

Section 8 – Goals and Objectives

The 2000 Open Space and Recreation Goals and Objectives were discussed at an open public meeting in Wakefield on May 4, 2004. The public was given an opportunity at this forum to discuss, add, refine, or remove goals and objectives in order to update the plan to reflect the vision of the Town going forward from 2004. All of the goals and objectives from the 2000 plan were still deemed valid and on-going, while in addition meeting attendees added new goals and refined some of the previous goals. Through this discussion, the following goals and objectives were established.

1. Increase amount of and improve the Town’s open space and green areas

- a. Create a series of trail networks to connect specific destinations in town, link Wakefield to regional resources, and provide broader recreation opportunities;
- b. Increase conservation land through acquisition, conversion, and conservation;
- c. Improve open space throughout the Town, working to ensure that every section of Town has some green space;
- d. Plan and implement achievable open space preservation and recreation projects.

2. Increase the number and quality of active and passive recreational areas and facilities

- a. Identify properties suitable for creating new active and passive recreational areas and facilities;
- b. Increase quality of active and passive recreational areas and facilities;
- c. Improve Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility to park and recreation lands.

3. Protect watershed and water resources

- a. Improve the water quality in Lake Quannapowitt;
- b. Involve the public in issues of watershed and resource protection;
- c. Strengthen existing by-laws to further protect watersheds and water resources;

- d. Reduce direct stormwater discharge to the extent possible.
- 4. Step-up efforts to coordinate with and participate in local and regional planning efforts** - improve coordination of open space and recreation planning efforts with neighboring communities and regional planning entities.
- 5. Seek funding to maintain and increase the amount of active and passive recreational areas**
- 6. Continue to use zoning and other land use regulations to create and protect open space** - create incentives that make it economically advantageous to save land.