

APPENDICES

Appendix A: 2007 Open Space and Recreation Survey and Results

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Report and Species Fact Sheets

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APPENDIX A SURVEY AND RESULTS

[illegible]

7. What outdoor recreational activities or facilities would you like to see developed in Leicester?
8. Please rank the top 5 of the following conservation issues in order of their importance to you (1 being the most important):
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open space for recreation use | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife habitat | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open space for scenic value | <input type="checkbox"/> Forests | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Buildings of historic interest | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working farmland | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic or archaeological sites | |
9. Please rank the top 3 of the following reasons you think Leicester should protect its open spaces and natural areas (1 being the most important):
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> To provide wildlife habitat | <input type="checkbox"/> To potentially raise property values |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To protect wetlands | <input type="checkbox"/> To preserve these areas for future generations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To protect the town's surface and groundwater resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To maintain the character of the community | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To encourage recreation and tourism | |
10. For each of the following resources, please indicate if you are **aware of their existence** and if you have **utilized them for recreation**. If you have not used the resource, indicate why not (e.g., cost, distance, interest, safety):

Resource	Aware of YES	Aware of NO	Used YES	Used NO	Reason not used or visited OR Frequency of Your Use or Visits
Becker College					
Burncoat Park					
Community fields					
Hillcrest					
Leicester H.S.					
Lyons Park					
Memorial School					
Moose Hill Reservoir					
Rochdale Park					
Russell Memorial/Little League Field					
Town Common					
Towtoid Park					

11. Describe any recreational facilities you would like to see developed/expanded in town.
- | | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
12. Would you be willing to pay higher taxes or user fees for the maintenance of public recreation areas in town?
- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| | _____ | _____ |
|--|-------|-------|
13. Would you use a map of trails in Leicester?
- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| | _____ | _____ |
|--|-------|-------|
- Are you concerned that trails might be abused (erosion, trash, noise, vandalism) if they were mapped or better known?
- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| | _____ | _____ |
|--|-------|-------|
- Are there special places in Leicester that you would like connected with a trail system? What are those places?
- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| | _____ | _____ |
|--|-------|-------|
14. Do you ever take out of town guests for a drive to show off scenic parts of Leicester?
- | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| | Yes _____ | No _____ |
|--|-----------|----------|
- If so, where?
15. What is your favorite place in town? What makes this place special?
16. What is the biggest change, opportunity or threat facing Leicester's character?
17. Describe your ideal vision of Leicester in ten years.

Open Space & Recreation Plan Survey Results

Community Survey Overview

The Open Space Plan Survey was prepared by the Conway School of Landscape Design with input from the Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee. The Town of Leicester School Department assisted with survey distribution and with tabulation of surveys.

While the survey provides useful information, some caution should be used regarding the use of the survey results. Some of the surveys were completed online using a web-based survey company (79); the remainder (490) were filled out by hand and tabulated by Planning Office staff with the assistance of Leicester High School students. There are some differences in the tabulation methods for the online versus the paper versions of the survey, which will be explained in more detail where applicable in the following pages. Also, it appears that the overwhelming majority of paper surveys were filled out by Leicester High School Students. While input from this segment of the population is very valuable, especially in terms of future planning, this age group doesn't necessarily reflect the interests of the entire population of the Town of Leicester. The survey results should be reviewed in context with the above information.

Summary of Results

Respondent Information (Questions 1-5)

There were slightly more female (56%) than male (44%) respondents, and the majority of respondents were under the age of 18 (59%). As noted previously, it appears that the paper surveys were disproportionately filled out by Leicester High School students. (For example, no respondents under age 18 used the online survey). Most respondents (62%) have lived in Town more than 10 years. Most respondents listed "Leicester" when asked to describe what area of town in which they live (60%), followed by Rochdale (20%) and Cherry Valley (17%).

Recreation (Questions 6, 7, 10-14):

Survey respondents participate in a very wide range of recreational activities. The recreational activity with the highest number of participants among survey respondents is walking (290), followed by running (192) Soccer (212), swimming (179), gardening (159), and basketball (187). According to Question #7, the activity/facility most often listed as what respondents would like to see developed was swimming (swimming pool, swim team), followed by new trails and new or improved playing fields. A high number of respondents (31) identified an ice skating or hockey rink as something they would like developed in Leicester. Question #11 was very similar, but for this question, improved or expanded playing fields ranked highest, followed by swimming facility, improvement of Burncoat Park, and an indoor sport facility.

The recreational areas used by the highest number of survey respondents were the Town Common(352), Community Fields (352), and Rochdale Park (350). The recreational used by the least number of survey respondents were Lions Park (349), Towtaid Park (309) and Moose Hill Reservoir (308).

Most respondents (56%) were not willing to pay higher taxes or user fees for maintenance of public recreation area. However, among online respondents, 63% supported higher taxes or user fees.

Most respondents (61%) would use a map of trails in Leicester, the majority of respondents (52%) were unconcerned that a trail map would lead to abuse of trails, and 79% indicated that there are special places in Leicester that they would like connected to a trail system. Eighteen percent (18%) of survey respondents indicated that they take out-of-town guests for a drive to show of scenic parts of Leicester. The most popular places to show out-of-town guests were the following: Coopers Farm, Hot Dog Annies, Moose Hill, the Town Common, and "Spider Gates" cemetery.

Conservation (Questions 8 & 9):

Survey respondents identified “Water Quality” and “Open space for recreation use” as the most important conservation issues. The highest ranked reasons for protecting open spaces and natural areas were “to protect wildlife habitat” and “To potentially raise property values”.

Favorite Places, Opportunities, Future Vision (Questions 15-17)

Surprisingly, when asked to identify a favorite place in Leicester, the most common response was the respondent’s home (72 responses). Other favorite places were the Town Common Rochdale Park, and the Leicester Drive-In.

When asked about the greatest opportunity or threat, respondents answers were not clear whether the issue identified was an opportunity or threat. However, Wal-Mart was overwhelmingly listed as a response. Eighty-three (83) respondents wrote simply: “Wal-Mart” or “Super Wal-Mart,” and another eighty-two (82) mentioned Wal-Mart in their response. The survey was filled out approximately 1 month prior to the opening of the new Super Wal-Mart on Route 9 west in Leicester. Other issues frequently identified were overdevelopment, population growth, and general comments on development. Littering and vandalism were also frequently listed as a concern.

SURVEY RESULTS

1. Sex

	Male	Female	No Response	Total
Response Total	249	318	2	569
Response Percent	43.8%	55.9%	0.4%	100%

2. Age

	Under 18	18-24	25-44	45-64	65 or older	No Response	Total
Response Total	333	33	141	52	8	2	569
Response Percent	59%	6%	25%	9%	1%	0%	100%

3. How many years have you lived in Leicester?

	Less than a year	1-5 years	6-10 years	11-20 years	more than 20 years	No response	Total
Response Total	19	94	101	259	89	7	569
Response Percent	3.3%	16.5%	17.8%	45.5%	15.6%	1.2%	100%

4. What best describes the area of town in which you live?

	Cherry Valley	Leicester	Rochdale	Other	No response	Total
Response Total	96	340	116	11	6	569
Response Percent	16.9%	59.8%	20.4%	1.9%	1.1%	100%

Other responses to Question #4: Center of town, Dawn Acres,

5. How much land do you (or your family) own in Leicester?

	Rent	less than 2	2-5 acres	6-15 acres	16-50 acres	51-100 acres	No response	Total
Response Total	32	306	142	41	15	6	27	569
Response Percent	5.6%	53.8%	25.0%	7.2%	2.6%	1.1%	4.7%	100%

6. Have you or your family members participated in any of the following recreational activities in the past year?

Activity	In Leicester		Out of Town		Respondent Total
	#	%	#	%	
Baseball	154	93%	12	7%	166
Running	192	88%	25	12%	217
Ice Hockey	42	49%	43	51%	85
Biking	155	73%	57	27%	212
Camping	48	29%	119	71%	167
Skateboarding	79	81%	18	19%	97
Basketball	187	87%	27	13%	214
Walking	290	82%	63	18%	353
Street Hockey	41	76%	13	24%	54
Tennis	95	77%	29	23%	124
Fishing	127	59%	89	41%	216
Gymnastics	72	87%	11	13%	83
Soccer	212	86%	34	14%	246
Hiking	93	53%	82	47%	175
Inline Skating	21	50%	21	50%	42
Golf	135	71%	55	29%	190
Hunting	47	64%	27	36%	74
Picnics	59	49%	61	51%	120
Football	112	87%	17	13%	129

Activity	In Leicester		Out of Town		Respondent Total
	#	%	#	%	
Fitness Training	80	58%	58	42%	138
Field Hockey	34	85%	6	15%	40
Ice Skating	70	48%	76	52%	146
ATV/ORV	79	71%	32	29%	111
Gardening	159	94%	11	6%	170
Volleyball	50	69%	22	31%	72
Down. Skiing	17	24%	55	76%	72
Lacrosse	11	58%	8	42%	19
Horse. Riding	8	26%	23	74%	31
Snowmobiling	92	73%	34	27%	126
Paintball	84	71%	35	29%	119
Softball	85	75%	28	25%	113
Cross-country skiing	19	56%	15	44%	34
Snowbding	45	37%	77	63%	122
Swimming	179	63%	106	37%	285
Boating	70	48%	75	52%	145
Birdwatching	68	84%	13	16%	81
Other	36	45%	44	55%	80

Other activities listed:

In Leicester

- band
- Cheerleading
- Dance
- dogwalking
- Drive-In
- field hockey
- harvest fair
- larping
- painting
- photography
- scooter
- sledding
- snowshoeing
- track

Out of Town

- Cheerleading
- canoeing
- bowling
- Dance
- karate/tae kwan do
- kayaking
- sailing
- snowshoeing
- whitewater rafting

7. What outdoor recreational activities or facilities would you like to see developed in Leicester?

Recreational Activities or Facilities (activities with at least 2 responses)	# of Responses (in order of frequency)
Swimming pool, public/Swim Team	34
Trails, Walking or hiking	22
Fields, playing (general - new or improved)	19
Volleyball courts/team	18
Fields, soccer (new or improved)	17
Lacrosse	16
Skating rink, ice	16
Trails, Bike	16
hockey rink, indoor	15
Indoor sport facility/sportplex	12
Trails, ATV/off road areas/dirt bike	12
Trails: Cross country skiing, bird watching, hiking-camping/biking	12
Basketball Court	10
Paintball	10
Playground, new	9
Recreation Center	9
Hockey	7
Skateboarding/skateboard park	7
Tennis Court, better or new	7
Town Beach	7
Trails, general	7
Fields, football (1 mentioned lights)	6
Parks, improve or expand	6
Dog Park	5
Fields, softball	5
Burncoat Park (improve or expand facilities)	4
Horseback riding	4
Swimming	4
Baseball	3
boating & fishing	3
Dance/dance studio	3
Fast Food Restaurant (Taco Bell, McDonalds)	3
Fields, field hockey	3

Recreational Activities or Facilities (activities with at least 2 responses)	# of Responses (in order of frequency)
Gym/Fitness Center	3
Movie Theater	3
Sidewalks	3
snowboarding	3
Track & Field Area (new or improved)	3
Adult Sports Leagues	2
Birdwatching	2
Bowling alley	2
Campground	2
Courts, covered	2
Hillcrest, improve	2
Hillcrest, keep golf course	2
Picnic areas	2
skating, inline	2
Skiing, Cross country	2
Summer activities for kids	2
Youth Center	2
Basketball Program, improved	1

Other Recreational Activities or Facilities Listed
(one response each)

- Becker College
- Better Schools
- Biking
- Bird Sanctuary
- Burncoat, Summer program
- Community garden
- Community gym
- Conserve Open Space
- Crew
- Cross-country running
- Drive In, keep
- Driving Range
- Fishing
- Food place
- Football Field/Track-improve
- Football stadium
- Frisbee golf
- Gay Straight Alliance
- Gun range
- High School, better sports facilities
- Hillcrest, add playing fields
- Hockey, street
- hunting grounds
- hunting safety program
- Hyland Games
- Ice Skating Rink
- Indoor soccer
- Kite flying
- Library
- Lighted fields
- Miniature golf
- Motorcross dirt track
- Night Club
- Outdoor Classroom
- Passive Open Space
- Ping Pong
- Rock Climbing
- Rollerskating
- Rugby
- senior citizen/ age 40+ sports
- Skiing, downhill
- snowmobiling
- Soccer clinics
- Soccer, indoor
- Swim lessons, Burncoat
- Swing Sets
- Town Hall Gym
- Track, Indoor
- Track, walking
- Trails, snowmobile
- Tree climbing
- Walking, safe place
- Water access
- Wildlife Habitat

Other Recreational Activities or Facilities Listed

(one response each)

- Go-cart track
- Golf course, top rate
- Grocery store
- Playground for 7-12 year olds
- Recreation, Passive
- Rochdale Park, improve
- Windsurfing
- YMCA
- Zoo

8. Please rank the top 5 of the following conservation issues in order of their importance to you (1 being the most important):

	Rank						
	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Response Average
Open space for recreation use	164	89	70	71	42	436	2.4
Open space for scenic value	29	72	78	66	73	318	3.3
Water Quality	194	105	78	52	36	465	2.2
Working Farmland	27	31	53	25	59	195	3.3
Wildlife Habitat	99	96	88	73	68	424	2.8
Forests	44	77	98	80	76	375	3.2
Buildings of Historic interest	24	26	35	66	80	231	3.7
Historic or archaeological sites	9	11	22	28	69	139	4.0

Other responses listed as priority (paper surveys only):

- golf course
- wetlands
- town sports
- school funding
- keep me healthy
- better basketball
- hunting/fishing areas
- 4-wheeling/dirt bike trails
- agriculture
- fun
- less building
- small town atmosphere

9. Please rank the top 3 of the following reasons you think Leicester should protect its open spaces and natural areas (1 being the most important):

	Rank				
	1	2	3	Total	Response Average
To provide wildlife habitat	167	86	92	345	1.78
To protect wetlands	30	81	49	160	2.12

To protect the town's surface and groundwater resources	110	65	84	259	1.90
To maintain the character of the community	120	93	84	297	1.88
To encourage recreation and tourism	52	40	59	151	2.05
To potentially raise property values	34	31	36	101	2.02
To preserve these areas for future generations	88	125	102	315	2.04

Other responses (paper surveys only):

- we don't have enough land to even stress about this
- give kids a reason to go outside
- stop building houses
- less building
- don't destroy natural resources
- so we are not all houses
- keep the population down

10. For each of the following resources, please indicate if you are aware of their existence and if you have utilized them for recreation.

Resource	Aware of YES		Aware of NO		Total	Used YES		Used NO		Total
	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%	
Becker College	514	98%	10	2%	524	215	48%	230	52%	445
Burncoat park	258	64%	148	36%	406	153	39%	239	61%	392
Community Fields	454	89%	56	11%	510	352	78%	99	22%	451
Hillcrest	465	89%	56	11%	521	167	42%	231	58%	398
Leicester High School	504	98%	8	2%	512	228	79%	61	21%	289
Lyons Park	319	61%	205	39%	524	46	12%	349	88%	395
Memorial School	490	96%	23	4%	513	330	74%	117	26%	447
Moose Hill Reservoir	235	46%	275	54%	510	76	20%	308	80%	384
Rochdale Park	463	91%	44	9%	507	350	78%	96	22%	446
Russell Memorial Field (Little League Field)	399	77%	120	23%	519	245	58%	181	42%	426
Town Common	492	96%	19	4%	511	352	76%	109	24%	461
Towtaid	299	52%	275	48%	574	76	20%	309	80%	385

Question #10 also asked for “Reason not Used or visited OR Frequency of Use” for each facility. No results for this part of the question were provided from online responses. Regarding paper responses, the responses are difficult to summarize because of the wide variation in responses, but the most common reasons listed for not using a particular facility were the following: poor condition, too far/inconvenient location, facility doesn't offer a particular sport, or the respondent is unaware of the facility. Many respondents commented that Lion's Park doesn't have an obvious recreational purpose.

11. Describe any recreational facilities you would like to see developed/expanded in Town.

Recreational Facilities (activities with at least 2 responses)	# of Responses (in order of frequency)
Fields, Improve or Expand play fields (unspecified)	20
Swimming pool, public/Swim Team	19
Burncoat Park, improve/expand	16
Indoor sport facility/sportplex	15
Ice rink	13
Beach/Burncoat Beach	12
Parks, new or improved	12
Recreation Center/Community Center	11
Fields, soccer	10
Hillcrest, improve facility	10
Rochdale Park, Improve or expand	10
Fields, lighted	8
Playgrounds	8
Teen Hangout/Youth facility/Kid Hangout	8
Basketball courts, improved	7
Fields, Football (Improve or expand)	7
Skateboard Park/skate park/rollerblade	7
Towtaid Park, Improve	7
Fields, softball, improve or expand	6
Gym, fitness center	6
Track, New or expanded	6
Trails, bike	6
Trails, unspecified or general (hiking/biking/cross country)	6
Restaurants (olive garden, taco bell, K.F.C.)	5
Community Fields, expand or improve	4
Food Places/Fast Food Restaurants/Restaurants	4
Hillcrest, convert to play fields	4
Tennis Courts, new and/or improved	4
Volleyball	4
Fields, baseball	3
Hiking Trails	3
Hockey	3
Mall/retail (1 listed outdoor mall)	3
Paintball	3

Recreational Facilities (activities with at least 2 responses)	# of Responses (in order of frequency)
Trails, walking or hiking	3
Arcade	2
ATV/dirt bike	2
Campground	2
Clean Parks	2
Dance studio	2
Drive-In (keep)	2
Fields, field hockey	2
High School Gym, Expand Use	2
Movie Theater	2
None/Nothing	2
Retail stores/shopping	2
scenic areas	2
Wal-Mart	2
Wildlife Preservation	2

Other Recreational Facilities Listed

(one response each)

• Access Road for Little League fields on Henshaw Street	• Golf, expand courses	• Outdoor Classroom
• Batting cage	• Greenville Pond	• picnic areas
• Becker fields	• Gym, municipal	• Public Events
• Bike park	• Historical Areas	• Sanitary Facilities at all fields & parks
• Birdwatch	• Lacrosse	• Shaw Pond
• Burncoat, convert to fields	• Little League fields (improve or expand)	• Skating Arena, Outdoor
• Community Activity - Increase	• Lyons Park - remove & replace with building	• Summer Camp
• Community Fields, add lights	• Middle-age/senior citizen sports	• Swim lessons, Burncoat
• Courts	• Moose Hill Trails	• Town Common, Improve
• Development - NO MORE	• More things to do	• Trails, walking for disabled
• Dog Park	• Natural setting	• Water Access
• Fishing	• Night Club	

12. Would you be willing to pay higher taxes or user fees for maintenance of public recreation areas in town?

	YES	NO	No Response	Total
Response Total	203	318	48	569
Response Percent	35.7%	55.9%	8.4%	100.0%

13. Four Part Question, as shown below:

	Yes	No	No response	Total
Would you use a map of trails in Leicester?	346 61%	196 34%	27 5%	569 100%
Are you concerned that trails might be abused (erosion, trash, noise, vandalism) if they were mapped or better known?	240 42%	297 52%	32 6%	569 100%
Are there special places in Leicester that you would like connected with a trail system?	93 16%	398 70%	78 14%	569 100%
What are those places? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moose Hill (4) • Hillcrest (2) • historical places (2) • Spider Gates (2) • all present facilities • any safe natural environment • ATV trails • bridle paths • Burncoat park to the Midstate • Cherry Valley • Schools • for horseback riding • Hill at top of Parker St. • Hot Dog Annie's • Manville • Mid state trail/ moose hill area • NYATI • Scenic places • Stores • Woods • stafford street • rochdale to Leicester center • Town Common • Rochdale • Lakes • Fields • connect to Blackstone Valley bike path 				

14. Do you ever take out of town guests for a drive to show off scenic parts of Leicester?:

	YES	NO	No Response	Total
Response Total	100	434	35	569
Response Percent	18%	76%	6%	100%

If so, where?

Location (activities with at least 2 responses)	# of Responses (in order of frequency)
Coopers Farm	10
Hot Dog Annies	10
Moose Hill	7
Town Common	7
Spider Gates/Quaker Cemetery	6
Back Roads	4
Henshaw Street	4
Lakes & Ponds	4
Paxton Street (Rte. 56)	4
Stiles Reservoir	4
Historic Sites or Buildings	3
Manville Street	3
Reservoirs	3
Schools	3
Town Hall	3
Whittemore Street	3
Breezy Gardens	2
Castle Restaurant	2
Farms	2
Mills	2
River Street	2

Other Locations Listed (one response each)	
Airport Hill	Lyon's Park
Becker College	Marshall Street
Breezy Bend	Mulberry Street
Buddy's Spa	Parker Street
Burncoat Park	Parks
Christ Church	Pine & Charles
Churches	Pine Street area
Dead Horse Hill	Reservoir Street
Golf courses	Revolutionary war cemetery
Greenville Pond	Rochdale
Henshaw Pond	Route 9 West
Hillcrest	Salminen Drive
Hyland Ave	Stafford Street
Johnson's Farm	Town Center
Leicester Center	Trails
Leicester Drive-In	Wal-Mart
Llama Farm	Worcester Airport

15. What is your favorite part of town? What makes this place special?

Note: Numbered responses are exact responses provided. The second column breaks the answers into general categories. Where more than one favorite place is listed, the first place listed was used. In general, places only listed once were categorized as “Other.”

Favorite Place	Category
1. Although strictly speaking it is mostly in Spencer. The western side of Burncoat Pond. Along the Mid-State Trail and the area between the lobes. This area is one of the few remaining “wilderness” parcels left in town and still supports some wildlife.	Burncoat
2. Burncoat Lake – very pretty place.	Burncoat
3. Burncoat Park – I’ve played softball there ever since I was a little kid.	Burncoat
4. Burncoat Park/Pond – quiet and peaceful & it’s where I grew up.	Burncoat
5. Burncoat Park/snowmobiling	Burncoat
6. Burncoat Pond, because it is within walking distance and it’s usually quiet near the one lane bridge (that should be fixed by now by the way).	Burncoat
7. Burncoat park the wild life and plants	Burncoat Park
8. Cedar Meadow Lake – Recreational, snowmobiling & fishing.	Cedar Meadow Lake
9. My favorite place is the power lines in Cherry Valley because I ride my Quad all the time.	Cherry Valley
10. Cherry Valley because there are so much of my friends that live there.	Cherry Valley
11. Cherry Valley courts, a lot of history went on down there.	Cherry Valley
12. My favorite place in town is Cherry Valley, where I live. It feels safe there and it’s impossible to get lost or anything.	Cherry valley
13. The Little League Field because it’s the cleanest park.	Community Field
14. Community Field because I play soccer there & spend a lot of time there.	Community Field
15. Community Field, I’ve scored tons of goals there.	Community Field
16. Community field, the football games that I use to watch there.	Community Field
17. Community field. Football games.	Community Field
18. Community Field. (2)	Community Field
19. Community Park, soccer memories.	Community Field
20. I would say Community Field for sports.	Community Field
21. My favorite place in Town is Community field and Rochdale park. Those fields/parks are where I practiced/played soccer there.	Community Field
22. Cooper Hilltop Farm This place is special because it maintains open productive space,it’s a working farm ,the last one in Leicester. There is	Coopers

Favorite Place	Category
significant wildlife and a serene atmosphere about the property.	
23. Besides my home & neighborhood, Cooper's Dairy, because farms are important, also unique because it bottles and sells its milk.	Coopers
24. Cooper's Farm	Coopers
25. Cooper's Farm – Hot Dog Annie's	Coopers
26. Cooper's Farm – very scenic – beautiful sunsets.	Coopers
27. Cooper's Farm.	Coopers
28. Cooper's farm, Cows and kittens in the spring. Great milk too!	Coopers
29. Coopers Farm and it's tradition on keeping the process working and continuing for generations.	Coopers
30. Cumberland Farms & Dunkin Donuts, because I stop there a lot. Also the softball field because I'm always playing, but softball players should have a better field because the baseball team does.	Cumberland Farms
31. Cumberland Farms.	Cumberland Farms
32. Cumbie's, chill zones.	Cumberland Farms
33. Cumby's	Cumberland Farms
34. Cumby's, it's the only place in Leicester that I use other than the school.	Cumberland Farms
35. Cumby's. It's a public place with more than 5 people talking.	Cumberland Farms
36. Haven't been everywhere	Don't know
37. I am still new to the town and so do not know many places.	Don't know
38. I don't have a favorite spot YET, but I do think the Town Common is beautiful.	Don't know
39. I don't have a favorite.	Don't know
40. I don't have a one special place. Leicester is a wonderful town and overall wonderful people. Money sense is lacking and big mistakes have been made. Bad choices that were not in the best interest of our town are still being made every day.	Don't know
41. I don't have one.	Don't know
42. I don't know.(2)	Don't know
43. I don't really have a favorite part. This place is special because it's a small town and everyone's close to each other.	Don't know
44. I don't really have a favorite place, but if I did, I wouldn't want it to be taken away. I feel we are building a lot in Leicester and we should STOP! It's getting busy now and it's not quiet anymore.	Don't know
45. I really don't have a favorite place.	Don't know
46. I'm not sure	Don't know
47. Undecided.	Don't know
48. The Leicester Drive-in that closed.	Drive-In
49. The Leicester drive-ins. It had been around for a while and now it's closed. It just needed work and I was the only drive-in I know of that was nearby.	Drive-In

Favorite Place	Category
50. Drive in = Historic. Hot Dog Annie's = great food = Icon	Drive-in
51. Drive In. Many memories with friends. Subway – wicked good food!	Drive-in
52. Drive-in – lots of memories	Drive-in
53. Drive-in = historic. High school = activities. Hot dog Annie's = icon.	Drive-in
54. Drive-Ins – old.	Drive-in
55. Drive-ins, but it is closed right now.	Drive-in
56. Drive-ins, it's a fun place to hang out in the summer with friends.	Drive-in
57. I like the drive-in – not many towns have those anymore.	Drive-in
58. The Drive-In because I go there with my family since I was a kid	Drive-in
59. The drive-in because it's fun and I have so many childhood memories.	Drive-in
60. The drive-in because you can spend summer nights watching movies with family & friends.	Drive-in
61. The drive-in since you can see 2-movies for \$20.00 a car-full.	Drive-in
62. The drive-in! SUBWAY!	Drive-in
63. The Drive-In, food places, and Rochdale park. The drive-in is fun to go to, the food places have good food, and Rochdale Park holds lots of amazing games.	Drive-in
64. The drive-in, it is one of the last drive-ins standing, thus making it very special to the Town	Drive-in
65. The drive-in, it is unique	Drive-in
66. The drive-in, it's fun and different.	Drive-in
67. The drive-in/family ties	Drive-in
68. The drive-ins.	Drive-in
69. The Leicester Drive-In, I have been going there since I was little and now I take my son every year. When I heard it may close I was so sad. There are no other drive-ins close enough to go to. I know a lot of other people from our town and not from our town who you be very upset to see it go. It just needs to be maintained better that's all.	Drive-In
70. I like several places in town where there are <u>still</u> wide open fields. It makes it homey.	Fields
71. Primary-Memorial-High School field system. Recall several very successful and fun soccer tourneys. Also, great for sledding & practices & games.	Fields
72. Fields, playing baseball behind the school.	Fields
73. Hillcrest Golf Course, close to home and very family friendly.	Hillcrest
74. Hillcrest Golf Course, inexpensive golf.	Hillcrest
75. Hillcrest, I've recently learned to golf and my family and I enjoy the golf course. Bruce & Gerry have done a great job with the course and bar/restaurant.	Hillcrest
76. Hillcrest. Golfing & snowmobiling	Hillcrest
77. I live near the Hillcrest Golf Course, so I take my friends there and we watch the sunset.	Hillcrest
78. The trails behind Hillcrest, its fun for a walk.	Hillcrest
79. The view from Hillcrest parking lot. An undeveloped view. Sunset.	Hillcrest

