnic area, nature study & paths. Westerly-side of Forest St.
33-02	21 Ingersoll St.	70.67	Danvers Book 4972 Page 255 & Book 5187 Page 609	Public; fee for parking	Remainder parcel of Endicott Park; westerly side Forest St.
33-48	70 Forest St.	40.95	Danvers Endicott Park Book 5187 Page 609	Public	Remainder parcel of Endicott Park on Easterly side Forest with unpaved trails
34-1A	229R Maple St.	6.10	Danvers Electric Light Division Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Abuts College Pond Open Space on north; 85±-foot-wide Electric Light Dept. path beginning on north side of Maple St. & meeting with continuation of path on Map 25 Parcel 10
25-10	401 Maple St.	2.19	Danvers Electric Light Division Book 6554 Page 075 Book 6627 Page 530	Public	Parcel 10 parallels & lies between Rte 62 and Mass Utility ROW. Considerable wetlands east of Nichols St.; M33/18A is perpendicular to Parcel 10, land-locked & crossed by Beaver Brook tributaries flowing to Meadows
33-18A	321R Maple St.	.78	Danvers Rear Land Book 6627 Page 530	Public	
25-125	12A Brentwood Circle	7.80	Danvers Conservation Commission management Book 6322 Page 528	Public (access on east side)	Chapter 40, Sec 8C ; Predominately wet meadow existing as drainage basin of Beaver Brook under Conservation Commission management
26-01	8 Greenleaf Dr.	19.34	Danvers Book 10489 Page593	Public; at end of Rd. & between # 8&10	Contains Spring Pond and Beaver Brook drainage basin. Trails & log seating for nature viewing

26-01A	10R Greenleaf Dr.	1.54	Danvers Book 10489 Page 592	Public; at end of Rd. & between # 8&10	Contains Spring Pond and Beaver Brook drainage basin. Trails & log seating for nature viewing
28-75	60 Cabot St.	56.44	Danvers High School Book 4592 Page 448	Public	Danvers High School property
34-21A	4R Fox Run Rd.	2.43	Danvers Book 7570 Page 407	Public	Chapter 40, Sec 8C; Predominately wetland area of Beaver Brook at rear (north) of subdivision. Abuts 25-1A Electric Light Parcel on northeast
34-99A	36 Brookside Ave.	.06	Danvers Brookside/Vacant Land	Public	Beaver Brook culvert to brook between Brookside Ave (split Roadway)
36-124A	11 Sycamore St.	1.00	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Irregularly-shaped parcel of open space for Frost Fish Brook drainage
36-281	30 Avon Rd.	25.40	Willis E. Thorpe School Book 5397 Page 625	Public	Thorpe Elementary School. Access restricted to non-academic hours. Recreation fields
37-31	5 Laurine Rd.	.19	Danvers Vacant Land Book 4715 Page 374	Public; Used as garden by neighbors	Balanced Growth Committee has recommended site for housing use
38-01	61 Buxton Rd.	11.85	Danvers Well Site #2 Book 4739 Page 118	Public; Use discouraged	This large wetland parcel located at the end of Buxton on Ipswich River is one of the sources of town drinking water
38-05	54R Buxton Rd.	51.35	Town Forest Book 3707 Page 213	Public	Town Forest comprised of wooded uplands, Norris Brook and Ipswich River wetlands. Unpaved trails, Boy & Girl Scout camps, certified vernal pools (3)
38-14	20 Buxton Rd.	.78	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Vacant parcel with frontage that allows access to Goodale Cemetery
38-15	20R Buxton Rd.	.27	Danvers Goodale Cemetery	Public	Goodale Cemetery
44-241	55 Conant St.	31.13	Danvers Holten Richmond School	Public	Holten Richmond School and Plains Park
45-63	160 Conant St.	41.20	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 7249 Page 176	Public	Proctor Farm (Wood-Sawyer) Conservation Area. Comprised of a hayfield, wetlands and woodlands abutting Flatley on East, and Thorpe School on North
45-72	235 Yankee Division Highway	18.34	Danvers Roger Esty Reservoir	Public	Roger Esty Reservoir (water tower)
45-147A	20 Wayside Dr.	.23	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Vacant lot at Wayside Dr. and Trask Ln.
45-162	12 Upland Rd.	1.38	Danvers Book 6025 Page 253	Public	Playground
46-04	50 Rear Buxton Rd.	19.00	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 196 Page 277	Public	Parcel abuts Town Forest on the north and Norris Brook on the west
47-05	105 Popes Ln.	52.50	Danvers Sanitary Landfill Book 5485 Page 404	Public	Capped Landfill
49-100	15 Stone St.	23.20	Danvers Book 10247 Page 187	Public	Stone St. Playground
50-86	139 Pine St.	6.30	Danvers	Public	Tapley Playground Crane Brook runs along southern lot boundary
50-238	53 Holten St.	2.31	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Vacant land part of Meadows drainage system emptying to Mill Pond

58-68	69 Lawrence St.	.03	Danvers Book 6832 Page 199	Public	Small piece of land on westerly side of Lawrence near Purchase
50-247A	20 Burroughs St.	1.21	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Putnam Mill Pond
51-46A	23 Sylvan St.	4.38	Danvers Peabody Institute Library	Public	George Peabody Library gardens and grounds
51-163	46 Lawrence St.	.79	Danvers Playground	Public	Lawrence St. Playground
52-62	95 Liberty St.	11.70	Danvers Riverside School	Public	Riverside School and Playground
52-126	13 Riverbank Ave.	.10	Danvers	Public	Residential parcel on Porter River
53-43	5 Harvard Ave.	.08	Danvers Book 6627 Page 530	Public	Parcel on paper St.
53-46	17 Harvard Ave.	.17	Danvers Vacant Land Book 4715 Page 381	Public	Parcel on paper St. southwest of Elliott St. (Rte 62)
53-48	21 Harvard Ave.	.26	Danvers Book 2201 Page 75	Public	Salt marsh parcel on paper St. subject to Porter River tidal action
53-62	8 Manchester St.	.11	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Salt marsh parcel within floodplain subject to Porter River tidal action
53-65	25 Congress St.	.42	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Vacant parcel on corner of (paper) Border St.; Porter River at rear
53-69	35 Congress St.	.06	Danvers	Public	Small salt marsh parcel at end on St. on Porter River
53-72	11 Manchester St.	.11	Danvers Vacant Land	Public	Parcel subject to tidal flowage of Porter River
53-86	105 Elliott St.	4.23	Danvers Williams School Book 3540 Page 571	Public	Williams School and Playground
53-86A	105R Elliott St.	2.50	Danvers Book 10632 Page 390	Public	Rear parcel behind Williams School
53-106A	128 Elliott St.	.19	Danvers East Danvers Cemetery	Public	East Danvers Cemetery
59-119	8 Harbor St.	2.40	Danvers Book 5641 Page 584	Public	Popes Landing marine boat launch, parking lot, and riverside park
59-120	128 Liberty St.	.74	Danvers Vacant Land Book 5641 Page 584	Public	Popes Landing parking lot
57-27B	47 Adams St.	1.00	Danvers Adams St. Cemetery	Public	Adams St. Cemetery Abuts St. Mary's on west
59-187	44 River St.	5.17	Danvers Bath House Book 3658 Page 393	Public	Bath House at Sandy Beach and Sandy Beach on Porter River
59-191	35 River St.	5.90	Danvers Beach Parking Lot	Public	Presently an unimproved parking lot across from Sandy Beach with McDowell Ave & Crane River
59-74A	35 Water St.	.50	MBTA Book 6311 Page 408	Public	Small parcel between Crane River & Crane River Condos at Sypko Bridge
60-29	28 Bradstreet Ave..	8.31	Danvers Book 5674 Page 729	Public	Formerly Zwickerv Circle now Bradstreet. Ave. Playground and Open Space
60-57	9 Bradstreet Ave.	8.11	Danvers Book 10598 Page 468	Public	Wet meadow Open Space in natural state
60-73	3 Jalbert Ln.	.34	Danvers	Public	Vacant site; Possible housing site
60-148	28 Glen Ave.	.62	Danvers Book 4715 Page 375	Public	Vacant parcel with salt marsh on brook tributary of Porter River

62-48	15 Tipert St.	.27	Danvers Book 5269 Page 537	Public	Southwick Playground
Map 60- between 163 & 164	Mead St. between 14 on west and 15 on east	N/A	Danvers	Public	Street ends at the water's edge. Access to tidal and inter-tidal zones of southern shores of the Porter River
Map 60- between 20 & 21	End of Hussey Ave. between 1 Hussey on north and 3 Chevalier on southeast	N/A	Danvers	Public	Street ends at water's edge. Small boat and pedestrian access to tidal and inter-tidal zones of westerly shores of the Porter River
Map 60- between 119 & 70A	End of River St.	N/A	Danvers	Public	Street ends at water's edge. Approach to tidal and inter-tidal zones of western shores of the Porter River. Currently a highway barrier, erosion/undermining prevents safe access.
Map 60- between 153 & 120	Eden Glen Ave. St. end Between 45 on north and 60 on the south	N/A	Danvers	Public	Street ends at water's edge. Access to tidal and inter-tidal zones of eastern shores of the Porter River. Care must be taken to protect existing salt marsh.
Map 65 between 15 & 53	At 35 Bates St., between 52 Riverside St. on north and 35 Bates St. on south	N/A	Danvers	Public	Historic, neighborhood 15-wide way to waterfront. Access to tidal and inter-tidal beach on westerly shores of the Porter River.
Map 65 between 45 & 1	Between 14 on the west and 16 Riverside St. on the east	N/A	Danvers	Public	This is a 15-wide way to the southerly shores of the Crane River.
Map 65 between 108 & 109	Tibbetts Ave. between #13 on north and #15 on the south	N/A	Danvers	Public	Due to the elevation of the land/height of the seawall, this access is best suited for passive enjoyment of the activities on the waters of the Porter, Crane and Danvers Rivers.
Map 65 between 61 & 98	At end of Bradstreet. Ave. between 7 on north -west and 106 on the southeast	N/A	Danvers	Public	Bradstreet slopes gradually to north-easterly shores of the Porter River. Access for portable small craft and the inter-tidal zone for fishing.
13-25	3R Paulette Rd.	5.22	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 6627 Page 530	Public	Part of Bishop's Meadow acquired from Mass Alfalfa Farms Nichols Brook drainage
42-53	86 Hobart St.	12.72	Danvers Book 3885 Page 250	Public	The Meadows; Beaver Brook wetlands, primarily utilized for winter skating.
13-23	7R Paulette Rd.	4.95	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 9275 Page 143	Public	Part of Bishop's Meadow acquired from Gordon Thomson/Nichols Brook drainage; Chapter 40, Sec 8C

14-200	166R Summer St.	16.04	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 6414 Page 676	Public; limited access	Chapter 40, Sec 8C; Easterly part of Bishops Meadow/Nichols Brook drainage. Access from Map 13-23 Parcel
13-24	126R North St.	2.60	Danvers Probate #253011	Public	Rear land part of Bishop's Meadow drainage basin
15-79A	4 Juniper Ridge Rd.	5.97	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 7570 Page 403	Public; Cluster subdivision accepted by town	Chapter 184, Sec 31 (Balanced Growth recommends upland portion for housing.); Conservation Easement granted for open space, wetland & pond off Juniper Rd on north side public way. Slope easement along frontage.
20-19	15 Lobao Dr.	15.00	Danvers Book 3687 Page 304	Public; Dept. of Public Works management	Ivan G. Smith School & school playgrounds, soccer fields
20-19B	2 Orrantia Circle	.06	Danvers Rear Land Book 6832 Page 199	Public	Triangular parcel of rear land abutting Smith School lands (no utility)
20-99A	18R Strawberry Hill Ln.	.59	Danvers Playground Book 5506 Page 431	Public; Dept. of Public Works/Parks & Recreation	Strawberry Hill Playground
21-40	224 Locust St.	.25	Danvers Putnamville School Book 467 Page 257 (May 2, 1952)	Public; Dept. of Public Works	Putnamville School; Historic
21-62	11 Wenham St.	4.00	Danvers Book 3611 Page 530	Public; Dept. of Public Works/Parks & Recreation	Playground
21-70	203R Locust St.	8.40	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 5630 Page 191	Public	Open space abutting Putnamville Playground & Rock Hill (L-70) open space; Chapter 40, Sec 8C
21-80	12 Auburn St.	3.18	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 7570 Page 403	Public	Open Space abutting Lot 70 and Danvers High School to southeast; Chapter 40, Sec 8C
21-87	15 Rocky Hill Circle	12.01	Danvers Conservation Commission Book 7570 Page 403	Public	Open Space on north side of public way. Behind Griffin Farm; Chapter 40, Sec 8C
Map 65 between 55 & 56	Choate Ave. at northern-most end of Doty Ave. on the north and South Essex Sewerage District Pumping Station at 1 Doty Ave. on south	N/A	Danvers	Public	Cul-de-sac-like end of two public streets adjacent to South Essex Sewerage District Pumping facility on easterly shores of the Porter River. Public Roadway area is currently grassed area. Paved parking for 3-4 cars.

Map 67 between 2 & 3	Wright's Beach at Jacob's Landing a way to beach on the southern shores of Danvers River	N/A	Danvers	Public	A 40'-wide right-of-way easement between Parcel 2 and New England Power Company land about 350'-long to extensive beach on the southern shores of the Danvers River. Suitable for fishing, picnicking & other passive uses.
10-50	401 Locust St.	21.98	Danvers Book 17203 Page 155	Public	Choate Farm Conservation Area; trails, parking area, Miriam E. Cooper Peach Orchard
31-47	197R Centre St.	8.84	Danvers Book 16887 Page 277	Public	Former Duffill property; Wetlands; Landlocked
12-21	31 Preston St.	2.70	Danvers Playground Book 5467 Page 211	Public; Dept. of Public Works/Parks & Recreation	Playground
23-10	5R West St.	8.84	Danvers Book 7768 Page 212	Public	Westover Farms Subdivision Open Space
23-16	0 Pat Dr.	.58	Danvers Book 27244 Page 556	Public	Westover Farms Subdivision Open Space
23-70	8 West St.	9.30	Danvers Book 7768 Page 212		Westover Farms Subdivision Open Space
23-90	11 West St.	.41	Danvers Book 27244 Page 556		Westover Farms Subdivision Open Space
15-39B	273R Locust St.	5.05	Danvers Book 25799 Page 549	Public	Moore Woods Conservation Area

*Other Public and Unprotected Lands (Federal/State/Local):*

MAP & LOT	LOCATION	PARCEL SIZE (Acres)	OWNERSHIP AND LEGAL REF (if known)	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
14-79	72 North St.	12.00	United States of America/Nike Station Book 4966 Page 095	Public, no access	National Guard/Nike Station
40-03	2 Armory Rd.	5.63	Commonwealth Massachusetts/Army National Guard Book 5221 Page 481	Public; no access	National Guard facility
18-37	485 Maple St.	9.28	Commonwealth Massachusetts	Public	State Police Barracks; Formerly District 5 for State Dept. of Public Works
37-35	201 Conant St.	1.69	State	Public; predominantly wetland	Parcel lying between Conant St. (at Cherry Hill Dr.) & Rte 128 Exit on south-bound Ln.
18-30	471 Maple St.	.37	State/Danvers State Hospital	Public	Danvers State Hospital property/ Part of highway island between Rtes 1 & 62

24-14A	470R Maple St.	1.76	State/Danvers State Hospital Book 61309 Page 284	Public	Danvers State Hospital Cemetery
46- 01	24R Buxton Rd.	13.00	New England Power Company Book 8129 Page 422	Private	Vacant land adjacent New England Power building sited on (17.76 ac) and Town conservation land to south of the Town Forest
12-01	565 Maple St.	83.70	Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute	Public	Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute/auditorium and function buildings, cow barns, pond, fields etc. Most academic buildings & parking located on south side of Rte 62
12-02	562 Maple St.	24.87	Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute	Public	Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute/auditorium and function buildings, cow barns, pond, fields etc. Most academic buildings & parking located on southerly side Rte 62
12-03	5 Preston St.	.75	Essex Agricultural & Technical Institute	Public	Farm stand at intersection of Maple and Preston St.
45-73	241 Yankee Division Highway	9.15	City of Salem/Folly Hill Reservoir	Public; restricted access	Folly Hill Reservoir
02-08	49 Valley Rd.	47.38	Danvers Book 9615 Page 027	Public	Chapter 40, Section 8C; Valley Rd. at Danvers/Wenham border (Peat Bog & Part of Wenham Swamp and Ipswich River drainage)
02-22	40 Valley Rd.	21.60	Danvers Book 9966 Page 452	Public	H. Lewis to custody of Conservation Commission/Connor's Farm
06-13	26 Valley Rd.	8.66	Danvers Book 9966 Page 452	Public; custody/Private use	An Agricultural Preservation Restriction on the property was acquired by Town. land is primarily wetlands
08-08	136 Old North St.	2.40	Danvers Land Book 7015 Page 791	Public	Rear land-locked area abutting Nichols Brook preserved for drainage; Chapter 40, Sec 8C Abandoned Way Chapter 40, Sec 8C
08-13A	180 North St.	20.00	Danvers Abandoned Roadway Book 4470 Page 417	Public	Abandoned roadway
13-29	136R North St.	.67	Town Conservation Commission Book 7015 Page 791	Public; no access	Land-locked parcel adjacent to I-95 with no access road. Chapter 40, Sec 8C. Woodlot
13-30	18R Lobao Dr.	4.00	Danvers Book 7231 Page 433	Public; no access	Chapter 40, Sec 8C ; Conservation Commission management land-locked parcel primary wetlands/watershed drainage
14-49	9A Naumkeag Row	.04	Danvers Electric Light Book 6728 Page 595	Public; ROW/Easement	ROW Easement; Rectangular parcel w/ 30' frontage on south side public way for Danvers' Electric Light substation
14-183	178 Summer St.	.16	Town Pump Station Book 5265 Page 165	Public	Pumping Station
15-27A	69 North St.	.29	Danvers Abandoned Roadway Book 4470 Page 417	Public	Triangular piece of abandoned Roadway on north side of public way/Chapter 40, Sec 8C
18-19	508 Maple St.	1.40	Danvers Vacant Land Book 11453 Page 250	Public	Vacant land with substation & power lines Rear contains wetlands

18-24	475 Maple St.	1.0	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Land containing Electric light power lines southwest side of Rte 62
18-26	494 Maple St.	9.08	Danvers Electric Light Division Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Land containing Electric light power lines southwest side of Rte 62
18-29	475 Maple St.	1.00	Danvers Electric Light Division Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Land containing Electric light power lines southwest side of Rte 62
18-33	256 Newbury St.	.52	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Part of highway island between Rtes 1 & 62
18-34A	464 Maple St.	1.06	Danvers Fire Station Engine 2 Book 55972 Page 258	Public	Fire Station Engine 2
18-36	257 Newbury St.	.83	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 075	Public	Part of a highway island between Rtes 1 & I-95
42-170	22 Beaver Park Rd.	1.04	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 75	Public	Elongated Electric Light equipment lands which continue on Map 34 to the northwest
42-198	15A Beaver Park Rd.	2.86	Danvers Electric Light Book 6554 Page 75	Public	Elongated Electric Light equipment lands which continue on Map 34 to the northwest

## Section 6

# COMMUNITY GOALS

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”*

*~ Margaret Mead*

## **Description of Process**

As a result of an earlier survey conducted for the 2001 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC), decided to conduct a follow-up survey of the Town's recreational facilities. Surveys were mailed to homeowners with the September 2006 Electricity Bills. Additional surveys were available at Town Hall and other Town buildings including the Peabody Institute Library, the Senior Center, and the Town public schools. For the first time the survey was also available on-line on the Town's official web site.

A total of 941 completed surveys were received and the responses analyzed by OSRAC on Excel spreadsheets. A copy of the survey sheet and a summary of the results are included in the Appendix. This survey received 46% more responses than the earlier survey and the narrative comments were particularly insightful. The complete survey results, including the narrative sections, are available from the Planning and Human Services department at Danvers Town Hall.

The results of the survey reflected an overwhelming support for the protection of land for passive recreation and open space. The numerical responses and many written comments indicated great satisfaction in the Town's existing facilities and much support for a multi-use recreation trails, utilizing the B&M Railroad tracks running across Town. Several comments displayed a negative reaction to the scale of development occurring in Danvers and indicated a desire for this development to slow or stop. Other survey results included widespread support for the protection of undeveloped land. Support and requests for additional passive recreation areas within the Town were also expressed.

OSRAC members continued evaluating specific open space and recreation resources in Town that have begun in the previous analysis. This evaluation included an examination of existing public properties and a review of potential needs and of the available lands to address these needs. This review was a more detailed and refined update of the 2001 study and reflects any changes since then.

The goals recommended hereafter are the culmination of this process.

## **Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals**

The ultimate goal is to maintain a balance between open space and growth, recreation and development, and needs and available resources.

The primary environmental goal is to preserve and protect the small amount of remaining undeveloped land and water resources. Continuing to build without protecting these valuable resources will negatively impact the Town's existing open space, passive recreation lands, and water resources, resulting in an overall poorer quality of life for residents.

The primary recreation goal is to identify and provide active and passive recreation facilities to address future needs. As the population increases and demographics change, the Town must react to fulfill residents' needs and desires.

The accomplishment of these goals, through implementation of the recommendations of this plan, should lead to a balanced network of active and passive recreational areas, as well as the preserve our few remaining natural resources.

