

TOWN OF WESTFORD

# Open Space and Recreation Plan 2010-2015



**Westford Conservation Commission**

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**Town of Westford  
Open Space and Recreation Plan  
2010-2015**

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# Section 1: Plan Summary

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Open space plays an integral role in Westford's visual and cultural identity. Fields, woodlands, waterways, and heritage landscapes contribute to the town's sense of place. Westford residents value these features not only for their scenic beauty and environmental significance, but also for the passive recreational opportunities they provide. Since Westford is a very active, sports-oriented community, the town tries to provide well-maintained facilities and accessible programs for its residents, including playing fields, courts, and playgrounds for organized events and leisure use. Defining a management framework to accommodate both conservation and recreational interests will remain very important in Westford's future open space planning efforts.

Westford prepared this Open Space and Recreation Plan in tandem with an update of its Comprehensive Master Plan. The Open Space and Recreation Plan also builds upon information gathered during Westford's recent Heritage Landscape Inventory planning process. Ultimately, this plan reiterates Westford's long-standing desire to preserve and manage its remaining open spaces and natural resources while continuing to expand passive and active recreational opportunities. As a critical first step, this plan provides an inventory of Westford's existing protected open space and recreational areas. In addition, it highlights unprotected lands of conservation interest in order to help focus Westford's future planning efforts, and it identifies needs for recreational expansion and management. Further, this plan provides an overview of Westford's history and environmental resources and describes their relationship to the town's character today.

Through the public planning process and a review of past planning efforts, Westford has identified a series of goals, objectives, and actions for this Open Space and Recreation Plan based on five areas of concern: protection of Westford's ground and surface water resources; protection and enhancement of the town's extensive trail system; protection and management of the town's remaining open spaces and natural resources; protection of the town's unique community character; and management and expansion of the town's existing recreational facilities and programs. In summary, this plan contains the following:

- A review and analysis of Westford's natural, cultural and recreational resources;
- Goals and objectives for open space and recreation planning;
- A five-year action plan; and
- An appendix containing lists of flora and fauna, a list of permanently protected open space, a list of privately held open space, a list of town-owned recreation facilities, and a Section 504 review of Westford's recreation facilities.



# Section 2: Introduction

## A. Statement of Purpose

Protecting open space has been a long-standing goal for Westford, even before the town completed its first Open Space and Recreation Plan in 1979. Since the last plan was written and approved by the Division of Conservation Services (2002), Westford has protected more than 600 acres of open space through land acquisitions and conservation restrictions. In addition, Westford adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in 2002 as a means to raise local funds for open space protection, historic preservation, and affordable housing.

Westford's extensive inventory of protected landscapes provides many benefits to the community: water supply protection, preservation of fragile natural habitats, and retention of the town's scenic beauty. Since many of these landscapes contain trails, they also provide passive recreational opportunities for residents. Identifying Westford's remaining undeveloped land is critical in order for the town to develop a planning framework for the eventual protection of its important landscapes.

Westford has changed in response to the relatively rapid growth that has occurred throughout the region. Its natural resources and vacant land remain vulnerable to changes in land use, and conservation presents one of Westford's greatest challenges. Westford's residential growth will also place added pressure on the town to provide adequate, high-quality recreation opportunities. Directing active and passive recreation toward appropriate lands is crucial to the town's ongoing efforts to protect its natural resources.

While Westford residents support protecting more parcels of open space, the town recognizes that it needs to focus on appropriately managing the land that it already owns. Westford needs management plans for each of its conservation land parcels. Moreover, the town's most recent land acquisitions, totaling more than 350 acres, will place an additional burden on Westford's single conservation planner, who is responsible for managing all of the town's conservation holdings. Westford also continues to focus on developing recreational facilities and programs to address the needs of its residents, both young and old. Constructing new playing fields is an ongoing process in Westford, and the town has actively sought to include recreational space planning within its recent land acquisitions. However, Westford recognizes that its abilities are limited, both



financially and geographically, and that it needs to address underserved areas. Maintaining Westford's existing recreation facilities is a concern for the town. Town meeting recently appropriated CPA funds to install artificial turf on a new playing field in order to address environmental concerns relating to turf management and maintenance.

## **B. Planning Process and Public Participation**

This Open Space and Recreation Plan builds upon Westford's last plan (2002) and was developed in concert with the town's recent effort to update its Comprehensive Plan, which includes natural resource and open space inventories and also involved a community-wide survey. In addition, this Plan builds upon information gathered through the recent Heritage Landscape Inventory process. Other information was obtained through consultations with town staff, boards and commissions, and input from the community. The public was encouraged to help develop the new Open Space and Recreation Plan in a series of community meetings held on October 29, November 6, and November 15, 2007. These meetings were advertised through the local newspaper in accordance with public meeting notice requirements. The Town also produced informational posters that were posted in Town Hall and sent to the town's conservation organizations. The first meeting provided an opportunity to review the 2002 Open Space and Recreation Plan while the second meeting focused on assessing the implementation status of goals established in 2002. The final meeting provided an opportunity for residents to recommend specific goals and action items relevant for Westford.

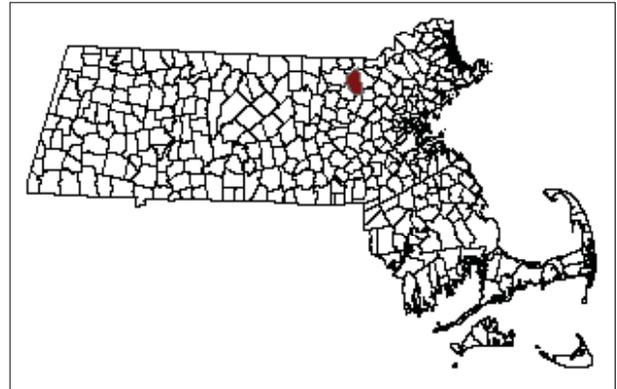
Although turnout at the three meetings was lower than expected, those who attended were representative of Westford's conservation organizations and interested residents. They were actively involved in the meeting discussions and they helped to formulate specific goals and objectives based on their experience with protecting open space and natural resources and recreation planning. Ideas expressed during these three meetings included a goal for Westford to develop specialized land management plans for each of its conservation parcels. Other suggestions included a goal for the town to review its small land parcels for suitability as neighborhood parks, particularly in areas that have limited land available for recreation facilities; a process to alert all municipal boards and local conservation organizations about Chapter 61/61A/61B removal notifications; and revisions to the development review process to encourage the creation of active recreation areas as a component of new developments.

In addition to the public meetings, resource information and recommendations for the town's open space and recreation goals, objectives, and action items were solicited from the following municipal departments and committees: the Westford Board of Selectmen, Westford Historical Commission, the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Conservation Commission, the Water Department, the Planning Department, the Comprehensive Master Plan Committee, the Westford Conservation Trust, the Westford Land Preservation Foundation and the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG). Their comments have been incorporated into this Plan.

# Section 3: Community Setting

## A. Regional Context

**W**estford is a rapidly growing community in northern Middlesex County, bounded by the towns of Littleton, Groton, Tyngsborough, Chelmsford, Carlisle and Acton. It is a fairly large town compared with other communities in Massachusetts and within its own region. Westford's total area of 31.3 sq. mi. includes 30.6 sq. mi. of land, making it the 79th largest town in the Commonwealth and the second largest in the Northern Middlesex area. Westford is located along the outer edge of the state's wealthiest region: a ring of Boston-area suburbs with prosperous, highly educated residents whose skills, disposable income, and expectations have had an indelible impact on the economy of the entire Boston metropolitan region.



Westford's access to Interstate Route 495, U.S. Route 3, and three state highways bring its residents within easy reach of all of the major employment centers from Boston to Worcester and in southern New Hampshire (**Map 1**).

Westford shares environmental and open space resources with several neighboring communities. Approximately two-thirds of Westford lies within the Merrimack River Watershed, New England's fourth largest watershed, which covers a total of 5,010 sq. mi. and includes more than 200 cities and towns. Westford contains portions of three sub-basins of the Merrimack River Watershed, most notably the Stony Brook Watershed, which extends from Boxborough to Tyngsborough and includes parts of Harvard, Ayer, Littleton, Groton, Westford, and Chelmsford. The Stony Brook passes through the northern side of Westford and, with its associated aquifer, supplies most of Westford's drinking water. The lower third of the town is in the Concord River Watershed, and includes portions of the Fort Pond Brook and River Meadow Brook sub-basins.

Other shared resources include Forge Pond, Westford's extensive trail system, and the Bruce Freeman Trail. The Westford Conservation Trust (WCT) has actively promoted the town's trail system by coordinating trail planning and trail connections with the conservation trusts in neighboring towns. Today, connections exist to trails in Littleton, Chelmsford, Acton, Carlisle, and Groton. Many of these connections and associated open spaces are permanently protected. The WCT and the Westford Conservation Commission have jointly formed the Land and Trails Stewardship Committee to recruit stewards for open space parcels and trails and support their efforts to maintain and expand the town's network of trails. In addition, Westford has remained actively involved with the Bruce Freeman Trail, a planned regional trail system from Lowell to Sudbury. Westford's section includes 2.5 miles along Route 27 and links into the existing Westford/Carlisle trail system in three places. The trail system is part of the Bay Circuit trail. An additional effort in Westford involves the design and creation of a town-wide trail system from Westford's border with Tyngsboro in the northeastern corner of town to the southerly border with Acton.

Westford is a member of the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG), which has strong ties to the nine communities it serves. NMCOG has been an active player in planning for the region's transportation needs and economic growth and prosperity. Its staff participated in updating Westford's Comprehensive Plan by

preparing the economic development element, working closely with the town's planning consultants and providing technical support to the Comprehensive Master Plan Committee. Westford also shares fiscal and service delivery resources through inter-local agreements and informal arrangements with neighboring towns, and contracts with larger regional organizations. For example, Westford provides some specialized programs for senior citizens under an agreement with the Chelmsford Council on Aging and a contract with Elder Services of Merrimack Valley. In addition, Westford is host community for the Nashoba Valley Technical High School, which includes seven member towns in the upper Middlesex area.

Westford has changed dramatically in the last 25 years. Its employment base traditionally consisted of textile milling, farming and orchards, and granite quarrying. Westford Center was primarily a farming community surrounded by open land, and over time, several industrial villages evolved in other parts of town – all due to Westford's abundant water resources. Its proximity to regional highways and the migration of housing growth from the Boston area have changed the complexion of the town. Most of the farms and orchards have given way to subdivisions, and many of the granite quarries have closed. Today, Westford is primarily a bedroom community. Its housing prices are very high, and the town needs more affordable housing. Although Westford has taken many steps to protect open space, residents remain concerned about the development of its remaining land and the potential loss of clean water, diversity of flora and fauna, and passive recreational opportunities.

## B. History of the Community

Westford was originally part of Chelmsford, which was settled in 1653 and incorporated in 1655. The first European settlers were from Concord and Woburn. In 1660, members of the colonial village made an agreement with the native population to use the western section of the town (Westford), which had previously been set aside for the Native Americans. In 1664, the first settlers came into what is now Westford. The population grew, and by 1713, the westerly inhabitants sought permission to form their own town. However, their original request was denied. In 1724, the General Court granted leave to the west precinct to start a separate religious society. The first meetinghouse was completed in Town Center in 1727, and Westford was incorporated on September 23, 1729. The town grew to a population of 1,200 at the time of the American Revolution. Colonel John Robinson rallied his men on the morning of April 19, 1775, at the Town Center and was accompanied by the First Parish Church's acting minister, Joseph Thaxter. They marched to the North Bridge in Concord to greet the British. The Town continued to develop farmland, granite quarries, and mills along Stony Brook. In 1792, Westford Academy was founded. It is one of the oldest coeducational high schools in the nation. In 1797, the Westford Library Company was formed.

From its inception, Westford supported a mix of farming and industrial jobs and over time, it developed as a series of individual villages surrounded by large amounts of undeveloped land. The villages evolved in association with different aspects of the town's history: mill construction along a water source; seasonal recreation on the lakes and ponds; transportation patterns; and agricultural development. Westford's historic physical form, defined by compact industrial villages and outlying farms, continues to be very important to the town's land use and open space planning efforts (**Map A**).

- **Brookside Village** is Westford's smallest mill village. Anchored by the Brookside Mill overlooking the Stony Brook River, this village has mill workers' housing along Brookside and Moore Roads and Coolidge Avenue, including a series of almost identical Queen Anne style homes lining Brookside Road. The mill's granite dam and adjoining granite arched bridge are also preserved intact and contribute to the village's rural industrial character.

- Forge Village** is the largest and best preserved of Westford's factory villages, with the Abbot Mill tower dominating its landscape. Located along the northern edge of Forge Pond, the mill harnessed its power from the Stony Brook. Initially developed during the Colonial period (ca. 1730) around a grist mill, Forge Village evolved with subsequent industrial endeavors, including an iron forge and worsted mill. Today, it includes a well-preserved collection of workers' housing in a variety of styles and types dating from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century, and several well-preserved Federal style homes on Pleasant Street.
- Graniteville** is located just east of Forge Village on the Stony Brook. Initially, this village developed around machinery manufacturing, then granite quarrying and later, wool production. At the center of Graniteville are the Abbot Worsted Company Mill and C.G. Sargent Machine Shop (1877). This village also includes small-scale commercial buildings, a church, and a school. Most of the housing dates from the mid-nineteenth century to mid-twentieth century, including one- and two-family mill workers' housing and several larger, architecturally significant homes on spacious lots on the west side of North Main Street, built for the mill managers and owners.
- Nabnasset**, also known historically as Schlusemeyer land, is a densely settled summer cottage community around Nabnasset Lake. The neighborhood was initially conceived as a marketing promotion when a grocery store gave away deeds to small parcels of land (20' x 25') in coffee cans.<sup>1</sup> The homes in the village are characterized by their modest scale and appearance, primarily single-story cottages and bungalows with minimal architectural embellishment. Today, most of these homes have been renovated for year-round use. Many have been enlarged with additions and alterations, and several were demolished to make way for larger homes.
- Parker Village** in the southern section of town is a remnant of Westford's agricultural past. This village developed as both a wayside station along the roadway from Vermont to Boston and as a center for agricultural settlement. The village is defined by its linear development along Concord Road and its expansive fields, stone walls, and scenic views, the restored Parkerville Schoolhouse and a well-preserved collection of historic farmhouses and agricultural outbuildings.
- Westford Center** is located at the geographic center of Westford at the juncture of Boston Road and Main Street. It serves as the primary civic and cultural center of town. Westford Town Hall, the J. V. Fletcher Library and the Fire Station are located here around a landscaped green, along with three renovated historic buildings: the Roudenbush Community Center, the Westford Museum, and the Parish Center for the Arts. The village contains an exceptionally well-preserved collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century houses, many with associated outbuildings such as carriage houses and barns. In the heart of the village lies the Common, a large triangular green established in 1723 and redesigned in 1919 by landscape architect Bremer Pond.



<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, *Westford Reconnaissance Report: Freedom's Way Heritage Landscape Inventory* (2006), 20.

During the 20th century, transportation and economic changes gradually altered the town’s physical and social landscape. By the end of the century, Westford was no longer an outlying rural community of farmlands and vil-lages. It had transformed into an affluent suburb economically tied to the Lowell and Boston metropolitan areas.

The introduction of the automobile and subsequent improvements to regional roads, notably Groton Road (Route 40), Concord Road (Route 225) and Littleton Road (Route 110), began Westford’s suburban transformation dur-ing the 1920s and 1930s. The construction of Interstate Route 495 in 1961 accelerated this transformation as workers migrated westward and commuted to jobs in Boston and the west suburbs. The presence of Route 495 also shifted the focus of commercial activity in Westford to the southern part of town along Route 110. During the twentieth century, Westford’s population increased by double-digit percentages every year from 1910 to 2000 (except for 1940).<sup>2</sup> During this period, the prosperity and production of the town’s mills also began to decline, altering the town’s economic landscape.

Despite these changes, Westford remained largely undeveloped into the 1960s. The town continued to maintain its agricultural economy with local dairy and poultry farms and fruit orchards still in operation. However, by the last quarter of the twentieth century as housing needs increased and land values rose, the town’s farmland suc-cumbed to residential development. From 1985 to 1999, Westford experienced the second greatest loss of agri-cultural land of any town in Massachusetts.<sup>3</sup> Today, the Town of Westford is mostly a bedroom community with high technology development along the Route 495 corridor.

### C. Population Characteristics

The characteristics of a community’s population, households, and families play an important part in determining open space and recreation needs. Population growth is important because it directly affects the level of demand on a community’s supply of open space and recreation facilities and also affects demands on natural resources, notably water. However, growth is not the only factor that shapes demand. Changes in the make-up of a community’s population, its household types, education and income levels, and employment patterns also change open space and recreation needs. An aging population increases the need for accessibly designed parks, and the inclusion of more people with disabilities in mainstream life creates needs for accommodation in the design of recreation programs and other community services. Without any increase in a community’s total population, growth in the foreign-born population can create needs for multi-lingual programming, recreation brochures and conservation maps in translation, and a reassessment of recreation, leisure and social interests on a town-wide or neighborhood

**Table 3.1**  
**Population Growth in Westford’s Region**

City/Town	Total Land Area	Decennial Census Population				Estimated 2006	Percent Change
		1970	1980	1990	2000		
Acton	20.0	14,770	17,544	17,872	20,331	20,586	1.3%
Carlisle	15.4	2,871	3,306	4,333	4,717	4,852	2.9%
Chelmsford	22.7	31,432	31,174	32,383	33,858	33,707	-0.4%
Groton	32.8	5,109	6,154	7,511	9,547	10,585	10.9%
Littleton	16.6	6,380	6,970	7,051	8,184	8,648	5.7%
Tyngsborough	16.8	4,204	5,683	8,642	11,081	11,542	4.2%
WESTFORD	30.6	10,368	13,434	16,392	20,754	21,507	3.6%

Source: UMass Donohue Institute, MassBenchmarks.

<sup>2</sup> Robert W. Oliphant, “A Brief History of Westford”, Westford Eagle, September 23, 2004.

<sup>3</sup> Massachusetts Audubon Society, *Losing Ground: At What Cost?* (2003).

**Table 3.2**  
**Change in Population Age: Westford, 1990-2007**

Age Cohort	Decennial Census		Change	Estimated	Change
	1990	2000	1990-2000	2007*	2000-2007
Under 18	4,619	6,601	42.9%	6,590	-0.2%
Age 18-34	3,975	2,962	-25.5%	3,139	6.0%
Age 35-44	3,277	4,720	44.0%	3,688	-21.9%
Age 45-54	2,150	3,228	50.1%	3,722	15.3%
Age 55-64	1,200	1,742	45.2%	2,523	44.8%
Age 65-74	715	841	17.6%	1,099	30.7%
Over 75	456	660	44.7%	749	13.5%
Total	16,392	20,754	26.6%	21,510	3.6%

Sources: Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1 Table P011; Census 2000, Summary File 1, Table P12; Claritas, Inc., Demographic Snapshot Report: Westford, Massachusetts.

\*Note: Claritas, Inc. places Westford's 2007 population at 21,510, or three more than the Census Bureau's 2006 population estimate.

level. **Map 2/B** highlights characteristics of Westford's population that are particularly germane to an open space and recreation planning process.

### Population Growth and Change

Westford's population has increased by 3.6 percent since Census 2000.<sup>4</sup> The Bureau of the Census estimates that Westford's current population is 21,507, for a population density of 703 people per sq. mi. Population density in the immediate region ranges from 316 people per sq. mi. in Carlisle to nearly 1,500 per sq. mi. in Chelmsford, with Westford just above the midpoint.

### Population Age

Westford is following the same population age pattern found throughout the nation, as people born during the "Baby Boom" era (1946-1964) progress toward retirement. From 1990-2000, children under 18 accounted for 45 percent of Westford's total population growth, but since 2000 the under-18 population has stabilized and begun to decline. In contrast, the over-45 population is growing rapidly, with people in "empty nester" households making up an increasingly large share of the population. This trend can be seen in the change in Westford's median population age from 36.9 years in 2000 to 37.8 years in 2007. As the last of the "Echo Boom" children move through the public schools, the age distribution of the total population will begin to shift toward middle aged and retiree householders.

### Race, Ethnicity, Language and Culture

Westford's population is predominantly white, non-Hispanic or Latino. The town has become somewhat more diverse since 2000, mainly due to population growth among Asians and people of mixed racial heritage.<sup>5</sup> The white population in Westford is overwhelmingly composed of people of Irish, English, Italian, German, and French Canadian ancestry. In turn, Asian Indians and Chinese make up a majority of the town's Asian population.

Westford has experienced foreign-born population growth, though not to the extent found in some other communities in the region. Its small foreign-born population is fairly representative of the global community, but most of Westford's naturalized citizens and non-naturalized residents come from India, China, Columbia, Canada, Ger-

<sup>4</sup> Unless stated otherwise, "region" refers to Westford and neighboring communities.

<sup>5</sup> Bureau of the Census, Census 2000, Summary File 1, Table P7; Claritas, Inc., Demographic Snapshot Report: Westford, Massachusetts.

**Table 3.3**  
**Population with Disabilities by Age and Types of Disabilities**

Age Group and Disability Status	Number of People	Type of Disability					
		Sensory	Physical	Mental	Self-Care	Go-Outside-Home	Employment
Population 5 and Over	18,829						
5 to 15 years	4,156						
With a disability	118	6	7	111	18		
16 to 64 years	13,278						
With a disability	1,208	117	325	277	71	382	822
65 and over	1,395						
With a disability	439	135	251	79	56	171	
Total:	1,765	258	583	467	145	553	822

Source: Bureau of the Census, Census 2000, Summary File 3, Tables P41, P42.

many, and England.<sup>6</sup> However, federal census data may not paint a complete picture of the cultural characteristics of Westford’s current population. According to the Massachusetts Department of Education (DOE), 7.5 percent of Westford’s K-12 students speak a language other than English at home, and two of the town’s elementary schools have extraordinarily large percentages of non-native English speakers (Day, 20.3 percent; and Miller, 24.2 percent), both well above the state average of 15.1 percent.<sup>7</sup>

**Education**

Westford has a well educated population. Sixty-five percent of its adult (over 25) population has completed college or beyond, and 25 percent hold a master’s degree, doctorate or professional degree. These statistics make Westford similar to nearby towns with a high wage-earning labor force and affluent households.<sup>8</sup> Education levels increased throughout the region between 1990 and 2000, but the increase in persons with advanced degrees is more pronounced in Westford than any neighboring town.

**People with Disabilities**

Approximately nine percent of Westford’s population over five years of age has a disability as that term is defined by the Bureau of the Census: a long-term physical, sensory or mental impairment, or a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities. A community’s open space and recreation needs include the needs of people with disabilities. These needs relate to the total number of residents with disabilities, their ages, and the types and number of disabilities they have. In Westford, the most common types of disabilities interfere with employment; walking, climbing stairs, reaching, or carrying; and going outside the home alone, without assistance.

**Population Projections**

The Executive Office of Transportation (EOT) has developed population projections for the state, the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), and cities and towns. Table 3.4 reports EOT’s population projections for Westford and surrounding communities. According to EOT, Westford is expected to grow by 19.5 percent

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census 2000, Summary File 3, Tables P19, P22, PCT10, PCT12, PCT 16, and PCT 19.

<sup>7</sup> Massachusetts Department of Education, Westford Public Schools, School Profile Series, retrieved from <<http://profiles.doe.mass.edu>>.

<sup>8</sup> University of Massachusetts Donohue Institute, “Educational Attainment for the State, Counties, Cities and Towns for the Population 25 Years and Older, 1990-2000,” [Electronic Version], retrieved from MassBenchmarks, <<http://www.mass-benchmarks.org/statedata/data.htm>>.

**Table 3.4**  
**Population Projections for Westford's Region**

Community	Census	EOT Projections by Decade		
	2000	2010	2020	2030
Acton	20,331	21,665	22,490	23,139
Carlisle	4,717	5,012	5,248	5,439
Chelmsford	33,858	34,923	36,680	37,500
Groton	9,547	10,317	10,970	11,690
Littleton	8,184	9,671	11,080	12,461
Tyngsborough	11,081	13,430	15,230	17,400
WESTFORD	20,754	24,807	27,750	31,340

Source: Bureau of the Census, Census 2000, Summary File 1 Table P1; Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Transportation. Figures courtesy of Northern Middlesex Council of Governments.

between 2000 and 2010, 11.9 percent between 2010 and 2020, and 12.9 percent between 2020 and 2030. By 2030, Westford would rank behind Lowell, Billerica, Dracut, Chelmsford and Tewksbury for the largest population in the region. In contrast, Acton, which had a population count similar to Westford's in 2000, is expected to grow more slowly.

### Households and Families

Westford experienced significant household growth between 1990 and 2000. Regionally, Westford's household growth rate was surpassed only in Tyngsborough (31.2%). Since 2000, the rate of household growth in Westford has exceeded the rate of population growth, consistent with regional, state, and national trends. Household characteristics act as a surrogate for the types, sizes, and prices of housing found in each community. This can be seen in Westford, where single-family dwellings account for 89 percent of all housing units and 86 percent of all households are families (households of two or more people related by blood, marriage or adoption). Moreover, Westford's recent growth has been attended by a higher rate of growth among families with children than households or families in general.

### Household Incomes

New growth has brought about noticeable changes in the economic position of Westford's households. In 1990, the median household income in Westford (\$60,566) lagged behind that of Carlisle (\$83,985), Harvard (\$80,028), Concord (\$69,917), Dunstable (\$62,515) and Acton (\$61,934). By 2000, Westford's median household income ranked third in the region. The estimated median household income in Westford today is \$124,514.<sup>9</sup>

### Per Capita Income

Statistics from the 1990 and 2000 federal census show that per capita income in Westford increased from \$21,878 in 1990 to \$37,979 in 2000, or 73.4 percent. In 2000, Westford's per capita income was higher than all communities in the NMCOG region but lower than that of Carlisle (\$59,559) and Acton (\$41,901). Estimates for 2007 indicate that Westford has experienced an increase of 28.5 percent in per capita income since 2000.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3 Table P080A; Census 2000, Summary File 3, Table P53; Claritas, Inc., Demographic Snapshot Reports.

<sup>10</sup> Census 2000, Summary File 3, Table P82; and Claritas, Inc. The estimated median household income reported by Claritas is based on 2007 conditions. According to the American Community Survey, the median income for the three-year period covering 2005 to 2007 was \$113,160. Both figures are inflation-adjusted.

## Poverty

Westford has the lowest poverty rate (1.7 percent) of all communities in its immediate region. The poverty rate for families in Westford, 1.3 percent, is composed almost entirely of single-parent households, including a roughly equal distribution of male-headed and female-headed families. This is not the case in other towns nearby, where female-headed families tend to make up the vast majority of families in poverty.<sup>11</sup>

## The Economy

Overall, Westford's economy has fared well in the past decade. The notable exception is the period between 2001-2003, when the information technology and computer manufacturing industries contracted and Westford lost a considerable amount of employment in these sectors. Unlike several communities nearby, Westford has not experienced a significant labor force decline. Its labor force increased somewhat from 11,529 in 2000 to 11,783 in May 2007, or 2.2 percent. The number of employed residents in Westford decreased 0.7 percent between 2000 and 2005, but increased 0.8 percent to 11,333 between 2005 and May 2007. However, Westford has generally had a higher unemployment rate than many neighboring towns.<sup>12</sup>

The number of establishments in Westford decreased from 665 in 2003 to 651 in 2006, for a 2.1 percent decline. This is not inconsistent with the experience of many of Westford's neighbors, though some communities have gained employer establishments at a modest rate. Still, while Westford lost some establishments, it has gained businesses in the service-providing domain. Sectors showing the greatest growth in establishments include construction, other services, and professional and business services.

Total employment in Westford increased 4.3 percent between 2003 (10,866) and 2006 (11,334), more than twice the statewide rate (2.1 percent). In 2006, Westford ranked sixth in the region for average monthly employment, trailing only Lowell, Billerica, Chelmsford, Tewksbury, and Concord. Since 2001, a majority of the employment gains in Westford have occurred in the information, professional services, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality industries. According to state data, employment in Westford is expected to increase 30.5 percent between 2000 and 2010, 6.7 percent between 2010 and 2020, and 9.6 percent between 2020 and 2030. In 2030, Westford is expected to rank fifth in employment levels within the region, trailing only Lowell (45,170), Billerica (28,930), Chelmsford (25,100) and Tewksbury (19,930).<sup>13</sup>

Westford employers pay high wages relative to the rest of the region. Westford ranks second in average weekly wages, behind only Boxborough. The average weekly wage in Westford increased from \$1,275 in 2003 to \$1,358 in 2006, or 6.5 percent. Even though weekly wages increased 10.5 percent for the state as a whole, the average weekly wage in Westford in 2006 was nearly 1.43 times the statewide average wage for the same period.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Census 2000, Summary File 3, Tables P89, P90, P92.

<sup>12</sup> Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD), Labor Force and Unemployment Data, <http://lmi2.detma.org/>.

<sup>13</sup> EOLWD, Employment and Wages Reports (ES-202).

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

## D. Growth and Development Patterns

### Patterns and Trends

Westford is a beautiful town with qualities that make it similar to some of the surrounding North Middlesex communities and other characteristics that make it distinct. Its hills, valleys, forests, and ponds give shape to Westford's built environment and define its scenic appeal. Long before I-495 imposed a divide across the lower half of Westford, the town was crossed by colonial routes that connected outlying villages and townships to each other and the coast – routes that would become focal points of the state highway system, such as Route 110 and Route 27. Westford also was crossed by the Stony Brook and three railroad lines. The town's development pattern, economy, and quality of life have been shaped by all of these forces, from its farms and historic villages to the commercial activity that lines Littleton Road.

Westford adopted zoning in 1955 and instituted a policy favoring one-acre lots for single-family home development. The town's population and household characteristics today largely reflect decisions made years ago to grow as a community of families. Since the early 1970s, Westford has absorbed significant demand for housing. Residential development – and the conventional subdivision in particular – has become Westford's dominant land use, as shown in **Map C**. The town has tried to protect contiguous open space and create interesting, sensitively planned neighborhoods by instituting both an Open Space Residential Development bylaw and a Flexible Development bylaw within the past 13 years. While these mechanisms have been useful for their intended purposes, Westford is experiencing other types of development challenges, such as tear-downs and mansionization. Many small, older homes in Westford have been demolished and replaced by larger dwellings. This is especially true of summer homes around some of the larger ponds in the northern section of town. At first, many of these residences were converted for year-round use, but now they are being expanded or rebuilt to the maximum extent possible.

In addition to housing, Westford has attracted considerable interest in commercial and industrial development, as evidenced by the amount of retail, office and industrial space along Littleton Road (Route 110). In 1978, Westford established Commercial Highway and Industrial Highway Districts along much of Route 110. The development that has occurred in these districts is quite different from the character and scale of Westford's traditional village businesses. While the town as a whole has benefited from the jobs and tax revenue generated by commercial growth, new development on Route 110 has also been attended by a gradual loss of locally owned stores in the villages.

### Infrastructure

#### ROADWAYS

Westford and the surrounding cities and towns are served by regional transportation networks composed of several modes of transportation, including automobiles, bicycles and pedestrians, commuter facilities and freight rail service. Westford's roadway system includes a blend of historic local roads and newer regional highways. The older roads were established as Westford transitioned from a farming community to a mill town in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Recognizing the importance and vulnerability of these historic roadways, Westford adopted

**Table 3.5**  
**Functional Classification for Roadways within Westford**

	Interstate	Arterial	Collector	Local	Total
Urban	26.04	68.14	18.18	150.08	262.44
Rural	0	3.54	14.55	46.05	64.14
Total	26.04	71.68	32.73	196.13	326.58

Data Source: NMCOG Transportation Plan for the Northern Middlesex Region 2003-2025

the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, s. 15C, the Scenic Roads Act, and approved a Scenic Roads Bylaw in 1975. Today, the town has designated 10 local roads as scenic roads, requiring a review process for the removal of trees and stone

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walls within the public right-of-way. Westford's growth continued into the twentieth century, with Westford's development as a suburb and the growth of industrial and commercial activity in Lowell. The rise of technology-related commerce along Route 128 and I-495 brought further accessibility to Westford, which has now become the home of major technology firms in numerous office parks along the I-495 corridor.

Westford has a fairly typically hierarchy of streets. Roadways are typically classified by their function and purpose, such as interstates, arterials, collectors, and local roadways. These kinds of classifications describe the hierarchy for the effective collection and distribution of vehicles. According to NMCOG, Westford has a total of 165 centerline miles (333 lane miles) of roadway, ranging from interstate highways to local roads. Local and regional roadways and other infrastructure and facilities are shown on **Map D**.

### FREIGHT RAIL

The railroads in and around Westford followed the historic development patterns of New England. In the peak of the industrial and manufacturing era, two rail lines served this area. One of them, the Boston and Maine (B&M) Line, still supports freight operations, although no direct freight rail services are provided to businesses and industries in Westford. The rail line runs in an east-west direction through Westford, connecting to Ayer in the vicinity of Devens.

### PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ACCOMMODATION

Pedestrian and bicycle amenities are an essential component of a community's transportation network. They offer an alternative, non-motorized and non-polluting means of transportation. They also encourage physical activity, which is a health benefit. In addition, they provide recreational opportunities, enhance community interaction, and provide a vital source of transportation for those with limited access to automobiles. Pedestrian traffic within commercial areas also reduces the need for large parking lots and reduces traffic congestion because sidewalks help to avoid shorter vehicle trips between retail stores within walking distance of each other. In contrast, lack of sidewalks or gaps in existing sidewalk networks, poor maintenance, and substandard pedestrian crossing locations create barriers to walking.

When Westford was a farming community with a sparse population, pedestrians shared the roadway with carts and wagons. As the town developed with the advent of vehicular-based roadways, Westford did not establish a clearly defined infrastructure for pedestrian traffic. Today, Westford continues to struggle with this because pedestrian and bicycle amenities do not exist in most parts of town. The lack of pedestrian amenities is a public safety problem and it promotes the use of automobiles even for walkable trips. Westford's expansive land area, contemporary suburban developments, and narrow, winding historic roadways present a significant challenge for providing adequate sidewalks throughout the town. However, the lack of sidewalks at critical areas creates public safety issues that surfaced many times during the town's recent master plan process. Existing sidewalks are concentrated mainly in the Town Center and within newer residential subdivisions, but they are largely absent from critical areas such as around schools and along Route 110.

### WATER DEPARTMENT

The Westford Water Department operates two state-of-the-art water treatment plants and eight drinking water supply wells that serve 5,300 customers. All of Westford's drinking water is withdrawn from groundwater supplies. The town owns and maintains 125 miles of water mains, 900 hydrants, and five water storage tanks with combined storage capacity of 4.85M gallons.<sup>15</sup> Westford has authority from DEP to pump a maximum of 4.2 million gallons per day (mgd) from its existing wells. Maximum day consumption has been approximately 3.8

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<sup>15</sup> Westford Water Department, *DEP Public Water Supply Annual Statistical Report 2006* (n.d.), and Jessica Cajigas, Westford Water Department, March 2008.

mgd, though it fluctuates from year to year based on summer weather conditions. The Water Department serves approximately 75 percent of Westford's population and two-thirds of the town's total area. Residential land uses account for more than 80 percent of the Water Department's customers, and commercial or industrial uses, about 16 percent. The remaining consumption stems from institutional and municipal uses.<sup>16</sup>

### WASTEWATER DISPOSAL

Westford does not have public sewer service. All residential and commercial properties depend on private on-site wastewater disposal facilities that conform to Title V and the Westford Board of Health's rules and regulations.

### Zoning

Westford's zoning framework includes ten conventional use districts and five overlay districts (**Map 3**), as described below. The vast majority of Westford's land is zoned for residential development. As a result, Westford's residential zoning regulations will exert significant control over its land use pattern at buildout, just as residential development already influences Westford's land use pattern and character today. However, the evolution of commercial and industrial land use also can exert an enormous impact on Westford's character even though the total amount of land zoned for these uses is small compared to the size of the residential districts. Westford has designated Route 110 as a concentrated area for employment, goods and services. Most of the land zoned for commercial and industrial development in Westford is located along this corridor.

### RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

- **Residence A.** A single set of development requirements applies to 85 percent of Westford's land. The Residence A (RA) District, which covers 17,142 acres, is a conventional district for single-family homes. The minimum lot area in RA is 40,000 sq. ft., with a 75 percent minimum upland requirement. In this district, Westford requires dwelling units to be set back at least 50 feet from the road, 15 feet from side boundary of a lot and 30 feet from the rear boundary. Westford also caps building heights at the traditional suburban maximum of 35 feet and 2.5 stories.
- **Residence B.** Westford's second residential district, Residence B (RB), requires a minimum lot area of 20,000 sq. ft. and minimum lot frontage of 100 feet. Aside from lot area and frontage, the only difference in dimensional requirements in the RA and RB Districts is the front yard setback (25 feet in RB). The RB district includes less than five percent of the town and applies to land in three locations: Forge Village, Graniteville and Nabnasset.
- **Open Space Residential Design.** Westford has zoning regulations that encourage or require alternative development plans. Under the Open Space Residential Development (OSRD), any division of ten or more acres of land or construction of a road exceeding 1,000 feet in the RA District requires a special permit from the Planning Board. A portion of each development site must be reserved as common open space at a ratio of 10,000 sq. ft. of upland per dwelling unit, with some variations for larger developments or those located in an industrial zone.
- **Flexible Development.** Westford's Flexible Development (FD) bylaw calls for a site planning process that requires an analysis and documentation of significant natural features. In Westford, any development that is required to comply with the OSRD bylaw is also required to submit a Flexible Development plan. If the Flexible Development Plan is approved, it governs the project; if not, OSRD presumably applies. In addition, Westford requires that FD applicants provide a 15 percent contribution of affordable units, defined as low-income, moderate-income and median-income affordability. The affordable units must remain affordable in

<sup>16</sup> DEP Public Water Supply Annual Statistical Report, 2006.

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perpetuity under an affordable housing use restriction conveyed by the applicant. As a result, Westford's FD bylaw doubles as a mechanism for alternative site layouts and inclusionary zoning, or the mandatory inclusion of affordable units within a market-rate development.

- **Senior Residential Development Options.** In Westford, developers have two options for creating residences for senior citizens: the Senior Residential Multifamily Overlay District (SRMOD) and the Assisted Living Facilities bylaw, which governs assisted living developments allowed by special permit in the Town's residential districts and most of the commercial or industrial districts. The SRMOD is a type of "floating" zone that can be placed on any qualifying tract of land by town meeting vote. The Assisted Living Facility option is a special permitted use in most of the town's residential and nonresidential zoning districts.
- **Mill Conversion Overlay District.** Westford has created a special overlay district to facilitate the redevelopment and reuse of four historic mill compounds: the Abbot Mill on Pleasant Street, the Abbot Worsted Mill on North Main Street, the Sargent Mill on Broadway Street, and the Brookside Mill on Brookside Road. These projects may include housing where residential uses are otherwise prohibited.

## COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

- **The Commercial Highway District (CH)** provides for many types of retail and other commercial uses on Route 110, but it allows only one type of residential use (assisted living) by special permit. Retail over a certain size also requires a special permit, along with essential services, hospital or clinic facilities, and motor vehicle services. In addition, the Planning Board can grant a special permit for a Planned Commercial Development or a Major Commercial Project – essentially large office developments or large nonresidential developments with a mix of uses.
- **Business and Business Limited Districts.** Westford has two smaller commercial districts, the Business (B) District and Business Limited (BL) District. Together, they cover less than one percent of the town. The B District includes 38 properties located throughout Westford north of I-495, mainly but not exclusively in the villages. In contrast, the BL District exists in only one location, between North Main Street and Milot Road just west of the Graniteville Historic District. These districts are intended to meet neighborhood-level needs for goods and services.
- **Industrial Highway District.** Westford's Industrial Highway (IH) District exists in five locations south of I-495, all along or in the vicinity of Route 110. It is an office park and light industrial zoning district situated for the movement of goods and services by trucking, in most cases away from residential neighborhoods. The IH District allows a range of industrial uses, including office and research parks, light manufacturing, wholesale trade, sand and gravel removal, and sawmills and wood processing. Storage and distribution facilities require a special permit, as does the Planned Industrial Development (PID) option, which is very similar to a PCD in the CH District. While Westford does not allow traditional retail uses by right in the IH District, a Major Retail Project is allowed by special permit. In addition, Westford allows retail sales to industrial or commercial buyers and auto sales by right, along with professional or business offices. A Major Commercial Project can be developed by special permit.
- **Industrial A, B, C, and D Districts.** Westford's other industrial districts are located in several locations: near its northernmost border on the southbound side of Route 3; in Graniteville along the Boston and Maine rail line near River Street and Bridge Street; in Forge Village; in Nabnasset; within the Nashoba Valley Ski Area; adjacent to I-495 southbound; and in the northeast corner of Westford along both sides of Route 3, bordered by Tyngsborough and Chelmsford.

- The **Water Resource Protection Overlay District (WRPOD)** consists of three sub-areas – WRPD I, II and III – which are very similar to Zones I, II and III as defined by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). WRPD I/Zone I includes a 400 ft. radius around drinking water supplies, and WRPD II/Zone II includes all land deemed influential to the quality and quantity of water drawn from a well under stressed pumping conditions, i.e., the recharge area. WRPD III/Zone III is the larger watershed surrounding a water supply.
- The **Floodplain Overlay District (FOD)** is very similar to the floodplain bylaws found in other communities. It includes all areas within the 100-year floodplain and floodways shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps prepared by FEMA in 1983. Regardless of the use regulations that apply in the underlying zone, the FOD limits permitted uses to those unlikely to cause flooding in a 100-year storm event: agriculture, forestry, passive recreation, wildlife management, or structures that existed prior to the delineation of flood zones in Westford (1983). The Planning Board can grant a special permit for new construction in a floodplain as long as the applicant demonstrates that a proposed project conforms to the State Building Code and provides an engineer’s certification that it will not increase flood levels during a 100-year flood.
- The **Conservation Overlay District (COD)** includes tracts of land associated with seven residential subdivisions or condominium developments approved during the 1980s and early 1990s. The parcels are located off Tenney Road, Groton Road in the vicinity of Keyes Road, off Hildreth Street, off Power Road, off Pine Ridge Road between Forge Village Road and Cold Spring Road, and off Patten Road. The uses of land permitted in the COD include agriculture, forestry and passive recreation.

### Future Development Capacity

A buildout analysis prepared by NMCOG in 2001 indicates that at the time, Westford had enough vacant, developable land to support an additional 4,637 single-family homes and 17,964,654 sq. ft. of commercial and industrial space.<sup>17</sup> Since 2001, Westford has acquired two large parcels of open space, the East Boston Camps property and the Stepinski parcel, which would reduce the total inventory of developable residential land. A more recent estimate of the town’s residential growth potential was prepared for the Comprehensive Plan Update, and it placed the town’s buildout potential at an additional 2,285 lots.

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<sup>17</sup> Northern Middlesex Council of Governments, “Summary Buildout Statistics,” [Electronic Version], March 2001.

## Section 4: Environmental Inventory

### A. Geology, Soils and Topography

Westford's underlying natural features have played a historical role in shaping the town's pattern of development. The water power of Stony Brook supplied the power source for industrial mills along its banks while extensive granite deposits along the northern section of Westford attracted quarrying enterprises. Roadways were built to correspond with the town's natural topography and farms and orchards developed in areas of richly organic soil. Today, these natural and historic features help to define Westford's identity and local residents have worked diligently to protect these special places.

#### Geology

##### BEDROCK GEOLOGY

Westford's bedrock consists of several igneous and metamorphic units that run in a southwest to northeast pattern. The bedrock visible in Westford today was once emplaced at a depth within the crust but has now become exposed by uplift and erosion. One of Westford's rock types, the Chelmsford Granite, is particularly noteworthy because it underlies much of the northern third of town and has been actively quarried since the early 1800s.

##### SURFICIAL GEOLOGY

Westford's surficial geology is the product of erosion and deposition of material from the glaciers that once covered large areas of the northern hemisphere. Natural climate cycling caused these huge glaciers to descend from the north and retreat several times in the past 1.8 million years. By about 20,000 years ago the last continental glacier, the Wisconsinan, began to recede, and by about 8,000 years ago, the main front had retreated north of Westford. At its maximum extent, the Wisconsinan glacier was more than 2,000 feet thick over Westford, thick enough to depress the crust and affect flow patterns of glacial meltwater. As the glacier rode over the surface, it left behind compacted material called glacial till, a mixture of many sizes of broken rock from boulders to silt. When the glacier receded, turbid meltwater filled with debris and sediment poured off and formed rivers, lakes, dams, and deltas. The meltwater deposited sediment in valleys and depressions, generally in well-sorted layers called stratified drift or glacial outwash.