Favorite Place	Category
80. Home	Home/house
81. Home	Home/house
82. Home! & Church (Greenville Baptist). It's inviting, welcoming! The Library – the women are friendly and there are lots of activities, and the kids and the books.	Home/house
83. Home, Cricklewood Trail in back is fun.	Home/house
84. Home, I love our land and location.	Home/house
85. Home, it's cozy.	Home/house
86. Home. Forested area	Home/house
87. Home. I live there.	Home/house
88. I like my house. It is set back from the road on a quiet street. I am surrounded by trees. It's very private. I would not like the land around my house to be cleared to make space for recreation.	Home/house
89. It is my house because everywhere else is <u>BORING</u> !	Home/house
90. My home	Home/house
91. My home – historic value – old town feel – my part in preserving history.	Home/house
92. My home and the trails because I'm there a lot.	Home/house
93. My home family.	Home/house
94. My home, because I live there.	Home/house
95. My home, because it's my home.	Home/house
96. My home, because there's stuff to do there.	Home/house
97. My home, my family makes it special.	Home/house
98. My home.	Home/house
99. My home. I am please with the school system.	Home/house
100. My house	Home/house
101. My house	Home/house
102. My house	Home/house
103. My house	Home/house
104. My house	Home/house
105. My house	Home/house
106. My house – my bed.	Home/house
107. My house – trails for dirt-biking.	Home/house
108. My house & Hot Dog Annie's	Home/house
109. My house and Hot Dog Annie's. It's special because I can eat there after football.	Home/house
110. My house because I feel comfortable there. (2)	Home/house
111. My house because I live there and hot dog annie's because they are good.	Home/house
112. My house because I live there.	Home/house
113. My house because I live there.	Home/house
114. My house because I live there.	Home/house
115. My house because it's quiet and it's my house.	Home/house
116. My house because it's where I live.	Home/house
117. My house because my family lives there.	Home/house
118. My house because there's a lot of history and I like history.	Home/house

Favorite Place	Category
119. My house cuz all my stuff's here.	Home/house
120. My house or my friend's houses.	Home/house
121. My house, because I live there.(6)	Home/house
122. My house, because it is where I live.	Home/house
123. My house, because it's close to Worcester.	Home/house
124. My house, because it's so warm and cozy. Also Mike's Donuts and Dunkin' Donuts.	Home/house
125. My house, because it's the nicest place in Leicester.	Home/house
126. My house, because it's the only place anything remotely interesting happens in this town.	Home/house
127. My house, Dunkin' Donuts. It's mine.+	Home/house
128. My house, for its bed.	Home/house
129. My house, for obvious reasons.	Home/house
130. My house, I can sleep there.	Home/house
131. My house, I live in it.(2)	Home/house
132. My house, I live there.	Home/house
133. My house, I love it and the surroundings.	Home/house
134. My house, I sleep there.	Home/house
135. My house, it is very relaxing.	Home/house
136. My house, it's mine. (2)	Home/house
137. My house, it's where I live.	Home/house
138. My house, location and family.	Home/house
139. My house, my family makes it special.	Home/house
140. My house.	Home/house
141. My house.	Home/house
142. My house.	Home/house
143. My house. I live there.	Home/house
144. My house. It makes me feels safe.	Home/house
145. My house. It's private.	Home/house
146. My house.(2)	Home/house
147. My house...I live there.	Home/house
148. My house...so I can sleep.	Home/house
149. My neighborhood because it's safe and there are fond memories.	Home/house
150. My neighborhood, it's quiet and peaceful.	Home/house
151. My Home. Because my family is here	Home/house
152. Hot Dog Annie's. It's a tradition, and the kids love it. It ties w/ Cooper's Farm. :)	Hot Dog Annies
153. Hot Dog Annie's, Quaker Cemetery cause our relatives are buried there.	Hot Dog Annies
154. Fatty Dogs (Hot Dog Annie's Dawgy!)	Hot Dog Annies
155. Hot Dog Annie' – the food's good.	Hot Dog Annies
156. Hot dog Annie's	Hot Dog Annies
157. Hot Dog Annie's – yummy!	Hot Dog Annies
158. Hot Dog Annie's Baby	Hot Dog Annies
159. Hot Dog Annie's it's just what Leicester is old but still getting better	Hot Dog Annies

Favorite Place	Category
with time.	
160. Hot dog Annie's, Wal-Mart, Town Town Common.	Hot Dog Annies
161. Hot Dog Annie's. Best hot dogs (bbq)	Hot Dog Annies
162. Hot Dog Annie's. Great memories, special treat for the kids!	Hot Dog Annies
163. Hot Dog Annies	Hot Dog Annies
164. Hot dog Annies – best hot dogs around. Primary school playground – everyone has memories there.	Hot Dog Annies
165. Hot dog annies – they have good hot dogs.	Hot Dog Annies
166. Hotdog Annie's because there is a lot of hotdogs there. Also Town Hall to watch recreational basketball games.	Hot Dog Annies
167. Hotdog Annie's, great food & it's a part of Leicester.	Hot Dog Annies
168. Hotdog Annie's, they have hotdogs.	Hot Dog Annies
169. I like Hotdog Annie's; it's old & wonderful.	Hot Dog Annies
170. My favorite part of town is Hotdog Annie's and where the three main schools are.	Hot Dog Annies
171. My favorite place in town is Hotdog Annie's because it is a place that people travel from all other towns to come to.	Hot Dog Annies
172. Johnson's Pond, it's beautiful, watching the sunset.	Lakes/Ponds
173. The lake, it's peaceful.	Lakes/Ponds
174. The lakes, ponds, and reservoirs and the Castle for the great food.	Lakes/Ponds
175. Lakes	Lakes/Ponds
176. Lake Sargent, it is a quiet, private spot. Bandstand, we got married there.	Lakes/Ponds
177. The lakes and ponds are nice, but there is not enough public access for recreational activities on these waterbodies.	Lakes/Ponds
178. My favorite part of Leicester is the pond across from my house. It's perfect for ice skating and kayaking.	Lakes/Ponds
179. Greenville Pond...a pristine and undeveloped waterway with habitat for Wood duck, fox, pheasant, turkey, deer, wood cock, a myriad of birds and please dont let it be developed.	Lakes/Ponds
180. Greenville pond, quiet and no large boats or personnel watercraft	Lakes/Ponds
181. The ponds in town – give the children something to do both during summer, spring, fall and winter seasons.	Lakes/Ponds
182. Hiking at reservoir	Lakes/Ponds
183. I love the reservoir. It is a nice place to go for a walk.	Lakes/Ponds
184. I walk around Stiles, Parker extension, it's still natural and fairly unspoiled. I hope it stays that way.	Lakes/Ponds
185. I LOVE TO GO TO THE AREAS AROUND THE RESERVOIRS TO WALK WITH MY KIDS AND MY DOG, NAMELY HENSHAW AND NEAR THE NAZARETH. IT IS VERY PEACEFUL AND A GREAT WAY TO BE OUT AND ABOUT IN ALL SEASONS.	Lakes/Ponds
186. By the reservoirs. What makes it special is that it is undeveloped.	Lakes/Ponds
187. Shaw pond and the trails. I love to like and enjoy the peace & quiet.	Lakes/Ponds
188. High school, big gotta track & it's my school. The Town Town Commons beautiful & quite.	LHS

Favorite Place	Category
189. High School, it's awesome.	LHS
190. Leicester High because I work out.	LHS
191. Leicester High School is the best. The traditions, etc. make me proud to be a Wolverine.	LHS
192. Leicester High School, Uncle Sam's Pizza.	LHS
193. My favorite place in town is LHS, because I play sports there.	LHS
194. The high school because all my friends go there	LHS
195. The high school gym because I play basketball there.	LHS
196. The high school is my favorite part of town because I'm proud of my school and I've spent the last four years of my life here.	LHS
197. The high school, real sense of town pride.	LHS
198. The High School, the atmosphere.	LHS
199. The High School. Memories.	LHS
200. My favorite place in town is the High School Fields. Rochdale / Community Field and the Town Town Common, important cause all recreation is there.	LHS
201. Leicester Public Library because it's charming & historic	LHS
202. The Leicester Public Library, my children and I enjoy exchanging different books all season.	Library
203. The town library is so beautiful! I love the inside too – very cozy but a little too cramped.	Library
204. Hammy...tough one....probably the library. It's so unique and I've loved it since day one.	Library
205. Lions Park, the up keep of the park	Lions park
206. Lions Park: I helped make it. High School: It's beautiful and I love going there.	Lions park
207. Lyons Park – my son loves walking and playing on the paths- well maintained scenery – close to home.	Lions park
208. The Middle School Basketball Courts / Coopers Farm – me and my friends hang out there.	Middle school
209. The middle school because a lot of stuff is around there.	Middle school
210. I love Moose Hill Reservoir! It is a very scenic area to walk through. I wish it was closer to my home.	Moose hill
211. Moose Hill for sledding and walking.	Moose hill
212. Moose Hill Reservoir area because of the local wilderness.	Moose hill
213. Moose hill. Special memories of time spent there as a kid and now with my own kids.	Moose hill
214. Moosehill – awesome sledding	Moose hill
215. Moosehill.	Moose hill
216. Moose Hill - wildlife abounds	Moose Hill
217. Where I live, because I can easily walk to the Rochdale Package Store for energy drinks and I can ride my 4-wheeler because I live in the woods.	Neighborhood
218. My neighborhood, safe and good to walk or the High School track for	Neighborhood

Favorite Place	Category
same reasons.	
219. My neighborhood. It's clean.	Neighborhood
220. My neighborhood; good people live there and lots of kids/teens.	Neighborhood
221. My neighborhoods	Neighborhood
222. My old neighborhood on Fairview Drive because it has the beach / playground and lots of people to socialize with.	Neighborhood
223. My own street & neighborhood. Special: Village neighborhood with smaller, unpretentious homes, established neighborhoods with friendly people. Narrow, dead-end street so don't have to worry much about traffic when I walk with grandchildren. Mill ponds, pastures and woodlands nearby.	Neighborhood
224. My neighborhood because it is quiet yet convenient to places I need to get to.	Neighborhood
225. Don't have one.	None
226. No where this town sucks.	None
227. None	None
228. None it's so boring here. There is nothing to do.	None
229. None, maybe school.	None
230. None. (2)	None
231. Nowhere	None
232. Nowhere	None
233. There isn't a place in town I like, we don't love anything.	None
234. There isn't one it's a boring town.	None
235. This place sucks.	None
236. Breezy Bend. Country, yet close to the city. The lamas, Breezy Gardens, Everlast Nursery.	Other
237. Becker College. I can walk there.	Other
238. Airport hill.	Other
239. I like the back roads and the pond areas	Other
240. Baseball field by the police station nicely done.	Other
241. Driving by Breezy Gardens and Everlast it just seems that this atmosphere it was Leicester is farming, etc.	Other
242. As a member of the Fire Department I enjoy being at the Fire Station on Water Street. I enjoy learning about the building's history and history of the past members that have come through and proudly served the town of Leicester.	Other
243. Home gardens. Somewhat peaceful & quiet and off the main road.	Other
244. Leicester Country Club	Other
245. Leroux's – has drinks.	Other
246. Leroux's Cumby's Dunkin's.	Other
247. Mannville Street, Whittemore Street, Town Common, Mills.	Other
248. Memorial School, no one is ever there.	Other
249. A place in my neighborhood. A waterfall because it is quiet and it isn't trashed.	Other

Favorite Place	Category
250. Frank Germaine's house.	Other
251. Green Mountain Club.	Other
252. I find it boring.	Other
253. I like Leicester because it is modern and well-known.	Other
254. I like to go everywhere in the town because it is small.	Other
255. It's our secret, nobody goes there.	Other
256. Jan's Beer Mart, great service, fun people, I work there.	Other
257. Kelly's house, it's away from my house.	Other
258. Ms. Fiores class, Room 202 in high school! ☺	Other
259. My 4-wheeler trails.	Other
260. My family's farm, I can use the area for ATV's or snowmobiling or whatever comes to mind.	Other
261. My favorite place in town is my friend's houses.	Other
262. My favorite place in town is the outdoor Middle School Courts or the L.H.S. basketball court because I like to place basketball & tennis.	Other
263. Paxton Street, because it mainly the road to Paxton.	Other
264. Route 9 Gym.	Other
265. RPG I can go there and see my friends.	Other
266. That church right next to Town Hall (I think it's the Federated Church). I love the façade. It reminds me of a castle – I've photographed it in the Fall & the pictures came out gorgeous!	Other
267. That's a secret.	Other
268. The dam near Community Field, memories.	Other
269. The Frisbee Gold Course because it's fun.	Other
270. The leaving Leicester sign.	Other
271. The town is quiet.	Other
272. The whole town – It's a great place.	Other
273. West end because I can play paintball.	Other
274. Wherever the party is, and the cops aren't.	Other
275. Giguere Gymnastics, it is right near my house and it has so many things to do.	Other
276. Any place that hasn't had a new road built through it in the past ten years. These places are nice because they are not over-populated.	Other
277. I like any area that has water. It's too bad that there isn't anyplace in the Town of Leicester when one can enjoy swimming as we did years ago....all this water and it can only be used if you have a boat....sad!!	Other
278. The north of Route 9. The open fields	Other
279. Its rural character. I love that we can through town and see horses, cows, turkeys, etc manyplaces. I grew up loving that and as an adult appreciated it so much more. My children and I hike through many wooded areas in town. We hike through the woods near Sabina Circle to Parker St and the lakes. They also hike at their grandparents home on Birchwood Drive – they go through the creek near Mayflower and into the woods up to Memorial School with their grandpa. I love that my	Other

Favorite Place	Category
children can do this even though the town is much more developed today than it was when I was a child.	
280. Paxton Street area near Water Bodies-beautiful area	Other
281. Pine Grove Cemetery - excellent for walking	Other
282. My family from the south enjoys the old stone walls – we drive around to find them.	Other
283. Becker tennis courts...fun!	Other
284. Tennis courts – favorite sport	Other
285. High school track.	Other
286. In a tree; I like tree climbing.	Other
287. (1) Leicester Primary School Park. It's safe, not known by outsiders, is close and isn't so big that you can't easily see your child. (2) The reservoir by Spider Gates, it's beautiful. My favorite street any time of year, (Kettle Brook Reservoir).	Park/Playground
288. Girls softball parks keeps kids out of trouble	Park/Playground
289. Park.	Park/Playground
290. Primary School Park (my son loves it there).	Park/Playground
291. Primary School playground.	Park/Playground
292. Park, so I can play football or baseball	Park/Playground
293. I like the parks & schools, because it's pretty & fun to beat.	Park/Playground
294. All the parks....my kids love to be with their friends in a safe, fun place	Park/Playground
295. The Primary School Playground because I'm a kid at heart.	Park/Playground
296. Playground, kids enjoy.	Park/Playground
297. Playgrounds and anywhere I can ride my bike because I like having fun..	Park/Playground
298. Dunkin Donuts and Uncle Sams	Restaurant/Fast Food
299. Dunkin Donuts, coffee is good.	Restaurant/Fast Food
300. Dunkin Donuts, I like donuts.	Restaurant/Fast Food
301. Dunkin Donuts, it's good.	Restaurant/Fast Food
302. Dunkin Donuts, the coffee.	Restaurant/Fast Food
303. Dunkin' Donuts because it's amazing and the drive-in.	Restaurant/Fast Food
304. Dunkin' Donuts because Leicester runs on Dunkins.	Restaurant/Fast Food
305. Dunkin' Donuts, because everyone goes there for food	Restaurant/Fast Food
306. Dunkin' Donuts, Hot Dog Annie's	Restaurant/Fast Food
307. Dunkin' Donuts, it's just amazing.	Restaurant/Fast Food
308. Dunkin' Donuts, it's near my house and I can go almost everyday.	Restaurant/Fast Food
309. Dunkin's.	Restaurant/Fast Food

Favorite Place	Category
310. My favorite place in town, Dunkin Donuts ☺ YUM!	Restaurant/Fast Food
311. My favorite place is Dunkin' Donuts because they have Coolattas.	Restaurant/Fast Food
312. My favorite place in town is the Castle Restaurant because it is a unique dining place in our town.	Restaurant/Fast Food
313. The Castle – it makes our town interesting – their food is good.	Restaurant/Fast Food
314. My favorite place is Eller's on the Hill.	Restaurant/Fast Food
315. Mike's Donuts, the food is good.	Restaurant/Fast Food
316. Mike's doughnuts. Nice to see a lot of people.	Restaurant/Fast Food
317. Ming Wok, good food.	Restaurant/Fast Food
318. Ming's Wok, best Chinese food & Buddy's Spa, greatest restaurant near me.	Restaurant/Fast Food
319. Everywhere.	Restaurant/Fast Food
320. Food place because they fill my hunger.	Restaurant/Fast Food
321. Pizza place. Good food.	Restaurant/Fast Food
322. Zimmy's.	Restaurant/Fast Food
323. Subway – lean, mean grilling cuisine.	Restaurant/Fast Food
324. Subway, because I love subs.	Restaurant/Fast Food
325. Subway, it's <u>delicious</u> !	Restaurant/Fast Food
326. Subway, the drive-in.	Restaurant/Fast Food
327. My favorite place is Uncle Sam's and Cumberland Farms. They are only the place I go to.	Restaurant/Fast Food
328. I like Rochdale, because it's small and it's like living in the woods.	Rochdale
329. Rochdale, where I live! It's quiet and I hope remains so with just some small local businesses (Colby's Buddy's Spa) but no major banks, etc. It's historic and typical "small town."	Rochdale
330. My favorite is Rochdale Park, because it's close & it's fun to walk around	Rochdale Park
331. Rochdale Park: I live on it so the view of the pond at sunset is beautiful.	Rochdale Park
332. Rochdale Park	Rochdale Park
333. Rochdale Park – baseball. Hot Dog Annie's – good food. Leicester Country Club – golf all the time.	Rochdale Park
334. Rochdale Park – clean up for swimming like the old days. Courts already established. Open fields for sports.	Rochdale Park
335. Rochdale Park & Community Field, because of the soccer fields.	Rochdale Park

Favorite Place	Category
336. Rochdale Park / Community Field / basketball / tennis courts – I am able to play sports.	Rochdale Park
337. Rochdale Park because all of the soccer & baseball games it has there.	Rochdale Park
338. Rochdale Park because I can skateboard there.	Rochdale Park
339. Rochdale Park because I like to play soccer there and they have a swing set, a basketball court and a baseball field.	Rochdale Park
340. Rochdale Park because it was the first playground I ever used.	Rochdale Park
341. Rochdale Park because it's the best baseball field in town. Hot Dog Annie's because it's the best food place in town.	Rochdale Park
342. Rochdale Park because of the Skate Park.	Rochdale Park
343. Rochdale park because we play baseball	Rochdale Park
344. Rochdale Park, because I play soccer there.	Rochdale Park
345. Rochdale Park, because it is where I play soccer and have the best memories from.	Rochdale Park
346. Rochdale Park, Cherry Valley Park, train tracks	Rochdale Park
347. Rochdale Park, I've played sports there my whole life and I love playing sports.	Rochdale Park
348. Rochdale Park, it has a baseball field.	Rochdale Park
349. Rochdale Park, it is where dreams come true.	Rochdale Park
350. Rochdale park, land to run around for my children	Rochdale Park
351. Rochdale Park, Soccer games.	Rochdale Park
352. Rochdale Park, where I play baseball.	Rochdale Park
353. Rochdale Park.	Rochdale Park
354. Rochdale Park. Played High School soccer there.	Rochdale Park
355. Rochdale Park. They got lights for night games.	Rochdale Park
356. Rochdale park. Open space, the pond and recreation area for the youth.	Rochdale Park
357. Rochdale Park, although the basketball and tennis courts are run-down, it is nice to just sit down there and watch baseball on nice summer nights.	Rochdale Park
358. My school I guess I haven't lived here long enough.	School
359. The schools because I have gone to them my whole life.	School
360. ?? – My school because I go there everyday.	School
361. School because I learn.	School
362. School, because I can see my friends.	School
363. School, because of friends.	School
364. School, I come here everyday.	School
365. School, I get to see all my friends.	School
366. School, see friends.	School
367. School. Memories.	School
368. Any soccer field. It's the only fun thing to do in Leicester.	Soccer field
369. Soccer fields – nice to get together.	Soccer fields
370. I like the historical sites in Leicester, like Spider Gates.	Spider Gates
371. Spider Gates and the Llama Farm.	Spider Gates
372. Spider gates. Walking along the river near this place to see the wildlife and colors in the spring and the fall.	Spider Gates

Favorite Place	Category
373. Spider Gates Cemetery- it's a nice walk and it's got spooky stories too	Spider Gates
374. Spider Gates	Spider Gates
375. I like the center of town, there are stores around.	Town Center
376. Leicester Center, because I have fun there with my friends.	Town Center
377. Probably center of Town. It has Dunkin' Donuts and shows character of our Town.	Town Center
378. Probably the center, due to it's history (Rte 9) and the wonderful restsoration & remodeling of the historic buildings.	Town Center
379. The center because you can just hang out there and it's nice to walk through Leicester.	Town Center
380. The center of town. It is quaint, quiet and peaceful.	Town Center
381. Leicester Center, It's the HEART of the Town.	Town Center
382. My favorite place in town is the Town common	Town Common
383. Common	Town Common
384. Common – our house.	Town Common
385. I like the Town Common, the primary school playground and Hotdog Annie's. They are fun places to hang out with friends.	Town Common
386. I love the town common because it reminds me somewhat of an old southern town and that's the kind of place I'd like to live in .	Town Common
387. My favorite is the Town Common, its quiet.	Town Common
388. My favorite place in town would have to be the Center of Town (Town Common, Uncle Sam's, Dunkin Donuts, etc.). It's a place where you can do things (sports, eat, etc.) and still have fun.	Town Common
389. My favorite place is the common because it is quite quiet and scenic	Town Common
390. My favorite place would be the common. It is a place where the community can gather & interact in a safe entertaining way. Ex: festivals, concerts, parades, etc.	Town Common
391. The Cherry Valley Legion, they do a lot for this town.	Town Common
392. The Common – Town Fairs.	Town Common
393. The Common, the small town feel that Leicester has.	Town Common
394. The Common, the small town feel that Leicester has.	Town Common
395. The Town Common – community events.	Town Common
396. The town common, I grew up on Paxton Street near the common and this space is as much a part of my childhood as anything else.	Town Common
397. The Town Common. I like the family friendly events & just the natural feel to it.	Town Common
398. The Town Common/Becker College. This area of town is very nice – I will say I wish the old Police Dept. was taken down as it ruins the look of the common (since new one has been built).	Town Common
399. Town common	Town Common
400. Town Common	Town Common
401. Town Town Common – area trails.	Town Common
402. Town Town Common – fun place for town gatherings.	Town Common
403. Town Town Common – High School & Primary Schools, neat and well	Town Common

Favorite Place	Category
kept, can be used by all.	
404. Town Town Common – I always enjoy the Town Common as a gathering spot for town events.	Town Common
405. Town Town Common – summer concerts	Town Common
406. Town Town Common and Town Hall. Has a historic quality.	Town Common
407. Town Town Common for historic areas.	Town Common
408. Town Town Common is nice. Playground at Primary School is nice.	Town Common
409. Town Town Common, because of the services there	Town Common
410. Town Town Common, summer concerts	Town Common
411. Town Town Common. (3)	Town Common
412. Town Town Common—many town activities take place on the Town Common during spring through fall – very historical setting.	Town Common
413. Washburn Square and the Town Town Common The History of the area makes it very special as well as an area to gather for the Towns people.	Town Common
414. The Town Town Common, because the summer concerts and Harvest Fair are held there. The bandstand is pretty and there is parking available.	Town Common
415. The Town Common. Timeless.	Town Common
416. the Town Common area, historic value	Town Common
417. The town Town Common is our favorite spot in Leicester. The beautiful view of the Antique homes, and other buildings.	Town Common
418. sitting at the town Town Common in the summertime at the concerts with families and friends	Town Common
419. The town hall	Town Hall
420. Town Hall. My mom sang there when she was little. She is now 70 years old.	Town Hall
421. I love Towtaid Park; I hate how kids screw it up. I think it should be fixed up.	Towtaid park
422. Towtaid Park, I guess, because it's close and somewhere I can chill.	Towtaid park
423. Towtaid Park, I like to go down there and just hand out.	Towtaid park
424. Towtaid.	Towtaid park
425. Trail leading to Quaker Cemetery: Wide & Beautiful. Moose Hill Reservoir: Great hiking, views.	Trails
426. Trails.	Trails
427. Trails.	Trails
428. Enjoy the trails in Town	Trails
429. THE TRAIL SYSTEM. THE WILDLIFE.	Trails
430. The Valley courts because it's a good spot to hang around with people or shoot around. A lot of things are possible to do there.	Valley courts
431. THE VALLEY COURTS!	Valley courts
432. The Valley courts.	Valley courts
433. Wal-Mart	Wal-Mart
434. Wal-Mart, great prices.	Wal-Mart
435. Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart
436. My friends ☺ and the new Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart

Favorite Place	Category
437. The woods and High School.	Woods
438. The woods because it's quiet.	Woods
439. untouched wooded areas that are quiet and secluded and perfect for walking.	Woods
440. My friend's back yard/field. Good memories, privacy, I love the outdoors. A few of my friend's farms, similar reasons.	Yard
441. The view from my window. It is wetlands and can't be built on. I look out and see wild turkeys, deer, and all different kinds of wildlife.	Yard
442. #1. My own yard, family makes it special. #2. Burncoat Pond, many summers at grandparent's house.	Yard
443. My back yard – that's what life is all about – what you do in your backyard-entertain-relax-live life, it's all in your backyard.	Yard
444. My backyard, acres of untouched land.	Yard
445. My backyard. Privacy and lots of trees!	Yard
446. My yard. It is peaceful, wooded, and I take pride in it's maintenance. My neighbor heaps trash all over his yard (and I have been told nothing can be done about this) How can we attract quality people to Leicester?	Yard

16. What is the biggest change, opportunity or threat facing Leicester's character?

Notes: This question was not particularly useful because the vast majority of respondents did not specify whether or not the issue identified was a change, opportunity or threat. Numbered responses are exact responses provided. The second column breaks the answers into general categories. Where more than one opportunity and/or threat, the first or predominant issue raised was used. Items not easily classified or listed only once were categorized as "Other." The category "Development" includes statements that are either in favor of, unclear, or neutral regarding development.