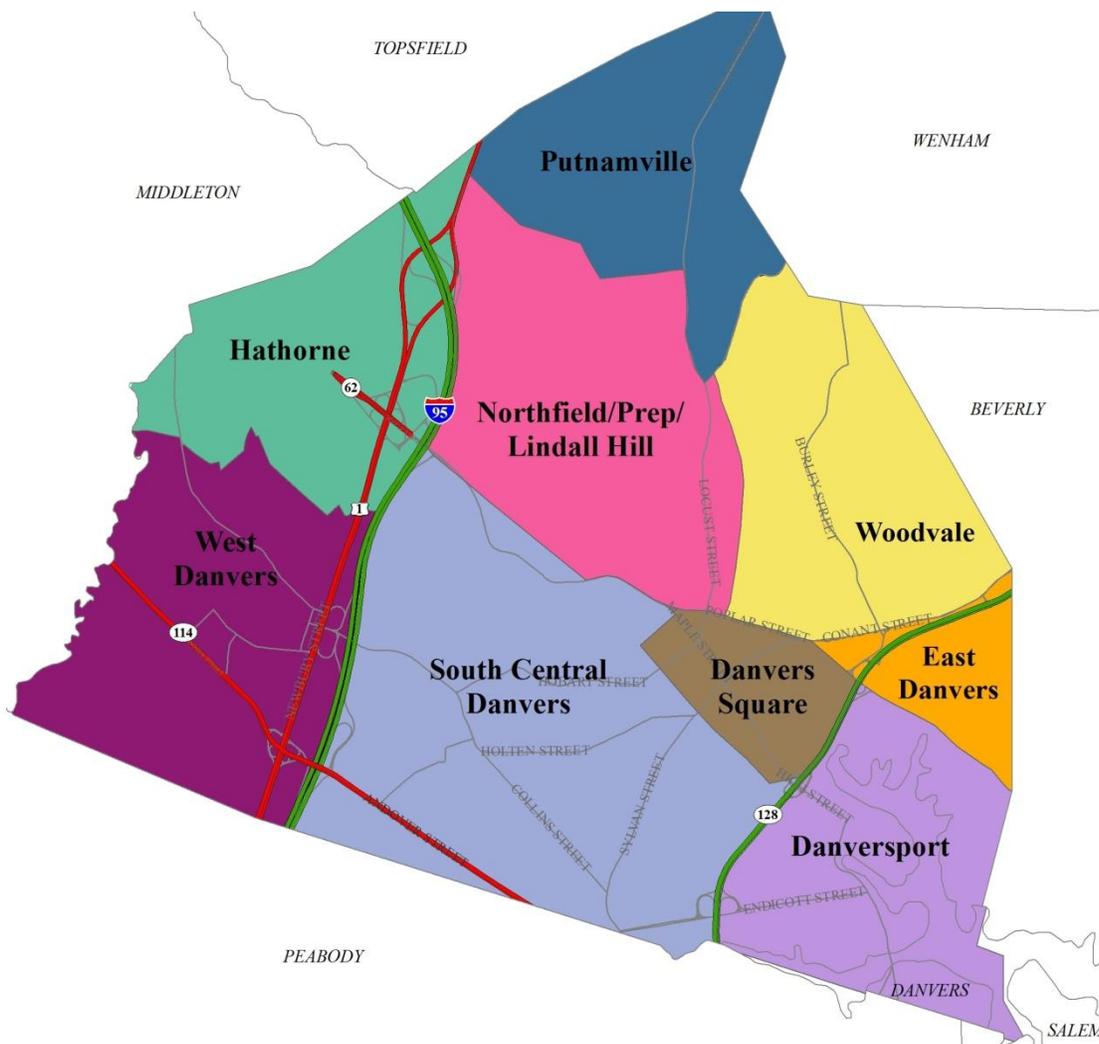
# **Section 7**

## **ANALYSIS OF NEEDS**

*“One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.”*  
~ William Shakespeare

As mentioned earlier in Section 6, the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) collected information on the needs of the community through a survey of households in Danvers. The responses indicated strong support for the acquisition of land for conservation and passive recreation purposes, water supply protection, and the creation of a Town trail system utilizing the former B&M Railroad. Handwritten comments further substantiated these salient points and reflected firm support for the excellent maintenance being done by the Town.

One thought, expressed by several responses from the previous survey, was that resource protection, management, and community needs are unique for each region of Danvers. Due to the historical development of Danvers and the existing road system that physically separates neighborhoods from each other, residents tend to identify and associate with a particular area. OSRAC, therefore, analyzed the needs of the nine unique neighborhoods that comprise the Town, as represented in the following map and tables.





**WEST DANVERS** (Boundaries – north: State Hospital, east: I-95, south: City of Peabody, west: Town of Middleton)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
<b>Watershed Protection</b>		The Town and the State currently own a significant amount of land along the Ipswich River, including a public well site. Existing private property with over 1,000 ft. of riverfront is currently undeveloped.	Pursue public access easement or acquire the 21-acre parcel known as Lebel’s Grove for permanent protection of the Town’s water supply.
<b>Passive Recreation</b>		A canoe launch and picnic area on the Ipswich River (approximately 18 acres) is accessible from West St. The Town Forest off Buxton Rd. contains a number of walking trails.	Develop trails from the Town’s transfer station along river to Town Forest and former Danvers State Hospital property such as picnic. Links through easement or acquisition of private property is necessary to provide a continuous trail.
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>		None existing.	Acquire property in the Dayton St./Centre St. area to provide a playground, ballfields, and courts.
<b>Open Space</b>		In addition to the lands described above, other open space properties include the property off Dayton St./Centre St., as well as the private permanent open space provided as a requirement of the cluster subdivision of Westover Farms.	Improve access to open space parcels. Pursue access easement or acquire Lebel’s Grove and tax deed for Westover Farms open space.
<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	None	No additional actions to pursue.
	<b>Fresh</b>	See Watershed Protection above.	Increase access to properties along Ipswich River.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>		Existing public and private lands contribute to habitat protection even if lands are used for other purposes.	See watershed protection and open space above.
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>		The lowlands adjacent to the Ipswich River, the wetlands between Centre St. and Dayton St., and the subdivision detention ponds all provide areas for stormwater retention.	Maintain existing stormwater retention areas and explore practical methods for better treatment of runoff.

**HATHORNE** (Boundaries - north and west: Town of Middleton, east: I-95, south: State Hospital)

		Current Status	Actions to Pursue
<b>Watershed Protection</b>		Existing public and private protected lands contribute indirectly to protection of the Ipswich River Watershed.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Passive Recreation</b>		The land of the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute includes fields and a pond (109± acres). The Ferncroft Conservation Area, which is leased by the Town from the State, also contains walking trails around a pond.	Identify important features for protection. Pursue a trail link between the Ferncroft Conservation Area and the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute. Pursue acquisition of the Ferncroft Conservation Area from the State.
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>		Existing active recreation lands include the Preston St. playground and a Lacrosse/Soccer field shared with the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute (3± acres).	Pursue partnerships with the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute and the North Shore Community College that will increase recreational opportunities.

<b>Open Space</b>	Existing open space land is currently occupied by the Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute and the North Shore Community College consisting of 109± acres (of which 70± acres are under an APR). The former Danvers State Hospital property (344 acres including 250± acres of farm land along Middleton Rd. and Dayton St. under an APR), and a small section of former railroad bed between Hawthorne Ave. and the Town of Middleton.	Identify important features for protection. Gain access for public and plan future trails using railroad bed.	
<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	No waterfront.	No additional actions to pursue.
	<b>Fresh</b>	Existing freshwater includes the former ice pond for Danvers State Hospital off Ferncroft Rd., owned by the State.	Pursue acquisition of the former ice pond. Prior to acquisition, seek to coordinate maintenance of the pond with the appropriate State office.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>	Existing public and private protected land contribute to habitat protection even if land is used for another purpose.	No additional actions to pursue. At this time there are no endangered species within the Town.	
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>	The pond on Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute property as well as the former Danvers State Hospital ice pond provide for stormwater retention.	No additional actions to pursue. Plan for future maintenance needs.	

**NORTHFIELD/PREP/LINDALL HILL** (*Boundaries – north: Putnamville Reservoir, east: railroad right-of-way, south: Rte. 62, west: I-95*)

	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Actions to Pursue</b>	
<b>Watershed Protection</b>	Existing public and private protected lands contribute to the Salem Harbor and the Ipswich River Watersheds.	No additional actions to pursue.	
<b>Passive Recreation</b>	Existing land used for passive recreation includes walking trails around College Pond (21± acres). Walking trails over abandoned railroad beds from Spring St. to Maple St.	Nature walking trail around Smith School Pond. Develop a Senior Park at former Hunt Hospital site.	
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>	Existing land for active recreation includes the fields and playgrounds at the Smith School (16± acres). St. John's Preparatory School has extensive recreation fields.	No additional actions to pursue.	
<b>Open Space</b>	In addition to the lands described above, the open space includes Town property south of North St., also known as Lobao Swamp (33± acres) and the privately protected open space adjacent to College Pond (15± acres).	Acquisition of the former NIKE site off North St. from the federal government should be pursued as well as the acquisition or protection of the adjacent private property as it becomes available.	
<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	No salt waterfront is located in this region.	No protection needed.
	<b>Fresh</b>	College Pond and Smith School Pond are the only fresh waterfronts located within this region.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>	The large tracts of existing public and private protected lands contribute to habitat protection even though the lands are used for other purposes.	No additional actions to pursue.	
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>	Lobao Swamp and College Pond both provide areas for	Permanent protection of the private properties	

	stormwater retention.	comprising Lobao Swamp should be pursued.
--	-----------------------	---

**PUTNAMVILLE** (*Boundaries – north: Topsfield and Wenham, east: Wenham, south: Wenham St. and Putnamville Reservoir, west: US-1 and Topsfield*)

		<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Actions to Pursue</b>
<b>Watershed Protection</b>		Existing public and private protected lands contribute indirectly to the Salem Harbor and Ipswich River Watersheds. Town properties along the Wenham–Danvers Town Line (47± acres), Topsfield–Danvers Town Line (22± acres), and along Locust St. (9± acres) as well as Connors Farm (76± acres) are located within the zone of contribution for the Wenham-Hamilton public well.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Passive Recreation</b>		Existing land used for passive recreation surrounds the Putnamville Reservoir. The use of the reservoir itself, however, is restricted, as it is a public water supply. It may not be used for most water-based recreation, such as swimming or canoeing. Fishing is allowed.	Pursue link from Choate Farm to the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary in Topsfield via former railroad right-of-way. Establish trails to the railroad right-of-ways. An element of the Choate-Putnamville Connector is the “SwampWalk” on Town property north of Choate Farm.
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>		The Putnamville Playground is located on the south side of Wenham St.	Expansion of playground necessary.
<b>Open Space</b>		The Putnamville Reservoir and Connors Farm (which is protected by an APR) contribute to open space even though the primary functions of these lands are water supply and agriculture. Town property along the Wenham–Danvers town lines serves as open space. The Town recently acquired Moore Woods.	Pursue public access of the open space parcels at the former Choate Farm that were created as a result of the cluster subdivision. Marked trails are needed at Moore Woods.
<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	No waterfront.	No additional actions to pursue.
	<b>Fresh</b>	The existing Putnamville Reservoir is fresh waterfront.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>		Existing public and private protected lands contribute to habitat protection even if lands used for other purposes.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>		Town land along the Wenham–Danvers town Line, also known as the Wenham Swamp, provides an area for stormwater retention.	No additional actions to pursue.

**EAST DANVERS** (Boundaries – north: Conant St., east: Beverly, south: Rte. 62/Elliott St., west: City of Beverly)

	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Actions to Pursue</b>
<b>Watershed Protection</b>	Existing public and private protected lands contribute indirectly to the protection of the Salem Harbor Watershed. These lands include properties owned by the Town and the Salem-Beverly Water District on Folly Hill. They include water supply storage facilities as well as the land off Foster St., currently classified under Chapter 61A.	A greater level of protection for the Ch. 61A property on Foster St. should be pursued, either through an APR or outright acquisition.
<b>Passive Recreation</b>	Properties owned by the Town and the Salem-Beverly Water District on Folly Hill contain walking trails.	The property at the top of Folly Hill contains walking trails used by neighbors. This property is adjacent to the Town and the Salem-Beverly Water District properties as well as the Ch. 61A property. The property also provides a potential link between the Folly Hill and Elliott St. residences. Protection of this link and the walking trails either through acquisition or easements should be explored.
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>	What is characterized as East Danvers is actually several different neighborhoods that are separated by Rte. 128. The neighborhood of Folly Hill is in fact isolated from the rest of the Town as its sole access is off Rte. 128 North. This neighborhood does contain a small playground. The properties along Conant St. are in close proximity to Plains Park and the Thorpe School. The properties on the north side of Elliott St. are within a short distance of the Riverside School.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Open Space</b>	Existing public and private protected lands contribute to open space.	See comments for Ch. 61A property and Folly Hill above. Protection for the public view from both properties of the Porter River should be considered.

<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	No waterfront. Significant water runoff flowing south from Folly Hill is partly contained in an intermittent stream, crosses under Elliott St., and empties into the Porter River west of the Danversport Yacht Club.	No additional actions to pursue.
	<b>Fresh</b>	No waterfront. Significant water runoff flowing south from Folly Hill is partly contained in an intermittent stream, crosses under Elliott St., and empties into the Porter River west of the Danversport Yacht Club.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>		Existing public and private protected lands contribute to open space, even if it is not their primary purpose.	No specific protection needed.
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>		The significant runoff down Bradley St, Garfield St., and from the former St. Alphonsus Church, crosses Elliott St. and empties into a mini-estuary of the Porter River west of the Danversport Yacht Club during heavy downpours.	No additional actions to pursue.

**DANVERSPORT** (*Boundaries – north: Rte. 62/Elliott St., east and south: Cities of Salem, Beverly, and Peabody, west: Rte. 128*)

	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Actions to Pursue</b>
<b>Watershed Protection</b>	Existing public and private protected and unprotected lands contribute indirectly to the protection of the Salem Harbor Watershed.	Further protection along the Porter, Crane, and Waters Rivers estuaries should be explored. This protection should be pursued, either through conservation restrictions or outright acquisition.
<b>Passive Recreation</b>	Existing lands for passive recreation include the water access at the end of Bradstreet Ave., Eden Glen Ave., Mead St., and Choate Ave.	<p>Additional access for passive recreation and protection of the fishing areas along the Waters River and Waters River bridge should be pursued, either through easements or acquisition. Re-use of the railroad right-of-way, as link to Danversport from other regions of Town should be explored. A “Riverwalk” should also be pursued.</p> <p>The south entrance to Danvers from Salem &amp; Peabody on Water St. is a horseshoe area bounded by the Waters River and includes the bridge. The Town should pursue obtaining open space from the the former New England Home for the Deaf.</p> <p>The 35-acre reclamation site bound by Crane River, Rte. 128, and Clinton Ave. should be</p>

			acquired for estuary protection and passive recreation.
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>		Existing lands used for active recreation include the Riverside School, John George Park, Sandy Beach, the Williams School, the Bradstreet Ave. Playground, Pope's Landing, and the Crane River Marina.	Maintenance of the Danvers River for boating should be continued. Acquisition of properties adjacent to John George Park and Sandy Beach should be pursued for expanding recreation areas.
<b>Open Space</b>		Existing lands contributing to open space include the properties along Congress, Glen, and Bradstreet Avenues.	See comments on protection of river estuaries under watersheds above.
<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	Most of Danvers salt waterfront is located in Danversport. Existing waterfront lands include the water access listed under passive recreation above and the boatyard/marina facilities listed under active recreation above.	See comments on additional water access under passive recreation above, comments on expansion of Sandy Beach under active recreation above, as well as habitat protection below.
	<b>Fresh</b>	Several rivers and streams feed into the Danvers River. The land along these rivers is not permanently protected.	See comments on protection of river estuaries above.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>		Existing public and private protected lands contribute to open space, even if it is not their primary purpose.	<u>Porter, Crane, &amp; Waters Rivers Estuaries:</u>  Additional, contiguous protection can provide for real habitat improvement and lead the way for the development and success of wildlife programs.
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>		No specific retention areas. The public lands along the water provide storage for floodwaters.	No specific protection needed.

**SOUTH CENTRAL DANVERS** (Boundaries - north: Rte. 62/Maple St., east: Rte. 128, south: City of Peabody, west: I-95)

	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Actions to Pursue</b>
<b>Watershed Protection</b>	Publicly protected lands include Endicott Park, Gates property, Tapleyville Park, the Meadows, the Mill Pond, lot 050-238, and the electric power line easements between Collins and Andover Streets. Private lands include the Rebecca Nurse property and the St. Mary's and Sylvan St. cemeteries. A total of over 293 acres.	The privately-owned area known as Muddy Boo is in multiple ownerships and in dire need of protection from abuse and encroachment. Acquisition and/or easements can provide permanent, long-term protection.
<b>Passive Recreation</b>	Developed public lands with passive opportunities include Endicott Park, the Gates property, the Meadows, and Mill Pond, while some limited opportunities are offered on	The Town should pursue acquisition of land owned by St. Mary's cemetery to connect with Endicott Park trails. The Gates property could have its non-

		private lands such as the cemeteries, the Rebecca Nurse Homestead and Clark Farm.	sports areas enhanced with trails and signage. A conservation easement with the Rebecca Nurse owners would give further protection to this valuable historic open space.
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>		This area enjoys the use of developed recreation areas at the Gates Fields, the Great Oak and Highlands Schools, and at the Tapleyville and Lawrence St. playgrounds.	No additional sites envisioned at this time. Develop railroad right-of-ways into a trail system.
<b>Open Space</b>		All the above sites contribute to the wealth of open space available. In addition, smaller pockets of green space exist throughout the area and include the training field on Centre St. and the cemetery on Garden St.	See Muddy Boo above. Use and availability of power line easements off Collins and Andover Streets need to be investigated.
<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	Privately owned lot 063-011 abuts Waters River.	Pursue a protective easement to ensure against encroachment and abuse of estuary edges.
	<b>Fresh</b>	No primary site but extensive stream and marsh edges abutted by residential properties. An existing pond at Endicott park is used for fishing.	Abutter education to ensure water quality and habitat protection.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>		Large areas such as Endicott Park, St. Mary's, Sylvan St. cemeteries, Gates Field, and the Rebecca Nurse Homestead provide the best habitat protection, while connecting corridors enhance wildlife movements.	Contact appropriate State agencies for assistance in identifying critical habitats such as vernal pools. Appropriate management tools (plans) should be developed to protect existing or potential sites.
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>		Current public areas include Endicott Park, the Meadows and Mill Pond. Privately owned "Muddy Boo" is a major critical area of retention and water quality protection.	Continue protection from encroachment by monitoring, education, and citation where needed. See "Muddy Boo" above.

**DANVERS SQUARE** (Boundaries – north: Rte. 62/Poplar St., east: Rte. 128, south: Purchase St., west: Lawrence St.)

	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Actions to Pursue</b>
<b>Watershed Protection</b>	Existing public and private protected lands contribute indirectly to the Salem Harbor Watershed.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Passive Recreation</b>	Limited opportunities. Currently the grounds of the Town's library are used for some passive activity.	Pursue trail link to other Town areas via former railroad right-of-way and utility right-of-way.
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>	Existing organized recreation areas located at Plains Park	No additional actions to pursue.

		include ballfields, playground equipment, basketball courts, tennis courts, and a skateboard park (31± acres).	
<b>Open Space</b>		This area of Danvers includes the downtown and surrounding densely developed areas. The only open space areas are Plains Park its adjacent tidal estuary.	Permanent protection of the private property that comprises the estuary should be pursued.
<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	The tidal estuary located adjacent to Plains Park of which a portion of this estuary is publicly-owned (½ ± acre).	Pursue permanent protection of the tidal marshes located on the private property within the estuary.
	<b>Fresh</b>	The Mill Pond is used for picnics and fishing.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>		Existing public protected lands provide minimal habitat due to the nature of the uses.	Permanent protection of the tidal estuary will provide habitat for saltwater species as well as other animals dependent on the marsh.
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>		No specific stormwater retention areas.	No additional actions to pursue.

**WOODVALE** (Boundaries - north: Wenham St. and Wenham, east: Beverly and Wenham, south: Conant and Poplar Streets, west: railroad right-of-way)

		<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Actions to Pursue</b>
<b>Watershed Protection</b>		Frost Fish Brook flows through Woodvale and empties into Porter River by the Holten-Richmond Middle School.	Management plan for continuing monitoring and maintenance.
<b>Passive Recreation</b>		Proctor Farm is located on the opposite side of Conant St. The area behind the high school provides trails that are part of the Choate-Putnamville Connector.	Pursue trail link to other Town areas via former railroad right-of-way and utility right-of-way.
<b>Active Recreation (organized)</b>		The high school provides a playground, football stadium, fields, and tennis courts. Thorpe School provides a playground and two new lacrosse/soccer fields.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Open Space</b>		Wooded area behind the high school and Proctor Farm.	No additional actions to pursue.
<b>Waterfront</b>	<b>Salt</b>	N/A	N/A
	<b>Fresh</b>	Frost Fish Brook	Management plan for continuing monitoring and maintenance.
<b>Habitat Protection</b>		Existing public and private lands provide habitat protection. Proctor Farm Conservation Area and portions of Cherry Hill Office Park provide wildlife habitat.	Management plan for Proctor Farm Conservation Area should be developed and implemented.
<b>Stormwater Retention</b>		Frost Fish Brook receives water from the drainage system throughout Woodvale. Runoff from the drainage system and erosion of the banks of the river contribute to the sediment load deposited into the Porter River creating the need to dredge the navigable rivers more frequently.	A permanent means of stabilization is necessary to prevent continued erosion and sediment loading. Education of the Woodvale residents abutting the stream is needed regarding the detriment caused by the dumping of debris on the banks.