Stony Brook and the Concord and Merrimack Rivers flow to the northeast in Westford's vicinity because of the topography created by glacial activities. **Map 4** shows that the surficial geology correlates directly with Westford's topography: till on the uplands and sands and gravels in the low areas. Till transmits water slowly, which makes it poorly suited for sewage disposal. Till deposits may be shallow, sparsely covering bedrock between visible outcrops, or it may be more than twenty feet deep, forming elongated hills and rough plains. A specific group of soil types have developed on glacial till. They are generally dense and stony, like the till, making farming difficult. These soils produced the large rocks that colonial farmers used to build the stone walls found in Westford and much of southern New England today.

In contrast, well-sorted sediments formed from glacial meltwater (outwash deposits) are generally level and free of large stones. This soil type is typically loamy sand mixed with gravel and is suitable for farming if it is not too sandy and fast-draining. The outwash deposits form productive aquifers and provide storage for seasonal hydrologic cycling and floodwaters. Westford's public drinking water supply occupies much of the glacial outwash areas around Stony Brook. Some outwash deposits may be very deep where they were deposited in valleys or deltas.

**SOILS**

There are thirty-four mapped soil units in Westford. The principal soil series include Hinckley, Freetown Muck, Paxton, and Charlton-Hollis-Rock Outcrop Complex. Other common units in Westford include Windsor, Canton, Woodbridge, Swansea, Montauk, and Udorthents (disturbed soil parent materials).<sup>18</sup> Sediment deposits covered by surface water total about 3.5 percent of Westford's land area, and quarry and gravel pits, about 1.5 percent. Muck is found along the edges of existing rivers and under Westford's wetlands. Three types of muck are found in Westford: Freetown, Saco, and Swansea series. All are silty loam characterized by high organic content. The Windsor series is found mainly along the Stony Brook Corridor, while pockets of the Scarboro series are found south of I-495. The following is a description of Westford's most frequently occurring soils:

- Hinckley series soils is found throughout Westford and developed on lowland glacial sand and gravel deposits. Hinckley soils consist of nearly level to very steep, deep, excessively drained soils on glacial outwash plains and other glacial meltwater deposits. They formed in gravelly and cobbly coarse-textured glacial outwash (water-sorted material). Typically these soils have a very dark, grayish-brown loamy sand surface layer seven inches thick. Hinckley soils have friable or loose, gravelly, and very gravelly sandy loam to loamy coarse surface soil and subsoil, with rapid permeability. Slopes range from 0 to 60 percent. Major limitations relate to slope and droughtiness.
- Freetown Muck developed in deep organic deposits in depressions and flats in both lowlands and uplands. The Freetown series consists of nearly level, deep, very poorly drained organic soils in depressions and on flat areas of uplands and glacial outwash plains. They are formed of thick, black, highly decomposed organic material (muck) over sandy or loamy mineral material, with moderate to moderately rapid permeability. They have a water table that is at or near the surface most of the year. Major limitations relate to wetness and low strength. Paxton series soils are found on the compact till uplands. They consist of gently sloping to steep, deep, well-drained soils on drumlins (elongate glacial till-over-bedrock features). They formed in compact glacial till, and have friable fine sandy loam with moderate permeability over firm, fine sandy loam with slow permeability. Paxton soils are very stony. Their major use limitations relate to slow permeability and stoniness. The Paxton series is the Massachusetts State soil.
- Charlton-Hollis-Rock Outcrop Complex developed on bedrock-controlled uplands covered with a thin mantle of glacial till. The Charlton-Hollis Rock-Outcrop Complex consists of a complex pattern of well-drained soils of the Charlton series, excessively drained soils of the Hollis series, and bedrock outcrops. Charlton soils are gently sloping to steep, deep, well-drained soils formed on uplands where the relief is controlled by bedrock. Hollis soils are shallow, excessively drained, and formed in a thin mantle of glacial till over bedrock. Both units are stony and bedrock outcrops make up about 10% of the surface of this series. Major limitations are related to stoniness, slope, and shallow depth to bedrock.

**PRIME FARMLAND**

A total of 1,221 acres in Westford (about 6 percent of the town's total land area) consists of Prime Farmland soils. Most of these soils are located in the uplands in the central and southern parts of town. More than 3,000 acres in Westford are classified as Farmland of Unique Importance and 4,400 acres are classified as Farmland of State Importance – that is, soils known to be valuable for specific types of crop production or otherwise designated for agriculture by state law, but not conforming to the definition of prime farmland. Together, Westford's prime farmland and farmland of unique or state importance constitute 43 percent of the town's total area.<sup>19</sup> Westford

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil Survey Geographic (SSUR-GO) database for Middlesex County, Massachusetts, <<http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/>>, retrieved 6 December 2006.

<sup>19</sup> MassGIS, NRCS Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) Certified Soils Database, Middlesex County; statistical calculations

**Table 4.1  
Westford’s Soils**

Mapped Soil Unit	Area Percent	Topographic Location	Geologic Environment or Formation
Hinckley Loamy Sand	17.2%	Lowland	Outwash Plains
Freetown Muck	11.8%	Upland and Lowland	Depressions on Plains and Uplands
Paxton Fine Sandy Loam	9.5%	Upland	Till, Drumlins
Charlton-Hollis-Rock Outcrop Complex	8.1%	Upland	Uplands, Ground Moraine, Bedrock-Controlled Uplands
Windsor Loamy Sand	6.7%	Lowland	Outwash Plains
Udorthents	6.6%	Upland and Lowland	Disturbed soil
Canton Fine Sandy Loam	6.5%	Upland	Till, Ground Moraine, Ice-Contact Stratified Drift
Water	3.3%		
Gravel Pits	1.1%		
Quarry Pits	0.6%		
Urban Land	0.5%		
Other Mapped Soil Units	28.2%		
	100.0%		

Source: USDA Soil Conservation Service, MassGIS.

has a long history of farming, most notably apple growing, but much of the town’s farmland has ultimately been converted to developed land. In fact, between 1985 and 1999, Westford experienced the second greatest loss of agricultural land of any town in Massachusetts (478 acres of farmland converted to development).<sup>20</sup> While almost 50 percent of Westford’s soils are considered optimal for farming, the reality of land use in town is much different today than in the past.

**TOPOGRAPHY**

The natural beauty of Westford – its hills, valleys, rivers and ponds – are largely a product of its landforms. Westford’s major landforms are Stony Brook and its adjacent wetlands in the northern half of town, and rolling hills and valleys that are located throughout the town. Westford’s topography is fairly hilly, ranging from a high of about 468 feet above sea level on Prospect Hill just west of the center of town to a low of about 140 feet where Stony Brook leaves Westford and enters Chelmsford. Other named hills in Westford include: Canton, Conscience, Frances, Kissacook, Millstone, Oak, Prospect, Rail Tree and Snake Meadow Hills.

Westford’s hills are composed primarily of glacial till. Snake Meadow, Millstone, and Oak Hills also have large areas with a significant percentage of rock outcrops. Paxton, Montauk, and Woodbridge soils are found on all of Westford’s hills, while Canton soils are also found on Oak, Conscience, and Francis Hills. There are also pockets of Scituate (Francis, Oak, Prospect, Rail Tree Hills), Merrimac (Rail Tree Hill), Deerfield (Kissacook, Snake Meadow Hills), and Quonset (Kissacook) soil series.

The hilly topography of Westford relates to several other glacial land features known as glacial moraines, drumlins, and kames. Moraines represent the accumulated ice-contact debris left beneath or ahead of the glacier. Drumlins are elongated hills formed when the glacier rode over resistant bedrock, common in many areas of New England. Kames are rough hilly features formed by deposition and collapse of sediment accumulated close to the melting ice. Lakes and ponds also were formed by glacial movement. Kettle lakes formed when the retreating glacier left

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by author. See also, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Prime and Unique Farmlands: Important Farmlands Inventory, Final Rule, 7 CFR Part 657 (25 September 2000).

<sup>20</sup> Massachusetts Audubon Society,  Losing Ground: At What Cost?  (2003) <www.massaudubon.org>.

behind a chunk of ice around which meltwater flowed and sediment accumulated. When the ice chunk melted, a depression containing meltwater was left behind. Other lakes and ponds formed in depressions left in ice-contact and sedimentary features.

#### **EFFECTS ON DEVELOPMENT**

Westford's natural landscape features have long provided the town with economic and recreational opportunities, such as the development of mills along its rivers, mining where appropriate deposits occurred, and the location of radar equipment (Millstone Hill/MIT Haystack Observatory) and ski facilities (Nashoba Valley Ski Area) on topographic elevations. Today, while many of these resources provide some of the town's most important scenic vistas and wildlife habitats, many of these same resources, most notably the town's remaining quarries and undeveloped hilltops, remain unprotected from future development. Moreover, many of the town's remaining fields and farms along its scenic roadways are not permanently protected from future development. The loss of these agricultural landscapes would significantly erode the quality of the town's remaining rural areas.

Over the past several decades, Westford has experienced some of the most intensive growth in the region. This growth has occurred throughout the community and includes all facets of development from residential to commercial and industrial development. What was once a rural community has quickly transitioned into a suburb. Westford's significant loss of agricultural land combined with the loss of other undeveloped land such as woodlands and fields has resulted in a significant reduction in wildlife habitats. Westford's rapid development has had other ramifications beyond environmental consequences. More residents means greater demands on the town's water supply. Moreover, new residential development brings increasing expanses of lawns and gardens with their associated fertilizer and pesticide use. All development, residential or otherwise, results in an increase in impervious surfaces including parking lots and roads (with associated de-icing chemicals) and septic systems. Additionally, the increasing population translates into greater needs for both active and passive recreational opportunities (and other municipal uses) that in turn increase land use and add to stress on the land.

As Westford's remaining inventory of undeveloped land is depleted, more marginalized parcels, e.g. those with steeper slopes, underlying bedrock and less suitable soil contents, are increasingly being targeted for development. Potential development on the remaining undeveloped parcels along the Stony Brook corridor are particularly problematic due to their location over the town's only high-yield aquifer that supplies Westford's public drinking water supply.

Westford has worked to address some of these environmental concerns by instituting local initiatives such as the recently adopted Pesticide Use Policy which limits the use of pesticides on all town-owned lands and the Water Department's Healthy Lawns for Healthy Families program. The Town has also continued to pursue land acquisitions despite the town's increasing land values. Westford's adoption of the Community Preservation Act in 2002 has generated critical funds for open space protection. One of the most significant examples of the community's willingness to fund open space acquisition is the town's recent purchase of the East Boston Camps property. This purchase fulfilled several community goals: preservation of an environmentally significant land parcel, water resource protection and provision of space suitable for the development of recreational fields.

Westford has also continued to utilize its Open Space Residential Development bylaw to encourage the development of clustered housing in order to protect sensitive open space areas and develop trails. The recent residential development at Summer Village at Long Sought-for-Pond preserved a significant wooded area of the site and continued the area's traditional development pattern of seasonal cabins. The town's Flexible Development zoning bylaw also allows the town's land use boards to work with developers during the design process to identify the parcel's important natural resources, scenic areas, and environmentally sensitive land and to protect these areas by clustering housing away from them. As development pressure increases and the town's remaining large unpro-

tected open spaces are targeted for development, it will be critical for Westford to continue to guide this growth toward ecologically sensitive development.

## B. Landscape Character

Despite Westford’s development over the past twenty years, the town still retains vestiges of natural beauty and scenic quality. Rolling hills, water features, open fields and stands of woodlands all contribute to the town’s unique sense of place and provide testimony to its rural past. Rock outcroppings occur throughout the town although most of the town’s granite quarries in the northern section of town have closed and many have been redeveloped. Those still in operation are nearing the end of their production capacity. Of particular importance to the town are the “house and barn,” a pair of very large boulders left from the last glaciation located near the Westford/ Tyngsborough town line.



Westford’s waterways provide some of the town’s most scenic vistas and play a significant role in defining the visual character of

the community. Stony Brook and its tributaries are character defining features in the town’s mill villages while Nabnasset Lake provides a defining landmark for its surrounding neighborhood of original summer cottages. Significant open space still exists around many of the town’s ponds, streams and brooks. Permanent protection of these landscapes and their associated water resources is critical for the town in terms of water resource protection, wildlife habitat and public recreation opportunities. The open space surrounding several of the town’s great ponds, Grassy Pond, Kennedy Pond and Burge’s Pond, are permanently protected under the care of the Conservation Commission. While Westford has sought to protect open space parcels along Stony Brook, several remain unprotected. The town recently approved the purchase of one of the most significant remaining private parcels that abuts Water Department land on Farmer’s Parcel (a.k.a. Stony Brook Center). In addition to Stony Brook and its adjacent wetlands, both of which bisect the town from west to east, there are numerous smaller brook corridors throughout the town.

Residents of Westford are fortunate to have an extensive trails network that provides the opportunity for passive enjoyment of some of the town’s most distinctive landscapes. These trails, which are developed and maintained by the Conservation Commission and Westford Conservation Trust, traverse many of the town’s conservation lands and showcase impressive natural vistas and environmental habitats. The Town continues to work on creating additional trails. **Map 5** identifies these and other special landscape features.

## C. Water Resources

### Watersheds

Westford falls within two major drainage basins or watersheds: the Merrimack basin and the Sudbury-Assabet-Concord (SuAsCo) basin (**Map 6**). The boundary between these two basins bisects the town approximately east to west, north of I-495. These major basins also include a series of connected sub-basins. Seven of these sub-basins drain most of Westford's surface area: the Snake Meadow Brook/Keyes Brook sub-basin; the Nabnasset Lake sub-basin; the Stony Brook sub-basin; the Forge Pond sub-basin; the Nashoba Brook sub-basin; the Tadmuck Swamp sub-basin; and the Heart Pond sub-basin. There are also four sub-basins that lie largely outside of Westford: Bridge Meadow Brook (Tyngsborough); Deep Brook (Chelmsford); Beaver Brook (Littleton); and a very small piece of the Massapog Pond sub-basin (Groton, Tyngsborough).

### Surface Water

#### STREAMS AND BROOKS

By virtue of the size of its drainage sub-basin, Stony Brook is Westford's principal watercourse. Stony Brook's headwaters begin at Wolf Swamp in Boxborough and terminate about 22 miles east at its confluence with the Merrimack River in Chelmsford. The stream is known as Beaver Brook from Wolf Swamp to Forge Pond in Westford, where it becomes Stony Brook and remains so until its terminus at the Merrimack River. From Forge Village to the Chelmsford town line, Stony Brook collects surface water from about eight square miles or almost one-quarter of the town's area. Nashoba Brook and its tributaries Vine Brook, Nonset Brook and Butter Brook collect water from the southern third of Westford and travel south toward the Concord River.

#### LAKES AND PONDS

Westford has many lakes and ponds. At 203 acres, Forge Pond is Westford's largest pond, though part of it lies within the Town of Littleton. Similarly, Nabnasset Lake serves as the center of its natural and built environment within Nabnasset Village. Many other ponds characterize Westford, particularly in the Merrimack basin north of Stony Brook, including Keyes Pond, Long-Sought-For Pond, Flushing Pond, Greystone Pond, Grassy Pond, and Burge's Pond. In the Concord basin are Heart Pond<sup>21</sup> (mostly in Chelmsford) and many smaller ponds and adjoining wetlands.

Eight lakes and ponds in Westford are classified as Great Ponds under M.G.L. c. 91, the Public Waterfront Act, including Burge's Pond, Flushing Pond, Forge Pond, Grassy Pond, Heart Pond, Keyes Pond, Long-Sought-For Pond, and Nabnasset Lake.<sup>22</sup> A great pond is any pond or lake that contained more than ten acres in its natural state. Ponds that once measured ten or more acres in their natural state, but which are now smaller, still qualify as great ponds. Public access to Westford's great ponds is available at two town beaches, the Town Beach on Forge Pond and Edwards Beach on Nabnasset Lake, and from canoe access ramps at Keyes Pond, Long-Sought-For Pond, Beaver Brook, and Stony Brook on River Street. According to the draft Master Plan prepared for East Boston Camps, Burge's Pond will not have a formal town beach but small boats will be allowed access to the pond.

Three of the town's ponds, Grassy Pond, Kennedy Pond and Burge's Pond, are located within parcels managed by the Westford Conservation Commission, while Greystone Pond is bordered by conservation land. Other local water resources include small ponds and vernal pools that have developed in many of the town's former quarries. These resources are unprotected from potential adverse development.

<sup>21</sup> This pond is also referred to as Hart Pond.

<sup>22</sup> Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Wetlands and Waterways <[www.mass.gov/dep/water/resources/about01.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/resources/about01.htm)> and <[www.mass.gov/dep/water/greatpon.doc](http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/greatpon.doc)>, retrieved 20 December 2006.

### **AQUIFER RECHARGE AREAS**

In most of New England, groundwater is most easily obtained in large areas of stratified drift, which are far more transmissive to water flow than glacial till or fractured bedrock. Stratified drift generally occurs in lowland areas, where it was deposited by glacial meltwater. Glacial drift valleys are often isolated or separated by uplands of till and shallow bedrock. Groundwater recharge is the part of the hydrologic cycle in which aquifers are recharged by precipitation, surface water infiltration, or hydrologic exchange with other aquifers. Since recharge of stratified drift aquifers generally occurs through inflow from the surrounding drainage basin and nearby surface water bodies, the quality of surface water is critical to the quality of groundwater and therefore to drinking water supply.

Much of Westford consists of shallow glacial till and stratified drift over bedrock and as a result, the town has only a few small productive groundwater aquifers. These aquifers are intimately related to the surface water above them, making protection of surface water vitally important to Westford. Westford is fortunate to have a significant aquifer suitable for drinking water supply in the stratified drift beneath Stony Brook and its surroundings. The town adopted a Water Resource Protection Overlay District (WRPOD) in order to protect the sensitive drinking water supply areas. Within the overlay districts, Westford prohibits certain land uses and allows others only by special permit.

Westford currently has two water treatment facilities: the Forge Village Water Treatment Facility and the Nutting Road Treatment Facility. Five well sites supply the Forge Village Facility, while three wells currently serve the Nutting Road Facility. Two of the Nutting Road wells, the Fletcher Well, which is treated by the Forge Village facility, and the Cote Well, which is treated by the Nutting Road facility, are both designated as ground water under the influence of surface water, which requires more stringent treatment and monitoring as specified under the Surface Water Treatment Rule. The Town approved development of a new well on County Road at its recent Town Meeting in May 2008. Perhaps most significantly, residents also approved the purchase of a 110-acre parcel of land adjacent to the town's existing Cote Well site and Water Department facility, which would provide a high capacity well site for the town. This property has been identified as a priority acquisition site for more than 20 years.

### **FLOOD HAZARD AREAS**

Westford has a Floodplain Overlay District (FOD) that restricts uses on land within mapped flood plains. These districts correspond with the FEMA's 100-year flood plain. The purpose of Westford's FOD is to protect public health and safety, and to preserve natural flood control characteristics and flood storage capacity of the floodplain, and to protect the groundwater recharge areas within the floodplain. The boundaries of the FOD are shown on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Insurance Rate Map, dated June 15, 1983. No construction or earth-moving activities are permitted in the FOD without a special permit from the Planning Board. Additionally, FEMA flood boundaries reflect flood conditions at a certain point in time. Due to the anticipated increased rainfall and intensity of storms associated with climate change in the northeast portion of the United States, flood boundaries in the northeast are predicted to migrate upgradient over time.

### **WETLANDS**

The importance of wetlands to the health and balance of the natural environment is well known, and wetlands are therefore protected by state and federal law. The Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. c.131, s.40, gives the Commonwealth and local Conservation Commissions authority to regulate activities affecting wetlands for the following specific interests: protection of public and private water supply; protection of ground water supply; flood control; prevention of storm damage and pollution; protection of land containing shellfish; protection of fisheries; and protection of wildlife habitat. In 1996, the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act was incorporated into the Wetlands Protection Act. It regulates activities within 200 feet of perennial rivers and streams, protecting the role that these rivers and their adjacent lands (riverfront) play in the hydrologic recharge of the river, in filtering pollutants, and providing wildlife habitat and migration corridors.

Westford has several large and significant wetland areas distributed throughout town, particularly around Stony Brook, Nashoba Brook and Beaver Brook. The town has enacted a non-zoning Wetlands Protection Bylaw and regulations to supplement state law and state regulations (Chapter 171 and Chapter 235). The local bylaw establishes additional interests beyond those set by the state law, including water pollution prevention, recreation, and aquaculture values. The bylaw also regulates activities within 100 feet of the wetland resource areas defined in the state law (buffer zones) and activities affecting smaller wetlands, including vernal pools, which are not subject to the Wetlands Protection Act.

## D. Vegetation

### Forest Land

Westford occupies a transitional place in the mosaic of forest types that characterize southern New England, i.e., a blend between northern (hardwood-hemlock-white pine) and southern (hardwood-oak-hickory) New England forests. This diverse mixture of hardwoods and conifers gives the land a quilted appearance from a distance, and also provides a wide range of habitats for wildlife. Oak, hickory, birch, maple, and Eastern white pine dominate the canopy, while the understory is populated with sassafras, ferns, wildflowers, and assorted shrub species. Introduced and invasive species are not uncommon in many parts of town, especially in disturbed areas and along roadsides. Westford is home to several state champion trees, the largest trees of their species in the state, including the largest black oak (*Quercus velutina*) next to the library, the largest catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*) on private property on Concord Road, and the largest shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*) on Trust land on Hildreth Street. Approximately 267 acres in Westford are classified as Town Forest while many additional acres of forested land are protected as town conservation parcels.

Since the mid-nineteenth century, Westford has experienced a gradual regrowth of the forests that were cleared for farming by colonial settlers in the seventeenth century. Today, Westford is forested, but with a modern forest that has largely grown on post-agricultural land after the town's farmlands were abandoned beginning in the mid-1800s. The abandoned fields experienced regrowth of the tree species that remained in the uncleared sections of town. Westford's forested area increased fairly steadily from the mid-1800s until the 1970s, when forest cover began to decline again under the pressure of suburban land development.

### Public Shade Trees

Despite Westford's rapid development during the late twentieth century, the town still contains a large inventory of mature public and private shade trees, including three State Heritage Trees: a Northern Catalpa tree at a private home on Concord Road, north of Route 110; a Black Oak on the grounds of the Fletcher Library on Main Street; and a Shagbark Hickory at the Prospect Hill Wildlife Sanctuary (owned by the Westford Conservation Trust).<sup>23</sup> Heritage trees are trees with a diameter greater than thirty-two inches that are designated a champion in size for its species in Massachusetts or have documented historic significance to the community or state.

However, while recognizing the important need to protect its trees, Westford does not have a local tree ordinance, nor has it adopted zoning bylaws or formal policies that address tree planting, selection, protection and maintenance issues or the protection of tree canopy. An ice storm in 2008 caused significant damage to both town- and privately-owned trees throughout Westford. Continuing damage caused by disease and environmental hazards such as heavy precipitation and strong winds remains a challenge for the town.

The town currently undertakes tree replanting on an informal basis. It recently completed a tree restoration on

<sup>23</sup> Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Westford Reconnaissance Report: Freedom's Way Heritage Landscape Inventory (2006).

Westford's historic Town Common. Begun in 1995, the Common Restoration Project was a collaborative effort between the Westford Historical Society and the Town's Tree Warden to restore the ailing double allee of shade trees around this historic landscape. The State supported the project with an Historic Preservation Grant. The Historical Society and the Town's Tree Warden are currently working with the revived Ornamental Tree Association to expand the planting of shade trees throughout the town.

### Agricultural Land

Agriculture played a pivotal role in Westford's early economy and remained important through World War II. Dairy farming was the predominant agricultural pursuit, although local orchards also prospered in Westford. Today, only a small fraction of Westford's historic farmland remains in agricultural use. The loss of active farming and the development of agricultural land were cited as the most important landscape issues raised by Westford residents during the planning process for the Heritage Landscape Inventory Program in 2006.<sup>24</sup> Despite this loss, several areas of Westford still evoke images of the town's rich agricultural past. Parker Village with its stone walls, open fields and historic farmhouses provides a visual time capsule of rural Westford, much like the remaining farms along the town's scenic roads, including horse and hay growing farms such as Volo Farms on Powers Road, Scanlon Farm on Texas Road and Greenwood Farm on Greenwood Road. The majority of these farms and the smaller hayfields found around town are not protected from future development. Westford residents place great value on retaining the town's farming heritage in addition to protecting open space, and the town has successfully preserved several working farms and orchards through agricultural preservation restrictions and municipal purchase. Recently, residents passed a resolution at Town Meeting reinforcing Westford's commitment to agriculture and directing the town to form an Agricultural Commission.



Parker Village with its stone walls, open fields and historic farmhouses provides a visual time capsule of rural Westford, much like the remaining farms along the town's scenic roads, including horse and hay growing farms such as Volo Farms on Powers Road, Scanlon Farm on Texas Road and Greenwood Farm on Greenwood Road. The majority of these farms and the smaller hayfields found around town are not protected from future development. Westford residents place great value on retaining the town's farming heritage in addition to protecting open space, and the town has successfully preserved several working farms and orchards through agricultural preservation restrictions and municipal purchase. Recently, residents passed a resolution at Town Meeting reinforcing Westford's commitment to agriculture and directing the town to form an Agricultural Commission.

### Wetland Vegetation

Westford has two bog communities, one small bog at East Boston Camps, and another larger bog area at the Beaver Brook/Stony Brook area near Concord Road and Beaver Brook intersection. These bogs support such vegetation as sundews, black spruce, larch, sheep laurel and calla lily. Other wetlands contain typical desirable wetland species such as shadbush, basswood, arrowhead, pond lily, bull lily, cattails and several undesirable invasive plants such as purple loosestrife and phragmites. Some uncommon or rare plants are found in these wetland areas as well, such as toothcup, rough-leaved aster and cuckoo flower.

### Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plants

According to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP), Westford is known

<sup>24</sup> Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Massachusetts Heritage Landscape Program, Westford Reconnaissance Report, June 2006.

to have seven plant species classified as State endangered, threatened, or species of special concern.<sup>25</sup> They include *Scleria triglomerata* (Tall Nut-Sedge); *Rotala ramosior* (Toothcup); *Myriophyllum alterniflorum* (Alternate-flowered water-milfoil); *Senna hebecarpa* (Wild Senna); *Hypericum ascyron* (Giant St. John's-Wort); *Liatris scariosa var. novae-angliae* (New England Blazing Star); and *Asclepias purpurascens* (Purple Milkweed). The locations of Estimated Habitats of Rare Species are shown on **Map F**. The Westford Conservation Trust, a private non-profit land trust, maintains a thorough inventory of plants observed and painstakingly recorded by dedicated residents, an example of the concern many Westford residents have for the natural beauty of the town. The inventory was most recently updated in December 2006.

## E. Fisheries & Wildlife

Despite its development, Westford still has a variety of wildlife species found in habitats throughout town. As with Westford's plant species, the Westford Conservation Trust maintains a list of fauna observed in Westford by interested residents (Appendix B). The list contains the names of all species of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, spiders, mollusks, butterflies and moths, and some other invertebrates observed in town.

### Vernal Pools

Many of Westford's vernal or seasonal pools have been mapped by volunteer groups for certification by the NHESP. Vernal pools are unique habitats known for the amphibians and invertebrate animals that use them to breed. They typically hold water in the winter and spring due to rising ground water and rainfall, remain ponded through the spring and into summer, and usually dry completely by the middle or end of summer. Many amphibian and invertebrate species rely on this special breeding habitat because it is free of fish predators. As of April 2007, Westford had 101 certified vernal pools, placing it in the top ten towns in the Commonwealth.<sup>26</sup> By regulating the buffer zone around isolated wetlands in its local wetlands bylaw, Westford has provided additional protection for vernal pools beyond state requirements. Additionally, with a grant from NSTAR, the town commissioned a study on the effect of development on vernal pools. This report specifically studied the effects resulting from the loss of upland habitat on the functioning of vernal pools.

### Corridors for Wildlife Migration

Westford is not part of any major bird migration corridor. In terms of larger mammals, such as deer, wildlife corridors within the town have been substantially reduced by highways, residential subdivisions and commercial development. Three major highways generally traverse the town on an east-west axis (I-495, Route 110, and Route 40) and inhibit north-south migration of mammals. Rapid housing growth over the past several decades has left much of Westford with the fragmented open spaces that characterize standard subdivision patterns. Even in the clustered subdivisions, the common land retained as open space is sometimes isolated. There remain, however, a few large areas of contiguous open space in which mammals such as deer can move about relatively freely. These areas are as follows:

- The area in the northwesterly section of the town including Millstone Hill and the area north of Keyes Pond (contiguous to Groton and Dunstable);
- The Stony Brook corridor, extending from the village of Graniteville to the Lake Nabnasset area, including East Boston Camps;

<sup>25</sup> Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/nhdatt.htm> retrieved December 21, 2006.

<sup>26</sup> Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP), "Number of Certified Vernal Pools by Town," updated April 2007, [http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/vernal\\_pools/vernal\\_pool\\_data.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/vernal_pools/vernal_pool_data.htm)

- The relatively small area of Tadmuck Swamp, now isolated by I-495 to the south and by subdivisions to the north; and
- The Nashoba Brook watershed, including its Vine Brook, Nonset Brook and Butter Brook tributaries. This area includes large contiguous areas of town-owned and privately owned open space of 400 to 500 acres that provides wildlife corridors extending southeasterly from Littleton to Acton. This area is even larger if one includes the unprotected open spaces of the Nashoba Valley Ski Resort, Kimball Farm and the Butter Brook Golf Club.

Both the variety of animal species found in an area, and the population that each may contain, depend most heavily on the uses and types of vegetative cover found in that locale. Westford is typical of most of New England in having its vegetative cover influenced by two major forces. First, there has been a continual decline of agriculture, a trend that began regionally about the time of the Civil War. Through the process of plant succession, abandoned farmland has largely reverted to woodland. It should not be assumed, however, that the presence of more trees results in a greater number of animals. While there are fauna that specifically require a forest environment, other animals benefit from open spaces and the invasion of trees has caused a decline in their populations. The second trend is development, which reduces wildlife except for those species that are especially adaptable to the changed environment that ensues. The construction of more houses means more paved surface, which results in harsher temperatures. Development also means more noise (which some animals cannot tolerate) and the introduction of domestic pets, namely dogs and cats, which are predatory animals. Even more environment-altering are the industrial developments and commercial construction projects occurring in Westford.

Like other northeastern towns, Westford has experienced a serious decline in its migrating songbird population in the last three decades. The fragmentation of its nesting areas has particularly affected the warbler species. Some scientists put this decline at 50 percent of former levels.

### Endangered, Threatened and Rare Species

The NHESP reports that Westford is home to six species listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern in Massachusetts, and for which estimated habitats have been mapped. The endangered species list consists of two amphibians, *Ambystoma laterale* (Blue-spotted Salamander) and *Hemidactylium scutatum* (Four-toed Salamander); two birds, *Botaurus lentiginosus* (American Bittern) and *Ixobrychus exilis* (Least Bittern); and two reptiles, *Glyptemys insculpta* (Wood Turtle) and *Emydoidea blandingii* (Blanding's Turtle).<sup>27</sup>

The most critical aspect of conserving both rare and common wildlife species and the natural biodiversity of Westford is protecting natural habitats. These habitats are generally not discrete areas with definable boundaries; they are overlapping communities with gradual variation in physical characteristics and species composition. Birds and large animals in particular often make use of multiple communities and require large areas or corridors to thrive. Setting goals for habitat protection and reviewing relevant bylaws would help Westford begin the process of habitat protection.

As development has encroached on forest and farmland, wildlife has lost core habitat, edge habitat, and food supplies. These pressures lead to reductions in wildlife populations and increased contact between humans and the remaining wildlife. Conservation of large open space parcels, avoidance of suburban sprawl development patterns, fencing of backyards that abut wildlands, avoiding building in proximity to wetlands and streams, and restraint of pets will all mitigate the potential for human/wildlife conflict.

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<sup>27</sup> Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP), "Rare Species Occurrences by Town," on-line database, <<http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp>> updated 28 August 2006.

## F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

### Scenic Landscapes

Westford's natural landscapes of woodlands, waterways and open spaces combine with its heritage landscapes of mill villages, scenic roads, granite quarries and historic buildings to provide the community with its unique sense of place. In the community meetings held for the town's recent Comprehensive Plan Update, the top five attractions on residents' hypothetical town tours included natural or open space features: Kimball's Farm; the town common; East Boston Camps; Hill Orchard; Forge Village Beach; and the Nashoba Valley Ski Area. Public input gathered during the creation of the town's Heritage Landscape Inventory Report in 2006 identified some of the town's most important heritage landscapes, including its granite quarries, Westford Center, mill villages and the Red Line, an abandoned railroad bed running north to south through the town.



Although Westford has seen much of its agricultural land converted to development, its remaining farmlands maintain a physical connection to the town's rural and agricultural heritage and contribute some of the community's most scenic vistas. The scenic quality of the Town owned Hill Orchard on Hunt Road and the rolling fields and open pastures of the historic Meadowbrook Farm (Picking-Gould) in the northern section of town help to retain Westford's cultural character. Moreover, the rural landscape of Parker Village with its stone walls, fields and historic farmhouses is perhaps one of the most scenic areas of the community.

Also of particular importance to Westford residents is the town's distinctive and well-loved network of woodland trails developed and maintained by the Westford Land and Trails Stewardship Committee, a joint effort by the Conservation Commission and the Westford Conservation Trust. These trails traverse many of the town's conservation lands and provide an opportunity for residents to enjoy some of the community's most impressive natural vistas and environmental habitats. The Westford Heritage Landscape Inventory Report recognized the town's interest in developing additional rail-trail systems and made recommendations toward this endeavor.

Westford's forested open spaces also provide a unique visual interest to the community. The Town's recent purchase of East Boston Camps, a 287-acre forest surrounding Burge's Pond permanently protects this important environmental resource and allows community access for passive recreational enjoyment. Other unprotected forested tracts, including MIT's 570 acres around its Haystack Observatory site, on which there are many hiking and riding trails, Nashoba Valley Ski Area's seventy-five acres on Nashoba Hill and the combined two hundred acres of the town's two sportsman's clubs, Stony Brook Fish & Game and Westford Sportsman's Club, provide some of the town's most scenic woodland vistas but remain unprotected from future development.

According to the survey distributed to Westford residents for the town's Master Plan Update, local residents value the town's commitment to open space protection and the important role these spaces play in preserving the town's quality of life. The town's various municipal and non-profit conservation organizations have worked collaboratively to consolidate large parcels of open space land. For example, the Westford Conservation Trust's twenty-two acre Wilson Property on Concord Road abuts other conservation and town-owned property in the Kennedy Pond

area off Texas Road as well as the Acton Town Forest. Altogether, this area of open space comprises approximately five hundred acres and will be near the proposed rail trail from Lowell to Sudbury.

Westford's many ponds, lakes and brooks, including the twelve-mile long section of Stony Brook, are environmental resources that are of particular importance to local residents. It has long been a goal of the Town to protect these aquifer recharge areas of scenic beauty. The Town continues to pursue unprotected land within this area for permanent protection and Town Meeting has recently approved the purchase of a critical parcel over the town's aquifer to provide an additional public well site and to preserve an area of environmental significance.

### **Major Characteristics or Unusual Features**

The last ice age left a number of eskers and large boulders on the surface of the land. One unique geological feature is a pair of very large granite boulders known as the "house and barn," located near the Westford/Tyngsborough town line. There are also several eskers located throughout the town. Ridge-top trails run along the top of town-owned eskers, one traversing Tadmuck Swamp and another in the Emmet Conservation Land. Other features include Mystery Spring, located off Tadmuck Road on town-owned conservation land, where a spring emerges between two rocks and the "Indian Grinding Stone", a large boulder with a round, deep hole in the center, located on conservation land at Cider Mill Pond on Lowell Road.

### **Cultural, Archaeological and Historic Areas**

Westford has long recognized the importance of its historic and cultural resources and the town has an impressive collection of well-preserved historic buildings and artifacts. According to the Massachusetts Historical Commission's Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth, Westford has inventoried 753 historic resources in the community. The town has also designated five National Register districts: Brookside Historic District, Forge Village Historic District, Graniteville Historic District, Parker Village Historic District and Westford Center Historic District and two individually listed properties. Five Town cemeteries are also designated on the National Register.<sup>28</sup> The Westford Historical Commission (WHC) has placed signage at the entrance to each of the town's historic districts.

The Historic Commission is currently preparing a Preservation Plan for the town to determine appropriate goals for future protection of these resources. The WHC will also utilize local Community Preservation Act funds to complete a town-wide comprehensive survey of its cultural resources as well as for a comprehensive archaeological survey of the town. In 2006, the Town participated in the Massachusetts Heritage Landscape Program to identify its heritage landscapes and begin to develop strategies for their preservation. In 1997, Westford adopted a Demolition Delay Bylaw that allows the Historical Commission to stay the demolition of structures determined to be both historically significant and preferably preserved for a period of six months. However, the Westford Historic Commission has found that the six month period often does not provide adequate time to seek alternative solutions to demolition.

Westford Center is the civic and cultural epicenter of the community and contains many of the town's most important and significant historic buildings. The J.V. Fletcher Town Library, the Roudenbush Community Center, Town Hall, the Parish Center For the Arts, the First Parish Church, and the Westford Museum are all located within the Center. Westford's other historic villages, including Graniteville, Forge Village, and Brookside Village all contain architecturally significant mill buildings and associated mill housing representative of New England's textile industry. Each village's historic mill complex is visually and architecturally distinctive and the Stony Brook, which supplied the power for each of these mills, provides a scenic backdrop for these villages. The Brook is also culturally significant for its connection with Native American history.

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<sup>28</sup> Massachusetts Historic Commission, State Register of Historic Places 2007.

Westford's historic transportation route patterns still exist and they provide one of the most influential elements of the town's rural form. Most of these early roads maintain their rural character, with narrow pavement, winding routes, and adjoining mature trees and vegetation. They also provide views of scenic rural vistas and open fields. Stone walls line many of these roads and delineate the boundaries of former farmland. The Town adopted a Scenic Roads Bylaw in 1975 and has since designated a total of ten scenic roads. The WHC has placed signs at the entrances to each scenic roadway. Westford also has a number of abandoned historic roadways and cart paths that are now used as trails. Many of these resources were identified in the town's Heritage Landscape Report.

An abandoned railroad right of way, now converted for use as the Red Line Trail through the western part of town, provides pedestrians with a view of one of the town's most significant historic resources, the Stone Arch Bridge built in 1872 as part of the Nashua, Acton & Boston Railroad. This majestic 20 foot tall stone arched bridge, which once carried the railroad track over the Stony Brook, is built of massive blocks of local granite laid without mortar. The Old Arch Bridge is listed with the U.S. Department of the Interior as a structure of significant interest in the Merrimack Valley. Westford has several other historic bridges constructed from local granite that also display significant engineering expertise. Only the bridge in Brookside Village is listed on the National Register.

Westford's historic granite quarries were highlighted as important heritage landscapes by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation in the town's 2006 Heritage Landscape Inventory Report, which identified the quarries as a critical area of concern. The 100-acre Fletcher Quarry on Oak Hill and the scenic abandoned quarries atop and around Snake Meadow Hill are significant for their artifacts, which reflect the historic development of the quarry industry in Westford.

Perhaps one of the most unusual and intriguing artifacts in Westford is the Westford Knight on Depot Street. This stone is believed to be a grave marker for one of the first Europeans to reach Westford as part of an expedition led by Prince Henry Sinclair of Scotland in 1399 A.D. The carvings can be seen as a picture of a knight, complete with sword.<sup>29</sup> Many of the above areas are shown on **Map 5**.

### Unique Environments

Several areas of Westford are designated endangered species habitat, which makes them significant to the existence of the species across the state. NHESP has developed a mapping project known as BioMap, which identifies areas of rare and valuable biodiversity. BioMap includes state-listed rare species habitats, exemplary natural communities, and the full breadth of the state's biological diversity. The goal of the BioMap is to promote strategic land protection by producing a map showing areas that, if protected, would provide suitable habitat over the long term for the maximum number of Massachusetts' terrestrial and wetland plant and animal species and natural communities. Approximately 23 percent of the state is mapped as core habitat, and another 19 percent as supporting landscape. In Westford, BioMap core habitat is found south of Forge Pond, and large areas of supporting natural landscapes occur in the northwest and southern parts of town.

Open space is significantly more valuable to humans, plants, and wildlife when it exists in large corridors or connected areas. Contiguous open space parcels that form corridors can be seen in many places in Westford and surrounding towns. Also, the network of trails in these open spaces and their connections to trail systems in surrounding towns is certainly of regional significance. In 2002, the Merrimack River Watershed Assessment identified six open space and recreation sites in Westford as priority sites for protection: 500 acres of land along Stony Brook, including three future well sites; East Boston Camps land; MIT property; Drew farm land; the boat ramps

<sup>29</sup> Retrieved from [Westford Web](http://www.westford.com/museum/knight), <<http://www.westford.com/museum/knight>>

at River Street and Farmer land; and expansion/connection of the town-wide trail system.<sup>30</sup>

A number of locations in Westford are listed as critical for endangered species habitat. Some of these areas have been mapped by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (**Map F**). The following is a list of areas considered to be critical environments:

- The Beaver Brook corridor from Littleton to Forge Pond.
- The Stony Brook corridor, particularly from Town Farm Road to the Mill Pond (Graniteville) and from River Street to the Chelmsford line. American Bittern and Lupine have been noted on this corridor.
- The area from Keyes Pond east to Dunstable Road and north to Tyngsboro. Blue Spotted Salamanders, Marbled Salamanders and Spotted Turtles have been noted here.
- The large tract of open space north of Long-Sought-For Pond has unusual plant life.
- Flushing Pond north to Forest Road and Tyngsboro Road is an area where Blue Spotted Salamanders have been noted.
- A grove of Red Pine is located in the area south of Stony Brook and east of the Graniteville ball field on the Stepinski land.
- Blue Spotted Salamanders have been noted on land south of Robinson Road extending to the edge of Hildreth Hills, Hildreth Street.
- The large open space area east of Power Road and Vine Brook Road is home to Blue Spotted Salamanders, Spotted Turtles, and Blandings Turtles. The largest parcels are owned by the Town of Westford, Mass. Audubon, Westford Conservation Trust, and several private owners.

There are other potentially critical tracts of land in the northern section of town. These are: MIT's Haystack Observatory land, Snake Meadow Hill, the Sportsman's Club, and common land within Village View Estates. Areas located in the central section of Town are: the conservation land south of Lowell Road, Tadmuck Swamp, open space between Hildreth Hills and Boston Road, and the swamp area south of Howard Road to Rte. 495. Areas located in the southern section of town are: Kimball Swamp to the Nashoba Valley Ski Area open space, Vine Brook from 495 to Concord Road, and Heart Pond open space area.

## G. Environmental Challenges

According to the Massachusetts Year 2006 Integrated List of Waters, several water bodies in Westford are listed as impaired or threatened for one or more uses and require establishment of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to set the maximum allowable pollution from point, nonpoint and natural sources. These water bodies include Heart Pond on the Westford-Chelmsford line, Beaver Brook from Mill Pond in Littleton to Forge Pond, and Stony Brook from the outlet by Forge Pond to the confluence with the Merrimack River in Chelmsford. Residential and commercial development threatens the sensitive and highly productive aquifers beneath Stony Brook and its surroundings. Stony Brook and Beaver Brook are Class B waters and must meet standards for primary (swim-

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<sup>30</sup> Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Merrimack River Comprehensive Watershed Assessment Report (June 2002), <[http://www.mass.gov/envir/water/publications/assessment\\_reports](http://www.mass.gov/envir/water/publications/assessment_reports)>.

ming) and secondary (fishing and boating) contact recreation as established by the Clean Water Act.

Preliminary data collected by the volunteers in the Westford Water Quality Program indicates that efforts to protect Westford's surface waters have proven insufficient to prevent contamination of streams. This data shows that seven out of nine major streams in Westford exceed three or more EPA water quality standards. Although it is too early to determine the contamination source, the EPA lists the following possible sources of pollution in waterways: insufficient treatment of stormwater runoff, erosion, excess agricultural or residential fertilizers, wildlife activity, and possible illicit discharge of wastewater.<sup>31</sup> Town Meeting recently approved amendments to the Stormwater Management Bylaw to provide stronger enforcement against illicit discharges. Additionally, contaminants in surface water can percolate through the soil and contaminate the underlying aquifer. This happened recently, when blasting on Snake Meadow Hill leached perchlorate into the Cote Well and contaminated the water supply.<sup>32</sup> The Cote Well had to be closed and it was not restored to active service until 2006, following installation of a perchlorate treatment system approved by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Westford has one closed municipal landfill, which operated for about 50 years. The landfill occupies about seventeen acres located northeast of the intersection of Forge Village Road and Cold Spring Road. The site is near two town wells, the Russell Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary, town forest land, and the flood plain of Stony Brook. The town closed the unlined landfill in 1985 and capped the site in 1988 in accordance with state requirements.