Opportunity/Threat	Category
1. Money	Budget
2. Budget	Budget
3. Budget! Seems like we're getting the short end of the stick. It think it's turning into too much of a business town. We like our peace and quiet! Not all these businesses coming in!	Budget
4. No money	Budget
5. Not enough money	Budget
6. Lack of state funding for schools for education, arts, music, and sports.	Budget
7. Low income housing & education cuts – school needs more programs & less cuts.	Budget
8. No money.	Budget
9. Not have enough money for the schools.	Budget
10. Budget cuts.	Budget
11. Money, we don't have enough money.	Budget

Opportunity/Threat	Category
12. More money for education....That I would be willing to pay hire taxes for! Teach more than the MCAS	Budget
13. Withering tax base.	Budget
14. Robberies.	Crime
15. Criminals. Police.	Crime
16. New stores coming to town.	Development
17. Commercial businesses coming to Town.	Development
18. New companies coming into town.	Development
19. Development on Route 9 West biggest change. May not threaten character of town, per-say. Threat = if town allows new business with excessive tax incentives.	Development
20. The biggest change is the new development of Route 9 West –Great! And it is a wonderful opportunity for services offered and jobs. Threat – save the rest of our “open space” for reservation. Keep housing development at a minimum.	Development
21. Development commercially.	Development
22. Route 9 West growth has both positive and negatives.	Development
23. Leicester is finally getting some business in town.	Development
24. Leicester is beginning to grow and have more stores and restaurants. This is a good opportunity for Leicester because we can just go into town to get groceries rather than going from town to town.	Development
25. DEVELOPMENTS.	Development
26. Leicester is moving to a more industrialized community.	Development
27. All the businesses.	Development
28. Land development.	Development
29. All new buildings being put in.	Development
30. More buildings going up.	Development
31. All the houses.	Development
32. Building more and more stores in Leicester.	Development
33. Getting chain stores, food stores & fast food places.	Development
34. Chain stores.	Development
35. Route 9 West turning town into a retail town.	Development
36. The expansion on RT.9 with Walmart will be a great asset to the community. I would hate to lose the Drive-In, it is also a favorite for the family that has become a yearly tradition. Hopefully the area surrounding will clean up and keep it a valuable commodity.	Development
37. I think things are going to change with the development of the Route 9 West area, and hopefully for the good. This town absolutely needs business and the taxes they pay to be here.	Development
38. Commercial Areas. I think forming the commercial district on Rte.9 West was a very smart thing to do.It will bring in much needed revenue for the town while containing the establishments to one particular area.	Development
39. 350. We area growing town and need to grow. We also need to help our children grow by affording them the same opportunities we had as kids 20-30 years ago - more summer programs - more activities that are not team sport orientated - more free play or variety of sports. We need to strengthen our school programs at all levels. We need to protect the free space as to not over burden the schools with additional children.	Development
40. biggest change - development of Rte 9 west.	Development
41. development	Development
42. Route Nine west growth	Development
43. More bigger businesses	Development
44. Business	Development
45. All the new buildings coming in might make this become a market for other businesses.	Development
46. Fast food places coming in.	Development

Opportunity/Threat	Category
47. The bringing in of large stores.	Development
48. Building new houses and enlarging the town	Development
49. The size	Development
50. I think bringing business into town will help with the tax base.	Development
51. How much commercial development will be too much or not.	Development
52. Development of high value houses.	Development
53. Many complexes, less single family properties.	Development
54. More big store chains.	Development
55. Building bigger.	Development
56. I'm not sure. Perhaps other developing towns?	Don't Know
57. I'm unsure.	Don't Know
58. I don't know (20)	Don't Know
59. I really don't know.	Don't Know
60. Don't think there is one.	Don't Know
61. Who knows.	Don't know
62. I'm not sure...	Don't know
63. I have no idea!	Don't know
64. I'm not sure.	Don't Know
65. No clue.	Don't know
66. no aware of it yet.	Don't know
67. The impact of drugs & alcohol on the school systems	Drugs/violence
68. Drugs.	Drugs/violence
69. Gangster kids.	Drugs/violence
70. We are being over run with gangs, drugs and violence.	Drugs/violence
71. Drugs and violence.	Drugs/violence
72. All of the drugs that have been going around.	Drugs/violence
73. Gangs.	Drugs/violence
74. It's irresponsible & gang youths.	Drugs/violence
75. Would like to see more industry in town for resident convenience and tourism.	Lack of business growth
76. Lack of business	Lack of business growth
77. No food places.	Lack of business growth
78. Business Development is needed in the Town	Lack of business growth
79. Threat:Lack of a business base to share increased taxes. We spend a lot of fuel (gas) traveling to other surrounding towns to shop. Biggest Change:I think Walmart is an asset to our town. It will provide jobs for our citizens. A supermarket that we sooo needed Opportunity: Utilize what we have and encourage new businesses and restaurants. Keep your business in town. Don't discourage businesses from coming into our town. Every town around us is changing. Remaining so rural sometimes is a negative not a positive. People may want to ride through and say how pretty it is, but they don't spend any money here. You should also ask your young people what they would like to see happen in town. They are our future and should have input. We want to keep them after they graduate, not loose them. They are the future taxpayers!	Lack of business growth
80. Lack of recreation	Lack of Recreation
81. There is very little children's recreation – I find myself either in Spencer or Auburn to find a nice park for my 6 year old & toddler. Trash pickup along rural areas by town is weak. Fines should be posted more and enforced.	Lack of Recreation
82. Not enough recreation fields for our youth!	Lack of Recreation

Opportunity/Threat	Category
83. Littering and low school budgets.	Littering/vandalism
84. Vandalism	Littering/vandalism
85. Kids are vandalizing everything & mistreating them, for example, Rochdale Park.	Littering/vandalism
86. Pollution, trash is thrown all over streets.	Littering/vandalism
87. Vandalizing.	Littering/vandalism
88. Not enough places like restaurants and grocery stores. During walks along RT 56 (not the most desirable place to walk), the amount of trash along side the road is staggering. Above all, the litter ruins anything that could be considered scenic	Littering/vandalism
89. Litter is atrocious!!! If you see someone litter, there is nothing you can do about it!!!	Littering/vandalism
90. Over growth and numerous areas of garbage in large quantities. The town and its citizens should assist in the clean up process a few times a year.	Littering/vandalism
91. Too much industry, trash, litter	Littering/vandalism
92. Nothing (4)	None
93. It's small and has nothing	None
94. Nothing really.	None
95. None. (3)	None
96. There is nothing to do.	Nothing to Do
97. That it's so boring and country. There are also many streets that have pot holes – it's terrible.	Nothing to Do
98. Not much to do around here.	Nothing to Do
99. Hillcrest Golf Course because there is no way to stop the balls from going into the street, house getting hit and car's getting hit. It seems only the worst players go there and cause a threat to those around.	Other
100. Expensive housing and higher taxes	Other
101. Low income housing.	Other
102. The society of Leicester High School	Other
103. Dunkin' Donuts	Other
104. The apartment complex	Other
105. Attacking Mongolians	Other
106. Jon Gill	Other
107. Immigrants	Other
108. The people who live in it	Other
109. Biggest change is the new police station	Other
110. The not being able to fundraise for clubs.	Other
111. A Town made for lodging.	Other
112. Other towns	Other
113. Better towns elsewhere.	Other
114. I home we get an indoor B-Ball court.	Other
115. The upcoming generation of young adults.	Other
116. The right balance of big companies and smaller "Mom & Pop" operations.	Other
117. Kids of the future.	Other
118. Lack of facilities (in working order) for youth.	Other

Opportunity/Threat	Category
119. Need a cross walk @ Giguere's/Discovery School House. Hard to get across the street safely when picking up and dropping off my son & his daycare. Route 9 travelers don't like to stop or slow down for people crossing. It is very dangerous! The town should invest in more crosswalks in high pedestrian areas on Route 9 to accommodate walkers!	Other
120. Dunkin Donuts.(2)	Other
121. I think that Olive Garden coming in is cool.	Other
122. Global warming.	Other
123. No Taco Bell!	Other
124. Dumb question.	Other
125. Quality.	Other
126. Yes.	Other
127. Kids, they're all becoming a little bad, causing trouble, doing drugs and drinking and lord knows what else. There should be a program where kids could hang out and stay away from trouble like a boys and girls club.	Other
128. Smokers.	Other
129. Leicester SUCKS, IT'S THE WORST TOWN!!	Other
130. The people living here.	Other
131. Not taken as seriously as we could be.	Other
132. Tom Brennan.	Other
133. People from town willing to communicate or support change. To include families with Special Needs – handicap accessible.	Other
134. Get rid of the apartments.	Other
135. Building apartments in place of recreations.	Other
136. Big companies.	Other
137. Poor planning on the part of the town. Things like Walmart don't raise property value or bring value to the town. It's much the same as bragging on an industrial dump. Yes there necessary but who wants to live near one. Parks, beaches, library educational activities bring value to all. The town common is a good example of good use of town resources. As for trails and systems being, polluted using park rangers or boyscouts or eagle scouts could be a good learning experienced for all involved. Leicester has a lot of history, let's show it off with something similar to the Blackstone valley river area.	Other
138. Probably all of us hoping to have reduced taxes due to the incoming commercial properties. I'd like to see something happen with that old gas station at Leicester Center. Everything looks great up there and that place is an eye sore. Also, the old Alpine Lounge down here in the Valley. What a disaster - especially with the beautiful park on the grounds of the old Cherry	Other
139. Valley school.	Other
140. politics	Other
141. Leicester already has significant land area covered by wetlands, habitat areas, etc. This plan should be careful not to unduly promote further restrictions which would hamper growth in the town. Instead it should objectively look at how growth can occur while preserving & protecting resources.	Other
142. New business brings tax dollar but you actually lose money due to an increase in services.	Other
143. None. Commercial growth being controlled and expanded while keeping the basic feel of the town.	Other
144. INDOOR ICE SKATING RINK.	Other
145. Pollution	Other
146. Preserving what rural character we have left.	Other
147. The Town Town Common. The bandstand – the whole setting around the Town Common. We are very lucky to have such a beautiful Town Common and historic area set off of Rt 9.	Other

Opportunity/Threat	Category
148. That the wildlife is going away.	Other
149. Biggest opportunity is to conserve land & resources now while they still exist. Biggest change to character will be the commercial development along Route 9, a good and welcome change. The biggest threat to Leicester's character are people who want no change.	Other
150. The biggest opportunity facing Leicester's character is expanding their horizons. By this I mean growing in population, businesses, and acknowledgement.	Other
151. It is going to lose its historical atmosphere.	Other
152. There are too many houses being built causing schools to be crowded, forests/woods are being taken away	Over-development
153. There are too many new houses being built. We are losing woods, fields, etc. Nothing new is being planted to restore any of these areas.	Over-development
154. I feel that we are growing quickly and the resources that are available are not enough to accommodate the change in population. Ex: Public safety, updated school enrichment/rec activities for our youth.	Over-development
155. Too many developments.	Over-development
156. 110. Less and less land – more and more new housing. Not caring/restoring the old houses. It's getting crowded and turning into a city. Less healthy – water is contaminated (too often).	Over-development
157. All the new houses	Over-development
158. Allowing too much industry.	Over-development
159. Commercial growth on Rte. 9 must be carefully guided.	Over-development
160. Growth – I want to see Leicester grow however Rte. 9 is already a busy road and will become like Hilden if other arrangements are not made to build roads to easily access major highways.	Over-development
161. Over development with a continued reduction of town services	Over-development
162. Too many new houses being built. It makes the schools over crowded and exposes our town to elements that normally cities have to deal with and we are not set up to handle it.	Over-development
163. The biggest change is all the new places going up.	Over-development
164. Over development.	Over-development
165. Becoming urban, too many people/more stores. Leicester used to be a quiet town.	Over-development
166. Too much housing development	Over-development
167. Zoning laws are not strict enough. We have seen very poor construction on Lake Sargent Drive, including filling in of wetlands. How can this be allowed? Please look to other towns who enforce tasteful building by commercial business. I realize that the tax revenue from these businesses is necessary, but they will follow stricter zoning laws if you enforce them.	Over-development
168. Too many houses being built.	Over-development
169. Too many houses.	Over-development
170. I think the biggest threat is probably all the new houses being built.	Over-development

Opportunity/Threat	Category
171. All these new developments	Over-development
172. All the recent housing developments are harming our small town image	Over-development
173. Too much construction and shopping areas being built.	Over-development
174. Increasing construction of homes. Less forestland/woodlands. I used to walk up my back yard to the cemetery, now there are six new houses. I am unable to walk up in the woods.	Over-development
175. Too many houses being built. Too much development.	Over-development
176. Turning a town into a city.	Over-development
177. Overdevelopment of side roads, farmland, etc.	Over-development
178. The biggest threat is too much business in areas not equipped to handle traffic. Selling all the houses on Route 9 and developing too much makes it hard for those of us on side streets to get out safely.	Over-development
179. Over building.	Over-development
180. Too much development of open/forested land space, especially when roads are driven into land squares.	Over-development
181. New development that's ruining the environment.	Over-development
182. All the houses being built. No more expansion! Leicester should stay a town, not a city.	Over-development
183. Too many businesses crowding it and making it more populated and industrialized.	Over-development
184. Over building of homes.	Over-development
185. Too many houses going in & school classrooms too crowded. We need a bigger high school.	Over-development
186. Housing development; Route 9 development.	Over-development
187. Cutting down more and more trees to build new neighborhoods.	Over-development
188. Developments are being built too often.	Over-development
189. The biggest threat is all the new building going on.	Over-development
190. The continuous building of houses when there's no room left in schools.	Over-development
191. Construction destroying land to build houses.	Over-development
192. We won't be known as a small town / small business area if big cooperates like Dunkin Donuts keep coming in.	Over-development
193. Constant developing.	Over-development
194. Too many businesses – turning into Worcester.	Over-development
195. Too many houses.	Over-development

Opportunity/Threat	Category
196. Houses being built right on top of each other and all the woods being torn down.	Over-development
197. Building houses everywhere.	Over-development
198. Over development by big box businesses – so we look like Route 9/20 in Shrewsbury or Route 12 in Auburn.	Over-development
199. Biggest Threat is pressure to bring large businesses into Town to reduce residential property taxes (an unproven theory). This drives out small locally owned businesses that people can walk to and can meet neighbors at. Also housing development that promotes turning farmland & woodland into large houselots.	Over-development
200. The biggest threat is the destruction of our little town by Wal Mart and the building of homes which are destroying our woodlands and perhaps the ecosystem.	Over-development
201. The biggest threat facing Leicester would be the potential for, out of control growth and development throughout route 9 west. The impact this would have through the center of town in regards to traffic would not be positive. There needs to exist a certain balance between residential and commercial development. We need actual industry not only places to spend money, like chain stores. They do also provide jobs but the majority is lower end employment. Not making an attempt to attract technology driven industry to this community could be considered a threat.	Over-development
202. Threats: Too many homes, with not enough land per unit. Each should have something like 2 acres per unit for all new structures. The very unfortunate development of the Walmart.	Over-development
203. There is too much construction going on all over town....houses; the houses are on top of each other, there is no privacy anymore when it comes to building...the land is being eaten up with new construction.	Over-development
204. 323. Too many housing developments going in where it used to be trees or open fields. With the Walmart and other businesses going in on Rte 9, we need to conserve the open spaces that make Leicester the pretty, quiet place that it has always been.	Over-development
205. Housing and other development, bad planning practices are the biggest threat. The improper distribution of money for the protection of the towns resources is also a big threat. We need to protect our wetlands and open spaces for future generations, in order to do this we need to promote responsible development and wetlands protection/water quality protection. This takes money. The Town should hire a wetland agent to oversee all development projects and potential violations.	Over-development
206. Allowing the contractors to put up all there subdivisions we should increase the lot size requirements witch would also help protect the over populations of schools	Over-development
207. I think all the new developments will have an adverse effect on the character of the town.	Over-development
208. over development by greedy speculators that paid too much for tracts of land. Thank god the housing market is turning, or else our population would be exploding.	Over-development
209. too much development by shoddy contractor's	Over-development
210. The biggest threat is the housing development, regardless to whether it is active adult or other. The challenge is to get a better deal to land owners than a developer can offer.	Over-development
211. Trees cut down	Over-development
212. I hope it doesn't get too commercialized.	Over-development
213. Destroying all the trees and building on the land, it takes away from the country feel.	Over-development
214. Over growth of big houses on small lots. It is time to update zoning laws, lot size requirement.	Over-development
215. Tearing too much woods down.	Over-development

Opportunity/Threat	Category
216. The disappearance of woodland around our waterways.	Over-development
217. I think the biggest threat to Leicester's character is the police force.	Police
218. Leicester P.D. (they need to stop falsely accusing people).	Police
219. Potential for over-expansion of population due to new residential building	Population Growth
220. Over population and overcrowding. Industrialization.	Population Growth
221. All the people moving because of the new stores and restaurants.	Population Growth
222. Ironically, it may be just the business Leicester has recently attracted that will erode the character of the Town – if this business is allowed to develop in the town's historical areas (center of town, Rte. 9 land strip).	Population Growth
223. Growth in population.	Population Growth
224. The population in Leicester	Population Growth
225. The biggest threat is everybody moving to Leicester is going to overpopulate it.	Population Growth
226. Too many people not enough room.	Population Growth
227. Too many poor people.	Population Growth
228. People moving.	Population Growth
229. Over population.	Population Growth
230. Over populated. Too many franchises. Soon it will be like Auburn, over commercialized.	Population Growth
231. Over population & building.	Population Growth
232. Over population due to increased businesses being brought in.	Population Growth
233. Over population.	Population Growth
234. Population growth.	Population Growth
235. The expanding population – the schools are not ready or able to hold so many students and it's a brand new school. It WILL NOT WORK.	Population Growth
236. Getting too crowded, vandalism.	Population Growth
237. Over population, new stores, Leicester's going to be too crowded.	Population Growth
238. The amount of people in Leicester.	Population Growth
239. People.	Population Growth
240. The school system	Schools
241. The schools.	Schools
242. School.	Schools
243. There are too many 50+ neighborhoods & townhouses being built and we are destroying the land, not only for our children, but for our wildlife.	Senior Housing
244. All the 55 communities	Senior Housing

Opportunity/Threat	Category
245. To many over 55 homes being built. I don't think people realize that they will effect the schools. Older people in town may choose to purchase into these communities but to do so they will sell to younger couples. The schools have a hard enough time getting what they need now I can't imagine what it would be like if we have a large population growth of younger families.	Senior Housing
246. High taxes driving young families out for the rich/Over development	Taxes
247. Property taxes are way too high.	Taxes
248. It's going to become very busy for traffic.	Traffic
249. New houses	Traffic
250. More traffic with larger business moving in.	Traffic
251. Too much traffic on Rte. 9 Cherry Valley, need traffic ligh tto control traffic, need crosswalks.	Traffic
252. Traffic	Traffic
253. New business in town! Traffic!?	Traffic
254. There will be more traffic with all the new building and such.	Traffic
255. The traffic on rte 9	Traffic
256. Access to route 9 from side streets. Traffic congestion is rapidly becoming a problem. When the WalMart area becomes fully developed it will be a nightmare trying to access rte.9 from any side street. The obvious lack of respect for the Historical value for many areas of main street. Specifically the lack of any restrictions regarding business signs. Basic size & design need to be standardized to maintain the Historical Character; especially within a 1 mile diameter from the center.	Traffic
257. increased traffic. however, business are very much needed in the route 9 west area	Traffic
258. Traffic and filling of wet areas causing more flooding in other areas as a result	Traffic
259. Wal-Mart (83) 83 respondents listed one word - "Wal-Mart"	Wal-Mart
260. The Wal-mart and big companies	Wal-Mart
261. More recreational or business is coming in like Wal-Mart and Dunkin' Donuts	Wal-Mart
262. Wal-Mart and the town business threaten Leicester character. The beauty will soon be destroyed and Leicester character will change negatively.	Wal-Mart
263. The new Wal-Mart – Great Idea!	Wal-Mart
264. The biggest change is Wal-Mart	Wal-Mart
265. Wal-Mart and crime.	Wal-Mart
266. Biggest change Wal-Mart opening. Building too many houses. Loosing woods. Overcrowding of schools	Wal-Mart
267. Seeing what happens with Wal-mart here	Wal-Mart
268. Change of Wal-Mart	Wal-Mart
269. Wal-Mart! The development of Whittmore St. has already changed the character of that area dramatically. I would like to see Leicester retain it's rural character. Georgetown, MA recently published it's master plan and it's desire to remain a "quiet rural town. People can go shopping in Worcester or Auburn, not Leicester.	Wal-Mart
270. Wal-Mart (though it will also help a little).	Wal-Mart
271. Super Wal-Mart – more congestion on Rte. 9	Wal-Mart
272. The changing face of the Town with new Wal-Mart, Cumberland Farms, restaurants, etc.	Wal-Mart
273. Traffic-Wal-Mart. Also, have all sports/recreation spend some time cleaning up established parks	Wal-Mart
274. Wal-Mart – good thing. Purchase of Hillcrest – waste of money	Wal-Mart
275. Rte. 9 – Big business (Wal-Mart) more traffic more construction – too many housing development, larger homes	Wal-Mart
276. Big businesses like Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart
277. Wal-Mart coming in.	Wal-Mart
278. Wal-mart, but it is good too...	Wal-Mart

Opportunity/Threat	Category
279. Wal-Mart more people moving here.	Wal-Mart
280. Wal-Mart - will turn into Route 20	Wal-Mart
281. Wal-Mart – threat. Hoodlums come to Leicester.	Wal-Mart
282. I think the Wal-Mart is a big opportunity for Leicester because it will bring more business into the town.	Wal-Mart
283. Wal-Mart, Dunkin’ Donuts. Corporate	Wal-Mart
284. The Town becoming busy from the Wal-Mart	Wal-Mart
285. Wal-Mart. It is going to further commercialize the town and add to the already busy traffic. However, it will add jobs.	Wal-Mart
286. Wal-Mart & commercialism – if not controlled!!	Wal-Mart
287. Big business! The convenience of Wal-Mart is nice but I hope we don’t become as busy as Spencer with all those supermarkets and traffic. Keep it a small, tight knit community	Wal-Mart
288. I love that this town is growing – I’m proud to call Leicester my town and welcome all the changes. I see Wal-Mart and other business that comes in as a way to better our town and help our residents. The jobs for our town, and the easy access for everyone will be an asset later.	Wal-Mart
289. I feel the biggest opportunity is the coming businesses, i.e. Wal-Mart. I feel if planned properly they could bring needed revenue to the town and it’s services, i.e. public safety, schools, highway, property taxes. I am new to this town. It feels just like my home town of Millbury. I am very happy and comfortable here, and am proud to call Leicester home!	Wal-Mart
290. The biggest change is the Wal-Mart coming.	Wal-Mart
291. Biggest change is probably Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart
292. Wal-Mart, it’s going to cause too much through traffic.	Wal-Mart
293. Wal-Mart, Route 9	Wal-Mart
294. The new Wal-Mart is the biggest change / possibly a threat too, because it will bring a lot of traffic.	Wal-Mart
295. Wal-Mart coming into Leicester.	Wal-Mart
296. The biggest change is the new Wal-Mart and possibly Olive Garden.	Wal-Mart
297. It’s losing its small town feel with the inclusion of Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart
298. Wal-Mart was a bad idea.	Wal-Mart
299. Wal-Mart (enough said).	Wal-Mart
300. Traffic. Love the idea of Wal-Mart, Dunkin donuts. Not crazy about the traffic that may come from them.	Wal-Mart
301. Allowing Wal-Mart in – now I believe the character of Leicester will change.	Wal-Mart
302. Wal-mart?! Keep all of those stores together near Wal-Mart. Do not let them spread to other areas.	Wal-Mart
303. Wal-Mart—Worcester traffic—rubbish in the area. Every other community is trying to keep Wal-Mart out. Leicester made a mistake welcoming them.	Wal-Mart
304. Building of Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart
305. Wal-Mart & other incoming places.	Wal-Mart
306. Wal-Mart & other incoming places.	Wal-Mart
307. I think Wal-Mart will change Leicester more than anyone expects.	Wal-Mart
308. The biggest change and threat to Leicester is Wal-Mart and Dunkin Donuts.	Wal-Mart
309. Wal-Mart because there going to make everything more packed, busier.	Wal-Mart
310. Wal-Mart because of too many people will be in Leicester now.	Wal-Mart
311. The biggest change is the chain stores being built like Wal-Mart and Dunkin Donuts.	Wal-Mart
312. I think Wal-Mart is threatening our character.	Wal-Mart
313. It would be a good change if you got rid of the Wal-Mart and made it town land.	Wal-Mart
314. The new Wal-Mart, which is a great opportunity.	Wal-Mart
315. Stupid companies that want to come in and loss of small town feel because of it (a.k.a. – Wal-Mart)	Wal-Mart

Opportunity/Threat	Category
316. The biggest change is getting a Dunkin Donuts and Wal-Mart in Leicester.	Wal-Mart
317. Loss of small businesses due to Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart
318. Wal-Mart and too much building.	Wal-Mart
319. We're getting a Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart
320. I think that all this stuff like Wal-Mart, Olive Garden, IHOP, etc. is really ruining the feel of Leicester.	Wal-Mart
321. Wal-Mart and up coming businesses.	Wal-Mart
322. The biggest change is Wal-Mart. I think that will be good for Leicester.	Wal-Mart
323. Wal-Mart and Duncan Donuts are an opportunity and threat to Leicester. I liked Leicester because there was no franchise.	Wal-Mart
324. Biggest change is Wal-Mart!	Wal-Mart
325. Getting a Wal-Mart & Olive Garden! No problem though.	Wal-Mart
326. Wal-Mart – over populated.	Wal-Mart
327. The new Wal-Mart. It's going to change Leicester drastically and not in a positive way.	Wal-Mart
328. The Route 9 work (Wal-Mart).	Wal-Mart
329. Wal-Mart = change (dah).	Wal-Mart
330. The biggest change facing Leicester's character is Wal-Mart.	Wal-Mart
331. Over population of people (the new Dunkin Donuts & Super Wal-Mart)	Wal-Mart
332. I would say Wal-Mart.....don't know why but it is to me.	Wal-Mart
333. Change & opportunity – Wal-Mart. Threat – no money for the schools.	Wal-Mart
334. So far, Wal-Mart being added is/will be the biggest change.	Wal-Mart
335. Route 9 East (Wal-Mart, etc.)	Wal-Mart
336. Too many stores, especially big chains like Wal-Mart. Afraid of more francise stores like Burger-King, McDonalds, etc. I don't think they bring in enough tax revenue to justify huge growth of a commercial base. I'm in favor of small, local business, rural character and not becoming another Auburn.	Wal-Mart
337. I think putting up the Wal-Mart is the biggest threat because it's changing it's character.	Wal-Mart
338. Population – new houses on small lots –commercial development – Wal-Mart & others like this.	Wal-Mart
339. Big threat is Wal-Mart, basically will ruin all small business in the area and put other competitors out of business. seems like a giant price to pay for some tax revenue the town will get. makes me think twice about raising a family in the community.	Wal-Mart
340. The new Walmart. If it's the only thing to come into town, we're in trouble as far as I'm concerned. We need to bring in a name restaurant - an Olive Garden or Macaroni Grill – that is an attractive, upscale place to eat, take friends, and spend an evening out. We don't need more Cumberland Farms or fast food joints - we need a nice place to get a good meal. Yes, there are small, family-run places that will always have a place in Leicester, but they don't bring people to the area for tourism/commerce, and don't add anything to our property values.	Wal-Mart
341. Walmart will be the biggest change. I think it will be good.	Wal-Mart
342. the biggest CHANGE is undoubtedly the arrival of Walmart. The greatest OPPORTUNITY may be large open spaces areas. The greatest THREAT may be poorly planned residential and commercial development fueling a traffic nightmare on route 9.	Wal-Mart
343. WalMart is the biggest threat to destroying the small town character to Leicester	Wal-Mart
344. The New Walmart IS the Biggest CHANGE, Opportunity & Treat to Leicesters Character!	Wal-Mart

Opportunity/Threat	Category
345. I am not happy Wal Mart is here. We could have used a grocery store or a CVS, but not a Wal-Mart. I am worried about the trucks Wal-mart will bring into town. They will get off the Mass Pike in Auburn and come via 56 to Rte 9 to make their deliveries and this is a super walmart, which means LOTS of trucks! This is really going to change the character of our town. I have lived in Auburn and it is loud, noisy, polluted, and has more crime than we have here. It is now a city with all the retail stores, and I hope this does not happen to Leicester. I would rather see my taxes go up than have more business. We should seize the opportunity now to protect our open space before it becomes too late.	Wal-Mart
346. Wal-Mart was a bad idea	Wal-Mart

17. Describe your ideal vision of Leicester in 10 years

Note: no responses from the online survey were provided.