## Section 8

# GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

*“I believe that there is a subtle magnetism in Nature, which, if we unconsciously yield to it, will direct us aright.  
~ Henry David Thoreau*



**GOAL # 1 WATERSHED PROTECTION: To ensure the natural, uncontaminated, and uninterrupted flow of surface water (runoff) and subsurface water (ground water) in the several watersheds in and contiguous to Danvers.**

Precipitation that reaches the Earth moves through three different pathways:

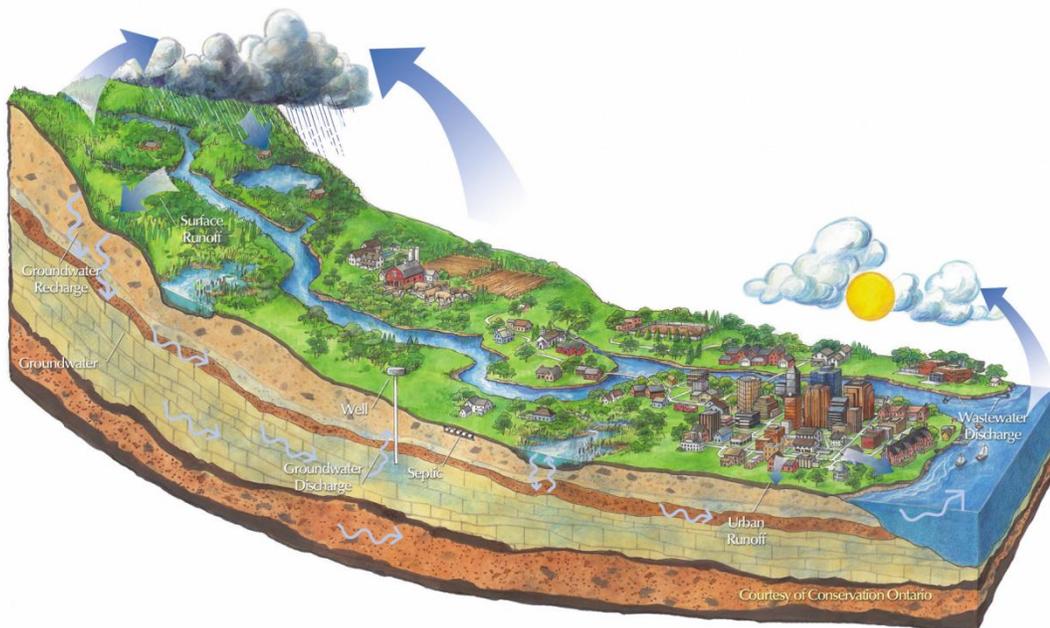
1. Is intercepted by vegetation and evaporated or transpired back to the atmosphere.
2. Moves down slope to a stream system.
3. Is stored in snow pack, groundwater, ponds or wetlands.

A watershed is a geographic area of land bounded by topographic features and height of land that drains water to a shared destination. Not only does a watershed drain, it also captures precipitation, filters and stores water, and determines its release. A watershed, therefore, is a drainage basin that divides the landscape into hydrologically defined areas.

The watershed boundary will more or less follow the highest ridgeline around the stream channels and meet at the bottom or lowest point of the land where water flows out of the watershed, commonly referred to as the mouth of the waterway.

Watershed management is the control of the quality and quantity of water and the effective human use of water resources within a watershed.

Water moves downstream in a watershed. Any activity that affects water quality, quantity, or rate of movement at one location can affect the characteristics of the watershed at locations downstream. Therefore, everyone living or working within a watershed must cooperate to assure good watershed conditions.



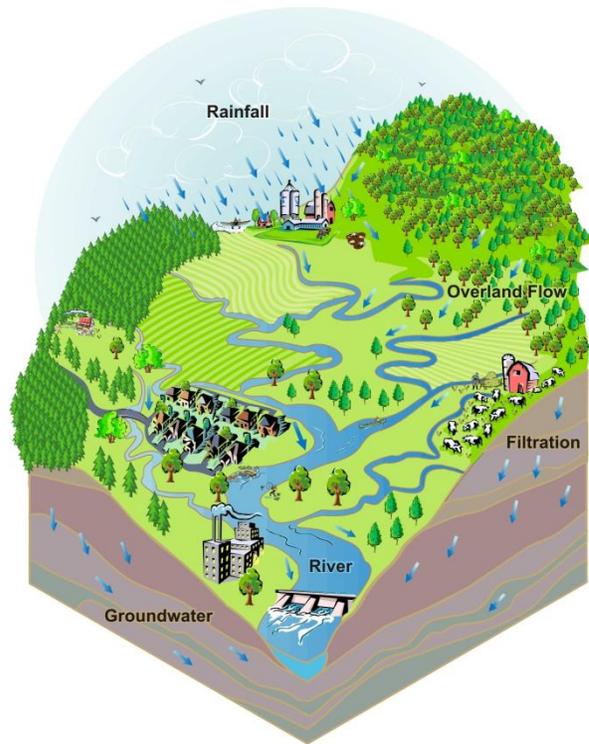
Danvers has two major watersheds. They are the Ipswich River Watershed and the North Coast Watershed. The North Coast Watershed can be further subdivided into four areas:

**1. FROST FISH BROOK WATERSHED** runs through the Woodvale, East Danvers, and Danversport neighborhoods to the Porter River and Salem Sound.

**2. BEAVER BROOK WATERSHED** runs through the Hathorne, West Central Danvers, and Danvers Square neighborhoods to the Crane River and Salem Sound.

**3. CRANE BROOK WATERSHED** runs through the Hathorne neighborhood to the Waters River and Salem Sound

**4. NICHOLS BROOK** leads to Ipswich River though Prep area from Hathorne and Beaver Brook



*The following objectives should be used as guidelines for the next five year period to accomplish this goal:*

- 1) *Coordinate with surrounding communities to protect regional watersheds into the future.* Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission.
- 2) *Increase public awareness of the need to maintain the quality of the watersheds.* Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission.
- 3) *Identify potential and existing problem areas and address through a management plan or other actions.* Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC), Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission.
- 4) *Protect watersheds by acquisition of adjacent land area where feasible for passive recreation.* Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, Department of Public Works.
- 5) *Strictly enforce current DEP standards and Town by-laws to protect existing watersheds.* Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Responsible agencies: Department of Public Works, Planning Board, Conservation Commission.

- 6) *Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private.* Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, will begin in year one. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen.

**GOAL # 2 PASSIVE RECREATION: To ensure ample and diverse opportunities for passive recreation throughout the town.**



Passive recreation is loosely defined as the non-organized enjoyment of the outdoors and can range from sitting on a bench in the sunshine to hiking up hills on snowshoes. It knows no bounds, suffers no rules and is defined primarily by the desires of the individual. Despite the vague definition, it is one of the most life-sustaining interactions people enjoy with the environment and the earth.

*The following objectives should be used as guidelines for the next five year period to accomplish this goal:*

- 1) ***Identify present and future passive recreation areas and expansion of the public awareness effort.*** Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Conservation Commission, Recreation Committee, Planning and Human Services staff.
- 2) ***Secure more permanent protection for present and future areas using creative, multi-layered systems of designation such as deed restrictions or public/private easements and partnerships.*** Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, OSRAC, Planning and Human Services staff.
- 3) ***Identify and search for creative ways to alleviate conflicts from competing interests for land usage.*** Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning and Human Services staff.
- 4) ***Develop a passive recreation management plan for each major area (and collectively for smaller ones) to integrate into the town wide Open Space and Recreation Plan.*** Time frame: Year 2 of Plan. Responsible agencies: Open Space interns, OSRAC.



- 5) *Encouragement public awareness and positive attitudes about the benefits of passive recreation and open space in proximity to residential areas and assuage the fears of negative impacts.* Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Planning Board, Conservation Commission.
  
- 6) *Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private.* Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, will begin in year one. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen.

**GOAL # 3      ACTIVE RECREATION: To provide areas for the pursuit of safe, convenient, and accessible organized physical activity by residents throughout the Town.**

Active recreation is an organized activity needing specific facilities or accommodations, including, but not limited to, fields, courts, rinks, field houses, and boat ramps. These facilities are generally used by groups engaging in a particular sport.

Recreation contributes to life satisfaction, quality, health, and wellness. It is essential to the longevity of human beings, especially because it helps counteract the effects of stress.



*The following objectives should be used as guidelines for the next five year period to accomplish this goal:*

- 1) Protect current areas used for active recreation such as fields used for sports games. Time frame: See ‘Five Year Recreation Field and Facility Plan’ which is part of our Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Recreation Department, Department of Public Works.
- 2) Identify additional active recreation areas. Time frame: See ‘Five Year Recreation Field and Facility Plan’ which is part of our Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Recreation Department, OSRAC.
- 3) Incorporate the Recreation Division’s Five-Year Plan into the town wide Open Space and Recreation Plan. Time frame: See ‘Five Year Recreation Field and Facility Plan’ which is part of our Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: OSRAC.
- 4) Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private. Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, will begin in year one. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen.



**GOAL # 4      **OPEN SPACE: To conserve existing undeveloped land within Danvers for the protection of natural resources, scenic vistas, air and water quality, and natural buffers.****

Open space is the preservation of undeveloped land. The value of open space is in the buffer it provides from development or in the prevention of development itself. This value can often be difficult to measure because it relates to aesthetics and quality of life in terms of protection from air and light pollution, noise, and protection of natural resources. The preservation of open space, however, is overwhelmingly identified by Town residents as an important goal for exactly these reasons.

Open space may also result in a secondary benefit gained from other uses such as passive recreation, agriculture, wildlife habitat, and stormwater retention.

*The following objectives should be used as guidelines for the next five year period to accomplish this goal:*

- 1) ***Permanently protect the Town's riverfront areas and create a buffer along the rivers themselves.*** Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: River Committee, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals.
- 2) ***Permanently protect the Town's remaining agricultural lands.*** Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Agricultural Commission, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen.
- 3) ***Develop management plans for the larger publicly owned open space lands that include an inventory of significant natural features as well as regulations for their use.*** Time frame: Year 2 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Open Space interns, OSRAC.
- 4) ***Identify and eliminate private property encroachment onto public open space lands.*** Time frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Building Inspector, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Department of Public Works, Assessor's Department, Police.
- 5) ***Identify and protect open space that is currently privately owned, particularly those lands that are contiguous to existing public lands or that provide a scenic vista and/or public access.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Conservation Commission, Agricultural Commission.
- 6) ***Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, will begin in year 1.

Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen.

**GOAL # 5 SALTWATER SHORES: To preserve and protect all saltwater shores from commercial, industrial and residential development throughout the town and encourage public access associated with water related development. These estuary areas would include but would not be limited to, Salt Marshes, Coastal Beaches, Tidal Flats and Rivers.**

The transitional area between land and ocean is one of the most fragile and most important to a community with significant waterfront. The waterfront comprises beaches for swimming, sanctuaries for animal habitat and bird watching, docks and bridges for fishing, private backyards for personal recreation, and public areas for boating. This ecosystem of Salt Marshes, Coastal Beaches, and Tidal Flats is complex and diverse. These systems serve to retain the coastline, stabilize the marsh areas, feed and house plant and animal life, provide active and passive recreation for the community, and provide a place to relax.

**Salt Marshes** produce large quantities of decomposed matter that are a food source for marine life. In turn, they are spawning and nursery grounds for many fish, habitat for crustaceans, mollusks and worms, and feeding grounds for migratory and resident waterfowl, songbirds and a variety of mammals. The roots and rhizomes of Salt Marsh vegetation bind sediments producing a tough substrate that is resistant to wave action. The marshes are protective barriers against storm damage and flooding, absorbing floodwaters before they reach uplands. The root systems of certain species of vegetation absorb nitrogen and phosphorus, which in too large quantities are detrimental to water quality. They also can absorb certain pollutants, heavy metals and hydrocarbons. The peat substrate of a natural marsh may create a barrier to salt water intrusion into the water table, thus protecting groundwater.

**Coastal Beaches** are important buffers against storm damage and flooding and provide feeding and nesting habitat for a large variety of shore birds. Debris from the upper beach (the wrack line) contributes detritus to the basic marine food chain and harbors invertebrates which birds and small mammals feed upon. Many shorebirds feed on the tiny crustaceans and other organisms that live in the swash line of the waves. Other species of shorebirds hunt for their food on the tidal flats, eating small fish, worms and even mussels and clams.

**Tidal Flats** are an important shellfish habitat especially to the fishing and shellfish industries. They are critical nursery areas for many juvenile commercial fish such as flounder.

*The following objectives should be used as guidelines for the next five year period to accomplish this goal:*

- 1) ***Identify ownership, usage, condition (physical and ecological), and any encroachment of waterfront. Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Open Space interns, River Committee, Waterfront Manager, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals.***
- 2) ***Develop a rational maintenance plan and/or corrective actions based upon the usage and condition of the most important parcels or areas. Time Frame: Year 3 of the Open Space***

and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: River Committee, Conservation Commission, Department of Public Works, Waterfront Manager.

- 3) ***Increase owner and public education on the recommended management of the most important parcels or areas.*** Time Frame: Year 4 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: River Committee, Waterfront Manager, Conservation Commission.
- 4) ***Permanently protect these areas as economically and effectively as possible.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, Town Counsel, Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission.
- 5) ***Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, will begin in year one. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen.



**GOAL # 6      **FRESHWATER RESOURCES:** To preserve the Town’s freshwater resources for its natural function as wildlife habitat, fisheries, drinking water, and recreation.**

Protecting our freshwater resources is important to maintaining our quality of life in Danvers. The various streams and brooks provide habitats for many plants, animals, and fish. In addition, the Ipswich River and Putnamville Reservoir provide both drinking water and recreational activities. Water quality must be improved by reducing sources of pollution such as pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, erosion, and siltation. Water quality can also be improved by reducing the amount of infiltration from oil, gas, and salt from roadways and parking areas.



During the 1960s, Frost Fish Brook was realigned to accommodate the building of a development called Woodvale. This realignment contributed to the loss of fish runs and the degradation of water quality. Fortunately, since the introduction of the Wetlands Protection Act, developers and property owners have to meet much stricter criteria.

*The following objectives should be used as guidelines for the next five year period to accomplish this goal:*

- 1) ***Continue cooperation with appropriate officials and agencies to identify and protect surface waters as well as those areas immediately adjacent.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Department of Environmental Protection, Salem Sound, Salem Beverly Water Board, Board of Health, Department of Public Works.
- 2) ***Continue creation and maintenance of recreational opportunities on appropriate surface waters.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Department of Public Works, Salem Beverly Water Board, Ipswich River Watershed Association, Salem Sound.
- 3) ***Protect freshwater habitat through education and enforcement.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Mass. Department of Fish and Game, Conservation Commission, OSRAC, School staff.

- 4) ***Educate residents on the surface water values and the impact of development/activity on these surface waters.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Newspapers, School staff, OSRAC.
  
- 5) ***Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen.

**GOAL # 7 HABITAT PRESERVATION:** To protect the existing lands and wetlands that help sustain the various native and migratory wildlife, fish, and birds in Danvers.

The purpose of habitat preservation is to protect the vegetated communities in which wildlife, fish, and birds live and breed. As described herein, habitat protection is often a secondary benefit of other protections, whether it is the protection of open space, stormwater retention areas, or waterfronts, etc.

There are various benefits of habitat protection. Protection has an aesthetic value as evidenced by the popularity of bird watching. Protection also has an ecological value by preserving the natural balance between species and the biodiversity of an area. Furthermore, protection provides a buffer between wildlife and human activity, which helps reduce potential conflicts.



*The following objectives should be used as guidelines for the next five year period to accomplish this goal:*

- 1) ***Continue to identify and protect specific areas important for habitat, feeding, wintering or migration of wildlife.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Mass. Fish and Game, OSRAC, Mass. Audubon, Essex County Greenbelt.
- 2) ***Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private.*** Time Frame: This is ongoing for years 1-5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, will begin in year 1. Responsible agencies: OSRAC, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen.



**GOAL # 8 STORMWATER RETENTION: To prevent flooding of downstream areas through the preservation of natural detention areas.**



In a natural drainage pattern, water flows downward through brooks and tributaries before reaching the ocean or rivers. In Danvers, a number of such brooks flow through the Town's watersheds and flow into either the Ipswich River to the west or the Danvers, Porter or Crane Rivers to the east. These tributary brooks have natural flatlands and wide depressions along their banks that accommodate the excess flow of water during periods of heavy rain and snow melt.

The vegetation that occurs along the brooks and adjacent areas helps filter contaminants from the stormwater before it discharges into the brooks. A secondary but no less important function of this vegetation and the natural depressions is the habitat it provides for fish and wildlife.

*The following objectives should be used as guidelines for the next five year period to accomplish this goal:*

1) Identify the brooks, streams and detention areas essential to stormwater management within the Town and protect from encroachment into these areas by development. Time Frame: Year 3 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission, Planning Board.

2) Develop a public awareness program to emphasize the importance of maintaining natural drainage courses and detention areas for both flood protection and wildlife habitat. Time Frame: Year 3 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Responsible agencies: Department of Public Works, School staff, Conservation Commission.

3) Continue participation in the technical review process by members of the permanent Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the focus on passive and active recreation and open space values in all future planning, public and private.



# **Section 9**

## **Five-Year Action Plan**

*“To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan,  
but also believe.”*  
~ Anatole France

The following actions are recommended for implementation over the five years of this Plan. Recognizing that priorities may change and that the availability of properties and funding will affect the proposed schedule, the sections of the 2008-2013 Open Space and Recreation Plan and its recommended actions should be viewed as a “road map” for the Town to utilize over the next five-year period. It is not intended to be an exclusionary list with an absolute schedule for implementation.

### **Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee**

This concept is a major key to the success of the proposed Open Space and Recreation Plan and was proposed by several parties including the Conservation Commission, the Recreation Committee, and the Town Manager. The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee, established in 2006, ensures continuity between plans as well as oversees the actions proposed in Section 9 of the 2008 Plan. In addition, the committee provides a vehicle for continued public input and support and allows for citizen assistance to the Department of Planning and Human Services. The committee includes representatives of other Town boards and acts as “ombudsmen” for open space and recreation issues at large. It is particularly helpful as a driving force to initiate the following actions which are recommendations of this plan.

#### **Open Space Intern Program/Stream Maintenance**

The Town should consider forming a summer intern program that concentrates on the monitoring and clean up of various waterways in Danvers. The “Stream Team” could be funded as part of or as a subset of the current Open Space Intern Program, working to identify problem areas and provide public education regarding surface water issues. Another option could be to have the team work with the Department of Public Works. The Town should explore the possibility of adding one more intern position to be primarily responsible for stream cleaning efforts. The Town should work to expand the program to its full staffing of six interns in order to accomplish larger projects.

Since its foundation in 1986, the Open Space Intern Program has been responsible for maintaining all the town-owned open space areas. Maintenance includes trail creation and marking, construction of kiosks, posting maps at designated areas, improving trail conditions by building bridges or adding wood chips to the pathway in muddy areas, painting the wood surfaces such as picnic tables, kiosks and some signage, planting of annuals, perennials and shrubs, trash collection, and mowing.

#### **Review Management Plans for all Open Space and Recreation Areas**

The Town needs to continue to formalize its stewardship of existing and future open space and recreation areas by developing written management plans for each parcel. These should include a map, inventory, purpose, and goals which will generate a budget and designation of a responsible party for its care and custody.

#### **Access to Open Space and Recreation Areas**

The Town should develop a process to identify and promote current access points and to seek out new or connecting pathways to improve and expand accessibility to more residents of Danvers. Maps and signs should be updated and available in the Recreation Office at Town Hall and at each open space area. Individual maps for each open space area should be provided at the open space areas on the kiosks with a note that encourages users to download the maps off the Town’s website and paper copies should be available at the Planning Department’s office. The open space

guidebook should be updated and should include the redesigned recreation areas. It is recommended to improve signage at the recreation areas by making the signage more consistent. Wheelchair access should be provided where possible.

### Education of Abutters and Residents

The Town should develop a process to identify problem areas and provide specific educational information to abutters and/or abusers of open space lands.

In addition, development of a broader public education/information program through the schools, library, cable, Town web sites, and newspapers about the opportunities and responsibilities regarding open space and recreation in Danvers should be undertaken. Furthermore, the Town should seek to collaborate with local high schools and colleges for assistance with this project.

## **FOCUS AREAS**

### **MUDDY BOO** (*A concept for the protection of a valuable storm water detention area*)

It is recommended that we protect the undeveloped portions of the area in South Central Danvers known as Muddy Boo. Muddy Boo is bounded on the west by Route 95, on the north by Centre Street, on the east by Prince and Garden Streets, and on the south by Route 114.

The protection of this area is important in order to preserve its natural function as a storm water detention area and as a habitat for animals and waterfowl. The area is covered with a dense growth of small trees, shrubs, and other vegetation which functions naturally to collect and hold storm water and release it gradually to the Crane Brook, the main stream of this watershed.

There are approximately 81 acres of undeveloped wetlands in this area owned by seven different landowners. Muddy Boo has been identified for protection in all five of the prior Open Space and Recreation Plans and has decreased in size as development encroaches from all directions along its perimeter in the drier areas. Negotiations for protecting the areas needed for drainage should commence in the first year of the five-year action plan.