Since Westford is largely suburban and forested, the town has fewer environmental hazards than some nearby industrial towns and cities. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup maintains records of all spills, leaks, and other releases of oil or hazardous materials.<sup>33</sup> According to DEP's database, Westford has several identified hazardous waste sites, solid waste sites, and potential environmental threats, as shown on **Map G**. These sites are in various stages of cleanup, or remediation. Environmental hazards are not necessarily limited to sites with documented remediation needs, however. An environmental hazard that is often inadequately recognized is non-point source pollution, or pollution from diffuse or widespread sources that acts principally through stormwater runoff entering surface water bodies and groundwater. Such pollutants include:

- Excess fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides from lawns and farmland;
- Oil, grease, and toxic chemicals from urban runoff and energy production;
- Sediment from improperly managed construction sites and other lands; and
- Bacteria and nutrients from livestock, pet wastes, and faulty septic systems.

These pollutants have harmful effects on drinking water supplies, recreation, fisheries, and wildlife. Their sources are more difficult to control than point source pollution, such as from a leaking oil tank. The most important ways to control non-point source pollution are through proper land management, effective maintenance of septic waste and petroleum, and zoning or erosion control bylaws and regulations, particularly in sensitive areas. The 2007 Watershed Action Plan prepared by Woodard & Curran describes some of the locations of environmental hazards

<sup>31</sup> See Appendix D, Table D.1.

<sup>32</sup> Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), "The Occurrences and Sources of Perchlorate in Massachusetts (August 2005; updated April 2006), 13-14.

<sup>33</sup> Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, retrieved from <state.ma.us/dep/cleanup>, select "My Community."

associated with the Stony Brook and Nashoba Brook watersheds.<sup>34</sup>

When a watershed is covered by excessive impervious surfaces, the result tends to be a degradation of surface waters and surface water habitat. Zoning bylaws can be written to limit impervious surfaces within development projects affecting watershed areas. However, potential impacts to watersheds in Westford's boundaries could occur in another town within the watershed. Westford and other towns that share these watersheds need to continue to work collaboratively with their regional planning agencies to encourage new development that reuses previously developed land and preserves green space as a further means to minimize impervious surfaces.

### **Invasive Plant Species**

Another significant environmental challenge for Westford is the proliferation of invasive plant species. The town has identified nuisance aquatic weed species in many of its ponds. Local private groups have initiated efforts at Nabnasset Lake, Long-Sought-For Pond, Forge Pond and Heart Pond to eliminate variable milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*). At Nabnasset Lake and Heart Pond, efforts included both a drawdown of the water level as well as the introduction of chemical treatments. Efforts at Long-Sought-For Pond employed chemical treatments only, while efforts at Forge Pond focused only on water level drawdowns.

Westford's conservation lands are also suffering from invasive plant species. Wetlands are increasingly being overtaken by purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and common reed (*Phragmites australis*). Uplands are increasingly being choked by oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*), Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*) and others. The Westford Conservation Trust has begun a program to identify invasive species on its lands. A pilot project will begin this year at the Trust's Prospect Hill Wildlife Sanctuary. An Eagle Scout will work with his Scout troop and volunteers to begin efforts to eliminate burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*) from the sanctuary.

### **Wildlife Conflicts**

The last century has seen the reforestation of New England, which has allowed the recovery of many of the region's original wildlife populations. Suburban development has and continues to spread into these renaturalized areas. Some animals have adapted to exploit resources in areas of human habitation, and their activities can conflict with human interests. For example, coyote and fishers are top-level predators that are known to occasionally prey on pets and livestock. While raccoons are notorious garbage thieves, they and some other mammals are potential vectors for rabies, which is endemic to the region. Deer and mice can carry ticks that host Lyme disease, a serious illness that has become established in Eastern Massachusetts fairly recently. Deer forage on landscaping plantings and pose a risk of causing accidents on local roadways. Beaver are keystone species of New England forest ecosystems, but have the potential to cause flooding and loss of property when homes are constructed too close to floodable land. Both MassWildlife ([http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/wildlife/pac/pac\\_home.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/wildlife/pac/pac_home.htm)) and The Massachusetts Audubon Society ([http://massaudubon.org/Nature\\_Connection/wildlife/index.php](http://massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/wildlife/index.php)) provide life history information and guidance to homeowners and communities on these and other wildlife species.

### **Flooding Issues**

Westford does not suffer from the chronic flooding problems found in many other towns in the region. In response to Westford's rapid development during the early 1980s, the Conservation and Planning Departments instituted Best Management Practices (BMP) for stormwater management in development projects, including the use of detention and retention basins. These BMPs have been very effective in preventing the flooding problems that can arise when open land is converted to impervious surface.

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<sup>34</sup> Woodard & Curran, December 31, 2007, Watershed Action Plan, Stony Brook & Nashoba Brook Watersheds.

The town recently adopted a Stormwater Management Bylaw, which includes the review of any land clearing over one acre, whether a development is proposed or not. This has strengthened the Town's ability to properly manage runoff and mitigate against increased flooding potential. Those problems that do exist currently have arisen from the rapid rise in beaver populations in recent years. Blockage of culverts and waterways have caused water overflow over road sand into private properties. The town has responded by implementing beaver control technologies, such as beaver exclusion fences and pond leveling installations.

### **Sedimentation Issues**

Since the town enacted a local Wetlands Bylaw in 1987, the Westford Conservation Commission has required erosion and sedimentation control on all development projects within 100 feet of a wetland to address sedimentation issues. Over the years, the town has developed more and better techniques for addressing long-term concerns for development projects, including the use of deep sump catch basins and sediment forebays on detention basins. The Conservation Commission has also taken swift enforcement action for any project located more than 100 feet from wetlands if erosion resulting from these areas is discharged to wetlands. The town's recent adoption of a Stormwater Management Bylaw also extends the requirements for proper sedimentation control to all land clearing projects over one acre in area, whether related to a development project or not. Westford has also instituted a program of annual cleaning of catch basins sumps in public roadways.

### **Town Forestry Issues**

The Town of Westford owns significant tracts of forest land that are under the care and custody of several town Boards, including the Town Forest Committee, the Conservation Commission, and the Water Department. The Town Forest Committee and Conservation Commission have taken a passive management stance for these parcels, allowing the woodlands under their authority to develop pursuant to natural influences. The town recently developed a forest management plan for the East Boston Camps property to protect and enhance the property's unique natural resources. These management activities will be implemented as resources allow. The Water Department has conducted several selective cut forestry operations for watershed enhancement over the past few years.

Limited forestry operations occur on privately owned land in town. Each year, the town receives only a few Forest Cutting Plans as required under the Massachusetts Forest Cutting Practices Act for these parcels. One land owner has received Tree Farm Certification from the American Forestry Association for their 39-acre parcel.

## Section 5: Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Westford residents view open space as more than just open fields. From their perspective, open space includes such diverse undeveloped natural landscapes as forests and waterways and includes traditional “heritage landscapes” such as Westford’s town common and granite quarries. It is this variety of open spaces that provides the town with its scenic quality and its small-town ambience.

Westford’s open spaces also provide passive recreation opportunities. Together with the town’s playgrounds and playing fields, these spaces offer a variety of options that help to satisfy the recreational needs of residents, both young and old. Since Westford has a very large percentage of families with children compared to the state as a whole, the demand for active recreation space is particularly intense here. Furthermore, since most of the town is zoned for single-family residential development, as housing growth continues, Westford will continue to experience growing demand for more active recreation facilities. Maintaining the delicate balance between protecting land for conservation purposes and providing recreational opportunities will continue to be a challenge for the town.



Residents have long valued Westford’s open spaces and natural environments and have consistently demonstrated their commitment to preserving these resources by adopting conservation bylaws and approving local funding for open space acquisitions. Westford’s adoption of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in 2002 is just one example of this commitment. At public meetings for the town’s recent Comprehensive Master Plan, residents described Westford’s open space and commitment to protecting land as major strengths of the town. Residents also seem to think that the town should continue to buy land when justifiable. CPA funds were instrumental in Westford’s acquisition of the East Boston Camps property; a significant tract of open space that protects natural resources and provides passive and active recreation opportunities.

Westford’s open space and recreation land inventory is by no means static. Since 2002 when the town last updated its Open Space and Recreation Plan, Westford has continued to negotiate, acquire, protect and develop additional conservation and recreational resources. The town recently acquired a 110-acre parcel that meets several community goals: water resource protection and well development, open space protection and passive and active recreation and the parcel was divided between these three interests.

For purposes of this plan, Westford’s open space inventory has been divided into two categories: Private Land and Public and Non-Profit Land. Parcels identified within these categories are further defined by their level of protection. Today, Westford has approximately 3,900 acres of conservation and recreation land that is protected in per-

petuity, including lands in private and public ownership. These parcels have legally enforceable restrictions against disposition or a change in use and are permanently protected from future development, regardless of ownership. This protected land constitutes 19.2 percent of the total area of the town. The remaining open space parcels that are not protected by a conservation restriction or classified as conservation land could be developed in the future, including land owned by the town. Furthermore, Chapter 61 lands should also not be considered protected from future development. These lands are only protected as long as the private property owner continues to participate in the program. Although the town is granted the right of first refusal for any parcel taken out of Chapter designation, this does not ensure that the land will not be privately developed in the future should the town decide not to exercise their option to purchase.

Appendix A presents Westford's entire open space inventory in tabular form by ownership, location, acreage, level of protection, and type of protection. **Map 7**, Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest, provides a comprehensive picture of the town's open space inventory.

### Open Space Equity

Westford's large inventory of open space parcels are evenly distributed throughout the town. However, a closer review of these parcels indicates that certain areas of town contain fewer parcels that are permanently protected than other areas in Westford. Significant private landholdings south of Route 495 are classified as Chapter 61/61A lands and are therefore not permanently protected. Likewise, all of the large privately-owned parcels along the town's northern border with Tyngsborough and Groton are unprotected from future development.

Westford's active recreation lands are distributed throughout the town, with playing fields and public beaches at East Boston Camps, Forge Village, and south of Route 495 in Parker Village.

## A. Private Parcels

### Parcels with Less-Than-Fee Interest

#### AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTIONS (APR)

Westford has one parcel protected by a State Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR), the 31-acre Bohne apple orchard (formerly known as the Reid Orchard) on Tadmuck Road. The Town of Westford holds development rights to two additional farms, the nine-acre Drew Farm (1997) on Blake Hill near the town center and the 24 privately-owned acres of the Picking-Gould Estate (1999) on Groton Road in the northern section of town. The Town protected both of these parcels with agricultural deed restrictions. Although the Drew farm has since been sold, it will remain restricted for agricultural use.

#### CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS

Westford property owners have the opportunity to work with the town and local and regional conservation organizations to protect their land. The Westford Conservation Commission, the Westford Conservation Trust, the Westford Land Preservation Foundation, the Sudbury Valley Trustees, and two statewide organizations, the Massachusetts Audubon Society and New England Forestry Foundation, all hold conservation restrictions in Westford. The Westford Conservation Trust recently recognized the need to use independent conservation organizations in protection of its own land and transferred several restrictions on its own conservation parcels to the Sudbury Valley Trustees. Most of Westford's conservation restrictions allow public access to the land on marked trails.

The majority of conservation restrictions in Westford were donated to the Town or to local non-profit organizations. However, the Town has used zoning and permitting opportunities to protect open and forested land as well. Today, approximately 1,107 acres of protected open space have been placed under conservation restrictions as a

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result of the cluster development process. Some of these restrictions are held by the Town (administered by the Westford Conservation Commission) while others are held jointly by the Town and the Westford Conservation Trust. Recently, a 104-acre parcel of forested land north of Long-Sought-For Pond near the Tyngsborough border was placed under a conservation restriction as part of the Summer Village residential development project. An additional 26.73 acres were placed under a conservation restriction as part of the Woodlands at Laurel Hills Chapter 40B development.

Altogether, land protected by conservation restrictions in Westford totals 1,715 acres. Of this, 554 acres have been protected since Westford completed its last plan in 2002. These restrictions are individually listed in Appendix A. Approximately 996 acres of land in Westford are protected with conservation restrictions granted to the Westford Conservation Commission. In addition, the Conservation Commission holds fourteen conservation restrictions on 263 acres of land jointly with the Westford Conservation Trust. The Trust individually holds ten conservation restrictions on 69.5 acres of land. Further, the Westford Land Preservation Foundation holds a conservation restriction on the 287-acre East Boston Camps property (this includes the entire property with an exemption for limited purpose of playing fields). The Sudbury Valley Trustees holds conservation restrictions on two WCT-owned parcels on Lowell Road and Hildreth Street, totaling approximately 26 acres. Finally, the New England Forestry Foundation holds a conservation restriction on a 42-acre parcel on Carlisle Road, and the Massachusetts Audubon Society holds a conservation restriction on a 38-acre parcel on Old Road.



### CONSERVATION ZONES

Some of Westford's early cluster subdivisions failed to execute valid conservation restrictions due to technicalities. In response, the Town protected these parcels by designating them within conservation zones. Today, three entire parcels and portions of nine additional parcels of privately owned land in Westford have been placed within these zones. While a majority of the parcels were designated because of the invalid conservation restrictions, several other parcels were designated as part of mitigation agreements for development proposals. Town meeting designated all of the conservation zones. Westford has not placed any additional parcels in a conservation zone since 2002.

### TRAIL EASEMENTS

Currently there are twenty-one protected trails in Westford. These trails cross land owned by the Town and the Westford Conservation Trust, as well as privately owned land for which trail easements have been granted to ensure public access. The Trust holds twenty-one trail easements alone and another seventeen jointly with the Town. The Trust maintains a trails listing on its website and also publishes a *Westford Trails* guide every year. The trails guide provides maps and descriptions of each trail. The major trails include the Tom Paul Trail and John Gagnon Nature Trail, as well as networks of trails on land such as the Slifer Conservation Land, the Frances Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, and East Boston Camps.

Westford's marked trails are located throughout the town, within forested land, across fields and along waterways. The trails offer a variety of passive recreation opportunities including hiking, jogging, bird watching, horseback

riding, and cross-country skiing, and they allow enjoyment of some of the town's most scenic landscapes. Westford once had a more extensive network of trails on privately owned land, but development over the past several decades has eliminated or disrupted many of them. Recognizing the need to protect as many trails as possible, the Westford Planning Board has negotiated the creation or protection of numerous trails through the permitting process for several subdivisions.

Trail planning has been an ongoing, long-term process in Westford. Beginning in 1997, the town started planning a town-wide trail system using abandoned railway and utility easements, supplemented by sidewalks negotiated during the Planning Board's review processes of major development projects. More than ten years ago, Westford began planning a town-wide trail network that would run from the northwest corner of town to the Bruce Freeman Trail, a regional rails-to-trails project connecting Lowell to Acton and ultimately to the "Bay Circuit" trail system around Boston. Westford Town Meeting recently approved CPA funds to complete Phase II design services for the portion of the Bruce Freeman Trail that will run through Westford.

Managing Westford's trails is primarily a volunteer-based effort spearheaded by the Westford Conservation Trust and the Conservation Commission. Like most communities, Westford does not have enough local government staff to oversee and maintain the existing trails, a job that involves maintaining trail paths, blazing new trails, clearing debris and prohibiting activities that could destroy fragile habitats. The Westford Conservation Trust is actively engaged in trails planning and it played an instrumental role in forming the Westford Lands and Trail Stewardship Committee in 1998. To date, routed signs and wooden map kiosks have been erected at several town conservation parcels: the Otis and Alice Day Agricultural Field, the Slifer Land, Kissacook Hill, the Cider Mill Pond Conservation area, the Stone Arch Bridge/Russell Bird Sanctuary, the Prospect Hill Wildlife Sanctuary and the Richard S. Emmet Conservation Land. Local Scout groups and individual Eagle Scouts have made significant contributions to trail maintenance, identification and accessibility construction projects.

## Unprotected Private Land

### CHAPTER 61 LAND

Eighty-seven parcels totaling 1,922 acres in Westford are subject to temporary restrictions under M.G.L c. 61, c. 61A or c. 61B (see Appendix A). These statutes allow the town to tax private parcels according to their forestry, agricultural or recreation use value, not their market value. In exchange for the fairly significant tax reduction that comes with a Chapter 61, 61A or 61B agreement, the property owner grants a right of first refusal that allows the town to acquire the land before it is converted to another use. Westford also can assign its right of first refusal to a non-profit conservation organization. All of Westford's Chapter 61 properties would be vulnerable to development if their chapter 61, 61A or 61B agreements were not renewed. By law, Westford has only 120 days to act on its statutory right of first refusal. Currently, the Town does not have a formal process by which all town departments and local conservation organizations are notified when a property owner seeks to remove a property from Chapter 61 status. Currently, notification is sent to the Board of Selectmen, as required by law, and the Board notifies the Conservation Commission.

Westford's inventory of Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B land currently includes:

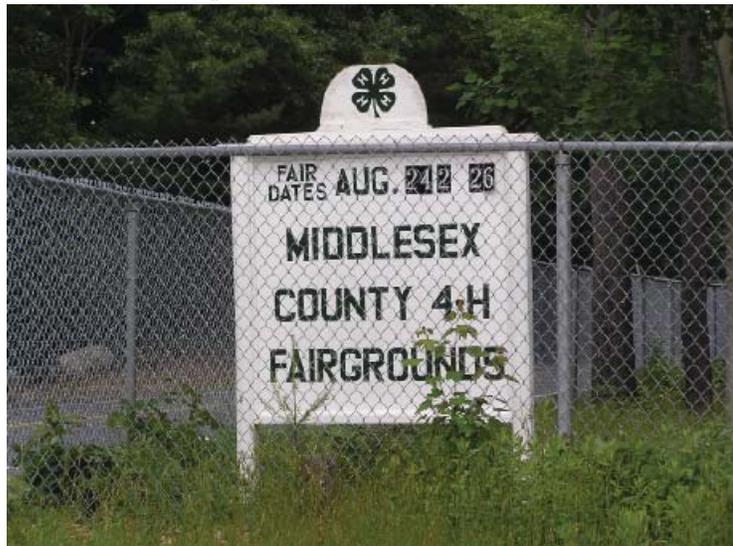
- A total of 452 acres under Chapter 61 agreements.
- A total of 1,035 acres under Chapter 61A agreements.
- A total of 435 acres under Chapter 61B. Westford's Chapter 61B inventory includes facilities such as the Nashoba Valley Ski Resort (75 acres), which offers local skiing, a summer day camp and swimming programs for children; and two golf courses, the semi-private Butter Brook Golf Club and the private Nabnasset Lake

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Country Club (46 acres) on Oak Hill Road.

### OTHER RECREATION FACILITIES

Westford has several private recreation facilities that are not in Chapter 61 status. They include two members-only outdoor sports clubs, the Stony Brook Fish and Game Club and the Westford's Sportsman's Club, the Westford Swim and Tennis Club, and Bobby's Ranch, an equestrian facility. The Westford Swim and Tennis Club allows the middle school tennis teams to use their tennis courts. There are also several private beaches in Westford: the American Legion, Long-Sought-For Pond and Wyman's Beach as well as the Nashoba Valley Swim Club and Sandy Beach, which is owned by the Nabnasset Improvement Association (NIA).



### MAJOR PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL HOLDINGS

Today, there are four major private institutional holdings within Westford that constitute a combined total of approximately 800 acres of unprotected open space:

- Middlesex County 4-H Fairgrounds, 27 acres on South Chelmsford Road;
- Stony Brook Fish and Game Club, 19.5 acres on Lowell Road;
- Westford Sportsman's Club, a forested area of 183 acres near the Groton town line used as a private sportsman's club; and
- M.I.T. Haystack Observatory Site on Millstone Hill, a tract of more than 570 forested acres owned by M.I.T. on which its satellite tracking station, Haystack Antenna is located.

Westford's purchase of East Boston Camps represents the only significant change in institutional holdings since 2002. Westford has approached MIT to indicate its interest in preserving the University's land holding in Westford, but to date, MIT has not expressed any interest in placing restrictive covenants on their property.

### OTHER PRIVATE UNPROTECTED LAND

Despite Westford's best efforts to protect its important open space parcels, a significant amount of acreage – much of it forested – remains unprotected from future development. Snake Meadow Hill on Cowdry Hill Road near Rte. 40 has approximately 100 acres of abandoned quarries and forestland. The Fletcher Granite Quarry is nearing the end of its production capacity and its future is uncertain. There are also several large unprotected land parcels directly abutting the Stony Brook corridor. Many of the town's remaining farms, including hayfields and equestrian facilities, are also not protected from future development.

Other unprotected parcels include a 300-acre tract of forested land north of Long-Sought-For Pond, although approximately 100 acres of this area was recently placed under a conservation restriction as mitigation of the Summer Village development project. An additional 200 acres of privately owned, unprotected, landlocked forested

land lies along Hildreth Street, between Boston Road and I-495. Further, while much of the Parker Village area is permanently protected conservation land owned by the Town of Westford, the Westford Conservation Trust and the Massachusetts Audubon Society, several individual parcels of privately-owned land remain unprotected. This area has extensive trails that are used for hunting, hiking, and horseback riding. Kennedy Pond is stocked for fishing.

The Westford Land Preservation Foundation regularly contacts owners of undeveloped land of five or more acres to encourage them to consider conservation options for their properties. The organization distributes literature to interested property owners and works with both the town and the Westford Conservation Trust to protect the town's remaining undeveloped land.

## **B. Public and Non-Profit Parcels**

### **Public Conservation Land**

#### **WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Today, 132 parcels totaling 1,952.5 acres of land are under the care and custody of the Westford Conservation Commission. Since the town's last Open Space and Recreation Plan was completed, 351.5 acres were conveyed to the Conservation Commission through municipal purchase, private donation, or development mitigation. Westford's Conservation Planner maintains a listing entitled "Catalog of Town Owned Land under the Care and Custody of the Conservation Commission." It contains detailed descriptions and locus maps of each parcel. This catalog is kept in the Conservation and Planning Department.

One of the town's most important recent land acquisitions is the East Boston Camps (EBC) property, located between Stony Brook and Keyes Brook. This property was identified in the 2002 Open Space and Recreation Plan as a critical parcel for protection. Westford purchased this 287-acre property surrounding Burge's Pond in 2006, using CPA funds for conservation and recreation purposes. The Town placed a conservation restriction on the entire property and conveyed the restriction to the Westford Land Preservation Foundation. The Board of Selectmen recently transferred oversight of 257 acres of EBC property to the Conservation Commission. The remaining thirty acres were transferred to the care of the Recreation Commission for development of athletic fields. This property will continue to be used for summer day camp activities as well as for cross-country skiing, hiking, horseback riding and limited water activities. Since the East Boston Camps site is in a major aquifer recharge area in the Stony Brook watershed, the Town has developed a master plan for the property to determine appropriate conservation management standards and land use regulations.

In 2008, Westford purchased an adjoining 110-acre open space parcel that also borders the Stony Brook. The parcel was divided between the Water Department (31 acres), the Conservation Commission (65 acres) and the Recreation Commission (15 acres).

Of all of the undeveloped land that the Town of Westford owns, parcels under the custody of the Conservation Commission have the greatest protection against any future change in use and these parcels are open for passive recreation. The Conservation Commission has a single set of regulations governing all of its land. It is considering adopting use regulations for each individual conservation property, similar to those created specifically for East Boston Camps. The Town has only one conservation employee responsible for Westford's entire conservation land inventory, maintaining land records and actually overseeing the land itself.

In addition to its protected conservation land, Westford owns a 267-acre Town Forest, which is protected under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution. The Town Forest holdings include about 100 acres within the Martina Gage Forest adjacent to Heart Pond and in the Oscar Spaulding Forest. Custody and management of the

town forest lands fall under the purview of the Town Forest Committee.

**WATER DEPARTMENT LAND**

The Westford Water Department manages twenty-nine parcels with a combined total of 359 acres. This land is not open for public use. Land under the care and custody of the Water Department is protected from development while the associated water supply is in use. It is important to realize, however, that if the town decommissions a drinking water source it could designate the land as surplus and allow the parcel to be developed. As a result, watershed parcels may not be protected in perpetuity, though it is unlikely that residents would tolerate the sale of public land for private for-profit development.



**OTHER MUNICIPAL LAND**

The town has land for a variety of other public purposes, including municipal facilities, schools, cemeteries, and vacant land that may be needed for these types of uses in the future. The current inventory of unprotected municipal land – that is, not subject to any legally enforceable restrictions against disposition or a change in use – includes approximately 335 acres. The Westford Public Schools have jurisdiction over 388 acres, and another 103 acres support community facilities such as government office buildings, fire stations, highway department facilities and storage areas, the senior center, town hall, and the library.

Westford has few public parks within its borders. At slightly more than one acre, the Town Common in Westford Center is the largest of these public spaces in town. This traditional town green provides a public gathering space for festivals, concerts, farmers markets, and other local events. The land is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen. Its status as protected open space is unclear, but public sentiment would most likely prohibit any changes to this town landmark. Other small parks include Edwards Beach, Parker Village and Veteran’s Memorial Park. The Town also owns small parcels of undeveloped land throughout the town, which it has acquired through tax takings. These parcels will most likely be reviewed for potential development as neighborhood pocket parks.

**PUBLIC RECREATION LAND**

Participants in the public meetings for the town’s Comprehensive Master Plan Update identified Westford’s recreation programs as assets to the community. A myriad of recreation programs are available through the Town’s Parks and Recreation Department and the Cameron Senior Center, non-profit organizations such as the Roudenbush Community Center, and several private recreation-oriented businesses operated in town. For the most part, these groups work together to meet the recreation needs of the community.

Residential development brings about increased demand for recreational activities and facilities for residents of all ages. Many traditional single-season sports have become multi-season commitments in Westford, with youth soccer and baseball teams practicing year round. Westford has long recognized the need for additional programs, fields and other facilities and this is largely why the town prepared a Parks and Recreation Master Plan in 2003. The plan reviewed the condition of existing recreation facilities in Westford and made recommendations for future improvements and additional facilities. Today, there are seven town-owned recreational field complexes in Westford, most containing a variety of fields and courts. Some of the fields are under the care of the Parks and

Recreation Commission while others fall under the jurisdiction of other departments or the Board of Selectmen.

They include:

- American Legion Field in Graniteville includes 9.6 acres, with baseball and softball diamonds, a tennis court, basketball courts, a playground, restroom facilities, a concession stand, a batting cage and picnic area.
- Frost Field/Whitney Playground, next to the Roudenbush Community Center at 65 Main Street, is a 3-acre facility with a softball diamond, playground, two tennis courts, and fields used for soccer, softball, and Little League baseball.
- Greystone, off Russell's Way, is a 3-acre park with a baseball diamond, tennis court, two basketball courts, and trails around Greystone Pond. The facilities were constructed by the developer of Greystone Estates, a large subdivision completed ca. 1999. The Recreation Department maintains all of the facilities except the trails.
- Captain Stephen Hamilton Field at Old Nabnasset, at corner of Plain Road and Oak Hill Road, includes 2.7 acres with a baseball diamond, tennis court, basketball court, soccer and baseball fields and a small playground area.
- Jack Walsh Field at Parker Village on Carlisle Road is a 28-acre holding with 8.5 acres developed for recreational use. It includes playing field space, mainly for soccer; a baseball backstop, tennis courts, a basketball court, a playground and a concession stand.
- The 7.3-acre VFW Field on West Prescott Street has a softball diamond, a baseball diamond, a basketball court and skate park.
- The Nutting Road fields will be constructed on a portion of the EBC property and will include multi-purpose field space. Westford recently appropriated CPA funds to install an artificial turf field at this location. This surface will replace the need for three grass fields, reduce dependency on irrigation and eliminate the need for fertilizers and herbicides.

#### **LAND UNDER CARE AND CUSTODY OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

Currently, the Parks and Recreation Commission has jurisdiction over four sites: the Nutting Road Fields (30 acres), the Jack Walsh Recreation Area (33 acres), the VFW Fields (10 acres)<sup>35</sup> and an additional 15 acres at the former Stepinski parcel on River Street that was recently purchased by the town. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintaining these facilities as well as other town facilities (excluding facilities under the control of the School Department or the Conservation Commission) and parkland including the Town Common, the grounds of the Library and Town Hall, and the town's cemeteries, beaches and memorials.

The Parks and Recreation Commission is currently working with a resident group to construct a barrier-free playground at Edwards Beach. The Commission is also constructing the playing fields on the Nutting Road parcel of the East Boston Camps property.

Since 2002, Westford's population has continued to increase and so has the number and types of recreation programs desired by local residents. In response, the Recreation Commission has expanded its programs and facilities. For the past two years, the Recreation Department has offered approximately 300 classes a year. Participation has

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<sup>35</sup> Inventory of Town Owned Land, 2006.

increased significantly during this period. The number of participants rose 11 percent in a single year, from 3,845 in 2006 to 4,272 in 2007. In response to this demand, the Recreation Commission has developed three new tennis courts, and renovated several existing fields and courts since 2002.<sup>36</sup>

**RECREATION LAND UNDER THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

Like all towns, Westford has recreational facilities on the grounds of its elementary, middle and high schools. While the schools provide some field and court space for private youth groups, each school establishes its own policies regarding facility use by outside organizations.

Westford has six elementary schools, two middle schools, and a high school known as Westford Academy. All of the schools have playing field space, playgrounds, and gymnasiums with indoor basketball courts. Each field is designated for specific organized sports such as football, lacrosse, and soccer. Two schools, the Blanchard Middle School and the Robinson Elementary School, have tennis courts. Stony Brook Middle School on Farmers Way has a football field with a track, softball fields, a baseball diamond, one multi-purpose field, outdoor basketball courts, tennis courts, and a small amphitheater and a gymnasium. In addition, Westford Academy has an outdoor track, multi-use field for lacrosse, field hockey, baseball field, football field and a playground as well as a gymnasium with basketball courts. These facilities are used almost exclusively for the high school's athletic teams and non-competitive sports programs.



Another school-related recreational facility includes the two gymnasiums and basketball courts at the Nashoba Valley Tech School on Littleton Road. Nashoba Tech is a regional vocational-technical school with a governing body separate from the town, and it provides limited outside use of its recreation facilities.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

State government owns very little conservation and recreation land in Westford. The Commonwealth's Division of Fisheries and Wildlife owns a combined total of 13 acres in four small parcels, including land on Groton Road for parking and public access to Long-Sought-For Pond.

**Non-Profit Conservation Land**

Beyond conservation land owned by the Town of Westford, several non-profit organizations, both local and regional, also own permanently protected conservation space in Westford.

**WESTFORD CONSERVATION TRUST**

The Westford Conservation Trust currently owns seventeen parcels of land with a combined total of 120 acres. The parcels are protected through conservation restrictions and all but one are open to the public for passive recreational use. (The Gordon Land on Lowell Road is not publicly accessible.) The Trust maintains a list of these

<sup>36</sup> Data submitted by Pat Savage, Director, Westford Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Department.

parcels on their website, [www.westfordconservationtrust.org](http://www.westfordconservationtrust.org), and in the Westford Trail Guide. The Trust recently transferred conservation restrictions on several of its properties to the Sudbury Valley Trustees.

**MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY**

The Massachusetts Audubon Society owns 274 acres of land in Westford. Most of the Society's land is contained within the Nashoba Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, which consists of two separate, mostly wooded parcels totaling 194 acres. The Sanctuary abuts the 350-acre Kennedy (Nashoba) Pond area between Concord Road, Carlisle Road and Power Road. This area includes Conservation Commission land, property owned by the Westford Conservation Trust and some privately owned land as well.

## Section 6: Community Vision

### A. Description of Process

Westford's 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update builds upon the information and goals identified in the Town's 2002 Open Space and Recreation Plan and was developed in concert with the Town's ongoing efforts to update its Comprehensive Plan. The comprehensive master planning effort provided information for this Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, including environmental resource and open space inventories. This information was augmented with more specialized research relating to Westford's open space and recreation resources, extensive communication with town staff and commissions, and additional input from the community to create this updated Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Public input for this plan was solicited in several ways. Public meetings were held on October 29, November 6 and November 15, 2007. These meetings provided a venue to publicly assess the status of the 2002 Open Space and Recreation Plan recommendations and begin developing goals and action items relevant for Westford.

Although turnout to these meetings was relatively low, those who attended were representative of Westford's conservation organizations. These individuals were actively involved in the meeting discussions and formulated specific goals and objectives based on their experience in open space and natural resource protection as well as recreation planning. Ideas expressed during these meetings included a goal for the town to develop specialized land management plans for each of its conservation parcels. Other suggestions included a goal for the town to review its small land parcels for suitability as neighborhood parks, creation of a notification process to alert all municipal boards and local conservation organizations about Chapter 61 removal requests and to encourage the creation of active recreation areas as a component of new development projects. This Open Space and Recreation Plan Update also benefited from information obtained during a town-wide survey process conducted by the Comprehensive Master Plan Committee in 2007.

In addition to the public meetings, information and suggestions for goals, objectives, and action items were solicited from the following town boards: Board of Selectmen; Comprehensive Master Plan Committee; Conservation Commission; Historical Commission; Planning Board; Recreation Commission; and the Water Department as well as the Westford Conservation Trust. Their comments were incorporated into this plan.

### B. Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals

Westford has long valued its natural resources and open spaces, recognizing the fragile nature of these resources without adequate protective measures in place. This conservation legacy has resulted in a community that is blessed with expansive open spaces, quality public drinking water, extensive wildlife habitats, an abundance of passive and active recreational opportunities, and a serene scenic quality. Despite these efforts, however, large tracts of undeveloped land remain unprotected and vulnerable. Residents recognize the need to continue and expand these conservation efforts to ensure that the resources they value and that ultimately contribute to the town's quality of life will be protected.

Over the course of the past five years, the town has acquired or otherwise protected several of its most vulnerable landscapes. Most notable was the town's recent purchase of the 287-acre East Boston Camps property. Through

this acquisition, Westford was not only able to protect valuable conservation land, natural habitats, and water resources, but will also be able to create new playing fields on a portion of the site suitable for active recreation.

However, Westford recognizes that growth within its boundaries will continue and that it is imperative that new development be balanced with the need to preserve the town's valuable open spaces, natural resources and community character. The Town also recognizes the importance of providing quality recreational opportunities for all of its citizens. Therefore, this plan identifies goals and an action plan for the town to follow in order to continue preserving its open spaces, natural resources and community character as well as meet the recreational needs of its residents.

**Westford's 2009 Open Space and Recreation Goals:**

- Protection of Westford's ground and surface water resources;
- Protection and enhancement of the town's extensive trail system;
- Protection and management of Westford's remaining open spaces and natural resources;
- Protection of Westford's unique community character; and
- Management and expansion of Westford's existing recreational facilities and programs.

## Section 7: Analysis of Needs

### A. Summary of Resource Protection Needs

Westford citizens have long expressed great interest in acquiring open space for conservation, recreation and water resource protection. Over the past several years, Westford has undertaken a number of planning efforts to identify the community's natural and cultural resources and environmental protection needs. These include the recent 2006 Freedom's Way Heritage Landscape Survey conducted on the town's behalf by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and the 2008 Stony Brook and Nashoba Brook Watershed Action Study, as well as the current effort to update Westford's Comprehensive Master Plan. Using these documents in concert with the 2002 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the town solicited additional information during public meetings and conversations with town boards and committees to define Westford's current resource protection needs. Comprehensive environmental inventories were developed, including inventories of natural resources as well as public and private conservation land and recreational facilities. In addition, the town's geographical information system database provided the basis for the resource maps in this plan. All of this information provided a clearer picture of the Town's present and future needs.

Today, almost 3,900 acres of land in Westford are considered permanently protected. Perhaps the most notable land protection effort since the 2002 Open Space and Recreation Plan was completed is the Town's purchase of the East Boston Camps property. This 287-acre site along the Stony Brook Corridor was highlighted in the 2002 plan as a critical parcel for protection. However, despite this purchase and the town's other land conservation efforts, a review of its current open space map shows that large undeveloped areas along many brooks, which play a major role in supporting wildlife habitats, remain unprotected and vulnerable. In addition, the need to protect the community's ground and surface waters is critical to ensure the town maintains its drinking water supply and healthy ecosystems.

### B. Summary of Community Needs

Westford residents continue to express concern about the effect the town and the region's residential and commercial growth will have on Westford's quality of life and ecological diversity. The town's changing number of young children and its population's active, sports-oriented philosophy place increasing demands on the town's Recreation Department, which struggles to meet local needs. Demand for recreational services is not limited to the young, however. An increasing demand for active recreation opportunities for Westford's senior population is also occurring. Providing open spaces and recreation opportunities on a geographically-dispersed basis has proven difficult in Westford due to the town's historic development pattern and sheer size. The town's densely settled villages have little undeveloped land remaining for recreation facilities and green spaces. Creating neighborhood parks on small undeveloped parcels is seen as a way to provide passive recreation opportunities for neighborhood residents as well as provide valuable community green space. Westford has acquired numerous small undeveloped parcels within its villages that could be suitable for this type of parkland.

Westford's has identified its community recreation needs in a variety of ways. The town has reviewed its needs in relation to the regional needs identified in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), as well as through evaluation of its existing town-sponsored recreation programs, resources, and facilities and by conducting public surveys of local residents. According to the most recent SCORP report, the recreation desires of

the Northeastern Region, which includes Westford, include swimming, walking, sightseeing and tours, hiking and fishing as the most popular activities. Other popular activities in this region are baseball, sunbathing, horseback riding, off-road vehicle driving, snowmobiling, boating (motorized) and surfing as well as soccer, tot lot activity, and hockey (pond). Residents in the Northeastern Region surveyed for the SCORP reported low satisfaction with several resources, including the availability of bikeways and the capacity and attractiveness of forests as areas for passive recreation. This is consistent with needs expressed by Westford residents.

Westford's growth also highlights the community's need to be effective at managing the delicate balance between land conservation and passive public use of the land. The town's trails, woodlands and open spaces contribute significantly to Westford's quality of life and residents view the abundant passive recreation opportunities in Westford as one of its greatest assets. Continued growth in Westford and the surrounding region could also have potential long lasting negative impacts on the quality of the community's water resources, including its public drinking water supply as well as its ponds, lakes, rivers, brooks and streams. Identifying appropriate planning strategies and conservation measures is critical to ensure that this growth does not irrevocably alter Westford's most vital environmental resources and ultimately its sense of place.

#### **HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY OF WESTFORD CONSERVATION LANDS**

While most of Westford's conservation land continues to be accessible only by foot on rough, narrow woodland trails, the Town has undertaken several improvement projects and planning initiatives to address accessibility of its conservation lands. Recently, two Eagle Scouts completed improvements to the trail at Grassy Pond on Plain Road, a town-owned conservation area. The first Scout completed earlier efforts to regrade and apply gravel to the ½ mile, four- to six-foot wide trail. The second Scout completed improvements to the footbridge, installing handrails and replacing deteriorated sections of the bridge. The trail is now wheelchair accessible from the parking area to the pond. The area's parking lot and picnic tables are also wheelchair accessible.

Westford recently completed a master plan for East Boston Camps (EBC) property, addressing future use and management of the site. This plan includes a goal to increase resident access for passive recreation activities. As a component of this goal, the plan recommends several handicap accessibility improvements, including improvements to the existing trail along black spruce bog to "Ice House" beach; installation of a graded seven foot wide pathway with appropriate finish that will meet ADA requirements; installation of two benches; and inclusion of handicap parking spaces in the parking area. Presently, existing roadways within EBC are unpaved but are fairly level, allowing limited wheelchair access.

#### **HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

The Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of planning a barrier-free playground facility at Edwards Beach, with handicap accessible structures and surface. This effort is truly community-driven, with local residents raising funds to augment recreation department monies to complete this playground. The Town has also completed improvements to existing recreation facilities to meet accessibility needs. These improvements include: accessible parking areas at all eight recreation facilities: American Legion Ball Fields, Captain Steven Hamilton Field, Edwards Beach, Frost Whitney Field, Jack Walsh Field, Forge Pond Beach, Greystone Field and VFW-Forge Field. Accessible play areas are located at American Legion, Captain Steven Hamilton, Frost Whitney, Jack Walsh and Forge Pond. Accessible restrooms are available at Edwards Beach, American Legion, Jack Walsh and Forge Pond Beach. The Parks and Recreation Department also provides accessible Learn to Swim programs at Forge Pond Beach and Edwards Beach.

## C. Management Needs, Potential Change of Use

The Conservation Commission maintains a database of protected conservation lands in Westford. Historically, the database was not maintained in a consistent format, as town departments had conflicting information within their own files. Westford's Conservation Planner is working to create and ultimately maintain a database system that contains current, accurate and accessible information available for use by all departments.

While the Conservation Commission has a set of regulations for its conservation lands, these regulations have not been updated in many years and they are not site-specific. Moreover, it is challenging for one staff person to provide adequate oversight of all of the Town-owned conservation parcels to determine whether inappropriate and possibly detrimental activity is occurring on these properties. Managing the additional 287 acres within East Boston Camps will put a further strain on an already limited town staff. Further options to protect the land need to be explored.

Westford's Lands and Trail Stewardship Committee continues its mission to maintain the town's trail system. These volunteers serve a vital community role in monitoring, clearing and marking local trails as well as installing signage and kiosks at major conservation areas. However, there continues to be a lack of community awareness of the committee's work. Many residents also are not aware of the need to report issues identified on the trails, and further publicity is needed to recruit new stewards to ensure that the committee remains viable. Additionally, the town has struggled with repeated vandalism of existing trail kiosks and needs to consider options for vandal-resistant structures.

In response to community growth, the Recreation Commission conducted a review of existing town recreation facilities and determined future recreational needs in a 2003 Master Plan. Westford is a very sports-oriented community, with youth groups and sports teams playing year-round. It is clear that the existing facility space in Westford is not adequate for the community's needs and desires. Youth teams struggle to find available space for practice and games, and the opportunity for unstructured "pick-up" games is limited if not nonexistent. Furthermore, the level of demand on Westford's playing fields places significant stress on facilities such as football and soccer fields, and ongoing maintenance of these fields can result in environmental concerns relating to excess water usage. The Town is currently constructing fields with artificial turf surfaces to attempt to address some of these issues, but other fields remain vulnerable to overuse and/or limited use due to field conditions. The need to provide adequate recreation programming, playing fields and indoor recreation space for all residents, young and old, continues to be a concern for the community.

### Potential Change of Use

Despite the Town's past land conservation efforts, significant open space parcels in Westford remain vulnerable to development. Open space parcels with environmental significance currently under the care and custody of other town boards should be considered for transfer to the Conservation Commission in order to afford them permanent protection if no other public uses are identified. Only Conservation Commission land and land otherwise subject to Article 97 of the state constitution are considered protected in perpetuity. Although land currently under the care and custody of the Water Department is protected from development while drinking water supplies are in use, it is important to recognize that if the wells are decommissioned in the future, the land around them could be developed. The recently completed Heritage Landscape Survey also identified abandoned quarries in Westford as valuable resources worthy of protection for their scenic and ecological qualities.

Presently, Westford does not have a procedure in place to notify all town departments and local conservation groups when a parcel is to be removed from Chapter 61 status. The town has completed a preliminary assessment of its remaining Chapter 61 parcels but has not prioritized those that should be acquired if the town received a

120-day notice of a planned change in use.

Two regional rail trails are being planned for development in Westford, and the Town continues to be involved in these planning efforts. Westford recently approved CPA funds for the initial design phase of its section of the Bruce Freeman Trail along the Route 27 corridor. Ultimately, the trail will become part of the Bay Circuit Trail system. Efforts to address the needs and desires of all constituents can be difficult because the needs of one group sometimes conflict with the needs of another group. Identifying appropriate mitigation measures, including the creation of new facilities to service an affected neighborhood or constituents, should be a stated priority for the town. It is important to develop open lines of communication between town boards and committees to ensure that all of the needs are addressed as fully as possible.

## Section 8: Goals and Objectives

### A. Water Resource Protection

- ◆ **Protection of groundwater quality and quantity to meet existing and future demands:**
  - ◇ Conduct ongoing needs analysis addressing quality, quantity and sustainability.
  - ◇ Coordinate all town efforts addressing sustainability of resources and their relationship with open space protection.
  - ◇ Continue public education efforts to protect groundwater.
  - ◇ Continue efforts to ensure aquifer protection, particularly in the management of commercial properties not served by town water.
  - ◇ Enforce and enhance Water Resource Protection Bylaw.
  - ◇ Enforce town's new Stormwater Management Bylaw and Regulations.
  - ◇ Enforce town's new Discharges to the Municipal Storm Drain System Bylaw and Regulations.
  - ◇ Work with other communities to develop a regional approach to protect groundwater resources.
  - ◇ Permanently protect land over the Town's high and medium yield aquifers, particularly land near existing public wells and upgradient from identified potential future well sites.
  - ◇ Implement and enforce town's Policy on Pesticide Use.
- ◆ **Protection of surface water bodies and wetlands:**
  - ◇ Identify areas that are most at risk and focus acquisition on these areas.
  - ◇ Work with other communities to develop a regional approach to protect surface water resources.
  - ◇ Conduct regular surface water quality testing program for baseline and monitoring results.
  - ◇ Encourage buffer strips around all bodies of water.
  - ◇ Continue public education efforts, including Water Department's mailings to all town residents with particular focus on private property owners around town's ponds and lakes.
  - ◇ Continue educating town employees, particularly relating to land management.
  - ◇ Make all Town construction projects models of environmental sensitivity.
  - ◇ Make all ongoing Town operations, including maintenance of schools, lands, and roads, models of environmental sensitivity.