1. Leicester will be a small over-crowded Town. Schools won't be able to buy new books because of how much kids will be in school.
2. I don't know
3. Just as it is
4. There will hopefully be a lot more places like restaurants and stuff. More shopping places.
5. Store it's areas & preserve them
6. Over-populated
7. Boring, but I like going to Worcester
8. The same with maybe more places like a food place or store.
9. Sports
10. Developed as a place of town sm. And of very specific historic interests-to attract visitors to historic places and activities – with family areas in parks with picnic and activity areas.
11. Cleaner streets. More sidewalks.
12. A healthy community with a strong representation of various age groups, good schools, a higher commercial tax base & tax rate, unified Town Department of Development & Inspectional Services, a golf course board that has transformed Hillcrest C.C. into a vibrant, thriving facility to be proud of and profitable.
13. Better looking.
14. Clean, and independent.
15. The same small and simple.
16. I don't know.
17. Much like Auburn.
18. Nothing really.
19. I see it as a small town still where everyone knows each other and it hasn't developed. I would like not to see people moving here.
20. The same as it is now with less fees and more high school programs
21. The same way it is now, maybe with a few restaurants and more historical sites.
22. A little more industrialized. More food places. Maybe a mall.
23. I hope it is still here.
24. It's going to be the same. Somewhat, but with some stores and may something to do for the kids.
25. Without Wal-mart and the strive for business. The damage to the wildlife and farmland can not be undone. I will not return to this town because of it.
26. Blank
27. A little more commercialized like Applebees, more convenience then going to Worcester or Auburn.
28. Leicester will probably be cleaner.
29. To stay basically the same

30. Poor
31. More popular
32. More houses, no rec activities, less wildlife, and possibly more gang activities.
33. Has a few restaurants, more stores, more people.
34. I think we will be a larger town with more businesses and a larger population.
35. A place I can come back to but it's still a small little town with nice people.
36. A nice town with more entertainment.
37. More stores, restaurants, places to go
38. Don't know
39. It was ideal 20 years ago. I see it becoming overcrowded with a big crime increase.
40. A little more developed but still preserved. I honestly am looking forward to using new Wal-Mart in town – really miss Valley market. I think the town and Wal-Mart did a nice job can barely see it from road.
41. Needs more industry to supplement taxes/fees.
42. Hope that Leicester remains quaint and quiet.
43. Still having a nice country setting
44. More recreation area for kids. Open up the parks for swimming in the center.
45. Small country store
46. That we could keep the kids off the streets through recreation
47. Still a “small” feel community. I don't want it to get too built up (i.e. Auburn). Again – there are too many neighborhoods being built and taking away our woods, etc.
48. I would like Leicester to be a town and not looked at an extension of Worcester. I would like it to keep it's small town community feel.
49. Demographically more diverse.
50. My vision is not ideal. I see Leicester as a beautiful country town, but now being built up with too many subsidies housing complexes and no place be known it's beautiful woods & wildlife.
51. I would love Leicester to become a quaint town with industry where it makes sense (Rte 9 or Rte 56). I would love to see the Town Common area and all historical areas preserved and the rural areas maintained for both visual and preservation purposes.
52. Ideally, Rte. 9 West would have some minor development with Wal-Mart but o/w I would hope the townspeople would be willing to pay higher taxes, as I am, to conserve our open space.
53. Route 9 leading into Leicester gets cleaned up. Trashy looking. I would like to see the mills cleaned up and the roads be neater, and people take more pride in their properties. I would also love to see an access road be build somewhere to get to the Mass. Pike quicker. There is no easy in & out to Leicester really.
54. A beautiful & heartwarming community. A super fantastic community.
55. Not like Worcester or other busy cities. A beautiful & heartwarming community.
56. Not more populated/just like Worcester
57. What is not my ideal vision: much more crowded with a big strip of stores on Route 9
58. Not like Worcester
59. It would not be crowded or highly populated, and not resemble Worcester.
60. A beautiful & heartwarming community.
61. A well developed town
62. Wal-Mart
63. Amazing
64. The Jetson's kids! With lots of dawgsss (hot dawggs with mustard, ketchup, splash onions)
65. I like the course it is taking now.
66. Ghetto.
67. Haven't been here last 10 years.
68. Wal-Mart
69. A safe community that offers diverse opportunities for all residents.
70. I would like to see 2 new schools to replace Middle School and Memorial School. New recreational fields and a community park – A few more restaurants.
71. Connector off of Mass Pike at Oxford-Leicester line allowing more growth along Rte. 56 instead of overcrowding Rte. 9 or Worcester Access Road through Leicester for easy access to highway system with growth and business along this road instead of Rte. 9.
72. Hopefully prospering, yet still quaint.

73. Safe environment. More businesses to help with taxes. Limit housing where open space is lost. Recreation for all ages not just families who are sports oriented. Children need to learn lifetime healthy recreation activities.
74. Fewer people, fewer houses, fewer cars, fewer cops. Purer water, purer air.
75. Middle-class top notch education not to be driven out by super rich and high taxes.
76. Walking/hiking trails/More businesses/not as large as Wal-mart to take away some tax relief. All sports teams etc. To be able to use current facilities (schools) more.
77. A strong & highly regarded school system providing a great education program as well as many sports – more businesses on the Route 56 area & preservation of as much of the current open & undeveloped land still around as possible.
78. More retail & restaurants
79. To remain a small quiet community.
80. Cost less for property. School system expanded, parks developed.
81. The same with more recreational facilities.
82. The same as it is now.
83. Hopefully, the same. I hope no more businesses like Wal-Mart are here.
84. That the wildlife is going away.
85. Nicer roads (country). Fewer houses built. Smaller classrooms. More community involvement. Future generations return with a quality education and become involved in town politics, schools, activities, etc.
86. Hopefully, the same as it is now.
87. A industrialized city
88. Tennis courts, public pools, skate parks, more teams/clubs
89. I don't know
90. Rural town with a few businesses.
91. Bigger population
92. A busy city.
93. Neat not rundown.
94. Leicester is a little town and is boring because it has nothing to do for kids or teens.
95. Unfortunately, it will be totally developed by houses.
96. Over populated/crowded
97. Better than now cause of right now, the society is awful.
98. Worcester
99. I would have more stores & stuff seeing it has nothing.
100. Wonderful.
101. Definitely more stores and a much bigger population and we won't have to worry about finances.
102. Developing into a mini-Worcester
103. My ideal vision is to see it close to what it is today.
104. I think it should look the same with some roads improved and more things/activities to do.
105. I think that Leicester will begin to turn into a city because of the new shops and Wal-Mart in town.
106. Soccer fields and use of the golf fields our parents had to pay taxes for.
107. A place where my kids would be safe and happy to live in.
108. As long as it doesn't turn into a town full of development stores and the forests are still intact, I'll be Better sports fields.
109. okay with whatever happens.
110. Wal-Mart and I'm sure other big businesses but that's not what I want. The way things are now calm & quiet.
111. Expanded high school sports & recreation.
112. My ideal is vision of Leicester in ten years is to be something like the town of Auburn. I choose Auburn because they are a local town that has expanded over the past ten years.
113. Floating cars.
114. A nice clean town with a lot of friendly people.
115. More population.
116. Bigger population.
117. See a real movie theater get rid of the drive-in. More restaurants to eat in. A mall.
118. Looking more old fashion if anyone knows Gilmore Girls the town they live in Stars Hollow exactly like that.
119. ATV's allowed and map of trails. Super Wal-Mart.

120. I have no clue.
121. Bigger & cleaner
122. Historical character preserved. Library renovated (expanded, with additional funding). Expanded recreation areas described. School system still going strong, with instruction a continuing focus and expanded administration (curriculum coordinator).
123. Pretty
124. A smaller Worcester
125. I think it will be a little more commercialized, however it will probably be the same.
126. Burger King Palace.
127. No Wal-Mart. I want Olive Garden!
128. I think in ten years Leicester should have more business' in it.
129. Peaceful.
130. Wal-Mart, Dunkin' Donuts. Corporate
131. Small community.
132. Leicester in ten years should be viewed as a farm town and a historic location. It should not be ruined by corporations such as Wal-Mart.
133. Still has a drive-in and the place next to it turns into a 50s diner
134. Bigger, a city.
135. Better schools, parks, diversity.
136. Wal-Mart
137. To be where we are somewhat not more large stores, just a town houses & all.
138. Don't have one.
139. Way it is now.
140. Still a quiet, peaceful town.
141. To be a big town.
142. Still a small rural Town.
143. Nice town like Auburn
144. Not more houses, but more town-based recreational areas. Maybe more businesses.
145. No idea.
146. Just like every city.
147. Have some fastfood restaurant! Popular retail store/a mall/something fun!
148. My ideal vision is a Town with the same look and feel with a better budget and maybe a few more Mom and Pop stores.
149. Very natural, making money, a good place to live & a great place to settle down & raise a family.
150. Small Town farmland. Countryesque.
151. Not to change the historic character of the town too much.
152. Actually zoned town where commercial areas are accessible but distinctly separate from residential areas.
153. I work in Westborough and believe that6 should be our model. Their zoning has kept commercial interest out of residential areas which has maintained a small town feel. Let's attract commercial business and keep a small town atmosphere.
154. To be a fine town. Don't it to look like Worcester (it's a small town).
155. Not too much change, just dressed up and maybe a few more residents.
156. Control growth.
157. Having Hillcrest landn being a park. A huge community center offering indoor/outdoor swimming – sports – socials, etc. – great for people of all ages – encourage a sense of community.
158. Keep it the same. No more higher taxes.
159. For me, in my town to be able to purchase and support my town with grocery shopping, prescriptions, household necessities, repairs. I guess I see more businesses and revenues coming to the town to help with the improvements to the town. (A new Fire Station for Engine 1).
160. I wish to see areas in Town that are either under developed or not developed to become more developed for the bettering of the community. I would like to see a new fire station with ample access/parking. I would like to see the town asl any and all of the new businesses to assist in helping offset the cost of these improvements instead of just relying on the taxpayers to foot the entire cost.
161. Wal-Mart
162. Really nice fields for sports, rich nice houses.

163. I honestly don't know, I hope there is something to entertain kids, because right now, there is nothing to do in Leicester. Mall—Auburn; Ice Skating—Auburn; bowling—Spencer; Movies—Millbury; etc. We need something.
164. Cleaner, safer, better.
165. Still a small town.
166. I don't know.(4)
167. GAY!
168. Not greatly different than it is today.
169. More to do.
170. Like a city.
171. Stores everywhere.
172. A little city out of Worcester.
173. Not bad.
174. North Brookfield.
175. My ideal vision is how it is now with better sports facilities at the high school.
176. I really don't have one.
177. A lot of fun things like B-Ball, Driving Range, indoor B-Ball.
178. Me not being here.
179. Movie Theater and bowling. Something fun for kids like that.
180. Still small town, tight knit like today, some commercial, with reasonable oversight & planning. Reasonable 7 well planned increases in housing developments.
181. More recreational opportunities for the whole family as well as a nice mix of small/big companies. Perhaps some nice restaurant choices as well.
182. No more large businesses; being so close to Route 9 very concerned about traffic/crime that will effect our town.
183. Staying the way it is, nice & quiet.
184. Leicester 25 years ago!
185. Better recycling, more money spent on the schools instead of cutting programs and teachers every year.
186. The same with a few more retail spaces.
187. More walking/biking trails.
188. The way it is now, I don't want it to change.
189. I'll most likely move out of town when I finish high school.
190. In ten years Leicester is developed with more activities and easy access to stores nearby, but the same atmosphere and amount of people are in town.
191. Similar to how it is now, more business.
192. It still remains un-crowded but there is a bigger diversity in the population.
193. Places to go, more activities to take part in.
194. Mostly the same as now
195. Stays the same without Wal-Mart.
196. Commercial zone on Route 9 West will have grown & been developed. Rest of Leicester will remain preserved. Hillcrest land has been developed into a multi-purpose recreational area.
197. The right mix of bedroom community and commercialization.
198. To still have the country type atmosphere – that is the reason we moved here.
199. Small town atmosphere—not over built with homes & businesses.
200. Hoping that Leicester will never loose its community involvement and that we all work together for the betterment of our population and future generations – lets take care of Mother Earth!! Hooray for recycling, wild life, nature and clean water.
201. The same 5-years ago.
202. Same small town charm.
203. Middle class with great schools lots of places to play.
204. Family oriented, fun, clean, maintaining historical charm.
205. Too much construction. It seems all the woodland are bought & furnished with new homes. I think it's out of control. There are already enough houses for sale with people wanting to leave this quiet town.
206. Preserved wildlife refuges, safe water, parks to visit for adults & kids, preserved/restored historical buildings/sites. Also, the paper mill that's abandoned & condemned to be restored & used.
207. Route 9 will be overcrowded with big stores developing off of it.

208. n/a
209. It would be nice to see same areas along Route 9 become more attractive.
210. Unsure.
211. A traffic nightmare!
212. A quaint town that has a nice mix of business to help support the town while keeping our open space and farm lands in tact.
213. More business development on Route 56 & Route 9W while keeping our “small town” feel.
214. Hopefully before...A huge piece of land (Hillcrest C.C.) made into fields for soccer and baseball that are mowed and kept up and that we can be proud of for visiting towns to play at. No more big business! Such as Wal-Mart!
215. Low taxes and Hillcrest Golfing and good clean water.
216. Clean up Main Street.
217. Small New England town with large lots (2+ acres) farm space & historic preservation.
218. More businesses to help with town revenue and our relying on the State for funds.
219. Would like more community events – Would like more business to move to town – Would like more useable (maintained) recreation areas.
220. Make a more family orientated town with activities for the youth, i.e., walking paths, wild like habitats.
221. Better budget for schools. Art, music and gym are important to education. Mapped trails that are safe would be nice. Better maintained courts would be nice.
222. Wal-Mart burns down & there is no more growth.
223. Still a SAFE PLACE to bring up children.
224. Controlled change.
225. It's probably too late, but I'd like to see Leicester remain as rural as possible and not become over whelmed by Worcester's suburban sprawl. Becoming another Auburn or Shrewsbury, big box stores, traffic, noise, light and air pollution do not add to the quality of life.
226. I would like to see Leicester retain some of its rural character.
227. Employment opportunities – volunteer opportunities.
228. Same. (2)
229. It won't change any.
230. Expanded and crowded.
231. Move - people - traveling through businesses.
232. More restaurants and stores.
233. More stores and things to do.
234. Better sport teams, bigger town.
235. It will eventually have more a population in the future as I can see as if right now.
236. I won't be here :☺
237. I won't be here in 10-years, so I don't care.
238. To still be a safe place to grow up.
239. It has grown a lot.
240. It will be the same.
241. It will grow a lot and expand.
242. I won't be here but I expect there to be more houses and traffic because of
243. Wal-Mart coming to town.
244. Flying cars and pigs – metal and glass houses – a mall – 17 liquor stores and a Cumberland Farms.
245. It'd be nice to remain the same, maybe more appreciated.
246. I don't think Leicester should expand too much. It's getting too big as it is.
247. Still community oriented by with more things to do.
248. I hope in ten years they clean up the center of town and that not too many businesses are here.
249. It has gotten worse & I believe will get worse unless someone does something about it.
250. I would like to see it as a small city that's prosperous.
251. The same.(5)
252. No Wal-Mart, no Dunkin Donuts, a local grocery store, bike trails, playgrounds, better schools.
253. With more money and more things to do.
254. Cool and the same.
255. The same with more stores.
256. Better groomed.

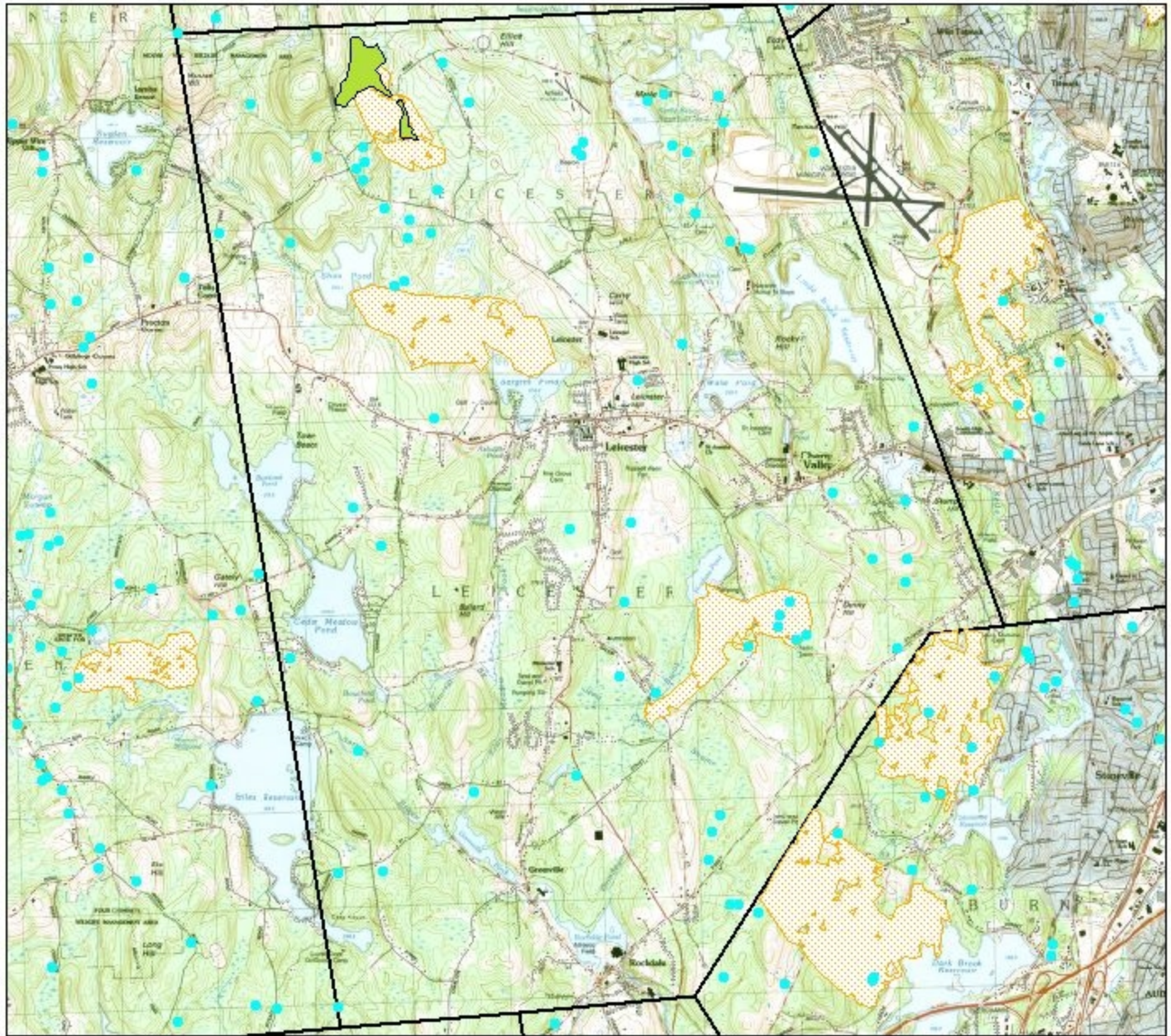
257. I think it's going to be like Auburn.
258. No bad things going on and a lot of recreational events going on.
259. A few more businesses, less new houses, recreational fields with lights. Bike/walking trails – lower taxes.
260. Ghetto Leicester. (diagram on form)
261. To stay a small safe town.
262. In 10-years I hope it's the same as it is now, but the drive-ins will be open.
263. Still boring little town.
264. Drive-ins to be open.
265. More attractions, more things to do.
266. More stores open - drive-ins re-opened - still have forest.
267. No big chain stores – small mom & pop stores – small town.
268. Small – not building anymore houses, scenic, with woods & flowers everywhere and bigger schools.
269. A flourishing close-knit community.
270. With a nice basketball court somewhere.
271. Over populated, small city like, lots of stores, may mall, full of trash, more corruption and raised crime rate.
272. Expanded parks and more sports.
273. I WOULD LIKE Leicester to retain its small town feel. Business to an extent, are fine, but we need to stop putting up houses. It should be a place that we are proud to line in. We should never, ever get rid of Hotdog Annie's or the drive-in, they are our traditions. But we also need things the new generation can be proud of.
274. Better control over houses being built; better planning over Route 9 West development; preservation of buildings on Main Street (houses, public library, etc.)
275. Fun.
276. No Wal-Mart or IHOP.
277. More industry ex fast food & more stores.
278. Three Taco Bells and a Burger King.
279. More populated and a bigger town.
280. NO Wal-Mart – KEEP THE DRIVE-IN*.
281. Wal-Mart-less.
282. Country town.
283. Like it is now, minus Wal-Mart.
284. I don't know somewhere quiet yet fun and enjoyable to live in.
285. Still a small town, relatively un-commercialized.
286. Still the same. A small town with nice people in it.
287. Leicester Should become bigger with businesses and has more to do. People should know about it.
288. McDonald's.
289. Mall of America II.
290. Nice sports fields / facilities (recreational).
291. My ideal vision of Leicester is just the way it is improved areas and a lot more places to go.
292. Mall of America!
293. I'm not going to be here.
294. Like Auburn.
295. More advanced.
296. I hate it, it isn't fun.
297. Death.
298. Stupid.
299. I imagine it to have large fields and trails with some stores to keep it going.
300. It will be just as boring as it is now.
301. Quit cutting school budgets.
302. Like it is now with lower taxes.
303. The same as it is now.
304. Less strict cops.
305. Restaurants and businesses.
306. Quiet, but not too quiet. Kids having fun but doing it safely. Please consider helping the kids, because I am one and I want the future of Leicester to be a beautiful one, because we made it that way.
307. I wish it stayed the same, but it seems to be changing where more buildings are built, I want to see volleyball put in.

308. Poor, poor town, because no one wants to pay all that money. Lots of traffic, because of the Wal-Mart.
309. A little town with a lot of people.
310. Umm, I don't know, you tell me.....hopefully better to hang out.
311. ? (3)
312. A small town that everyone knows everyone else.
313. Less houses.
314. No trash, less drug addicts, less smokers / drunks. No homeless people.
315. Am not going to be here in ten years.
316. Part of Worcester.
317. Thug life.
318. Too many people.
319. Same Leicester it is today, maybe less drugs and violence, but I would like it the way it is now.
320. Me moved out of it.
321. Same as today, maybe more places and things to do.
322. Cleaner, fewer people, less developed (tons of housing).
323. In ten years I'd like Leicester to not be much different. Not too many people, everyone knows everyone. No other stores or shops than what there is.
324. Lots of stores.
325. Probably be like Auburn.
326. It will be suckier than now.
327. Little loving town would be awesome.
328. I think that in 10-years, Leicester is going to be crowded and dirty. I think this way because of the Wal-Mart that they are building. It will cause a lot more traffic and more people; therefore it will get dirty and polluted.
329. In ten years I'll be out of Leicester.
330. I think that Leicester should have a lot more attractions than it does.
331. Like Auburn.
332. Still maintained (presentable) and has a lot of business places such as a supermarket, fast food places and parks that are well maintained, unlike Community Field.
333. Just the way it is.
334. A town that looks like a 3rd world country.
335. I'm not sure.
336. To have a McDonalds.
337. Clean, fun place to live.
338. It does look like Worcester.
339. Nice, still quiet, busier.
340. Less woods, more houses.
341. I think it will be about the same, maybe a little different, hopefully better streets.
342. Streets paved good.
343. Too loud, crowded, no scenic routes.
344. Like Worcester.(2)
345. A big dump.
346. Bigger & more populated.
347. The same as it is right now minus Wal-Mart and any other new stores.
348. Controlled by me, I will make all decisions & Leicester will be perfect & everyone will know that it exists; from Leicester I will rule the world.
349. Keep it the way it is.
350. That Leicester will turn into a town based upon the Jacobin Principles: (something written in Latin on the form)
351. Larger, more populated.
352. It will have some money.
353. It will have some money.
354. I have no clue.
355. Wal-Marts on every road.
356. Still a small town trying to get bigger.
357. Auburn☺.
358. A beautiful & heart warming community.

- 359. Not any more housing development!
- 360. Empty.
- 361. I like Leicester the way it is.
- 362. New sports facilities, more trails.
- 363. I hope that Leicester will grow and flourish because of business, but pay attention to the environment and the wildlife.
- 364. I don't think it will change much.
- 365. Better town leaders.
- 366. Same as now except for Main Street will be half the size it needs to be.
- 367. As it is now.
- 368. New sports facilities.
- 369. More organized.
- 370. Dirt bike trails and indoor basketball.
- 371. Not very exciting.
- 372. Less houses, more wildlife.
- 373. Better economy.
- 374. 1) Community working together; 2) communication of town resources; 3) Schools communicate between themselves (we all know activities @ Middle School, etc.); 4) Affordable.
- 375. City, mad people.
- 376. A very safe and useful environment.
- 377. I can't imagine myself in 10-years, sorry.
- 378. Small town, with small houses, & small families, the school will need to be upgraded because the attending population will grow.
- 379. Well it's going to be like Worcester in 10-years. I wish it was just the quiet little suburb it was 5-years ago.
- 380. More business, but family owned and not chains.
- 381. Leicester seems like a boring, calm town, elders may like living here, but younger adults wouldn't.
- 382. A lot of shops near Wal-Mart.
- 383. With a gym in the town center that has a pool.
- 384. A pool and gym.
- 385. Good football team on top of Spencer.
- 386. A little quiet town that no one goes to.
- 387. More recreation and fun things to do.
- 388. Stronger community with the town and local neighborhoods.
- 389. A town that still can maintain it's colonial/rural character.
- 390. About the same, old town character.
- 391. The same with a few more retail spaces.
- 392. More children's activities.
- 393. Small town; modest homes; rural character; open spaces to see and enjoy; more agriculture and less chain stores.
- 394. I would like to see small businesses in each Village Center – eateries; useful shops (food, hardware, etc.); retaining older neighborhoods with their smaller, affordable homes; retaining our rural neighborhood roads. Not widening them & encouraging high speeds & commuter traffic (keep high speed traffic only on roads that do not penetrate neighborhoods). Add safe walking areas along roads. Protect watersheds & ponds. Encourage landowners to subscribe to sustainable forest harvest to retain woodlands & wildlife habitat. Promote local farms for local foods & land conservation.
- 395. More Activities for the children of Leicester.
- 396. The coolest place to be!
- 397. A town where others come to because we have something they don't. Have tournaments here.

APPENDIX B
1830s FOREST AREA MAP

Natural Communities and 1830s forest areas



0.4 0 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6 2 2.4 Miles

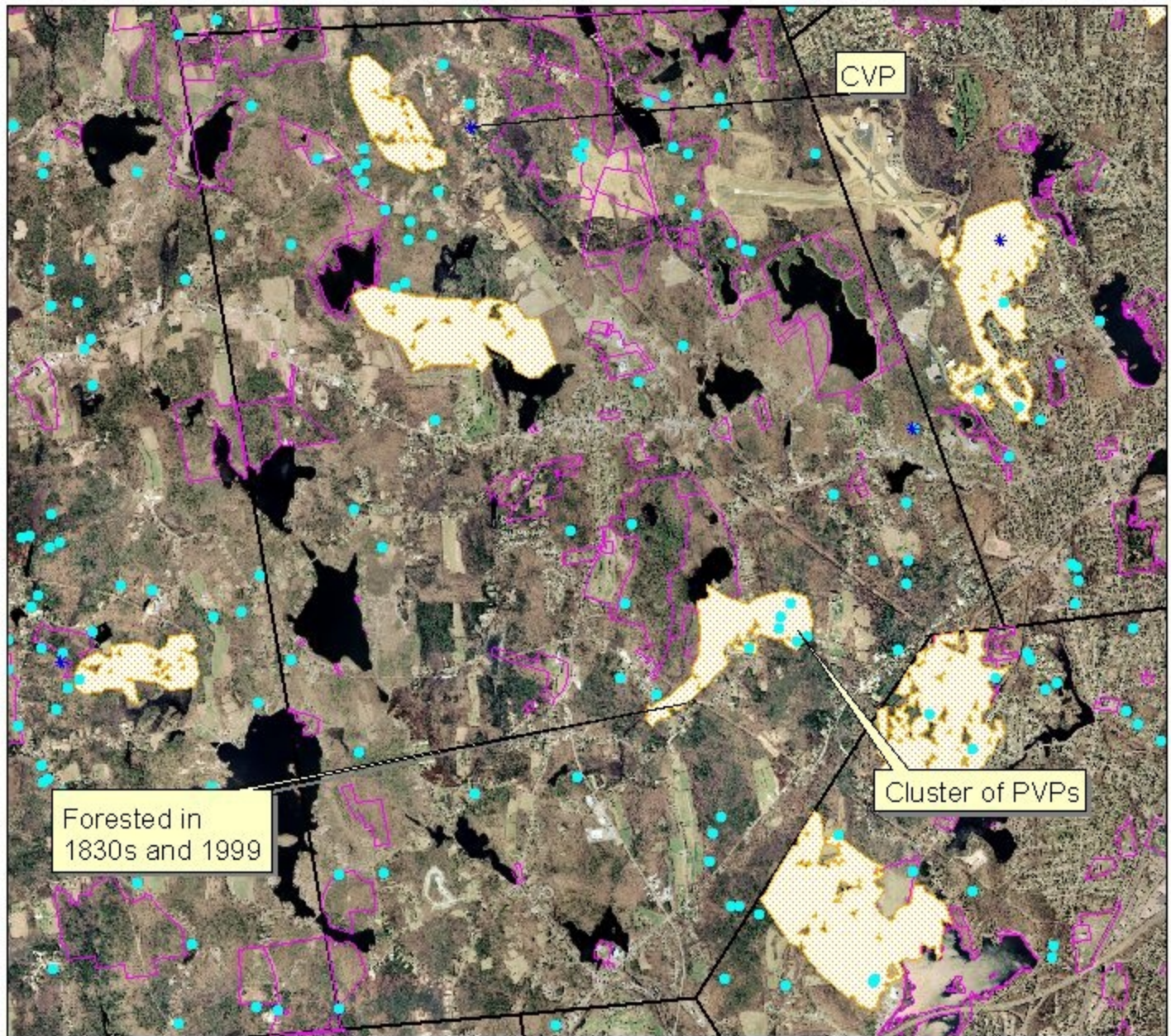


- Potential Vernal Pools, from aerial interpretation
- Natural communities from MassGIS
- Forested 1830 and current
- MA Town Boundaries



Data Source: MassGIS and NHESP
February 27, 2007

Open space, PVPs and 1830s forest areas



0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 Miles

- * Cvp2006.shp
- Potential Vernal Pools, from aerial interpretation
- ▨ Forested 1830 and current
- ▭ Openspace by Ownership
- ▭ MA Town Boundaries



Data Source: MassGIS, Harvard Forest, and NHESP
March 1, 2007

APPENDIX C
NHESP COMMUNITY SITE
REPORT AND SPECIES
FACT SHEETS



Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Wayne F. MacCallum, *Director*

March 1, 2007

Priscilla Miner and Annie Scott
Conway School of Landscape Design

Re: Open Space Plan; **98-3404**
Town of Leicester

Dear Ms Miner and Ms Scott:

Thank you for contacting the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program regarding the Open Space Plan for the Town of Leicester. We are providing information on the rare species and ecologically significant natural communities that we have documented in the town.