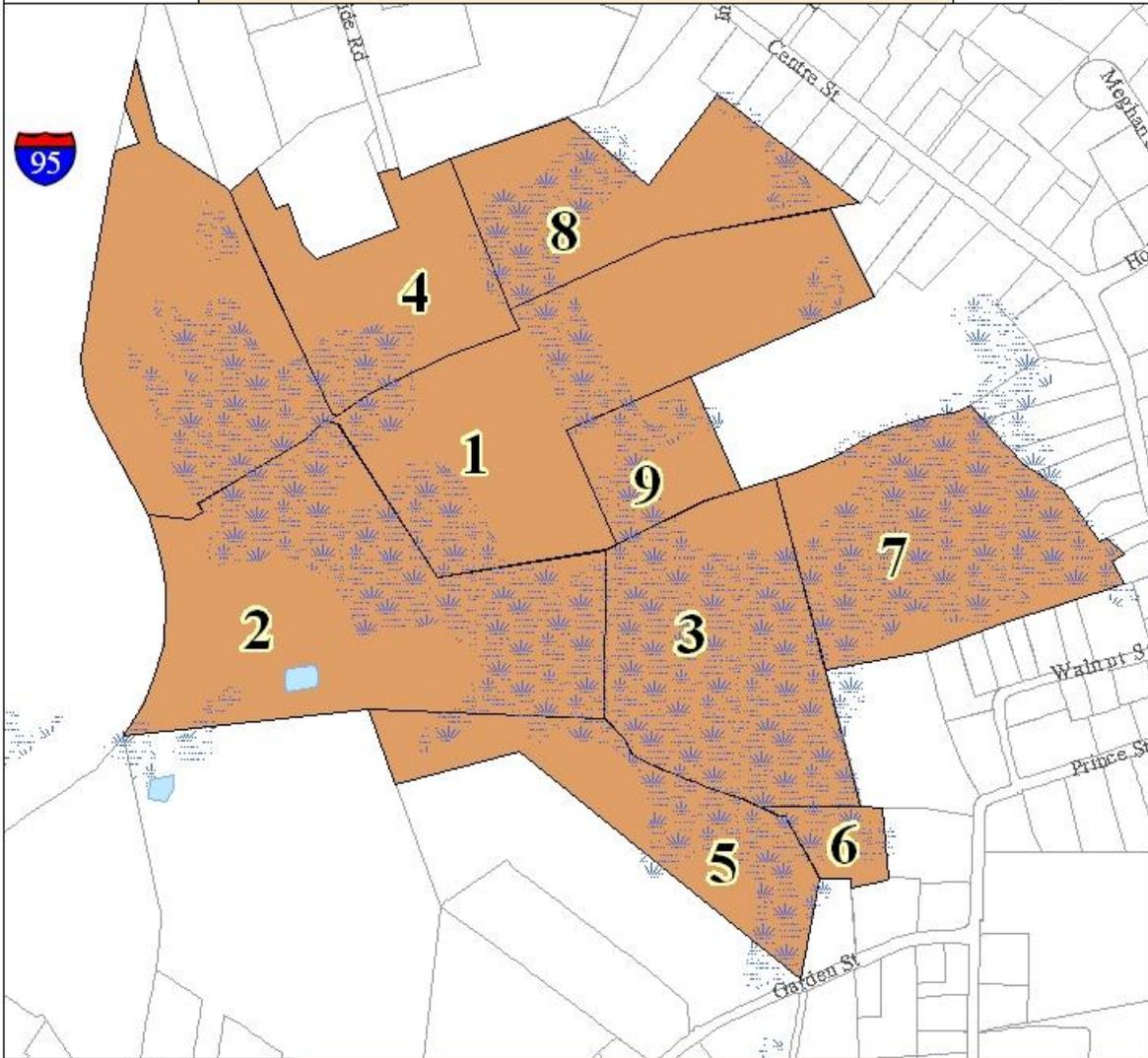
### **Recommended Actions:**

#### **❖ Protect remaining parcels comprising Muddy Boo:**

- 64 Centre St. (Parcel 041 173), *about 24.9 acres*
- 153R Andover St. (Parcel 048 034), *about 15.9 acres*
- 27R Prince St. (Parcel 049 147), *about 10.2 acres*
- 5 Southside Rd. (Parcel 040 037), *about 6.4 acres*
- 19 Garden St. (Parcel 049 036), *about 6.5 acres*; portion
- 27 Prince St. (Parcel 049 032), *about 1.1 acres*; portion
- 23 Prince St. (Parcel 049 031), *about 9.8 acres*; portion
- 86R Centre St. (Parcel 041 182A), *about 6.9 acres*
- 56 Centre St. (Parcel 041 170), *about 2.8 acres*; portion

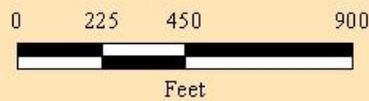
#### **❖ Provide information to business and private abutters about the significance of the Muddy Boo and the need to protect it.**

# Muddy Boo



June 2009  
Sources: Town of Danvers GIS  
MassGIS

-  Streams
-  Ponds
-  Wetlands



	<u>Parcel #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Size (Acres)</u>
1.	041 173	64 Centre St.	24.9
2.	048 034	153R Andover St.	15.6
3.	049 147	27R Prince St.	10.2
4.	040 037	5 Southside Rd.	6.4
5.	049 036	19 Garden St. (Portion)	6.5
6.	049 032	27 Prince St. (Portion)	1.1
7.	049 031	23 Prince St. (Portion)	9.8
8.	041 182A	86R Centre St.	6.9
9.	041 170	56 Centre St. (Portion)	2.8

## **LEBEL'S CRESCENT** (*A concept for a continuous greenbelt along the Ipswich River*)

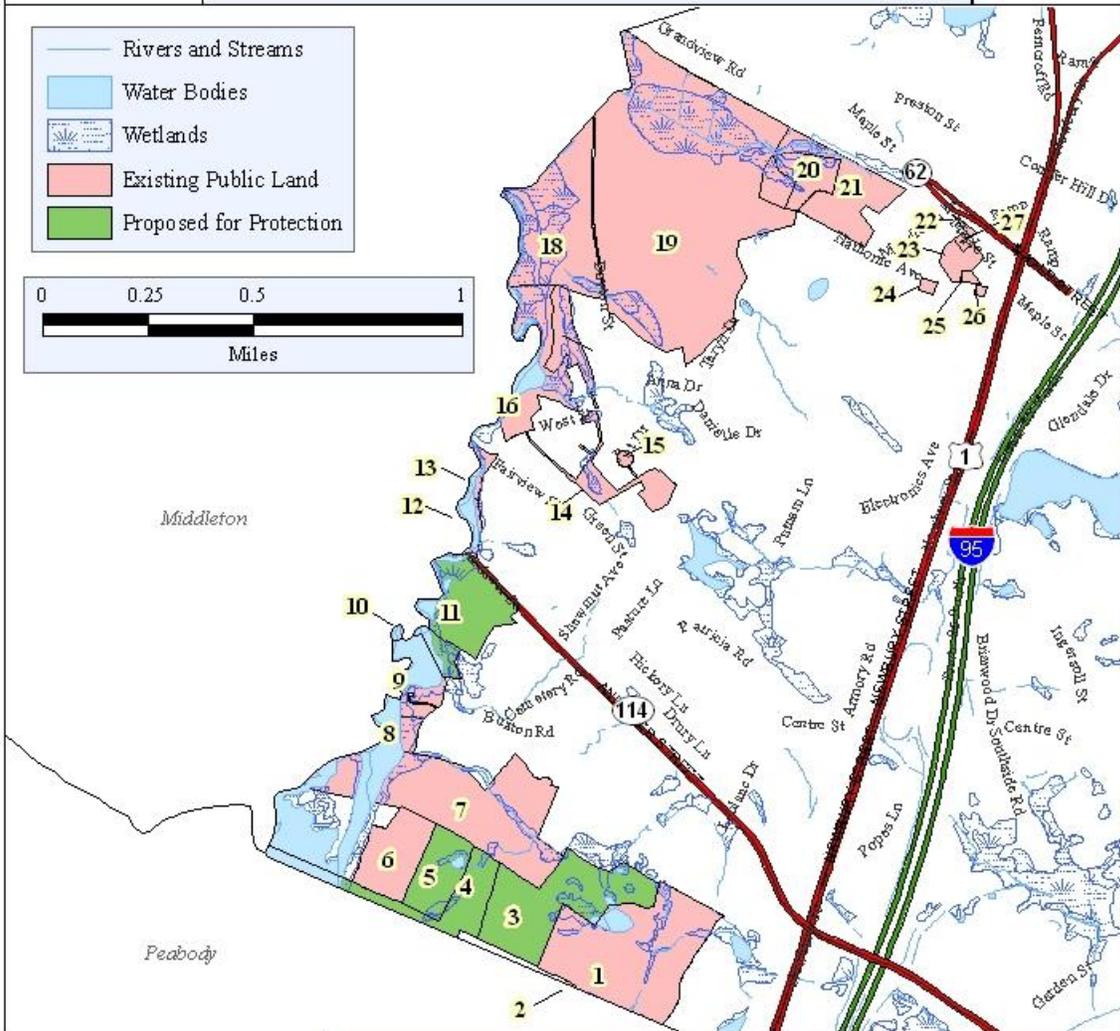
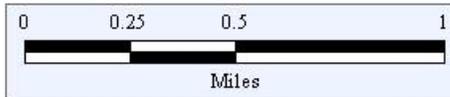
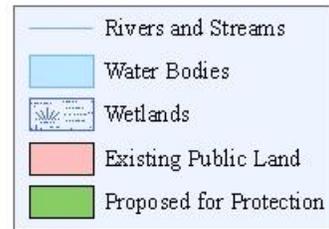
A number of properties along the Ipswich River are currently protected from development, either through the ownership of the Town of Danvers or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. These properties include the Danvers Town Forest off Buxton Road, the Town's well sites, and the Ipswich River Canoe Launch. With the protection of four additional properties (through acquisition, easement, or other method) a continuous link between the Town of Danvers Transfer Station to the former Danvers State Hospital property (now known as Avalon) can be created. The key piece for this continuous link or greenbelt is Lebel's Grove, the approximately 21-acre property at 390 Andover Street which also possesses over 1,000 feet of frontage on the Ipswich River. The name "Lebel's Crescent" shows recognition of the importance of this property to the concept.

Protecting the parcels identified in Lebel's Crescent will provide a continuous link of open space, allow for passive recreational trails, conserve the entire length of Ipswich River frontage in Danvers, and preserve its habitat. Implementing a plan for protection of all 16 parcels comprising the Crescent during the next five years will make Lebel's Crescent a reality and accomplish five goals of this Plan.

### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Protect "Lebel's Grove", 390 Andover Street.**
  - Through the past development of Westover Farms the Town has acquired four parcels of open space (Parcels 023 070, 023 010, 023 016 and 023 090) and should consider constructing a playground on one of these parcels.
  
- ❖ **Acquire an easement over the former Danvers State Hospital property to connect to park and trails as required by the conditions of redevelopment of the 75 acres at the Highlands/Lowlands property.**
  - As part of the development of Avalon at Hathorne Hill, the developer agreed to donate funds toward the establishment of an off-site facility.
  
- ❖ **Acquire easements to link the Town Forest to Lebel's Grove through Well Site 1:**
  - 59R Buxton Rd. (Parcel 038 003), *about 6.4 acres*; Temple Sinai
  - 54 Buxton Rd. (Parcel 038 007), *about 7.4 acres*; Sons of Jacob Cemetery
  
- ❖ **Acquire easements or protect:**
  - 18R Buxton Rd. (Parcel 046 002), *about 21.1 acres*; New England Power Company
  - 24R Buxton Rd. (Parcel 046 001), *about 13.5 acres*; New England Power Company
  - 105 Popes Ln. (Parcel 047 003), *about 35.7 acres*; New England Power Company - This would provide a link from Transfer Station (former landfill) to Town Forest.
  
- ❖ **Acquire easements over the remainder of Commonwealth of Massachusetts' properties.**
  
- ❖ **Construct "Lebel's Arch" – a pedestrian walkway over Route 114.**

# Lebel's Crescent



June 2009  
Sources: Town of Danvers GIS  
MassGIS

<u>Parcel #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Size (Acres)</u>	<u>Parcel #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Size (Acres)</u>
1	047 005 105 Popes Ln.	55.1	15	023 016 0 Pat Dr.	0.7
2	047 023 7 Helen Dr.	0.4	16	030 010A 19 West St.	22.5
3	047 003 105 Popes Ln.	35.7	17	023 010 5 West St.	8.1
4	046 002 18R Buxton Rd.	21.1	18	017 001 200 Dayton St.	42.0
5	046 001 24 Buxton Rd.	13.5	19	017 002 225 Dayton St.	156.2
6	046 004 50 Buxton Rd.	16.8	20	018 054 111 Middleton Rd.	8.4
7	038 005 54R Buxton Rd.	61.7	21	018 064 99 Middleton Rd.	23.7
8	038 007 54 Buxton Rd.	7.4	22	018 030 471 Maple St.	0.4
9	038 001 61 Buxton Rd.	14.1	23	018 059 466 Maple St.	3.9
10	038 003 59R Buxton Rd.	6.4	24	018 057 10 Hathorne Ave.	0.7
11	030 010 390 Andover St.	21.4	25	018 058 5 Hathorne Ave.	0.7
12	030 017 401 Andover St.	5.4	26	018 056 4 Hathorne Ave.	0.4
13	030 005 98 Green St.	3.5	27	018 060 470 Maple St.	0.7
14	023 070 8 West St.	9.4			

## **CHOATE-PUTNAMVILLE CONNECTOR**

### **A. CHOATE FARM CONSERVATION AREA**

With the acquisition of 22 acres of Choate Farm in 2001, the Town protects one of its few remaining large open space tracts. Since the last Open Space Plan, the property at 407 Locust Street has been subdivided into two lots and the Town has acquired a portion of this parcel for the Choate Farm Conservation Area at 401 Locust Street. This area has been used by the Danvers Elementary and High Schools as well as Salem State College. The Rotary Club of Danvers has provided significant improvements to much of the area including a parking lot, benches, and a trail complex through the upland forest. Prior to development of the parking lot, visitors had to park on the road shoulder of Locust Street.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Implementation of the use and management plan for:**
  - 401 Locust St. (Parcel 010 050), *about 22 acres*
- ❖ **Develop a use and management plan for Moore Woods Conservation Area and direct Open Space Intern Program work to actively implement it.**
  - 273R Locust St. (Parcel 015 039B), *about 5 acres*
- ❖ **Encourage public participation of care and maintenance of property including the Miriam E. Cooper Peach Orchard, parking lot, upland trail, Rail Road right-of-way, and Swampwalk.**
- ❖ **Construct Swampwalk from railroad right-of-way through Leach's Swamp to access pond vista.**
  - 49 Valley Rd. (Parcel 002 008), *about 47 acres*
- ❖ **Develop trail link via railroad right-of-way to Massachusetts Audubon in Topsfield.**
- ❖ **Pursue public access on cluster subdivision open-space parcels.**

### **B. PUTNAMVILLE PLAYGROUND EXPANSION**

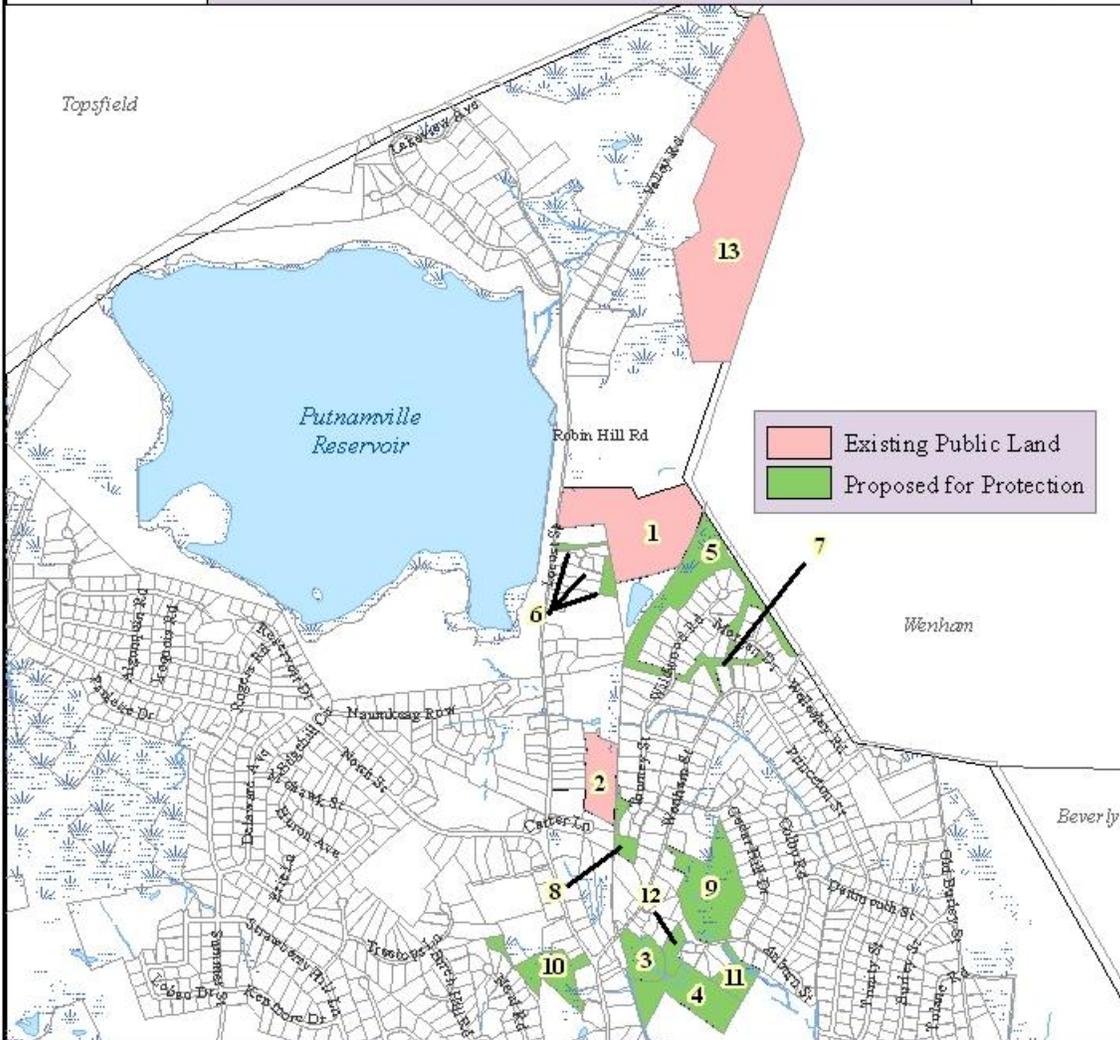
The Putnamville Playground is a “neighborhood park” located at 11 Wenham Street (Parcel 021 062). Due to the increase in the number of children within the surrounding area, an expansion of the facility should be explored. The Putnamville substation is scheduled to be dismantled within the next couple years and a formal trail system linking the playground to the High School on Cabot Road should be developed. A large open parcel at 203R Locust Street (Parcel 021 070), currently under the control of the Conservation Commission, is located between the Putnamville Playground and the High School. Trails have been established by the cross-country team over the years. The Town, however, does not actively market this area for use in the existing guidebook.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Identify areas for parking.**

- ❖ **Investigate the feasibility of expanding the park into the Danvers Electric Division substation area to be taken off-line in the near future.**
- ❖ **Develop trails linking playground to High School.**
- ❖ **Expand playground.**

# Choate-Putnamville Connector



Existing Public Land  
Proposed for Protection



June 2009  
Sources: Town of Danvers GIS  
MassGIS

<u>Parcel #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Size (Acres)</u>	<u>Parcel #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Size (Acres)</u>
1	010 050 401 Locust St.	21.9	11	021 080 12 Auburn St.	3.2
2	015 039B 273R Locust St.	5.0	12	021 095 21 Rocky Hill Cir.	1.7
3	021 062 11 Wenham St.	4.0	13	002 008 49 Valley Rd.	47.4
4	021 070 203R Locust St.	8.4			
5	010 020 16 Wildwood Rd.	11.4			
6	010 009 2 Makushkin Ln.	1.4			
7	015 091 13 Wildwood Rd.	2.8			
8	015 069A 15 Toomey St.	1.7			
9	021 087 15 Rocky Hill Cir.	12.0			
10	021 039B 27 Neal Rd.	7.2			

— Rivers and Streams  
 Water Bodies  
 Wetlands

0 700 1,400 2,800  
 Feet

## **FOUR-RIVERS ESTUARIES** (*A concept of a contiguous shoreline*)

The Porter, Crane & Waters Rivers converge to form the Danvers River which, in turn, leads to the Atlantic Ocean. The long, winding, shoreline of these estuaries emerge from contaminated industrial sites (that require cleanup) to undisturbed saltwater marsh where shorebirds forage.

### **Recommended Actions:**

#### ❖ **Protect “Waters River Gateway”**

- Water frontage at 126 & 128 Water Street (Parcels 065 054A & 064 064), *about 1.9 acres*

#### ❖ **Protect “Waters River Estuary”, specifically the shoreline on both sides from the river mouth to the Danvers-Peabody Town Line and acquire property from the former New England Home for the Deaf.**

- 152 Water St. (Parcel 067 001), *about 17 acres* - This property contains a historic structure as well as newer construction of another facility for resident care. There is a large grassed area between the buildings and the shorefront.
- Acquire land next to Waters River through fee or easement for public access including fishing, strolling, and access to Wrights Beach at end of Jacob’s Landing/NEPCO ROW. Wright’s Beach is inaccessible at the current time.