◆ **Discouragement of unnecessary water use:**

- ◇ Continue to educate municipal and school employees about water conservation in public buildings.
- ◇ Continue to identify and repair leaks in the water distribution system in order to reduce unaccounted for water.
- ◇ Continue to educate local residents about importance of water conservation.

**B. Trail and Greenway Connections**

◆ **Connection of open space parcels:**

- ◇ Encourage the creation and retention of greenways within and between residential areas including subdivisions.
- ◇ Connect trails wherever appropriate and feasible.
- ◇ Promote greenways along all major waterways.
- ◇ Create network of greenways throughout town to provide residents with access to conservation areas, recreation, and other amenities via trails.

◆ **Trail improvements:**

- ◇ Enhance public access to trails, including ADA accessibility improvements where feasible.
- ◇ Establish a specific point person at Town Hall to serve as municipal liaison for volunteer organizations that participate in trail improvements.
- ◇ Encourage the community to report concerns relating to trail condition and inappropriate use.

**C. Preservation of Significant Land for Open Space, Passive Recreation, and Wildlife Habitat**

◆ **Develop land acquisition strategy with the following priorities:**

- ◇ Preserve parcels of geologically significant or unique features.
- ◇ Preserve large parcels of undeveloped land.
- ◇ Identify small undeveloped parcels suitable for development as neighborhood parks.
- ◇ Preserve working agricultural landscapes.
- ◇ Acquire or permanently protect parcels adjoining other protected parcels.
- ◇ Protect parcels adjacent to water and ensure development standards are met to maintain water quality.
- ◇ Acquire or permanently protect parcels that provide a trail link.
- ◇ Acquire or permanently protect parcels of scenic importance.

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- ◇ Acquire or permanently protect parcels that are important to rare or endangered species.
- ◇ Acquire or permanently protect parcels and structures of historic significance.

### ◆ **Preservation of additional land for open space, passive recreation, and wildlife habitats:**

- ◇ Develop town notification procedure for review of parcels to be removed from Chapter 61, 61A and 61B status.
- ◇ Increase coordinated efforts of town's conservation organizations as well develop coordination with regional and state conservation groups.
- ◇ Promote the benefits of Chapter 61, 61A and 61B agreements to owners of eligible properties.
- ◇ Educate town boards to consider the above land acquisition priorities and goals when making land-use decisions.
- ◇ Encourage private owners of open space to permanently protect their land.
- ◇ Revise Flexible Development Bylaw in order to increase its potential to protect open space that is functional for the purposes of this Open Space and Recreation Plan.
- ◇ Continue to develop creative, proactive strategies for land preservation.
- ◇ Seek creative financing techniques and grants to fund purchase of open space.

## **D. Preservation of Town Character**

### ◆ **Preservation of the historic, scenic, geological, and rural character of Westford:**

- ◇ Conduct a comprehensive survey to document Westford's significant historic and cultural resources.
- ◇ Ensure preservation of municipally-owned historic buildings in historically-sensitive manner.
- ◇ Acquire or otherwise protect certain parcels containing important geologic features.
- ◇ Support the Community Preservation Committee efforts to fund open space acquisition and historic preservation projects.
- ◇ Develop standards for new structures to preserve the New England character of the town.
- ◇ Use available tools such as the purchase of development rights and consider establishing new tools such as a transfer of development rights bylaw to effect the above objectives.
- ◇ Identify and protect historic resources as part of planning review process.
- ◇ Consider expanding scope and timeframe of town's Demolition Delay Bylaw to allow adequate time for protection of town's historic resources.

## E. Acquisition and Development of Necessary Recreational Facilities

- ◆ **Create more recreational areas of various sizes distributed throughout town to meet residents' needs:**
  - ◇ Provide additional playing fields.
  - ◇ Procure play equipment for young children – including barrier-free/accessible structures.
  - ◇ Procure benches and trails for enjoyment of all.
  - ◇ Develop small neighborhood parks accessible to people with disabilities.
  - ◇ Educate public about the importance of and the availability of town's recreational resources, including facilities and programs.
  - ◇ Encourage the creation of active and passive recreation areas as a component of new development projects.
  - ◇ Explore expansion of existing town facilities and/or use of private facilities for town-sponsored recreation programs.

## F. Land Management

- ◆ **Expand existing land-management efforts:**
  - ◇ Continually update and maintain the inventory database of town-owned land and conservation parcels.
  - ◇ Continue and expand Land/Trail Stewards program.
  - ◇ Investigate options for increasing staff support for the Conservation Department to oversee conservation lands such as East Boston Camps and serve as liaison for the Land and Trails Stewardship Program. This may include volunteer services, internships, or a new municipal staff position.
  - ◇ Encourage public participation in identifying trail concerns.
  - ◇ Educate the public about its role in the management of conservation land.
  - ◇ Identify and actively seek grants and funding for management projects.
  - ◇ Review rules and regulations for town's conservation lands for necessary changes.
  - ◇ Identify management process for control of invasive species.
  - ◇ Develop land management policies for town-owned forestland.
  - ◇ Develop a local tree ordinance to protect the town's public shade trees.
  - ◇ Develop a local tree replanting policy when existing public shade trees must be removed due to disease or damage.

# Section 9: Five-Year Action Plan



WESTFORD OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN

Goals and Actions	Responsible Group	Funding Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>A. Water Resource Protection</b>							
<i>Protection of Groundwater &amp; Surface Water Resources</i>							
Educate the public about impacts of public/private development on all water resources, why it's important and what residents can do, by:							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue developing articles and flyers for Water Department Newsletter to discourage lawns and chemical use in close proximity to water bodies and to reduce or eliminate the use of fertilizers, pesticides, and other chemicals for lawns throughout town.</li> <li>Request Nabnasset Lake Neighborhood Association include its newsletter on its website.</li> <li>Establish a goal to raise the number of households using organic fertilizers.</li> <li>Work with local landscapers to encourage the use of organic fertilizers.</li> <li>Conduct neighborhood meetings to explain to residents the unique environmental features of their neighborhoods, how they can protect them, and what laws and regulations apply to them.</li> </ul>	Water Department, Conservation Commission	Town	X	X	X	X	X
b. Work with SuAsCo, report back to Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Water Department and offer recommendations for protection of Stony Brook.	Stony Brook Stream Team	Town		X			
c. Communicate with abutting towns through SuAsCo on shared water resources, both surface and sub-surface and report back to Board of Selectmen.	Stony Brook Stream Team	Town			X		
d. Identify, purchase, or otherwise protect land over Town's high and medium yield aquifers.	Water Department, Conservation Commission, Land Acquisition Oversight Committee, Community Preservation Committee (CPC)	CPA, Town, and/or LAND	X	X	X	X	X
e. Publicize results of water-monitoring activities through Water Department Open House and newsletter, town website and summary of Watershed Action Plan.	High School Environmental Science Group, Stony Brook Stream Team, Water Department	Town	X	X	X	X	X
f. Continue efforts to work with school students on the importance of protecting the town's water resources.	Water Department, Stony Brook Stream Team, High School Environmental Science Group	Town	X	X	X	X	X
g. Develop and execute plans for all Town projects and operations such that they meet and/or exceed conservation standards required of private developers and homeowners and that they serve as model projects of environmental sensitivity.	All Town Departments	Town				X	
h. Identify and monitor commercial wells not served by town water that may impact town's aquifers.	Water Department	Town		X	X	X	X

	<b>Goals and Actions</b>	<b>Responsible Group</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
i.	Increase efforts to encourage non-chemical alternatives for controlling invasive plants or animals in or near water bodies.	Conservation Commission	Town		X			
	<i>Discourage Unnecessary Water Use</i>							
a.	Continue Water Department's Healthy Lawns for Healthy Families Program to encourage organic lawn care methods.	Water Department	Town	X	X	X	X	X
b.	Conduct informational meetings for municipal employees regarding water conservation in public buildings.	Water Department	Town		X		X	
c.	Conduct routine review of water distribution system to identify any leaks in system.	Water Department	Town	X	X	X	X	X
<b>B.</b>	<b>Trail and Greenway Connections</b>							
a.	Continue coordinating trail planning between Town departments. When developments are proposed, try to link open space within development.	Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Planning & Conservation Staff	Town	X	X	X	X	X
b.	Identify and protect potential connections between open space parcels, recreational and educational facilities, waterways, and neighborhoods.	Planning Board, Conservation Commission, WCT, Land Use Priority Committee, CPC	Town, WCT, CPA, LAND, and/or Recreational Trails Grants	X	X	X	X	X
c.	Seek funding and approval for final design and construction of Freeman Trail with regional connections.	Planning Board, WCT, CPC	Town, CPA, and/or Recreational Trails Grants					X
d.	Establish process to coordinate trail linkages with abutting towns and communicate opportunities to Planning Board and Conservation Commission.	Planning Board, Conservation Commission, WCT, Planning & Conservation Staff	Town					X
e.	Maintain current trail information with updated maps. Make available on the WCT's website with link from the Town's website and other venues as well as in all trail kiosks.	Conservation Commission, WCT, Westford Land Stewards Committee	Town, WCT		X	X	X	X
f.	Look at opportunities to make existing trails accessible, including trails on EBC property.	Conservation Commission, Westford Land/Trails Stewards	Town, CPA, and/or Recreational Trails Grants			X		
g.	Promote and publicize all trails.	Westford Land/Trails Stewards	Town, WCT	X	X	X	X	X

WESTFORD OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN

	Goals and Actions	Responsible Group	Funding Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
h.	Investigate designs for secure kiosks and erect new kiosks.	Conservation Commission, Westford Conservation Trust, Westford Land/Trails Stewards	Town, WCT					X
i.	Continue trail marking, improvements and access points.	Westford Land/Trail Stewards	Town, WCT	X	X	X	X	X
j.	Develop Annual Recognition Day for Land Stewards.	Conservation Commission, Westford Conservation Trust	Town, WCT			X	X	X
k.	Appoint local municipal liaison for Stewards Program.	BOS, Conservation Commission	Town	X				
<b>C.</b>	<b>Preservation of Significant Land for Open Space, Passive Recreation and Wildlife Habitat</b>							
a.	Develop and publish a summary version of the Open Space and Recreation Plan.	Conservation Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission	Town	X				
b.	Conduct an annual review and update of this Five-Year Action Plan.	Conservation Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission	Town		X	X	X	X
c.	Define open space land acquisition strategy and priorities to distribute to all town boards.	Conservation Commission, Land Use Priority Committee, WCT	Town		X			
d.	Continue mapping of conservation lands and lands of conservation interest.	Land Use Priority Committee, Conservation Commission, WCT, WLPF	Town	X	X	X	X	X
e.	Identify and map potential wildlife corridors and habitats.	Planning Board, Conservation Commission WCT, Land Use Priority Committee	Town			X		
f.	Review and improve the town's Flexible Development Bylaw to meet objectives of this Open Space and Recreation Plan and the Comprehensive Plan Update.	Conservation Commission, Planning Board	Town			X		
g.	Continue and expand existing school programs including bird feeder project and Living Lab program. Expand existing programs into middle and high schools. Also continue and expand existing summer science program within Recreation Department.	Recreation Department, School Department	Town	X	X	X	X	X
h.	Identify and pursue protection of specific parcels along waterways to serve as greenways and trail links.	Conservation Commission, WCT, Land Use Priority Committee	Town, CPA, and/or LAND			X		

	<b>Goals and Actions</b>	<b>Responsible Group</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
i.	Express the Town's or Trust's interest in parcels of conservation interest, and if appropriate, negotiate rights of first refusal, reverse mortgages, or other mechanisms to provide protection for the land.	Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen, WCT, Westford Land Preservation Foundation (WLPPF)	Town, WCT				X	
j.	Periodically contact landowners who have expressed interest in preserving their land.	Conservation Commission, WCT, Land Use Priority Committee, WLPPF	Town, WCT	X	X	X	X	X
k.	Hold a workshop for developers to explain how to creatively design developments under the Flexible Development Bylaw and other zoning mechanisms in order to preserve critical open space and town character.	Planning Board	Town			X		
l.	Develop process to ensure that all town departments and local conservation organizations are notified of any request to remove a parcel from Chapter 61 designation.	Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen	Town		X			
m.	Identify available grants and other financing techniques for land acquisitions.	Conservation Commission	Town		X	X	X	X
<b>D.</b>	<b>Preservation of Town Character</b>							
a.	Apply existing tools for preservation of town character, such as the Scenic Road Bylaw and demolition delay bylaw.	Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, Westford Historical Commission (WHC)	Town				X	
b.	Address recommendations set forth in the Westford Heritage Landscape Survey, including completion of a town-wide comprehensive cultural resource inventory.	WHC and CPC	Town, CPA, and/or MHC Survey & Planning Grant			X		
c.	Identify and prioritize town's heritage landscapes and remaining rural vistas for protection.	Conservation Commission, WHC	Town		X			
d.	Acquire or otherwise protect lands of cultural value as identified in the Westford Heritage Landscape Report.	Conservation Commission, WCT, WLPPF, CPC	Town, CPA, and/or LAND	X	X	X	X	X
e.	Improve design standards used in implementing Flexible Development Bylaw. Require Open Space and Recreation Plan be completed for any development over 10 acres.	Planning Board, Master Plan Implementation Committee	Town			X		
f.	Integrate preservation planning within the town's development review process and for all town building projects affecting historic buildings.	Historic Commission, Planning Board, all town departments	Town			X		

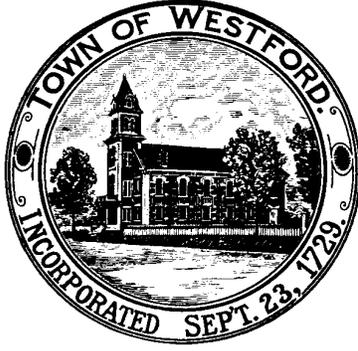
WESTFORD OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN

Goals and Actions	Responsible Group	Funding Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>E. Acquisition and Development of Necessary Recreational Facilities</b>							
a. Identify, acquire and develop parcels suitable for playing fields.	Recreation Commission, Land Use Priority Committee	Town, CPA			X	X	X
b. Identify and develop town-owned parcels suitable for neighborhood parks.	Recreation Commission, Land Use Priority Committee	Town, CPA, and/or LAND			X	X	X
c. Identify potential funding sources for development of a community recreation facility.	Recreation Commission, Board of Selectmen	Town					X
d. Increase accessibility of town recreation facilities, including creation of barrier free playgrounds.	Recreation Commission	Town, CPA		X	X	X	X
e. Require new developments larger than 10 acres to include an active recreation area within the development.	Planning Board	Town		X			
<b>F. Land Management</b>							
a. Continue to recruit land stewards for all conservation lands and trails.	Westford Land/Trail Stewards Committee, Conservation Commission, WCT	Town, WCT	X	X	X	X	X
b. Continue installation of signs and kiosks for conservation land and public trails. Include requirement for developers to install kiosks on projects where new trails are created.	Conservation Commission, WCT, Westford Land/Trails Stewards Committee, Planning Board, CPC	Town, WCT	X	X	X	X	X
c. Identify and implement accessibility improvements to existing parks, trails and open space lands where physically appropriate and reasonably achievable, and provide program access where physical alterations would create an undue hardship on the town.	Westford Land/Trails Stewards Committee, Conservation Commission, WCT, Community Groups	Town, WCT		X	X	X	X
d. Maintain sustainable inventory database of Town-owned land, lands with conservation restrictions held by the Town and other conservation lands.	Conservation Commission	Town	X	X	X	X	X
e. Routinely update maintenance plans for all town-owned recreation facilities.	Recreation Commission	Town	X	X	X	X	X
f. Complete site-specific management plans for town-owned conservation lands, including town forest land.	Conservation Commission	Town			X		
g. Investigate options for increasing staff support in the Conservation Department for conservation land management.	Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen	Town				X	
h. Encourage public participation in identifying trail concerns and managing conservation lands through language added to trail information and posted notices at sites.	Westford Land/Trails Stewards, Conservation Commission, WCT	Town	X	X	X	X	X

	<b>Goals and Actions</b>	<b>Responsible Group</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
i.	Develop land management policies for town-owned forestland.	Forestry Committee, Conservation Commission, Water Department	Town, Urban Forest Planning & Education Grants					
j.	Develop a local tree ordinance to protect the town's public shade trees.	Tree Warden	Town, Urban Forest Planning & Education Grants					
k.	Develop a local tree replanting policy when existing public shade trees must be removed due to disease or damage.	Tree Warden, Historical Society, Ornamental Tree Association	Town, Urban Forest Planning & Education Grants					

# Section 10: Public Comments





TOWN OF WESTFORD  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
TOWN HALL  
55 Main Street  
Westford, Massachusetts 01886

January 13, 2009

TO: Conservation Commission

FROM: William Turner, Conservation/Resource Planner

RE: Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan

**General Comments:**

Marian Harman, President, Westford Conservation Trust (MH in page by page comments)

Overall, I think the plan is very good and complete. I especially appreciate the Section 4 analysis. Thanks so much for all your work. My particular concerns are, 1: I think there should not be a map of rare plants included in the document, and 2: Statements on pages 31 and 38 relative to problems with wild animals are scientifically unfounded and may cause panic in readers (see detailed comments below).

Nancy Rosinki, Selectman (NR in page by page comments)

I have very briefly reviewed the above plan and offer a few comments on the attached document. With all due respect, I found it a bit frustrating that it took me to pages in the mid 50's before I got beyond the history of Westford and got a glimmer of any recommendations. This is the same issue I believe we have with the CMP - too much background information and not enough tangible information to use to address what the report is intended to do. I think this plan has some good suggestions in it, but it could use more detail - perhaps that was its intent. For example, the report states (put in my words):

- Identify land to provide connections of open space parcels, yet the report doesn't identify what any of those parcels are, someone else now has to do that.
- Identify financing techniques for land acquisition - I think for the report to be useful it should identify what some of these techniques are.
- Identify town owned land that can be used for neighborhood parks - the report should have these identified.

...continued



TOWN OF WESTFORD  
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Westford, Massachusetts 01886

(Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1/13/09, pg. 2)

Fred Palmer, Planning Board member (FP in page by page comments):

We discussed this draft report the other night when the PB reviewed the Open Space section of the master plan. I asked Marian McCurley, who chaired that sub-committee, if the plan was to be brought to Town Meeting for a vote. She didn't think so, saying that it was being done as a requirement of the state. She also indicated that many of the recommendations were also included in the master plan (but certainly not all).

One of the things that has surfaced during the master plan process is the feeling by some in town that we develop too many reports at some expense to the town that end up sitting on shelves and never get acted upon. I share that concern. There is also a question of support, too. It is sometimes difficult to get some recommendations completed.

So I'm wondering if there is any merit in bringing your report to Town Meeting. This would require lots of extra work to get vetted by the public, perhaps some additional revisions as a result and then some promotion to educate people about the final plan prior to TM. Offsetting this extra effort would be a plan that would be better vetted, better understood and then hopefully better supported by the town, other boards and departments.

Jessica Cajigas, Water Department(JC in page by page comments)

There is no mention of the Pesticide use Policy accepted by the Selectmen and Board of Health in September, 2006. Also, Stepinski parcel has been purchased, closing was 6/24/08

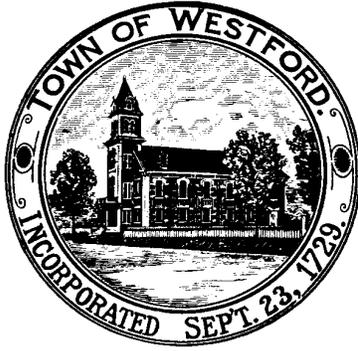
**Page by Page Comments** (Note "COG" stands for Community Opportunities Group, our consultant for the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan)

Cover: Delete "2013" "don't give expiration date" (Peter Mahler/Kate Hollister: PMKH hereafter)

Page 7: Delete repeated word "style" in line 4 of bulleted paragraph headed "**Brookside Village**" (JC)

Page 11: In line 2 of paragraph headed "Population Projection" : phrase "Table 6" should be corrected to read "Table 4" (JC)

...continued



TOWN OF WESTFORD  
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(Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1/13/09, pg. 3)

Page 13: Roadways: -It might be good to mention that narrower roadways save open space, and are more in keeping with the community character. Not all roads need to be as wide as allowed by our very generous bylaws.

-Maybe the scenic roads should be mentioned in this section.”( MH)

Page 14: “Table X” should be numbered, probably as “Table 5”. In first paragraph under heading **Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodation**, the word “automobile” in line 5 should read as “automobiles” and in line 8 the word “Other” should be inserted after the word “each”. (JC)

Page 15: In first paragraph under the heading **Water Department**, in line 2 the word “supplies” should be replaced with the phrase “supply wells”.(JC)

Page 17: Under the heading **Industrial A,B,C, and D Districts:** In line 2 the word “of” needs to be inserted between the word “side” and “Route” (Bill Turner, hereinafter BT) In line 6 the punctuation marks between the word “Chelmsford” and “office” need to be deleted. Also, there may be language missing, because the last part of the paragraph does not make grammatical sense (JC and BT). Under the heading **Floodplain Overlay District (FOD)** it is remarked that this is referred to as “Flood Zone Overlay District (FOD) on page 26. (JC) (The proper term is “Floodplain Overlay District”(BT))

Page 21: Table X” should be numbered, probably as “Table 6”. (JC)

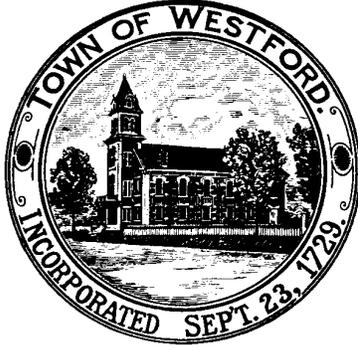
Page 22: Topography:

-2nd paragraph: Francis Hill should be spelled "Frances Hill" (masculine)(MH)

Page 25: In the third paragraph under **Aquifer Recharge Areas** the third sentence should be rewritten to read as follows: “The Fletcher well, which is treated by the Forge Village facility, and the Cote Well, which is treated by the Nutting Road facility, are both designated as ground water under the influence of surface water, which requires more stringent treatment and monitoring as specified under the Surface Water Treatment Rule.” (JC)

Page 26: Under heading **Flood Hazard Areas:** In line 1 the term “Flood Zone Overlay District” should be corrected to read “Floodplain Overlay District” (see comment – Page 17)(JC)

...continued



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(Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1/13/09, pg. 4)

Page 26: Under heading **Flood Hazard Areas**, the last sentence should be deleted as “Not standard of current conditions”. (PMKH).

Under heading **Lakes and Ponds**, the word “beautiful” in the sentence “Westford has many beautiful lakes and Ponds.” should be deleted as “aren’t they all?” (PMKH)

The spelling of Heart Pond is questioned as to whether it should be “Hart” Pond. (PMKH) (The USGS Map shows this pond as Heart Pond (BT)).

Page 28-29: Vegetation:

Rare Plants: There are two plants which I watch over for the Natural Heritage Program which are not listed here- Wild Lupine, and Rough-leaved Aster. While I think it’s good to list the plants, you mention that there will be a map showing the locations of rare plants. I think this is NOT a good idea. When shown where rare plants exist, people often go and dig them up! Natural Heritage always tells us that these locations are to be kept secret except from the Cons. Coordinator and the State (maps of rare animals are o.k., as one cannot easily locate the animals this way).

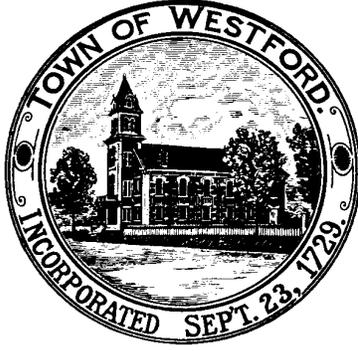
Wetland Vegetation: You (COG) ask if there has been any mapping of wetland vegetation. There hasn’t been any mapping as far as I know- but it would be a good recommendation for the future. Mention could be made that Westford has two bog communities, one small bog at East Boston Camps, and another larger bog area at the Beaver Brook/Stony Brook area near Concord Rd. and Beaver Brook Rd. intersection. These bogs support such vegetation as sundews, black spruce, larch, sheep laurel and calla lily. Other wetlands contain typical desirable wetland species such as shadbush, basswood, arrowhead, pond lily, bull lily, cattails, and several undesirable invasive plants such as purple loosertrife and phragmites. Some uncommon or rare plants are found in the wetland areas as well, such as toothcup, rough-leaved aster, and cuckoo flower. (MH)

Page 29: under the heading **E. Fisheries and Wildlife**, in line 1 the word “of” needs to be inserted between the words “variety” and “wildlife” (JC)

Under the heading **Vernal Pools**, regarding the first sentence that reads “The Westford Conservation Trust maps vernal or seasonal pools for certification by the NHESP” it is asked “Is this a WCT-sponsored activity?”(PMKH).

Under the heading **Vernal Pools** in line 10, the word “impact” should be changed to “effect”(PMKH)

...continued



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(Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1/13/09, pg. 5)

Page 30: on line 1 of the page the word “impact” should be changed to “effect”(PMKH).  
Corridors: You (Community Opportunities Group (COG))ask if there is anything to add here. I agree that it is very good as it stands.(MH)

Under **Corridors for Wildlife Migration** regarding the fourth bullet item regarding the Nashoba Brook watershed and the comment that the area includes “400-500 acres” it is commented that there is “More, if include unprotected open space (ski area, Kimball’s, Butter Brook)” (PMKH)

Page 31: Endangered Species, paragraph 3. You (COG) mention that thinning of deer herds would be desirable. I disagree. There is no evidence that deer herds are overpopulated in Westford. In fact, there is evidence that deer are in balance with the environment here. A few years ago, the Westford Conservation Trust hired John McCarter, a well-known tracker to look at East Boston Camp area and also the Nashoba Brook conservation area and tell us about whether there were too many deer. He said that there was very little deer pressure at EBC, where there was much more forage available than was being utilized. At Nashoba Brook, his comment was that the amount of deer usage of the land was "just right" for the forage available. I think this statement should be eliminated from the report unless there is scientific evidence to back it up. (MH)

Page 32: First paragraph:

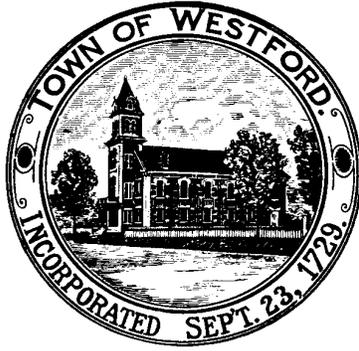
I suggest that you further identify "Red Line" as an abandoned railroad bed, running north to south through the town.(MH)

In the third paragraph, in line 2, the word “Steward” should be inserted between the word “Trails” and “Committee” and the last part of this sentence after the word “Committee” should be changed to read “ a joint effort by the Conservation Commission and the Westford Conservation Trust.” (PMKH)

Page 33: Unusual features:

You (COG) ask if there are any others which should be mentioned. How about "Mystery Spring" which is on public conservation land and trail off Tadmuck Rd. This is an area where a lovely spring emerges from underground between two rocks. Also, there is the so-called "Indian Grinding Stone" also on conservation land at Cider Mill Pond conservation area on Lowell Rd. This is a large boulder with a large, round, deep, hole

...continued



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(Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1/13/09, pg. 6)

ground into it. It is thought to be caused by glacier melt and resultant swirling of rock on rock. Another possibility for this section would be the "Stone Arch Bridge" (described on the next page), as I believe it is the largest and most impressive bridge of its kind in the area (all fitted stones with no mortar). (MH)

Page 33: Under the heading **Major Characteristics or Unusual Features** in line 5 the phrase "the other" should be replaced by the word "another".(PMKH).

Page 34: In the third paragraph, "Old Arch Bridge" should be written "Stone Arch Bridge".(MH) Also in the third paragraph in line 7 the word "form" between the word "constructed" and "local" should be corrected to read "from"(JC)

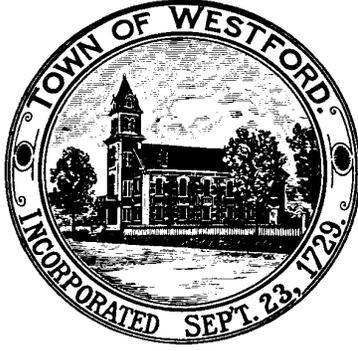
Page 36: Environmental Challenges:

You (COG) ask if we should add anything about invasive species. I think this is a great idea. We could say that Westford conservation lands and open spaces are suffering from the same challenges from alien, invasive species as other towns in the area. Wetlands are increasingly being overtaken by purple loosetrife and phragmites. Uplands are increasingly being choked with oriental bittersweet, garlic mustard, burning bush, Norway maple, Japanese knotweed, Japanese honeysuckle, multiflora rose, Japanese barberry and others. The Westford Conservation Trust has begun a program to identify invasive species on its lands. A pilot project will begin this year at the Trust's Prospect Hill Wildlife Sanctuary. We are working with an Eagle Scout, Max Harrington, who, with his troop and with the help of trust members, will attempt to eliminate burning bush from the sanctuary. (MH)

In the fourth bulleted item the spelling "Hart's Pond" should be corrected to "Heart Pond" (BT)

Under **Environmental Challenges** in the second paragraph, the following language, starting in line 3 should be deleted "most likely due to insufficient treatment of stormwater runoff, erosion, excess agricultural or residential fertilizers, wildlife activity, and possible illicit discharge of waste water." should be deleted and the last sentence of the paragraph should be deleted and it is noted: "See Marian's revision of this paragraph for the CMP" (PMKH).

...continued



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(Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1/13/09, pg. 7)

Page 37: In the second paragraph, regarding the sentence that reads “Environmental hazards are not necessarily limited to sites with documented remediation needs, however” the comment is made “Implying that this is an environ. hazard”(PMKH).

In the fourth paragraph regarding the bulleted items the comment is made “This list generated debate in CMPC subcommittee” and it is indicated that the phrase “or eroding streambanks; and” should be deleted from the third bulleted item (PMKH).

Page 38: Regarding the first sentence of the second paragraph, “When more than 10 percent of a watershed is covered by impervious surface, the result tends to be a degradation of surface waters and surface water habitat” which is followed by a reference to footnote 34, the comment is made “Peter S. idea” and next to the footnote it is commented “need a better citation.” (PMKH)

In line 1 of the last paragraph “coyote” and “fisher” should be changed to “coyotes” and “fishers”(PMKH)

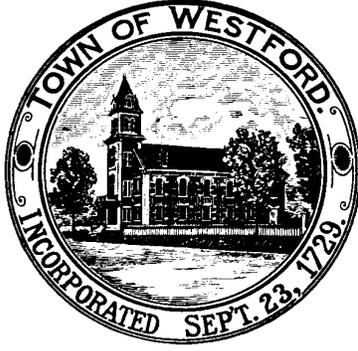
**Last Paragraph:**

You (COG) state "Coyote and fisher cats are top-level predators....they occasionally prey on pets and could potentially pose a risk to small children." There is no evidence that these animals pose any risk in Westford! To put this statement into the report only serves to scare people! By the way, the name is "fishers" not "fisher-cats" (colloquial- these are weasels, not cats). There is no evidence that fishers have killed neighborhood cats. Cats disappeared before and after fishers came into Westford. Fishers eat grey squirrels, primarily.

Coyotes have never attacked children in Westford. To my knowledge, there is only one documented case of a coyote attack on a child in Massachusetts. In that case, a 3 year old was left outside alone in a yard, and approached the animal- hardly something a responsible parent would allow. Domestic dogs bite MANY people every year in Mass. Let's be reasonable here! People in Westford have shown a great ability to get along with our wild neighbors. Let's not start a panic now! (MH)

Page 39: Regarding the sentence in paragraph 3 that reads “Residents also seem to think that the town should continue to buy land even though open space acquisitions can be very expensive” it is commented “only if justifiable (per survey comments)”PMKH

...continued



TOWN OF WESTFORD  
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(Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1/13/09, pg. 8)

Page 39: Comment regarding reference to Appendix A in last paragraph “When you get Appendix A, make sure that parcels are not double-counted. They were in the draft”. (PMKH)

Page 40: Under the heading *Conservation Restrictions*, the sentence starting in line 6 of the first paragraph should be rewritten to read: The Westford Conservation Trust recently recognized the need to utilize independent conservation organizations in protection of its own land and recently transferred several restrictions on its conservation land to the Sudbury Valley Trustees.” (PMKH)

Page 41:- Trust's trails and CR's:

1st Paragraph: Trust holds 10 conservation restrictions alone, for a total of 69.5 acres.

3rd Paragraph: Trust holds 21 trail easements alone, and another 17 jointly with the Town.

3rd Paragraph- The statements that there are 21 protected trails, and later that there are 50 permanent trail easements seem inconsistent. What is meant by protected trails, if not permanent trail easements?(MH)

Under the heading *Conservation Zones* it is asked if there are more than the stated 113 acres within this zone. (PMKH)

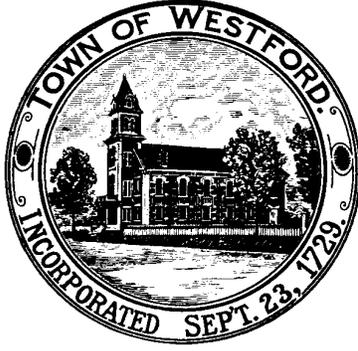
Under the heading *Trail Easements* in line 3 of the first paragraph the word “at” should be deleted between the words “are” and “approximately”. And in line 4 of the second paragraph under this heading, the word “of” should be inserted between the words “some” and “the”.(JC)

Page 42: 2nd paragraph: Take out the word "vandalism" (seems to be a typo).(MH)(PMKH)(JC). Regarding this paragraph the comment is made “See wording in CMP” (PMKH)

In the first paragraph under the heading **Unprotected Private Land, Chapter 61 Land**, in line 9 the word “Unfortunately” should be replaced with “Currently” (PMKH)

Page 43: Under the heading **Other Recreation Facilities**, in line 1, the word “other” should be deleted between the words “several” and “private”. It is also noted regarding the list of facilities that there is “Also Bobby’s Ranch”.

Under the heading **Major Private Institutional Holdings** it is noted that the Stony Brook Fish and Game Club and the Westford Sportsman’s club are included in the list given under the heading **Other Recreation Facilities**. (PMKH) ...continued



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(Summary of comments received, Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1/13/09, pg. 9)

Page 43: Under the heading **Major Private Institutional Holdings** in the third bulleted item the phrase “private hunting club” should be changed to “private sportsman’s club”(NR)

Also under **Major Private Institutional Holdings** in the second paragraph, in line 3 the word “vast” should be deleted. Under the heading **Other Private Unprotected Land**, in line 4 the word “beautiful” should be deleted. Also in this same paragraph regarding the sentence that reads “There area also several unprotected land parcels remaining along the Stony Brook Corridor.” the query is made “Where?” In line 1 of the second paragraph under this heading the word “includes” should read “include” (PMKH)

Page 44: After the end of the first sentence at the top of the page (following the sentence that starts on the previous page and reads “An additional 200 acres of privately owned unprotected forested land lies along Hildreth St., between Boston Road and I-495.” The following sentence should be added: “These are land-locked parcels”.

In line 1 of the second paragraph, the phrase “Kennedy Pond (a.k.a. Nashoba Pond)” should be replaced with “Parker Village”, and the comments are made “Be Consistent! includes Scanlon’s, etc.” “ignores the part of Parker Village along S. Chelmsford Rd. (Greenwoods, Emmet’s, etc.’) (PMKH)

Under the Heading **B. Public and Non-Profit Parcels, Public Conservation Land**, in line 1 of the first paragraph under the heading **Westford Conservation Commission** the exact number of Commission parcels should be given and the word “over should be replaced with the word “more than”. (PMKH)

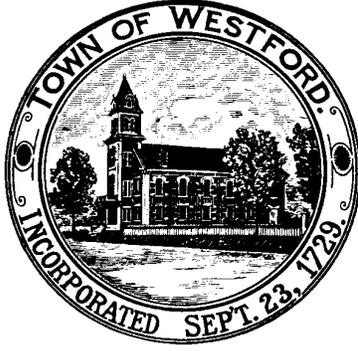
In line 4 in the second paragraph under the heading **Westford Conservation Commission**, the words “both municipal and” should be deleted. (NR)(PMKH)

The third paragraph under the heading **Westford Conservation Commission** regarding purchase of the Stepinski parcel needs to be updated, as the purchase has been completed (NR)

Page 45: Regarding the paragraph headed *Water Department Land*, it is commented “Stepinski Purchase has been completed, do you want to update this? (JC)

Under the heading **Other Municipal Land** in line 1 of the second paragraph, the word “Surprisingly” should be deleted. Regarding the statement “Westford has few public parks within its borders, the query is made “Where are the others?” “Veteran’s Memorial Park” is noted at the end of the paragraph. (PMKH)

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Page 46: under the heading of *Public Recreation Land*, following the second paragraph there is a bulleted list of recreational fields. An additional field area is noted to be bulleted “Fields on Farmer Way” (PMKH) (Actually, I think these are School department fields, and this list is meant to summarize non-school recreational fields. (BT).

Page 47: in the last bulleted item, in line 3, after the word “fields” the word “and” should be deleted and a comma inserted, and in line 4 a comma should be inserted between the word “water” and the word “and”(PMKH)

Page 48: Under the heading **Non-Profit Conservation Land, Westford Conservation Trust** , there is a comment “also some on Landmark”

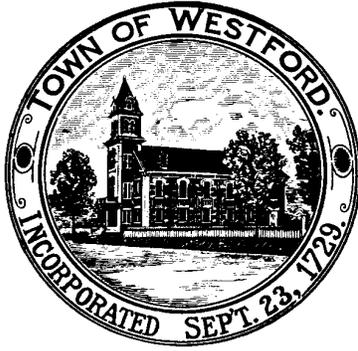
Under the heading **Massachusetts Audubon Society**, in the first line regarding the statement “The Massachusetts Audubon Society own approximately 274 acres of land in Westford.”, the query is made regarding the number 274 “Where are the other 80 ac?” In line 3, the word “While surprisingly small” should be deleted, and the word “the” capitalized. In line 4 the number “600” should be changed to “350”. The general comment is made regarding the paragraph “Rewrite to be accurate” (PMKH)

Page 48: Under the heading **Section 6: Community Vision, A. Description of Process:** in line 9 of the third paragraph the word “active” in the phrase “active recreation areas” is circled with a question mark next to it. In line 4 of the fourth paragraph, the word “Comprehensive” should be inserted between the word “and” and the word “Master”, (PMKH)

Page 50: Regarding the statement that concludes a sentence that begins on the previous page, to the effect that the community has “a scenic quality that is unparalleled”, the query is made “Sez who?” The query and statement is made at the end of the section: “What are the goals? This section says nothing.” (PMKH)

Page 51: Page number is missing. (BT) Under the heading **Section 7: Analysis of Needs, A. Summary of Resource Protection Needs.** The general comment is made regarding the Section and first paragraph “Lots of repeated paragraphs!” In line 7 of the first

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paragraph the word “Comprehensive” should be inserted between the words “Westford” and “Master”. In line 5, the word “valiant” should be deleted. Regarding the last sentence of the second paragraph the comment is made “finally! The gist of the section – hidden at end”

Under the heading **B. Summary of Community Needs**, in line 1 of the first paragraph, the word “that” should be inserted between the words “effect” and “the”. In lines 4 and 5 of the first paragraph, the phrase “which struggles to meet local needs” should be deleted. (PMKH)

Page 52: In line 6 of the second paragraph, the word “impact” should be replaced with the word “effect”.

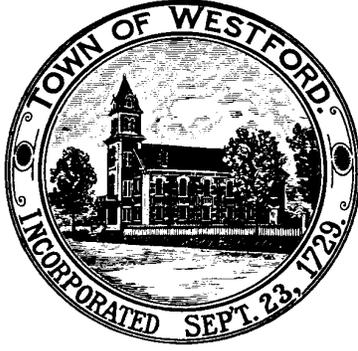
Under the heading **Handicapped Accessibility of Westford Conservation Lands**, in line 1 of the second paragraph the abbreviation “(EBC)” should be inserted after the phrase “East Boston Camps”. In line 9 of the second paragraph, the word “with” should be corrected to be “within”.

Under the heading **Handicapped Accessibility of Westford Recreation Facilities** after the paragraph the query is made “What about other rec. facilities?”(PMKH)

Page 53: Under the heading **C. Management Needs, Potential Change of Use**, in lines 1 and 2 of the third paragraph, the phrase “manage and provide oversight of” should be replaced with the word “maintain”. Regarding the statement regarding the Trial Stewardship Committee: “there is no municipal staff person identified to serve as liaison to this group” the query is made “Bill?”. Regarding the statement in paragraph 4 “It is clear that the existing facility space in Westford is not adequate for the community’s needs and desires” it is commented “not per Pat”. In line 6 of paragraph 4, the word “adult” should be inserted between the words “unstructured” and “pick-up”(PMKH) In line 9 the phrase “pesticide applications” is circled and the comment made “Pesticide Use Policy! They can’t use pesticides on Town-owned land, unless there is an emergency.” (JC)

Regarding the statement at the end of the second paragraph (“Hiring an additional staff person is vital to ensure the future protection of the town’s conservation lands”) the comment is made: “I personally disagree that “hiring” is THE answer, it is one solution to the issue, but we should be looking at other possibilities as well” (NR)

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Page 54: There is a comment regarding the last sentence of the first paragraph regarding the worthiness of protection of abandoned quarries: “not town-owned land, non-sequitur”(PMKH).

Regarding the statement in the second paragraph that “Moreover, the town has not prioritized its remaining Chapter 61 parcels and identified those which should be acquired if the town received a 120-day notice of a planned change in use” the comment is made” “The Land Use Priorities Report has prioritized the 61A land in a gross manner. It should be looked at again, but this is an inaccurate statement that it hasn’t been done.” (NR)

In the first line of the third paragraph the work “two” in the phrase “two regional rail trails are being planned” is circled, with a question mark, (PMKH)

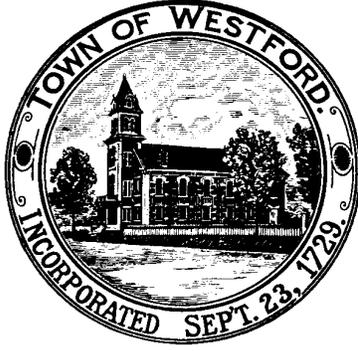
Page 55: Under the heading **Section 8: Goals and Objectives , A. Water Resource Protection**, “Protection of groundwater quality and quantity to meet existing and future demands” it is noted that the word “Adopt” should be deleted from the bulleted items regarding the Stormwater Management Bylaw and Dischargers to Storm Drains Bylaw, as these have been adopted. ((JC)(PMKH)

It is recommended that an additional bulleted item should be added to read: “Implement/enforce Town Pesticide Policy” (JC)

Page 56.:

It is recommended that under the heading “Protection of surface water bodies and wetlands:”(which starts on the previous page) the first bulleted item on the page be deleted as it currently reads (“Address pesticide management of a facilities-wide basis) and be replaced so as to read “Implement/enforce Town Pesticide Policy” (JC) Also as regards this bulleted item the query is made “What does this mean?” (PMKH) Under the heading **Trail and Greenway Connections**, Trail Improvements: in the third bulleted item the words “the” should be inserted between the words “Encourage” and “community”.

Page 57: Regarding the third bulleted item on the page: “Identify small undeveloped parcels suitable for development as neighborhood parks” the query “+ use?” is made (PMKH and the comment/query is made: “I think in theory these are a good idea, but do they get used in Westford to make it worthwhile to create more? i.e. Greystone and Hitching Post???”  
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Under the heading “Preservation of additional land for open space, passive recreation, and wildlife habitats” in line 1 of the second bulleted item the word “as” should be inserted between the words “well” and “develop”(JC)(PMKH)(NR)

As regards the third bulleted item (“Review and address difficulty of conservation restriction process”) the queries are made: “What is meant by the goal "Review and address difficulty of conservation restriction process". What difficulty? (MH). And (State Regs?)(PMKH)

As regards the eighth bulleted item (“Develop creative, proactive strategies for land preservation”), the query is made “Isn’t this what this report is supposed to help us with?”(NR)

As regards the ninth bulleted (“Seek creative financing techniques and grants to fund purchase of open space” ) the query is made “Such as???”(NR)

Page 58: Under the heading **D. Preservation of Town Character**. It is noted regarding the first bulleted item (“Conduct a comprehensive survey to document Westford’s significant historic and cultural resources.’) that this has been done.

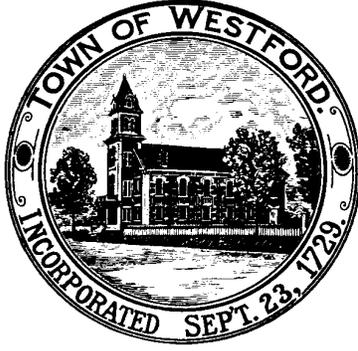
Regarding the fifth bulleted item (“ Develop standards for new structures to preserve the New England character of the town”) it is recommended to delete the word town and replace it with “villages”(only) and the query is made “Why?”