Enclosed is a list from our database of all rare species currently known to occur or to have occurred in Leicester. As you already know, Fact Sheets describing many of the species and their habitats are on our website at <http://www.nhesp.org>. Any species with a most recent observation date within the past 25 years is considered to be current. In addition to the species list on our website, a plant, Great Laurel, was found recently in the town,, and part of the habitat of Eastern Box turtles is in Leicester. The Eastern box turtle is a habitat generalist, often found in oak forests, that like many turtles nests in open sandy areas. Wood Turtles favor streams and adjacent wetlands. The two birds on the town list are grassland species that are often found around airports. The Triangle Floater is a species of freshwater mussel that needs good water conditions to maintain healthy populations. Leicester has an occurrence of an Inland Atlantic White Cedar Swamp, a priority type of natural community: (I quote from our 1998 letter for the OSP) "Atlantic White Cedar is uncommon this far inland, and seldom grows mixed with black spruce and hemlock as it does in this site. This wetland contains several other species that, while not state-protected, are uncommon at this elevation, such as sweet pepper bush and black ash. The most important way to protect this plant community and its constituent species is to protect the water regime that maintains it. Also important is the relatively large size of this and other wetlands." I enclose a community fact sheet that we haven't gotten onto the website yet. More detailed descriptions of community types from the *Classification of Natural Communities of Massachusetts* are available on our website, under Natural Communities. Also enclosed are a couple of maps showing locations of Priority Natural Community occurrences and possible Primary Forest, and Potential Vernal Pools.

Leicester is in an ecological area known as the Lower Worcester Plateau Ecoregion (US Forest Service Ecoregion, DFW Land Association), which is part of the Eastern Broadleaf forest Province, southern New England Coastal Hills and Plain Section. "The region is considered a glaciated plain, with open high hills and elevations ranging from about 200-1350 feet. Soil types are predominantly sandy till, with deposits of sand/gravel/silt in the valleys. Precipitation averages 44 inches per year with a mean annual temperature of 48°F and a 156-day growing



Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

Drive, Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581 Tel: (508) 389-6360 Fax: (508) 389-7891

season. Water resources are abundant. Based on climatic and physiographic characteristics, potential vegetation types in the LWP include hemlock-white pine-oak, maple-birch-beech and red oak-hardwood associations. The ecoregion lies within the transition zone between the Northern Hardwoods and the Central Hardwoods general forest types.” (LWP text from the LWP Forest management plan on the EOE website, from p. 1 in the Executive Summary,, the main document has more, p. 8-11, <http://www.mass.gov/envir/forest/lowerWorcester.htm> .)

Leicester has many probable vernal pools (Potential Vernal Pools, PVPs) identified through interpreting aerial photographs, available as a datalayer from MassGIS at <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/pvp.htm> , and two certified vernal pools. Certifying the PVPs would provide more protection to these wetlands and the species that use them. There are several clusters of PVPs, which provide extra habitat value for the species that use them since each pool is somewhat different and provides alternate habitats in different years and seasons. A cluster that is also on likely primary forest (described below) just southeast of town owned land labeled on the enclosed map is likely to be particularly important for biodiversity. As identified in MassGIS, some of the land included in the Cherry Valley and Rochedale Water district is in the primary forest areas. Adjacent lands that are primary forest with PVPs would make particularly good acquisitions for protecting the biodiversity of the town.

Leicester is one of the towns with maps showing areas forested in the 1830s, areas of possible Primary Forest, untilled woodlots and wooded pastures. Such lands have greater biodiversity than areas that have been tilled. These are not Old Growth, they have been harvested and pastured, but the ground may not have been tilled. Harvard Forest digitized maps from the 1830s that the Massachusetts legislature mandated that the towns make. Leicester’s map exists and shows areas that were forested in the 1830s. NHESP GIS staff took those data and combined them with information from MassGIS’ landcover datalayer made from 1999 aerial photos. Although a great deal will have gone on in those areas in the time between the map dates, some areas that were forested in both times won’t ever have been tilled. Surveys of the soil structure in the individual sites are necessary to determine whether those sites are primary forest. The importance of primary forest is that such sites retain more native biodiversity than sites that have been tilled: soil fauna and flora, microorganisms and plants that reproduce primarily vegetatively contribute to the higher biodiversity. In addition, a variety of species of wildflowers are more common in untilled forests than previously tilled lands. The areas of 1830s forest on private land would be good targets for conservation acquisition to maintain the biodiversity of the town and region. The Harvard Forest website contains information on the 1830s forest datalayer and copies of papers with discussion of the information. <http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/data/p01/hf014/1830readme.html>

Harvard Forest. 2002. 1830 Map Project. Harvard Forest Archives, Petersham, MA.

Hall, B., G. Motzkin, D. R. Foster, M. Syfert, and J. Burk. 2002. Three hundred years of forest and land-use change in Massachusetts, USA. *Journal of Biogeography* 129: 1319-1135.

I encourage you to download a copy of the report on BioMap and Living Waters Core Areas for Leicester from the NHESP website at <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/nhtwnreports.htm> . BioMap and Living Waters cores were produced by NHESP to identify the areas of most importance for biodiversity: they are based on known locations of rare species and uncommon natural communities, and incorporate the habitats needed by rare species to maintain the local populations. BioMap focused on species of uplands and wetlands; Living Waters focused on aquatic species. Large unfragmented conservation land provides the best opportunities to maintain populations of

species and limit further species loss from the town. Land protection by towns that ties in with open space in other towns, and other protected open space, public or private is one way to provide important large areas of biodiversity protection. BioMap and Living Waters polygons are also available from MassGIS at <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/biocore.htm> and <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/lwcore.htm>

Just to differentiate the BioMap and Living Waters core areas from the following Priority and Estimated Habitats: BioMap and Living Waters core areas identify areas particularly important for conservation planning purposes. Priority and Estimated Habitats are regulatory.

The NHESP produces maps for use under the Wetlands Protection Act (Estimated Habitat maps, provided to the Conservation Commission and shown in reduced form in the Natural Heritage Atlas, and the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (also in the Natural Heritage Atlas). These data layers are also available from MassGIS, requiring access to some form of GIS to view them, at <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/wethab.htm> and <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/prihab.htm>. These two sets of maps are created for regulatory use. Estimated Habitats are a complete subset of Priority Habitats that focus on habitat of rare wetlands wildlife. Priority Habitats are drawn for all rare species. Early planning and review of development projects under the Wetlands Protection Act regulations and Endangered Species Act does play a very positive role in protecting rare species habitats. Town commissions and boards are encouraged to request the assistance of the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program in reviewing any project proposed in the habitat areas of the regulatory areas of the maps in the Natural Heritage Atlas.

Management and monitoring of conservation lands become important as acquisition and protection are accomplished. All wetlands particularly need to maintain their natural water regime, including normal fluctuations and connections with the uplands and other wetlands. Water quantity and quality are ongoing issues for wetlands. Another aspect of managing conservation lands that is important in many areas is controlling invasive non-native species that alter the habitat and occupy space that native species would otherwise use. We strongly recommend monitoring conservation land, and removing non-native species before they become a problem and impact native species.

Please note that this evaluation is based on the most recent information available in the Natural Heritage database, which is constantly being expanded and updated through ongoing research and inventory. Should new rare species information become available, this evaluation may need to be reconsidered.

Please do not hesitate to call me at (508) 389-6352 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Patricia C. Swain, Ph.D.
Ecologist

cc: Melissa Cryan, EOE



Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
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www.nhesp.org

DESCRIPTION: The Wood Turtle is a medium-sized turtle that can be recognized by its sculpted shell and orange coloration on the legs and neck. The carapace (upper shell) is rough and each scale (scute) rises upwards in an irregular pyramid of grooves and ridges. The carapace is tan, grayish-brown or brown with a pattern of black or yellow lines on the larger scutes and has a central ridge. The plastron (lower shell) is yellow with oblong dark patches on the outer, posterior corner of each scute. The head is black, but may be speckled with faint yellow dots. The legs and neck can have orange to reddish coloration. Hatchlings have a dull-colored shell that is broad and low, a tail that is almost as long as their carapace and they lack orange coloration on the neck and legs. The best distinguishing characteristics of a male is their concave plastron, thick tail, long front claws, and a wider and more robust head than females.

SIMILAR SPECIES: The habitat of the Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina*) and the Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) may overlap that of the Wood Turtle, but neither has the Wood Turtle's pyramidal shell segments. Unlike the Wood Turtle, the Box and Blanding's Turtle have hinged plastrons into which they can withdraw or partially withdraw if threatened. The Northern Diamond-backed Terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*) has a shell similar to that of the Wood Turtle. However, its skin is grey and it lives only near brackish water, which the Wood Turtle avoids.

RANGE: The Wood Turtle can be found throughout New England, north to Nova Scotia, west to eastern Minnesota, and south to northern Virginia. The Wood Turtle appears to be widespread in Massachusetts. However, it should be kept in mind that little is known about the status of local populations associated with the majority of these sightings. Most of the towns have fewer than 5 known occurrences.

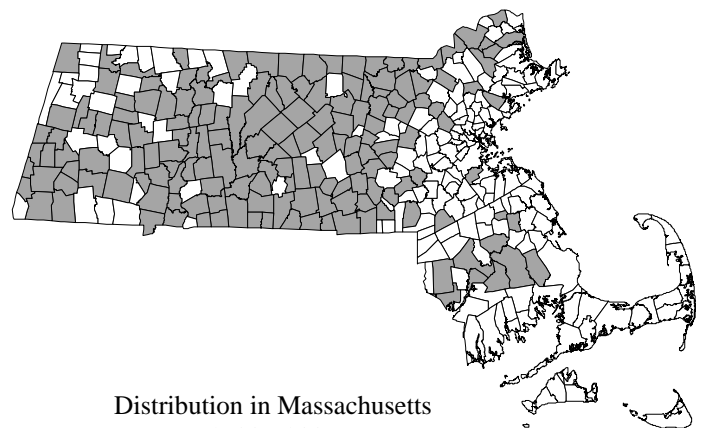
Wood Turtle *Glyptemys insculpta*

State Status: **Species of Special Concern**
Federal Status: None



Photo by Mike Jones

HABITAT IN MASSACHUSETTS: The preferred habitat of the Wood Turtle is riparian areas. Slower moving mid-sized streams are favored, with sandy bottoms and heavily vegetated stream banks. The stream bottom and muddy banks provide hibernating sites for overwintering, and open areas with sand or gravel substrate near the streams edge are used for nesting. Wood Turtles spend most of the spring and summer in mixed, deciduous forests, riparian wetlands including wet meadows, bogs, and beaver ponds, and hay fields. Then they return to the streams in late summer or early fall to and overwinter.



Distribution in Massachusetts
1980 - 2006

Based on records in Natural Heritage Database

LIFE CYCLE & BEHAVIOR: The Wood Turtle leads a rather solitary life and they are usually observed alone. It typically spends the winter in flowing rivers and perennial streams. Full-time submersion in the water begins in November, once freezing occurs regularly overnight, and continues until temperatures begin to increase in spring. With head and limbs tucked in under the carapace and tail extended, it lies next to submerged and anchored stumps and logs on the sides of the stream away from the main current. It also may hibernate in large groups in community burrows in muddy banks, stream bottoms, deep pools, decaying forest vegetation, and abandoned muskrat burrows.

The Wood Turtle may make underwater movements in the stream during the winter; however, extended periods of activity and emergence from the water do not occur until mid-March to early April. Wood Turtles are active during the day and are usually encountered within a few hundred meters from the stream banks. They have relatively linear home ranges that can be ½ a mile in length in Massachusetts (M. Jones, unpubl data). They will use emergent logs or grassy, sandy and muddy banks to soak up the spring sun. Wood Turtles are opportunistic omnivores; their diet consists of both plant and animal matter that is consumed on land and in the water. The Wood Turtle occasionally exhibits an unusual feeding behavior referred to as “stomping.” In its search for food, this species will stomp on the ground alternating its front feet, creating vibrations in the ground resembling rainfall. Earthworms, responding, rise to the ground’s surface to keep from drowning. Instead of rain, the earthworm is met by the Wood Turtle, and is promptly devoured.

Although the peaks in mating activity occur in the spring and fall, Wood Turtles are known to mate throughout their activity period. Males have been observed exhibiting aggressive behavior such as chasing, biting, and butting both during the mating season and at other times. A courtship ritual “dance” typically takes place at the edge of a stream or brook for several hours prior to mating. The dance involves the male and female approaching each other slowly with necks extended and their heads up. Before they actually touch noses, they lower their heads and swing them from side to side. Copulation usually takes place within the water. Courting adults may produce a very subdued whistle that is rarely heard by observers. Mating may occur multiple times over the course of the active season with different individuals.

Female Wood Turtles lay one clutch a year and females will often congregate in a good nesting area. Clutch size in Massachusetts averages 7 eggs (Jones, 2004, pers. comm.). Nesting sites may be a limited resource for Wood Turtles. In Massachusetts, nesting occurs over a four-week period, primarily in June. Females are known to travel long distances in search of appropriate nesting habitat. Once they have arrived at a suitable nesting area, there may be multiple nesting attempts or false nests that occur over the course of several days, prior to laying eggs.

Hatchling emergence occurs from August through September. The life span of the adult Wood Turtle is easily 46 years and may reach as much as 100 years.

ACTIVE PERIOD

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

THREATS: Population decline of this species has been caused by development of wooded stream banks, roadway casualties, hay-mowing operations, pollution of streams, unnatural increase in populations of predators (such as raccoons and skunks) due to human presence, and commercial and incidental collection of specimens for pets. Hatchling and juvenile survival is very low and the time to sexual maturity is long. These characteristics are compensated by adults being long-lived and reproducing many times. Therefore adult survivorship needs to be very high to sustain a population. Unfortunately, these characteristics also make wood turtles vulnerable to these human disturbances.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS: A habitat model developed by UMASS will be used in conjunction with NHESP records to evaluate and rank Wood Turtle habitat. This information will be used to direct land acquisition and to target areas for Conservation Restrictions (CR’s), Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR’s) and Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) projects.

Alternative wildlife corridor structures should be considered at strategic sites on existing roads. In particular, appropriate wildlife corridor structures should be considered for bridge and culvert upgrade and road-widening projects within or near Wood Turtle habitat.

Efforts will be made by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program to inform local regulatory agencies of the new wildlife corridor section in the Mass Highway design guidance document, and to provide them with key locations where these measures would be most effective for Wood Turtle conservation.

Habitat management and restoration practices are currently being developed and implemented in order to create and/or maintain consistent access to nesting habitat within core habitat areas. This is most practical on state-owned conservation lands. However, educational materials will be made available to guide private land-owners on the best management practices for Wood Turtle habitat.

There are two potential ways to decrease turtle injuries resulting from mowing; during the growing season blade height should be raised above 6 inches (15 cm). The other potential way (which will also work for plowing) to avoid turtle mortality is to restrict mowing to early November through mid-March, when the turtles are overwintering. These measures are recommended as standard practice on right-of-ways, roadsides, and other state properties on and near Wood Turtle habitat.

Forestry restrictions apply to Priority Habitat delineated for Wood Turtles in order to avoid direct turtle mortality. Motorized vehicle access to harvesting sites in Wood Turtle habitat is restricted to the period when turtles are inactive during the winter. Seasonal forestry restrictions apply to Wood Turtle habitat and to upland habitat that occurs up to 600 feet (183 m) beyond the stream edge. In order to maintain the structural integrity of overwintering sites, bridges should be laid down across streams prior to any motorized equipment crossing the stream.

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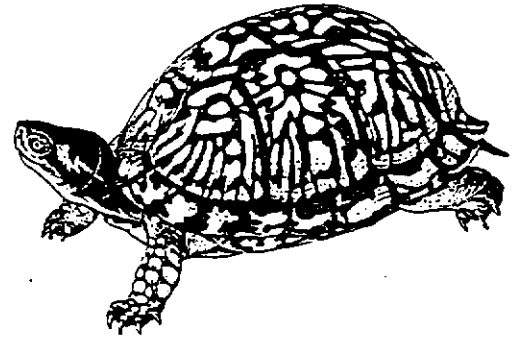
Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
Route 135
Westborough, MA 01581
(508) 792-7270

MASSACHUSETTS SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

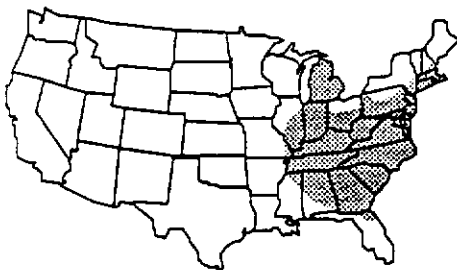
Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina carolina*)

DESCRIPTION: The Eastern Box Turtle is a small, terrestrial turtle ranging from 11.4–20.3 cm (4.5–8 in.) in length. It is so named because it is the only North American turtle that when threatened is able to enclose head, legs, and tail completely within the protective armor of its upper (carapace) and lower (plastron) shells. The adult box turtle has a short, broadly oval, high dome shell with variable markings and coloration. The carapace is usually dark brown or black with numerous irregular yellow, orange, or reddish spots, blotches, or stripes in each carapace shield. The plastron may be tan to dark-brown or black, patternless or variably patterned light and dark—almost a mottled pattern of dark brown/black or tan/yellow; its surface either concentrically ridged or smooth; and divided into two movable portions by a strong hinge. The head, neck, and legs also vary in color and markings but are generally dark with orange or yellow mottling. The Eastern Box Turtle has four toes on its hind feet; a short tail; and an upper jaw ending in a down-turned beak.



DeGraaf, Richard M. and Rudis, Deborah D.
Amphibians and Reptiles of New England.
Amherst, Massachusetts: The University of
Massachusetts, 1983.

Although there are no striking sexual differences between the male and female Eastern Box Turtles, there are, however, external features that generally distinguish between the male and female. The male box turtle usually has bright-red to red-orange eyes, with those of the female being gray-brown, yellowish-brown or very dark-red. The rear lobe of the male plastron is concave, and that of the female is flat or slightly convex. The hind legs of the male are heavier and the claws stouter, shorter and more curved than the female. Males have longer, thicker tails, with the vent located farther from the shell and closer to the tip of the tail than the female. Both sexes are generally mild-mannered.



Range of the Eastern Box Turtle



Distribution in Massachusetts
Since 1978

Hatchlings have a flat, brownish-gray carapace with a yellow spot on each large scute; and yellow along the outer rim of the carapace, the mid-dorsal keel, and the lower mandible. The plastron is yellow to cream-colored with a black central blotch and yellow margining along the outside edge. The plastral hinge is not functional and poorly developed. The tail is long in comparison with that of the adult. Hatchlings, if molested, emit a strong odor to repel predators; an adaptation that is lost later on.

SPECIES SIMILAR IN MASSACHUSETTS: The Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingi*) is the only species of turtle in Massachusetts that resembles the Eastern Box. Often referred to as the "semi-box turtle," the Blanding's Turtle has a hinged plastron enabling the turtle to pull its exposed part upwards towards its carapace but with less closure than in the Eastern Box Turtle. Outside of this specific adaptation, there is little or no similarity either in appearance or behavior between the two species. The Blanding's Turtle is essentially aquatic whereas the Eastern Box Turtle is terrestrial.

RANGE: The range of the Eastern Box Turtle is from southeastern Maine; south to northern Florida; and west to Michigan, Illinois, and Tennessee. Although the Eastern Box Turtle occurs almost statewide in Massachusetts, the majority of the population occurs in the southeastern section of the Bay State, just west of Cape Cod.

HABITAT IN MASSACHUSETTS: The Eastern Box Turtle is a woodland species, although in the northeast it also occurs in pastures and marshy meadows. It is found in both dry and moist woodlands, brushy fields, thickets, marshes, bogs, stream banks, and well-drained bottomland. It prefers open deciduous forests but has also been found on mountain slopes in Massachusetts. In optimal habitats in Cape Cod pine barrens and oak thickets, the species is generally associated with cranberry dominated swales interspersed with bearberry ground cover, low bush blueberries, and thickets of bracken fern.

LIFECYCLE/BEHAVIOR: The Eastern Box Turtle usually hibernates in the northern parts of its range from late October or November until sometime in April. In the deep south, it may remain semiactive throughout the winter. Hibernation generally begins at the time of the first killing frost. As many as four box turtles may share the same winter quarters, which range in type from loose soil, sand, vegetable debris and mud bottoms of ponds or streams to animal burrows or stump holes. As soil temperatures drop, the turtles burrow into the soft ground for a depth of from three inches to two feet. Females tend to hibernate first, with the males lingering to ensure that all females have been fertilized. They normally emerge from hibernation in April, but some individuals may emerge prematurely during warm spells in winter and early spring and perish from exposure.

Mating may take place as soon as the turtles emerge from hibernation or at any time until they enter hibernation again. Courtship begins with the male circling the female and biting at her shell, head, and legs, before mounting. Females nest from May to July and can lay fertile eggs up to four years after a single mating. Nesting areas may be in hay fields, roadsides, cultivated gardens, lawns, beach dunes, and woodland, and around house foundations. The eggs are deposited in a flask-shaped nest dug by the female's hind feet in loose soil at an elevated site, usually in an open area in close proximity to the previous years' nest. Egg laying occurs during the late afternoon-early evening and continues for up to five hours. Three to eight (usually four or five) thin, white, elliptical eggs are deposited by the female at intervals of one to six minutes; arranged in the nest by the hind feet; and then covered with soil by the hind legs and plastron. After the eggs are covered, the female crawls away, leaving the eggs unattended to incubate. The incubation period depends on soil temperature but generally the hatchlings emerge about 87-89 days after laying, usually in September. They may overwinter in the natal nest and emerge the following spring.

During the first four or five years of life, box turtles may grow at a rate of from half an inch to about three-quarters of an inch a year. Sexual maturity is thought to occur later in New England than in its southern range and may take up to 10 years to attain. It is believed that full growth is reached in about 20 years. The average life expectancy of a box turtle is between 40 and 50 years, but evidence shows that they can live as long as 80 to 123 years.

The Eastern Box Turtle is omnivorous, showing marked changes in food preferences from youth to maturity and from season to season. When young, it is chiefly carnivorous, feeding on insect larvae, slugs, earthworms, snails, spiders, crayfish, millipedes, fish, frogs, salamanders, a small percentage of vegetable material, and even carrion. At

approximately six years of age, box turtles develop a fondness for fungi (primarily mushrooms), berries, fruits, leafy vegetables, roots, stems, leaves and seeds. The adults take animal food with less frequency than young turtles.

In summer, adult box turtles are most often encountered in open woodlands in morning or evening, particularly after a rainfall. To avoid the heat of the day, they often seek shelter under rotting logs or masses of decaying leaves, in mammal burrows, or in mud. Though known as "land turtles", in hottest weather they frequently enter shaded shallow pools and puddles and remain there for periods varying from a few hours to a few days. In the cooler temperatures of spring and fall, box turtles forage at any daylight hour. They are diurnal, and scoop out a "form" (a small domelike space) in leaf litter, grasses, ferns, or mosses where they spend the night. These forms are often used on more than one occasion over a period of weeks. Juvenile box turtles are rarely seen. Immediately after hatching they seek a swamp or pond and immerse themselves in sphagnum moss or mud, remaining well hidden.

The home ranges of box turtles of all ages and both sexes overlap. The turtles frequently occur together and show no antagonism over territorial domain. Movements within the home range vary from random meanderings to fairly direct traverses. Occasional trips outside the range are made by some individuals; these trips include searches for nesting sites. Most adults show some homing tendency over short distances, such as a kilometer or two, but long distances as a result of human interference usually kills them. They orient themselves by the sun and rely on their vision for guidance and mobility. They have very defined home ranges averaging about 100 to 225 meters (100 to 750 ft.) in diameter. Some individual are transient and do not establish home ranges.

POPULATION STATUS: The Eastern Box Turtle has been declining in numbers throughout its range in Massachusetts and is presently listed as a "Species of Special Concern" in this state. Since 1978, only 187 sightings have been reported to the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, with heaviest concentrations in the southeastern part of the state and Cape Cod. Many of the sightings are road crossings or single individuals making it difficult to estimate the size of the population. There are several reasons for this decline: habitat destruction resulting from residential and industrial development and concurrent dissection of the landscape with roads; deliberate and inadvertent highway mortality; collection by individuals for pets; destruction of nests and young by skunks, coyotes, foxes, crows, dogs, and raccoons; and genetic degradation of the native stock by imported captives that escape or are released.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION: The greatest threat to the survival of the Eastern Box Turtle in Massachusetts is the fragmentation and destruction of its habitat. The bisection of its habitat by roads can reduce or destroy populations. Due to the decline of farming in Massachusetts, agricultural land is being returned to woodland. A mixture of regeneration, selective cutting and even selective burning of woodland may be beneficial to the Eastern Box Turtle. Large roadless areas of optimal habitat need to be preserved, especially in the Box Turtle's stronghold of Cape Cod. Though a law exists to protect against the importation, transportation, and release of wild animals in Massachusetts, this law, and the biological reasoning behind it, need exposure and publicity in the community at large, as well as enforcement. To ensure the long term survival of the Eastern Box Turtle, protection of its habitat is needed, as is education of the public about the detrimental affects of removing turtles from their natural habitats and keeping them as pets. Enforcement of the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act prohibiting the killing, molestation, and possession of the Eastern Box Turtle must also be improved. People should be encouraged to help box turtles across roads (always in the direction the animal is heading), and should be made aware that box turtles should never be transported or captured as pets. Finally, the practice of releasing non-native box turtles must be discouraged to protect the genetic integrity of native populations.

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EASTERN BOX TURTLE (*Terrapene carolina carolina*)

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MASSACHUSETTS RARE AND ENDANGERED WILDLIFE

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW

(Ammodramus savannarum)

DESCRIPTION

The Grasshopper Sparrow is a small sparrow of open fields. It is 4.5 to 5.5 in (11 - 13 cm) long with a narrow short tail. Each feather of the tail tapers to a point giving it a ragged appearance. It has a flat head which slopes directly into the bill. The unstreaked throat and breast are bright buff colored. The upperparts have reddish streaks which contrast with the intervening gray. The dark brown crown is divided by a thin cream-colored center stripe. A yellowish spot extends from the bill in front and below the eye. The sexes are similar. The typical song, often mistaken for the song of a grasshopper, consists of two chip notes followed by "tsick tsick tsurrrrr". Breeding birds also sing a complicated song with many squeaky and buzzy notes intermixed in a long phrase.