#### ❖ **Work with North Shore Medical Center officials to encourage the construction of walking paths for employees, patients and others.**

- 100 Endicott St. (Parcel 064 142), *about 49 acres*; North Shore Medical Center

#### ❖ **Protect the outer banks of the Porter River:**

- 55 Conant St. (Parcel 044 241), *about 31.1 acres*; Holten Richmond Middle School
- 31 & 31R Elliott St. (Parcels 044 026 & 044 027), *about 13.3 acres combined*
- 105R & 107R Elliott St. (Parcels 053 086A & 053 070), *about 17.1 acres combined*
- 17 Riverbank Ave. (Parcel 052 127), *about .4 acre*
- 81R & 95 Liberty St. (Parcels 052 057A & 052 062), *about 13.4 acres combined*
- 34, 30, 29, 31,33, & 35 Congress Ave. (Parcels 053 049, 053 050, 053 066, 053 067, 053 068, & 053 069), *about .8 acre combined*
- 21 Harvard St. (Parcel 043 048), *about .3 acre*
- 55 Clinton Ave. (Parcel 059 002B), *about 12.7 acres*

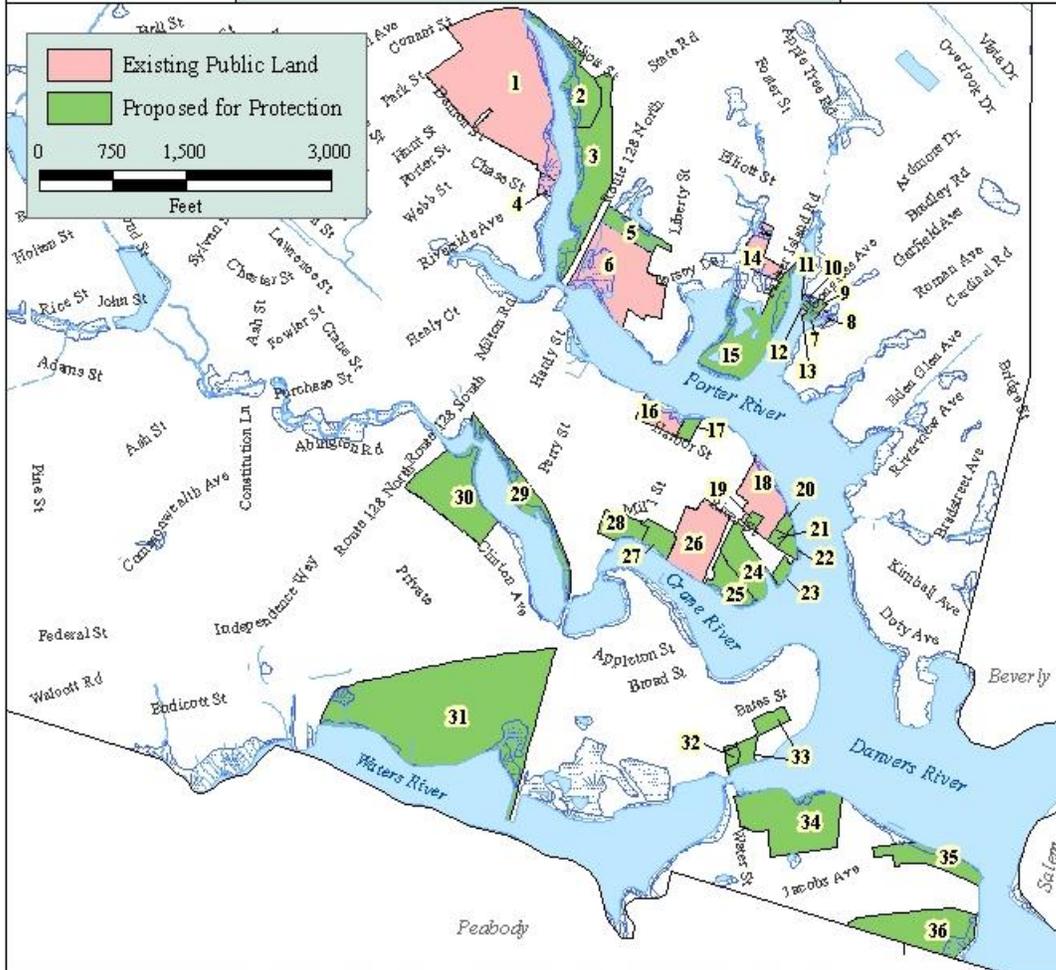
#### ❖ **Protect the inner shore of the Porter and Crane Rivers**

- 8 & 10 Harbor St. (Parcels 059 119 & 059 119A), *about 3.7 acres combined*
- 35, 44, 48, 6, 56, 57, & 58 River St. (Parcels 059 191, 059 187, 060 005, 060 008, 060 007, 060 009, & 060 001), *about 14 acres combined*
- 3 River Dr. (Parcel 059 189), *about 4.7 acres*
- McDewell Ave. (Parcel 059 190), *about 3.7 acres*
- 13 Mill St. (Parcel 059 204), *about 1.7 acres*
- 28 Water St. (Parcel 059 134), *about 2.5 acres*
- 20 Cheever St. (Parcel 059 039), *about 1.9 acres*

#### ❖ **Protect “Danvers River Estuary”**

- Shoreline of 22 Jacobs Ave. (Parcel 067 003), *about 7 acres*; New England Power Co.
- Shoreline of 15 Mt. Carmel Rd. (Parcel 067 076), *about 11.4 acres*

# Four Rivers Estuary



Streams  
Ponds  
Wetlands



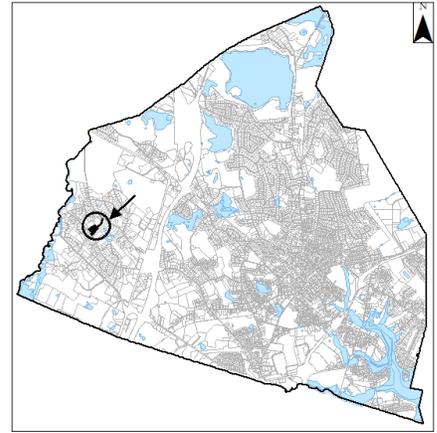
June 2009  
Sources: Town of Danvers GIS  
MassGIS

Parcel #	Address	Size (Acres)	Parcel #	Address	Size (Acres)
1	044 241 55 Conant St.	31.1	19	060 005 48 River St.	0.5
2	044 027 31R Elliott Street	4.4	20	060 008 6 River St. Ct.	0.4
3	044 026 31 Elliott St.	8.9	21	060 007 56 River St.	0.3
4	052 127 17 Riverbank Ave.	0.4	22	060 009 58 River St.	1.2
5	052 057A 81R Liberty St.	1.7	23	060 001 57 River St.	0.5
6	052 062 95 Liberty St.	11.7	24	059 189 3 River Dr.	4.7
7	053 049 34 Congress Ave.	0.1	25	059 190 McDewell Ave.	3.7
8	053 048 21 Harvard Ave.	0.3	26	059 191 35 River St.	5.9
9	053 050 30 Congress Ave.	0.3	27	059 204 13 Mill St.	1.7
10	053 066 29 Congress Ave.	0.1	28	059 134 28 Water St.	2.5
11	053 067 31 Congress Ave.	0.1	29	059 039 20 Cheever St.	1.9
12	053 068 33 Congress Ave.	0.1	30	059 002B 55 Clinton Ave.	12.7
13	053 069 35 Congress Ave.	0.1	31	064 142 100 Endicott St.	49.0
14	053 086A 105R Elliott St.	2.5	32	064 064 128 Water St.	1.3
15	053 070 107R Elliott St.	14.6	33	065 054A 126 Water St.	1.9
16	059 119 8 Harbor St.	2.4	34	067 001 152 Waters St.	17.2
17	059 119A 10 Harbor St.	1.3	35	067 003 22 Jacobs Ave.	7.0
18	059 187 44 River St.	5.2	36	067 076 15 Mt. Carmel Rd.	11.4

## WEST PARK

*(A proposal for a neighborhood park for West Danvers)*

The neighborhood of West Danvers is separated from the remainder of the Town by two major roadways, Route 1 and Interstate 95. While home to a number of residents, particularly along Dayton and Centre/Green Streets, the neighborhood does not currently contain any active recreation areas. A neighborhood park to which residents can walk or bicycle is proposed. Acquisition of a property with sufficient size to accommodate a playground, basketball courts, a multi-use field, and picnic tables is necessary.



### **Recommended Actions:**

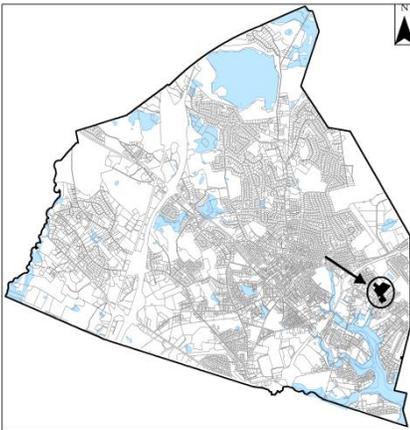
#### ❖ **Identify potential properties for use such as:**

- 35 Green St. (Parcel 031 067), *about 5.6 acres*
- Westover Farms (Parcels 023 070, 023 010, 023 016, 023 090), *about 18.9 acres*
- 140 Dayton St. (Parcel 031 063), *about .87 acres*
- 142 Dayton St. (Parcel 031 064), *about .81 acres*
- 144 Dayton St. (Parcel 031 065), *about .16 acres*

#### ❖ **Negotiate with owners to acquire property.**

#### ❖ **Construct and develop park.**

#### ❖ **Increase neighborhood involvement.**



## FOLLY HILL WATERSHED

*(A concept of contiguous lots forming a watershed)*

The highest and most compact watershed in Danvers is the sweep of land from the top of Folly Hill that rolls down through the farm at 40 Foster Street, squeezes under Elliott Street, spreads through the "Swiss cheese" of developed/undeveloped lots between the Williams School and the Danversport Yacht Club and settles into a feeder estuary of the Porter River. A holistic plan that attends to this topography is needed to insure no further unintended disruption of the watershed. Protection of the larger uphill tracts and smaller lots downstream may require all five years of this plan but first-year focus on the Reeve Trust properties and 40 Foster Street is vital.

The Town has acquired a portion of the Reeve Trust properties contiguous with the lot already owned by the Town.

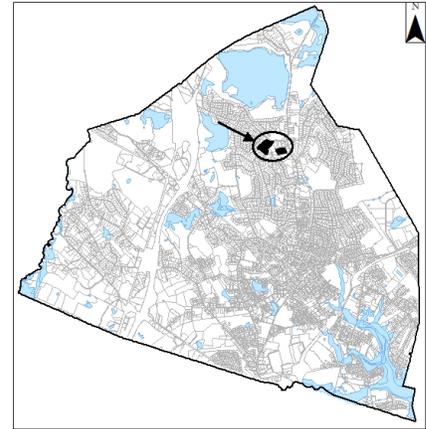
### **Recommended Actions:**

#### ❖ **Protect remaining properties:**

- 126 Elliott St. (Parcel 053 106), *about 3.4 acres*; Currently protected by Chapter 61A
- 36 Foster St. (Parcels 053 104A), *about .5 acres*; Currently agricultural use
- 40 Foster St. (Parcel 053 104), *about 11.9 acres*; Currently agricultural use

**NIKE KNOLL**

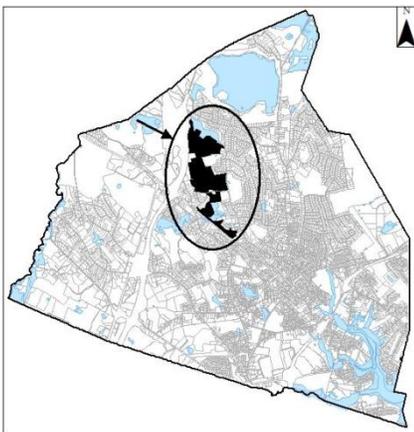
The United States Government discontinued use of the NIKE Site at 72 North Street some years ago and the property has recently become more actively used by the National Guard. Though a specific use has not been identified, the Town has expressed an interest in protecting the approximately 12-acre property from development.



Located adjacent to the NIKE Site are two undeveloped properties under common ownership: 68 and 70 North Street. The protection of these properties in conjunction with that of the NIKE Site would result in protection of about 14 acres of open space in a well-developed neighborhood. Furthermore, a possibility exists for protection of a portion the property at 252R Locust Street upon which a dwelling currently exists.

**Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Protect the properties most vulnerable to development:**
  - 68 North St. (Parcel 015 030), *about 1.3 acres*
  - 70 North St. (Parcel 014 205), *about .7 acre*
- ❖ **Contact the Federal Government and negotiate for the protection of:**
  - 72 North St. (Parcel 014 079), *about 12 acres*
- ❖ **Protect other important properties:**
  - 252R Locust St. (Parcel 021 039A), *about 5.7 acres*
  - 7 Bridle Spur Rd. (Parcel 001 001), *about 9.8 acres*; Also known as the Bridle Spur Rd. Extension. Acquiring this 9.8-acre property would provide additional protection to the Putnamville Reservoir owned by the Salem-Beverly Water Supply Board.



**LOBAO SWAMP/BISHOP'S MEADOW/COLLEGE POND**

Lobao Swamp, Bishop's Meadow, and College Pond, are three wetlands located within the area bound by Summer Street, Interstate 95, and Maple Street. Although the Town currently owns a number of properties within the limits of these natural resources, the sensitive environmental nature and the valuable function that these wetlands perform warrant protection of the other properties which comprise them. One of the most important property owners in this area is St. John's Preparatory School which is the single largest owner of land within Lobao Swamp and Bishop's Meadow. It is recommended that methods of protection be discussed with the School. The discussions between the Town and St. John's

Preparatory School concerning the construction of additional recreational fields on the upland

portions of the school’s property should continue to encourage the School and Town’s shared use. Plans to expand Gibbons Field to include a larger baseball diamond and a new practice field for football are currently underway. St. John’s Preparatory School anticipates construction to begin in June 2008.

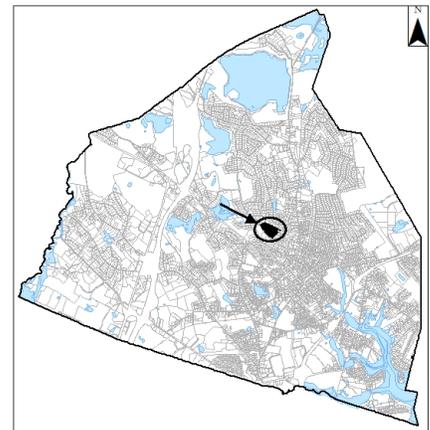
**Recommended Actions:**

❖ **Protect parcels around Lobao Swamp, Bishop’s Meadow, and College Pond:**

- 36 Spring St. (Parcel 025 073A), *about 21 acres*
- 40 Summer St. (Parcel 034 003A), *about 4 acres*
- 50 Spring St. (Parcel 019 017), *about 111 acres*; St. John’s Preparatory School
- 65 Spring St. (Parcel 020 049), *about 30 acres*; St. John’s Preparatory School
- 126R North St. (Parcel 013 024), *about 2.6 acres*; St. John’s Preparatory School
- 164 Summer St. (Parcel 014 202), *about 5 acres*; (portion in Bishop’s meadow)
- 21 Spring St. (Parcel 025 074), *about 23 acres*; (adjacent to College Pond)
- 12 College Pond Dr. (Parcel 034 001), *about 15 acres*; (private dedicated open space located adjacent to the Town-owned College Pond Conservation Area)
- 18 Summer St. (Parcel 034-008A), *about 5 acres*; Wadsworth Cemetery

**LINDALL HILL**

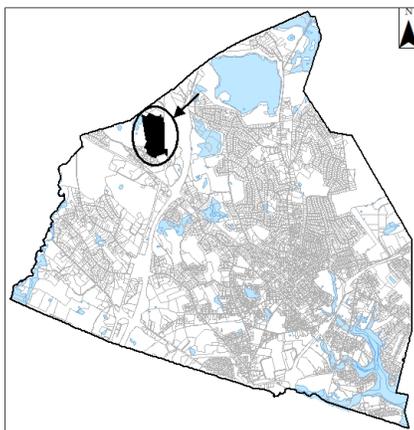
The property at the former Hunt Hospital which is located at 75 Lindall Street contains over 16 acres of land. Most of the buildings are not in use, but some are still used as medical offices or in transition to another use. A portion of this parcel (described as Lot 1 and including areas of Creese Road and Lindall Street Extension) was set aside during the development of the Hunt Hospital for permanent protection. Lots 3 and 4 have been reserved under a private Open Space Restriction Easement with similar conditions as a Conservation Restriction. Lot 4 includes a utility easement.



**Recommended Actions:**

❖ **The Town should work towards developing a passive recreation site for seniors at:**

- 75 Lindall St. (Parcel 034 139), *about 16 acres*



**FERNCROFT CONSERVATION AREA**

The Town of Danvers currently holds an agreement with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the use of the area surrounding Ferncroft Pond. The placement of this property under the permanent control of the Town would guarantee the continuing use of the property by the Town. The Open Space Intern Program maintains the trails located on the property.

**Recommended Actions:**

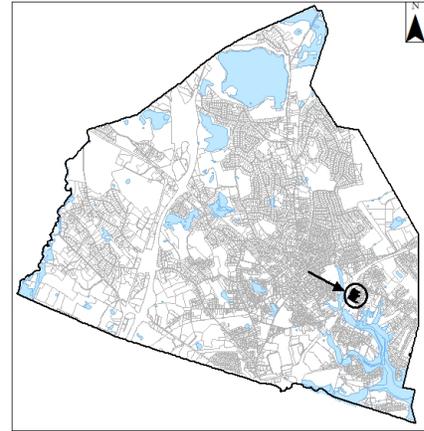
- ❖ **Initiate negotiations to acquire the Ferncroft Conservation Area (the “lease” area) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

### **RIVERSIDE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND AREA**

The approximately two-acre property abutting the Riverside School to the north and located immediately adjacent to the play fields would provide a natural and much needed extension of these fields. The Town purchased a portion of 81R Liberty St. (Parcel 052 057A) in November 2001 for the possible expansion of recreational fields at the Riverside School which directly abuts this parcel.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Acquire portions of**
  - 69 Liberty St. (Parcel 052 052), *about 2.4 acres*
  - 67 Liberty St. (Parcel 052 051), *about 3.3 acres*
  - 59 Liberty St. (Parcel 052 049), *about 1.5 acres*

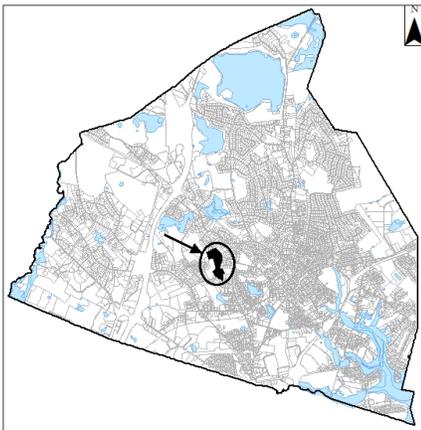
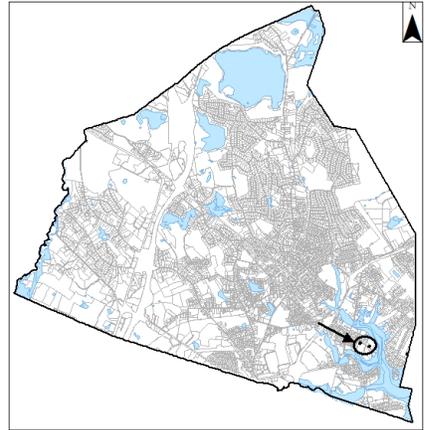


### **JOHN GEORGE PARK/SANDY BEACH RECREATION AREA**

The waterfront area known as John George Park is located on River Street adjacent to Crane Marina and Sandy Beach. On the opposite side of River Street, lies the Town's only public beach. The acquisition of 25 River Street would allow the expansion of the playground at John George Park while the acquisition of 48 River Street would provide improved access to Sandy Beach and expanded parking facilities.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Negotiate with property owners for acquisition of:**
  - 48 River St. (Parcel 060 005), *about .5 acre*
  - 25 River St. (Parcel 059 192), *about .5 acre*
- ❖ **Negotiate the granting of an easement for a boardwalk along the waterfront between Water Street and John George Park.**



### **PARK-to-CLARK CONNECTOR**

Saint Mary of the Annunciation Cemetery at 155 Hobart Street (Parcel 042 008A), owned by the Archdiocese of Boston, physically separates Endicott Park from Clark Farm. In addition to the Agricultural Preservation Restriction placed on Clark Farm, the Town also has a recreation easement around the perimeter of the property for a walking trail. With the acquisition either by easement or purchase of a small portion of the cemetery, the Town could provide a continuous link from the trails within Endicott Park to Clark Farm and ultimately to Gates Field and the Highlands School.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Contact the owner and negotiate for an easement or acquisition of a portion of the Annunciation Cemetery.**

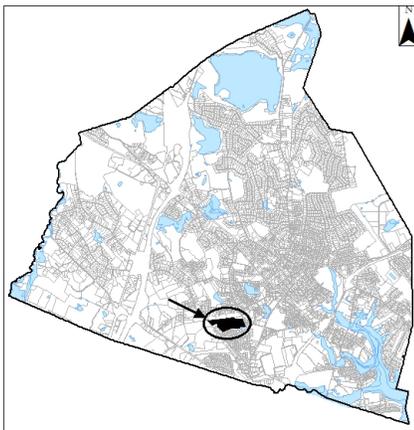
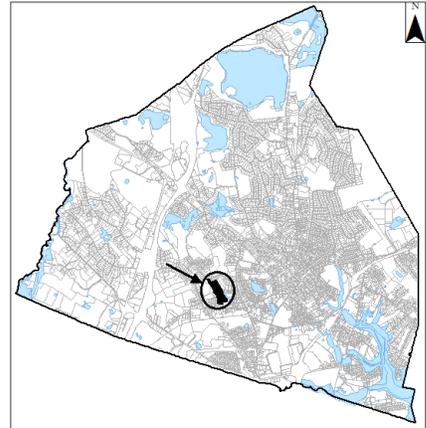
- 155 Hobart St. (Parcel 042 008A); *about 27.9 acres*; Archdiocese of Boston

### **GATES FIELD TRAILS**

The Town currently owns Gates Field at 15 Stone Street which contains soccer fields and parking. Additional parking is available at the Senior Center and the Highlands School, both of which are adjacent to the fields. The undeveloped portion of the Gates property contains woodlands and some wetlands and is suitable for the development of nature trails for use by neighbors, elders, and visitors.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Develop trails on Gates Field property**
  - 15 Stone St. (Parcel 049 100), *about 23 acres*



### **REBECCA NURSE EASEMENT**

This property located at 149 Pine Street is currently in private ownership by the Danvers Alarm List Company. The Town should pursue an agricultural preservation restriction, conservation, or public use easement for walking trails to add further protection from potential development.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

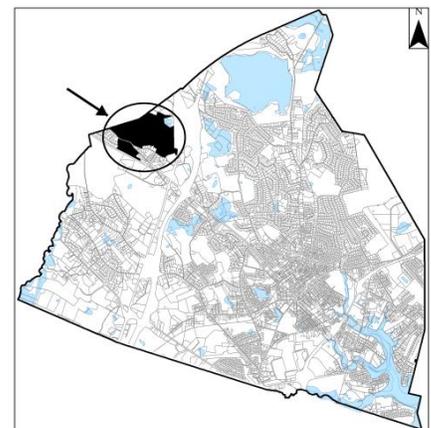
- ❖ **Discuss permanent protection with owners of Rebecca Nurse Homestead**
  - 149 Pine St. (Parcel 057 203), *about 26 acres*

### **ESSEX AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL AND NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE:**

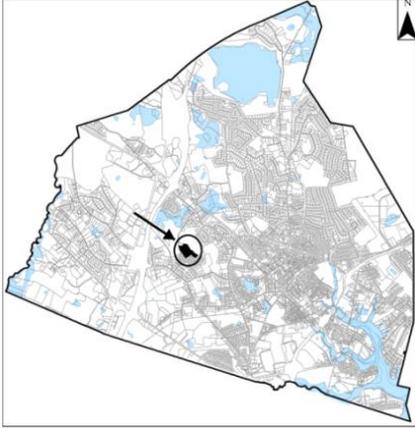
Essex Agricultural and Technical High School or Essex Aggie (as it is commonly referred to) is an independent, state funded, day school serving grades nine through twelve. It is located in the Hathorne section of Town near the Middleton town line. Founded in 1913, Essex Aggie serves students from various towns within a twenty mile radius of the school. The Aggie educational program specializes in plant, animal, and Environmental Sciences.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Work with merger committee to ensure incorporation of continued public access.**
- ❖ **Continue cooperative partnership with Essex Aggie on use of athletic fields.**
- ❖ **Protect:**
  - 562 Maple St. (Parcel 012 002), *about 24.8 acres*



- 565 Maple St. (Parcel 012 001), *about 83.7 acres*
- 10 Ferncroft Rd. (Parcel 012 017D), *about 65.8 acres*
- 10 Ferncroft Rd. (Parcel 012 017D), *about 65.8 acres*



**ENDICOTT PARK EXPANSION**

The property located at 90 Forest Street is under the private ownership of the Roman Catholic Archbishop and is also known as St. Richard’s Church. If this were to become available for purchase, the Town would be interested in acquiring part or all of this parcel to expand Endicott Park and increase its contiguity.

**Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Acquire all or a portion of:**
  - 90 Forest St. (041 040), *about 11.2 acres*

## **FIVE YEAR RECREATION FIELD AND FACILITY PLAN**

The Recreation Division currently offers 362 Childcare and Recreational Programs that service over 6,400 participants per year. The Division also runs an award winning Concert Series in the summer. The waterfront attracts over 2,000 visitors by boat and over 1,000 boaters use the Town's Pope's Landing boat ramp and Crane River Marina. Endicott Park has 123,000 visitors throughout the year. Thirteen youth and adult sport leagues use every possible field in Town.

The Recreation Division permits and schedules all Town fields and facilities and works with St. John's Preparatory School and Essex Aggie on shared usage of their fields.

The Geese Management and Integrated Pest Management programs are also administered by the Recreation Division and the Board of Health.

The fields and facilities utilized in the above activities are constantly monitored by the Recreation Division, the Recreation Committee and the Public Works Department.

An important component of any Open Space and Recreation Plan is the continuing maintenance and improvements required for all recreational facilities within the Town. Action plans for the maintenance and improvements appear in the Five Year Recreation Field and Facility Plan below.

Funding for improvements and maintenance comes from several sources including the Town of Danvers, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, recreation leagues, Friends of Danvers Recreation, Friends of Endicott Park, and private donations.

### **Recommended Actions:**

- ❖ **Formalize an agreement with New England Power Company to use the practice fields on Bow Street.**
- ❖ **Continue discussions with Essex Aggie and St. John's Preparatory School over shared use of fields and other possible joint projects.**
- ❖ **Implement the Five Year Recreation Field and Facility Plan.**

<b>Priority</b>	
1	Needs to be addressed immediately (1-2 yrs)
2	Recommended to be addressed in 3-5 yrs
3	Not a top priority, but should be addressed
4	Future consideration

<b>Funding</b>	
SF	State Funded
TF	Town Funded
PF	Privately Funded
PTF	Private/Town Funded
C	Currently Underway
NEI	Not Enough Information

**5 Year - Recreation Facility Plan 05-02-2008**

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>
<b>HIGHLAND SCHOOL</b>	Link to gates	3	PTF
	Lights on tennis courts	3	TF
	Lights on basketball court	3	TF
	Regrade fields/fix drainage	1	PTF
	Finish fencing tennis courts	1	TF
	Repair playground Drainage	1	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF
	Repair/replace backstop	1	TF
	Improve 2nd infield area	1	TF
	Geese management	1	TF
<b>GREAT OAK SCHOOL</b>	Multi-use field (outfields)	4	PTF
	Permanent concession stand with restrooms	2	PTF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF
	Improve parking	1	TF
	Batting cages	3	PTF
	Add dugouts	3	PTF
<b>THORPE SCHOOL</b>	Multi-purpose fields	1	PTF
	Replace basketball backboards	2	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF
	Street hockey lines	1	TF
<b>RIVERSIDE SCHOOL</b>	Develop additional field space	3	PTF
	Improve quality of turf	1	PTF
	Improve school common area and playground	1	PTF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Geese management	1	TF

Light maintenance	1	TF
-------------------	---	----

<b>SMITH SCHOOL</b>	Nature/Walking trails/Pond	3	PTF
	Poles to stop cars from entering	1	PTF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	St. Johns Preparatory School proposal	4	PTF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>DANVERS HIGH SCHOOL</b>	Artificial grass field Deering Stadium	2	TF
	Add outdoor lights - football, soccer fields	1	PTF
	Add outdoor lights - basketball court	3	TF
	Resurface/Rebuild track	1	TF
	Replace bleachers	2	TF
	Improve high school (left) turf	1	PTF
	Rebuild tennis courts	3	TF
	Ongoing playground Maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>
<b>DANVERS HIGH SCHOOL</b>	Geese management	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF
	Project adventure course	2	PTF

<b>BRADSTREET PARK</b>	Designated entry walkway	2	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>FOLLY HILL PARK</b>	Basketball court	1	TF
	Remove paved area - replace with grass	1	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome Sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>LAWRENCE STREET PARK</b>	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign - of location	2	PTF
	Repair/replace flower beds	3	PTF

<b>PRESTON STREET PARK</b>	Orientation of field	3	PTF
----------------------------	----------------------	---	-----

	Improve drainage	3	TF
	Parking improvements	3	TF
	Improve entryway roadside	2	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF
<b>PUTNAMVILLE PARK</b>	Parking	2	TF
	Walking trails	3	TF
	Replace playground equipment	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF
	Develop abandoned substation land	2	PTF
	Replace playground surfacing with wood chips	1	TF
<b>RAND CIRCLE PARK</b>	Shade structure	1	PF
	Basketball hoop	1	PF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF
<b>SANDY BEACH PARK</b>	Interactive pool area	4	TF
	Community swimming pool	4	TF
	Community boat house	4	TF
	Expanded beach area	2	TF
	Remove storm drain	1	TF
	Power source at life guard stand	3	TF
	Life guard stand	1	TF
	Geese/wildlife maintenance	1	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Dredging	4	TF
	Erosion Control	2	PTF
	Expand parking	1	TF
	Water Quality	1	TF
<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>
<b>SOUTHWICK PARK</b>	Shade structure	2	TF
	Trees	2	TF
	Permanent picnic table	1	TF

Formalize use agreement on abutting field	1	TF
Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF

<b>SOUTHWICK PARK</b>	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF
	Off-street parking area	3	TF

<b>WILLIAMS SCHOOL</b>	Add picnic tables	1	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>PLAINS PARK</b>	Field surface 4 & 6, skinned backstops	2	PTF
	Speed bumps on exit road	2	PTF
	Tennis court signage	1	TF
	Tennis court resurfacing	1	TF
	Tennis court backboard	1	TF
	Tennis court benches	1	TF
	Tennis court fencing	1	TF
	Light maintenance	1	TF
	Light capital replacement	1	PTF
	Memorial Field - dugouts, drainage Backup	3	PTF
	Twi field bleachers - 1st Base side	1	PTF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>TAPLEY PARK</b>	Batting cage	2	PF
	Improve basketball lighting	2	TF
	Re-alignment & lining of parking area	1	PTF
	No Parking signs along outfield fence		C
	Backstop Phinney Field	2	TF
	Well for watering	1	TF
	Maintain ball field lights	1	TF
	Replace dugouts	2	PF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF
	Replace bleachers- Phinney Field	1	PTF
	Repair fence - Moulton Field	2	PTF

Screening for Pine St. House	1	PTF
Pave front parking area	1	PTF
Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>GATES FIELDS</b>	Wetlands study to allow for fields to be turned and add a field	3	PTF
	Snack bar/Concession stand	3	PTF
	Restrooms	3	PF
	Connection to Highland School area	2	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>
<b>GATES FIELDS</b>	Ongoing resodding	2	PTF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>JOHN GEORGE PARK</b>	Geese management	1	TF
	Fitness signage for walking path	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PT
	Improve Power Center	2	TF
	Ongoing playground maintenance <i>(of equipment and surfacing)</i>	1	TF

<b>THE MEADOWS</b>	Benches	2	TF
	Lighting	1	TF
	Safety signage	1	TF
	Improve ice maintenance		C
	Grade parking lot	3	TF
	Repair bridge	1	PTF
	Maintain water dam	1	TF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>TOWN FOREST</b>	Trail improvements	2	PTF
	Roadway access	1	PTF
	Improve parking	1	PTF
	Improve signage	1	PTF
	Welcome sign (of location)	2	PTF

<b>ENDICOTT PARK</b>	Replace playground components	1	PTF
	Repair/replace playground fencing	1	PTF
	Extend fencing to include shade tree	1	PTF
	Install irrigation - North Green	1	TF
	Regrade/Resurface walkways	2	TF
	Install irrigation heads Front Orchard	1	TF
	Construct trail for the blind	3	PTF
	Construct swamp observation platform	3	PTF
	Construct swamp walk	3	TF
	Rebuild stone wall	3	PTF
	Install Clivis restroom - Back Orchard	2	PTF
	Install artesian well for irrigation	2	PTF
	Rebuild/repair Life Trail	2	PTF
	Upkeep of Pooper Scooper locations	2	PTF
	Life Trail improvements	1	PTF
	Reconstruct paddock fence line	2	TF
	Correct erosion by handicap fishing platform	1	F
	Maintain bridges (roads by the bridges)	1	PTF

<b>CRANE RIVER MARINA</b>	Bank stabilization to prevent erosion	1	TF
	Restroom facility for boaters	1	PT
	Replace Pier	2	PTF
	Improve marina security	2	TF
	Dock improvement program	1	C

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>
<b>POPE'S LANDING</b>	Replace/Repair Lighting	2	TF
	Alarm system installation	3	TF
	Rip-Rap Repair	1	PTF
	Waterfront office renovations/additions	3	TF

<b>HARBOR</b>	Dredging	4	TF/SF
	Water quality management	1	C
	Construction of fishing pier	1	SF
	Mooring Management Plan	1	TF
	Construct canoe/kayak launch	1	SF

Regulatory sign/buoy replacement	1	C
----------------------------------	---	---

<b>Potential Recreation Facilities</b>	Synthetic turf fields
	Bike paths
	Swamp Walk
	River Walkway
	Multi-use pathway
	Indoor/outdoor skating rink
	Dog park
	State Hospital - trails, passive park
	Lebel's Grove - multi-use park
	Essex Aggie - recreation partnerships
	Precinct 8 - playground, field space
	Town-wide basketball courts
	Senior park at Hunt Hospital
	Bocce courts

# **Appendix**

## **Town of Danvers Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee**

In November 2006, the Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) initiated a town-wide survey to seek input from the townspeople as to their perceptions of the current status and future needs for Open Space and Recreation facilities within the Town. Response to the questionnaire was outstanding, with 941 responses. This Appendix summarizes the results of the survey. A computerized “Excel” version of the complete survey results as submitted by responders, including very detailed narrative responses to Questions 5, 6, 9 and the special “Narrative Comments” section may be obtained upon request to Susan Fletcher at Danvers Town Hall, Assistant Director of the Planning and Human Services Department.

This Appendix includes a copy of the Questionnaire, a summary of responses where numerical quantities could be obtained, and a summary of some of the more significant findings of the survey. Percentages shown on the “numerical” charts reflect both the percentage of all responses received for the question, (i.e. including “no response”) and the percentage when those “no responses” were excluded.

Lastly, the Appendix includes notes taken and specific comments made during meetings with various neighborhood focus groups.

A summary of this survey information was reported to the Town’s Board of Selectmen and management and data taken from the survey was used extensively during the preparation of this 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

# Resident Survey

Dear Resident:

**The Town of Danvers is conducting a Community Needs Survey. We are preparing a Master Plan to guide recreation, park, and open space planning and development. To best accommodate and serve the community, we need your help. Please take 5-8 minutes to complete this survey.**

All survey information is anonymous and will provide input on specific priorities based on the needs of our citizens.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact me by calling (978) 777-0001 ext. 3027 or by email at [sfletcher@mail.danvers-ma.org](mailto:sfletcher@mail.danvers-ma.org).

We value your observations and priorities. Please participate in this survey.

**1. During the year how often do you or your family members use the following?**

- a. What open space areas (e.g. Endicott Park, Proctor Farm etc.) do you use?  
\_\_\_\_\_ How Often? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. What parks & Recreational Facilities (e.g. John George Park, Plains Park etc) do you use?  
\_\_\_\_\_ How Often? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. What waterfront facilities (i.e. Sandy Beach, Town marina etc.) do you use?  
\_\_\_\_\_ How Often? \_\_\_\_\_

**2. How would you rate the overall condition of the Town's open space parcels, parks, recreational facilities, and waterfront?**

Circle one:    Excellent        Good        Satisfactory        Poor

**3. Do you think the Town's "green infrastructure" of water resources, land, farms, forests, wildlife habitats, parks, recreational facilities, trails, and greenways is important to the Town's future?**

Circle One:    Yes        No

**4. Do you think there is a need for additional open space and recreation areas?**

Recreation areas/facilities (Circle One)    Yes        No  
Open Space areas (Circle One)                Yes        No

**5. What areas of town are in need of active or passive recreational facilities? \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_

**6. What types of recreational facilities would you like to see in Town? \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. How important is it to you that the Town continues to acquire open space and develop recreational areas?**

(Circle One)    a. Very Important        b. Somewhat Important        c. Not Very Important        d. Not Important

**8. If the acquisition of open space and the development of new recreational areas is very, or somewhat important to you, would you be willing to pay an additional surcharge or tax of \$50 a year for the next five years which would then be matched by the State for the purpose of acquiring open space and developing new recreational areas?**

Circle One:    Yes        No



## **Summary of 2006 Survey Findings**

Outstanding Survey Response from Danvers Townspeople – 941 received. Many responses contained detailed narrative comments.

- **Open Space areas most used:**
  - Endicott Park (76%)
  - Plains Park (53%)
  - Neighborhood Parks (42%)
- 88% rated Condition of Danvers Open Space “Good” or “Excellent”.
- 96% of Population rated “Green Infrastructure” Important to Danvers’ Future.
- 64% see a need for more Recreation Areas and Facilities.
- 76% see a need for more “Open Space” areas.
- 84% think it is important to acquire Open Space and Recreation Areas.
- 65% of respondents are willing to pay a \$50 tax surcharge per year for 5 years to acquire “Open Space”
- **Major Sources of Open Space & Recreation Information:**
  - Newspapers – 82%
  - Word of Mouth – 51%
  - Flyers – 26%
  - All other sources rated below 23%
- **Demographics of Survey Responders:**
  - 57% were female
  - 49% were over 55 years of age – only 6% were younger than 35
  - 60% of households had annual incomes over \$75,000
  - 55% of respondents have lived in Danvers more than 20 years
- **Respondents showed significant narrative support for Bike & Walking Path & Rail Trail**
  - Q5: Pro 34%; Con 3%
  - Q6: Pro 49%; Con 2%
- **Surprising Responses**
  - On Q.6, 25% of responses asked for an “Ice Rink”
  - There is little support for new sports fields – Q5: 3%; Q6: 4%
  - There was some support for a “Dog Park” – Q6: 6%
- 10% of “Final Comments” said “Stop Building” in Danvers

**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION SURVEY -  
November 2006  
Composite of All  
Responses Received  
Assembled by David Saunders  
on 4/12/07**

(Please visit the Dept. of Planning and Human Services for Survey Details.)

<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>941</b>
------------------------------	------------

<b>BS 1</b>	<b>BS 2</b>	<b>BS 3</b>	<b>DS</b>	<b>GS 1</b>	<b>GS 2</b>	<b>TD 1</b>	<b>TD 2</b>	<b>TD 3</b>	<b>JP 1</b>	<b>JP 2</b>	<b>SF1</b>	<b>SF 2</b>	<b>B Kh</b>	<b>B Ko</b>	<b>JT 1</b>	<b>JT 2</b>
78	11	19	80	61	19	67	10	20	170	12	119	20	68	21	14 6	20

1.

<b>Facilities Used By Family</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% Resp</b>	<b>BS 1</b>	<b>BS 2</b>	<b>BS 3</b>	<b>DS</b>	<b>GS1</b>	<b>GS2</b>	<b>TD1</b>	<b>TD2</b>	<b>TD3</b>	<b>JP 1</b>	<b>JP 2</b>	<b>SF 1</b>	<b>SF 2</b>	<b>BK h</b>	<b>BK o</b>	<b>JT 1</b>	<b>JT 2</b>
School Playgrounds	333	35	40	27	2	16	21	16	12	29	5	13	44	3	41	14	14	12	52	12
Neighborhood Parks	351	37	42	26	4	12	20	24	9	31	5	15	49	2	42	11	26	12	54	9
Plains Park	446	47	53	40	5	16	36	25	13	34	6	16	67	5	56	13	29	8	60	17
Tapley Park	147	16	18	12	3	8	10	7	8	8	3	3	24	3	16	9	10	4	11	8
Endicott Park	634	67	76	54	9	14	46	39	13	50	7	16	104	5	82	12	44	16	10 7	16
John George Park	321	34	38	22	4	12	27	17	9	18	5	5	55	3	42	11	23	13	48	7
Passive Open Space	234	25	28	25	4	3	23	13	4	21	4	1	34	3	27	7	13	5	41	6
None	32	3	4	5	1	0	5	5	1	1	0	0	6	0	3	0	3		2	0
No Response	107	11		8	1	0	14	9	2	4	0	0	29	4	12	1	4		19	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2605</b>	<b>27 5</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>21 9</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>20 2</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>16 6</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>39 4</b>	<b>75</b>

2.

<b>Condition of Open Space</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% Resp</b>	<b>BS 1</b>	<b>BS 2</b>	<b>BS 3</b>	<b>DS</b>	<b>GS1</b>	<b>GS2</b>	<b>TD1</b>	<b>TD2</b>	<b>TD3</b>	<b>JP 1</b>	<b>JP 2</b>	<b>SF 1</b>	<b>SF 2</b>	<b>BK h</b>	<b>BK o</b>	<b>JT 1</b>	<b>JT 2</b>
Excellent	300	32	34	30	3	7	27	17	8	24	5	9	48	1	35	8	26	9	38	5
Good	475	50	54	38	5	11	33	30	9	38	3	7	81	7	75	9	25	10	80	14
Satisfactory	101	11	11	7	1	0	9	9	1	2	2	3	20	3	5	3	13	2	21	0
Poor	9	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	0
No Response	56	6		2	2	1	11	4	1	3	0	1	18	1	3	0	2	0	6	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>10 0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14 6</b>	<b>20</b>

3.	"Green Infrastructure"	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>1</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>2</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP</i> <i>1</i>	<i>JP</i> <i>2</i>	<i>SF</i> <i>1</i>	<i>SF</i> <i>2</i>	<i>BK</i> <i>h</i>	<i>BK</i> <i>o</i>	<i>JT</i> <i>1</i>	<i>JT</i> <i>2</i>
	Yes	881	94	96	75	10	19	72	56	18	64	10	19	152	12	113	20	61	20	14 0	20
	No	36	4	4	3	0	0	4	4	1	1	0	1	9	0	4	0	4	1	4	0
	No Response	24	3		0	1	0	4	1	0	2	0	0	9	0	2	0	3	0	2	0
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14 6</b>	

4 a.	Need for Rec Areas & Facilities	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>1</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>2</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP</i> <i>1</i>	<i>JP</i> <i>2</i>	<i>SF</i> <i>1</i>	<i>SF</i> <i>2</i>	<i>BK</i> <i>h</i>	<i>BK</i> <i>o</i>	<i>JT</i> <i>1</i>	<i>JT</i> <i>2</i>
	Yes	514	55	64	39	3	16	40	31	14	46	6	15	77	5	57	14	40	9	84	18
	No	285	30	36	30	5	3	28	22	3	14	3	4	58	3	37	5	21	8	41	0
	No Response	142	15		9	3	0	12	8	2	7	1	1	35	4	25	1	7	4	21	2
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14 6</b>	<b>20</b>

4 b.	Need for Open Space Areas	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>1</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>2</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP</i> <i>1</i>	<i>JP</i> <i>2</i>	<i>SF</i> <i>1</i>	<i>SF</i> <i>2</i>	<i>BK</i> <i>h</i>	<i>BK</i> <i>o</i>	<i>JT</i> <i>1</i>	<i>JT</i> <i>2</i>
	Yes	626	67	76	56	8	8	51	43	14	45	7	12	101	8	78	12	45	16	10 6	16
	No	196	21	24	15	2	8	18	12	4	15	1	8	38	0	22	7	17	4	21	4
	No Response	119	13		7	1	3	11	6	1	7	2	0	31	4	19	1	6	1	19	0
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14 6</b>	<b>20</b>

7.	Importance of Acquiring Open Space/Recreation Areas	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>1</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>2</i>	<i>BS</i> <i>3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP</i> <i>1</i>	<i>JP</i> <i>2</i>	<i>SF</i> <i>1</i>	<i>SF</i> <i>2</i>	<i>BK</i> <i>h</i>	<i>BK</i> <i>o</i>	<i>JT</i> <i>1</i>	<i>JT</i> <i>2</i>
	Very	547	58	60	44	8	14	39	39	12	41	7	8	85	8	68	12	42	11	96	13
	Somewhat	220	23	24	23	1	3	20	12	6	13	2	6	49	2	28	3	12	8	27	5
	Not Very	91	10	10	4	1	0	13	3	1	9	0	3	22	1	11	3	5	1	13	1
	Not At All	58	6	6	5	0	1	5	4	0	3	1	1	11	1	9	2	8	1	6	0
	No Response	25	3		2	1	1	3	3	0	1	0	2	3	0	3	0	1	0	4	1
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14 6</b>	<b>20</b>