Regarding the eighth bulleted item (“ Consider expanding scope and timeframe of town’s Demolition Delay Bylaw to allow adequate time for protection of town’s historic resources.”) the word “protection is underlined with a question mark and the query “Documentation?” is made.

Under the heading **Acquisition and Development of Necessary Recreational Facilities**,

Create more recreational areas of various sizes distributed throughout town to meet resident’s needs: regrading the sixth bulleted item (“Encourage the creation of active recreation areas as components of new development projects, the query is made “Are parks, trails “active”?” and the comment is made “a way to get playing fields in large developments”. Regarding the seventh bulleted item (“Identify potential funding sources for development of a community recreation center facility”) the word “Potential is crossed off and the statements are made “Check CMP survey results” and “conflicts CMP, P. Savage, Norman: they suggested we shouldn’t compete with private facilities: also \$\$ to run a facility. Rather Town =coordinator/facilitator”(PMKH)

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Page 59: Under the heading **F. Land Management**, regarding the third bulleted item (“Create a new municipal staff position in the Conservation Department to oversee conservation lands such as East Boston Camps and serve as liaison for the Land/Trail Stewards program”) the comment is made “See Earlier Comment” (page 53) (NR)

Page 60: Under the heading **Section 9: five Year Action Plan 2008** under A.a it is noted regarding the statement “Establish pesticide management policies for all Town departments” that this has been done and that ““Board of Health needs to establish an implementation committee for the policy.” (JC)

Page 61: Under Goal A.h. (“Identify and monitor commercial wells not served by town water that may impact town’s aquifers”) the comment is made “We don’t have the \$\$ & DEP monitors all PWS’s.”

Under “Discourage Unnecessary water use, a. (“Continue Water Department’s Healthy Lawns for Healthy Families program to encourage water conservation” the comment is made: “Isn’t about water conservation, it’s about no pesticide use, using organic lawn care methods.” (JC)

**Community Opportunity Group Issues:**

In addition the Commission should consider the following notes that were included in the Draft by Community Opportunities Group

Page 11: Comment regarding Table 3: Population with Disabilities by Age and Type of Disabilities: “This table is confusing – the breakdown of type of disability don’t match the number of people in the column. If they shouldn’t, it should be explained why.” (NR)

Page 28: Regarding Section Heading **D. Vegetation**: “Note to Town: Ideally, this section should contain more information about wetlands vegetation. If the town or the Westford Conservation Trust has any inventories or wetlands mapping to share, please advise”.

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Page 30: Regarding the section headed **Corridors for Wildlife Migration:** “This section is taken directly from the 2002 Open Space Plan, with minor edits. Does the Town wish to add any new information here? We did not see a reason to make any substantive changes.”

Page 33: Regarding the section headed **Major Characteristics or Unusual Features:** “This information is taken from the 2002 Plan. Are there other features that should be highlighted here?”

Page 35: Regarding the list of areas considered to be critical environments: “This information is from Westford’s 2002 Plan. Is it still relevant today?”

Page 36: Regarding section headed **G. Environmental Challenges:** “Note to Town: Do you want to add any invasive species information to this section of the plan? If so, please provide the information.”



# Section 11: References

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# Appendix A

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**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Conservation Commission Land - 1,952.51 cres**  
 Information Provided by Westford Conservation Coordinator

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
002 0002 0000	Durkee Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Harriet Hill Tax Title	16.00	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0003 0000	Durkee Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage	16.03	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0004 0000	Powers Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Martin and Mitchell	5.09	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0005 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage	40.05	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0006 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage	40.98	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0007 0000	Durkee Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage	28.25	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0008 0000	Durkee Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Harriet Hill Tax Title	6.95	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0011 0000	Durkee Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Durkee Rd Eminent Domain	8.12	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0023 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage	9.65	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0024 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage	4.92	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0025 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - JF White Parcel 1	35.92	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0026 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Kennedy Parcel 1	15.61	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0027 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - JF White Parcel 2	12.74	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
002 0028 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - JF White Parcel 3	14.41	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
005 0020 0000	Powers Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Mahoney and Jansky	1.17	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
005 0020 0001	Powers Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Mahoney and Jansky	5.97	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
005 0074 0017	Trailside Way	Trailside	7.90	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
005 0074 0018	Trailside Way	Trailside	0.05	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
005 0074 0019	Trailside Way	Trailside	1.40	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
005 0074 0020	Powers Rd	Trailside	0.16	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
005 0074 0021	Trailside Way	Trailside	0.77	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
006 0002 0000	Powers Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage/Kennedy	23.83	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
006 0003 0000	Powers Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage/Kennedy	3.73	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
006 0005 0000	Concord Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Gage/Kennedy	10.71	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
006 0007 0000	Powers Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - RS Realty Trust	27.72	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
006 0008 0000	Powers Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Guidoboni/Masse	5.27	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
006 0047 0000	Texas Rd	Emmet Conservation Land - Connerly Parcel	5.00	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
007 0019 0001	Carlisle Rd	Great Elm Parcel	10.85	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
012 0010 0000	Littleton Rd	Cline Conservation Land	4.00	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
013 0018 0005	Old Lowell Rd	Catalog Realty Trust Conservation Land	12.83	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
014 0023 0003	True Bean Way	Horsehead Conservation Land 3	4.58	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
014 0034 0016	Beaver Brook Rd	Horsehead Conservation Land 1	26.33	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
015 0002 0025	Southwick Circle	Beaver Brook Conservation Land	46.35	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
015 0002 0026	Southwick Circle	Horsehead Conservation Land 2	18.00	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
015 0097 0000	Howard Rd	Irwin Conservation Land	2.55	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
016 0042 0000	Monadnock Dr	Kiberd Conservation Land	2.91	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
016 0077 0000	Rome Dr	Sullivan Conservation Land	73.89	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
016 0078 0000	Rome Dr	Mass Electric	11.21	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Conservation Commission Land - 1,952.51 cres**

Information Provided by Westford Conservation Coordinator

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
017 0025 0000	Fieldstone Dr	Fieldstone Dr Conservation Land 1	8.47	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
017 0038 0000	Fieldstone Dr	Fieldstone Dr Conservation Land 2	14.52	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
020 0016 0000	Beaver Brook Rd	Beaver Brook/Concord Rd Conservation Land	26.13	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
020 0074 0010	Hartford Rd	Kloppenburg Conservation Land	12.74	RA	Conservation	Yes	In Perpetuity	
022 0030 0017	Tadmuck Rd	Mystery Spring Woods Conservation Land	4.62	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
022 0083 0000	Court Rd	Drew Court Rd Parcel 2	20.58	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
022 0084 0000	Crown Rd	Drew Court Rd Parcel 1	5.52	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
022 0117 0004	Drew Crossing	Drew Crossing Conservation Land	9.25	RA	Conservation	Yes	In Perpetuity	
022 0119 0000	Boston Rd	Wilson Parcel	1.21	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
023 0041 0000	Littleton Rd	Hassan Littleton Rd Land	4.50	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0010 0001	Milot Rd	Russel Bird Sanctuary	21.03	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0036 0000	Pine Ridge Rd	Varnum Conservation Land (Portion of PID)	1.05	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0037 0000	Pine Ridge Rd	LePage Conservation Land (portion of PID)	0.06	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0083 0000	Milot Rd	B&M Stony Brook Conservation Land	4.82	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0084 0000	Milot Rd	Milot Conservation Land	3.39	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0085 0000	Milot Rd	Arch Bridge 1	1.07	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0090 0000	Milot Rd	Arch Bridge 2	2.70	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0129 0000	Milot Rd	Moulton Conservation Land 1	0.99	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0149 0000	Old Homestead Rd	Moulton Conservation Land 2	0.69	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0202 0001	Cold Spring Rd	Scott Conservation Land	14.60	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0224 0000	2 Cold Spring Rd	Forge Village Rd Conservation Area	14.60	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
026 0037 0000	Granville Rd	Day Agricultural & Conservation Land	17.61	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
027 0187 0000	5 Tadmuck Ln	Georges Tadmuck Ln Conservation Land 1	0.46	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
027 0196 0000	Main St	Georges Tadmuck Ln Conservation Land 2	14.80	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
027 0206 0000	Tadmuck Rd	Dana Dr Conservation Land 1	0.27	RA	Conservation	Yes	In Perpetuity	
027 0206 0001	Tadmuck Rd	Dana Dr Conservation Land 2	0.23	RA	Conservation	Yes	In Perpetuity	
027 0206 0002	Dana Dr	Dana Dr Conservation Land 3	2.54	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
027 0228 0010	Dana Dr	Dana Dr Conservation Land 4	19.81	RA	Conservation	Yes	In Perpetuity	
028 0020 0000	3 Chamberlain Rd	Skating Pond Land	4.59	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
030 0032 0000	North St	Stony Brook Center Water Dept Land	8.03	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
030 0065 0000	River St	Canoe Ramp	6.39	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
031 0034 0000	Hyacinth Dr	JP Mckenna Conservation Land	0.74	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
031 0037 0000	Nutting Rd	East Boston Camps	237.23	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	LP DWSP CPA
032 0022 0002	Leighton Way	Leighton Way Conservation Parcel 1	1.88	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
032 0022 0005	Leighton Way	Leighton Way Conservation Parcel 2	0.15	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
032 0075 0000	Stony Brook Rd	Cider Mill Pond Conservation Land	14.64	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
032 0079 0001	Lowell Rd	Switzer	1.32	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
032 0080 0000	Lowell Rd	Cider Mill Pond Conservation Land	1.32	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	Self-Help

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
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 Information Provided by Westford Conservation Coordinator

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032 0081 0000	Lowell Rd	Cider Mill Pond Conservation Land	19.74	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	Self-Help
033 0006 0000	Chamberlain Rd	Hill Orchard West	2.02	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
033 0007 0003	Chamberlain Rd	Hill Orchard West	18.00	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
033 0012 0000	4 Hunt Rd	Hill Orchard Farm Stand	3.42	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
033 0015 0000	14 Hunt Rd	Swanson Conservation Land	0.88	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
033 0023 0014	Hunt Rd	Anderson Conservation Land 2	0.42	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
033 0023 0019	Baldwin Rd	Anderson Conservation Land 1	1.01	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
035 0002 0007	Gould Rd	Picking Conservation Land West	22.25	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
035 0004 0001	Gould Rd	Picking Conservation Land East	26.95	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
035 0109 0000	Farmer Way	Stony Brook	9.23	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
035 0111 0000	Farmer Way	Farmer Way Lot 111	2.70	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
040 0044 0000	Keyes Rd	Keyes Pond Conservation Land-1	0.26	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
040 0055 0000	Keyes Rd	Keyes Pond Conservation Land-2	1.00	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
040 0058 0001	Keyes Rd	Duffy and Doucette	2.30	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
040 0063 0002	Keyes Rd	Slifer Conservation Land	20.53	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	Self-Help
041 0155 0002	Flushing Pond Rd	Blue Brook Conservation Land	19.10	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
044 0028 0006	Temney Rd	Tenney Rd Conservation Land	15.31	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
044 0046 0000	Temney Rd	Tenney Rd Conservation Land	1.52	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
046 0011 0228	Russels Way	Greystone Lot B Conservation Land	52.81	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
046 0011 0229	Russels Way	Greystone Lot C Conservation Land	4.85	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
047 0045 0015	Vineyard Rd	Vineyard Road Conservation Land	15.32	IA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
048 0011 0233	Caldwell Dr	Greystone Lot G Conservation Land	13.38	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
048 0011 0236	Russels Way	Greystone Lot K Conservation Land	0.38	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
048 0011 0238	Morrison Ln	Greystone Lot M Conservation Land	0.08	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
048 0011 0240	Morrison Ln	Greystone Lot P Conservation Land	0.37	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
048 0011 0247	Russels Way	Greystone Lot H Conservation Land	130.13	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
049 0011 0237	Chandler Rd	Greystone Lot L Conservation Land	31.47	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
050 0014 0000	Oakdale Rd	Beers Conservation Land-1	0.10	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
050 0016 0000	Sand Beach Rd	Beers Conservation Land-2	0.20	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
052 0001 0000	Pleasant St	Socha Shore	1.20	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
053 0095 0000	Pond St	Pond St Conservation Land	0.94	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
063 0032 0000	2 Almeria Cir	TBG Conservation Land 1	0.42	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
064 0027 0000	Almeria Cir	TBG Conservation Land 2	0.15	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
064 0028 0000	Almeria Cir	TBG Conservation Land 3	5.21	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
065 0054 0000	Depot St	Grassy Pond Conservation Area	62.14	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	Self-Help
066 0101 0000	RR East South	Edward & Louise Dean Conservation Land (portion of PII)	0.44	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
067 0049 0000	Stony Brook Rd	Genova Conservation Land	10.80	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
068 0003 0000	Nutting Rd	Shipley Swamp Conservation Area	25.50	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Conservation Commission Land - 1,952.51 cres**  
 Information Provided by Westford Conservation Coordinator

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
069 0001 0000	Carolina Ln	Balas Conservation Land	1.95	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	Self-Help
069 0049 0000	Sycamore Rd	Schlusemeyer Sycamore Rd Parcel 1	0.25	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
069 0050 0000	Sycamore Rd	Schlusemeyer Sycamore Rd Parcel 2	0.05	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
074 0002 0000	Williams Ave	Edwards Beach Parcel	10.00	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
074 0183 0000	Moore Ave	O'Soro Conservation Land	0.18	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
		<b>TOTAL ACRES IN 2002</b>	<b>1601.41</b>					
<b>Conservation Commission Land Acquired Since 2002</b>								
007 0033 0000	Shelley Lane	Shelley Lane Land	1.71	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
016 0020 0002	Kate Rose Lane	Kate Rose Lane Conservation Land	1.16	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
025 0148 0000	Longmeadow Lane	Moulton Conservation Land - III	0.92	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
027 0063 0002	Lawton Avenue	Lawton Avenue Conservation Land - II	1.02	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
027 0063 0004	Lawton Avenue	Lawton Avenue Conservation Land - I	0.96	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
031 035 0003	River St	Stepinksi Parcel	65.10	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	DWSP,CPA
031 0037 0000	Depot Road, Nutting	East Boston Camps	237	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	DWSP,CPA
035 0032 0004	Depot Road, Nutting	East Boston Camps	20	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
036 0002 0000		William C. O'Connell Wildlife Sanctuary	6.9	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
052 0002 0000		Indian Meeting Ground	0.562	RB	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
067 0005 0000		Brookside Mill Conservation Parcel I	1.72	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
067 0050 0000		Brookside Mill Conservation Parcel II	12.47	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	
070 0046 0001 *	Williams Avenue	Habitat For Humanity Conservation Land	2	RA	Conservation	Yes	In perpetuity	

**TOTAL ACRES SINCE 2002**

**351.502**

**TOTAL ACRES UNDER CARE OF CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**1952.91**

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Conservation Restrictions - 1,715 Acres**

Information Provided by Westford Conservation Coordinator

Parcel Number	Street Location	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
006 0019 0000	Concord Rd	Richard S. Emmet	Town	99.52	RA	CR1	No	In Perpetuity	
006 0063 0000	Emmet Hayfield, Texas Road	R.S. Emmet	WCT	30.56	RA	CR14	No	In Perpetuity	
006 0064 0004	Hayrick Lane	Hayrick Trust	Town	0.38	RA	CR29	No	In Perpetuity	
006 0064 0009	Hayrick Lane	Hayrick Trust	Town	2.18	RA	CR29	No	In Perpetuity	
006 0064 0013	Hayrick Lane	Hayrick Trust	Town	0.30	RA	CR29	No	In Perpetuity	
007 0001 0001	Old Rd	C.G. and J.S. Colburn	MA Audubon Society	37.80	RA	CR35	No	In Perpetuity	
007 0004 0000	Carlisle Road	C.G. and J.S. Colburn	New England Forestry Fdn.	42.1	RA	CR27	No	In Perpetuity	
007 0068 0002	Ashley Place	Sweetser's Place Trust	Town and WCT	0.37	RA	CR43	No	In Perpetuity	
007 0115 0019	Ashley Place	Sweetser's Place Trust	Town and WCT	7.87	RA	CR43	No	In Perpetuity	
010 0035 0000	Magnolia Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	6.88	RA	CR18	No	In Perpetuity	
010 0068 0001	Magnolia Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	2.21	RA	CR18	No	In Perpetuity	
010 0117 0000	Magnolia Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	7.38	RA	CR18	No	In Perpetuity	
010 0140 0000	Magnolia Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	7.13	RA	CR18	No	In Perpetuity	
011 0025 0006	April Lane	Concord Road of Westford Realty Trust	Town and WCT	27.20	RA	CR39	No	In Perpetuity	
011 0025 0041	April Lane	Concord Road of Westford Realty Trust	Town and WCT	0.56	RA	CR39	No	In Perpetuity	
011 0025 0045	April Lane	Concord Road of Westford Realty Trust	Town and WCT	1.38	RA	CR39	No	In Perpetuity	
012 0046 0004	Wilson Farm Rd	Carlisle Meadows, Inc.	Town and WCT	8.00	RA	CR26	No	In Perpetuity	
012 0046 0017	Wilson Farm Rd	Carlisle Meadows, Inc.	Town and WCT	16.19	RA	CR26	No	In Perpetuity	
012 0116 0000	Concord Rd	B. W. MacDonald	Town	0.29	RA	CR6	No	In Perpetuity	
012 0117 0000	Concord Rd	B. W. MacDonald	Town	4.86	RA	CR6	No	In Perpetuity	
012 0130 0011	Woodbury Dr	Wayside Crossing Trust	Town and WCT	7.07	RA	CR32	No	In Perpetuity	
012 0130 0012	Woodbury Dr	Mass Audubon Society Inc.	Town	19.80	RA	CR30	Yes	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0004	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town	56.33	RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0006	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0007	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0008	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0009	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0010	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0012	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0013	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0014	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0015	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0016	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0017	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0023	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0024	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0025	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0026	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0034	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0035	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Conservation Restrictions - 1,715 Acres**

Information Provided by Westford Conservation Coordinator

Parcel Number	Street Location	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
013 0018 0052	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0018 0053	Little Bear Hill Rd	Little Bear Hill Corp.	Town		RA	CR22	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0031 0014	Jarvis Way	Village Realty Trust	Town and WCT	1.50	RA	CR28	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0031 0015	Jarvis Way	Village Realty Trust	Town and WCT	5.71	RA	CR28	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0031 0016	Jarvis Way	Village Realty Trust	Town and WCT	0.92	RA	CR28	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0033 0005	Shannon Cir	Kenneth M. Wilson	Town	3.39	RA	CR21	No	In Perpetuity	
013 0033 0019	Shannon Cir	Kenneth M. Wilson	Town	3.95	RA	CR21	No	In Perpetuity	
015 0006 0000	Concord Rd	Mart Realty Trust	Town	48.60	RA	CR3	No	In Perpetuity	
015 0020 0000	Concord Rd	Mart Realty Trust	Town	1.87	RA	CR3	No	In Perpetuity	
015 0094 0010	Robinwood Cir	April Woods Realty Trust	Town	5.54	RA	CR36	No	In Perpetuity	
015 0099 0000	Magnolia Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	0.66	RA	CR18	No	In Perpetuity	
015 0107 0000	Magnolia Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	0.77	RA	CR18	No	In Perpetuity	
015 0108 0000	Magnolia Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	17.70	RA	CR18	No	In Perpetuity	
015 0150 0000	Magnolia Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	74.30	RA	CR18	No	In Perpetuity	
015 0151 0007	Hutchins Way	Northport Realty Trust	Town and WCT	33.46	RA	CR46	No	In Perpetuity	
017 0038 0000	Fieldstone Dr	Fieldstone Realty Trust	Town	14.52	RA	CR2	No	In Perpetuity	
021 0106 0010	Blakes Hill Rd	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town and WCT	0.08	RA	CR41	No	In Perpetuity	
021 0109 0001	Blakes Hill Rd	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town and WCT	8.53	RA	CR41	No	In Perpetuity	
022 0003 0005	Blakes Hill Rd	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town and WCT	5.02	RA	CR41	No	In Perpetuity	
022 0003 0006	Blakes Hill Rd	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town and WCT	5.65	RA	CR41	No	In Perpetuity	
022 0006 0002	Blakes Hill Rd	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town and WCT	4.95	RA	CR41	No	In Perpetuity	
023 0030 0000	Tadmuck Rd	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	7.55	RA	CR16	No	In Perpetuity	
024 0003 0000	Village View Rd	E. Traywick Realty, Inc.	Town	60.92	RA	CR10	No	In Perpetuity	
024 0004 0001	Orchard St	D.P. and G.S. Provost	Town	2.34	RA	CR19	No	In Perpetuity	
025 0106 0000	Boutwell Hill Rd	Boutwell Trust & Palmer Development Trust	Town	11.35	RA	CR7	No	In Perpetuity	
025 0187 0000	Boutwell Hill Rd	Boutwell Trust & Palmer Development Trust	Town	3.56	RA	CR7	No	In Perpetuity	
026 0036 0000	Graniteville Rd	DGR Investment Realty Limited Partnership	Town	17.33	RA	CR9	No	In Perpetuity	
026 0038 0037	Hyacinth Dr	Hyacinth Common Realty Trust	Town and WCT	1.47	RA	CR42	No	In Perpetuity	
026 0038 0038	Hyacinth Dr	Hyacinth Common Realty Trust	Town and WCT	1.03	RA	CR42	No	In Perpetuity	
026 0038 0039	Hyacinth Dr	Hyacinth Common Realty Trust	Town and WCT	23.10	RA	CR42	No	In Perpetuity	
026 0136 0000	Graniteville Rd	DGR Investment Realty Limited Partnership	Town	58.47	RA	CR9	No	In Perpetuity	
027 0023 0000	Buckboard Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	3.96	RA	CR15	No	In Perpetuity	
027 0033 0001	Leyland Rd	Mark S. Comeau	WCT	8.50	RA	CR40	No	In Perpetuity	
027 0033 0002	Leyland Rd	Mark S. Comeau	WCT	6.50	RA	CR40	No	In Perpetuity	
027 0236 0000	Buckboard Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	0.20	RA	CR15	No	In Perpetuity	
027 0240 0000	Buckboard Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	1.00	RA	CR15	No	In Perpetuity	
028 0041 0000	Buckboard Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	25.76	RA	CR15	No	In Perpetuity	
028 0050 0000	Buckboard Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	0.11	RA	CR15	No	In Perpetuity	
028 0057 0000	Buckboard Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	8.04	RA	CR15	No	In Perpetuity	
028 0074 0000	Buckboard Dr	Robert M. Hicks, Inc.	Town	15.84	RA	CR15	No	In Perpetuity	
029 0022 0000	West St and Meadow Ln	West Meadows Realty Trust	Town	18.51	RA	CR5	No	In Perpetuity	

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Conservation Restrictions - 1,715 Acres**

Information Provided by Westford Conservation Coordinator

Parcel Number	Street Location	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
029 0032 0000	West St and Meadow Ln	West Meadows Realty Trust	Town	1.00	RA	CR5	No	In Perpetuity	
032 0024 0002	Barn Ln	Barn Lane Trust	Town and WCT	0.23	RA	CR33	No	In Perpetuity	
032 0024 0009	Barn Ln	Barn Lane Trust	Town and WCT	6.66	RA	CR33	No	In Perpetuity	
032 0049 0010	Calista Terrace	E.C. Lobdell and Seasons Unlimited Inc.	Town	4.23	RA	CR20	No	In Perpetuity	
032 0053 0030	Main St	Chestnut Hill Estates Trust & C. Anderson &	Town	10.17	RA	CR49	No	In Perpetuity	
032 0053 0031	Main St	Chestnut Hill Estates Trust & C. Anderson &	Town	0.69	RA	CR49	No	In Perpetuity	
032 0053 0032	Main St	Chestnut Hill Estates Trust and	Town	0.62	RA	CR49	No	In Perpetuity	
032 0074 0002	Main St	Chestnut Hill Estates Trust & C. Anderson &	Town	8.15	RA	CR49	No	In Perpetuity	
033 0031 0010	Blueberry Ln	Chestnut Woods Realty Trust	Town, WCT, Town of Chelmsfo	2.59	RA	CR31	No	In Perpetuity	
033 0053 0037	Main St	Chestnut Hill Estates Trust & C. Anderson &	Town	0.10	RA	CR49	No	In Perpetuity	
033 0058 0007	Main St	Chestnut Hill Estates Trust & C. Anderson &	Town	6.78	RA	CR49	No	In Perpetuity	
033 0058 0008	Main St	Chestnut Hill Estates Trust & C. Anderson &	Town	0.36	RA	CR49	No	In Perpetuity	
033 0058 0009	Main St	Chestnut Hill Estates Trust & C. Anderson &	Town	30.20	RA	CR49	No	In Perpetuity	
035 0002 0005	Groton Road	Robert Webb, Robert Waskiewicz	Town	12.00	RA	CR51	No	In Perpetuity	
035 0004 0003	Groton Road	Robert Waskiewicz	Town	12.00	RA	CR51	No	In Perpetuity	
035 0051 0002	Lynwood Lane	John M. Adameczyk, Inc. & Windmere Trust	Town	1.00	RB	CR12	No	In Perpetuity	
035 0051 0006	Lynwood Lane	John M. Adameczyk, Inc. & Windmere Trust	Town	0.40	RA	CR12	No	In Perpetuity	
035 0059 0000	Lynwood Lane	John M. Adameczyk, Inc. & Windmere Trust	Town	5.94	RA	CR12	No	In Perpetuity	
036 0059 0001	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	4.00	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
036 0059 0002*	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	37.64	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
036 0059 0042	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	2.69	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
036 0059 0058	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	1.16	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
038 0038 0001	Frances Hill Road	C.B. and J.M. Plummer	Town	1.60	RA	CR24	No	In Perpetuity	
038 0038 0003	Frances Hill Road	C.B. and J.M. Plummer	Town	1.60	RA	CR24	No	In Perpetuity	
038 0038 0004	Frances Hill Road	C.B. and J.M. Plummer	Town	2.10	RA	CR24	No	In Perpetuity	
038 0038 0005	Frances Hill Road	C.B. and J.M. Plummer	Town	0.50	RA	CR24	No	In Perpetuity	
038 0038 0006	Frances Hill Road	C.B. and J.M. Plummer	Town	2.00	RA	CR24	No	In Perpetuity	
038 0040 0000	Chamberlain Rd and Hunt Rd	W. H. and M. C. Harman	WCT	7.00	RA	CR53	No	In Perpetuity	
040 0063 0001	Keys Rd	Town of Westford	Town	2.78	RA	CR25	Yes	In Perpetuity	
041 0002 0011	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	0.50	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
041 0055 0001	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	3.89	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
041 0055 0019	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	15.51	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
041 0059 0065	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	0.23	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
041 0059 0070	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	1.43	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
041 0059 0084	Lakeside Terrace	Route 40 Development Co.	Town and WCT	1.65	RA	CR38	No	In Perpetuity	
044 0011 0002	Hopkins Place, Chatfield Circle	Tenney Hills Trust	Town and WCT	4.20	RA	CR34	No	In Perpetuity	
044 0011 0003	Hopkins Place, Chatfield Circle	Tenney Hills Trust	Town and WCT	1.57	RA	CR34	No	In Perpetuity	
044 0011 0004	Hopkins Place, Chatfield Circle	Tenney Hills Trust	Town and WCT	0.62	RA	CR34	No	In Perpetuity	
044 0011 0007	Hopkins Place, Chatfield Circle	Tenney Hills Trust	Town and WCT	7.51	RA	CR34	No	In Perpetuity	
045 0083 0001	Briarwood Cir	Benchmark Estates Realty Trust	Town and WCT	2.30	RA	CR37	No	In Perpetuity	
045 0083 0019	Briarwood Cir	Benchmark Estates Realty Trust	Town and WCT	4.00	RA	CR37	No	In Perpetuity	















**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Land Under Chapter 61, 61A and 61B Tax Status - 1,921.89 Acres**

Based on 2008 Assessor's Database

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
005 0003 0000	Powers Rd	Pam F Inc	39.00	RA	61B	No	None	
005 0004 0000	Littleton Rd	Pam F Inc	30.00	RA	61B	No	None	
005 0005 0000	Littleton Rd	Fletcher Alan	23.74	RA	Ski resort	Low	None	
005 0006 0000	Robbins Rd	Fletcher Alan W	28.27	RA	ski resort	Low	None	
005 0007 0000	Powers Rd	Pam F Inc	50.00	IA	61A	No	None	
005 0008 0000	Powers Rd	Pam F Inc	5.00	RA	61A	No	None	
005 0009 0000	Powers Rd	Pam F Inc	6.89	RA	61A	No	None	
005 0071 0000	Powers Rd	Eleanor C Oconnor Family Trust	28.00	RA	61A	No	None	
006 0036 0000	Texas Rd	Scanlan Gerard F.	2.66	RA	61A	No	None	
006 0037 0000	Texas Rd	Scanlan Gerard F.	35.80	RA	61A	No	None	
006 0038 0000	Texas Rd	Scanlan Gerard F.	14.20	RA	61A	No	None	
009 0001 0000	Beaver Brook Rd	Littleton Sportsmans Club Inc	5.00	RA	private club	Low	None	
010 0001 0000	Littleton Rd	Kimball Farm Trust	128.07	CH	61A	No	None	
010 0013 0000	Littleton Rd	Kimball Farm Trust	55.16	IC	61A	No	None	
012 0008 0000	Littleton Rd	Emmett Richard S	1.12	RA	61B hike	No	None	
012 0011 0000	Littleton Rd	Emmett Richard S	16.43	RA	61B	No	None	
012 0019 0003	Concord Rd	Emmett Richard S & Alan S	57.30	RA	61B	No	None	
012 0023 0000	Concord Rd	Kern Family Nominee Trust	6.53	RA	61A	No	None	
012 0024 0001	Concord Rd	Kern Family Nominee Trust	4.00	RA	61A	No	None	
012 0024 0002	Concord Rd	Kern Family Nominee Trust	5.59	RA	61A	No	None	
012 0025 0003	Concord Rd	Gormley Lawrence Alexandre	4.75	RA	61A hay	No	None	
012 0025 0004	Concord Rd	Gormley Lawrence Alexandre	2.76	RA	61A hay	No	None	
012 0025 0005	Concord Rd	Gildroy Betsy	0.92	RA	61A	No	None	
012 0026 0000	Old Lowell Rd	Gildroy Elizabeth L	2.24	RA	61A	No	None	
012 0027 0001	Old Lowell Rd	Golden Island Trust	1.29	RA	61A hay	No	None	
012 0027 0002	Old Lowell Rd	Golden Island Trust	1.29	RA	61A hay	No	None	
012 0042 0001	Carlisle Rd	Emmett Richard S	16.21	RA	61B hike	No	None	
012 0043 0000	Carlisle Rd	Emmett Richard S	14.56	RA	61B hike	No	None	
012 0111 0000	Carlisle Rd	Gildroy Elizabeth L	0.96	RA	61A pasture	No	None	
012 0112 0000	Old Lowell Rd	Old Lowell Realty Trust	0.98	RA	61A pasture	No	None	
012 0113 0000	Old Lowell Rd	Golden Island Tr The	0.99	RA	61A pasture	No	None	
012 0116 0000	Concord Rd	Macdonald Bernard	8.49	RA	61A hay	No	None	
012 0117 0000	Concord Rd	Macdonald Bernard	4.86	RA	61A hay	No	None	
012 0118 0000	Concord Rd	Macdonald Bernard	7.02	RA	61A hay	No	None	
012 0151 0000	Concord Rd	Emmett Richard S	5.51	RA	61A hay	No	None	
013 0017 0000	Griffin Rd	Gamester Richard G li	13.50	RA	61A	No	None	
013 0036 0001	Greenwood Rd	Greenwood Donald E	61.49	RA	61A	No	None	
018 0065 0000	Old Lowell Rd	Velantzas James	13.92	RA	61A	No	None	
018 0070 0000	Old Lowell Rd	Velantzas James	20.77	RA	61A	No	None	
018 0071 0000	Greenwood Rd	Greenwood Donald E. & Esther	3.52	RA	61A	No	None	
018 0072 0000	Greenwood Rd	Greenwood (Le) Donald E & Esther F	6.27	RA	61A	No	None	
018 0073 0000	Greenwood Rd	Greenwood (Le) Donald E & Esther F	4.68	RA	61A	No	None	
018 0074 0000	Greenwood Rd	Greenwood (Le) Donald E & Esther F	3.21	RA	61A	No	None	
018 0075 0000	Greenwood Rd	Greenwood (Le) Donald E & Esther F	6.28	RA	61A	No	None	
018 0077 0000	Old Lowell Rd	Velantzas James	22.67	RA	61A pasture	No	None	
018 0120 0000	Vose Rd	Velantzas James	14.07	RA	61A pasture	No	None	
018 0121 0000	Vose Rd	Helen M Garrigan Trust	25.00	RA	61A	No	None	





**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009  
Conservation Zones - 249.09 Acres**

Information Provided by Westford Conservation Coordinator

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
002 0001 0000	Vine Brook Road	Vine Brook Estates	79.6	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 2	
005 0069 0000*	Vine Brook Road	Vine Brook Estates	23.4	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 2	
016 0023 0000*	Monodnock Drive	Hildreth Hills	100	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 4	
020 0074 0003*	Patten Road		0.5	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 6	
020 0074 0004*	Hartford Road		0.5	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 6	
020 0074 0005*	Hartford Road		1.9	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 6	
020 0074 0006*	Hartford Road		0.5	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 6	
025 0215 0000	Evergreen Circle	Pine Ridge Estates	4.2	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 1	
025 0219 0000*	Evergreen Circle	Pine Ridge Estates	0.69	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 1	
035 0006 0000*	Pilgrim Drive	Pilgrim Village	20	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 3	
044 0028 0006	Tenney Road		15.3	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 7	
070 0126 0002*	Lucille Avenue		2.5	RA	Conservation	No	CZ 5	
		<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>249.09</b>					

\* Includes only a portion of parcel

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Other Municipal Land - 335.95 Acres**

Based on 2008 Assessor's Database

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Municipal Manager	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
038 0021 0000*	Brookside Rd.	Brookside Mill Tax Title Parcel-2		RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
006 0006 0000	Vine Brook Rd	Vine Brook Road Tax Title Parcel	8.34		TAX POSSESSION			
006 0031 0000	Texas Rd	Texas Rd Tax Title Parcel	6.96	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
007 0055 0000	Acton Rd	Acton Road Tax Title Parcel 2	0.93		TAX POSSESSION			
011 0061 0000	Banbury Dr	Banbury Drive Tax Title Parcel	1.48		TAX POSSESSION			
012 0099 0001	Carlisle Rd	Old Pioneer Burial Ground (CH 114, 5.8)	0.06		SELECTMEN	Yes	Yes	
013 0035 0000	Acton Rd	Verna Williams Land	0.48	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	No	
013 0047 0000	Acton Rd	Acton Rd Tax Title Parcel	9.40	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
013 0071 0000	Acton Rd	Freeman Trail Access	1.48	RA	UNCLEAR	Yes	No	
013 0082 0000	Mark Vincent Dr	Tax Title	0.92	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
018 0103 0000	Lasallette Rd	Lasallette Rd Land	3.90	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
018 0110 0000	Lasallette Rd	Lasallette Rd Land	1.05	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
018 0111 0000	Lasallette Rd	Lasallette Rd Land	1.23	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
018 0112 0000	Lasallette Rd	Lasallette Rd Land	2.09	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
021 0003 0026	Rome Dr	Rome Drive Tax Title Parcel 1	0.69		TAX POSSESSION			
021 0014 0000	Flagg Rd	Flagg Rd Tax Title Parcel	1.38	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
021 0026 0000	12 Forge Village Rd	12 Forge Village Rd	1.33	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
021 0094 0000	Blakes Hill Rd	Michael Joseph "Joe" & Yvonne Rose Sullivan Land	1.45	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
021 0103 0000	Hildreth St	Hildreth St Tax Title	2.95	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
022 0003 0003	Boston Rd	Drew Ramp Parcel	17.42	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	No	
022 0003 0004	Boston Rd	Drew Orchard	4.31	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	Yes	
022 0003 0011	Rome Dr	Rome Drive Tax Title Parcel 2	0.42		TAX POSSESSION			
022 0054 0000	Providence Rd	Providence Rd Tax Title Parcel	1.05	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
022 0082 0000	Crown Rd	Crown Rd Tax Title Parcel	3.23	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
022 0117 0001	Boston Rd	Drew Boston Rd Land	2.43	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
022 0117 0002	Boston Rd	Drew Boston Rd Land	2.48	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
022 0117 0016	Boston Rd	Drew Boston Rd Land Access ROW	0.62	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
023 0046 0000	Littleton Rd	Tadmuck Swamp South	24.00	CH	SELECTMEN		No	
025 0011 0000	Forge Village Rd	Red Line South Parcel	6.10	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
025 0015 0000	Cold Spring Rd	Old Landfill	17.02	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
025 0202 0000	Cold Spring Rd	Cold Spring Rd Tax Title	2.56		UNCLEAR		No	
025 0202 0001*	Cold Spring Rd	Cold Spring Rd Municipal Land West	0.45		SELECTMEN		No	
025 0202 0001*	Cold Spring Rd	Cold Spring Rd Municipal Land East	0.84		SELECTMEN		No	
027 0229 0000	Tadmuck Rd	Tadmuck Swamp North	53.60	IA	SELECTMEN		No	
028 0005 0000	Chippewa Rd	Tadmuck Swamp North (2)	4.74		SELECTMEN		No	
030 0014 0000	Groton Rd	Graniteville Granite Tax Title Parcel	7.00		TAX POSSESSION		No	
030 0015 0000	Groton Rd	Groton Rd Tax Title	0.41	RA	UNCLEAR		No	
031 0051 0000	Depot St	Brookside Mill	0.24	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
033 0039 0004	Chamberlin Rd	Chamberlin Road Tax Title Parcel	0.12		TAX POSSESSION			

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Other Municipal Land - 335.95 Acres**

Based on 2008 Assessor's Database

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Municipal Manager	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
035 0002 0006	Gould Rd	Picking Selectmen Land West	6.09	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
035 0004 0002	7 Gould Rd	Picking Selectmen Land East	4.73	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
035 0110 0000	Farmer Way	Veterans Memorial Complex Land-2	7.79	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	No	
035 0113 0000	Farmer Way	Veterans Memorial Complex Land-1	4.41	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	No	
037 0003 0006	Gifford Dr	Gifford Drive Tax Title Parcel	0.42		TAX POSSESSION			
038 0019 0000	Brookside Rd	Brookside Mill - Tax Title Parcel 6	0.05	RB	TAX POSSESSION	No	No	
038 0020 0000	Brookside Rd	Brookside Mill - Tax Title Parcel 7	5.42		TAX POSSESSION			
038 0020 0001	Brookside Rd	Brookside Mill - Tax Title Parcel 2	0.26		TAX POSSESSION			
038 0021 0001	Brookside Rd	Brookside Mill-Tax Title Parcel 3	3.36	RA	TAX POSSESSION	No	No	
040 0060 0000	Keyes Rd	Tax Title	0.10	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
041 0002 0010	Muriel Dr	Lakeside Meadows, Parcel Z	0.39	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
041 0112 0001	Groton Rd and Dumstable	Chongros Tax Title Land	1.42	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
043 0022 0000	Jonas Rd	Keyes Cemetery	0.05	RB	SELECTMEN	Yes	Yes	
044 0047 0000	Tenney Rd	Tenney Road Tax Title Parcel	1.35	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
045 0002 0000	50 Tyngsboro Rd	MacDonald Tyngsboro Rd Tax Title Parcel	2.25	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
045 0040 0000	Sawmill Rd	MacDonald Sawmill Rd Tax Title	11.36	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
045 0083 0020	Briarwood Dr	Briarwood Drive Tax Title Parcel	0.02		TAX POSSESSION			
045 0099 0000	Tyngsboro Rd	Edwards Parcel	40.00	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
046 0011 0227	1 Russells Way	Greystone Groton Rd Land (Lot A)	0.92	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
046 0011 0244	Russells Way	Greystone Playing Fields (Lot 9)	3.28	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	No	
047 0029 0000	Tyngsboro Rd	Tyngsboro Road Tax Title Land	2.87	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
048 0011 0230	Curran Dr	Greystone Lot D Municipal Land	0.46	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
048 0011 0231	Russells Way	Greystone Lot E Municipal Land	0.96	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
048 0011 0235	Russells Way	Greystone Lot J Municipal Land	4.24	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
050 0017 0000	Lakeview St	Lakeview St Tax Title 1	0.12	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
050 0018 0000	Lakeview St	Lakeview St Tax Title 2	0.10	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
050 0019 0000	Lakeview St	Lakeview St Tax Title 3	0.11	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
050 0020 0000	Lakeview St	Lakeview St Tax Title 4	0.10	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
050 0021 0000	Lakeview St	Lakeview St Tax Title 5	0.07	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
051 0001 0000	Concord Rd	Tax Title	0.19	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
053 0012 0000	West Precott St	Forge Pond Town Beach	5.67	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	No	
053 0013 0000	West Precott St	Odell W Prescott St Land Donation	0.09	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
053 0069 0000	Crescent St	Crescent St Tax title - west	0.15	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
054 0010 0000	Crescent St	Crescent St Tax title - east	0.10		TAX POSSESSION			
054 0012 0000	MacQuarrie Lane	MacQuarrie Lane Tax Title Parcel	0.51		TAX POSSESSION			
054 0030 0002	Patten Rd	Patten Road Tax Title Parcel	0.20		TAX POSSESSION			
055 0041 0001	Boston Rd	Civil War Soldiers Monument	0.09	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	No	
056 0054 0000	Village View Rd	Village View Parcel A-2	8.15	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
057 0028 0000	E Prescott St	Forge Village Fire Station	0.10	RB	SELECTMEN		No	

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Other Municipal Land - 335.95 Acres**  
 Based on 2008 Assessor's Database

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Municipal Manager	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
059 0001 0000	Main St	Town Common	1.13	RA	SELECTMEN	Yes	No	
059 0002 0000	Boston Rd	Original Academy Site	0.16	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
059 0019 0002	Main St	Auxiliary Municipal Land	2.52	RA	SELECTMEN		No	
059 0047 0000	51-53 Main St	Fire Station / Police Station	0.84	RA	SELECTMEN	yes	No	
061 0041 0000		Mill Pond/Sargent Playground	8.00	RB	SELECTMEN	yes	No	
066 0018 0000	Stony Brook Rd	Stony Brook Road Tax Title Land	7.17	RA	TAX POSSESSION		No	
069 0028 0000	Willow Rd	Willow Road Tax Title Parcel	0.12	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
069 0115 0000	Pine Rd	Pine Rd Tax Title	0.12	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
069 0179 0000	19 Poplar Rd	Poplar Rd Tax Title	0.11	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
073 0013 0000	59 Endmoor Rd	59 Endmoor Rd Tax Title	0.10	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
073 0044 0000	Lake Shore Dr South	Lake Shore Dr S Tax Title	0.47		TAX POSSESSION		No	
073 0118 0002	Maple Rd	Maple Road Tax Title Land	0.20		TAX POSSESSION			
074 0153 0000	1 Knoll Rd	Knoll Rd Tax Title	0.10	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
074 0187 0000	Wilson Ln	Wilson Lane Tax Title Parcel	0.23	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
074 0205 0000	Hadley Rd	Hadley Road Tax Title Land	0.12	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
074 0214 0000	6 Trails End Rd	Trails End Rd Tax Title	0.12	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
074 0246 0000	Lake Shore Dr South	Schlusemeyer Lake Shore Dr S Land	0.95	RB	SELECTMEN		No	
078 0060 0000	Emerson Rd	Emerson Rd Tax Title Parcel	0.11	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
078 0075 0000	20 Pine Tree Trail	Byrne Ave Tax Title	0.10	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	
078 0076 0000	Byrne Ave	Byrne Ave Gibbons Land Donation	0.13	RB	SELECTMEN		No	
078 0134 0000	17 Lake Shore Dr North	Lake Shore Dr N Tax Title	0.11	RB	TAX POSSESSION		No	

**TOTAL ACRES**

**335.95**

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Municipal Cemeteries**

Based on 2008 Assessor's Database

<b>Parcel Number</b>	<b>Street Location</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Zoning</b>	<b>Municipal Manager</b>	<b>Public Access</b>	<b>Level of Protection</b>	<b>Grant</b>
020 0028 0000	Concord Rd	Westlawn Cemetery	1.86	RA	Cemetery Department	Yes	High	
020 0043 0001	Patten Rd	Pine Grove Cemetery	11.58	RA	Cemetery Department	Yes	High	
027 0170 0000	Main St	Fairview Cemetery	10.59	RA	Cemetery Department	Yes	High	
035 0004 0004	Groton Rd	Wright Cemetery	4.49	RA	Cemetery Department	Yes	High	
035 0005 0000	Groton Rd	Wright Cemetery	0.42	RA	Cemetery Department	Yes	High	
036 0035 0000	Nutting Rd	Hillside Cemetery	0.94	RA	Cemetery Department	Yes	High	