Robbins, C.S., J. Brown, and R.S. Eln. Birds of North America, Golden Press, New York, 1966.

Similar Species

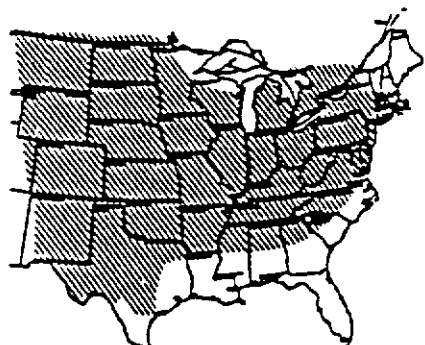
Young birds resemble adult Henslow's Sparrows but have dusky brown streaks or spots on the buffy breast and flanks. Adult Grasshopper Sparrows can be distinguished from the Field Sparrow by the latter's pinkish bill, rusty cap and white eye ring. Other species similar in appearance and also found in the same type of habitat include the Vesper Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow and Song Sparrow but Grasshopper Sparrow differs from these by its buffy unstreaked throats and breasts and the yellowish area around the eye. However, its distinctive call best distinguishes it from all other birds.

ECOLOGY/BEHAVIOR

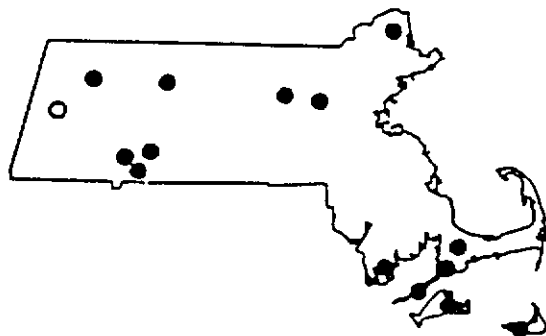
Grasshopper Sparrows eat, sleep and nest on the ground. When flushed, it usually flies up from the grass, flutters rather low and erratically for a short distance and drops into the grass again. On the ground it either hops or runs.

Habitat in Massachusetts

It is found in sandplain grasslands, pastures, hayfields and airfields characterized by bunch grasses (rather than sod forming grasses). It is



(continued overleaf)



Range of Ammodramus savannarum

- Verified since 1978
- Reported prior to 1978

Breeding Distribution in Massachusetts
by Town

also found in open knolls, sandplains within Pine Barrens and coastal heathlands. It requires a patchy grassland habitat with bare ground and bunch grasses such as poverty grass (*Danthonia spicata*), bluestem (*Andropogon* spp.) and fescue (*Fescue* spp). Preferred habitat is characterized by relatively low stem densities and limited accumulation of ground litter. This species is generally absent from fields with over 35% cover in shrubs. Bare ground is especially important, as Grass-hopper Sparrows behave much like field mice in their habit of running along the ground to escape predators and to forage for invertebrates.

Migration

The Grasshopper Sparrows arrive in Massachusetts in late May. The male lays claim to a 1-4 acre exclusive non-overlapping territory by singing the "grass-hopper" song all day from a tall weed, fence post, haystack, etc. During the non-breeding season both the male and female sing. Grasshopper Sparrows migrate to the wintering grounds by mid-September.

Breeding habits

Grasshopper Sparrows produce one brood each summer in Massachusetts. The well-hidden nests are walled, domed structures of grasses built at the base of clumps of grass. Only the female incubates the eggs, which take an estimated 12 days to hatch. The usual 3-5 eggs are white with spots or blotches of brown to reddish brown which are concentrated on the larger end of the egg. The young, which are wholly dependent on the mother at hatching, leave the nest after 9 days and follow the parent on the ground until they fledge. If found on the nest, the mother flutters through the grass feigning lameness. Though the male does not care for the young, he does react to predators near the nest. Nests may be parasitized by cowbirds. Breeding activity diminishes by mid-August after which the families disperse.

Feeding Habits

This species is largely insectivorous. Patches of bare ground are critical to this sparrow's foraging behavior as grasshoppers, a primary food item, are most often pursued on or near the ground. Grasshopper Sparrows also feed on spiders, myriapods, snails, earthworms, weed and grass seeds.

RANGE

The Grasshopper Sparrow can be found from New Hampshire to California, and south to South Carolina to Mexico, Cuba, the Bahama's and Guatemala. It winters from southern California, southern Arizona, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee and North Carolina to El Salvador, and the West Indies.

POPULATION STATUS

The Grasshopper Sparrow is classified as a species of Special Concern in Massachusetts, where it is known to nest at less than 20 sites. Many of the current locations are in fields adjacent to air fields. This sparrow formerly was abundant on Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and in eastern Massachusetts. Loss of appropriate habitat to land development, changes in agricultural practices (early harvesting and fewer fallow fields) and natural succession (abandoned fields growing up to shrubs and woods) appears to be the primary factor in its decline. Openings created by forest fires once provided habitat but these are now rare.



Natural Heritage &
Endangered Species
Program

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
Route 135
Westborough, MA 01581
(508) 792-7270 ext. 200

MASSACHUSETTS THREATENED PLANTS

GREAT LAUREL

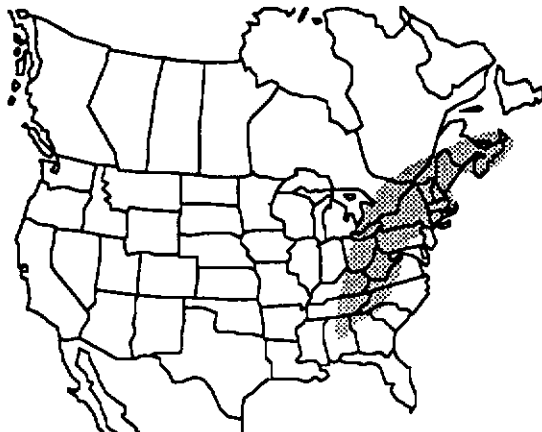
(*Rhododendron maximum* L.)

Description

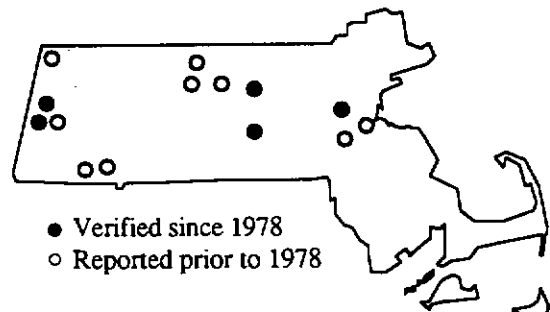
Great Laurel, a member of the Heath family (Ericaceae) is an evergreen shrub or small tree that grows up to 10 m (33 ft.) high. Its 1-2 dm (3 - 8 in.) long leaves are smooth-margined, alternate, leathery, and, usually, widest above the middle. In addition, the leaves are dark green above and paler green and pubescent (hairy) beneath. The young branchlets are pubescent, as well. Great Laurel's pink to white flowers are on sticky pedicels (flower stalks) and clustered in dome-shaped, terminal inflorescences. Each 3.5-4 cm (1 3/5 - 1 2/5 in.) long flower is subtended by a short, five-lobed calyx (outermost floral whorl) and is spotted with yellow or orange on its inner surface. The fruit is a 10 - 15 mm (10/25 -



Gleason, H.A. The New Britton and Brown Illustrated Flora of the US & Adjacent Canada. NY Botanical Garden, 1952.



Documented Range of
Great Laurel



Massachusetts Distribution by Town

15/25 in.) long, five-chambered, septicidal capsule (a dry fruit derived from a compound pistil that opens along the walls or "septa" dividing the various ovaries). Great Laurel prefers filtered light and flowers from late June to late July.

Range

The range of Great Laurel has been documented as extending from Nova Scotia to southern Ontario and Ohio, south to Georgia and Alabama.

Similar Species

Great Laurel could be confused with Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*). In contrast to Great Laurel, however, Mountain Laurel has flowers that are marked with purple. Furthermore, its hairless leaves are shorter--only 5-8 cm (2 - 3 1/6 in.) compared to the 10-20 cm (4 - 8 in.) of Great Laurel.

Habitat in Massachusetts

Great Laurel is a plant of moist woods, swamps, and the edges of ponds. Its habitats in Massachusetts include the edge of a boggy swamp; an Atlantic White Cedar swamp, near an open pond; a forested seepage fen (a peat-forming area where very cold, nutrient-poor water seeps to the surface); and the edge of a Red Maple swamp. Among the plant species associated with Great Laurel are Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*), Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), Yellow Birch (*Betula lutea*), Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), Cinnamon Fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*), and White Pine (*Pinus strobus*). Associated, rare Massachusetts plants include Swamp Red Currant (*Ribes triste*) and Hemlock Parsley (*Conioselinum chinense*).

Population Status

Great Laurel is presently listed as "Threatened" in Massachusetts, where there are six current stations (discovered or relocated since 1978) in five towns and nine historical stations (unverified since 1978). Great Laurel is also considered rare in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut and Ohio. Threats include--especially in the past--collecting for home landscaping.



Natural Heritage &
Endangered Species
Program

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
Route 135
Westborough, MA 01581
(508) 792-7270 ext. 200

MASSACHUSETTS ENDANGERED PLANTS

SWAMP LOUSEWORT

(*Pedicularis lanceolata*)

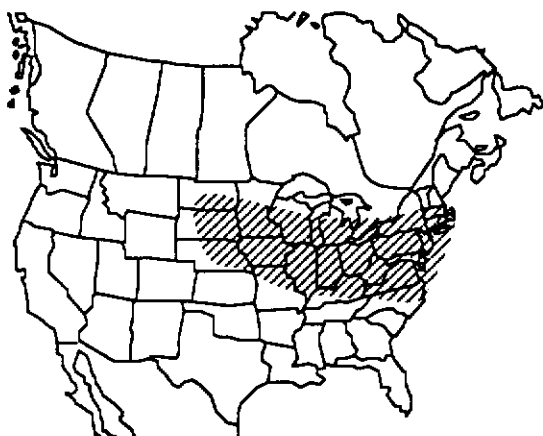
Description

Swamp Lousewort is an erect, herbaceous, showy-flowered perennial in the Snapdragon or Figwort family (Scrophulariaceae). Its genus name comes from the Latin *Pediculus*, for louse, and reflects the early European belief that sheep and cattle grazing near louseworts would pick up lice.

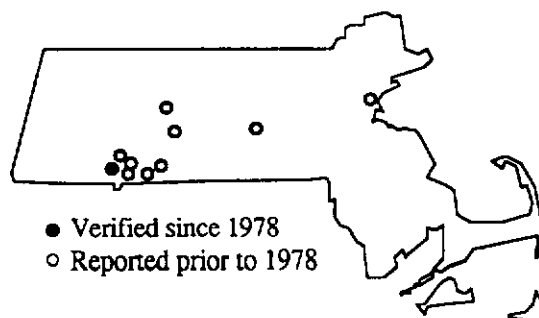
(*Wort* is an Anglo-Saxon term for plant.) The hairless, or nearly hairless, stems grow 3-9 dm (3/4 - 3 ft.) tall and usually occur singly. Swamp Lousewort's leaves are 5-10 cm (2 - 4 in.) long, stalkless or short-stalked, and mostly opposite. They are lanceolate in general outline and pinnately lobed, with the sinuses extending less than halfway back to the midrib. The 15-25 mm (3/5 - 1 in.) long, pale yellow to cream-colored flowers occur in a crowded spike (an unbranched, elongate inflorescence of stalkless flowers). The calyx



Gleason, H.A. *The New Britton and Brown Illustrated Flora of the US & Adjacent Canada*. NY Botanical Garden, 1952.



Documented Range of Swamp
Lousewort



Massachusetts Distribution by Town

(outermost floral whorl) is two-lobed, about 1 cm (4/10 in.) in length, and has a toothed, foliar appendage on each side. The fruit is an ovoid, beaked capsule (a dry, many-seeded fruit derived from a compound pistil) that barely exceeds the calyx in length. Swamp Lousewort flowers from mid August to mid September. The plant is a hemi-parasite whose seedlings must partially rely on other plants in order to develop normally.

Range

The range of Swamp Lousewort has been documented as occurring from Massachusetts to southern Ontario, Michigan, Minnesota and North Dakota, and south to North Carolina, Missouri and Nebraska.

Similar Species

Wood Betony (*Pedicularis canadensis*) could be mistaken for Swamp Lousewort. However, Wood Betony is a much shorter, hairy plant that grows in clumps. Furthermore, Wood Betony may have all yellow, all red, or both yellow and red flowers, and the lobes of its leaves are cut more than halfway back to the midrib.

Habitat in Massachusetts

In general, Swamp Lousewort is a plant of wet areas, including wet woods, swamps, and wet meadows. In particular, it prefers wet meadows with limestone soil. The one current habitat in Massachusetts is an ecotone (an area where two habitat types meet) between the moist shrubby border of a stream and an open pasture; the soil here is circumneutral (near neutral pH) to calcareous. Plant species found growing with Swamp Lousewort at this station include Speckled Alder (*Alnus rugosa*), Meadowsweet (*Spiraea latifolia*), Spotted Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), Blue Vervain (*Verbena hastata*), Soft Rush (*Juncus effusus*), and Tussock Sedge (*Carex stricta*). Historical habitats in Massachusetts include a wet woods, wet pasture and wet swale.

Population Status

Swamp Lousewort is presently listed as "Endangered" in Massachusetts. There are ten historical stations (unverified since 1978) in nine towns and one current station (discovered or relocated since 1978) in the Commonwealth. Swamp Lousewort is also considered rare in Arkansas, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Nebraska, New York, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. It was present historically in Delaware.

APPENDIX D
INVENTORY OF LANDS OF
CONSERVATION AND
RECREATION INTEREST

CHAPTER 61

Chapter 61 provides a tax incentive to property owners managing their land for forestry, agriculture, or recreation. These properties are not permanently protected, but if such properties are up for sale, the Town has the right of first refusal.

CHAPTER 61A (AGRICULTURE) PROPERTY

Assessors Code	Category	Total Acres
713	Field Crops – hay, wheat, etc.	5.04
716	Tillable Forage Cropland	362.92
717	Productive Woodland – Christmas trees, woodlots	25.59
718	Pasture	104.53
719	Nuseries	13.88
Total Chapter 61A Agriculture Land Acreage		511.96

CHAPTER 61B (RECREATION) PROPERTIES

Assessors Code	Category	Total Acres
801	Hiking – trails or paths	72.21
805	Golfing – areas of land arranged as a golf course	58.10
Total Chapter 61A Agriculture Land Acreage		130.31

CHAPTER 61 (FOREST LAND) PROPERTIES

Total Chapter 61 Forest Acreage	473.86
--	---------------

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LANDS

Property which is totally exempt from taxation under various provisions of the law and owned by:

90 Public Service Properties

901 Commonwealth of Massachusetts

903 Municipalities, Districts

905

Charitable Organizations

907

Chapter 121A

Map	Block/ Lot	Ownership	Use Code	Acres
9	A/1.1	Commonwealth of Massachusetts/ Water Resources Comm.	901	1.99
9	B1.1	Commonwealth of Massachusetts/ Water Resources Comm.	901	10.12

Map	Block/ Lot	Ownership	Use Code	Acres
9	B/2.1	Commonwealth of Massachusetts/ Water Resources Comm.	901	27.29
3	A/2	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	63
3	B/1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	38.76
3	B/2	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	1.3
3	C/1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER DEPT /	903	9
4	A/2	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	22.5
4	A/6	Greater Worcester Land Trust, Inc.	905	53.54
4	B/3	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	22.34
4	B/4	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	1
6	A/2	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	27.64
6	B/1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	11.95
6	C/1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	186.4
10	B/3.1	TOWN OF SPENCER / SPENCER PUMP HOUSE	903	0.26
10	C/10	TOWN OF SPENCER /	903	10
10	C/11	TOWN OF SPENCER /	903	60.35
10	C/4	TOWN OF SPENCER /	903	66.1
10	C/7	TOWN OF SPENCER /	903	42.4
10	C/8	TOWN OF SPENCER /	903	21.34
10	C/9	TOWN OF SPENCER /	903	12.2
12	A/3	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	52
12	B/2	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	71.9
12	C/1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	49.65
12	D/1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	1
13	A/2	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER DEPT /	903	9.5
13	A/6	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER DEPT /	903	6.4
14	A/1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	20.2
14	A/2	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	247
14	A/5	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	6.15
14	A/6	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER DEPT /	903	6.72
22	C/1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER DEPT /	903	23
22	C/2.1	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER DEPT /	903	15.85
22A	C/12	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	25.57
22A	C/6	CITY OF WORCESTER WATER /	903	1.84
27	B/6	BURNCOAT POND WATERSHED DISTRICT /	903	87
28	A/12	CEDAR MEADOW LAKE / WATERSHED DISTRICT	903	142
30	A/1.1	TOWN OF LEICESTER(232.25 Watershed Protection; 65.41 Recreation; 2.67 Recreation or General Municipal)	903	232.25
41A	A/12	Meadow Lake Association Inc.	905	0.3
41A	A/30	Meadow Lake Association Inc.	905	0.13
41A	E/5	Meadow Lake Association Inc.	905	0.23

Map	Block/ Lot	Ownership	Use Code	Acres
12A	G/4	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	2.3
12A	H/3	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	0.72
12A	J/1	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	1.53
12A	K/1	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	0.42
15	A/19.2	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	4.33
15	A/19.3	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	1.02
15	A/20	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	0.77
18	A/5.2	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	0.3
19A	A/2	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	1.25
21A	A/48.1	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY /	907	0.7
22	A/1	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY /	907	0.34
22	A/9	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY /	907	7.5
23A	A/43.1	CHERRY VALLEY + ROCHDALE WA /	907	0.34
23A	A/44.1	C V ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT /	907	1
24	A/1	CHERRY VALLEY WATER DIST /	907	13.26
24	A/2	CHERRY VALLEY + ROCHDALE WA /	907	149
26	A/1	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	14.69
26	A/2	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	15.79
26A	B/3	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY /	907	0.62
26B	B/4.2	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY DIST /	907	2.19
26B	B/4.3	LEICESTER WATER SUPPLY /	907	1.44
29A	D/1.1	HILLCREST SEWER DIST. /	907	0.03
30A	A/27.1	HILLCREST SEWER DIST. /	907	0.01
30B	H/2.1	HILLCREST SEWER DIST. /	907	0.01
31	A/3	CHERRY VALLEY + ROCHDALE WA /	907	0.18
31	B/1.1	CHERRY VALLEY ROCHDALE WATER /	907	9.4
31	B/11.7	CHERRY VALLEY + ROCHDALE WATER /	907	15.6
31	B/28	C V ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT /	907	8
37A	A/5	CHERRY VALLEY + ROCHDALE WA /	907	0.24
37A	B/1	OXFORD ROCHDALE SEWER DISTRICT /	907	0.51
37A	E/4	CHERRY VALLEY + ROCHDALE WA /	907	0.17
38A	A/36	OXFORD ROCHDALE SEWER DISTRICT /	907	0.29
39	A/8	HILLCREST WATER DISTRICT /	907	2.56
39	A/9	HILLCREST WATER DISTRICT /	907	0.59
41	C/3	STILES LAKE WATER DISTRICT /	907	51.4
43	B/3.1	OXFORD ROCHDALE SEWER DISTRICT /	907	0.06
48	B/5	STILES LAKE WATER DISTRICT /	907	21.8
Total Water Resource Management Acreage:				2018.53

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT LANDS

Property which is totally exempt from taxation under various provisions of the law and owned by:

90 Public Service Properties

901 Commonwealth of Massachusetts 905 Charitable Organizations 911 Commonwealth of Massachusetts

All of these properties are protected.

Map	Block/ Lot	Ownership	Use Code	Acres
9	B/1	Commonwealth of Massachusetts/ Division of Fisheries and Game	901	33.00
17	A/8.1	Massachusetts Audubon Society	905	15.30
1	A/2	Commonwealth of Massachusetts / Division of Fisheries and Wildlife	911	23.22
1	A/3	Commonwealth of Massachusetts / Division of Fisheries and Wildlife	911	15
1	C/1	Commonwealth of Massachusetts / Division of Fisheries and Game	911	73.25
Total Exempt Property Acreage:				159.77

RECREATION LANDS (ACTIVE AND PASSIVE)

Property which is totally exempt from taxation under various provisions of the law and owned by:

90 Public Service Properties

903 Municipalities, Districts
904 Colleges, Schools (private)
905 Charitable Organizations

Map	Block/ Lot	Ownership	Use Code	Acres	Permanently Protected?
3A	A/2	TOWN OF LEICESTER / ELLIOTT CEMETERY	903	1.04	No
15	A/14	TOWN OF LEICESTER / MIDDLE SCHOOL	903	20.44	No
15	A/19.1	TOWN OF LEICESTER / PRIMARY SCHOOL	903	27	No
18	A/1	TOWN OF LEICESTER / BEACH AREA	903	61.72	Yes
18	A/2	TOWN OF LEICESTER / BURNCOAT PARK	903	53.51	Yes
18	A/3	TOWN OF LEICESTER / TOWN BEACH	903	1.64	Yes
19B	B/30	TOWN OF LEICESTER / PUBLIC LIBRARY	903	0.64	No
20	A/1	Becker College	904	25	No
21	A/3	Becker College	904	21.94	No
21B	A/1	TOWN OF LEICESTER / LEICESTER COMMUNITY FIELD	903	8.25	Possibly*
23A	A/32	TOWN OF LEICESTER / CHERRY VALLEY SCHOOL LOT	903	0.84	No
23D	B/19	TOWN OF LEICESTER / TOWTAID PARK	903	4.5	
23D	B/20	CHERRY VALLEY CEMETERY /	903	3	No
24	C/8	LEICESTER CONSERVATION COMM /	903	3.25	
27	B/6	BURNCOAT POND WATERSHED DISTRICT /	903	87	No

Map	Block/ Lot	Ownership	Use Code	Acres	Permanently Protected?
28	A/12	CEDAR MEADOW LAKE / WATERSHED DISTRICT	903	142	No
30	A/1.1	TOWN OF LEICESTER(232.25 Watershed Protection; 65.41 Recreation; 2.67 Recreation or General Municipal)	903	68.08	Partially- protected
39	A/7	TOWN OF LEICESTER / MEMORIAL SCHOOL	903	28	No
46	A/3	TOWN OF LEICESTER / ROCHDALE PARK	903	8	No
13	A/7	Quaker Cemetery	905	1.9	No
28B	A/23	Community Beach and Park	905	0.1	
28B	A/9	Community Beach and Park	905	0.22	
41	B/7	YWCA	905	16.58	No
41	C/2	YWCA	905	10.87	No
41	C/4	YWCA	905	2.31	No
42	B/6	YWCA	905	40	No
48	B/2	Montachusett Girl Scout Council	905	58.9	No
49	A/1	Montachusett Girl Scout Council	905	42	No
Total Recreation Lands Acreage:				738.73	

*Exact protection status unknown. A plaque at the site indicates that the park was built by the “citizens of Leicester and the Federal Administration” in 1935.

SINGLE PARCELS OF 20 ACRES OR MORE

The table below shows the total numbers large parcels 20 acres or more in each use classification. There are a total of 53 parcels, ranging from 20 acres to 213 acres (average is 50.2 acres/median is 38.56 acres). These are parcels of land that should be considered for their potential as open space or recreational lands.

Assessors Code	Category	Total Acres
014	Mixed-use	69.10
016	Mixed-use	72.49
017	Mixed-use	615.74
071	Mixed-use (Ch.61/residential)	392.59
083	Mixed-use	22
101	Single family	353.84
104	Two-family residence	48.9
106	Accessory land with improvement – garage, etc.	41.23
109	Multiple houses on one parcel	118
130	Raw land/ developable	304.46
131	Raw land/ potentially developable	172.38
132	Raw land/ undevelopable	140.44
137	Mixed-use	38.5
318	Commercial greenhouses	164.31
363	Drive-in movies	41
401	Warehouses for storage of manufactured products	25.85
440	Developable land – accessory to industrial	42.25
Total Acreage of Unprotected Privately Owned Parcels of 20 Acres or More		2663.08

APPENDIX E
PUBLIC COMMENTS AND
PUBLIC FORUM
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buck, Michelle

From: Soper, Jennifer (EEA) [Jennifer.Soper@state.ma.us]

Sent: Friday, February 01, 2008 9:38 AM

To: Buck, Michelle

Subject: Leicester Open Space and Recreation Plan

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2008

LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

Good Morning Michelle,

Thanks for submitting Leicester's open space and recreation plan to my office for review. I am happy to write that the plan has been approved through November, 2012. I appreciate the hard work that was invested in this plan, and hope that by the time 2012 rolls around, you will be able to mark most of the Action Plan items as "done"!

I look forward to receiving the final hard copy of the plan once it is available,

Jen Soper

Jennifer Jillson Soper, Regional Planner
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs
Division of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge St., Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 223-1745
www.mass.gov/envir/dcs

2/1/2008

October 30, 2007

Melissa Cryan
Division of Conservation Services
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
251 Causeway Street
Boston, MA 02114

RECEIVED

OCT 30 2007

LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) is writing this letter in support of the Town of Leicester and its recently completed Open Space & Recreation Plan. The all-volunteer Open Space Committee is to be commended for all of its hard work in putting this Plan together.

The Open Space Committee has done a very thorough job and the final document appears fully compliant with the standards for such plans as promulgated by your office. Leicester was an active participant in our 2004 trail investigation study entitled, Western Subregion Inter-Community Trail Connection Feasibility Study. Leicester's Open Space Plan will provide the Town with the opportunity to pursue some of the trail ideas contained in our study, as well as protect critical land areas from future development and/or over-development.

Please consider this letter to be a demonstration of CMRPC's support for the Plan and the process used to develop it. We find Leicester's Plan to be fully consistent with CMRPC's Regional Open Space & Recreation Plan as well as the conservation priorities outlined in our 2020 Growth Strategy for Central Massachusetts.

The Town of Leicester will be well served by having a State-approved up-to-date Plan for the provision of recreation facilities and programs, as well as the preservation and protection of its valuable open spaces and natural resources.

Sincerely,



Stephen Wallace
CMRPC Land Use Planner

✓ C: Michelle Buck, Town Planner



Phone: 508-892-7019
FAX: 508-892-7064

**TOWN OF LEICESTER
PLANNING BOARD
3 Washburn Square
LEICESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, 01524-1333**

October 16, 2007

Michelle R. Buck
Town Planner
3 Washburn Square
Leicester, MA 01524

RECEIVED
OCT 16 2007
LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

Dear Ms. Buck:

Per your request, the Planning Board reviewed draft Open Space and Recreation Plan and discussed the draft plan at the Planning Board meeting of June 5, 2007. The Board was pleased with the draft and felt it showed a great deal of effort from the students from the Conway School of Landscape Design and the Open Space & Recreation Committee. Board members noted that the following goals/priorities identified in the plan were of particular importance to the Planning Board: protection of water quality, increased public awareness of recreational facilities, evaluation of recreational opportunities to identify gaps in service, development of family-oriented recreational facilities, and working cooperatively with local schools and non-profits (e.g. Audubon, Becker College, etc.). The Board also noted the importance of planning for the future use and reuse of the Hillcrest Country Club.

The Board thanks the Open Space & Recreation Committee members for their efforts and looks forward to seeing the goals of the Plan implemented in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Debra Friedman, Chair
Leicester Planning Board

**LEICESTER
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**

Memo

To: Open Space Committee
From: Conservation Commission
CC:
Date: October 18, 2007
Re: Open Space Plan

The Leicester Conservation Commission has reviewed the draft Open Space Plan and has no comments. The Commission supports submitting the plan to the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services for approval.

Stephan R. Parretti

Chairman, Leicester Conservation Commission



**TOWN OF LEICESTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

TOWN HALL, 3 WASHBURN SQUARE • LEICESTER, MA 01524

Tel.: (508) 892-7000
FAX: (508) 892-7070
www.ci.leicester.ma.us

MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED

JUN 19 2007

LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

DATE: June 19, 2007
TO: Michelle Buck, Town Planner
FROM: Sue LeChasseur, Selectmen's Office
SUBJ: Draft Open Space & Recreation Plan

Per your request dated 5/22/07, members of the Board of Selectmen reviewed the 2007 Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan for the Town of Leicester.

At its meeting held June 4, 2007, the Board of Selectmen discussed in general the 2007 Draft Plan, and reviewed specifically the Goals & Objectives contained in the draft documents.

A list of comments from the Selectmen was compiled. The Board was asked to review the comments as noted and consider any further issues relative to the Goals & Objects and the 5-year Action Plan.

At its meeting held June 18, 2007 the Board of Selectmen amended their original list of comments to the Draft OSRP. Attached please find our final comments from the Chief Elected Official(s) for the Town of Leicester.

Thank you on behalf of the community for all the work involved with updating the Town's Open Space & Recreation Plan.

Board of Selectmen
Meeting held June 4, 2007
Draft comments reviewed and updated on June 18, 2007

The Board of Selectmen had reviewed Memo dated 5/22/07 along with attached Goals & Objectives of the Draft OSRP document. Comments received from the Board:

- Moose Hill Reservoir – the Selectmen support the recommendation to include the importance of Moose Hill Reservoir within the Final OSRP
- Flow Chart – format spreadsheet that organizes goals into categories that show the basics (suggestions below) to allow a one-shot picture of what is before us. Although the 5-year action plan details this information, that info encompasses 13 pages
 - Segregate basic chores into timeframes (long-term, immediate, ongoing, etc.)
 - List responsible party for each basic chore – some areas may overlap
 - List available and potential open space
- Capital Planning – items eligible under Town's capital planning should be submitted for consideration by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee
- Marketing - make final OSRPlan available for marketing by real estate agencies (website)
- Follow-up – active group or individual needs to be in place that will move goals forward so that the Plan gets implemented as prioritized or determined to be accessible
- Coordinator – leader that will disperse various assignments to others for implementation
- Action Plan – how will OSRPlan be implemented with regard to costs – formulate minimum/maximum costs per project including any paid staff
- Grantwriter – who will be charged with grant writing for various goals listed in Plan

On a whole, the Board was very impressed with the work done by the Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee and its leader, Town Planner Michelle Buck. It is apparent that a lot of thought and community involvement has gone into this process.

The Board encourages participation and response by all departments, boards and committees. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance in this regard.

Buck, Michelle

From: Bazinet_Michael@emc.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 11:26 AM
To: Buck, Michelle
Subject: Open Space Plan

RECEIVED

JUN 19 2007

LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

Hello,

I have looked over the Open Space Plan and found the information contained excellent. It gives a great overview of our community and it's natural resources. I believe that my comments echo a large percentage of the Leicester population as well. I believe that we must continue to do whatever is needed to protect our drinking water resources and I also believe that we must protect the areas that harbor endangered / threatened species.

I really like the Town of Leicester and it's rural feel and I hope that we can protect it from over development. I would also hope that we can see an increased priority placed on family related recreational facilities; a Town pool / beach, new soccer fields, picnic / park grounds for families. Thank you for all your efforts and the efforts of the folks who developed the informational packet.

Thank you,

Michael Bazinet
Production Supervisor
Franklin System Test
*Cell: (508) 400-3832
*Desk: 72951
*Bazinet_Michael@emc.com

EMC²
Where Information Lives

Buck, Michelle

RECEIVED

From: Carol Harley [susurrusrising@juno.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 12:07 PM
To: Buck, Michelle
Subject: Open space planning

JUN 19 2007

LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

As a taxpaying resident of Rochdale since 1983, I would like to submit comments on Leicester's Draft Open Space Plan.

I strongly support the both the overall goals and the key preliminary recommendations made by Annie Scott and Priscilla Miner in their Plan Summary. I would appreciate being on an email list as an "interested citizen" if you have future information to share about the plan via email (or snail mail, see address below).

I am grateful every day to live in Rochdale. Thank you for all your work and for enlisting the Conway School students to help with identifying environmental aspects of Leicester that might have otherwise been overlooked.

As a side note, I confess to being frustrated by the very large file size of the document, making it very unwieldy on my computer (and impossible to deal with on many computers). It might be an improvement to have a placeholder in such a document indicating where each large, high-resolution map occurs and then have the maps available as separate files?

Carol Harley
15 Parker Street
Rochdale, MA 01542

Buck, Michelle

From: Ruth Kaminski [rkaminski@spearmgmt.com]
Sent: Friday, June 29, 2007 11:49 AM
To: Buck, Michelle
Subject: open space plan page 19 onward

RECEIVED
JUL 02 2007
LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

Roadways are frequent sites for illegal dumping of hazardous or other potentially harmful wastes

Is stated on page 19. I take considerable exception to the word "frequent". Leicester is fortunate in that we have much less disposal on our streets and any other town our size. So to say that we have frequent illegal dumping and particularly of hazardous or harmful wastes is just not true. As a matter of fact in 15 years running the recycling center I can only think of 1 incident of hazardous dumping.

So this needs to change so that misinformation is not generated by the open space plan.

Back to page 15 for a minute....it occurs to me that the very significant Thrust Fault that runs through town at Leicester Hill Country Club is not mentioned in the Soils, geology section. This to me is a mistake. This fault is very large and the only one if its kind in our town and should be mentioned.

Page 25 talks about Hillcrest. Maybe a sentence cautioning that with town financial problems this property could be sold in the future if a method of preserving it as open space is not realized. It says in the opening statement that it is protected in perpetuity but I am not sure that is correct. You will know more about this than me.

I don't see anywhere that the lands in Leicester owned by the City of Worcester for water supply also contain old town historic roadways. We should always put in our plan that we should continue to work with the City of Worcester to under controlled circumstances open these lands to passive recreation.

Page 33 should stress working with Local Land Trusts is a good preservation measure.

We should also mention somewhere that there are 3 very active Watershed Districts (Stiles, Burncoat, and Cedar Meadow) in town and liaison with the town on water protection measures. This is a very large constituency that needs to be mentioned in the open space plan.

Page 36 where it says use the town web site should also say use the town cable access television station.

Lastly the things I have mentioned, many of which should be tied into the 5 year plan.

7/2/2007

Buck, Michelle

From: Ruth Kaminski [rkaminski@spearmgmt.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2007 5:32 PM
To: Buck, Michelle
Cc: Knox, Barbara
Subject: OPEN SPACE PLAN COMMENTS TO PAGE 19

RECEIVED
JUL 02 2007
LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

MICHELLE:

I ONLY GOT TO PAGE 19. I WILL SEND IN PIECES TO YOU. HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.

PLAN SUMMARY PAGE 1 PARAGRAPH 4 SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE LLAMA FARMS AFTER HORSE STABLES. WE HAVE 2 VERY ACTIVE LLAMA FARMS IN TOWN.

PLAN SUMMARY PAGE 2 PARAGRAPH 4 FOURTH INDENT DOT add red area.

Build a strong constituency of open space

and recreation advocates through

education and collaborative partnerships such as Common Ground Land Trust being formulated to preserve and protect open space in Spencer and Leicester.

PLAN SUMMARY PAGE 2 PARAGRAPH 5 ADD FIFTH INDENT DOT

Identify existing trails and plan for their expansion and/or preservation. Work with local groups such as snowmobile, and equestrian organizations to map the trails system in and around the town. One such trail is the Mid State which goes through the northwest section of the town. Abandon railroad and other land should also be explored for possible trail expansion.

Page 16 under Surface Waters should read: Leicester has 37 square miles of streams and 28 bodies of water

Page 17 1st paragraph ends. Could add: The Burncoat Park has 1400 feet of waterfront and is town owned conservation land. This was used for years as a bathing beach and should be reviewed again as a possible bathing beach site.

Page 18 paragraph five and six should also say Town of Leicester Wetland Bylaw even though it is mentioned in paragraph six at the end.

7/2/2007

Page 18 third paragraph on right side should say:

This zone encompasses land owned by the City of
Worcester Water District in the northeast
quadrant of town, including Kettle Brook and Lyndebrook Reservoirs.

This same paragraph should make reference to Henshaw Reservoir and does not.

Page 18 paragraph 2 should say: Burncoat Park, 114 acres of conservation land owned by the town.

and The Massachusetts Audubon Society has recently acquired a sixty-acre parcel of land surrounding Burncoat Pond in the neighboring town of Spencer is not true. Mass Audubon owns 60 acres abutting Burncoat Park and have owned it for many years. They are seeking to buy another parcel abutting the 60 acres also surrounding Burncoat Pond but they have not purchased it yet. A large development in Spencer has offered many acres in an abutting parcel as open space and the Common Ground Land Trust is seeking to take this open space parcel for preservation.

It is also worth noting that a bald eagle nests each year at Burncoat Park.

It is also worth noting that an underground bedrock aquifer crosses Route 9 and directly affects as does the drainage from Route 9 the quality of the Burncoat Pond and Park. So that the town should be careful in development of this area so as to protect from runoff both through surface and groundwater intrusion these resources.

Page 19 after the 3rd paragraph could add that in the northwest section of town the Leicester Rod and Gun Club has maintained more than 100 acres as a wildlife preserve that is open to hunting 52 weeks a year for members. This preserve is stocked with pheasant and grouse annually.

Ruth

Ruth L. Kaminski, Asst. Controller/HR Director
Spear Management Group, Inc.
(508)832-4570 x25
fax(508)832-4627

RKaminski@spearmgmt.com

WHAT IS YOUR VIEW?



PARTICIPATE IN UPDATING LEICESTER'S
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS, IDEAS AND CONCERNS
ABOUT PROTECTING THE TOWN'S RESOURCES

CONSIDER LEICESTER'S OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

PLEASE JOIN US:
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN UPDATE MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 7PM
LEICESTER TOWN HALL

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

MEETING HOSTED BY THE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE AND MODERATED BY
GRADUATE STUDENTS FROM CONWAY SCHOOL OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN.
QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT: PRISCILLA MINER AND ANNIE SCOTT,
CONWAY SCHOOL OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN (413)369-4044, EXT. 7

What Is Your View?

Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Meeting

Thursday, March 8, 2007

Hosted by the Leicester Open Space and Recreation Committee

Facilitated by Annie Scott and Priscilla Miner, Graduate Students, Conway School of Landscape Design

A G E N D A

7:00-7:10 Arrival and interaction with map

7:10-7:15 Welcome and Introductions

- Role of Team
- Expectations for the evening

7:15-7:30 Presentation

- What is an Open Space and Recreation Plan, and why is it important?
- Project goals
- Introduction to maps

7:30-8:15 Group Discussion and Brainstorm:

What's most critical to include in the action plan in the following four categories?

- protecting natural resources,
- improving existing recreational facilities and developing new recreational opportunities,
- protecting open space for a variety of purposes, notably working farmland, scenic value, wildlife habitat, and forests, and
- preserving important cultural and historic sites,

8:15 -8:30 Summary of Group Discussion & Next Steps

- If you didn't have a chance yet, please take a minute to look at the map and add your thoughts about connections that should be made

Thank you for coming!

WHAT IS YOUR VIEW?

PARTICIPATE IN UPDATING LEICESTER'S
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

LEARN ABOUT THE PROGRESS ON THE UPDATED
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

CONSIDER LEICESTER'S OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE



PLEASE JOIN US:

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN UPDATE MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 8TH, 7PM
LEICESTER TOWN HALL

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

MEETING HOSTED BY THE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE AND MODERATED BY
GRADUATE STUDENTS FROM CONWAY SCHOOL OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN.
QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT: PRISCILLA MINER AND ANNIE SCOTT,
CONWAY SCHOOL OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN (413)369-4044, EXT. 7

What Is Your View?

Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Meeting

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Hosted by the Leicester Open Space and Recreation Committee

Facilitated by Annie Scott and Priscilla Miner, Graduate Students, Conway School of Landscape Design

A G E N D A

7:00-7:10 Arrival and interaction with maps

7:10-7:15 Welcome and Introductions

- Role of Team
- Expectations for the evening

7:15-7:25 Presentation

- What is and Open Space and Recreation Plan, and why is it important?
- Project goals
- Introduction to maps

7:25-8:15 Group Discussion:

- What makes Leicester special or significant?
- What is the biggest change or threat facing Leicester?
- What is the greatest opportunity?
- What has Leicester been most successful in accomplishing?
- What's most critical to do?
- What are your priorities for protecting open space - what are the most
- important reasons to protect open space?

8:15 -8:30 Summary Summary and Adjourn

- If you didn't have a chance yet, please take a minute to look at the map and mark the places that you feel contribute to Leicester's character.

Thank you for coming!

APPENDIX F

HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB

INFORMATION

The Hillcrest property, purchased by the Town in 2003 with funding from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), contains 310± acres of protected land. As shown on the map on the following page, the total project is divided into three categories of use.

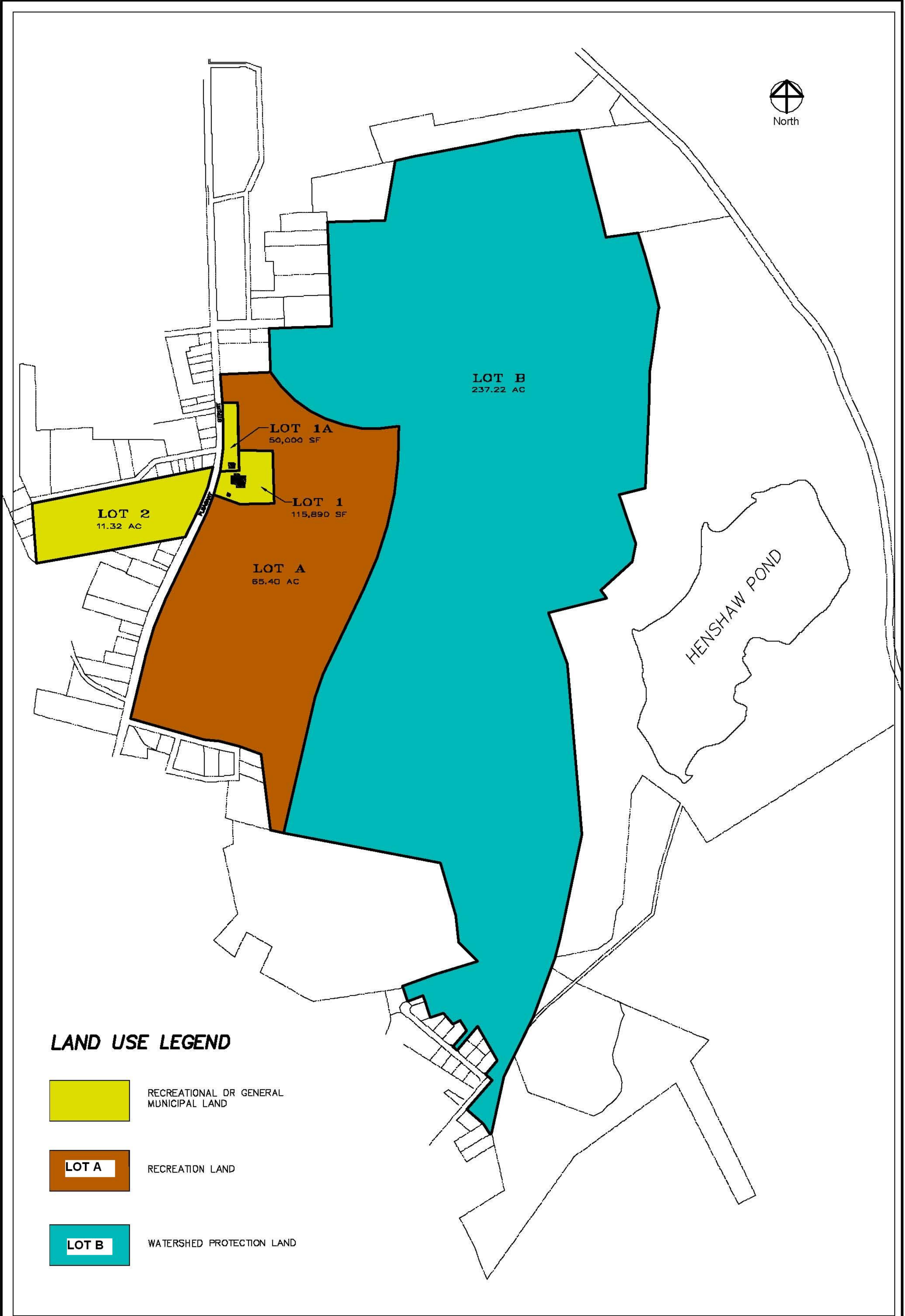
Lot A (the golf course) must be used for public outdoor recreation. Conversion from a golf course to another use requires approval through the LWCF conversion process and the Massachusetts Article 97 process (see attached “EOEA Article 97 Land Disposition Policy” and LWCF brochure “Protecting Places that Matter”). The Project Agreement signed by the Town at the time of purchase also requires the following:

This project shall consist of the acquisition in fee simple of 65.4 acres of land know as the Hillcrest Country Club for public outdoor recreational purposes, by the Town of Leicester, Massachusetts. As a condition of this project, the Town of Leicester agrees to relocate the pro shop onto the subject property, and agrees to restore the subject to a 9-hole golf course should the 2 holes lying to the west of the subject property are ever removed.

Sale of the property is prohibited, and could only be done through the formal conversion process described in the attached materials. This process requires 2/3rds state legislative approval, approval of the US Secretary of the Interior, and replacement with an equivalent parcel for recreational use. The replacement parcel must not already be used for public outdoor recreation. Lease of the property requires review by the state Division of Conservation Services and may need to go through the Article 97 process.

Lot B is for water supply/water protection and should only be used for passive recreation such as walking trails.

Lots 1, 1A, and 2 are for recreation or general municipal use, although Town Meeting vote is required prior to conversion from recreational to municipal use.





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MEPA

Massachusetts Environmental Policy
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge S

Deval L. Patrick, Governor | Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor | Ian A. I

[MEPA Home Page](#)

EOEA Article 97 Land Disposition Policy

EOEA ARTICLE 97 LAND DISPOSITION POLICY
FEBRUARY 19, 1998

I. Statement of Policy

It is the policy of EOEA and its agencies to protect, preserve and enhance all open space areas covered by Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Accordingly, as a general rule, EOEA and its agencies shall not sell, transfer, lease, relinquish, release, alienate, or change the control or use of any right or interest of the Commonwealth in and to Article 97 land. The goal of this policy is to ensure no net loss of Article 97 lands under the ownership and control of the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions. Exceptions shall be governed by the conditions included in this policy. This policy supersedes all previous EOEA Article 97 land disposition policies. An Article 97 land disposition is defined as: a) any transfer or conveyance of ownership or other interests; b) any change in physical or legal control; and c) any change in use, in and to Article 97 land or interests in Article 97 land owned or held by the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions, whether by deed, easement, lease or any other instrument effectuating such transfer, conveyance or change. A revocable permit or license is not considered a disposition as long as no interest in real property is transferred to the permittee or licensee, and no change in control or use that is in conflict with the controlling agency's mission, as determined by the controlling agency, occurs thereby.

II. Conditions for Disposition Exceptions

EOEA and its agencies shall not support an Article 97 land disposition unless EOEA and its agencies determine that exceptional circumstances exist. A determination of "exceptional circumstances" is subject to all of the following conditions being met: all other options to avoid the Article 97 disposition have been explored and no feasible and substantially equivalent alternatives exist (monetary considerations notwithstanding); Note: The purpose of evaluating alternatives is to avoid using/affecting Article 97 land to the extent feasible. To that end, the scope of alternatives under consideration shall be commensurate with the type and size of the proposed disposition of Article 97 land, and must be performed by the proponent of the disposition to the satisfaction of EOEA and its agencies. The scope of alternatives extends to any sites that were available at the time the proponent of the Article 97 disposition first notified the controlling agency of the Article 97 land, and which can be reasonably obtained: (a) within the appropriate market area for private proponents, state, and/or regional entities ; or (b) within the appropriate city/town for municipal proponents. the disposition of the subject parcel and its proposed use do not destroy or threaten a unique or significant resource (e.g., significant habitat, rare or unusual terrain, or areas of significant public recreation), as determined by EOEA and its agencies; as part of the disposition, real estate of equal or greater fair market

value or value in use of proposed use, whichever is greater, and significantly greater resource value as determined by EOEA and its agencies, are granted to the disposing agency or its designee, so that the mission and legal mandate of EOEA and its agencies and the constitutional rights of the citizens of Massachusetts are protected and enhanced; the minimum acreage necessary for the proposed use is proposed for disposition and, to the maximum extent possible, the resources of the parcel proposed for disposition continue to be protected; the disposition serves an Article 97 purpose or another public purpose without detracting from the mission, plans, policies and mandates of EOEA and its appropriate department or division; and 6. the disposition of a parcel is not contrary to the express wishes of the person(s) who donated or sold the parcel or interests therein to the Commonwealth.

III. Procedures for Disposition

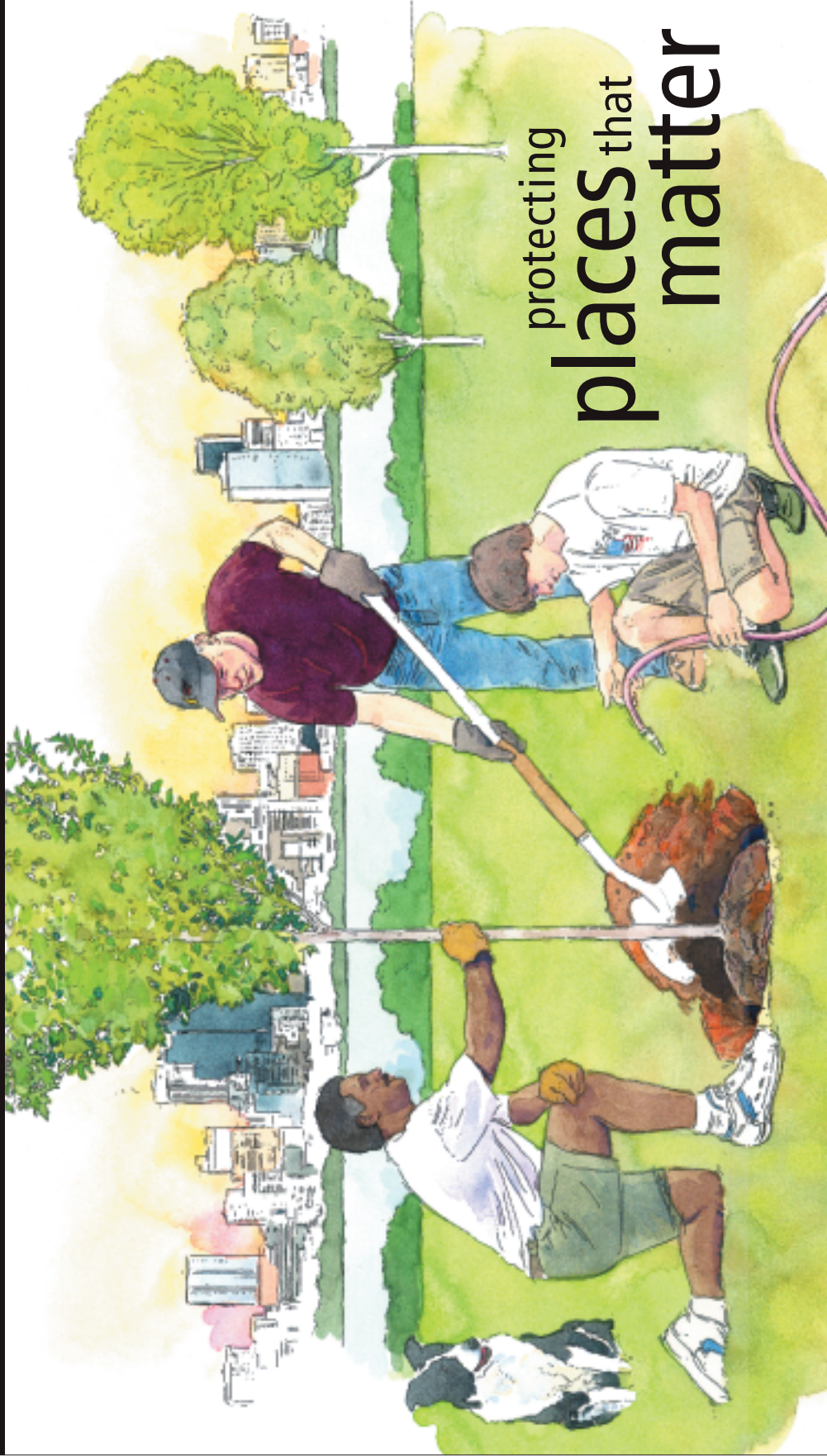
Although legislation can be enacted to dispose of Article 97 land without the consent of an EOEA agency, it is the policy of EOEA to minimize such occurrences. To that end, and to ensure coordination, EOEA agencies shall: develop an internal review process for any potential Article 97 land disposition to ensure that, at a minimum, the conditions in Section II above are met; develop, through the Interagency Lands Committee, a joint listing of all requests, regardless of their status, for the disposition of Article 97 land; notify the Interagency Lands Committee of any changes to the Article 97 land disposition list; monitor all legislation that disposes of Article 97 land, and communicate with legislative sponsors regarding their intent; recommend to the Secretary that the Governor veto any legislation that disposes of Article 97 land, the purchase, improvement, or maintenance of which involved state funds, on and for which the EOEA agency has not been consulted and received documentation (including information on title, survey, appraisal, and a MEPA review, all at the proponent's expense); 6. obtain the concurrence of the Secretary of EOEA for any proposed Article 97 land disposition decision prior to finalizing said decision; if recommending an Article 97 disposition, attach to all Article 97 legislative recommendations and TR-1 forms a justification of the disposition and an explanation of how it complies with this policy, signed by the EOEA agency head; ensure that any conditions approved by EOEA and its agencies to any Article 97 land disposition are incorporated within the surplus declaration statement submitted to and published by DCPO as required by G.L. c. 7, ss. 40F and 40F½ and throughout the disposition process, and if such conditions are not incorporated in said statement throughout the disposition process, the EOEA agency head shall recommend to the Secretary that the Governor veto any resulting legislation; recommend to the Secretary that the Governor veto legislation that disposes of Article 97 land of which the agency disapproves; and ensure that any Article 97 land disposition is authorized by enacted legislation and approved by all municipal, state and federal agencies, authorities, or other governmental bodies so required and empowered by law prior to conveyance.

IV. Applicability of This Policy To Municipalities To comply with this policy, municipalities that seek to dispose of any Article 97 land must: obtain a unanimous vote of the municipal Conservation Commission that the Article 97 land is surplus to municipal, conservation, and open space needs; obtain a unanimous vote of the municipal Park Commission if the land proposed for disposition is park land; obtain a two-thirds Town Meeting or City Council vote in support of the disposition; obtain two-thirds vote of the legislature in support of the disposition, as required under the state constitution; comply with all requirements of the Self-Help, Urban Self-Help, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and any other applicable funding sources; and comply with the EOEA Article 97 Land Disposition Policy. After the effective date of this policy, any municipality that proposes, advocates, supports or completes a disposition of Article 97 land without also following the terms of this policy, regardless of whether or not state funds were used in the acquisition of the Article 97 land, shall not be eligible for grants offered by

EOEA or its agencies until the municipality has complied with this policy. Compliance with this policy by municipalities shall be determined by the EOEa Secretary, based on recommendations by the EOEa Interagency Lands Committee.

[Top](#)

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor
Ian A. Bowles, Secretary
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston MA 02114
(617) 626-1020
FAX (617) 626-1181
[Privacy Policy](#)



protecting
**places that
matter**



Understanding the Land and Water Conservation Fund:

stewardship



Protecting Places That Matter

Since 1964, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has been an active partner with states and communities in creating places that really matter: playgrounds alive with kids, well-used baseball diamonds and soccer fields, peaceful picnic areas, safe paths for walking and cycling, fast-paced basketball courts, popular beaches and pools, and scenic state parks.

But America's most productive conservation partnership does even more. The benefits of the Land and Water Conservation Fund extend beyond park and recreation facility construction and open space acquisition. The Fund also plays a major stewardship role, ensuring the integrity and recreational quality of Fund-assisted parks and conservation lands, now and for future generations.

Protecting Our Parklands Forever

Stewardship responsibility for Fund-assisted state and local parks and recreation facilities is shared by the Land and Water Conservation Fund's three partners: the National Park Service, the States and local project sponsors. Local sponsors are responsible for site stewardship, including public access, safety and other basic maintenance. States are responsible for site stewardship at state parks and for conducting periodic site visits and working with local partners to ensure that Land and Water Conservation Fund stewardship goals are met. The National Park Service is charged with overall responsibility for protecting the integrity and recreational value of all state and local parks, lakes, trails, beaches, and conservation lands assisted by the Fund.

The Fund's most important tool for ensuring long-term stewardship is its "conversion protection" requirement. Administered by the National Park Service in cooperation with states, this requirement, Section 6(f)(3) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, strongly discourages casual discards and conversions of state and local park and recreation facilities to other uses.

SEC. 6(f)(3) No property acquired or developed with assistance under this section shall, without the approval of the Secretary, be converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses. The Secretary shall approve such conversion only if he finds it to be in accord with the then existing statewide outdoor recreation plan and only upon such conditions as he deems necessary to assure the substitution of other recreation properties of at least equal fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location.

promoting healthy communities since 1964

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is the premier state and federal partnership for community recreation and open space in the United States. Established by Congress in 1964 " ...to strengthen the health and vitality of the citizens of the United States..." (Public Law 88-578), the Fund has successfully conserved several million acres of open space and has helped create state and local park and recreation facilities – approximately 39,000 funded projects – in virtually every county in the nation.





Understanding Conversion Protection

The Fund's conversion protection language is firm. It does recognize, however, that changes in land use or in the public's recreation preferences may render the recreational value of some Fund-assisted parks obsolete, especially in urban areas experiencing rapid change. At the same time, it carefully ensures that any changes or conversions from recreation use will bear an equivalent cost – a cost that guarantees that our nation's past investments in its treasured recreation and open space resources will be honored. Conversion protection is also comprehensive – even a relatively small grant (e.g., for development of a picnic shelter) can confer coverage to the larger park.

Within the context of the entire program, conversions to non-recreation uses are relatively rare. The National Park Service estimates that less than 3% of all projects assisted by the Fund have been submitted for conversion.

In many of the cases where state or local governments consider a possible conversion, the requirement to replace a site with property of "at least equal fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location", combined with the required environmental review, serves as a simple and effective deterrent. Here is a typical example:

In the early 1990s, the City of Bellingham (WA) initiated planning for a new public art facility and considered the feasibility of using a portion of its Maritime Heritage Center, a Land and Water Conservation Fund-assisted park, as a potential site. The Maritime Heritage Center offers fishing access to Whatcom Creek, walking paths with interpretive displays on maritime and city history, picnicking areas, and views of Bellingham Bay. However, because of the site's anti-conversion protection, the city was encouraged to explore alternate sites and ultimately decided to build the art center at another downtown location.

Balancing Community Needs

Clearly, change is inevitable and sometimes – when all other alternatives have been carefully reviewed – conversions are deemed both necessary and desirable. Common factors contributing to a conversion are: mandated improvements to transportation (e.g., highway widenings) and water treatment facilities, changing demographics leading to obsolete recreation facilities, and negative impacts from adjacent land use. In addition, there are certain exceptions to the conversion restriction, such as the installation of an underground utility, where the change does not impact recreation use. Another possible exception (subject to concurrence by the National Park Service and the State) is the addition of a public facility which enhances and supports the site’s primary outdoor recreation use.

When conversions are approved, the goal is always a “win-win” solution, balancing the needs of recreation and open space with other community needs. However, like any local or regional issue involving a change to public facilities, conversions occasionally attract controversy. The conversion process (which is set forth in Title 36, Part 59.3 of the Code of Federal Regulations) includes a comprehensive review of key issues relating to recreation access and use, land valuation, and an assessment of its impact on the environment. The process takes time – from six months to more than a year depending on the complexity of the conversion and the replacement site – and is subject to concurrence by the State and the National Park Service. Approval is not automatic. However, successful conversions can be found in every State. Here are four representative examples:

South Main Park, Springfield, Tennessee

The City of Springfield wanted to convert three small urban parks and replace them with a single larger park that would better serve the recreation needs of the community. The parks – Indian Hills, 15th Avenue and Sleepy Hollow – were receiving limited use due to changing demographics in the areas they once served. The replacement site – South Main Park – provided a great opportunity to enhance recreation facilities. South Main Park is not only larger and more conveniently located, it also has expansion potential.

Initially, city representatives expressed concern about the extensive review required by the conversion process. However, once they understood the principles underlying the Land and Water Conservation Fund's conversion protection, they engaged fully in the process, in cooperation with the State of Tennessee and the National Park Service.



Riverfront Park, Evansville, Indiana

Riverfront Park languished when an economic slump in the early 1990s significantly reduced commercial activity in downtown Evansville. In 1995 the City reached an agreement with a private corporation for use of half of Riverfront Park's 4 acres as the docking site for a casino boat and support facilities. With the City retaining ownership of the entire park, the private developer committed \$3.5 million to enhance public recreation facilities on the unaffected 2 acres, plus \$1 million annually for use of the park property. Park improvements include an amphitheater, boardwalks, river overlooks, and fishing access to the Ohio River.

The City also received 55 acres located in three growing neighborhoods that had long been sought as desirable additions to the park system. These replacement properties included an urban wetland, a greenspace located along the city's recreation trail, and new soccer fields.

Sand Creek Golf Course, Idaho Falls, Idaho

In the 1990's, population growth in the City of Idaho Falls exerted pressure for new housing in the neighborhood adjacent to the Sand Creek Golf Course, originally developed with an LWCF grant in 1972. A small portion of the park property adjacent to the golf course and protected by section 6(f) was needed before residential development could occur. The City proposed trading that parcel for two parcels owned by the private developer, one to be developed into a neighborhood park and the other for a pedestrian/bicycle path connecting to a major bike path network.

The golf course remains a viable recreation area large enough to sustain all previous activities, the city gained land for a new park and bike path in an area deficient of recreation opportunities, and new housing became available to residents of Idaho Falls. The solution was satisfactory to all interests.



Lone Pine Wildlife Area, Larimer County, Colorado

In 1978, the Lone Pine Wildlife Area was acquired with Land and Water Conservation Funding as critical wildlife habitat on the rapidly developing foothills of the Colorado Rocky Mountains. In 2000, a unique opportunity arose for the Colorado Division of Wildlife to acquire a private ranch which joined Lone Pine and a nearby wildlife area. In exchange for 320 acres within the Lone Pine Wildlife Area, the Division of Wildlife received title to a 720-acre ranch.

This land exchange resulted in the consolidation of over 15,700 acres of contiguous wildlife area, which contains Mountain Mahogany scrubland and riparian foothill habitats. The area provides wintering range for elk, deer, and bighorn sheep as well as critical habitat for the endangered Prebel's Meadow Jumping Mouse.

For more information about the Land and Water Conservation Fund or if you have specific concerns about threats to a park area that may be under the stewardship of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, please contact the state agency representative listed at www.nps.gov/lwcf. The states can help determine if federal or similar state protections apply. Additional information on the Land and Water Conservation Fund can be obtained from the National Park Service offices listed on this website.

The National Park Service also manages two other assistance programs with similar stewardship responsibilities and protections: the Federal Lands to Parks surplus property and Urban Park and Recreation recovery grant programs. Information on these and other recreation assistance programs can be found at www.nps.gov/nrcr.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund: an Active Partner with States and

communities



original logo



updated logo

A New Look: Land and Water Conservation Fund support is usually acknowledged by a sign displayed at the site, often accompanied by the Fund's old logo. In 2002, the logo was updated to celebrate the Fund's enduring federal, state and local partnership.

APPENDIX G ADA COMPLIANCE REPORT



TOWN OF LEICESTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN


TOWN HALL, 3 WASHBURN SQUARE • LEICESTER, MA 01524

Tel.: (508) 892-7000
FAX: (508) 892-7070
www.ci.leicester.ma.us

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 25, 2007

TO: Michelle Buck, Town Planner

FROM: Susan LeChasseur, Adm. Asst. 
Office of the Board of Selectmen

SUBJ: ADA Compliance

Per your request dated 8/28/07, the Board of Selectmen reviewed a sample ADA grievance procedure. At their meeting held 9/10/07, the Selectmen voted to adopt the attached **ADA GRIEVANCE POLICY** on behalf of the Town of Leicester.

Additionally, the Board voted to appoint our Inspector of Buildings, Jeffrey Taylor, as the Town's **ADA COORDINATOR**, effective immediately, term to expire annually on June 30th. We have attached herein a copy of the appointment forms.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

RECEIVED

SEP 26 2007

LEICESTER PLANNING BOARD

ADA GRIEVANCE POLICY

For the General Public

EQUAL ACCESS TO FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES

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

STEP 1:

The Town Administrator will be available to meet with citizens and employees during business hours.

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

A complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification will be responded to within ten (10) working days (if the person making the complaint is identified) in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient, (i.e. verbally, enlarged type face, etc).

Copies of the complaint, grievance, or request for program policy interpretation or clarification and response will be forwarded to the appropriate town agency (i.e. park commission, conservation commission). If the grievance is not resolved at this level it will be progressed to the next level.

STEP 2:

A written grievance will be submitted to the Town Administrator. Assistance in writing the grievance will be available to all individuals. All written grievances will be responded to within ten (10) working days by the Town Administrator in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient (i.e. verbally, enlarged type face, etc). If the grievance is not resolved at this level it will be progressed to the next level.

STEP 3:

If the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved, citizens will be Informed of the opportunity to meet and speak with the Board of Selectmen, with whom local authority for final grievance resolution lies.

Adopted by Board of Selectmen on 9/10/07



TOWN OF LEICESTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN HALL, 3 WASHBURN SQUARE • LEICESTER, MA 01524

Tel.: (508) 892-7000
FAX: (508) 892-7070
www.ci.leicester.ma.us

DATE: 09.10.07

IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASS GENERAL LAWS, THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
HAS THIS DAY APPOINTED THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL(S) TO OFFICE:

(Name, address, phone)

JEFFREY TAYLOR

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of LEICESTER

Office of the Board of Selectmen

JEFFREY TAYLOR

9/10/07

At a meeting of the Board of Selectmen, held this date, you were appointed

ADA COORDINATOR

for the ensuing year. expires 6/30/08

Please present yourself to the Town Clerk to be qualified for office.

Very truly yours, Susan Robinson Secretary.

Then personally appeared the above named

and was duly sworn to perform the duties of the office within named

Town Clerk

TO THE OFFICE OF: ADA COORDINATOR

THIS APPOINTMENT WILL EXPIRE ON: 6/30/08

*** YOU MUST BE SWORN IN BY TOWN CLERK BEFORE SERVING THE TOWN**

**** POSITIONS REQUIRING FIELD WORK MUST ACQUIRE PHOTO ID
FROM THE TOWN CLERK PRIOR TO SERVING THE TOWN
CALL 892-7011 at least 15 minutes before you come to the Town Hall,
as it takes that long to prepare the equipment**

ADA Facility Inventory

[Inventory forms were completed by Town Planner Michelle R. Buck, based on site visits during August 2007. To reduce paper used in the preparation of this inventory, the standard forms were modified by deleting inapplicable sections.]

LOCATION: BURNCOAT PARK (12 Town Beach Road/Map 18, Parcel A2)

PARKING				
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		Accessible Spaces Provided	
Unable to determine*	Unable to determine*		Unable to determine*	
*Parking is unpaved and not clearly defined.				
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes	
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance			N/A	
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft				
Minimum width of 13ft includes 8ft space plus 5 ft access aisle				
Van space - minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle				
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)		X	No paving	
Surface slopes of less than 1:20, 5%	X			
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			N/A	
Curbcut is a minimum of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or yellow paint				
RAMPS			N/A	
Entrances				
No Applicable – No current structures, except severely vandalized restrooms that are no longer in use.				
STAIRS AND DOORS				
There are no stairs or doors. The only structures at Burncoat Park are severely vandalized and not longer in use.				

LOCATION: BURNCOAT PARK (12 Town Beach Road/Map 18, Parcel A2)**RESTROOMS**

Bathroom Building at Burncoat Park has been severely vandalized and is no longer in use. Previously had 2 bathrooms, each with an accessible toilet.

NOTES:

There are no applicable entrances, floors, drinking fountains, Telephones, Signs, Signals, and Switches, Swimming pools, shower rooms, or picnicking facilities at Burncoat Park.

Burncoat Park is primarily used for girls softball. There is also a small playground, but the Park is only open to the public during softball games. There are also walking trails on the property. Parking for softball is on an unpaved grassy area. There is adequate room for a car or cars to park right next to the field. The playground is not accessible.

LOCATION: Community Field (22 Waite St./Map 21B, Parcel A1)**PARKING**

Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		Accessible Spaces Provided
40-45 spaces (approximate)*	2		2
*Community field has 2 parking areas. A small, paved parking area immediately adjacent to the field and snack building is for accessible parking only. All other users of the park use an unpaved lot that is connected to the field area by a staircase.			
<i>Specification for Accessible Spaces</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft			N/A
Minimum width of 13ft includes 8ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X		
Van space - minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle		X	Although a van space is not marked, there is adequate room for a van in the small paved parking area.
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	X		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slopes of less than 1:20, 5%	X		

LOCATION: Community Field (22 Waite St./Map 21B, Parcel A1)

Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			N/A
Curbcut is a minimum of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or yellow paint			
RAMPS			
SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly spaced or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of travel			
There are no paths.			
Entrances			
There is no structure with public access to the interior of the building. There is a snack building immediately adjacent to the paved accessible parking area. There is a break in the pavement between the parking area and the small paved area in front of the snack window.			
STAIRS AND DOORS			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Stairs			
No open risers	X		
Nosings not projecting		X	
Treads no less than 11" wide	X		
Handrails on both sides	X		
Handrails 34"-38" above tread	X		
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)	X		
Handgrip oval or round		X	
Handgrip has a smooth surface	X		
Handgrip diameter between 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	X		
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " clearance between wall and handrail			N/A
Doors - N/A			

LOCATION: Community Field (22 Waite St./Map 21B, Parcel A1)**NOTES:**

There are no applicable doors, restrooms, floors, drinking fountains, Telephones, Signs, Signals, and Switches, Swimming pools, shower rooms, or picnicking facilities at Community Field.

Community Field is primarily used for football. The main parking area is unpaved, and can serve roughly 40-45 cars. This parking area is below the field area, and is connected to the field area with a staircase. Accessible, paved parking is by the main entrance and is immediately adjacent to the field. There is no other paving. Access from the accessible parking to the bleachers is on mowed grass area.

LOCATION: LEICESTER LIONS PARK (252 Main St./Map 23A, Parcel A32)**PARKING**

Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces	Accessible Spaces Provided
0*	N/A	0

***The only parking is on-street. There appears to be room for approximately 3 cars immediately adjacent to the park**

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES

<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly spaced or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		Paths are 5 ft.
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ "		X	Paths are brick. There has been some shifting of brick (likely due to frost heaves), but overall the paths are in good condition and appear to be accessible to wheelchair users.
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using cane			N/A

Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			
Curb on pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs			
Entrances			
There is no structure with public access to the interior of the building. The only structure is a small storage/utility shed.			
NOTES: There are no applicable stairs, doors, restrooms, floors, drinking fountains, Telephones, Signs, Signals, and Switches, Swimming pools, shower rooms, or picnicking facilities at Leicester Lions Park.			

LOCATION: TOWTAID PARK (Church Street/Map 23D, Parcel B19)

PARKING				
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		Accessible Spaces Provided	
8*	1		1	
<i>Specification for Accessible Spaces</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>	
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X			
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft			N/A	
Minimum width of 13ft includes 8ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X			
Van space - minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle		X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	X			
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	X			
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)		X	Paving is in generally good condition, but there are cracks, and surface is slightly uneven.	
Surface slopes of less than 1:20, 5%	X			
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			N/A	
Curbcut is a minimum of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or yellow paint				
RAMPS				

LOCATION: TOWTAID PARK (Church Street/Map 23D, Parcel B19)**SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES**

Accessible parking is immediately adjacent to the basketball courts. Additional parking is available on-street closer to the playground area, but gate to playground is kept closed. Playground is not handicapped accessible.

NOTES:

A comprehensive plan for Towtaid Park completed in 2004 contains a full evaluation of Towtaid Park and recommendations for ADA compliance. (Towtaid Park Master Plan, prepared by Gates, Leighton & Associates, Inc., 2004,)

There are no applicable entrances, stairs, doors, restrooms, floors, drinking fountains, telephones, signs, signals, and switches, swimming pools, shower rooms, or picnicking facilities at Towtaid Park.

LOCATION: TOWN COMMON (Washburn Square./Map 2 A, Parcel C1)**PARKING**

Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		Accessible Spaces Provided
Unclear*	Unclear*		2*
*The only parking for the Town Common is on-street parallel parking. This parking is used by several abutting land owners, including 2 churches, and Becker College. Two of the accessible spaces that also serve the Leicester Town Hall are in very close proximity to the Town Common and can be used for Town Common events.			
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft			N/A
Minimum width of 13ft includes 8ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X		
Van space - minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle		X	
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	X		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		
Surface slopes of less than 1:20, 5%	X		
Curbscut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present		X	

LOCATION: TOWN COMMON (Washburn Square./Map 2 A, Parcel C1)

Curbside is a minimum of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or yellow paint		X	
RAMPS			N/A
SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance			N/A
Surface evenly spaced or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ "	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			N/A
Curb on pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs			
STAIRS AND DOORS			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Stairs			
The only stairs are two small staircases to the bandstand.			
No open risers	X		
Nosings not projecting		X	
Treads no less than 11" wide	X		
Handrails on both sides		X	
Handrails 34"-38" above tread	X		
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)		X	
Handgrip oval or round		X	
Handgrip has a smooth surface	X		
Handgrip diameter between $1\frac{1}{4}$ " and $1\frac{1}{2}$ "	X		
$1\frac{1}{2}$ " clearance between wall and handrail			N/A
FLOORS			

LOCATION: TOWN COMMON (Washburn Square./Map 2 A, Parcel C1)

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Floors			
The only floor is the floor of the bandstand structure.			
Non-slip surface	X		concrete
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			N/A
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft	X		
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			N/A
NOTES: There are no applicable entrances, doors, restrooms, floors, drinking fountains, telephones, signs, signals, and switches, swimming pools, shower rooms, or picnicking facilities on the Town Common. The Town common has several accessible paved paths through the Common. Some of the benches are adjacent to paved, accessible paths.			

LOCATION: ROCHDALE PARK (1040 Stafford St./Map 46, Parcel A3)

PARKING				
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		Accessible Spaces Provided	
43	2		2	
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes	
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X			
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft			N/A	
Minimum width of 13ft includes 8ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X			
Van space - minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle		X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	X			
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	X			
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	X		Paving is in good condition in vicinity of accessible parking spaces and entrance.	
Surface slopes of less than 1:20, 5%	X			
Curbside to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			N/A	

LOCATION: ROCHDALE PARK (1040 Stafford St./Map 46, Parcel A3)

Curbs are a minimum of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or yellow paint			
RAMPS			
SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		Access is from parking area to main gate to park. The park itself is mowed grass fields without paths.
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly spaced or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum			
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ "	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using cane			N/A
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			
Curb on pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs			
Entrances - N/A			
There are no structures with public access at Rochdale Park.			
NOTES: <p>There are no applicable entrances, doors, restrooms, floors, drinking fountains, telephones, signs, signals, and switches, swimming pools, shower rooms, or picnicking facilities at Rochdale Park.</p> <p>Rochdale Park is used for a variety of field sports, such as baseball and soccer. There is also playground equipment, 2 basketball courts, and a small skate park. (The skate park has been seriously vandalized and is in poor condition). The playground equipment is not accessible. Rochdale Park also has water access to Rochdale Pond, but this access is not currently in use.</p> <p>Plans for ADA compliance are contained in the Rochdale Park Master Plan, prepared by Cullinan Engineering, 2002.</p>			

LOCATION: RUSSELL MEMORIAL FIELDS (92 South Main St./Map 21, Parcel A3)

PARKING				
Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		Accessible Spaces Provided	
Unable to determine*	Unable to determine*		Unable to determine*	
*Parking is unpaved and not clearly defined. There are no marked accessible spaces				
43	2		2	
<i>Specification for Accessible Spaces</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>	
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance			No marked parking spaces, but there is sufficient room to park near the concession building and in close proximity to fields.	
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft			N/A	
Minimum width of 13ft includes 8ft space plus 5 ft access aisle		X		
Van space - minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle		X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)		X	Main parking lot is unpaved. Surface in vicinity of concession building is loose gravel (not hard packed). Difficult surface for accessibility.	
Surface slopes of less than 1:20, 5%	X			
Curbscut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			N/A	
Curbscut is a minimum of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or yellow paint				
RAMPS		X	A ramp should be considered to better access the concession building.	
SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES				
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>	
Site Access				
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance		X	Loose gravel surface limits accessibility.	
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		X		

LOCATION: RUSSELL MEMORIAL FIELDS (92 South Main St./Map 21, Parcel A3)

Surface evenly spaced or hard-packed		X	
No ponding of water	X		
Path of travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant		X	
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)		X	
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ "		X	
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using cane			N/A
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			
Curb on 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	X		
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 no 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick are securely fastened			N/A
Door mats more than $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick are recessed			
Grates in path of travel have openings of $\frac{1}{2}$ " maximum			
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance			
Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			
STAIRS AND DOORS			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Stairs - N/A			
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door	X		

LOCATION: RUSSELL MEMORIAL FIELDS (92 South Main St./Map 21, Parcel A3)

Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of the latch			
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors			
Threshold maximum $\frac{1}{2}$ " high, beveled on both sides			
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)	X		
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above the floor	X		
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door			
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked			N/A
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			

RESTROOMS

Built in _____ in conformance with accessibility requirements.

FLOORS

Specification	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes
Floors			
Non-slip surface	X		
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored			N/A
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft	X		
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor	X		

NOTES:

There are no applicable drinking fountains, telephones, signals, and switches, swimming pools, shower rooms, or picnicking facilities at Russell Memorial Fields.

The Field house is new and was constructed in compliance with accessibility requirements (building permit issued 11/29/04; final inspection 4/25/07). The upper floor is unfinished.

LOCATION: HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB (325 Pleasant St./Map 30, Parcel A1.1 & Map 30A, Parcel A24)

PARKING

Total Spaces	Required Accessible Spaces		Accessible Spaces Provided
73	3		3
Specification for Accessible Spaces	Yes	No	Comments/Transition Notes

LOCATION: HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB (325 Pleasant St./Map 30, Parcel A1.1 & Map 30A, Parcel A24)

Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	X			
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft			N/A	
Minimum width of 13ft includes 8ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	X			
Van space - minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle		X		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		X	Pavement marking with international symbol of accessibility, but no sign.	
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign		X		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)		X		
Surface slopes of less than 1:20, 5%	X			
Curbscut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present			N/A	
Curbscut is a minimum of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or yellow paint				
RAMPS				
There is a small ramp to entrance to main building (see detail below). There is also a sloped hard-packed dirt "ramp" leading to the pro-shop.				
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>	
Slope Maximum 1:12		X	Very small ramp from parking to entrance (only about 2 feet); no handrail, but handrail doesn't appear to be necessary given short ramp distance.	
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails			N/A	
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft				
Handrails at 34" and 19" from ramp surface				
Handrails extend 12" beyond top and bottom				
Handgrip oval or round				
Handgrip smooth surface				
Handgrip diameter between 1½" and 2"				
Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail				
Non-slip surface	X			
Level platforms (4ft x 4ft) at every 30ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction			N/A	
SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES				
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>	
<i>Site Access</i>				

LOCATION: HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB (325 Pleasant St./Map 30, Parcel A1.1 & Map 30A, Parcel A24)

Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	X		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	X		
Surface evenly spaced or hard-packed	X		
No ponding of water	X		
Path of travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	X		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant	X		
3 ft wide minimum	X		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)	X		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ "	X		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using cane	X		
Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80"			N/A
Curb on 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		X	No sign indicating accessible entrance.
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors	X		
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)	X		
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door		X	
Door handle no 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			N/A
Door mats less than $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick are securely fastened		X	
Door mats more than $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick are recessed		X	
Grates in path of travel have openings of $\frac{1}{2}$ " maximum			N/A
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance		X	
Emergency egress - alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted			
STAIRS AND DOORS			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>

LOCATION: HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB (325 Pleasant St./Map 30, Parcel A1.1 & Map 30A, Parcel A24)

Stairs			
Answers below refer to a spiral staircase that is not currently used by the public; the staircase is used to access an apartment on the second floor of the club house.			
No open risers		X	
Nosings not projecting	X		
Treads no less than 11" wide		X	
Handrails on both sides	X		
Handrails 34"-38" above tread	X		
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)		X	
Handgrip oval or round		X	
Handgrip has a smooth surface	X		
Handgrip diameter between 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	X		
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " clearance between wall and handrail			N/A
Doors			
Minimum 32" clear opening			Some doors at Hillcrest meet these requirements; others do not. Bathroom doors and accessible entrance appear to meet these standards.
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 $\frac{1}{2}$ " 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			
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened			
RESTROOM (Women)			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor		X	
At least one Sink:	X		
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach	X		
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim	X		
Extends at least 22" from the wall	X		
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high	X		

LOCATION: HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB (325 Pleasant St./Map 30, Parcel A1.1 & Map 30A, Parcel A24)

Cover exposed pipes with insulation		X	
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)	X		
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep		X	
Stall door is 36" wide		X	
Stall door swings out	X		
Stall door is self closing		X	
Stall door has a pull latch		X	
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor		X	
Coat hook is 54" high		X	
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall		X	
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture		X	
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor	X		
Grab Bars			
On back and side wall closest to toilet		X	On side only.
1½" diameter	X		
1½" clearance to wall	X		
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor		X	Handrail is higher than 22" (approx. 36")
Acid-etched or roughened surface		X	
42" long		X	Handrail is shorter than 42"(approx. 24")
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor		X	Toilet paper dispenser is higher than 24".
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")		X	Mirrors are higher than 38".
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor			N/A. Mounted soap dispensers no longer in use. Loose bottles of liquid hand soap on counter.
RESTROOM (Men)			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
5 ft turning space measured 12" from the floor	X		
At least one Sink:	X		
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow a forward approach	X		

LOCATION: HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB (325 Pleasant St./Map 30, Parcel A1.1 & Map 30A, Parcel A24)

Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim	X		
Extends at least 22" from the wall	X		
Open knee space a minimum 19" deep, 30" width, and 27" high	X		
Cover exposed pipes with insulation		X	
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)	X		
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep	X		
Stall door is 36" wide	X		
Stall door swings out	X		
Stall door is self closing		X	
Stall door has a pull latch	X		
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32" above the floor			
Coat hook is 54" high			N/A
Toilet			
18" from center to nearest side wall	X		
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture	X		
Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor	X		
Grab Bars		X	
On back and side wall closest to toilet	X		
1½" diameter	X		
1½" clearance to wall	X		
Located 30" above and parallel to the floor		X	Handrail is higher than 22" (approx. 36")
Acid-etched or roughened surface	X		
42" long	X		
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor		X	Toilet paper dispenser is higher than 24".
One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")	X		
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor	X		
FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
Floors			
Non-slip surface	X		

LOCATION: HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB (325 Pleasant St./Map 30, Parcel A1.1 & Map 30A, Parcel A24)

Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored	X		Transitions from carpeted areas to hard floors need repair in some places.
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft	X		
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor			
SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND SWITCHES			
<i>Specification</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comments/Transition Notes</i>
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 $\frac{1}{4}$ " high			
Letters and numbers raised .03"			
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color			
<p>NOTES:</p> <p>There are no applicable drinking fountains, telephones, signals, and switches, swimming pools, shower rooms, or picnicking facilities at Hillcrest.</p> <p>The main club house building is generally accessible. New signs and some improvements to doors would help. The pro-shop building is not accessible. The golf course is accessible via golf-carts and paved and/or hard-packed gravel trails (condition of trails varies, but is generally good).</p>			