8.	<b>Willing to pay surcharge</b>	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS 1</i>	<i>BS 2</i>	<i>BS 3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP 1</i>	<i>JP 2</i>	<i>SF 1</i>	<i>SF 2</i>	<i>BK h</i>	<i>BK o</i>	<i>JT 1</i>	<i>JT 2</i>
	Yes	560	60	65	49	7	11	42	36	15	45	6	12	83	7	68	15	39	11	98	16
	No	296	31	35	25	2	5	34	23	2	16	3	6	63	5	39	2	24	9	36	2
	No Response	85	9		4	2	3	4	2	2	6	1	2	24	0	12	3	5	1	12	2
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>20</b>
9.	<b>Major Source of Rec Info</b>	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS 1</i>	<i>BS 2</i>	<i>BS 3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP 1</i>	<i>JP 2</i>	<i>SF 1</i>	<i>SF 2</i>	<i>BK h</i>	<i>BK o</i>	<i>JT 1</i>	<i>JT 2</i>
	Newspapers	724	77	82	60	6	13	59	43	16	52	8	17	127	10	90	19	51	17	121	15
	Web site	118	13	13	12	0	6	9	7	2	8	1	2	13	1	13	5	11	3	21	4
	Flyers	228	24	26	17	3	2	16	14	6	18	3	4	35	2	33	3	17	7	44	4
	Program brochures	203	22	23	18	4	3	18	15	4	12	2	3	31	2	28	5	12	5	36	5
	School Backpacks	144	15	16	9	2	6	7	9	6	14	2	6	15	3	18	7	11	4	19	6
	Radio/TV	93	10	11	6	1	1	12	7	0	2	1	0	16	1	18	0	11	3	13	1
	Word of Mouth	453	48	51	39	5	8	36	32	10	45	4	14	70	8	49	10	34	12	64	13
	Other	28	3	3	2	1	0	9	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	6	1	2	1
	No Response	57	6		5	2	3	6	2	1	3	0	1	19	1	6	0			7	1
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>2048</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>50</b>

**Demographic Information**

<b><u>Sex</u></b>	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS 1</i>	<i>BS 2</i>	<i>BS 3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP 1</i>	<i>JP 2</i>	<i>SF 1</i>	<i>SF 2</i>	<i>BK h</i>	<i>BK o</i>	<i>JT 1</i>	<i>JT 2</i>
M	371	39	41	26	2	0	30	25	9	32	5	10	69	5	46	6	27	10	51	18
F	512	54	57	46	8	18	43	34	8	34	5	10	80	7	66	13	41	11	86	2
Double (spouses) Response	14	1	2	0	0	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	0		0	4	0
No response	44	5		6	1	1	3	1	1	1	0	0	18	0	6	1		0	5	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>20</b>

<u>Age</u>	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS 1</i>	<i>BS 2</i>	<i>BS 3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP 1</i>	<i>JP 2</i>	<i>SF 1</i>	<i>SF 2</i>	<i>BK h</i>	<i>BK o</i>	<i>JT 1</i>	<i>JT 2</i>
Under 18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18-24	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
25-34	53	6	6	9	0	2	3	4	0	8	0	0	6	0	5	2	6	0	7	1
35-44	189	20	21	15	2	11	10	9	8	19	3	7	21	0	17	10	14	6	29	8
45-54	221	23	24	16	3	5	16	20	6	20	2	6	28	4	30	3	18	5	32	7
55-64	195	21	22	15	1	0	23	10	0	11	0	6	36	3	31	3	13	6	34	3
65-74	132	14	15	10	2	0	13	9	4	4	2	1	31	2	16	1	9	3	24	1
Over 75	110	12	12	10	2	0	12	8	1	2	2	0	29	3	17	1	7	0	16	0
No response	37	4		3	1	1	3	1	0	2	1	0	17	0	3	0	1		4	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>20</b>

<u># Currently In House</u>	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS 1</i>	<i>BS 2</i>	<i>BS 3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP 1</i>	<i>JP 2</i>	<i>SF 1</i>	<i>SF 2</i>	<i>BK h</i>	<i>BK o</i>	<i>JT 1</i>	<i>JT 2</i>
1	125	13	14	15	2	1	12	3	0	5	2	1	29	2	23	1	12	1	16	0
2	315	33	35	25	2	0	33	27	4	15	4	6	56	4	43	5	27	5	57	2
3	156	17	17	15	4	1	10	15	3	15	1	2	32	4	15	1	6	6	25	1
4	172	18	19	14	2	9	12	9	5	17	1	6	19	0	21	3	14	4	27	9
5+	127	13	14	8	0	7	8	5	7	12	2	5	13	1	12	9	8	5	18	7
No response	46	5		1	1	1	5	2	0	3	0	0	21	1	5	1	1	0	3	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>20</b>

<u># of Children by Age</u>	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS 1</i>	<i>BS 2</i>	<i>BS 3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP 1</i>	<i>JP 2</i>	<i>SF 1</i>	<i>SF 2</i>	<i>BK h</i>	<i>BK o</i>	<i>JT 1</i>	<i>JT 2</i>
0-3 yrs	101	10.1		16	1	12	6	4	0	10	0	7	14	0	6	2	7	1	15	0
4-7 yrs	119	11.9		10	2	0	8	8	2	7	0	3	20	1	12	2	6	2	31	5
8-11 yrs	168	16.8		3	1	13	14	14	5	15	1	7	15	3	14	7	13	4	23	16
12-15 yrs	163	16.3		9	1	6	11	5	5	12	4	5	26	3	16	4	13	2	29	12
16-19 yrs	146	14.6		15	2	4	12	7	2	10	2	5	24	0	24	2	15	3	17	2

N/A	304			36	4	2	49	26	6	21	3	5	45	3	43	6			51	4
No response	186			5	3	1	8	13	1	6	3	2	67	4	34	1			37	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1187</b>	<b>69</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>40</b>

<u>Total Family Income</u>	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS 1</i>	<i>BS 2</i>	<i>BS 3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP 1</i>	<i>JP 2</i>	<i>SF 1</i>	<i>SF 2</i>	<i>BK h</i>	<i>BK o</i>	<i>JT 1</i>	<i>JT 2</i>
Under \$25,000	52	6	7	6	2	0	4	3	0	2	1	0	11	1	9	2	4	0	7	0
\$25,000-\$49,999	106	11	14	9	0	0	18	3	1	3	2	3	26	1	13	1	6	1	18	1
\$50,000-\$74,999	152	16	20	9	2	3	18	10	2	8	0	1	29	3	23	0	16	0	28	0
\$75,000-\$99,999	168	18	22	15	0	3	6	9	5	15	3	5	27	3	15	5	13	8	30	6
\$100,000-\$149,999	196	21	26	22	2	8	18	13	4	18	1	6	23	1	19	5	15	9	25	7
\$150,000-\$249,999	75	8	10	4	1	0	2	8	4	10	2	3	9	0	9	3	1	1	14	4
Over \$250,000	15	2	2	2	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	0
No response	177	19		11	4	5	13	13	3	9	1	1	45	3	29	2	11	2	23	2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>20</b>

<u>Time Lived in Danvers</u>	<i>Totals</i>	%	% <i>Resp</i>	<i>BS 1</i>	<i>BS 2</i>	<i>BS 3</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>GS1</i>	<i>GS2</i>	<i>TD1</i>	<i>TD2</i>	<i>TD3</i>	<i>JP 1</i>	<i>JP 2</i>	<i>SF 1</i>	<i>SF 2</i>	<i>BK h</i>	<i>BK o</i>	<i>JT 1</i>	<i>JT 2</i>
0-3 years	62	7	7	8	0	2	4	5	0	6	0	1	11	0	8	2	5	1	9	0
4-7 years	63	7	7	9	1	2	4	4	1	6	0	2	6	1	7	1	8	0	10	1
8-11 years	89	9	10	10	0	2	6	6	4	8	2	2	8	2	8	2	8	0	15	6
12-15 years	83	9	9	6	2	3	5	4	3	5	2	4	11	0	8	2	8	4	14	2
16-19 years	103	11	12	15	1	6	1	3	5	16	1	8	9	1	8	5	4	11	4	5
20+ years	492	52	55	23	6	2	58	38	6	22	5	2	107	8	76	7	34	4	92	2
No response	49	5		7	1	2	2	1	0	4	0	1	18	0	4	1	1	1	2	4
<b>Total:</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>20</b>

## **Open Space & Recreation Focus Group Questions**

- 1. During the year how often do you or your family members use the following?**
  - d. Open space areas (i.e. Endicott Park, Proctor Farm etc.)
  - e. Parks & Recreational Facilities (i.e. John George Park, Plains Park etc)
  - f. Waterfront (i.e. Sandy Beach, Town marina etc.)
- 2. How would you rate the overall condition of the Town's open space parcels, parks, recreational facilities, and waterfront? In what areas do they need to be improved? What changes would you recommend?**
- 3. Do you think planning for the Town's "green infrastructure" of water supply, land, farms, forests, wildlife habitats, parks, recreational facilities, trails, and greenways is as important to the Town's future as schools, roads, and similar services?**
- 4. Do you think there is a need for additional open space and recreation areas?**
- 5. How important is it to you that the Town continues to acquire open space and develop recreational areas?**
  - a. Very important
  - b. Somewhat important
  - c. Not very important
  - d. Not important at all
- 6. If the acquisition of open space and the development of new recreational areas is very, or somewhat important to you, would you be willing to pay an additional surcharge or tax of \$50-\$100 a year for the next five years which would then be matched by the state for the purpose of acquiring open space and developing new recreational areas?**
- 7. What areas of town are in need of active or passive recreational facilities? What types of recreational facilities would you like to see there?**
- 8. What is your major source of information regarding open space parcels, parks and recreational facilities and the activities that take place?**
- 9. Any there any additional comments that you would like to make?**

## **Focus Group: High School Students**

**1. During the year how often do you or your family members use the following?**

- a. **Open space areas (i.e. Endicott Park, Proctor Farm etc.)**
- b. **Parks & Recreational Facilities (i.e. John George Park, Plains Park etc)**
- c. **Waterfront (i.e. Sandy Beach, Town marina etc.)**

- Students have used athletic fields in all areas of town. As children they were brought to Endicott Park and still continue to use it. However some stated that they were made to feel uncomfortable if they were around the play structures.
- Go to parks near where they live.
- Proctor Farm is frequented but some did not know the name of the area. They find it peaceful and it is used as a 'cut-through'.
- They like John George Park except it tends to be cold in the fall and geese droppings are a problem.
- Sandy Beach - not used much by this age group. Not attractive, needs beautifying. There are other better beaches close by. Some have gone boating on the Danvers River.
- Playgrounds - Like Woodvale and Putnamville. Use of the grassy area at Putnamville for whatever they wish to play is important.
- Town Forest - don't know where it is.
- Need to put information about areas (especially open space) in student newspaper and advertise.
- Plains Park - plenty of parking, many fields and skateboard park. Basketball court lighted
- Endicott Park - beautiful, animals to see, exercise trail great but needs repair, lots of activities.
- Thorpe and Great Oak - great playgrounds
- Library Pavilion - like to go there. Think the pond banking is overgrown.
- College Pond - like to walk around and use for skating.
- Canoe Launch – familiar with it and some use it – signage was cited as a problem there

**2. How would you rate the overall condition of the Town's open space parcels, parks, recreational facilities, and waterfront? In what areas do they need to be improved? What changes would you recommend?**

- Meadows - Would like to use but it is not maintained well for skating, no plowing, fire department doesn't flood any longer. Needs benches. Were not aware of what the flag colors mean.
- Library Pavilion - Need to control edge of pond growth.
- Preston St. - Need more play equipment.
- Too much focus on the Twi-Field. Need to focus in on little fields and bring up quality not to Twi standard but just improve it.
- Horace Clark trail – messy and unmarked
- John George field great but geese droppings are a problem
- Endicott Park – love the exercise trails but they are currently all broken.
- Thorpe playground good
- Liked the tire park that use to be in Middleton.
- Have enough basketball courts but it would be good if another one was lit. Tapley and Plains Park basketball court need lights.
- Sandy Beach not pretty
- Would like hockey area that could be have ice in the winter and be used for floor hockey games in the warmer weather with benches.
- Like gazebo at Mill Pond – but sorry the road is gone.
- Preston Park – not a lot of equipment, but is pretty
- Planetarium at High School – don't know who uses it – they don't
- Would like to be able to use the rails for bikes, walking, etc.

**3. Do you think planning for the Town's "green infrastructure" of water supply, land, farms, forests, wildlife habitats, parks, recreational facilities, trails and greenways is as important to the Town's future as schools, roads, and similar services?**

- Believe that schools and road more important
- Should be a 60/40 split or 75/25 split
- Believe that the Town concentrates too much on the Twi-field to the neglect of the other fields.

**4. Do you think there is a need for additional open space and recreation areas?**

- Do not see a need for more open space.
- Should focus on maintenance of existing open space and recreational
- Facilities versus acquiring new.
- Students think the town has a lot of parks and recreational areas.

**5. How important is it to you that the Town continues to acquire open space and develop recreational areas:**

- a. Very important**
- b. Somewhat important**
- c. Not very important**
- d. Not important at all**

- To some of participants it was very important to others somewhat important
- Summer Playground Program is important.
- Students would like to see more areas like Endicott Park - not just open fields and space but areas that have picnic table areas, trails, gazebos, ponds for fishing.
- Hockey Rink - outside- great idea and would be used a great deal. They miss skating at the Meadow. Hockey rink was mentioned over and over again. Students felt that hockey is a sport everyone can do if the facility were available. They didn't have a facility so didn't grow up with playing hockey. Facility could also be used for street hockey and roller blading.
- Waterfront walkway
- Trails and Paths
- Bike Path
- Tire Park
- More than new acquisition we should maintain and add to what we already have.

**6. If the acquisition of open space and the development of new recreational areas is very, or somewhat important to you, would you be willing to pay an additional surcharge or tax of \$50-\$100 a year for the next five years which would then be matched by the state for the purpose of acquiring open space and developing new recreational areas?**

- Town doesn't have a lot of money right now – schools should be the biggest priority.
- Community Preservation Act would be a tough sell to voters. They see the "I don't use it why should I pay for it" attitude hard to overcome even if there is benefit to the town.
- Also the need to update the High School is a number one priority. Taxpayers can actually see where the money is going.
- Need to make kids aware in their younger years of the open space/ recreational opportunities.
- Sponsor an event at an open space parcel. Target students and make it for a cause (Aids, Cancer). Students need service opportunities and would help.

**7. What areas of town are in need of active or passive recreational facilities? What types of recreational facilities would you like to see there?**

- Have more things like Endicott Park, passive OK for pick up games – not just playing fields
- Trails
- Benches, picnic area at gazebo

- Improve infrastructure of parks.
- Mill Pond not accessible, too much growth on bank – not fun to fish right on a main road.
- Street hockey/ice hockey rink similar to North Reading
- When asked if they would trade a ball field for the hockey rink they said yes.

**8. What is your major source of information regarding open space parcels, parks and recreational facilities and the activities that take place?**

- This meeting
- Posters
- Elementary students will read bulletin board, High School kids don't
- Word of mouth

**9. Any there any additional comments that you would like to make?**

- Need to get information about these places out.
- No new fields
- Sponsor fund raising events for a cause (i.e. cancer aids) highlighting open space areas.
- Give John Sullivan the information – he will get it to the coaches.
- Tapley playground only has slide and swings need jungle gym

**10. If you were the Town Manager what would you do with the open space and recreational facilities? (Questioned each participant individually.)**

- Hockey/Roller Hockey, Basketball lighting on courts
- Money better spent on maintenance rather than buying new space.
- Advertise
- Bike Path
- Hiking Trails, Exercise Trails
- Parks targeted to certain groups - basketball courts, soccer, etc
- More waterfront access for fishing and other activities, street hockey/ice hockey
- Golf course
- Plenty of areas don't get utilized, put more into them, ice hockey
- Lighting basketball at Plains, /Tapley, bike path
- Hiking trails, fix up waterfront area, get information out
- CPA Act, put some amenities in open field open space areas
- CPA Act.
- Advertising

**11. What would be the best way to advertise our open space and recreational facilities?**

- No Comment
- Advertise activities in newspaper, DCAT, encourage elementary students with school field trips
- Sponsor a walk
- Have pop up information about wildlife, plants at each of the areas
- Encourage use through organized groups, start a walk, etc.
- Park programs in summer should utilize areas
- Need an attraction to get people to use area, elementary schools could have a kickball tournament, capture the flag, etc.

## **Focus Group: High School Students**

### **1. During the year how often do you or your family members use the following?**

- d. Open space areas (i.e. Endicott Park, Proctor Farm etc.)**
- e. Parks & Recreational Facilities (i.e. John George Park, Plains Park etc)**
- f. Waterfront (i.e. Sandy Beach, Town marina etc.)**

- Students have used athletic fields in all areas of town. As children they were brought to Endicott Park and still continue to use it. However some stated that they were made to feel uncomfortable if they were around the play structures.
- Go to parks near where they live.
- Proctor Farm is frequented but some did not know the name of the area. They find it peaceful and it is used as a 'cut-through'.
- They like John George Park except it tends to be cold in the fall and geese droppings are a problem.
- Sandy Beach - not used much by this age group. Not attractive, needs beautifying. There are other better beaches close by. Some have gone boating on the Danvers River.
- Playgrounds - Like Woodvale and Putnamville. Use of the grassy area at Putnamville for whatever they wish to play is important.
- Town Forest - don't know where it is.
- Need to put information about areas (especially open space) in student newspaper and advertise.
- Plains Park - plenty of parking, many fields and skateboard park. Basketball court lighted
- Endicott Park - beautiful, animals to see, exercise trail great but needs repair, lots of activities.
- Thorpe and Great Oak - great playgrounds
- Library Pavilion - like to go there. Think the pond banking is overgrown.
- College Pond - like to walk around and use for skating.
- Canoe Launch – familiar with it and some use it – signage was cited as a problem there

### **2. How would you rate the overall condition of the Town's open space parcels, parks, recreational facilities, and waterfront? In what areas do they need to be improved? What changes would you recommend?**

- Meadows - Would like to use but it is not maintained well for skating, no plowing, fire department doesn't flood any longer. Needs benches. Were not aware of what the flag colors mean.
- Library Pavilion - Need to control edge of pond growth.
- Preston St. - Need more play equipment.
- Too much focus on the Twi-Field. Need to focus in on little fields and bring up quality not to Twi standard but just improve it.
- Horace Clark trail – messy and unmarked
- John George field great but geese droppings are a problem
- Endicott Park – love the exercise trails but they are currently all broken.
- Thorpe playground good
- Liked the tire park that use to be in Middleton.
- Have enough basketball courts but it would be good if another one was lit. Tapley and Plains Park basketball court need lights.
- Sandy Beach not pretty
- Would like hockey area that could be have ice in the winter and be used for floor hockey games in the warmer weather with benches.
- Like gazebo at Mill Pond – but sorry the road is gone.
- Preston Park – not a lot of equipment, but is pretty
- Planetarium at High School – don't know who uses it – they don't
- Would like to be able to use the rails for bikes, walking, etc.

**3. Do you think planning for the Town's "green infrastructure" of water supply, land, farms, forests, wildlife habitats, parks, recreational facilities, trails and greenways is as important to the Town's future as schools, roads, and similar services?**

- Believe that schools and road more important
- Should be a 60/40 split or 75/25 split
- Believe that the Town concentrates too much on the Twi-field to the neglect of the other fields.

**4. Do you think there is a need for additional open space and recreation areas?**

- Do not see a need for more open space.
- Should focus on maintenance of existing open space and recreational
- Facilities versus acquiring new.
- Students think the town has a lot of parks and recreational areas.

**5. How important is it to you that the Town continues to acquire open space and develop recreational areas:**

- e. Very important**
- f. Somewhat important**
- g. Not very important**
- h. Not important at all**

- To some of participants it was very important to others somewhat important
- Summer Playground Program is important.
- Students would like to see more areas like Endicott Park - not just open fields and space but areas that have picnic table areas, trails, gazebos, ponds for fishing.
- Hockey Rink - outside- great idea and would be used a great deal. They miss skating at the Meadow. Hockey rink was mentioned over and over again. Students felt that hockey is a sport everyone can do if the facility were available. They didn't have a facility so didn't grow up with playing hockey. Facility could also be used for street hockey and roller blading.
- Waterfront walkway
- Trails and Paths
- Bike Path
- Tire Park
- More than new acquisition we should maintain and add to what we already have.

**6. If the acquisition of open space and the development of new recreational areas is very, or somewhat important to you, would you be willing to pay an additional surcharge or tax of \$50-\$100 a year for the next five years which would then be matched by the state for the purpose of acquiring open space and developing new recreational areas?**

- Town doesn't have a lot of money right now – schools should be the biggest priority.
- Community Preservation Act would be a tough sell to voters. They see the "I don't use it why should I pay for it" attitude hard to overcome even if there is benefit to the town.
- Also the need to update the High School is a number one priority. Taxpayers can actually see where the money is going.
- Need to make kids aware in their younger years of the open space/ recreational opportunities.
- Sponsor an event at an open space parcel. Target students and make it for a cause (Aids, Cancer). Students need service opportunities and would help.

**7. What areas of town are in need of active or passive recreational facilities? What types of recreational facilities would you like to see there?**

- Have more things like Endicott Park, passive OK for pick up games – not just playing fields
- Trails
- Benches, picnic area at gazebo

- Improve infrastructure of parks.
- Mill Pond not accessible, too much growth on bank – not fun to fish right on a main road.
- Street hockey/ice hockey rink similar to North Reading
- When asked if they would trade a ball field for the hockey rink they said yes.