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2009**  
**Town Forest Land - 267.04 Acres**

Based on 2008 Assessor's Database

Parcel Number	Street Location	Site Name	Acres	Zoning	Use	Public Access	Level of Protection	Grant
018 0066 0000	Gage Road	Martina Gage Town Forest	74.88	RA	Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
023 0079 0000	South Chelmsford Road	South Chelmsford Road - I	20.32		Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
023 0078 0000	South Chelmsford Road	South Chelmsford Road - II	9.15		Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
025 0012 0000	Cold Spring Road	Spalding Town Forest - I	5.03	RA	Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
025 0013 0000	Cold Spring Road	Spalding Town Forest - II	7.53	RA	Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
027 0229 0001	Tadmuck Road	Tadmuck Swamp Gage Land	47.87		Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
034 0026 0000	Groton Road	Sargent's Town Forest Gift	25	RA	Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
044 0002 0000	Tyngsboro Road	Gage Parcel West	22.7	RA	Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
047 0001 0000	Tyngsboro Road	Gage Parcel East	22.9	ID	Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
047 0043 0000	Tyngsboro Road	Twin Peaks	23.29	RA	Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
076 0054 0001	Groton Road	Groton Rd/Gage Land	8.37	RA	Forest	Yes	In Perpetuity	
		<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>267.04</b>					

**Westford Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2008**  
**Lands of Conservation Interest**

Parcel Number	Street Location	Owner's Name	Acres	Zoning	Use	Access	Protection	Conservation Value		
040 0005 0000	Connell	Keyes Road	28	RA	No	Chapter 61	size, wildlife area			
029 0083 0000	Hopkins & DeGagne	Cowdry Hill Road	13	RA	No	Chapter 61	quarry area			
029 0071 0000	Karkota	Cowdry Hill Road	10	RA	No	Chapter 61	quarry area			
040 0006 0000	Wing Road	Timberlake	54	RA	No	Chapter 61	wetlands, probably endangered species, size			
041 0051 0000	Tynsboro Road	Tzikopolis	145	RA	No	Chapter 61	size, abuts Wymann, House & Barn, Town land, Long Sought for Pond			
040 0004 0000	Wing Road	Zwicker	62	RA	No	Chapter 61	size, wetlands, endangered species (American Bittern)			
040 0017 0000	Dunstable Road	Connell	28	RA	No	Chapter 61	size			
042 0009 0000	Oakhill Road	Nabasset Lake Country Club	30	RB	No	Chapter 61	abuts Nab Lake			
032 0084 0000	Lowell Road	Adams	109	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Stony Brook, abuts Town Land, agricultural, wooded trails			
032 0023 0000	Lowell Road	Adams	28	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Stony Brook			
026 0092 0000	Main Street	Agnew	26	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts conservation land & town land, trails, stream, habitat, vernal pools, rare species			
033 0035 0000	Chamberlain Road	Aldrich	15	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts CR land, abuts town land, trails			
022 0051 0000	Providence Road	Doherty	12	RA	No	Chapter 61	size, abuts Bohne APR			
021 0090 0000	Hildreth Street	Fletcher	13	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Town land, abuts Water dept. land, Prospect Hill			
032 0086 0000	Lowell Rd. & Stony Brook	Cal Realty	46	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Town land, abuts Tadmuck Brook, agricultural, wooded trails			
032 0027 0000	Lowell Rd. & Stony Brook	Laughton's	18	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Town land, abuts Tadmuck Brook, agricultural, wooded trails			
027 0158 0000	Main Street	Matley	31	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Tadmuck Brook, abuts Town land, abuts Laughton's			
031 0032 0000	Coldspring Road	Sweetman	40	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Stony Brook			
021 0095 0000	Wright Lane	Collins	14	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Town Land			
021 0105 0000	Wright Lane	Collins	41	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Town land			
012 0019 0003	Concord Road	Emmet	125	RA	No	Chapter 61	will go to Audubon - fields and woodlands			
012 0011 0000	Concord Road	Emmet	16	RA	No	Chapter 61				
012 0042 0001	Concord Road	Emmet	16	RA	No	Chapter 61				
005 0003 0000	Powers Road	Fletcher	120	RA	No	Chapter 61	hilltop, ski area, pond, wooded trails			
005 0004 0000	Littleton Road	Pam F. Inc.	30	RA	No	Chapter 61				
005 0006 0000	Robins Road	Fletcher	28	RA	No	Chapter 61				
005 0005 0000	Littleton Road	Fletcher	24	RA	No	Chapter 61				
013 0017 0000	Griffin Road	Gamester	14	RA	No	Chapter 61	wooded trails			
018 0121 0000	Vose Road	Garrigan	34	RA	No	Chapter 61	wetland, wooded, endangered species (A. Bittern)			
018 0073 0000	Greenwood Road	Greenwood	65	RA	No	Chapter 61	agricultural			
013 0036 0001	Greenwood Road	Greenwood	61	RA	No	Chapter 61				
018 0072 0000	Greenwood Road	Greenwood	6	RA	No	Chapter 61				
010 0013 0000	Littleton Road	Kimball	55	IC	No	Chapter 61	agricultural, wetlands habitat			
005 0071 0000	Powers Road	O'Connor	28	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts conservation land, abuts Nashoba Brook			
006 0036 0000	Texas Road	Scanlon	3	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Audubon and town land, agricultural			
006 0038 0000	Texas Road	Scanlon	14	RA	No	Chapter 61				
018 0120 0000	Vose Road	Velantzas	14	RA	No	Chapter 61	size			
018 0065 0000	Old Lowell Road	Velantzas	14	RA	No	Chapter 61	agricultural, size			
018 0122 0000	Old Lowell Road	Velantzas	23	RA	No	Chapter 61				
018 0077 0000	Old Lowell Road	Velantzas	23	RA	No	Chapter 61				
018 0070 0000	Old Lowell Road	Velantzas	21	RA	No	Chapter 61				
012 0025 0004	Concord Road	Kimball, T.	3	RA	No	Chapter 61	agricultural, abuts endangered species (B-S, Salamander, abuts Emmet			
012 0023 0000	Concord Road	Kern	7	RA	No	Chapter 61	abuts Emmet			
012 0024 0001	Concord Road	Kern	4	RA	No	Chapter 61				
012 0024 0002	Concord Road	Kern	6	RA	No	Chapter 61				

**North of Route 40**

005 0003 0000	Groton Road	M.I.T.	550	RA	No		size, abuts Meadowbrook Farm, abuts Groton open space, trails
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**Parcels Identified as Lands of Conservation Interest in 2002 Plan  
Purchased by Town**

<b>Parcel Number</b>	<b>Street Location</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Zoning</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Access</b>	<b>Protection</b>			
030 0030 0000	North Street	44	RA	Highway Garage	yes	no			
031 035 0000	River St	115	RA	water, recreation, conservation	yes	in perpetuity			
036 0008 0000	55 Depot Road, Nutting Road	287	RA	recreation, conservation	yes	CR55	DWSP, CPA		
038 0020 0000	Stony Brook Road	5.42	RA	tax possession	no	no			
066 0102 0000	Stony Brook Road	7							
067 0049 0000	Stony Brook Road	11	RA	Conservation Land	yes	in perpetuity			
067 0050 0000	Brookside road	21	IB	conservation Land	yes	in perpetuity			

# Appendix B

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SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS

TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES  
 FACILITY INVENTORY  
 FACILITY AMERICAN LEGION BALL FIELDS

LOCATION RIVER STREET

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

BEACHES

NO PARKING  
 NO PUBLIC TELEPHONES  
 NO RESTROOMS

BUILDING

YES CONCESSION BUILDING  
 NO RESTROOMS  
 NO PUBLIC TELEPHONES  
 YES STORAGE

COURTS

YES BASKETBALL  
 NO SAND VOLLEYBALL  
 YES TENNIS  
 YES SPECTATOR AREAS  
 ADJACENT TO ASPHALT PARKING  
 ADJACENT TO ASPHALT PARKING  
 ONE BALL FIELD - BLEACHERS - NOT ACCESSIBLE

PARKS

YES PLAYING FIELDS  
 NO PUBLIC TELEPHONES  
 YES RESTROOMS  
 ADJACENT TO ASPHALT & HARD PACKED PARKING  
 LOCATED IN EQUIPMENT BUILDING

PICNIC AREAS

YES TABLES  
 YES SHADE  
 ADJACENT TO PLAY STRUCTURES  
 NATURAL FROM SURROUNDING TREES

PLAYGROUNDS

YES ACCESSIBLE ROUTE  
 YES MODULAR STRUCTURES  
 YES STAND ALONE STRUCTURES  
 YES SURFACING  
 YES SWINGS  
 OFF PARKING LOT  
 WOOD FIBER

**SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY INVENTORY**

**FACILITY** American Legion Ball fields

**LOCATION** River St

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
PICNIC FACILITIES	<u>TABLES &amp; BENCHES</u>	No Yes No No NA Yes NA
	<u>GRILLS</u>	Located adjacent to accessible path
	<u>TRASH CANS</u>	Access to open spaces
	<u>PICNIC SHELTERS</u>	Back and Arm rests Adequate number
TRAILS		Located adjacent to accessible path
		Surface material
		Dimensions
		Rails
		Signage (for visually impaired)
SWIMMING FACILITIES	<u>POOLS</u>	NA
	<u>BEACHES</u>	NA
		NA
PLAY AREAS	<u>ALL PLAY EQUIPMENT</u> i.e. swings, slides	Same experience provided to all
	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	Located adjacent to accessible path
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
GAME AREAS	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	Located adjacent to accessible path
	*ballfield	Berm cuts onto courts
	basketball	Height
	tennis	Dimensions
		Spectator Seating - limited
BOAT DOCKS		NA
FISHING FACILITIES		NA
PROGRAMMING	<u>Are special programs at your facility accessible?</u>	Learn to swim Guided Hikes Interpretive Programs
SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired - no	
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings - NA	



**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** American Legion Ball fields  
**LOCATION** River St

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

X		
X		
X		hard-packed

X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
NA		

NA		

**Specification**

**SITE ACCESS**

Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance  
 Disembarking area at accessible entrance  
 Surface evenly paved or hard-packed

**PATH OF TRAVEL**

Path does not require the use of stairs  
 Path is stable, firm, and is slip resistant  
 3 ft wide minimum  
 Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)  
 Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch  
 Any objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground or higher than 80"  
 curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs

**ENTRANCES**

Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently and not be the service entrance  
 Level space extending 5 ft from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors  
 Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)  
 At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door  
 Door handle non higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist  
 Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space  
 Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible  
 Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened  
 Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed  
 Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum  
 Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance  
 Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted

**NOTES**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** American Legion Ball fields  
**LOCATION** River St

**STAIRS AND DOORS**

Specification

**Stairs**

- No open risers
- Nosings not projecting
- Treads no less than 11" wide
- Handrails on both sides
- Handrails 34"-38" above tread
- Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)
- Handgrip oval or round
- Handgrip smooth surface
- Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"
- Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and handrail

YES    NO    Comments/Transition Notes

NA		

**DOORS**

- Minimum 32 " clear opening
- At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door
- Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch
- Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors
- Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides
- Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)
- Hardware minimum 36" , maximum 48" above the floor
- Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door
- Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked
- Door opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened

NA		

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** American Legion Ball fields  
**LOCATION** River St

**RESTROOMS - also see Doors and Vestibules**

Specification

5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor

**At least one Sink:**

Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach

Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" top of rim

Extends at least 22" from the wall

Open knee space a minimum of 19" deep, 30" width and 27" high

cover exposed pipes with insulation

Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)

**At least one Stall:**

Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep

Stall door is 36" wide

Stall door swings out

Stall door is self closing

Stall door has a pull latch

Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor

Coat hook is 54" high

**TOILET**

18" from center to nearest side wall

42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture

Top of seat 17"-18" above the floor

**GRAB BARS**

On back and side wall closest to toilet

1 1/4" diameter

1 1/2" clearance to wall

Located 30" above and parallel to the floor

Acid-etched or roughend surface

42" long

**FIXTURES**

Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor

One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted 42")

Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor

NOTES

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
X		

X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
	X	

X		
X		
X		
	X	
	X	
	X	
NA		

X		
X		
X		

	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	

X		
X		
X		

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** American Legion Ball fields

**LOCATION** River St

**FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES**

**Specification**

**Floors**

Non slip surface  
 Carpeting is high density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored  
 Corridor width minimum is 3 ft  
 Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor

**Drinking Fountains**

Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet  
 Hand operated push button or level controls  
 Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible  
 If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain  
 If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30"X48" to allow parrallel approach

**Telephones**

Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor  
 Access within 12" of phone, 30' high by 30" wide  
 Adjustable volume control on headset so identified

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

NA		

NA		NONE
NA		

NA		NONE
NA		
NA		

**Specification**

**Switches, Controls and Signs**

Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach  
 Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor  
 Warning signals must be visual as well as audible

**Signs**

Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign  
 Within 18" of door jamb or recessed  
 Letters and numbers at least 1 1/4" high  
 Letters and numbers raised .03"  
 Letters and numbers contrast with the background color

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

NA		
NA		
NA		

NA		NONE
NA		

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** American Legion Ball fields

**LOCATION** River St

**SWIMMING POOLS** accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area  
**SHOWER ROOMS** - showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use

NONE
NONE

**PICNICKING**

Specification

A minimum of 5% or the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access

For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep  
 Top of table no higher than 32" above ground  
 Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions

Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
NA		

SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS

TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES

**FACILITY INVENTORY**

**FACILITY** Captain Steven Hamilton Field

**LOCATION** Plain Road

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

BEACHES

NO	PARKING
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	RESTROOMS

BUILDING

NO	CONCESSION BUILDING
NO	RESTROOMS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	STORAGE

COURTS

YES	BASKETBALL
NO	SAND VOLLEYBALL
YES	TENNIS
NO	SPECTATOR AREAS

ADJACENT TO ASPHALT PARKING

ADJACENT TO ASPHALT PARKING

PARKS

YES	PLAYING FIELDS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
YES	RESTROOMS

ADJACENT TO SIDEWALK AND ASPHALT PARKING

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE PORTABLE TOILETS

PICNIC AREAS

NO	TABLES
NO	SHADE

PLAYGROUNDS

YES	ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
YES	MODULAR STRUCTURES
YES	STAND ALONE STRUCTURES
YES	SURFACING
YES	SWINGS

OFF PARKING LOT

WOOD FIBER

**SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

FACILITY INVENTORY

FACILITY Captain Steven Hamilton Field

LOCATION Plain Road

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
PICNIC FACILITIES	<u>TABLES &amp; BENCHES</u>	NA
		NA
TRAILS	<u>GRILLS</u> <u>TRASH CANS</u> <u>PICNIC SHELTERS</u>	Yes
		NA
		NA
SWIMMING FACILITIES	<u>POOLS</u> <u>BEACHES</u>	NA
		NA
PLAY AREAS	<u>ALL PLAY EQUIPMENT</u> i.e. swings, slides <u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	Yes
		Yes
		Yes
GAME AREAS *ballfield basketball tennis	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u> <u>EQUIPMENT</u>	Yes
		NA
		regulation
		regulation
BOAT DOCKS FISHING FACILITIES		NA
		NA
		NA
PROGRAMMING	<u>Are special programs at your facility accessible?</u>	Learn to swim Guided Hikes Interpretive Programs
SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired - no Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings - NA	



**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Captain Steven Hamilton Field  
**LOCATION** Plain Road

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

X		
X		
X		asphalt surface

X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
NA		

NA		

**Specification**

**SITE ACCESS**

Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance  
 Disembarking area at accessible entrance  
 Surface evenly paved or hard-packed

**PATH OF TRAVEL**

Path does not require the use of stairs  
 Path is stable, firm, and is slip resistant  
 3 ft wide minimum  
 Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)  
 Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch  
 Any objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground or higher than 80"  
 curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs

**ENTRANCES**

Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently and not be the service entrance  
 Level space extending 5 ft from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors  
 Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)  
 At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door  
 Door handle non higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist  
 Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space  
 Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible  
 Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened  
 Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed  
 Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum  
 Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance  
 Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted

**NOTES**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Captain Steven Hamilton Field  
**LOCATION** Plain Road

**STAIRS AND DOORS**

Specification

**Stairs**

- No open risers
- Nosings not projecting
- Treads no less than 11" wide
- Handrails on both sides
- Handrails 34"-38" above tread
- Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)
- Handgrip oval or round
- Handgrip smooth surface
- Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"
- Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and handrail

YES    NO    Comments/Transition Notes

NA		

**DOORS**

- Minimum 32 " clear opening
- At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door
- Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch
- Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors
- Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides
- Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)
- Hardware minimum 36" , maximum 48" above the floor
- Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door
- Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked
- Door opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened

NA		

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Captain Steven Hamilton Field  
**LOCATION** Plain Road

**RESTROOMS - also see Doors and Vestibules**

**Specification**

5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor

***At least one Sink:***

Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach

Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" top of rim

Extends at least 22" from the wall

Open knee space a minimum of 19" deep, 30" width and 27" high cover exposed pipes with insulation

Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)

***At least one Stall:***

Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep

Stall door is 36" wide

Stall door swings out

Stall door is self closing

Stall door has a pull latch

Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor

Coat hook is 54" high

***TOILET***

18" from center to nearest side wall

42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture

Top of seat 17"-18" above the floor

***GRAB BARS***

On back and side wall closest to toilet

1 1/4" diameter

1 1/2" clearance to wall

Located 30" above and parallel to the floor

Acid-etched or roughend surface

42" long

***FIXTURES***

Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor

One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted 42")

Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor

NOTES

**Handicapped accessible portable toilets**

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

NA		
----	--	--

NA		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Captain Steven Hamilton Field

**LOCATION** Plain Road

**FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES**

**Specification**

**Floors**

Non slip surface  
 Carpeting is high density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored  
 Corridor width minimum is 3 ft  
 Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor

**Drinking Fountains**

Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet  
 Hand operated push button or level controls  
 Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible  
 If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain  
 If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30"X48" to allow parrallel approach

**Telephones**

Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor  
 Access within 12" of phone, 30' high by 30" wide  
 Adjustable volume control on headset so identified

NA		

NA		NONE
NA		

NA		NONE
NA		
NA		

**Specification**

**Switches, Controls and Signs**

Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach  
 Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor  
 Warning signals must be visual as well as audible

**Signs**

Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign  
 Within 18" of door jamb or recessed  
 Letters and numbers at least 1 1/4" high  
 Letters and numbers raised .03"  
 Letters and numbers contrast with the background color

NA		
NA		
NA		

NA		NONE
NA		

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Captain Steven Hamilton Field  
**LOCATION** Plain Road

**SWIMMING POOLS** accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area  
**SHOWER ROOMS** - showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use

NONE
NONE

**PICNICKING**

Specification

A minimum of 5% or the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access

For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep  
 Top of table no higher than 32" above ground  
 Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions

Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
NA		

SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS

TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES  
 FACILITY INVENTORY

**FACILITY** Edwards Beach

**LOCATION** Off Edward's Ave. (Nabnasset)

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

BEACHES

YES	PARKING
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
YES	RESTROOMS

HARD-PACKED

BUILDING

YES	CONCESSION BUILDING
YES	RESTROOMS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	STORAGE

COURTS

NO	BASKETBALL
YES	SAND VOLLEYBALL
NO	TENNIS
NO	SPECTATOR AREAS

PARKS

NO	PLAYING FIELDS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	RESTROOMS

PICNIC AREAS

YES	TABLES
YES	SHADE

NATURAL SHADE FROM SURROUNDING TREES

PLAYGROUNDS

NO	ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
NO	MODULAR STRUCTURES
NO	STAND ALONE STRUCTURES
NO	SURFACING
NO	SWINGS

**SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY INVENTORY**

**FACILITY**

Edwards Beach

**LOCATION**

Off Edward's Ave. (Nabnasset)

**ACTIVITY**

**NOTES**

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>NOTES</b>	
PICNIC FACILITIES	<u>TABLES &amp; BENCHES</u>	No	Located adjacent to accessible path
		Yes	Access to open spaces
		None	Back and Arm rests
		Yes	Adequate number
		NA	
		Yes	Located adjacent to accessible path
TRAILS	<u>GRILLS</u> <u>TRASH CANS</u> <u>PICNIC SHELTERS</u>	NA	Surface material
		NA	Dimensions
		NA	Rails
		NA	Signage (for visually impaired)
		NA	
		Planned	Located adjacent to accessible path
SWIMMING FACILITIES	<u>POOLS</u> <u>BEACHES</u>	Planned	Located adjacent to accessible path
		no	Handrails
		Yes	Location from accessible parking
		natural	Shade provided
		Planned	Same experience provided to all
		Planned	Located adjacent to accessible path
PLAY AREAS	<u>ALL PLAY EQUIPMENT</u> i.e. swings, slides <u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	Planned	Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
		Planned	
		Planned	
GAME AREAS	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>  <u>EQUIPMENT</u>	NA	Located adjacent to accessible path
		NA	Berm cuts onto courts
		NA	Height
		NA	Dimensions
		NA	Speciator Seating
		NA	
BOAT DOCKS		NA	
		NA	
FISHING FACILITIES		Yes	Learn to swim
		NA	Guided Hikes
		NA	Interpretive Programs
PROGRAMMING	<u>Are special programs at your facility accessible?</u>	Yes	Learn to swim
		NA	Guided Hikes
SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired - no  Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings - NA	Yes	Learn to swim
		NA	Guided Hikes
		NA	Interpretive Programs



**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Edwards Beach  
**LOCATION** Edward's Ave.

**YES**                      **NO**                      **Comments/Transition Notes**

X		
X		
X		hard-packed

X		
X		
X		
X		no slope
X		
X		
X		
NA		

X		
X		No door
NA		

**Specification**

**SITE ACCESS**

Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance  
 Disembarking area at accessible entrance  
 Surface evenly paved or hard-packed

**PATH OF TRAVEL**

Path does not require the use of stairs  
 Path is stable, firm, and is slip resistant  
 3 ft wide minimum  
 Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)  
 Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch  
 Any objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground or higher than 80"  
 curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs

**ENTRANCES**

Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently and not be the service entrance  
 Level space extending 5 ft from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors  
 Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)  
 At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door  
 Door handle non higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist  
 Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space  
 Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible  
 Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened  
 Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed  
 Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum  
 Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance  
 Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted

**NOTES**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Edwards Beach  
**LOCATION** Edward's Ave.

**STAIRS AND DOORS**

Specification

**Stairs**

- No open risers
- Nosings not projecting
- Treads no less than 11" wide
- Handrails on both sides
- Handrails 34"-38" above tread
- Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)
- Handgrip oval or round
- Handgrip smooth surface
- Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"
- Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and handrail

YES    NO    Comments/Transition Notes

NA		

**DOORS**

- Minimum 32 " clear opening
- At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door
- Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch
- Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors
- Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides
- Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)
- Hardware minimum 36" , maximum 48" above the floor
- Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door
- Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked
- Door opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened

NA		
NA		NA
NA		NA

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Edwards Beach  
**LOCATION** Edward's Ave.

**RESTROOMS - also see Doors and Vestibules**

Specification

5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor

**At least one Sink:**

Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach

Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" top of rim

Extends at least 22" from the wall

Open knee space a minimum of 19" deep, 30" width and 27" high cover exposed pipes with insulation

Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)

**At least one Stall:**

Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep

Stall door is 36" wide

Stall door swings out

Stall door is self closing

Stall door has a pull latch

Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor

Coat hook is 54" high

**TOILET**

18" from center to nearest side wall

42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture

Top of seat 17"-18" above the floor

**GRAB BARS**

On back and side wall closest to toilet

1 1/4" diameter

1 1/2" clearance to wall

Located 30" above and parallel to the floor

Acid-etched or roughend surface

42" long

**FIXTURES**

Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor

One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted 42")

Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
X		

X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
X		

NA		Single restrooms no stalls
NA		

X		
X		
X		

X		
X		
X		
X		
X		
X		

X		
X		
X		

NOTES single use restrooms - handicap accessible

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Edwards Beach

**LOCATION** Edward's Ave.

**FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES**

Specification

**Floors**

Non slip surface  
 Carpeting is high density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored  
 Corridor width minimum is 3 ft  
 Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor

**Drinking Fountains**

Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet  
 Hand operated push button or level controls  
 Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible  
 If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain  
 If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30"X48" to allow parrallel approach

**Telephones**

Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor  
 Access within 12" of phone, 30' high by 30" wide  
 Adjustable volume control on headset so identified

YES                      NO                      Comments/Transition Notes

	X	cement floor
NA		
NA		
X		

NA		NONE
NA		

NA		NONE
NA		
NA		

Specification

**Switches, Controls and Signs**

Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach  
 Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor  
 Warning signals must be visual as well as audible

**Signs**

Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign  
 Within 18" of door jamb or recessed  
 Letters and numbers at least 1 1/4" high  
 Letters and numbers raised .03"  
 Letters and numbers contrast with the background color

YES                      NO                      Comments/Transition Notes

X		
X		
NA		

NA		NONE
NA		

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Edwards Beach

**LOCATION** Edward's Ave.

**SWIMMING POOLS** accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area  
**SHOWER ROOMS** - showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use

NONE
NONE

**PICNICKING**

Specification

A minimum of 5% or the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access

For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep  
 Top of table no higher than 32" above ground  
 Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions

Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
X		
X		
X		
X		
X		

**SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY INVENTORY**

**FACILITY** Forge Pond Beach

**LOCATION** Beach Access Road @West/East Prescott & Pleasant Streets

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

BEACHES

YES	PARKING
NONE	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
YES	RESTROOMS

ASHPHALT

BUILDING

YES	CONCESSION BUILDING
YES	RESTROOMS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	STORAGE

TWO SEPARATE SINGLE UNITS ACCESSIBLE

COURTS

NO	BASKETBALL
YES	SAND VOLLEYBALL
NO	TENNIS
NO	SPECTATOR AREAS

NOT ACCESSIBLE PATH - SAND

PARKS

NO	PLAYING FIELDS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	RESTROOMS

PICNIC AREAS

YES	TABLES
TREES	SHADE

LOCATED IN NATURAL WOODED AREA  
NATURAL SHADE FROM TREES

PLAYGROUNDS

NO	ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
YES	MODULAR STRUCTURES
NO	STAND ALONE STRUCTURES
YES	SURFACING
YES	SWINGS

WOOD FIBER  
ACCESSIBLE FROM ACCESS ROAD OFF PARKING LOT

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS**

FACILITY INVENTORY

Forge Pond Beach

LOCATION

Beach Access Road @West/East Prescott & Pleasant Streets

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES	
PICNIC FACILITIES	<u>TABLES &amp; BENCHES</u>	No	Located adjacent to accessible path
		Yes	Access to open spaces
		No	Back and Arm rests
		Yes	Adequate number
TRAILS	<u>GRILLS</u> <u>TRASH CANS</u> <u>PICNIC SHELTERS</u>	NA	Located adjacent to accessible path
		Yes	Surface material
		NA	Dimensions
		NA	Signage (for visually impaired)
SWIMMING FACILITIES	<u>POOLS</u> <u>BEACHES</u>	NA	Surface material
		No	Dimensions
		No	Handrails
		Yes	Location from accessible parking
PLAY AREAS	<u>ALL PLAY EQUIPMENT</u> i.e. swings, slides <u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	Natural	Shade provided
		Yes	Same experience provided to all
		No	Located adjacent to accessible path
		No	Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
GAME AREAS *ballfield basketball tennis	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u> <u>EQUIPMENT</u>	NA	Located adjacent to accessible path
		NA	Berm cuts onto courts
		NA	Height
		NA	Dimensions
BOAT DOCKS FISHING FACILITIES		NA	Specator Seating
		NA	
		NA	
		NA	
PROGRAMMING	<u>Are special programs at your facility accessible?</u>	Yes	Learn to swim
		NA	Guided Hikes
		NA	Interpretive Programs
SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired No Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings NA		



**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Forge Pond Beach  
**LOCATION** Beach Access Road @West/East Prescott & Pleasant Streets

YES NO Comments/Transition Notes

	X	
	X	
X		Asphalt

**Specification**  
**SITE ACCESS**  
 Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance  
 Disembarking area at accessible entrance  
 Surface evenly paved or hard-packed

**PATH OF TRAVEL**

Path does not require the use of stairs  
 Path is stable, firm, and is slip resistant  
 3 ft wide minimum  
 Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)  
 Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch  
 Any objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground or higher than 80" curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs

**ENTRANCES**

Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently and not be the service entrance  
 Level space extending 5 ft from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors  
 Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)  
 At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door  
 Door handle non higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist  
 Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space  
 Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible  
 Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened  
 Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed  
 Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum  
 Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance  
 Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted

NA		Asphalt parking to natural wooded area adjacent to beach
NA		

NA		

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Forge Pond Beach  
**LOCATION** Beach Access Road @West/East Prescott & Pleasant Streets

**STAIRS AND DOORS**

Specification

**Stairs**

- No open risers
- Nosings not projecting
- Treads no less than 11" wide
- Handrails on both sides
- Handrails 34"-38" above tread
- Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)
- Handgrip oval or round
- Handgrip smooth surface
- Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"
- Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and handrail

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

NA		

**DOORS**

- Minimum 32 " clear opening
- At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door
- Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch
- Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors
- Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides
- Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)
- Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor
- Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door
- Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked
- Door opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened

NA		

NOTES



**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Forge Pond Beach  
**LOCATION** Beach Access Road @ West/East Prescott & Pleasant Streets

**FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES**

Specification

**Floors**

Non slip surface  
 Carpeting is high density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored  
 Corridor width minimum is 3 ft  
 Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor

**Drinking Fountains**

Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet  
 Hand operated push button or level controls  
 Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible  
 If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain  
 If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30"X48" to allow parallel approach

**Telephones**

Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor  
 Access within 12" of phone, 30' high by 30" wide  
 Adjustable volume control on headset so identified

YES                      NO                      Comments/Transition Notes

	X	cement floor
NA		
NA		
X		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

Specification

**Switches, Controls and Signs**

Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach  
 Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor  
 Warning signals must be visual as well as audible

**Signs**

Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign  
 Within 18" of door jamb or recessed  
 Letters and numbers at least 1 1/4" high  
 Letters and numbers raised .03"  
 Letters and numbers contrast with the background color

YES                      NO                      Comments/Transition Notes

X		
X		
	X	

NA		

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Forge Pond Beach

**LOCATION** Beach Access Road @West/East Prescott & Pleasant Streets

**SWIMMING POOLS** accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area  
**SHOWER ROOMS** - showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use

NONE
NONE

**PICNICKING**  
Specification

A minimum of 5% or the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access

For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep  
 Top of table no higher than 32" above ground  
 Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions

Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
	X	
X		
X		
	X	Natural wooded area
	X	

SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS

TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES  
FACILITY INVENTORY

**FACILITY** GREYSTONE FIELD      **LOCATION** OFF RUSSELL'S WAY

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

BEACHES

NO	PARKING
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	RESTROOMS

BUILDING

NO	CONCESSION BUILDING
NO	RESTROOMS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	STORAGE

COURTS

YES	BASKETBALL
NO	SAND VOLLEYBALL
YES	TENNIS
NO	SPECTATOR AREAS

PARKS

YES	PLAYING FIELDS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	RESTROOMS

PICNIC AREAS

NO	TABLES
NO	SHADE

PLAYGROUNDS

NO	ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
NO	MODULAR STRUCTURES
NO	STAND ALONE STRUCTURES
NO	SURFACING
NO	SWINGS

**SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY INVENTORY**

FACILITY GREYSTONE FIELD

LOCATION OFF RUSSELL'S WAY

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
PICNIC FACILITIES	<u>TABLES &amp; BENCHES</u>	NA Located adjacent to accessible path
		NA Access to open spaces
		NA Back and Arm rests
		NA Adequate number
		NA Located adjacent to accessible path
TRAILS	<u>GRILLS</u>	YES Surface material - NATURAL
	<u>TRASH CANS</u>	NA Dimensions
	<u>PICNIC SHELTERS</u>	NA Rails
		NA Signage (for visually impaired)
SWIMMING FACILITIES	<u>POOLS</u>	NA Located adjacent to accessible path
	<u>BEACHES</u>	NA Handrails
		NA Location from accessible parking
		NA Shade provided
		NA Same experience provided to all
PLAY AREAS	<u>ALL PLAY EQUIPMENT</u> i.e. swings, slides	NA Located adjacent to accessible path
	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	NA Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
		NA Located adjacent to accessible path - courts not field
GAME AREAS	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	YES Berm cuts onto courts
	*ballfield	NA Height
	basketball	regulation regulation
	tennis	NA Dimensions Specator Seating
		NA NA
BOAT DOCKS		NA NA
FISHING FACILITIES		NA Learn to swim
PROGRAMMING	<u>Are special programs at your facility accessible?</u>	NA Guided Hikes
		NA Interpretive Programs
		NA Interpretive Programs
SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	No
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	NA



**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** GREYSTONE FIELD  
**LOCATION** OFF RUSSELL'S WAY

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

	X	courts accessible; playing field access via stairs
	X	
	X	

	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	

	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	
	X	

**Specification**

**SITE ACCESS**

Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance  
 Disembarking area at accessible entrance  
 Surface evenly paved or hard-packed

**PATH OF TRAVEL**

Path does not require the use of stairs  
 Path is stable, firm, and is slip resistant  
 3 ft wide minimum  
 Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)  
 Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch  
 Any objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground or higher than 80"  
 curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs

**ENTRANCES**

Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently and not be the service entrance  
 Level space extending 5 ft from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors  
 Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)  
 At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door  
 Door handle non higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist  
 Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space  
 Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible  
 Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened  
 Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed  
 Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum  
 Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance  
 Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted

**NOTES**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** GREYSTONE FIELD  
**LOCATION** OFF RUSSELL'S WAY

**STAIRS AND DOORS**

Specification

**Stairs**

- No open risers
- Nosings not projecting
- Treads no less than 11" wide
- Handrails on both sides
- Handrails 34"-38" above tread
- Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)
- Handgrip oval or round
- Handgrip smooth surface
- Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"
- Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and handrail

YES      NO      Comments/Transition Notes

**Stairs to access field**

X		
X		
X		
	X	
X		
	X	
X		
X		
X		

**DOORS**

- Minimum 32 " clear opening
- At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door
- Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch
- Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors
- Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides
- Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)
- Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor
- Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door
- Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked
- Door opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened

NA		

**NOTES**



**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** GREYSTONE FIELD  
**LOCATION** OFF RUSSELL'S WAY

APPENDIX B

**FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES**

Specification

**Floors**

Non slip surface  
 Carpeting is high density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored  
 Corridor width minimum is 3 ft  
 Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor

**Drinking Fountains**

Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet  
 Hand operated push button or level controls  
 Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible  
 If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain  
 If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30"X48" to allow parrallel approach

**Telephones**

Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor  
 Access within 12" of phone, 30' high by 30" wide  
 Adjustable volume control on headset so identified

Specification

**Switches, Controls and Signs**

Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach  
 Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor  
 Warning signals must be visual as well as audible

**Signs**

Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign  
 Within 18" of door jamb or recessed  
 Letters and numbers at least 1 1/4" high  
 Letters and numbers raised .03"  
 Letters and numbers contrast with the background color

NOTES

WESTFORD SECTION 504 EVALUATIONS

YES NO Comments/Transition Notes

NA		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

YES NO Comments/Transition Notes

NA		
NA		
NA		

NA		

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** GREYSTONE FIELD  
**LOCATION** OFF RUSSELL'S WAY

**SWIMMING POOLS** accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area  
**SHOWER ROOMS** - showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use

NONE
NONE

**PICNICKING**

Specification

A minimum of 5% or the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access

For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep  
 Top of table no higher than 32" above ground  
 Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions

Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
NA		

SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS

TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES  
 FACILITY INVENTORY  
 FACILITY JACK WALSH

LOCATION CARLISLE ROAD

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

BEACHES

NO	PARKING
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	RESTROOMS

BUILDING

YES	CONCESSION BUILDING
NO	RESTROOMS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	STORAGE

COURTS

YES	BASKETBALL	ADJACENT TO ASPHALT PARKING
NO	SAND VOLLEYBALL	
YES	TENNIS	ADJACENT TO ASPHALT PARKING
NO	SPECTATOR AREAS	

PARKS

YES	PLAYING FIELDS	ADJACENT TO SIDEWALK AND ASPHALT PARKING
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES	
YES	RESTROOMS	HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE PORTABLE TOILETS

PICNIC AREAS

NO	TABLES
NO	SHADE

PLAYGROUNDS

YES	ACCESSIBLE ROUTE	OFF PARKING LOT
YES	MODULAR STRUCTURES	
YES	STAND ALONE STRUCTURES	
YES	SURFACING	WOOD FIBER
YES	SWINGS	

SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS

TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES

FACILITY INVENTORY

FACILITY

Jack Walsh

LOCATION

Carlisle Road

ACTIVITY EQUIPMENT

NOTES

PICNIC FACILITIES	<u>TABLES &amp; BENCHES</u>	No	Located adjacent to accessible path
		Yes	Access to open spaces
		None	Back and Arm rests
		NA	Adequate number
	<u>GRILLS</u>	NA	
	<u>TRASH CANS</u>	Yes	Located adjacent to accessible path
TRAILS	<u>PICNIC SHELTERS</u>	NA	
		NA	Surface material
		NA	Dimensions
		NA	Rails
		NA	Signage (for visually impaired)
	SWIMMING FACILITIES	<u>POOLS</u>	NA
<u>BEACHES</u>		NA	Located adjacent to accessible path
		NA	Handrails
		NA	Location from accessible parking
		NA	Shade provided
PLAY AREAS		<u>ALL PLAY EQUIPMENT</u> i.e. swings, slides	Yes
	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	Yes	Located adjacent to accessible path
		Yes	Enough space between equipment for wheelchair
GAME AREAS	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	No	Located adjacent to accessible path
	*ballfield	NA	Berm cuts onto courts
	basketball	regulation	Height
	tennis	regulation	Dimensions
		NA	Speciator Seating
BOAT DOCKS		NA	
		NA	
FISHING FACILITIES			
	<u>Are special programs at your facility accessible?</u>	NA	Learn to swim
		NA	Guided Hikes
PROGRAMMING		NA	Interpretive Programs
SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired - no		
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings - NA		



**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Jack Walsh  
**LOCATION** Carlisle Road

**YES** **NO** **Comments/Transition Notes**

X		
X		
X		hard-packed

X		
X		
X		
X		no slope
X		
X		
X		
NA		

X		
X		No door
NA		

Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance  
 Disembarking area at accessible entrance  
 Surface evenly paved or hard-packed

**PATH OF TRAVEL**

Path does not require the use of stairs  
 Path is stable, firm, and is slip resistant  
 3 ft wide minimum  
 Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)  
 Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch  
 Any objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground or higher than 80"  
 curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs

**ENTRANCES**

Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently and not be the service entrance  
 Level space extending 5 ft from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors  
 Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)  
 At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door  
 Door handle non higher than 48" and operable with a closed fist  
 Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space  
 Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible  
 Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened  
 Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed  
 Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum  
 Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance  
 Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted

**NOTES**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Jack Walsh  
**LOCATION** Carlisle Road

**STAIRS AND DOORS**

Specification

**Stairs**

- No open risers
- Nosings not projecting
- Treads no less than 11" wide
- Handrails on both sides
- Handrails 34"-38" above tread
- Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)
- Handgrip oval or round
- Handgrip smooth surface
- Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"
- Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and handrail

YES    NO    Comments/Transition Notes

NA		

**DOORS**

- Minimum 32 " clear opening
- At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door
- Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch
- Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors
- Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides
- Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)
- Hardware minimum 36" , maximum 48" above the floor
- Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door
- Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked
- Door opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened

NA		
NA		NA
NA		NA

**NOTES**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Jack Walsh  
**LOCATION** Carlisle Road

**RESTROOMS - also see Doors and Vestibules**

Specification

5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor

**At least one Sink:**

Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach

Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" top of rim

Extends at least 22" from the wall

Open knee space a minimum of 19" deep, 30" width and 27" high

cover exposed pipes with insulation

Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)

**At least one Stall:**

Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep

Stall door is 36" wide

Stall door swings out

Stall door is self closing

Stall door has a pull latch

Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor

Coat hook is 54" high

**TOILET**

18" from center to nearest side wall

42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture

Top of seat 17"-18" above the floor

**GRAB BARS**

On back and side wall closest to toilet

1 1/4" diameter

1 1/2" clearance to wall

Located 30" above and parallel to the floor

Acid-etched or roughend surface

42" long

**FIXTURES**

Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor

One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted 42")

Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor

NOTES

**Handicapped accessible portable toilets**

YES NO Comments/Transition Notes

NA		
----	--	--

NA		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Jack Walsh - Concession

**LOCATION** Carlisle Road

**FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES**

**Specification**

**Floors**

Non slip surface

Carpeting is high density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored

Corridor width minimum is 3 ft

Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor

**Drinking Fountains**

Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet

Hand operated push button or level controls

Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible

If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain

If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30"X48" to allow parallel approach

**Telephones**

Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor

Access within 12" of phone, 30' high by 30" wide

Adjustable volume control on headset so identified

**YES**                      **NO**                      **Comments/Transition Notes**

	X	cement floor
NA		
NA		
X		

NA		NONE
NA		

NA		NONE
NA		
NA		

**Specification**

**Switches, Controls and Signs**

Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach

Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor

Warning signals must be visual as well as audible

**Signs**

Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign

Within 18" of door jamb or recessed

Letters and numbers at least 1 1/4" high

Letters and numbers raised .03"

Letters and numbers contrast with the background color

**YES**                      **NO**                      **Comments/Transition Notes**

X		
X		
NA		

NA		NONE
NA		

NOTES

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** Jack Walsh

**LOCATION** Carlisle Road

**SWIMMING POOLS** accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area  
**SHOWER ROOMS** - showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use

NONE
NONE

**PICNICKING**

**Specification**

A minimum of 5% or the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access

For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide and 24" deep  
 Top of table no higher than 32" above ground  
 Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions

Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
NA		

SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS

TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES  
FACILITY INVENTORY

**FACILITY** VFW - FORGE **LOCATION** WEST PRESCOTT STREET

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

BEACHES

NO	PARKING
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
NO	RESTROOMS

BUILDING

NO	CONCESSION BUILDING
NO	RESTROOMS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
YES	STORAGE

COURTS

YES	BASKETBALL
NO	SAND VOLLEYBALL
NO	TENNIS
NO	SPECTATOR AREAS

PARKS

YES	PLAYING FIELDS
NO	PUBLIC TELEPHONES
YES	RESTROOMS

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE PORTABLE TOILETS

PICNIC AREAS

NO	TABLES
NO	SHADE

PLAYGROUNDS

YES	ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
NO	MODULAR STRUCTURES
NO	STAND ALONE STRUCTURES
YES	SURFACING
YES	SWINGS

WOOD FIBER

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE FORMS**

**FACILITY INVENTORY**

FACILITY VFW - FORGE

LOCATION WEST PRESCOTT STREET

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES
PICNIC FACILITIES	<u>TABLES &amp; BENCHES</u>	NA NA NA NA NA
	<u>GRILLS</u>	NA
	<u>TRASH CANS</u>	YES
	<u>PICNIC SHELTERS</u>	NA
		Located adjacent to accessible path Access to open spaces Back and Arm rests Adequate number Located adjacent to accessible path
TRAILS		NA NA NA NA
SWIMMING FACILITIES	<u>POOLS</u>	NA
	<u>BEACHES</u>	NA
		NA
		NA
		NA
PLAY AREAS	<u>ALL PLAY EQUIPMENT</u> <small>i.e. swings, slides</small>	NA
	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	NA
		NA
GAME AREAS	<u>ACCESS ROUTES</u>	YES
	*ballfield	NA
	basketball	regulation
	tennis	regulation
BOAT DOCKS		NA
		NA
		NA
FISHING FACILITIES		NA
		NA
		NA
PROGRAMMING	<u>Are special programs at your facility accessible?</u>	NA NA NA
		Learn to swim Guided Hikes Interpretive Programs
SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Information available in alternative formats i.e. for visually impaired	No
	Process to request interpretive services (i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings	NA





**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** VFW - FORGE  
**LOCATION** WEST PRESCOTT STREET

**STAIRS AND DOORS**

Specification

**Stairs**

- No open risers
- Nosings not projecting
- Treads no less than 11" wide
- Handrails on both sides
- Handrails 34"-38" above tread
- Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)
- Handgrip oval or round
- Handgrip smooth surface
- Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" and 2"
- Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and handrail

YES NO Comments/Transition Notes

NA		

**DOORS**

- Minimum 32 " clear opening
- At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door
- Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch
- Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors
- Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides
- Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)
- Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor
- Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door
- Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked
- Door opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened

NA		
NA		NA
NA		NA

**NOTES**

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** VFW - FORGE  
**LOCATION** WEST PRESCOTT STREET

**RESTROOMS - also see Doors and Vestibules**

Specification

5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor

**At least one Sink:**

Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach

Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" top of rim

Extends at least 22" from the wall

Open knee space a minimum of 19" deep, 30" width and 27" high

cover exposed pipes with insulation

Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)

**At least one Stall:**

Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep

Stall door is 36" wide

Stall door swings out

Stall door is self closing

Stall door has a pull latch

Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor

Coat hook is 54" high

**TOILET**

18" from center to nearest side wall

42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture

Top of seat 17"-18" above the floor

**GRAB BARS**

On back and side wall closest to toilet

1 1/4" diameter

1 1/2" clearance to wall

Located 30" above and parallel to the floor

Acid-etched or roughend surface

42" long

**FIXTURES**

Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor

One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted 42")

Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor

NOTES

**HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE PORTABLE TOILETS**

YES NO Comments/Transition Notes

NA		
----	--	--

NA		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** VFW - FORGE  
**LOCATION** WEST PRESCOTT STREET

APPENDIX B

**FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES**

Specification

**Floors**

Non slip surface  
 Carpeting is high density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored  
 Corridor width minimum is 3 ft  
 Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor

**Drinking Fountains**

Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet  
 Hand operated push button or level controls  
 Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible  
 If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain  
 If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30"X48" to allow parrallel approach

**Telephones**

Highest operating part a maximum 54" above the floor  
 Access within 12" of phone, 30' high by 30" wide  
 Adjustable volume control on headset so identified

Specification

**Switches, Controls and Signs**

Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc must be a minimum of 36" and a maximum of 48" above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54" for a side reach  
 Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above the floor  
 Warning signals must be visual as well as audible

**Signs**

Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of the sign  
 Within 18" of door jamb or recessed  
 Letters and numbers at least 1 1/4" high  
 Letters and numbers raised .03"  
 Letters and numbers contrast with the background color

NOTES

WESTFORD SECTION 504 EVALUATIONS

YES NO Comments/Transition Notes

NA		
NA		
NA		
NA		

NA		

NA		
NA		
NA		

YES NO Comments/Transition Notes

NA		
NA		
NA		

NA		

**TOWN OF WESTFORD RECREATION FACILITIES**

**FACILITY** VFW - FORGE  
**LOCATION** WEST PRESCOTT STREET

**SWIMMING POOLS** accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area  
**SHOWER ROOMS** - showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use

NONE
NONE

**PICNICKING**

Specification

A minimum of 5% or the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space and not less than 27" clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond the 19" clear space under the table to provide access

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Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around the perimeter

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>Comments/Transition Notes</u>
NA		

## FLORA INVENTORY

### A.1. Tree Inventory

Alder, Speckled	<i>Alnus rugosa</i>	Hickory, Shagbark	<i>Carya ovata</i>
American Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	Horsechestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>
American Chestnut	<i>Castanea dentata</i>	Juniper, Common	<i>Juniperus communis</i>
American Hornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Larch	<i>Larix laricina</i>
Apple, Domestic	<i>Pyrus floribunda</i>	Locust, Black	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
Ash, White	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	Magnolia, Swamp	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>
Aspen, Big Toothed	<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	Maple, Red	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Aspen, Quaking	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Maple, Norway	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
Beech, American	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	Maple, Silver	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>
Birch, Black	<i>Betula lenta</i>	Maple, Sugar	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
Birch, Grey	<i>Betula populifolia</i>	Mulberry, White	<i>Morus alba</i>
Birch, Paper	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Northern Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>
Birch, Yellow	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	Oak, Black	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
Butternut	<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Oak, Dwarf Chestnut	<i>Quercus prinoides</i>
Cherry, Black	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Oak, Red	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Cherry, Choke	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Oak, White	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Cherry, Pin	<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	Pine, Pitch	<i>Pinus rigida</i>
Chokeberry, Purple	<i>Pyrus floribunda</i>	Pine, Red	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>
Crabapple, American	<i>Pyrus coronaria</i>	Pine, Scrub	<i>Pinus virginiana</i>
Dogwood, Panicked	<i>Cornus racemos</i>	Pine, White	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
Dogwood, Red Osier	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>
Elm, American	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Sycamore, American	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
Elm, Slippery	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	Tupelo	<i>Nyssa aquatica</i>
Hawthorn, Scarlet	<i>Crataegus coccinea</i>	Willow, Weeping	<i>Salix babylonica</i>
Hemlock	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Yew, American	<i>Taxus canadensis</i>
Hickory, Pignut	<i>Carya glabra</i>		

### A.2. Herbaceous Plant Inventory

Angelica, Alexander's	<i>Angelica atropurpurea</i>	Woodland	
Anemone, Rue	<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	Avens, White	<i>Geum canadense</i>
Anemone, Wood	<i>Anemone quinquefolia</i>	Baneberry	<i>Actaea pachypodia</i>
Arrowhead, Grass-leaved	<i>Sagittaria graminea</i>	Bedstraw, Rough	<i>Galium asprellum</i>
Asparagus, Wild	<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	Bedstraw, Marsh	<i>Galium palustra</i>
Aster, Flat Topped	<i>Aster umbellatus</i>	Beggar Ticks	<i>Bidens frondosa</i>
Aster, Late Purple	<i>Aster prenanthoides</i>	Bellwort	<i>Uvularia perfoliata</i>
Aster, Lawrie's	<i>Aster lowrieanus</i>	Bindweed, Field	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Aster, New England	<i>Aster Novae-angliae</i>	Bindweed, Hedge	<i>Convolvulus sepium</i>
Aster, Purple-stemmed	<i>Aster puniceus</i>	Birdfoot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Aster, Rough-leaved	<i>Aster radula</i>	Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia serotina</i>
Aster, Sharp-leaved	<i>Aster acuminatus</i>	Blood-root	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>
Aster, Small White	<i>Aster vimincus</i>	Blue Joint Meadow	<i>Calamagrostis</i>
Aster, Whorled	<i>Aster acuminatus</i>	Grass	<i>canadensis</i>
		Blue-eyed Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium</i>

Bluecurls	<i>Trichostema dichotomum</i>	Clover, Yellow Sweet	<i>Melilotus officianalis</i>
Bluets	<i>Houstonia sp.</i>	Colicroot	<i>Aletris farinosa</i>
Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
Bouncing Bet	<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Common Cattail	<i>Typha latifolia</i>
Bull Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Coneflower, Green-headed	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>
Bugleweed, Northern	<i>Lycopus uniflorus</i>	Coralroot, Autumn	<i>Cotralorhiza odontorhiza</i>
Bunchberry	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	Corn Speedwell	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>
Burdock, Common	<i>Arctium minus</i>	Cow Wheat	<i>Melampyrum lineare</i>
Bur-marigold, Nodding	<i>Bidens cernua</i>	Cucumber, Wild	<i>Echincystis lobata</i>
Butter'n Eggs	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Cucumber Root	<i>Medeola virginiana</i>
Buttercup, Bristly	<i>Ranunculus pensylvanicus</i>	Cuckooflower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>
Buttercup, Bulbous	<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Cup-plant	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>
Buttercup, Creeping	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Dame's Rocket	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>
Buttercup, Tall	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Dayflower, Asiatic	<i>Commeline communis</i>
Buttercup, Water	<i>Ranunculus longirostris</i>	Dandelion, Common	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
Buttercup, White Water	<i>Ranunculus trichophyllus</i>	Deptford Pink	<i>Dianthus armeria</i>
Calla, Wild	<i>Calla palustris</i>	Dewberries	<i>Rubus sp.</i>
Campion, Bladder	<i>Silene cucubalus</i>	Dock, Bitter	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>
Campion, Starry	<i>Silene stellata</i>	Dock, Curled	<i>Rumex crispus</i>
Campion, White	<i>Lychnis alba</i>	Dodder	<i>Cuscuta groenovii</i>
Canadian Mayflower	<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	Dog Bane, Spreading	<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>
Cardinal Flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>
Cattail, Common	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	False Foxglove, Fern-leaved	<i>Aureolaria pedicularia</i>
Catbrier	<i>Simlax rotundifolia</i>	False Hellebore	<i>Veratrum viride</i>
Catnip	<i>Nepeta cataria</i>	Fireweed	<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>
Celandine	<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Fleabane, Common	<i>Erigeron philadelphicus</i>
Chickweed, Common	<i>Stellaria media</i>	Fleabane, Daisy	<i>Erigeron annuus</i>
Chickweed, Mouseear	<i>Cerastium vulgatum</i>	Four O'Clock	<i>Mirabilis jalapa</i>
Chicory	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Fringed Polygala	<i>Polygala pauciflora</i>
Cinquefoil, Common	<i>Potentilla simplex</i>	Frostweed	<i>Helianthemum canadense</i>
Cinquefoil, Dwarf	<i>Potentilla canadensis</i>	Galinsoga	<i>Galinsoga ciliata</i>
Cinquefoil, Rough	<i>Potentilla recta</i>	Gentian, Closed	<i>Gentiana andrenswii</i>
Cinquefoil, Silvery	<i>Potentilla argentea</i>	Gentian, Fringed	<i>Gentianopsis crinita</i>
Clearweed	<i>Pilea pumila</i>	Geranium, Wild	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>
Clematis	<i>Clematis virginian</i>	Gerardia, Purple	<i>Gerardia purpurea</i>
Climbing False Buckwheat	<i>Polygonum scandens</i>	Gerardia, Slender	<i>Agalinis tenuifolia</i>
Clover, Bush	<i>Lespedeza violacea</i>	Gill-over-the-ground	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
Clover, Hop	<i>Trifolium agrarium</i>	Gold Thread	<i>Coptis trifolia</i>
Clover, Rabbit's Foot	<i>Trifolium arvense</i>	Golden Alexander	<i>Zizia aurea</i>
Clover, Red	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Goldenrod, Canada	<i>Solidago canadensis</i>
Clover, White	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Goldenrod, Downy	<i>Solidago puberula</i>
		Goldenrod, Early	<i>Solidago juncea</i>

Goldenrod, Lance-leaved	<i>Solidago graminifolia</i>	Lily, Water, Sweet-scented	<i>Nymphaea odorate</i>
Goldenrod, Late	<i>Solidago gigantea</i>	Lily, Wood	<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>
Goldenrod, Ohio	<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>	Lily, Yellow Pond	<i>Nuphar Variegatum</i>
Goldenrod, Rough-stemmed	<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Loostrife, Purple	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Goldthread	<i>Coptis trifolia</i>	Loostrife, Swamp	<i>Decodon verticillatus</i>
Goosefoot (sp.)		Loostrife, Whorled	<i>Lysimachia quadrifolia</i>
Green Amaranth	<i>Amaranthus hybridus</i>	Lupine, Wild	<i>Lupinus perennis</i>
Ground Cherry, Smooth	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	Marsh Marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>
Hawkweed, Canada	<i>Hieracium canadense</i>	Mayapple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>
Hawkweed, Orange	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>	Mayweed	<i>Anthemis cotula</i>
Heal-all	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Meadowbeauty, Virginia	<i>Rhexia virginica</i>
Hedge Hyssop	<i>Stachys hyssopifolia</i>	Meadow-rue	<i>Thalictrum pubescens</i>
Helleborine	<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Meadow-rue, Tall	<i>Thalictrum polygamum</i>
Hepatica, round lobed	<i>Hepatica americana</i>	Meadowsweet	<i>Spiraea latifolia</i>
Honewort	<i>Cryptotaenia canadensis</i>	Milkweed, Common	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>
Horseweed	<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	Milkweed, Four-leaved	<i>Asclepias quadrifolia</i>
Hypericum, Orange Grass	<i>Hypericum gentianoides</i>	Milkweed, Small	
Hyssop	<i>Hyssopus officinalis</i>	Monkey-flower, Square-stemmed	<i>Mimulus ringens</i>
Indian Cucumberroot	<i>Medeola virginiana</i>	Morning Glory, Ivy-leaved	<i>Ipomoea hederacea</i>
Indian Pipe	<i>Monotropa uniflora</i>	Motherwort	<i>Leonurus cardiaca</i>
Indian Tobacco	<i>Lobelia inflata</i>	Mugwort, Common	<i>Ambrosia vulgaris</i>
Indigo, Wild Yellow	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	Mullein, Common	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>
Iris, Blue Flag		Mustard, Field	<i>Brassica juncea</i>
Iris, Bull		Mustard, Garlic	<i>Alliaria officinalis</i>
Ironweed (sp.)		Mustard, Hedge	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>
Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	Mustard, Tower	<i>Arabis glabra</i>
Jewelweed, Spotted	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	Mustard, Treacle	<i>Erysimum cheiranthoides</i>
Joe-pye-weed	<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>	Nettle, Slender	<i>Urtica gracilis</i>
King Devil		Nightshade	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>
Knapweed, Spotted	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	Nightshade, Enchanter's	<i>Circaea quadrisulcata</i>
Knotweed, Japanese		Nodding Lady's Tresses	<i>Piranthes cernua</i>
Lady's-Slipper, White	<i>Cypripedium acaule</i>	Northern Willowherb	<i>Epilobium glandulosum</i>
Lady's-Slipper, Yellow	<i>Cypripedium calceolus var pubescens</i>	One-flowered Canceroot	<i>Orbanche uniflora</i>
Lady's Thumb	<i>Polygonum persicaria</i>	Orange Grass	<i>Hypericum</i>
Lady's-Slipper, Pink	<i>Cypripedium acaule</i>	Orchid, Purple Fringed	<i>Habenaria fimbriata</i>
Lamb Succory	<i>Arnoseris minima</i>	Ox eye Daisy	<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>
Lamb's-quarters	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Panicled Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium paniculatum</i>
Lesser Snapdragon	<i>Antirrhinum orontium</i>	Panicled Tick-trefoil	<i>Desmodium paniculatum</i>
Lettuce, Tall White	<i>Prenanthes altissima</i>		
Lettuce, Tall Blue	<i>Lactosa biennis</i>		
Lilly, Bead or Corn	<i>Clintonia borealis</i>		
Lily, Canadian	<i>Lilium canadense</i>		

Parsnip, Meadow	<i>Thaspium barbinode</i>	Sessile-leaved Bellwort	<i>Uvularia sessilifolia</i>
Partridgeberry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Shepard's Purse	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>
Pearly Everlasting	<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Silverrod	<i>Solidago bicolor</i>
Pennycress, Field	<i>Thlaspi arvense</i>	Skullcap, Veined	<i>Scutellaria nervosa</i>
Pennyroyal, American	<i>Hedeoma pulegioides</i>	Skunk Cabbage	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>
Peppergrass		Solomon's Seal, Hairy	<i>Polygonatum pubescens</i>
Pickernelweed	<i>Pontedaria cordata</i>	Solomon's Seal, False	<i>Similacina racemosa</i>
Pigweed (sp.)		Sorrel, Sheep	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>
Pink, Deptford	<i>Dianthus armeria</i>	Sorrel, Wood (sp.)	
Pink, Fire	<i>Silene virginica</i>	Spanish Needles	<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>
Pink, Maiden	<i>Dianthus deltoides</i>	Speedwell, Bird's Eye	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Pinweed		Speedwell, Thyme leaved	<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>
Pondweed, Ribbon- leaved	<i>Potamogeton epihydrus</i>	Spiderwort	
Pilewort	<i>Erechtites hieracifolia</i>	Spikenard, American	<i>Aralia racemosa</i>
Pinesap	<i>Monotropa hypopithys</i>	Spring Cress	<i>Cardamine bulbosa</i>
Pipewort	<i>Eriocaulon septangulare</i>	Spurge (sp.)	
Pipsissewa	<i>Chimaphila umbellata</i>	St. Johnswort, Common	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Pipsissewa, Spotted	<i>Chimaphila maculata</i>	St. Johnswort, Marsh	<i>Hypericum virginicum</i>
Pitcher Plant	<i>Sarracenia purpurea</i>	Star Flower	<i>Trientalis borealis</i>
Pitchforks		Star Grass, Yellow	<i>Hypoxis hirsuta</i>
Plantain, Common	<i>Plantago major</i>	Star-of-Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>
Plantain, English	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Steeplebush	<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>
Plantain, Robin's	<i>Erigeron pulchellus</i>	Stitchwort, Lesser	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>
Pokeweed	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Strawberry, Common	<i>Fragaria virginia</i>
Polygala, Fringed	<i>Polygala paucifolia</i>	Sundrops	<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i>
Purslane		Swamp Candles	<i>Lysimachia terrestris</i>
Pussytoes, Field	<i>Antennaria neglacta</i>	Sweet Fern	
Pussytoes, Plantain leaved	<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>	Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>
Pyrola, Greenish- flowered	<i>Pyrola virens</i>	Thimbleweed	<i>Anemone virginiana</i>
Pyrola, Round-leaved	<i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i>	Thistle, Common Sow	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>
Pyrola, Shinleaf	<i>Pyrola elliptica</i>	Tickweed-sunflower	<i>Bidens laevis</i>
Queen Anne's Lace	<i>Saucus carota</i>	Toadflax, Bastard	<i>Comandra umbellata</i>
Ragged Robin	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Toadflax, Blue	<i>Linaria canadensis</i>
Ragweed, Common	<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	Toothcup	<i>Rotala ramosior</i>
Ragwort, Tansy	<i>Senecia jacobaea</i>	Trillium, Nodding	<i>Trillium cernuum</i>
Ragwort, Golden	<i>Senecio aureus</i>	True Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>
Rattlesnake-plantain, Downy	<i>Goodyera pubescens</i>	Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>
Rattlesnake Root (sp.)		Twisted Stalk	<i>Streptopus amplexifolius</i>
Rock Sandwort	<i>Arenaria stricta</i>	Velvet Leaf	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>
Rose Mallow, Swamp	<i>Hibiscus palustris</i>	Vervain, Blue	<i>Verbena hastata</i>
Sarsaparilla	<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>	Vervain, White	<i>Verbena urticifolia</i>
Sarsaparilla, Bristly	<i>Baptisia tinctoria</i>	Vetch, Cow	<i>Vicia cracca</i>
Self-heal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Vetch, Hairy	<i>Vicia villosa</i>
		Vetch, Purple	<i>Vicia americana</i>
		Vetch, Spring	<i>Vicia sativa</i>

Violet, Birdsfoot	<i>Viola pedata</i>
Violet, Common Blue	<i>Viola papilionacea</i>
Violet, Dog	<i>Viola conspersa</i>
Violet, Early Blue	<i>Viola palmata</i>
Violet, Northern Blue	<i>Viola septentrionalis</i>
Violet, Sweet White	<i>Viola blanda</i>
Violet, Yellow (sp.)	
Viper's Bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>
Water Arum	<i>Calla palustris</i>
Watercress	<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>
Water Hemlock, Bulb-bearing	<i>Cicuta bulbifera</i>
Water Willow	<i>Justicia americana</i>
Water-hemlock	<i>Cucuta maculata</i>

Water-horehounds	<i>Lycopus sp.</i>
Water Milfoil, European	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
Wild Lettuce	<i>Lactuca canadensis</i>
Wild Rice	<i>Zizania aquatica</i>
Willow Herb, Purple-leaved	<i>Epilobium coloratum</i>
Winter Cress	<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>
Wintergreen	<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>
Wood Sage	<i>Teucrium canadense</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Yarrow, Pink	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>

### A.3. Vine Inventory

Bindweed (sp.)	
Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
Fox Grape	<i>Vitis labrusca</i>
Greenbrier	<i>Smilax rotundifolia</i>
Groundnut	<i>Apios americana</i>
Honeysuckle, Trumpet	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>
Hop, Common	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>
Poison Ivy	<i>Rhus radicans</i>
Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Virgin's Bower	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>
Woodbine	<i>Parthenocissus virginiana</i>

### A.4. Fern Inventory

Bracken Fern	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Marginal Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>
Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Marsh Fern	<i>Thelypteris palustris</i>
Cinnamon Fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	Massachusetts Fern	<i>Thelypteris simulata</i>
Common Polypody	<i>Polypodium virginianum</i>	New York Fern	<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>
Ebony Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>	Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>
Hay-Scented Fern	<i>Dennotaedia punctilobula</i>	Sensitive Fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>
Interrupted Fern	<i>Osmunda claytonia</i>	Spinulose Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris spinulosa</i>
Lady Fern	<i>Athrium felix-femina</i>		
Maidenhair Fern	<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>		

### A.5. Mosses, Lichens, Fungi, etc. Inventory

Rough Horsetail	<i>Equisetum</i>	Haircap Moss
Tawny Cotton Sedge	<i>Eriophorum virginicum</i>	Pin cushion Moss
Bur-Reed		Spaghnum Moss

Ground Cedar	<i>Lycopodium complanatum</i> <i>var flabelliforme</i>	Lichen	
Princess Pine	<i>Lycopodium obscurum</i>	Pale Shield Lichen	
Staghorn Clubmoss	<i>Lycopodium clavatum</i>	Turkey Tail Fungus	<i>Coriulus versicolor</i>
Pyxie Cup or Goblet		Birch Polypore	<i>Piptoporus betulinis</i>
Lichen		Coral Mushroom	
British Soldiers		(sp.)	
or Red Crest		Puffball (sp.)	
		a liverwort	<i>Pellia epiphylla</i>

#### A.6. Grasses, Sedges, etc. Inventory

Bur-reed	<i>Sparganium</i> <i>americanum</i>	Indian Grass	<i>Sorghastrum notans</i>
Reed, Common	<i>Phragmites communis</i>	Orchard Grass	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Bermuda grass	<i>Cynodom dactylon</i>	Timothy Grass	<i>Phleum pratense</i>
Sedge, Broom	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	Panic Grass	<i>Panicum lanuginosum</i>
Blue Joint Meadow	<i>Calamagrostis</i>	Prairie Three-awn	<i>Aristida oligantha</i>
Grass	<i>canadensis</i>	Sheep Fescue	<i>Festuca orina</i>
Bristle Grass		Tall Oats	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>
		Wild Millet	

#### A.7. Shrub Inventory

Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum recognitum</i>	Honeysuckle, Northern	<i>Lonicare villosa</i>
Azalea, swamp	<i>Rhododendron</i> <i>viscosum</i>	Fly	
Azalea, early	<i>Rhododendron roseum</i>	Honeysuckle, Swamp	<i>Lonicare oblongifolia</i>
Barberry, Japanese	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Huckleberry	<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i>
Blackberry, Common	<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	Indigo, False	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
Black Raspberry	<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>	Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>
Blueberry, High Bush	<i>Vaccinium</i> <i>corymbosum</i>	Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>
	<i>and V. atrococcum</i>	Maleberry	<i>Lyonia ligustrina</i>
Blueberry, Low Bush	<i>Vaccinium pallidum</i>	Mountain Laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
	<i>and V. angustifolium</i>	Multi-flora Rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>
Buckthorn, Common	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>
Burning Bush	<i>Eunoymous</i> <i>atropurpureus</i>	Olive, Autumn	
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus</i> <i>occidentalis</i>	Pasture Rose	<i>Rosa carolina</i>
Cranberry	<i>Vaccinium</i> <i>macrocarpon</i>	Pepperbush	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>
Elderberry	<i>Sambucucs canadensis</i>	Pussy Willow	<i>Salix discolor</i>
Hazelnut	<i>Corylus americana</i>	Raspberry, Wild Red	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>
Honeysuckle, Bush	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	Rose, Multiflora	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>
Honeysuckle, Japanese	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Rose, Northern	<i>Rosa nitida</i>
		Rose, Pasture	<i>Rosa virginiana</i>
		Rose, Swamp	<i>Rosa palustris</i>
		Shad Bush	<i>Amerlancier canadensis</i>
		Sheep Laurel	<i>Kalmia angustifolia</i>
		Spicebush, Common	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>

Sumac, Poison	<i>Taxicodendron vernix</i>	Viburnum, Mapleleaf	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>
Sumac, Smooth	<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
Sumac, Staghorn	<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
Swamp Rose	<i>Rosa palustris</i>	Wytherrod	<i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>
Sweetfern	<i>Comptonia peregrina</i>		

### A.8. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

Many species of wildflowers are becoming scarce. Varieties of plants which exist in extremely low numbers in Westford today include:

<i>Cypripedium pubescens</i>	Yellow Lady's Slipper Orchid (possibly exterpated)	<i>Rotala ramosier</i>	Toothcup (E)
<i>Angelica atropurpurea</i>	Alexander's Angelica	<i>Aster radula (W)</i>	Rough Aster (W)
<i>Hypericum</i>	Orange Grass	<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	Closed Gentian (W)
<i>Lilium canadense</i>	Canada Lily	<i>Ranunculus longirostris</i>	Water Buttercup (W)
<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>	Wood Lily	<i>Ranunculus pennsylvanicus</i>	Bristly Buttercup (W)
<i>Hepatica americana</i>	Round-lobed Hepatica	<i>Rudbeckia serotina</i>	Black-eyed Susan (W)
<i>Aralia racemosa</i>	American Spikenard	<i>Aster prenanthoides</i>	Late Purple Aster (W)
<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	Wild Lupine (W)	<i>Lespedeza violacea</i>	Bush Clover(W)
		<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower (W)

(E)=State-listed Endangered Plant

(W)=State-listed Watch Plant

## FAUNA INVENTORY

### B.1. Vertebrate Animals

#### Amphibians:

Spotted Salamander  
Blue-spotted Salamander (SC)  
Dusky Salamander  
Red-backed Salamander  
Red Eft  
Marbled Salamander (SC)  
American Toad  
Spring Peeper  
Bullfrog  
Green Frog  
Pickerel Frog  
Leopard Frog  
Wood Frog  
Grey Treefrog

#### Reptiles:

Snapping Turtle  
Musk Turtle  
Painted Turtle  
Spotted Turtle  
Wood Turtle  
Eastern Box Turtle  
Blandings Turtle (T)  
Garter Snake  
Ribbon Snake  
Northern Ring Neck Snake  
Smoothgreen Snake  
Northern Water Snake  
Milk Snake

#### Mammals:

Opossum  
Porcupine  
Shrews\* (2 species are  
SC)  
Red Fox  
Moles\*  
Gray Fox  
Bats\*  
Raccoon  
Cottontail Rabbits\*  
Weasels\*

Snowshoe Hare  
Mink  
Chipmunk  
Striped Skunk  
Woodchuck  
River Otter  
Gray Squirrel  
Bobcat  
Red Squirrel  
White-tailed Deer  
Flying Squirrels\*  
Beaver

Coyote  
Muskrat  
Black Bear  
White-footed Mouse  
Fisher  
Voles  
Moose  
Jumping mice\*  
Mt. Lion  
Moose  
Ermine

#### Fish:

Brook Trout (wild and  
stocked)  
Rainbow Trout (stocked)  
Brown Trout (stocked)  
Speckled Trout  
Large-mouthed Bass  
Small-mouthed Bass  
Calico Bass  
Pumpkinseed Sunfish

Red-eared Sunfish  
Blue Gill Sunfish  
White Perch (per State Fish  
and Wildlife)  
Yellow Perch  
Chain Pickerel  
Golden Shiner  
Common Shiner  
E. Silvery Minnow (SC)

Sucker  
Brown Bullhead  
Yellow Bullhead  
Fallfish  
Tesellated Darter  
American Eel  
Lesser Yellowlegs (r)

\* Includes two or more species

(SC) Species of special concern

## Birds Inventory

Common Loon (r) (SC)  
Double-crested Cormorant (o)  
American Bittern (o) (E)  
Black-crowned Night Heron (r)  
Great Blue Heron (c) (W)  
Green-backed Heron (u)  
American Egret (r)  
Canada Goose (a)  
Domestic Greylag Goose (o)  
Snow Goose (r)  
Greater White-fronted Goose (r)  
American Black Duck (o)  
Blue-winged Teal (o)  
Bufflehead (r)  
Common Goldeneye (r)  
Common Merganser (c)  
Green-winged Teal (o)  
Hooded Merganser (o)  
Mallard (c)  
Ruddy Duck (r)  
Wood Duck (u)  
Ring-necked Duck (r)  
Eurasian Wigeon (r)  
Mute Swan (u)  
Bald Eagle (o) (FT) (E)  
Turkey Vulture (c)  
American Coot (r)  
Osprey (u)  
Sharp-shinned Hawk (u) (SC)  
Cooper's Hawk (u) (SC)  
Northern Harrier (r) (T)  
Northern Goshawk (u) (W)  
Red-shouldered Hawk(r)formerly(u) (W)  
Broad-winged Hawk (u)  
Red-tailed Hawk (c)  
American Kestrel (u)  
Merlin (r)  
Ring-necked Pheasant (r) formerly (c)  
Ruffed Grouse (c)  
Northern Bobwhite (r) formerly (o)  
Wild Turkey (c)  
Woodcock (c)  
Virginia Rail (r)  
Killdeer (c)  
Greater Yellowlegs (u)  
Solitary Sandpiper (o)  
Spotted Sandpiper( c) (W)  
Semipalmated Sandpiper (r)  
Least Sandpiper (r)  
Pectoral Sandpiper (r)  
Common Snipe (o)  
American Woodcock (u)  
Red Phalarope (r)  
Ring-billed Gull (u)  
Herring Gull (a)  
Great Black-backed Gull (c)  
Rock Dove (c)  
Mourning Dove (a)  
Black-billed Cuckoo (u)  
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (o)  
Eastern Screech-Owl (o)  
Great Horned Owl (c)  
Barn Owl (r) (SC)  
Barred Owl (r)  
Saw-whet Owl (r)  
Short-eared Owl (r) (E)  
Common Nighthawk (o)  
Whip-poor-will (u) (W)  
Chimney Swift (c)  
Ruby-throated Hummingbird (u)  
Belted Kingfisher (c)  
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (o)  
Downy Woodpecker (c)  
Hairy Woodpecker (u)  
Northern Flicker (c)  
Red-bellied Woodpecker (c)  
Pileated Woodpecker (u)  
Olive-sided Flycatcher (r) (W)  
Eastern Wood-Peevee (c)  
Willow Flycatcher (c)  
Least Flycatcher (o) (W)  
Eastern Phoebe (c)  
Great Crested Flycatcher (c)  
Acadian Flycatcher (r)  
Eastern Kingbird (c)  
Purple Martin (r) (W)  
Chimney Swift (u)  
Tree Swallow (c)  
Northern Rough-winged Swallow (o)  
Bank Swallow (u)  
Barn Swallow(c)

Blue Jay (c)  
 American Crow (c)  
 Black-capped Chickadee (a)  
 Boreal Chickadee (r)  
 Tufted Titmouse (a)  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch (o)  
 White-breasted Nuthatch (c)  
 Brown Creeper (c)  
 Carolina Wren (c)  
 House Wren (c)  
 Winter Wren (c)  
 Marsh Wren (u) (W)  
 Golden-crowned Kinglet (c)  
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet (c)  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (o)  
 Eastern Bluebird (u) (W)  
 Swainson's Thrush (o) (W)  
 Hermit Thrush (c)  
 Wood Thrush (c)  
 Veery (u)  
 American Robin (a)  
 Gray Catbird (c)  
 Northern Mockingbird (c)  
 Brown Thrasher (c)  
 Water Pipit (r)  
 Cedar Waxwing (c)  
 Loggerhead Shrike (r) (E)  
 European Starling (a)  
 Philadelphia Vireo (r)  
 Blue-headed Vireo (u)  
 Yellow-throated Vireo (o)  
 Warbling Vireo (c)  
 Red-eyed Vireo (c)  
 Blue-winged Warbler (u)  
 Golden-winged Warbler (r) (E)  
 Tennessee Warbler (r)  
 Nashville Warbler (u)  
 Northern Parula (o) (T)  
 Yellow Warbler (c)  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (u)  
 Magnolia Warbler (u)  
 Cape May Warbler (r)  
 Black-throated Blue Warbler (r)  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler (c)  
 Black-throated Green Warbler (u)  
 Blackburnian Warbler (u)  
 Pine Warbler (c)  
 Prairie Warbler (u)  
 Palm Warbler (u)  
 Bay-breasted Warbler (r)  
 Blackpoll Warbler (u) (SC)  
 Black-and-white Warbler (c)  
 American Redstart (c)  
 Ovenbird (c)  
 Louisiana Waterthrush (u)  
 Northern Waterthrush (c)  
 Mourning Warbler (r) (SC)  
 Common Yellowthroat (a)  
 Wilson's Warbler (o)  
 Canada Warbler (u)  
 Kentucky Warbler (r)  
 Scarlet Tanager (c)  
 Northern Cardinal (c)  
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak (c)  
 Indigo Bunting (u)  
 Rufous-sided Towhee (c)  
 American Tree Sparrow (o)  
 Chipping Sparrow (c)  
 Field Sparrow (u)  
 Vesper Sparrow (r) (W)  
 Savannah Sparrow (u)  
 Fox Sparrow (o)  
 Song Sparrow (c)  
 Swamp Sparrow (c)  
 White-throated Sparrow (c)  
 White-crowned Sparrow (r)  
 Dark-eyed Junco (c)  
 Snow Bunting (r)  
 Bobolink (r)  
 Red-winged Blackbird (a)  
 Eastern Meadowlark (u) formerly (c)  
 Rusty Blackbird (u)  
 Common Grackle (c)  
 Brown-headed Cowbird (c)  
 European Starling (a)  
 Orchard Oriole (r)  
 Northern Oriole (c)  
 Pine Grosbeak (r)  
 Purple Finch (r) formerly (c)  
 House Finch (c)  
 Common Redpoll (o)  
 Pine Siskin (o)  
 American Goldfinch (c)  
 Blue Grosbeak (r)  
 Evening Grosbeak (o)  
 House Sparrow (c)

Key:

(a) abundant - species which is very numerous  
(c) common - certain to be found in suitable habitat  
(u) uncommon - present but not certain to be found  
(o) occasional - not found every year  
(r) rare - found at intervals of 5 years or more

E. - Mass Endangered species  
FT. - Federal Threatened species  
T Mass. - Threatened species  
SC Mass. - Species of Special Concern  
W. Mass. - Watch List species

**B.2. Invertebrate Animals**

**Insects - Spiders - Mollusks (preliminary):**

**Butterflies and Moths:**

Black Swallowtail	Cabbage White	Comma
Copper	Common Sulpher	Clearwing Moth
Compton's Tortoiseshell	Black-dash Skipper	Luna Moth
Dusky Wing	Indian Skipper	Ornate Tiger Moth
Red-spotted Purple	Least Skipper	Sphinx Moth
Spring Azure	Delaware Skipper	Spotted Forester Moth
Tiger Swallowtail	Peck's Skipper	Praying Mantis
Great Spangled Fritillary	Silver-spotted Skipper	Gypsy Moth
Monarch Butterfly	Pearly Crescentspot	Tent Caterpillar
Mourning Cloak Butterfly	Eastern Tailed Blue	Fall Webworm
Spicebush Swallowtail	Inornate Ringlet	Tomato Hornworm
Large Wood Nymph	Viceroy	Woolly Bear Caterpillar

**Other Invertebrates:**

Cellar Spider  
Garden Spider  
Mite  
Clam Shrimp  
Fairy Shrimp  
Leech  
Little Pond Snail  
Winkle Snail  
Freshwater Mussel- *Eliptro campanata*  
Fingernail Clam  
Crayfish  
Freshwater Jellyfish

**Dragonflies:**

Common Green Darner	Shadow Darner
Ruby Meadowhawk	12-Spotted Skimmer
Yellow-legged Meadow	Pond Hawk (sp.)
White-tailed Dragonfly	Green Darner
Ringed Boghaunter (E)	

**Other Insects:**

Caddis Fly  
Predacious Diving Beetle  
Northern Walking Stick  
Cyclops  
Daphnia  
Phantom Midge  
Hydrotetrid  
Ditissid Water Beetle  
Copepod  
Fish Fly  
Giant Water Bug  
Stonefly  
Water Boatman  
Water Scorpion  
Backswimmer  
Water Strider  
Whirligig Beetle  
Scud  
Asian Longhorn Beetle

Dog Tick  
Deer Tick  
Mosquito (sp.)  
Dog Flea  
Black Fly  
Preying Mantis  
Allegheny Mound Ant  
Western Conifer Seed Beetle  
Shield Bug  
Cicada (sp.)  
Snow Flea  
Lady Bug (sp.)

# Maps

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*(Map Labels per Specifications in Open Space Planners Workbook)*

Map 1: Regional Context

Map 2: Environmental Justice Populations/Map B: Population Characteristics

Map 3: Existing Zoning

Map 4: Soils & Geologic Features

Map 5: Unique Features

Map 6: Water Resources

Map 7: Lands of Conservation Interest

Map 8: Action Plan Map

Map A: Cultural & Historic Resources

Map B: (See Map 2)

Map C: Existing Land Uses

Map D: Infrastructure & Utilities

Map F: Fisheries & Wildlife

Map G: Environmental Challenges

*Note: there is no Map E.*

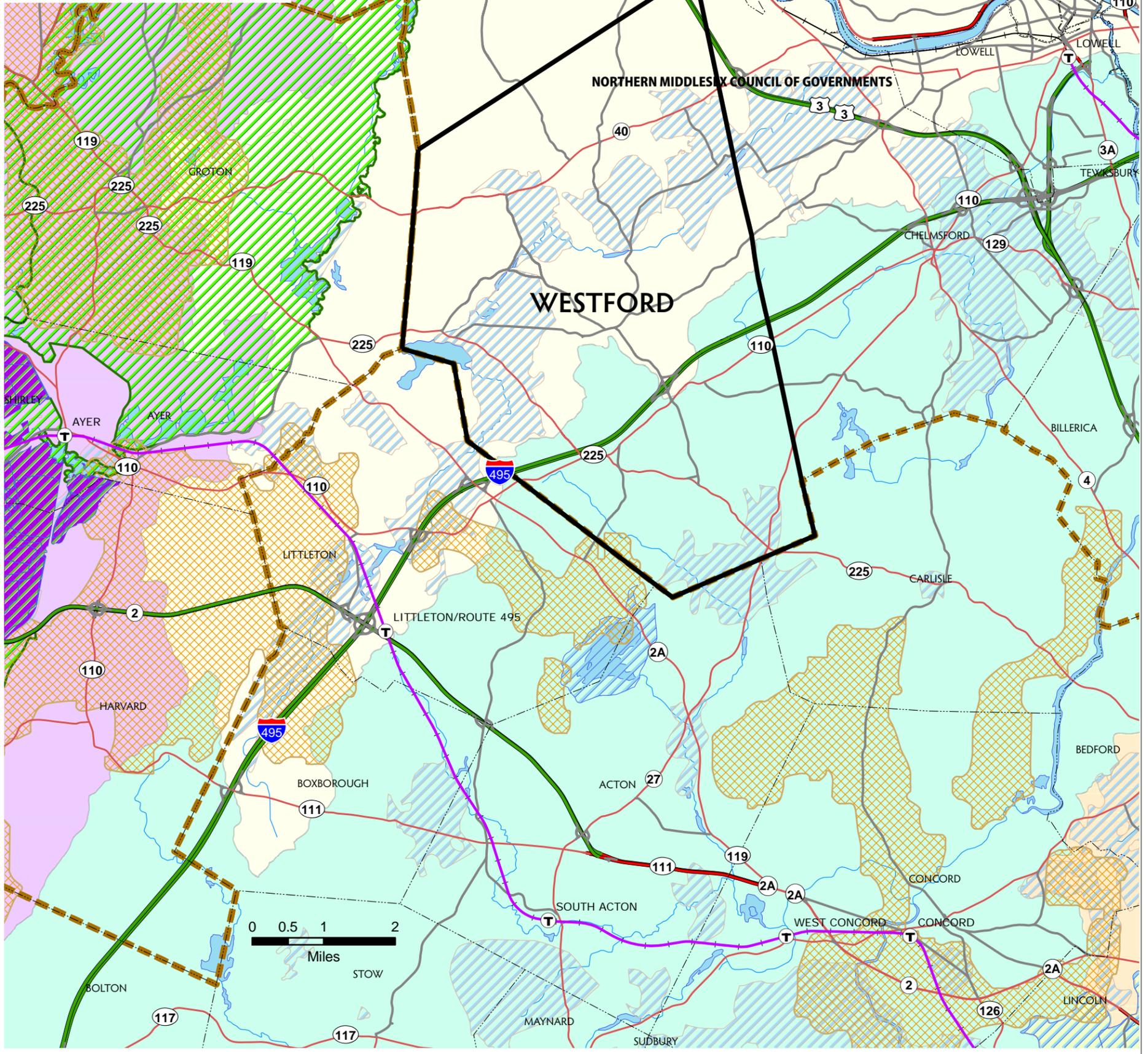


Data Sources



MassGIS  
 Executive Office of Transportation  
 USGS  
 U.S. Bureau of the Census

Note: this map is for general planning purposes only. The data used to create the map are not intended for making zoning or legal boundary determinations or delineating resource areas. Exercise care when interpreting the information on this map.



LEGEND

- |                                    |  |                   |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| State Boundary                     | Devens                                 | <b>WATERSHEDS</b> |
| Westford                           | Scenic Resource Inventory              | Charles           |
| MBTA Stations                      | Area of Critical Environmental Concern | Concord           |
| Railroad Tracks                    | Outstanding Resource Waters            | Merrimack         |
| <b>ROADWAYS</b>                    | DEP Zone II                            | Nashua            |
| Limited Access Highway             | Open Water                             | Shawsheen         |
| Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access | Rivers and Streams                     |                   |
| Other Numbered Highway             |  |                   |
| Major Road, Collector              |  |                   |

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map 1:**  
**Regional Context**  
 June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

By:  
 COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES GROUP, INC.  
 Boston, Massachusetts

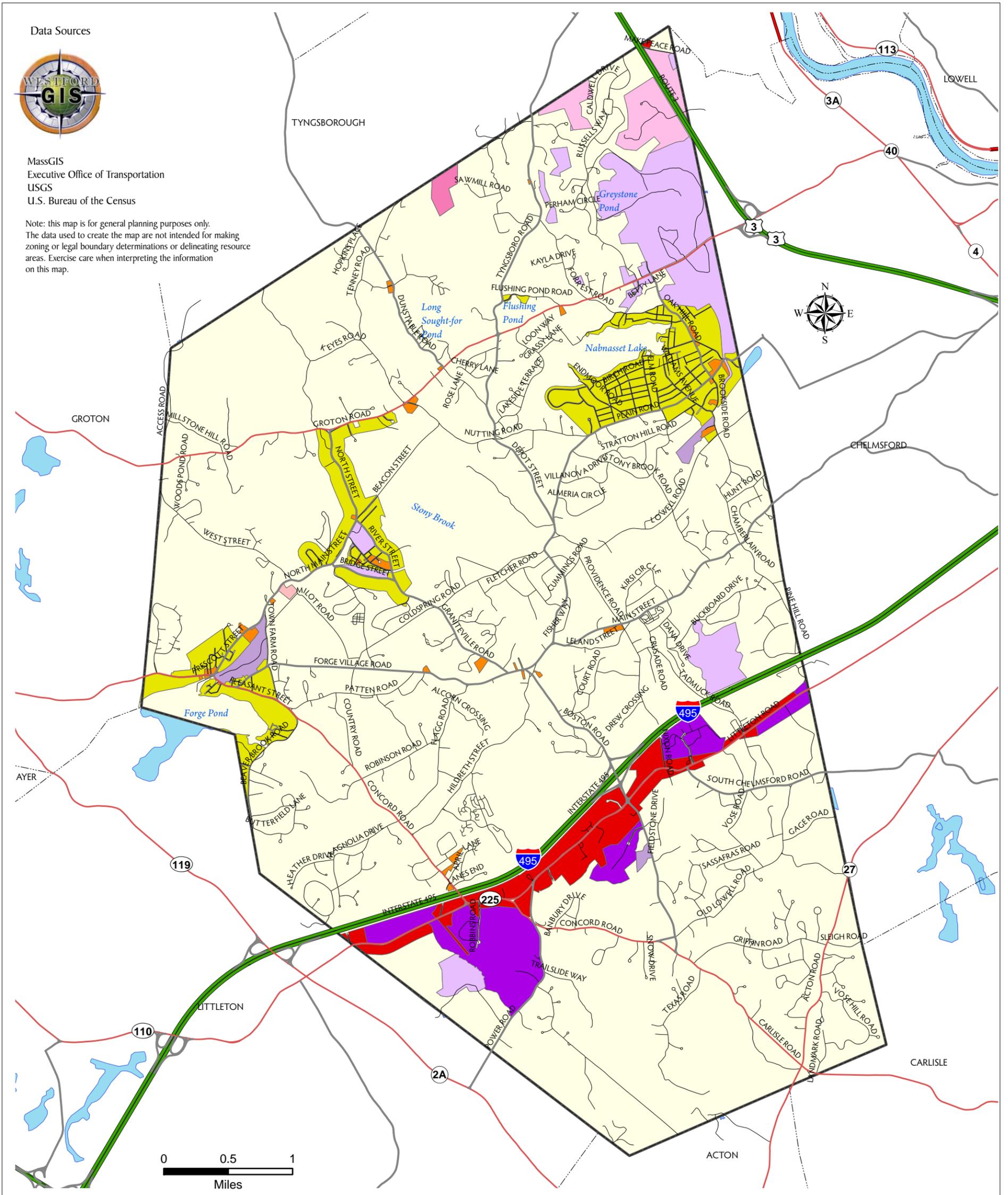


Data Sources



MassGIS  
 Executive Office of Transportation  
 USGS  
 U.S. Bureau of the Census

Note: this map is for general planning purposes only. The data used to create the map are not intended for making zoning or legal boundary determinations or delineating resource areas. Exercise care when interpreting the information on this map.



LEGEND

- |                                    |                         |                    |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Open Water                         | <b>ZONING DISTRICTS</b> | Industrial C       |
| <b>ROADWAYS</b>                    | Business                | Industrial D       |
| Limited Access Highway             | Business Limited        | Industrial Highway |
| Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access | Commercial Highway      | Residence A        |
| Other Numbered Highway             | Industrial A            | Residence B        |
| Major Road, Collector              | Industrial B            |                    |
| Local Roads                        |                         |                    |

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map 3**  
**Zoning Map**  
**(Unofficial)**

June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

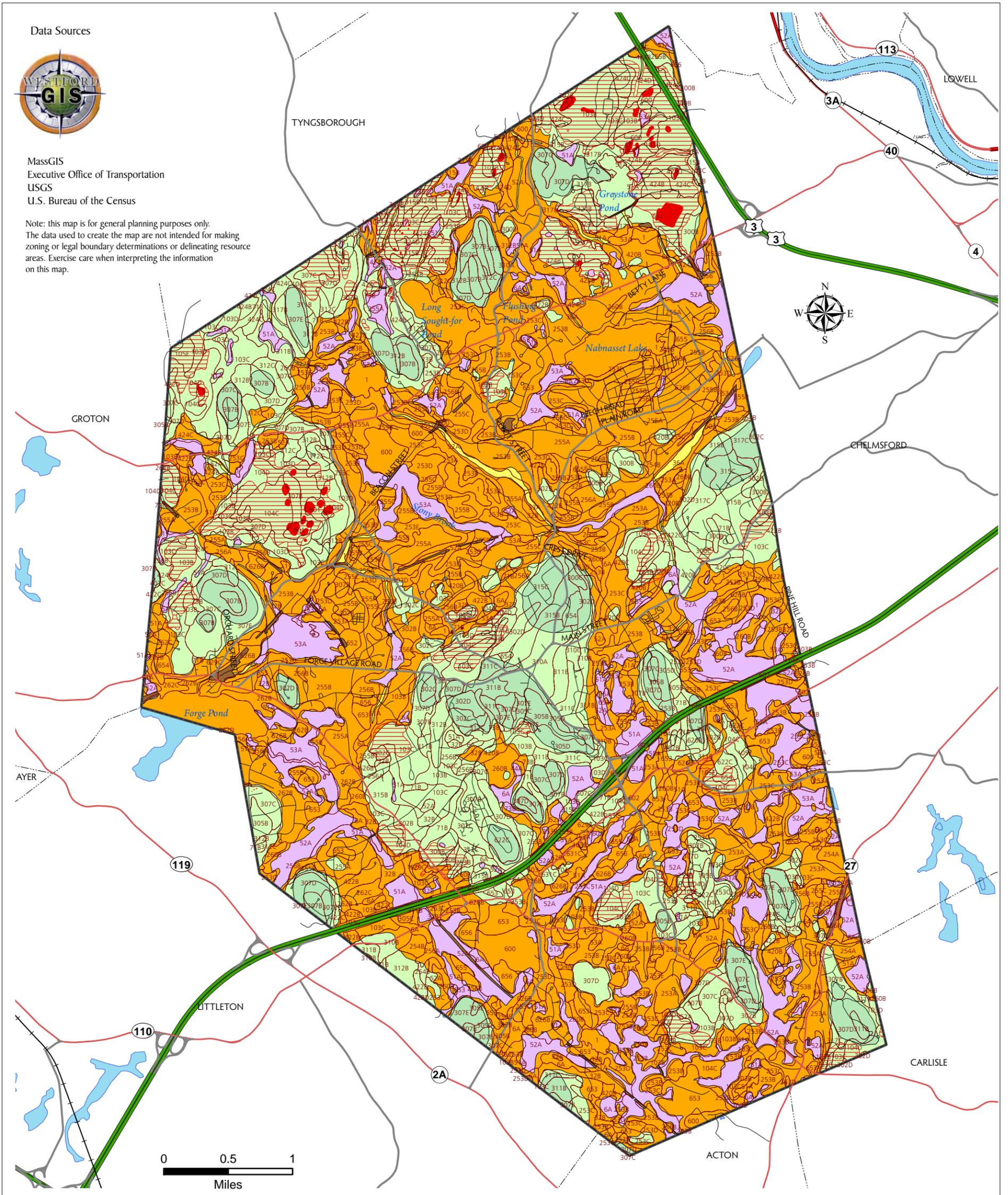
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LEGEND

- |                                    |                                      |                      |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Open Water                         | Soil Map Units                       | Till Bedrock         |
| Railroad Tracks                    | <b>SURFICIAL GEOLOGY</b>             | Bedrock Outcrop      |
| <b>ROADWAYS</b>                    | Abundant Outcrop and Shallow Bedrock | Thin Till            |
| Limited Access Highway             | <b>Postglacial Deposits</b>          | Thick Till           |
| Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access | Floodplain Alluvium                  | End Moraine Deposits |
| Other Numbered Highway             | Swamp Deposits                       |                      |
| Major Road, Collector              | Artificial Fill                      |                      |
| Local Roads                        | <b>Glacial Stratified Deposits</b>   |                      |
|                                    | Coarse                               |                      |
|                                    | Glaciolacustrine Fine                |                      |
|                                    | Glaciomarine Fine                    |                      |

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map 4**  
**Soils and Geologic Features**  
 June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

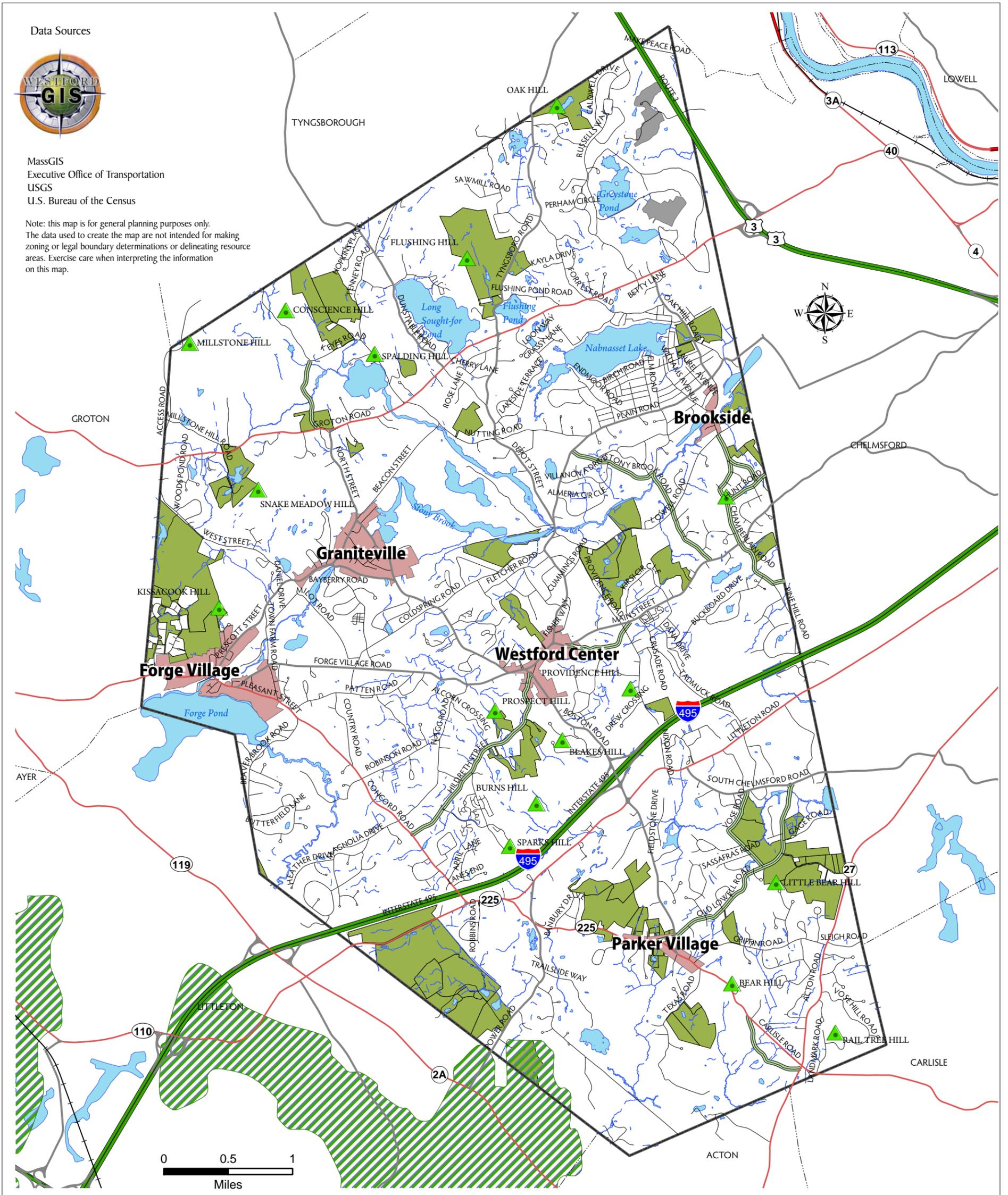
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LEGEND

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| —+— Railroad Tracks                  | ▲ Elevations                      |
| ROADWAYS                             | — Scenic Roads                    |
| — Limited Access Highway             | — Scenic Resource Inventory (DEM) |
| — Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access | — Historic Districts              |
| — Other Numbered Highway             | — Quarries                        |
| — Major Road, Collector              | — Chapter 61, 61A, 61B Land       |
| — Local Roads                        |                                   |
| — Open Water                         |                                   |

Town of Westford  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
 Map 5  
**Scenic Resources and Unique Environments**  
 June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

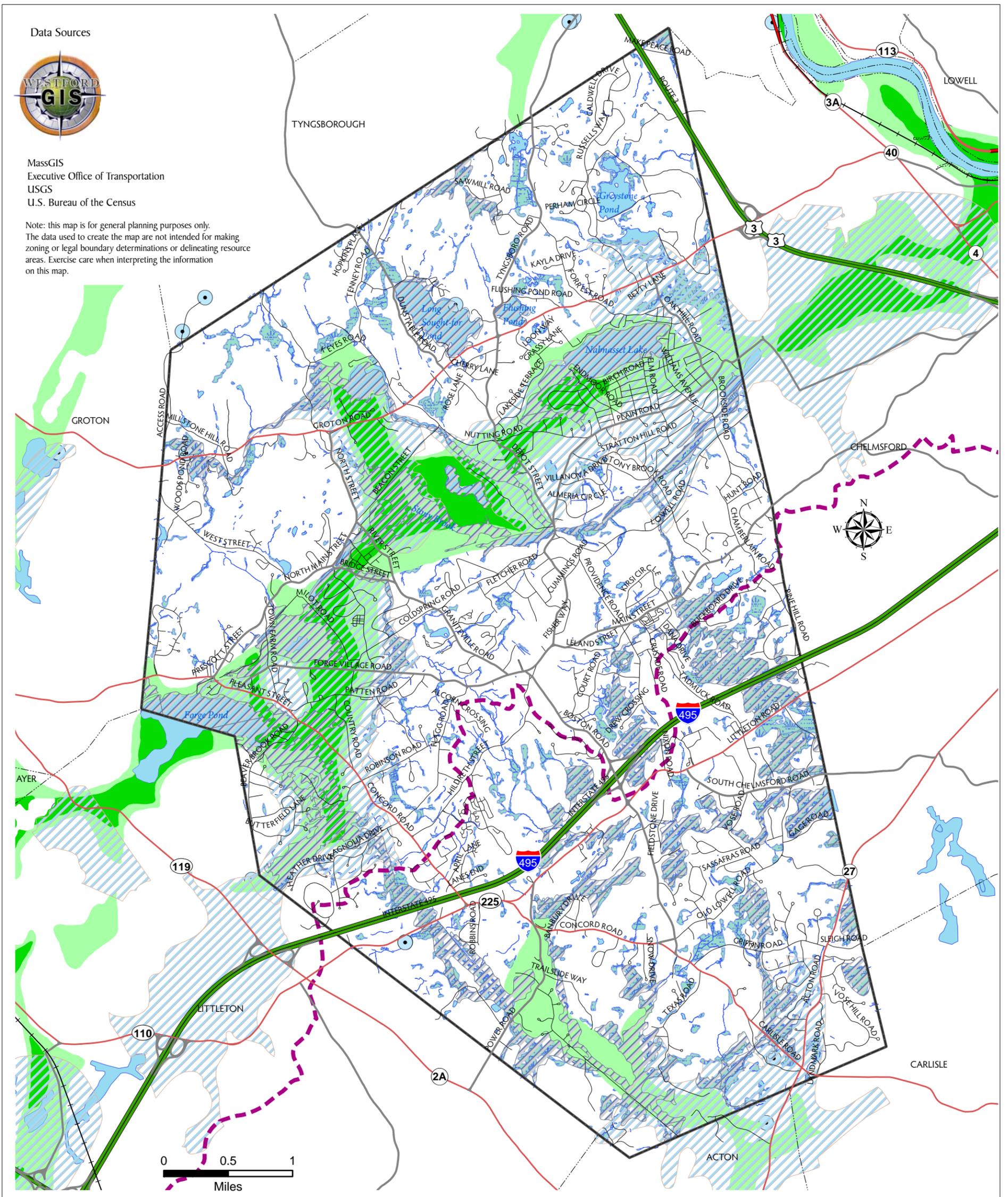
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Data Sources



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LEGEND

- +— Railroad Tracks
- ROADWAYS
- Limited Access Highway
- Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access
- Other Numbered Highway
- Major Road, Collector
- Local Roads
- Watershed Boundary
- Open Water
- 100-Year Flood Plain
- DEP Zone II
- AQUIFERS
- High Yield
- Medium Yield
- Public Water Supply
- Wetlands

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map 6**  
**Water Resources**  
 June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

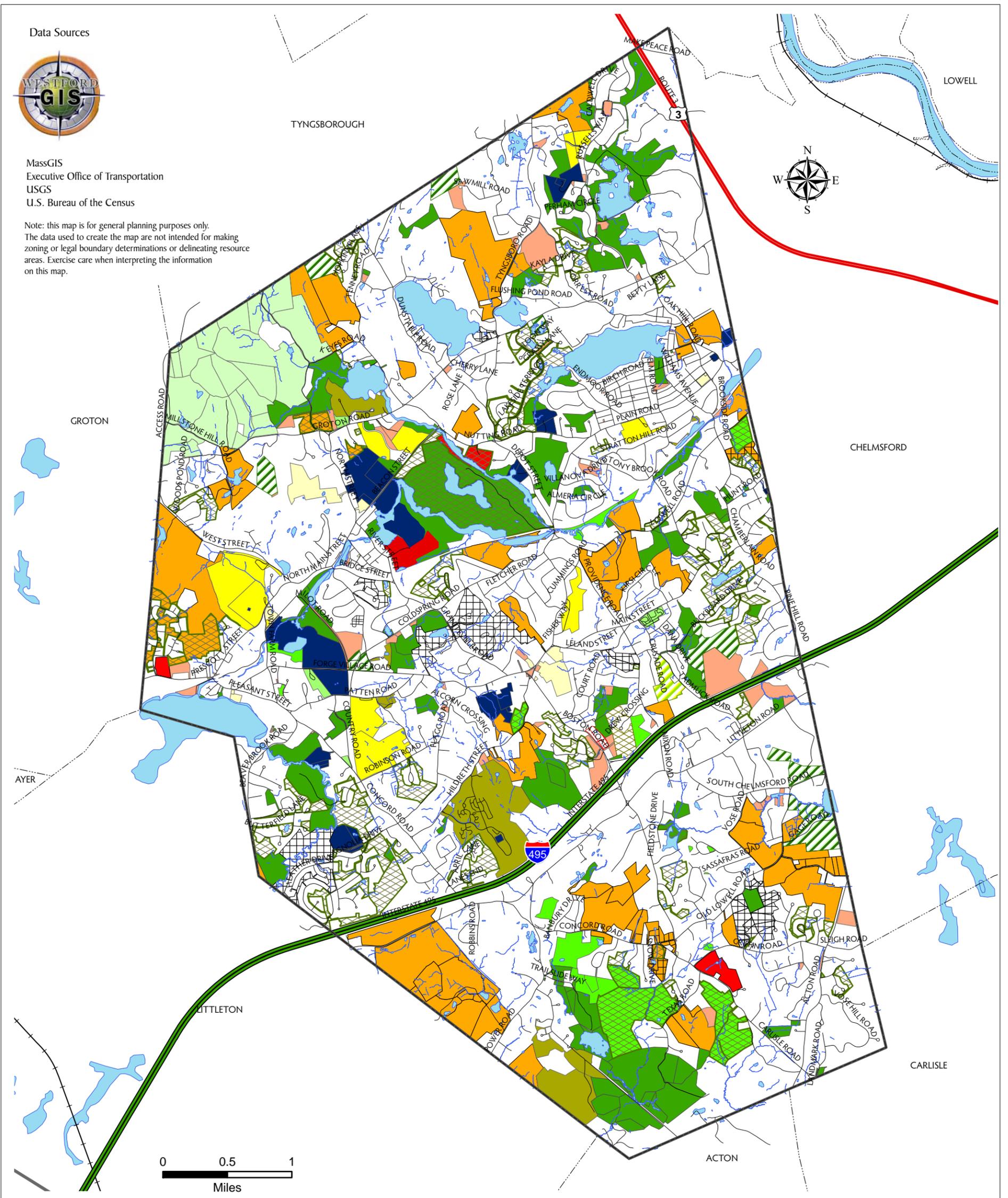
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Data Sources



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**LEGEND**

RESTRICTIONS	PUBLIC PROPERTY	PRIVATE PROPERTY
APR	Public Schools	Conservation Zone
Deed Restriction	Recreation Department	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Conservation Restrictions	Conservation Commission	Chapter 61, 61A, 61B
Entire Parcel	Water Department	Non-Profit Conservation
Partial	Town Forest	
	Municipal Facility	
	Cemetery	
	All Other Municipal	

**Town of Westford  
 OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN  
 Map 7:  
 Lands of Conservation and  
 Recreation Interest**

June 2008; Updated September 2009

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

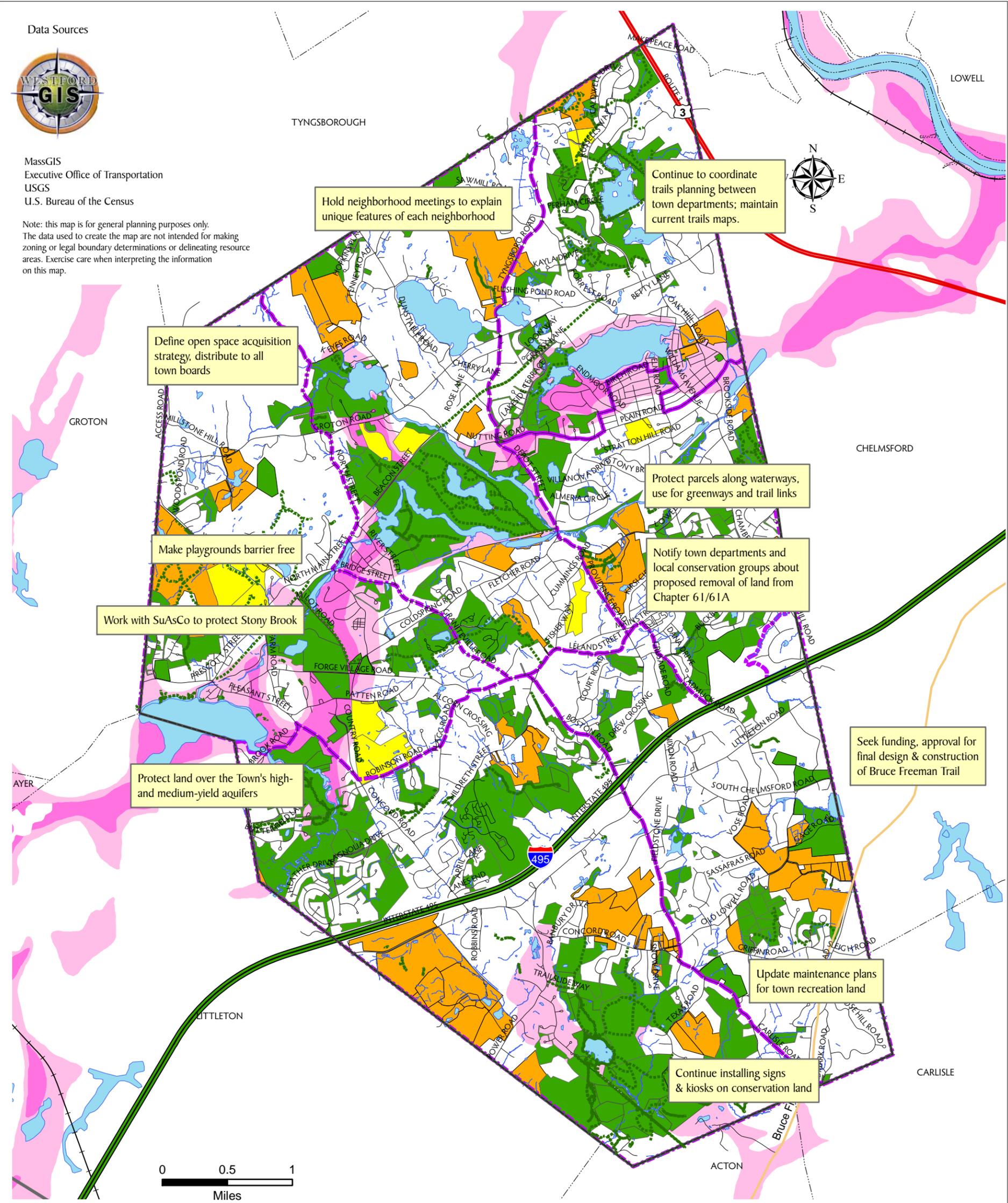
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Data Sources

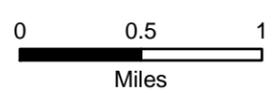


MassGIS  
 Executive Office of Transportation  
 USGS  
 U.S. Bureau of the Census

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- Hold neighborhood meetings to explain unique features of each neighborhood
- Continue to coordinate trails planning between town departments; maintain current trails maps.
- Define open space acquisition strategy, distribute to all town boards
- Protect parcels along waterways, use for greenways and trail links
- Make playgrounds barrier free
- Notify town departments and local conservation groups about proposed removal of land from Chapter 61/61A
- Work with SuAsCo to protect Stony Brook
- Protect land over the Town's high and medium-yield aquifers
- Seek funding, approval for final design & construction of Bruce Freeman Trail
- Update maintenance plans for town recreation land
- Continue installing signs & kiosks on conservation land



LEGEND

ROADWAYS

- Interstate
- U.S. Highway
- State Route
- Local Roads
- Railroad Tracks
- Conservation Trails
- Bruce Freeman Trail
- Open Water
- Aquifers
- High Yield
- Medium Yield

- Neighborhoods (Voting Precincts)
- Public Schools
- Protected Land (Public & Private)\*
- Chapter 61, 61A, 61B Land

\*In some cases, the CR covers only a portion of the parcel

Town of Westford  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map 8:**  
**Action Plan**  
 June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

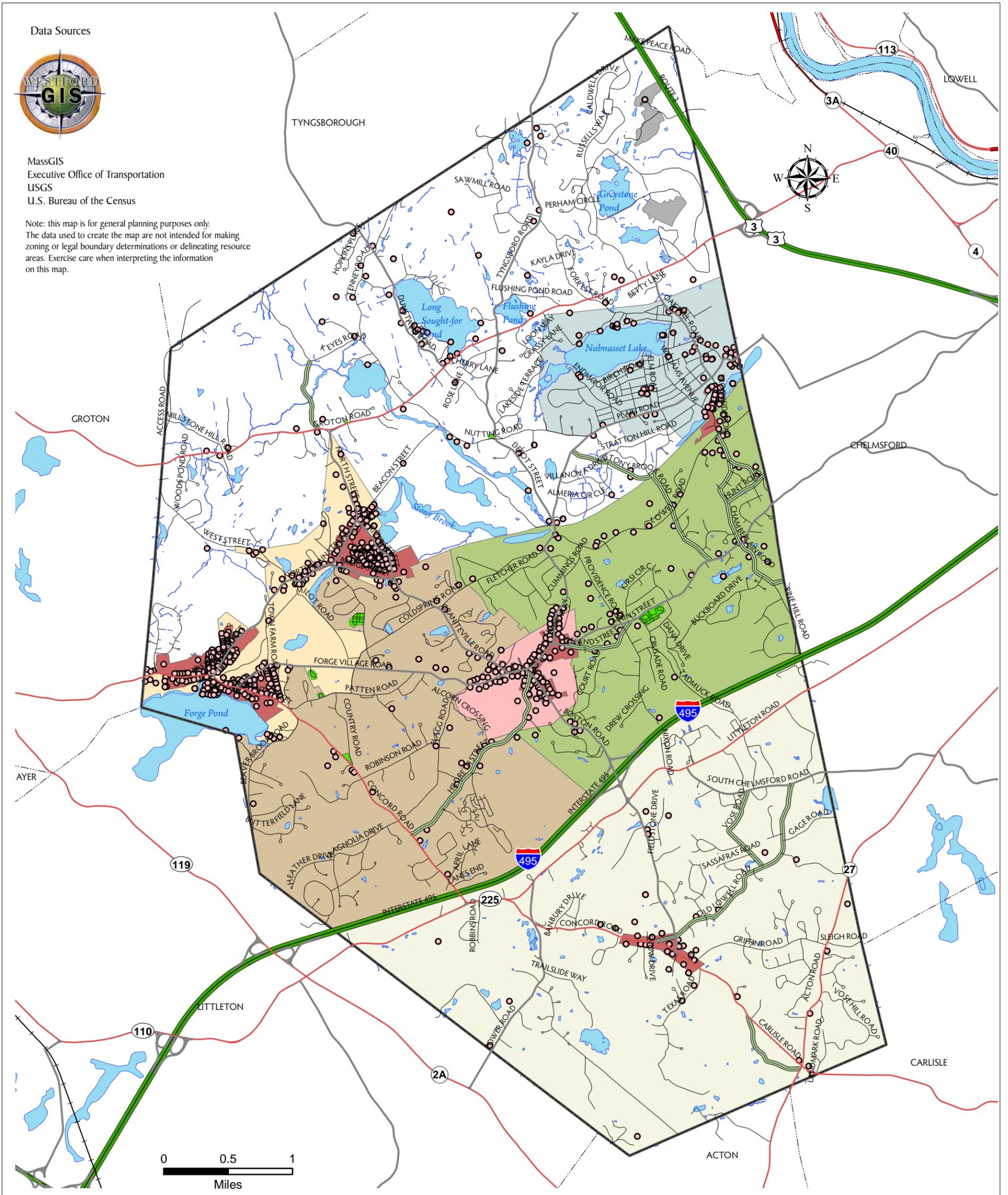
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 Boston, Massachusetts

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LEGEND

- |                                    |                     |                      |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Open Water                         | Scenic Roads        | <b>NEIGHBORHOODS</b> |
| Railroad Tracks                    | Historic Properties | Beaver Brook         |
| <b>ROADWAYS</b>                    | Historic Districts  | Westford Center      |
| Limited Access Highway             | Quarries            | Forge Village        |
| Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access |                     | Nabnasset            |
| Other Numbered Highway             |                     | Parker Village       |
| Major Road, Collector              |                     | Tadmuck              |
| Local Roads                        |                     |                      |

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map A**  
**Cultural and Historic Resources**

June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

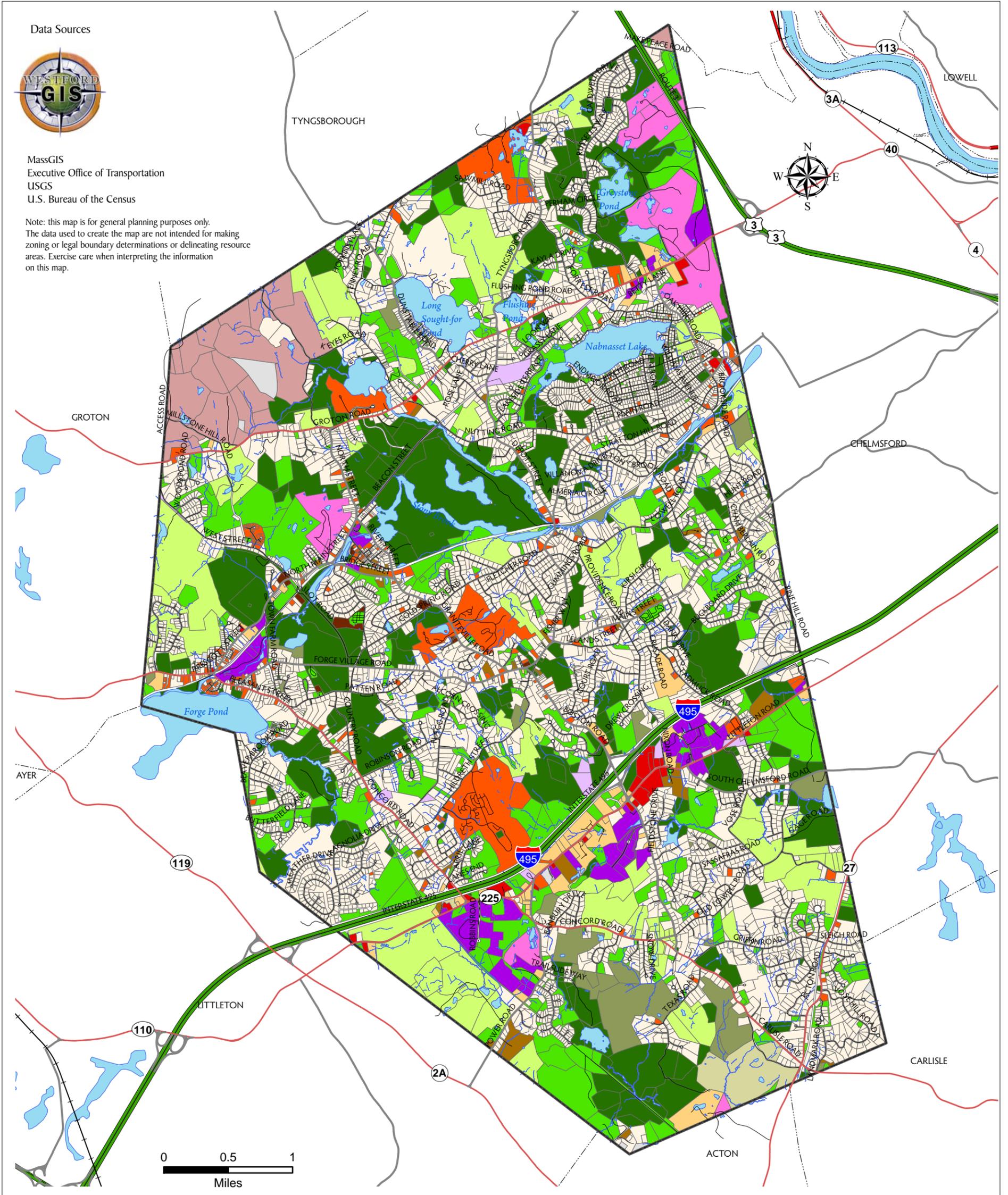
By:  
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 Boston, Massachusetts

Data Sources



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LEGEND

- Open Water
- Railroad Tracks
- ROADWAYS**
- Limited Access Highway
- Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access
- Other Numbered Highway
- Major Road, Collector
- Local Roads

LAND USE

- Single-Family
- Multi-Family
- Mixed Use
- Retail
- Other Commercial
- Commercial Recreation
- Industrial, Office
- Mining
- Utilities
- Chapter 61, 61A, 61B
- Vacant Land
- Public Land
- Non-Profit Conservation Land
- Religious, Charitable Use
- Non-Profit Educational Use
- Other

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map C**  
**Current Land Use**

June 2008; Updated September 2009

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

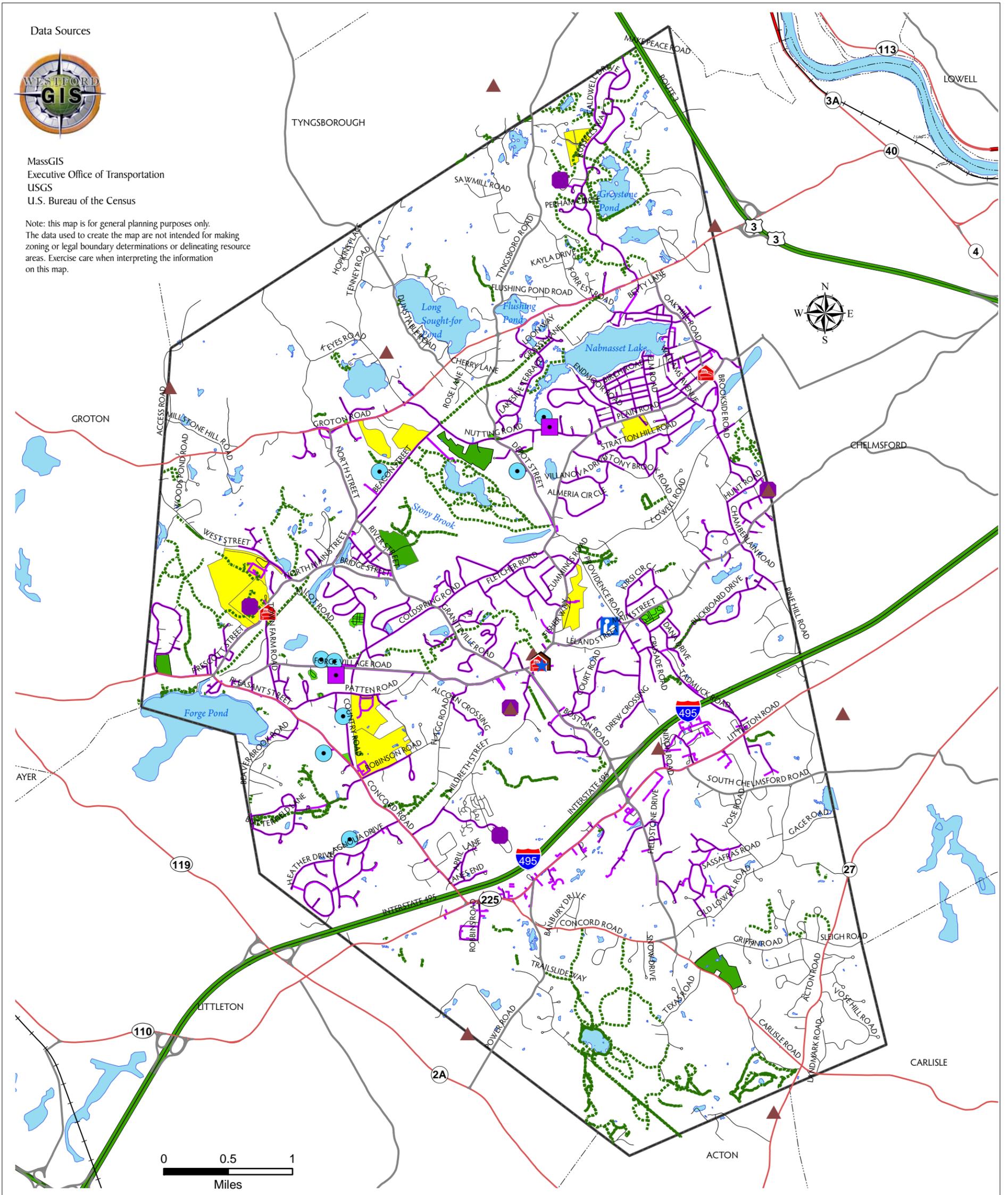
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LEGEND

- |                                    |                         |                          |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Open Water                         | Cell Towers             | <b>PUBLIC FACILITIES</b> |
| Railroad Tracks                    | <b>WATER DEPARTMENT</b> | Public Schools           |
| <b>ROADWAYS</b>                    | Pumping Station         | Recreation Areas         |
| Limited Access Highway             | Tank                    | Cemeteries               |
| Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access | Treatment Plant         | Police Station           |
| Other Numbered Highway             | Water Mains             | J. V. Fletcher Library   |
| Major Road, Collector              |                         | Fire Stations            |
| Local Roads                        |                         | Westford Town Hall       |
| Trails                             |                         |                          |

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map D**  
**Infrastructure and Facilities**

June 2008; Updated September 2009

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

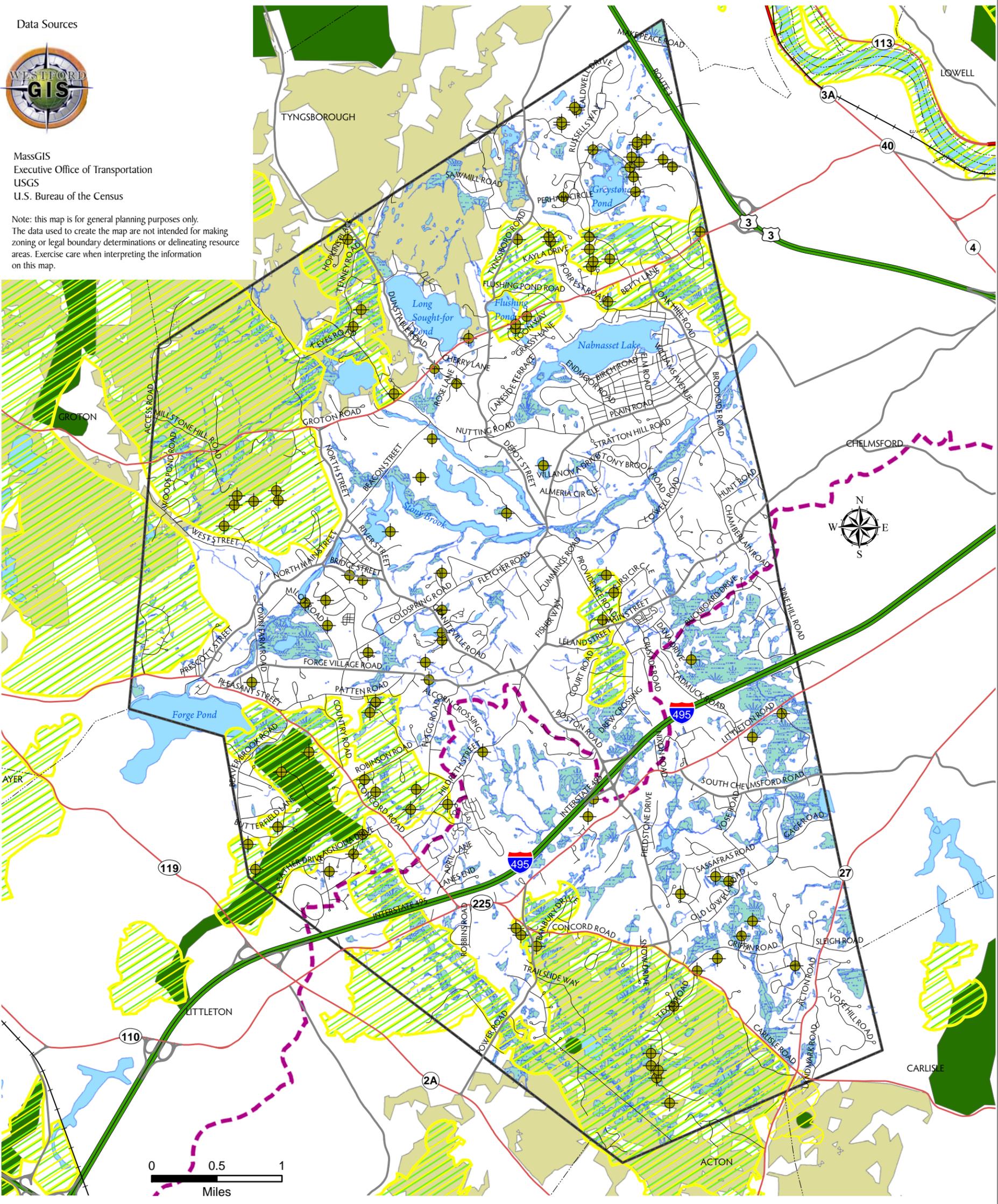
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LEGEND

- +— Railroad Tracks
- ROADWAYS
- Limited Access Highway
- Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access
- Other Numbered Highway
- Major Road, Collector
- Local Roads
- NHESP
- Certified Vernal Pool
- ▨ Priority Habitats of Rare Species
- ▨ Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife
- BioMap Core Habitat
- BioMap Supporting Natural Landscape
- WATER RESOURCES
- Watershed Boundary
- Open Water
- Wetlands

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map F**  
**Fisheries and Wildlife**  
 June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

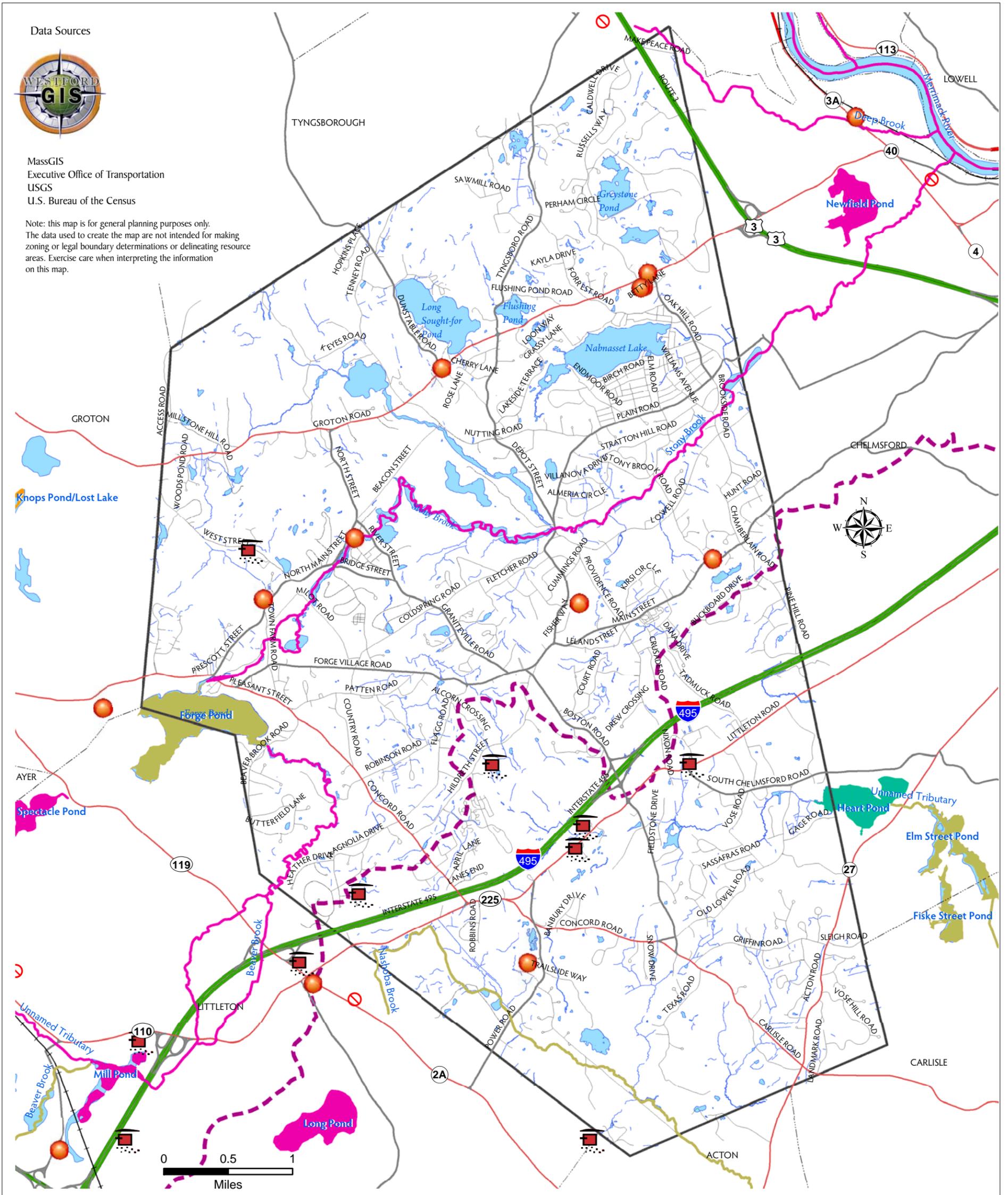
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LEGEND

- +— Railroad Tracks
- ROADWAYS**
- Limited Access Highway
- Multi-lane Hwy, not limited access
- Other Numbered Highway
- Major Road, Collector
- Local Roads
- WATER RESOURCES**
- Watershed Boundary
- Open Water
- Groundwater Discharge Permit
- AUL Sites
- Chapter 21E
- DEP INTEGRATED LIST OF WATERS**
- Category 2
- Category 3
- Category 4a
- Category 4c
- Category 5

**Town of Westford**  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN**  
**Map G**  
**Environmental Challenges**  
 June 2008

Prepared for:  
 Westford Conservation Commission

By:  
 COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES GROUP, INC.  
 Boston, Massachusetts