**8. What is your major source of information regarding open space parcels, parks and recreational facilities and the activities that take place?**

- This meeting
- Posters
- Elementary students will read bulletin board, High School kids don't
- Word of mouth

**9. Any there any additional comments that you would like to make?**

- Need to get information about these places out.
- No new fields
- Sponsor fund raising events for a cause (i.e. cancer aids) highlighting open space areas.
- Give John Sullivan the information – he will get it to the coaches.
- Tapley playground only has slide and swings need jungle gym

**10. If you were the Town Manager what would you do with the open space and recreational facilities? (Questioned each participant individually.)**

- Hockey/Roller Hockey, Basketball lighting on courts
- Money better spent on maintenance rather than buying new space.
- Advertise
- Bike Path
- Hiking Trails, Exercise Trails
- Parks targeted to certain groups - basketball courts, soccer, etc
- More waterfront access for fishing and other activities, street hockey/ice hockey
- Golf course
- Plenty of areas don't get utilized, put more into them, ice hockey
- Lighting basketball at Plains, /Tapley, bike path
- Hiking trails, fix up waterfront area, get information out
- CPA Act, put some amenities in open field open space areas
- CPA Act.
- Advertising

**11. What would be the best way to advertise our open space and recreational facilities?**

- No Comment
- Advertise activities in newspaper, DCAT, encourage elementary students with school field trips
- Sponsor a walk
- Have pop up information about wildlife, plants at each of the areas
- Encourage use through organized groups, start a walk, etc.
- Park programs in summer should utilize areas
- Need an attraction to get people to use area, elementary schools could have a kickball tournament, capture the flag, etc.

## **Focus Group:**

### **Precinct 8 – Residents 30+ Years of Residence**

1. During the year how often do you or your family members use the following?
  - g. Open space areas (i.e. Endicott Park, Proctor Farm etc.)
  - h. Parks & Recreational Facilities (i.e. John George Park, Plains Park etc)
  - i. Waterfront (i.e. Sandy Beach, Town marina etc.)
  - Residents use Endicott Park, John George, and Ballfields.
  - Few use Town Forest, Canoe Launch but those that do enjoy the trails and beauty of the forest and kayak and canoe from the Canoe Launch.
  - Some never been to Town Forest – feel intimidated – needs more comprehensive trail signage
  - They noted that there are no playgrounds on the other side of Rt. 1 and only one ballfield at Preston St. which is in bad shape. Parents and grandparents have to go to other parts of town (Endicott Park, John George). To find play equipment and fields.
  - Town Forest - difficult to access because they have to cross Rt. 114. Most residents of Town don't know where the Town Forest is. Needs better signage.
  - Rt. 114 a problem – parts have no sidewalks
  - Endicott Park - people come from all over Town to use the facility to see the animals, have lunch, play on the play structures, walk the trails, play games, etc.
  - Endicott Park and Plains Park are heavily used by Precinct 8 residents
  - Beach, Marina -seldom use
  - Don't believe most residents are aware of open space sites.
  - Need playing field in Precinct 8 – Former Duffill property and Horace Clark trail site suggested as possible sites
  - Questioned the future of the Lebel's Grove parcel. If acquired it could connect to the Town Forest.
  - Open field next to Horace Clark Trail suggested for playground
  - Spoke of being allowed years ago to skate and fly kites on the state hospital site.
  - Suggested agreements with Essex Aggie to allow residents to use the ponds and fields for recreational activities
  
2. How would you rate the overall condition of the Town's open space parcels, parks, recreational facilities, and waterfront? In what areas do they need to be improved? What changes would you recommend?
  - Choate Farm parcel has accessibility problems because of a lack of adequate parking.
  - Town Forest could be a jewel – needs trails marked, delineate a parking area. Right now it is scary for younger children.
  - Canoe Launch can also be intimidating to younger children.
  - Need fields in Pr. 8. Suggest Patricia Rd (Duffill property) of 8 acres. An easement exists for access and there is also a utility easement.
  - Horace Clark Park - 25 acres of open space. Could some be utilized for field, playground? People don't understand extent of area and how to use it.
  - Lebel's Grove - need to buy it. An important link from Town Forest , Ipswich River, Danvers State.
  - Town Forest - access point off of Rt. 114 does not have adequate parking, signage. Access from the Industrial Park needs signage. Trails need renovation. No planned trail maps and trail markings. Area scary for little kids. Most residents have no idea where Town forest is. Need to educate. Suggest look at other areas in State or Kancamangus in N.H.
  - Essex Aggie - In past soccer field was used, pond for fishing - what can be done about future use?
  - Putnam Lane - at end there is a pond and an area for kite flying
  - Dayton Street - at end on right is an area that could be utilized for a playground. Need to discuss with State.
  - Choate Farm - need parking, picnic area
  - Canoe Ramp - a little intimidating for younger children
  - Mill Pond Pavilion – Nice place to sit but more seating needed. Taking Pond St. out was a mistake. Pond banking overgrown. Trash overflowing on bank.

- **Meadows - use to use it every weekend but upkeep lately not good. Understand that weather has been an issue. Residents shovel snow off the ice themselves.**
  - **Plains Park and Tapley fields in good shape, parking a problem and they are too congested. Need more ballfields.**
  - **Preston Field overgrown.**
  - **Highlands School - backfield not maintained.**
  - **Suggestion made to consider using Avalon Bay field money for a ballfield at the Thorpe school**
  - **John George Park could use bathrooms and a concession stand.**
  - **Lights for football field**
  - **Public needs to be educated as to where the open space parcels are**
3. Do you think planning for the Town's "green infrastructure" of water supply, land, farms, forests, wildlife habitats, parks, recreational facilities, trails, and greenways is as important to the Town's future as schools, roads, and similar services?
- **Partner with business and Audubon to acquire or limit development on parcels.**
  - **Be aware that if we acquire land it also takes it off the tax roles.**
  - **Concern about growth and traffic in Town versus taxes. Do not want the Town to get too dense (SwingAWay development and State hospital projects adding large number of households to the Town - impact on schools, services).**
  - **Open space a limited commodity that will come at a cost. Need to examine what is left and see if the Town could use it. If Town lets open space go now it will be gone forever.**
  - **What we do acquire we need to maintain – if the Town doesn't have the resources to maintain the parcels then why have it?**
  - **Question raised – "How much open space do we really need?"**
  - **Need to plan to fund future open space purchases. Perhaps sponsorships (Home Depot, WalMart, Auduban Society) to fund purchases.**
  - **Concerned about water supply and the demands on it.  
Zoning Laws - need to be changed. If undeveloped land is zoned residential, it will be developed.**
  - **Other issues need funding (High School) too. Residents need to be aware of issues such as the importance of open space and the water supply, etc.**
  - **Need open space and recreation planning**
4. Do you think there is a need for additional open space and recreation areas?
- **Planning is very important for the future. Need more "civilized open spaces" such as Endicott Park. Places that offer a variety of experiences. Check deeds of existing properties to see if amenities can be added.**
  - **Need to explore partnerships**
  - **Look at properties and see how they might be utilized.**
  - **Need to look at the Town Forest and Lebel's Grove for future camping areas that could generate income.**
  - **Reading's multipurpose park across from their high school was suggested as an example of a park with multi-uses.**
  - **Need a two-pronged approach - planning for the future of open space and slowing down building.**
  - **Value of recreational facilities - keeps kids off the streets.**
  - **Money should be spent to upgrade facilities rather than buy new. Town needs to be able to maintain what it has.**
  - **Can't buy a lot for a million dollars – but a million dollars would certainly go a long way in improving the recreation facilities that we do have.**
  - **Passive recreation and open space need to be packaged to make residents aware of their existence.**
  - **Putting a ballfield at Choate Farm would get people out there and then they could discover the existing trails.**
  - **Investigate the possibility of including more active recreational activities on our more passively used parcels**

5. **How important is it to you that the Town continues to acquire open space and develop recreational areas.**
  - a. **Very important**
  - b. **Somewhat important**
  - c. **Not very important**
  - d. **Not important at all**

a. Nine think it very important, one not very important
6. **If the acquisition of open space and the development of new recreational areas is very or somewhat important to you, would you be willing to pay an additional surcharge or tax of \$50-\$100 a year for the next five years which would then be matched by the state for the purpose of acquiring open space and developing new recreational areas?**
  - b. Nine thought it would be reasonable to pay \$50 - 100 extra on taxes to acquire open space and recreational facilities.
7. **What areas of Town are in need of active or passive recreational facilities? What types of recreational facilities would you like to see there?**
  - **Precinct 8 needs recreational areas.**
  - **Hockey Rink that could be used for street hockey in warmer weather.**
8. **What is your major source of information regarding open space parcels, parks, and recreational facilities and the activities that take place?**
  - **Newspapers**
  - **DCAT**
  - **Word of Mouth**
  - **Family Festival**
  - **Rec Dept. Summer Brochure**
  - **Website – although is somewhat poor and not coordinated**
  - **Light Bill insert with map**
  - **Series of News Articles**
  - **Internet - Google database, build data base email list that can disseminate information. Literature available where people frequent (Town Hall, Library, Schools)**
  - **Check with other communities and how they advertise**
  - **Signage**
  - **Weekly Specials**
  - **Chain Letters distributed through focus group participants**
9. **If you were the Town Manager what would you do with the open space and recreational facilities.?**  
(Questioned each participant individually)
  - **Need a real plan of action for open space. Town needs balance - need more land mass open – too much development**
  - **Time running out and open space will be gone. Need to maximize what we have Need to look at what is available and plan 10 years out. Need public awareness and have people buy into it. Need to ask if Town purchases a lot what could its potential be.**
  - **Change zoning to discourage development - major problem is development and traffic. Get boards together and utilize what we have, review and improve.**
  - **Need open space for kids. They need to be outside more and have a chance to see egrets, muskrats,**
  - **Need a moratorium on building for 5 years so Town can evaluate. Use facilities we have and see if they can be enhanced.**
  - **Disappointed by growth -concerned about impact of Danvers State and SwingAWay. Would rather see light industrial go in at Danvers State. In favor of a moratorium.**
  - **Scared about growth and its impact on the water supply.**
  - **Tax situation precludes families form holding on to large pieces of land for open space. Issue needs to be addressed and perhaps options could be proposed to encourage landowners to hold on to open land.**

## **ADA Access Self Evaluation**

### **Recreational Facilities**

The Recreation Committee and Recreation Department have together developed an aggressive schedule for improving accessibility at the Town's recreational facilities.

In recent years, one new playground has been constructed, John George Park, which is completely accessible. A major expenditure was also made at the adjacent Sandy Beach, the Town's only public beach, replacing the existing bathhouse with a new accessible structure, providing an accessible route to the beach, and constructing an accessible shade shelter.

An improvement program has been instituted for the existing parks and neighborhood playgrounds within the Town for the repair or replacement of the play structures and the resurfacing of the playgrounds. This program was divided into three phases with Phase I being the replacement of hazardous equipment and the resurfacing of 1/3 of the playgrounds with a safe and accessible material. This material, wood carpet fiber, meets or exceeds the playground safety requirements and the ADA regulations. Phase I has been completed and the resurfacing completed is noted in the table which follows. Phase II and Phase III have been funded by Town Meeting and resurfacing of the remaining 2/3 of the playgrounds is expected in Fall 2001. Additional, multi-scaped play structures will be installed at four properties, Great Oaks School, Smith School, Thorpe School, and Plains Park. These structures include equipment accessible for use by persons with mobility disabilities.

Accessible picnic tables are provided at several properties, also as noted in the following table. As new tables are purchased to replace or supplement existing tables, 1/3 will be handicap accessible.

The Recreation Committee and Recreation Department have committed to working with the Disability Commission to improve the Town's recreational facilities for persons with disabilities. The Disability Commission has been involved in the review of the design of several of the facility improvements noted above. The Commission has additionally been involved in the review of a concession stand at Plains Park to ensure its accessibility.

As a number of the existing playgrounds function as neighborhood parks, parking is not necessarily provided at each. The location of accessible parking is noted in the table below. The Department of Public Works is committed to providing the required accessible and van-accessible parking spaces as parking lots are resurfaced or relined.

### **Recreational Programs**

For the fourth year, the Recreation Department has offered a "Summer R.O.C.K.E.T.S. (Recreation Opportunities for Capable Kids Enriched Through Socialization)" Special Needs Program. The focus of the 28-hour per week program is to foster appropriate peer interaction within a recreational setting. The program is run at four locations within the Town and transportation and/or additional staff is available.

Year-round, the Recreation Department sponsors two programs for children with disabilities. A “Friday Night Out” is held one Friday each month at Endicott Park and includes a movie and pizza. Children are also invited two Saturday mornings each month to the Highlands School to participate in recreation games and/or arts and crafts.

The Recreation Department also encourages residents with special needs to contact them directly to arrange individually for an accommodation to allow participation in any of the other programs offered by the Town.

## **Properties under the Jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission**

The majority of the properties under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission are unimproved lands comprised of wetlands which function as open space and/or drainage areas for adjacent streams. Proctor Farm is the exception.

Proctor Farm is a passive recreation area acquired by the Town in the early 1980s. A portion of the property is leased and continues to be farmed. The remainder of the property which includes marsh, meadow, and forest, has been converted to use for passive recreation. This recreation includes a picnic area and hiking trails. Due to the sensitive nature of the property, the improvement of the trails to accommodate persons with disability may be impractical. The picnic area and trails are currently maintained seasonally. The improvement in accessibility of the picnic area and a length of the trails will be evaluated and implemented if feasible or another passive recreation area will be made accessible if more appropriate.

## **Grievance Policy**

A copy of the Town of Danvers Grievance Policy is included in this Appendix. The Town Manager is designated as the ADA Coordinator.

<b>Street Address</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Accessibility</b>
Pickering Street	Land under School Committee; usage and fields under Recreation Committee	Great Oak School	Property includes playground and multiple ball fields.  Accessible surfacing for the playground has been installed.  Accessible parking spaces are provided.
30 Avon Road	Land under School Committee; usage under Recreation Committee	Thorpe School	Property includes playground, multiple fields, and play courts.  Accessible surfacing for the playground has been installed.  Accessible parking spaces are provided.
15 Labao Drive	Land under School Committee; usage under Recreation Committee	Smith School	Property includes playground, play area, basketball hoop, and multiple ball fields.  Accessible surfacing for the playground has been installed.  Accessible parking spaces are provided.
60 Cabot Road	Land under School Committee; usage under Recreation Committee	Woodvale Park	Property includes playground, tennis courts, and multiple ball fields.  Accessible parking spaces are provided.
Liberty Street	Land under School Committee; usage under Recreation Committee	Riverside School	Property includes playground, lighted ball field, and play court.  A playground with accessible surfacing is located in a courtyard within the building.  Accessible parking spaces are provided.
105 Elliott Street	Recreation Committee (school use abandoned)	Williams School	Property includes playground and ball field.

Street Address	Jurisdiction	Use	Accessibility
55 Conant Street	Recreation Committee	Plains Park	<p>Property includes playground, skate park, tennis courts, basketball court, and multiple ball fields.</p> <p>Accessible surfacing for the playground has been installed.</p> <p>Accessible picnic table has been provided.</p> <p>Accessible parking spaces are provided.</p>
70 Forest Street	Recreation Committee	Endicott Park	<p>Endicott Park is a 165 acre natural and historic site featuring open fields, woods, fishing ponds, fitness, nature, and hiking trails, picnic areas, flower gardens, sledding slope, apple orchards, community gardens, a children's barnyard, and a playground. The Park's visitor center features handicap accessible restrooms and conference and meeting rooms.</p> <p>Multiple accessible picnic tables have been provided throughout the five picnic areas in the park. The visitor center is accessible. A handicap-accessible fishing platform has also been provided at the fishing pond.</p> <p>Accessible parking spaces are provided.</p>
15 Stone Street	Recreation Commission	Gates Field	Property includes multiple ball fields.
139 Pine Street	Recreation Commission	Tapley Park	<p>Property includes a playground, basketball courts, and multiple ball fields.</p> <p>Accessible surfacing for the playground has been installed.</p>
46 Lawrence Street	Recreation Commission	Lawrence Street Playground	Property includes playground and play area.
12 Upland Circle	Recreation Committee	Folly Hill Playground	Property includes a playground and basketball hoop.

Street Address	Jurisdiction	Use	Accessibility
9 Bradstreet Avenue	Recreation Committee	Bradstreet Avenue Playground	Property includes playground and play area.
15 Tipert Street	Recreation Committee	Southwick Playground	Property includes a playground and play area.  An accessible route exists to the playground from the sidewalk.
11 Wenham Street	Recreation Committee	Putnamville Playground	Property includes playground and play area.
31 Preston Street	Recreation Committee	Preston Street Playground	Property includes playground and multiple ball fields.
Rand Circle	Recreation Committee	Rand Circle Playground	Property includes playground and play area.  Accessible surfacing for the playground has been installed.  Accessible picnic table has been provided.
15 Sylvan Street	Land under Library Committee; usage under Recreation Committee	Mill Pond/ Rotary Pavilion	Property includes pavilion on lawn of Peabody Institute Library overlooking Mill Pond. The Recreation Department's summer concert series is held at the pavilion.  An accessible picnic table has been installed.  Accessible parking spaces are provided.
126 Liberty Street	Recreation Committee	Pope's Landing	Property includes harbormaster's office, public boat launch, and picnic areas.  Accessible parking is provided.

Street Address	Jurisdiction	Use	Accessibility
44 River Street	Recreation Committee	Sandy Beach	<p>Property includes a playground, beach with bathhouse, sand volleyball court, and ball field.</p> <p>A new bathhouse was recently constructed which is completely accessible. Outdoor showers are accessible as is a water fountain. An accessible walkway leads to the beach.</p> <p>A shade shelter with tables provided on the property is also accessible.</p>
44 River Street	Recreation Committee	John George Park Crane Marina	<p>John George Park includes playground and ball field with walking track.</p> <p>Construction of the park was completed in 2000 and therefore is completely accessible.</p> <p>The playground has an accessible surface. The walking track is accessible. Accessible picnic tables are provided as is accessible parking.</p> <p>Crane Marina is the location of the public boat slips. Accessible parking is provided, however, the nature of the use limits accessibility. While a ramp leads down to the floating docks and slips, the ramp does not comply with the maximum slope requirements for accessibility.</p>
50R Buxton Road	Conservation Commission	Open Space	Unimproved – not accessible.
12A Brentwood Circle	Conservation Commission	Wetlands/ Drainage	Unimproved – not accessible.
4R Fox Run Road	Conservation Commission	Wetlands	Unimproved – not accessible.
160 Conant Street	Conservation Commission	Proctor Farm Conservation Area	The property includes a picnic area, gazebo, and hiking trail.

<b>Street Address</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Accessibility</b>
3R Paulette Road	Conservation Commission	Drainage	Unimproved – not accessible.
7R Paulette Road	Conservation Commission	Wetlands/ Drainage	Unimproved – not accessible.
166R	Conservation Commission	Wetlands/ Drainage	Unimproved – not accessible.
4 Juniper Ridge Road	Conservation Commission	Open Space	Unimproved – not accessible.
12 Auburn Street	Conservation Commission	Open Space	Unimproved – not accessible.
15 Rocky Hill Circle	Conservation Commission	Open Space	Unimproved – not accessible.
49 Valley Road	Conservation Commission	Wenham Swamp	Unimproved – not accessible.
40 Valley Road	Conservation Commission	Open Space	Unimproved – not accessible.
136R North Street	Conservation Commission	Open Space	Unimproved – not accessible.
18R Labao Drive	Conservation Commission	Wetlands	Unimproved – not accessible.
69 North Street	Conservation Commission	Open Space	Unimproved – not accessible.

**TOWN OF DANVERS**  
**EQUAL ACCESS TO FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES**  
**GRIEVANCE POLICY**

Maximum opportunity will be made available to receive citizen comments, complaints, and/or to resolve grievances or inquiries.

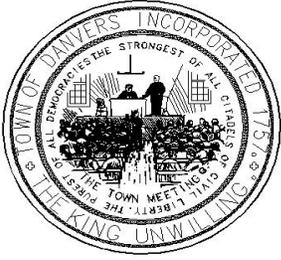
STEP I: The Town Manager will be available to meet with citizens and employees during business hours.

When a complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification is received either in writing or through a meeting or telephone call, every effort will be made to create a record regarding the name, address, and telephone number of the person making the complaint, grievance, program policy interpretation or clarification. If the person desires to remain anonymous they may.

A complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification will be responded to within ten working days (if the person making the complaint is identified) in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient, (i.e. verbally, enlarged type face, etc.).

Copies of the complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification and response will be forwarded to the Department of Planning and Human Services. If the grievance is not resolved at this level it will be progressed to the next level.

STEP 2: A written grievance will be submitted to the Town Manager. Assistance in writing the grievance will be available to all individuals. All written grievances will be responded to within ten working days by the Town Manager, with whom local authority for final grievance resolution lies, in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient, (i.e. verbally, enlarged type face, etc.).



## Town of Danvers Planning Board

1 Sylvan Street  
Town Hall  
Danvers, MA

[www.danvers.govoffice.com](http://www.danvers.govoffice.com)

***Planning Board:***  
*Kristine Cheetham, Chairman*  
*William Prentiss*  
*Margaret Zilinsky*  
*James Sears*  
*Aaron Henry*  
*Susan Burgard, Associate*

July 23, 2008

Bob O'Connor  
Director of Division of Conservation Services  
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114

Re: 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. O'Connor

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) provided the Planning Board with draft copies of their recommendations for action for the next five years as outlined in the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan in July, 2008. The Planning Board is writing to you to express our appreciation for the work of OSRAC and our support for the Plan.

Our Town Planner, Tali Kritzer, provided Staff support for OSRAC and therefore kept the Planning Board apprised of the progress on the Plan's completion throughout the process. The Board strongly endorses the actions recommended for the Town to accomplish and/or undertake during the next five years, particularly the recommendation for the continuation of the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee. The Board agrees that OSRAC has provided invaluable assistance to the Town Manager in the implementation of the next five-year plan which will be in effect until 2013.

Respectfully,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristine Cheetham, Chairman

cc: Wayne P. Marquis, Town Manager  
Karen H. P. Nelson, Director of Planning and Human Services  
Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee