

Open Space, Recreation & Multi-Use Trail Plan (2018-2025)



Open Space, Recreation, and Multi-Use Trail Plan

This plan is Northampton's vision and blueprint for open space, recreation and multiuse trails. It is consistent with broader city goals for quality of life, vibrant urban centers, and sustainable and resilient community.

The plan is consistent with the Sustainable Northampton Comprehensive Plan (2008), the City's duly adopted comprehensive plan, and has been adopted as an additional component of that plan.

For information on related projects, visit Planning & Sustainability at www.northamptonma.gov/plan.

Plan Adopted or Endorsed by 7 City boards

Planning Board (June 14, 2018) adopted as part of the city's comprehensive plan

Conservation Commission (June 14, 2018)

Parks and Recreation Commission (June 5, 2018)

Historical Commission (April 30, 2018)

Transportation & Parking Commission (April 11, 2018)

Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee (March 21, 2018)

Agriculture Commission (April 24, 2018)

Plan Approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (_____)

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1 Plan Summary

The *Open Space, Recreation and Multi-Use Trail Plan* is Northampton's vision and its blueprint for using its resources to meet the City's open space, agriculture, conservation, multi-use trail, parks, and recreation needs. The plan builds on extensive citizen and board participation, the city's comprehensive plan, and analysis of city resources.

Northampton aims to be one of the most sustainable and resilient communities in the Commonwealth and the nation. In the context of this plan, sustainability and resilience includes protecting valuable habitat, restoring natural systems, and creating passive and active recreation opportunities. It also means encouraging housing and economic development in the appropriate places while avoiding sprawl. Most importantly, we want to create opportunities for all of our residents.

Our 12 point action plan is:

- . Manage conservation lands to preserve natural systems and be user friendly.
- . Preserve the city's most ecologically valuable areas.
- . Open space to serve people.
- . Preserve farmland.
- . Support agricultural operations to ensure farmers thrive on our farmland.
- . Ensure adequate land for parks and active recreation.
- . Improve parks and recreation areas to serve active recreation needs.
- . Maintain existing parks and recreation areas.
- . Develop multi-use trails for easy public access.
- . Convert unloved pavement to beloved parks.
- . Honor history in the landscape.
- . Improve public awareness of all of these resources.

2 Introduction

Statement of Purpose

Northampton is blessed with an exceptional wealth of scenic, natural, cultural, and recreational resources. The city and our public and private partners help us make the most of these resources.

There is unmet demand, however, for open space, parks, recreation, and multi-use trails for public use, health, and appreciation. We can meet these demands by carefully husbanding and expanding our ecological, cultural, and recreational resources.

The plan is both specific, to guide decision-making, and flexible, to respond to new opportunities.

The City's permanent protection and wise stewardship of its natural, cultural, and recreational resources are intrinsically important and essential to the community's quality of life, long-term economic health, resiliency, and sustainability.

This plan meets the Open Space and Recreation Plan requirements of the LAND/PARC Act and is an element of the ***Sustainable Northampton Comprehensive Plan***. Our plan endorses include the primary stewards of open space, the Conservation Commission, Agriculture Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Historical Commission, and Transportation and Parking Commissions. The Planning Board adopted the Plan in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, §81D.

Participatory Planning

This plan builds on eight earlier *Open Space, Conservation and Recreation Plans*, most recently the 2011-2018 plan, and other plans, including the ***Sustainable Northampton Comprehensive Plan***.

The plan was developed with extensive public and board participation. This included two formal public workshops and one rolling field workshop, a wikimapping interactive mapping website, and twelve public meetings of each of the boards who adopted or endorsed the plan.

Enhanced outreach was provided to Environmental Justice neighborhoods for one of the public forums.

The Office of Planning & Sustainability, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and other city agencies and boards are charged with implementing the plan.

3 Community Setting

Regional Context

Northampton, Massachusetts, is 36.1 square miles of land and water. It is approximately mid-way between Connecticut and Vermont and between Albany and Boston.

Northampton is within the Connecticut River watershed, on the west side of the river. It is in the valley between that ancient waterway and the hills to the west. The Connecticut River floodplain has rich, fertile soils and a deep agricultural history. Adjacent to that floodplain is the relatively flat glacial outwash, proglacial lake lustrian clays, and glacial tills, which underlies much of the historic residential, commercial, and industrial development in downtown Northampton, downtown Florence and the older residential neighborhoods. Further west, the elevation rises and the soil thins out, and with steeper hills composed of bedrock-dominated glacial till.

The 11,000 square mile Connecticut River Watershed is the largest river ecosystem in New England. It spans four states, including Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. The river is Northampton's eastern border. The many brooks and streams that flow through Northampton eventually find their way to the Connecticut River.

The 410 mile long Connecticut River drops 2,400 feet from its source to the sea. The watershed is

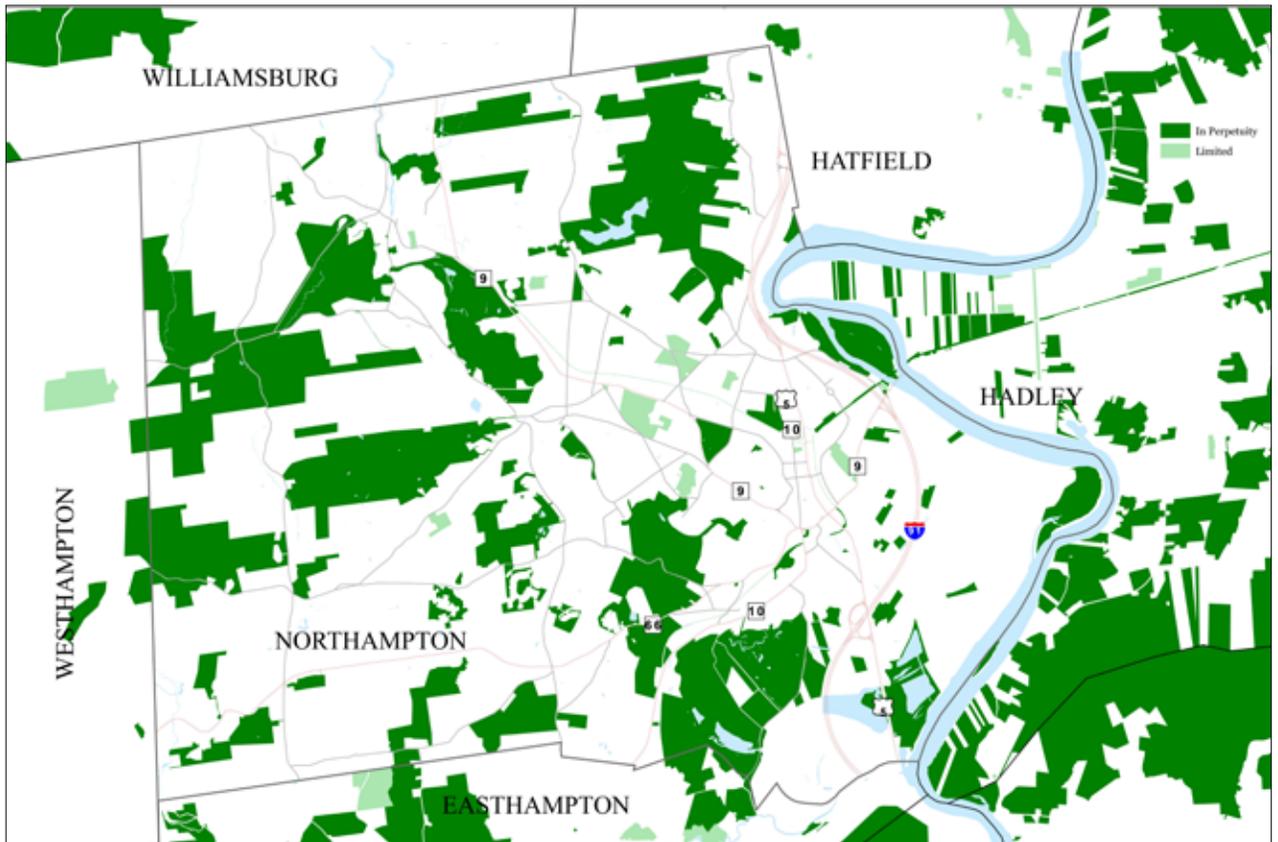
approximately 80% forested, 12% agricultural, 3% percent developed, and 5% wetlands and surface waters. The Connecticut River Watershed was designated the "Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge" by an act of Congress in 1991, the first refuge of its kind, encompassing an entire watershed ecosystem. The Connecticut River also received special attention in 1998 when it became one of only 14 rivers in the US designated as a National Heritage River.

Northampton's natural neighbors are the Connecticut River and surrounding picturesque hills. Its political neighbors are Westhampton to the west, Williamsburg to the north, Hatfield to the northeast, Hadley to the east, and Easthampton to the south.

Northampton's primary water supply is from surface water reservoirs in the towns of Conway, Williamsburg, and Hatfield and groundwater in Northampton. Much of Hatfield's drinking water aquifer is located in Northampton, which Northampton regulates and protects.

Contiguous forestland land open space in Northampton and nearby conserves water supplies, prevents flooding, improves water quality, allows natural migration for flora and fauna. Open space add to the quality of life in the community and passive and active recreation opportunities. Northampton and its abutting communities contains many very large forests on relatively

REGIONAL CONTEXT



pristine lands that cross political borders. These contiguous blocks of land allow climate change induced migrations and prevents isolating flora and fauna.

The map of open space in a regional context shows the open space holdings within Northampton and the surrounding communities (from MassGIS).

Northampton has worked with Easthampton, Williamsburg, Hatfield, and Westhampton, as well as numerous federal, state, and non-profit organizations on joint open space and multiuse trail acquisitions and improvements.

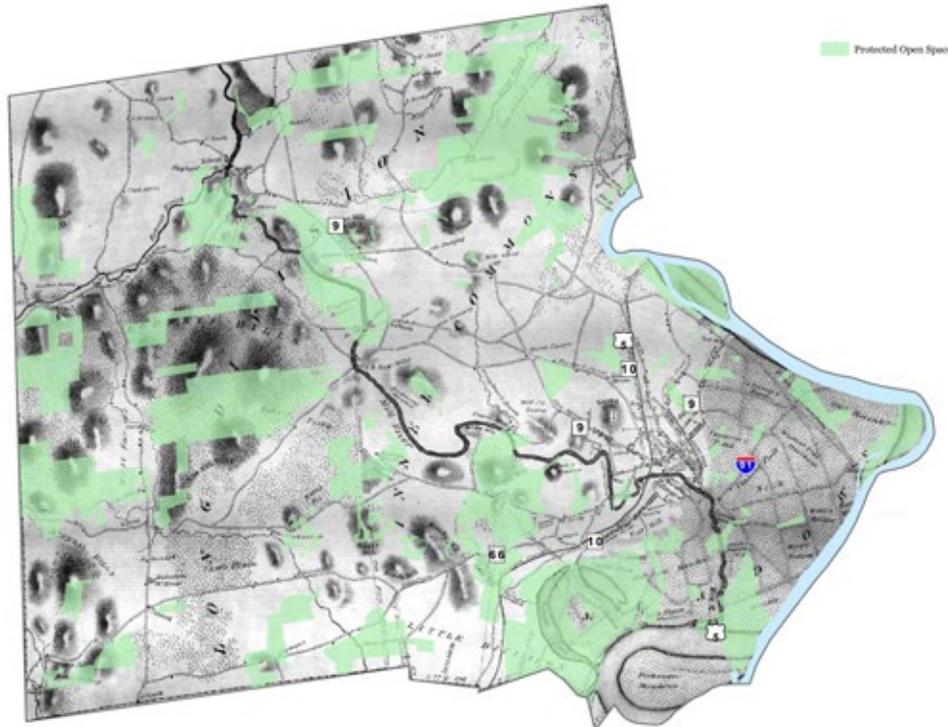
Socioeconomic Context

Northampton's lifestyle is rich in recreation,

cultural, artistic, academic, and business opportunities. Northampton features one of the most vibrant downtown centers in New England and was named "Number One Best Small Arts Town in America" by author John Villani. It was also recognized as one of the top 25 Arts Destinations in the nation by American Style magazine. The National Trust named it as one of the Dozen Destinations of Distinction for Historic Preservation.

Four village centers provide focal points for residential areas while the downtown is alive during the days and evenings. The City offers a wide selection of retail, services, restaurants, music and arts venues, coffee, and hospitality, including the only municipally owned theater in the state and the new Arts Trust facility. All of this activity provides a perfect atmosphere for casual strolling along the tree-lined streetscape.

OPEN SPACE OVERLAY ON HISTORICAL MAP OF NORTHAMPTON



The City also offers strong municipal programs in education, recreation, public safety, and public works. As the first city in the country to receive the ***STAR Communities*** Five Star rating for sustainability, Northampton is known for its sustainability and resiliency efforts

Northampton's strong and diverse economic base consisting of a mixture of traditional machine shop operations and newer innovative ones. It also has a large institutional base, which includes a VA medical center, a Cooley Dickinson Hospital, and Smith College. It is also strongly influenced by the nearby Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

The quality of life in Northampton contributes to its strong economic base with strong manufacturing, technology, and service sectors. The local labor force is diverse, well educated, and highly skilled.

Northampton's downtown is especially strong, during both the day and the night. It thrived

when many similarly sized downtowns around the US have suffered. Downtown is the cultural and shopping hub of Hampshire County and attracts tourists, visitors, and residents from far and near. Main Street retail and upper floor vacancy rates remain low, with mixed and diverse uses.

While downtown Northampton remains the most defined urban center in the county, it has a smaller market share of total county retail spending now than in the past and a smaller market share of non-restaurant/non-hospitality retail spending. Per capita retail and restaurants sales for Northampton are significantly above those sales for Hampshire County and for the Springfield Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Vibrant service, commercial, and institutional sectors are also found in the City's villages of Florence, Leeds, Baystate, and Village Hill.

Florence village has an especially hearty commercial and residential hub. It is center of business and culture for many City residents and the surrounding hill towns. It is one of the most livable

DEMOGRAPHIC AND HOUSING DATA

Demographic Indicator	In Northampton
Population 2000	28,968
Population 2010	28,549
Population 2014 (estimate)	28,637
White population (2014)	86.2%
Black/African American population (2014)	2.9%
Asian population (2014)	6.6%
Other population (2014)	4.3%
Latino/Hispanic (any race) (2014)	7.6%
Northampton workers working in Northampton	50.0%
Northampton workers commuting out of City	50.0%
Educational attainment 4 or more years of college	55.7%
Persons below poverty level	14.6
Housing units-owner occupied	56%
Housing units-renter occupied	44%
Housing with subsidies	12%
—Pioneer Valley Planning Commission “Community Profile” and “Data Portal” 2015	

places in the Pioneer Valley. Retail businesses serve primarily local, while other commercial uses serve a much larger market area. Florence fills a critical economic and social niche not provided in higher rent downtown Northampton or in highway strip commercial areas. Florence village complements, rather than competes, with other commercial areas.

Environmental Justice

Environmental justice populations (low income and/or minority status) are traditionally underserved by recreation opportunities. Low-income families tend to conglomerate in urban areas while upper income groups exist in suburban or rural areas. Northampton has worked to ensure environmental justice.

Northampton environmental justice populations are all within easy walking distance of open space (see map below). Northampton has three recreation areas in its urban core area, which serve concentrations of poverty even in neighborhoods that are not formally EJ areas. The biggest challenge, however, is that access to open space does not necessarily mean access to specific

culturally appropriate recreation needs. In addition, sidewalk availability and high traffic can create isolation.

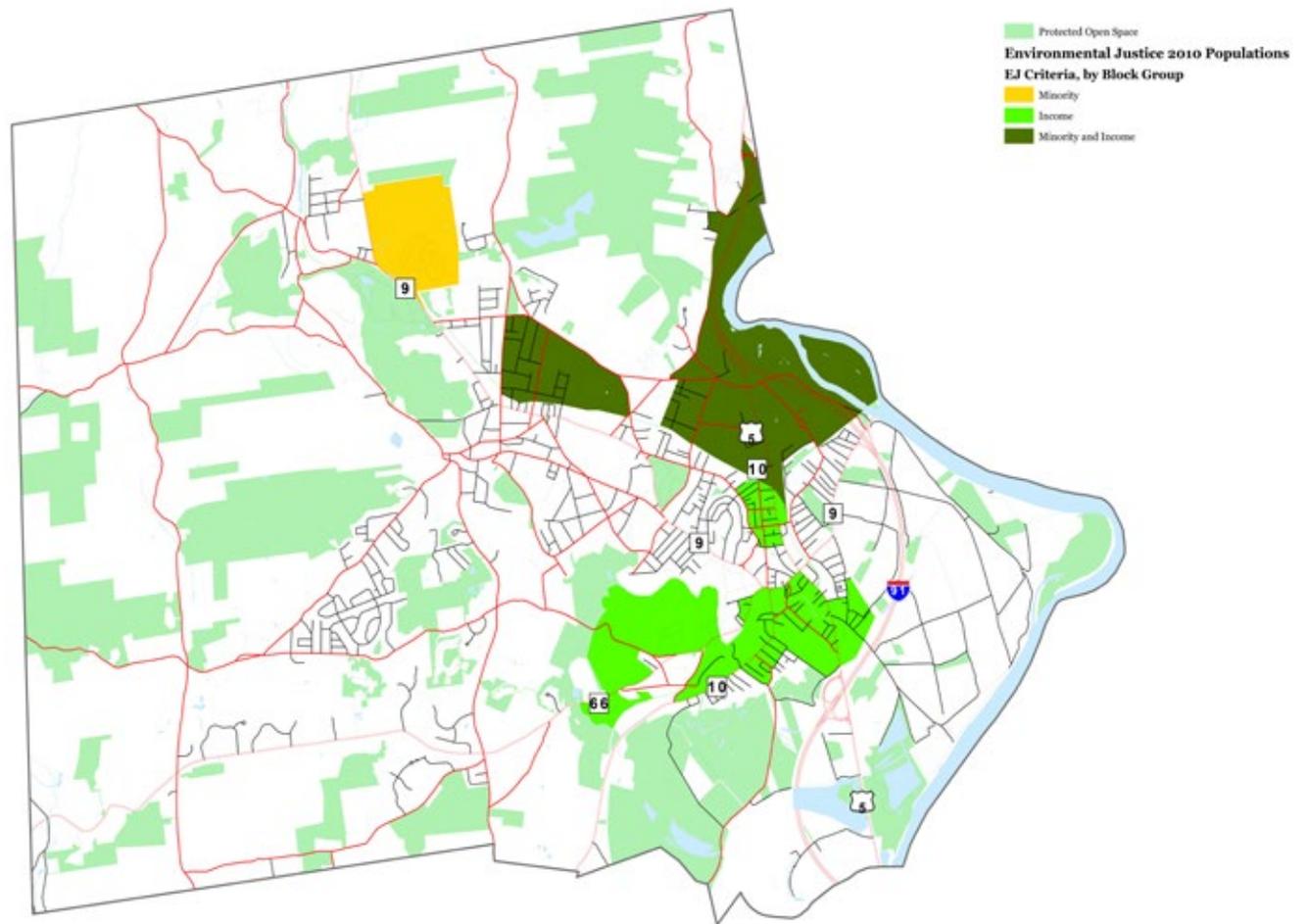
When planning for new parks, recreation areas, or multiuse paths, Northampton considers environmental justice. Future projects will ideally take cultural uniqueness into account as well, providing locations for specific activity within open spaces.

Northampton History

For thousands of years, Native Americans camped and fished along the rich floodplains of the Connecticut River in the Pioneer Valley.

Northampton’s Puritan founders were drawn to the area more by accounts of abundant tillable land and ease of trade with the Native Americans than by the religious concerns that characterized their eastern Massachusetts brethren. In May 1653, 24 persons petitioned the General Court for permission to plant, possess, and inhabit the land called “Nonotuck.” Northampton was settled in 1654 on a low rise above the rich meadowlands by the Connecticut River. Relations between settlers and Native Americans, though initially cooperative, became increasingly strained, culminating in King Philip’s War in 1675.

Northampton grew as a trade and marketing center in the 18th century. The ministry of Jonathan Edwards, whose preaching sparked the religious revivals of the Great Awakening in the 1740s, quickened religious fervor. The Revolutionary War produced heroes like General Seth Pomeroy. The economic upheavals in the wake of the war moved Daniel Shays and his followers into open rebellion on the eve of the Constitutional Convention. A delegate to the Convention, Caleb Strong became Massachusetts’s first senator and an 11-term governor.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POPULATIONS

In the early 19th century, great hopes were raised by the prospect of the Northampton-New Haven Canal. The canal, however, failed after a short time with the coming of the railroad. Other industries grew and prospered, including the utopian community of the Northampton Association, which combined radical abolitionism with a communally owned and operated silk mill. Sojourner Truth was, at one time, a member of that community which included William Lloyd Garrison and Frederick Douglass among its circle of supporters. Other reformers included Sylvester Graham, diet and health food enthusiast and

inventor of the Graham cracker, and abolitionist Lydia Maria Child.

19th century Northampton drew visitors like Timothy Dwight, the Marquis de Lafayette, Henry James, and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Artists like Thomas Cole thought the environs of Northampton to be the epitome of the “picturesque,” the middle landscape between the sordid city and wild nature.

Northampton was the site of a number of schools and educational institutions. George Bancroft established the Round Hill School in 1823, and

Smith College opened its doors in 1871. Author George Washington Cable founded the Home Culture Clubs in 1892, and the Hill Institute sponsored one of the nation's earliest kindergartens. The Northampton Law School sent one of its students, Franklin Pierce, on to the Presidency. Northampton was also the home of Calvin Coolidge, who became President in 1923.

The 19th century diva, Jenny Lind, dubbed Northampton “paradise of America” after a long stay here. Ever since, Northampton has kept its moniker, “Paradise City.”

Northampton's streets follow, essentially, the same paths that were laid out in the 17th century, and there are a number of surviving 18th century structures in Northampton. Downtown retains much of its 19th century character. The modest fortunes of local merchants and industrialists financed numerous Victorian mansions and picturesque cottages as well as the commercial blocks in the Downtown Historic District. Pomeroy Terrace (1850-1885) and Elm Street (1860-1920), both located at the edge of downtown, have Gothic Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival Styles, part of the city's diverse architectural heritage.

Northampton's economy has changed significantly since the end of World War II. The industrial component of the economy, once the linchpin, has receded. In its place, the commercial and service sectors of the economy have grown.

The City's economy was once heavily dependent on two major institutions, the former Northampton State Hospital and the U.S. Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The Northampton State Hospital closed in 1994 and the Veterans Medical Center is now a smaller part of Northampton's economy. Smith College, however, has remained stable in employment and economic importance, with a growing physical plant. The University of Massachusetts at Amherst, the largest employer of Northampton residents, remains strong.

For an artist, a gourmand, a bicyclist, or a parent, the City just might be paradise. Authors of numerous magazine articles and books have named Northampton one of the best places in the

country to raise children, ride bicycles, eat out in restaurants, and make a life as an artist. While many might quibble with Northampton's self embrace of “the best place” in which to raise a child or “the best small arts town,” no one can argue that Northampton is rich in offerings.

Population

Northampton has a population of approximately 29,000 people, with a population density of 840 people per square mile. The population has remained stable since 1950.

With the all female Smith College, there are significantly more college age women than men. From ages of 25 to 65, there is approximately the same number of men as women. After age 65, women outnumber men, because of significantly higher male mortality rates age 65 and over.

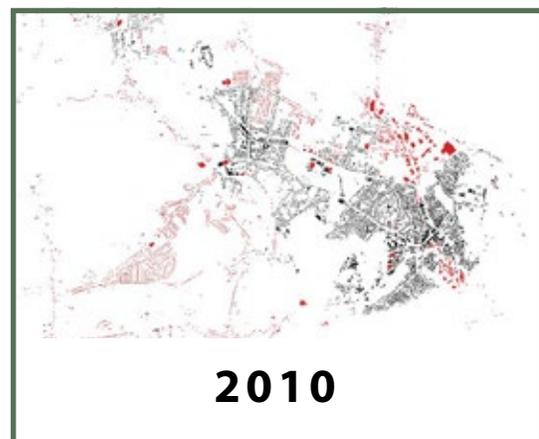
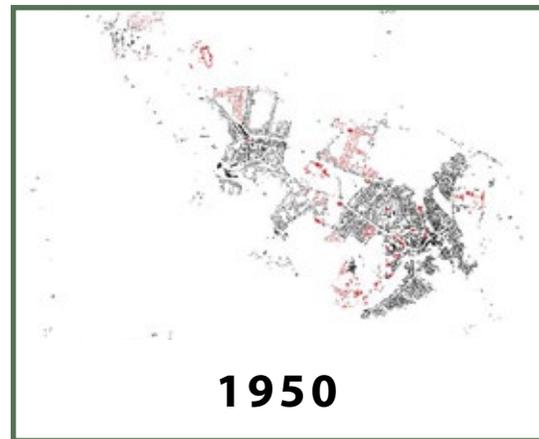
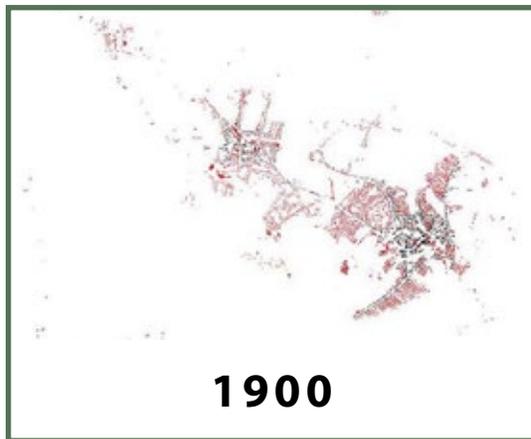
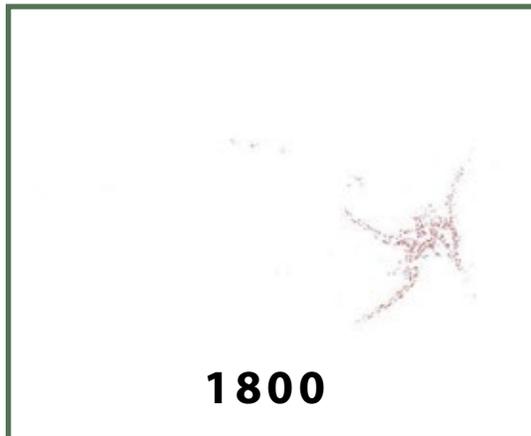
The Age-Sex Distribution graph, or population pyramid, shows that Northampton, like many regions of the country, has an aging population. There are significantly fewer people per age range in the ranges less than 19 years versus the ranges between 20 and 44.

Although Northampton's overall population has been stable for 70 years, a dramatic decrease in family size and the decrease in institutionalized populations at the State Hospital and the VA Medical Center has created a corresponding increase in the number of households and, therefore, the number of housing units. While this trend exists in most US communities, it has been especially sharp in Northampton and much of the last 50 years of residential development.

Northampton has high migration rates of people moving into and out of the city, but those migrations are well balanced. College-age students contribute to the population turnover, but there is also a significant amount of turnover at other age levels. This turnover contributes to the vibrancy of Northampton and has not created any loss of stability or residents' commitment to their neighborhoods.

Northampton's unemployment is consistently

HISTORICAL PATTERNS (1800–2010)



lower than the Commonwealth as a whole, even during the 2007-2010 Great Recession. The largest employment sector is the service sector, which includes health care and education, and is larger than the statewide average. The next highest is retail and trade, although this represents a decline over the past decade. The percentages of people who are self-employed, work from home, and are part-time is larger than the state-wide average.

Half of employed Northampton residents work in the city. Most residents who commute out of the city commute to Amherst and Hampden County. Northampton residents fill slightly over half of the available jobs in Northampton (U.S. Census Bureau, Journey-to-Work).

Over half the population lives within walking distance of downtown or Florence village, which is high for a small city. This population, with a wide variety of incomes, may be the most important

factor in supporting a healthy downtown. This population provides a base of customers for downtown businesses and helps provide the vibrancy that is critical to the health of downtown. It also generates a need for a variety of housing types and opportunities.

Development Patterns

Northampton terrain ranges from the flat Mill River and Connecticut River floodplains to the its western and northern hills. The hills are covered with shallow ledge, soils, and topography poorly suited for development. Most development in Northampton occurred between the floodplain and the steeper hills. Although Northampton looks “built-out” from many of the roads, the majority of the City’s land area has not been developed. 25% of the city is permanent open space and additional land has floodplains and wetlands, so the actual developable land is significant less.

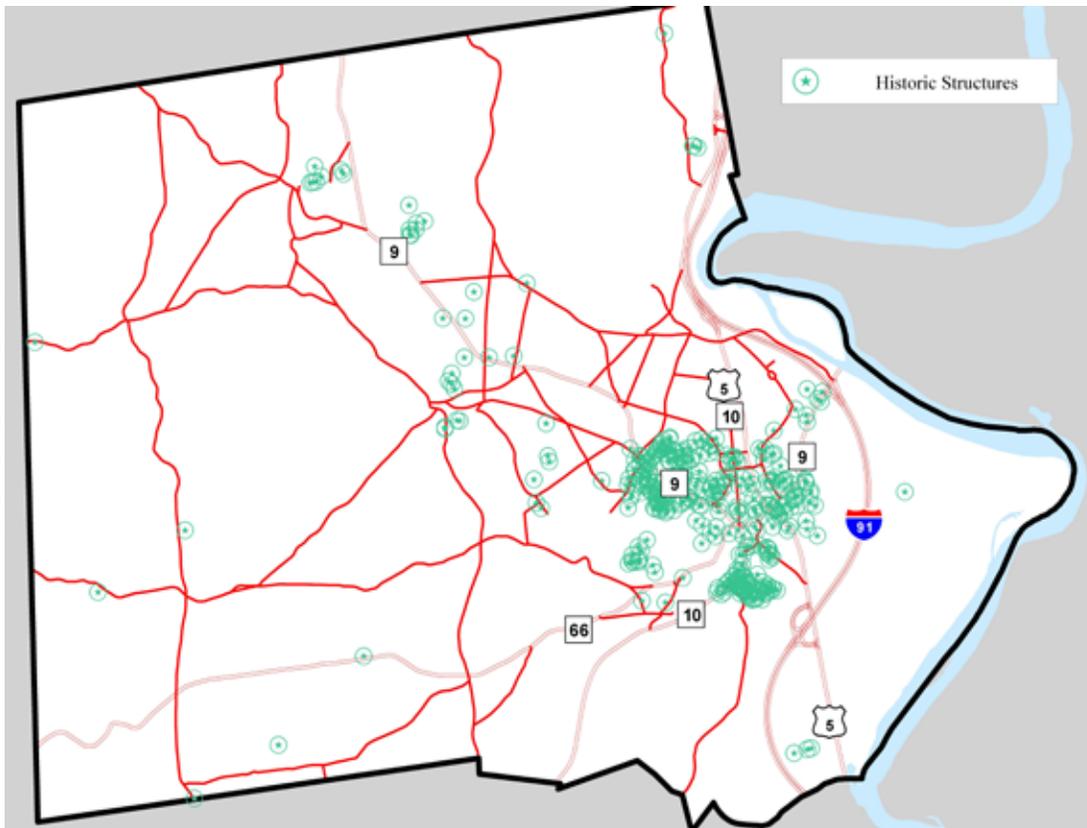
Most of the City’s historic development occurred in a corridor along the Mill River and other level areas of the city northeast of the Mill River. Downtown Northampton, Bay State, Florence, and Leeds are all located within one mile of the Historic Mill River (in 1939 the Mill River was diverted from downtown to control floods). Starting in the 1950s, development expended to suburban areas in the southwestern quarter of the city

Transportation

Northampton is located in the center of the Pioneer Valley. The Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) connects the region to Boston and Albany. Interstate 91 provides access to Hartford and Brattleboro. The principal highways are Interstate 91, US Routes 5 and 10, which run north-south, and Interstate Route 90, which runs east-west. Amtrak stops in Northampton once a day, soon to increase to three times a day, in each direction, connecting to Vermont, Springfield, New Haven, and New York. Pan Am freight rail service is available. Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) provides fixed route and para-transit service to the region. The Franklin Transit Authority also provides a bus service from Greenfield to Northampton. Peter Pan provides inter-urban in all directions.

Northampton Airport is a general aviation airport one mile southeast of downtown Northampton. It has a 3,506-foot by 50-foot asphalt runway. The airport has been in operation since 1929.

HISTORIC & ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES



POPULATION DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE CITY

Area	Population	% of City Population
City of Northampton	28,549	100%
Live within one mile of center of downtown	11,235	39%
Live within one-half mile of center of downtown	5,674	20%
Live in or abutting Central Business District	935	3%
Live within one mile of Florence Village	5,106	18%
Live within one-half mile of Florence Village	3,327	12%

—2010 US Census and 2015 City Census

POPULATION DENSITY



Northampton has 150+/- miles of paved streets, 15 miles of gravel streets, 70 miles of sidewalks and crosswalks, 20 bridges, and 11 miles of multi-use trails.

The percent of workers walking or bicycling to work is higher than the state as a whole, but the percent of people using transit is lower than the state average.

Water Supply Systems

Northampton's drinking water comes from three

surface water reservoirs outside of Northampton and a drinking water aquifer within the city. The system draws filtered water from the reservoirs.

Reservoir water is treated at a water treatment plant (built in 2008) in Williamsburg. Additional treatment comes from decentralized chlorination and corrosion control facilities.

The City of Northampton supplies approximately 1.25 billion gallons of water to the residents per year. On average, the City supplied 3.4 million gallons of water each day, with a maximum peak

of 4.8 million gallons. On large water withdrawal days, water is drawn from the two wells located in Florence. Northampton has approximately 150 miles of water pipes, 1,200 fire hydrants, and 8,000 water meters.

The Department of Environmental Protection Source Water Assessment Program Report reviewed the watershed lands and aquifer protection zones. The largest threats to the water supply identified in the report were from residential fuel storage and large scale commercial uses.

The Department of Public Work protects and monitors the water supply and watershed land and acquire additional lands to preserve current and future water supplies.

Wastewater Systems

The Northampton Wastewater Treatment Plant (built 1973, expanded 1998) can treat 8.6 million gallon per day. It serves most of Northampton and 425 people in the Williamsburg, including institutional, commercial and industrial users. The treatment plant was built in 1973 and expanded in 1998. Wastewater receives preliminary treatment, primary treatment, secondary treatment, and disinfection.

Wastewater is discharged to Connecticut River via outfall pipe. Sludge is treated on-site and then trucked outside of Northampton for final disposal.

The facility accepts industrial wastewater from significant industrial and institutional users (e.g., Coca Cola, Cooley-Dickinson Hospital, Smith College, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center).

The city has 100+/- miles of sanitary sewer pipes.

Development Constraints

Geography and infrastructure systems constrain large-scale commercial, industrial, and residential expansion.

Upgrading and extending water and sewer lines outside of the currently developed areas to proposed locations for commercial or light development may not be feasible due to the

high costs and limited available sites. Upgrades of existing water and sewer lines may encourage infill development for greater concentrations of commercial, industrial, and large scale residential uses near current village center areas.

Development Patterns

Almost all development in Northampton is located outside of the Connecticut River floodplain. During the last four decades, the agricultural economy of Massachusetts has declined, resulting in the loss of some marginal farms, both on and off the floodplain. Northampton is seeing a small increase in the number of small farms but a decrease in acreage currently being farmed.

Since World War II, many rural areas have been transformed to suburban residential development. Commercial development has spread from the original Northampton-Florence-Leeds corridor to include highway commercial on King Street. Industrial uses in the Northampton-Florence-Leeds corridor and along the Mill River have shrunk. The single largest industrial concentration is in the Northampton Industrial Park.

Northampton has a strong sense of community and place. The development pattern has been shaped by the strength of the urban centers of Northampton and Florence, the King Street shopping areas, the strong character of the residential neighborhoods. The existence of large tracts of public and quasi-public land, including the Northampton State Hospital/Village Hill, Smith College, Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Smith Vocational and Agricultural School, Look Memorial Park, Northampton Reservoir watershed lands, and the VA Medical Center has also been influential.

Land Use Controls

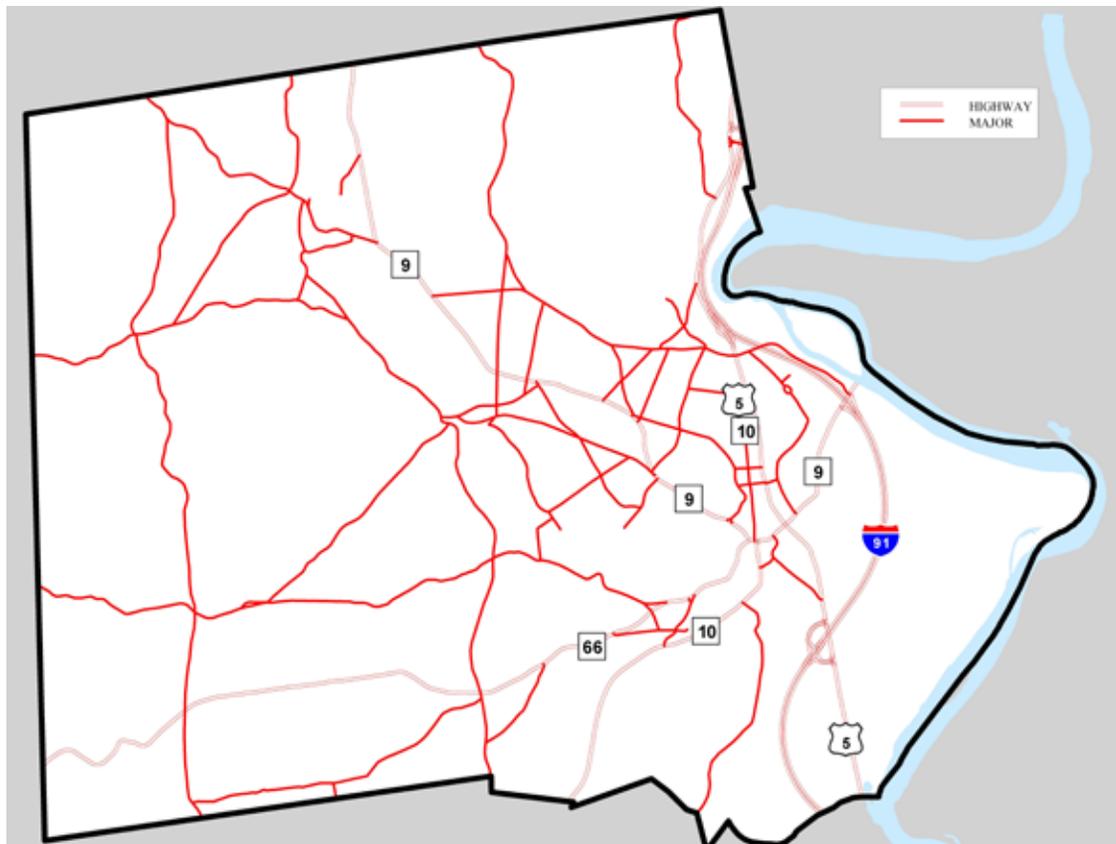
Zoning and land use controls promote the City's economic, environmental, and social health. Environmentally focused zoning includes:

1. **Open Space Residential:** Allows predominately residential development

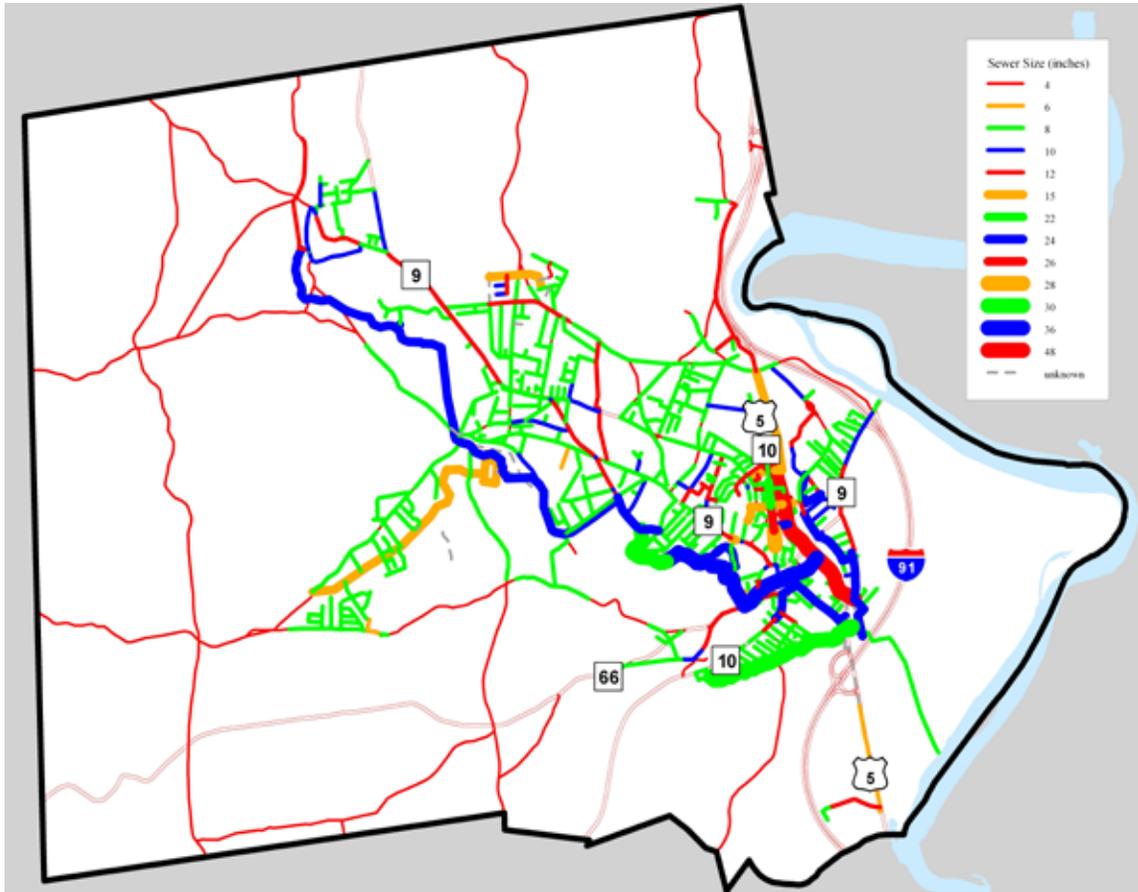
- to be clustered on a portion of a property, with a majority of a site preserved as open space.
2. **Planned Village District:** Creates a mixed-use village at the former Northampton State Hospital.
 3. **Special Conservancy and Watershed Protection Districts:** Protects against flood hazards by prohibiting new residential development in the 500-year floodplain, while allowing redevelopment of existing buildings and uses.
 4. **Water Supply Protection District:** Protects public drinking water from any inconsistent use or development.
 5. **Farms, Forests and Rivers:** Allows virtually no development. Primarily for permanently protected open space.

Northampton has approximately 5,000 acres of land that could, in theory, be developed.

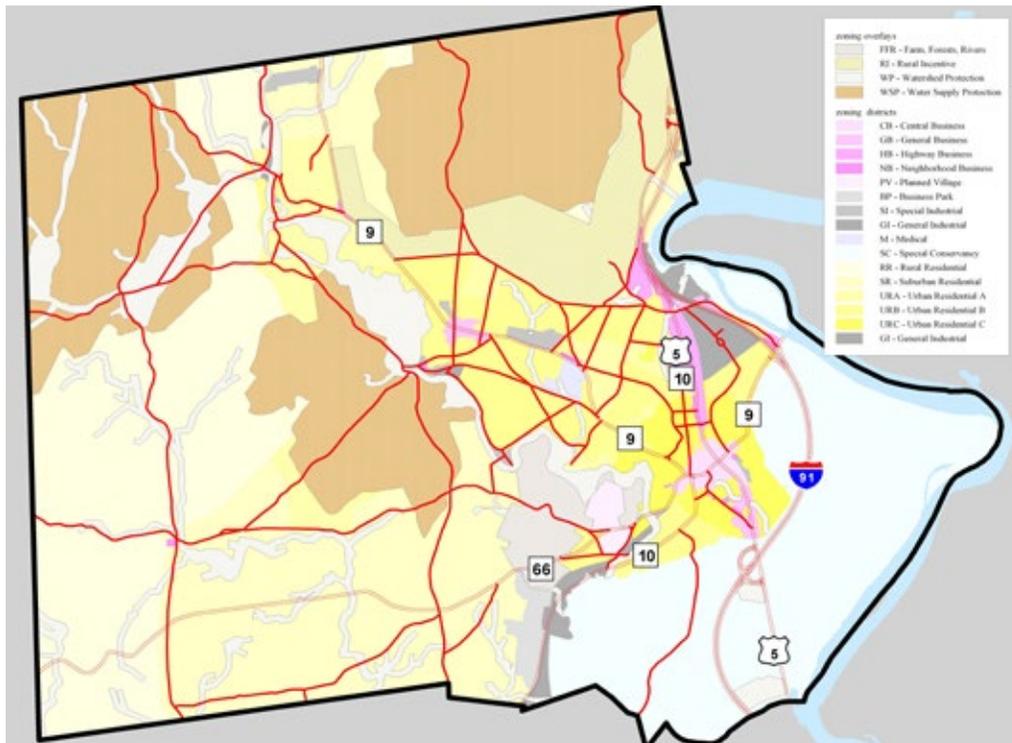
ROADS

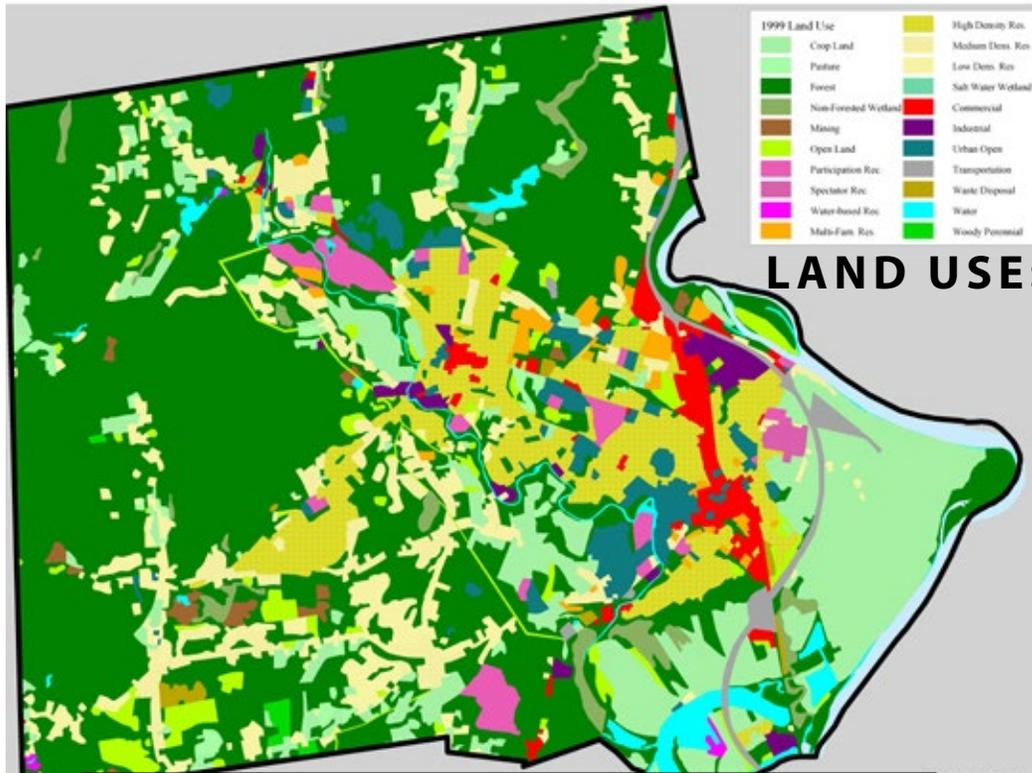


WASTEWATER TREATMENT



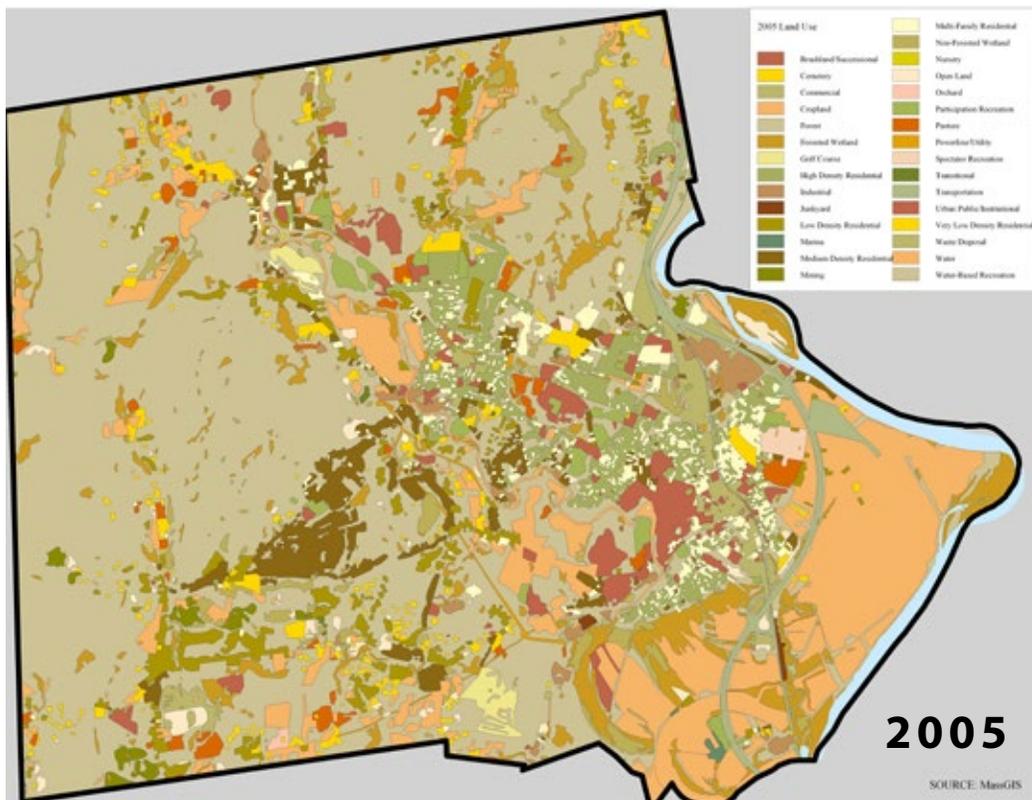
OVERVIEW OF ZONING





LAND USE: 1999

Northampton Land Use (MassGIS)	1985 Acres	1999 Acres
Non-protected Forests	12,306	11,607
Non-protected Agricultural Lands	3,385	3,176
Developed Land	1,264	1,177
Residential Land	3,414	4,236
Water/Recreational/Open land	2,478	2,652



2005

SOURCE: MassGIS

4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

Topography, Geology, Soils

Topography

Northampton's land is a three part geological story.

- The alluvial/ lacustrine floodplain, including 3,000 +/- acres of farmland along the Connecticut River.
- Deep, flat glacial outwash and proglacial lacustrine former lake bed, underlying much of Baystate, Florence, and downtown.
- Rolling glacial till in Leeds and in much of the suburban areas of the city, along with the steeply sloping bedrock-dominated glacial till in the hills on the north and western ends.

Elevations range from 99 feet mean sea level (MSL) at the Connecticut River to 890 feet MSL on the western hills. Mount Tom and Mount Holyoke, running in a unique east-west oriented boomerang shape, are southeast of Northampton. These mountains define the northerly limit of the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke metropolitan area and help define Northampton and Hampshire County.

Geology

Geologically, Northampton is the result of millions of years of geologic history: upheavals of the earth's crust and volcanics and the sculpting power of water, ice, and wind. This physical base has determined the distribution of water bodies, soils and vegetation and settlement patterns.

The movement of the earth's plates have formed mountains that generally run northerly to southerly. The pressure of mountain building folded the earth, created faults, and produced layers of metamorphosed rock. Collision stress also melted large areas of rock, which cooled and hardened into the granites that are found in the area. Preceding the collisions, lines of volcanoes sometimes formed.

The Connecticut River Valley was one of many smaller rifts to develop. Streams flowing into the river from higher areas brought alluvium, including gravels, sand, and silt. At the time, the area that is now Northampton was located south of the equator. The Dinosaur era had begun, and the footprints of these giant reptiles are still visible in the rock formed from sediments deposited on the valley floor millions of years ago.

By the close of the Dinosaur age, eastern United States, including Northampton, was part of a large featureless plain, known as the peneplain. It had been leveled through erosion, with the exception of a few higher, resistant areas. Today, these granite

mountaintops, called monadnocks, are still the high points in this region (e.g., Mt. Wachusett, Mt. Greylock, and Mt. Monadnock).

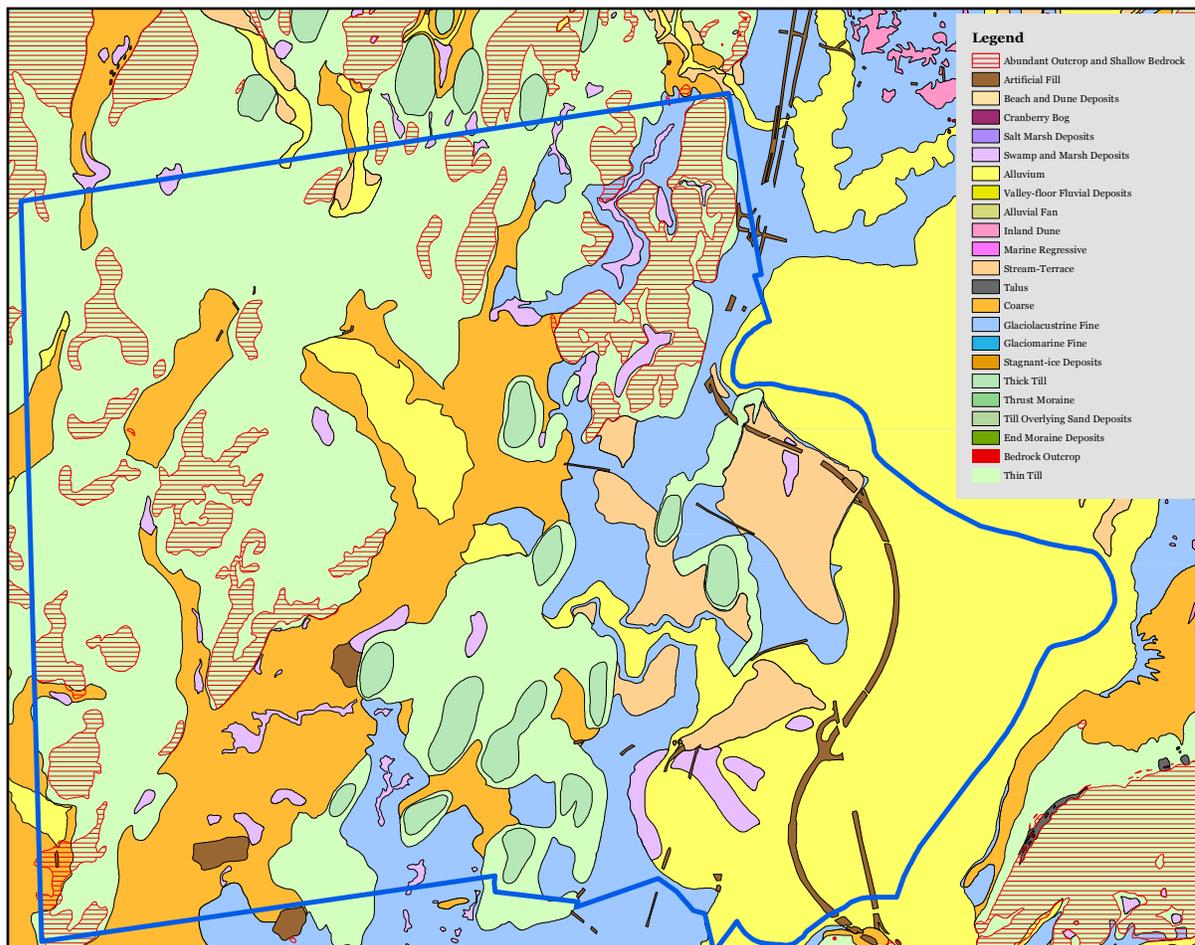
As the peneplain eroded, the less resistant rock eroded to form low-lying areas, while bands of schist remained to form upland ridges. By this time, the Connecticut Valley had been filled with sediment while streams that would become the Deerfield, Westfield, and Farmington Rivers continued to meander eastward.

A long period of relative quiet in geologic terms followed the Dinosaur era. Then, as the Rocky Mountains were forming in the west eight million years ago, the eastern peneplain shifted upward a thousand feet. As a result of the new, steeper topography, stream flow accelerated, carving deep

valleys into the plain. Today, the visible remnants of the peneplain are the area's schist-bearing hilltops, all at about the same 1,000-foot elevation.

Mountain building, flowing water, and wind roughly shaped the land. Then the great glacial advances would shape the remaining peneplain into its current topography. Approximately two million years ago, accumulated snow and ice in glaciers to the far north began advancing under their own weight. A series of glaciations or "ice ages" followed, eroding mountains and displacing huge amounts of rock and sediment. The final advance, known as the Wisconsin Glacial Period, completely covered New England before it began to recede about 13,000 years ago. This last glacier scoured and polished the land into its current form, leaving layers of soil and rock we see today.

SURFICIAL GEOLOGY



The glacier picked up, mixed, disintegrated, transported, and deposited material in its retreat. Material deposited by the ice is known as *glacial till*. Material transported by water, separated by size and deposited in layers is called *stratified drift*. The glacier left gravel and sand deposits in the lowlands and along stream terraces. Where deposits were left along hillsides, they formed kame terraces and eskers. Kames are short hills, ridges, or mounds of stratified drift, and eskers are long narrow ridges or mounds of sand, gravel, and boulders.

During the end of the last ice age, a great inland lake, Lake Hitchcock, formed in the Connecticut River Valley. Fed by streams melting from the receding glacier, the lake covered an area approximately 150 miles long and 12 miles wide, from St. Johnsbury, Vermont to Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Streams deposited sand and gravel in deltas as they entered the lake, while silts and clays were carried into deeper waters and deposited.

Soils

Soil is the layer of unconsolidated minerals and organic material. Soil scientists classify soils by their characteristics, including topography; physical properties including soil structure, particle size, stoniness, and depth of bedrock; drainage or permeability to water, depth to the water table, and susceptibility to flooding; behavior or engineering properties; and biological characteristics such as presence of organic matter and fertility. Soils are classified and grouped into common associations, or soil types.

The US Dept. of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service lists three generalized soil types for Northampton:

1. Hadley-Winooski-Limerick Association: Deep, nearly level, well-drained, moderately well drained, and poorly drained, loamy soils formed in alluvial material; on floodplains, including much of city's Connecticut River floodplain and most of its prime agricultural soils.
2. Hinckley-Merrimac-Windsor Association: Deep nearly level to steep, excessively drained and somewhat excessively drained, sandy and loamy soils formed in outwash deposits; on outwash plains. Includes most of downtown Northampton and Florence and the level to rolling terraces parallel to the Connecticut River.
3. Charlton-Paxton-Woodbridge Association: Deep, level to steep, well and moderately well drained, loamy soils formed in glacial till; on uplands. Includes much of the residential areas of town and Northampton's western hills. They are the most common upland soils found in Massachusetts and were developed on glacial till.

Landscape Character

Northampton has a diverse and unique landscape. The City consists of densely developed urban areas, open farmland, forested hills, numerous streams, wetlands, and an abundance of wildlife patches, corridors, and matrices. The Connecticut River floodplain contains much of the City's prime agricultural lands, the Meadows. The steep forested uplands on the western part of the city cover about one-third of the City.

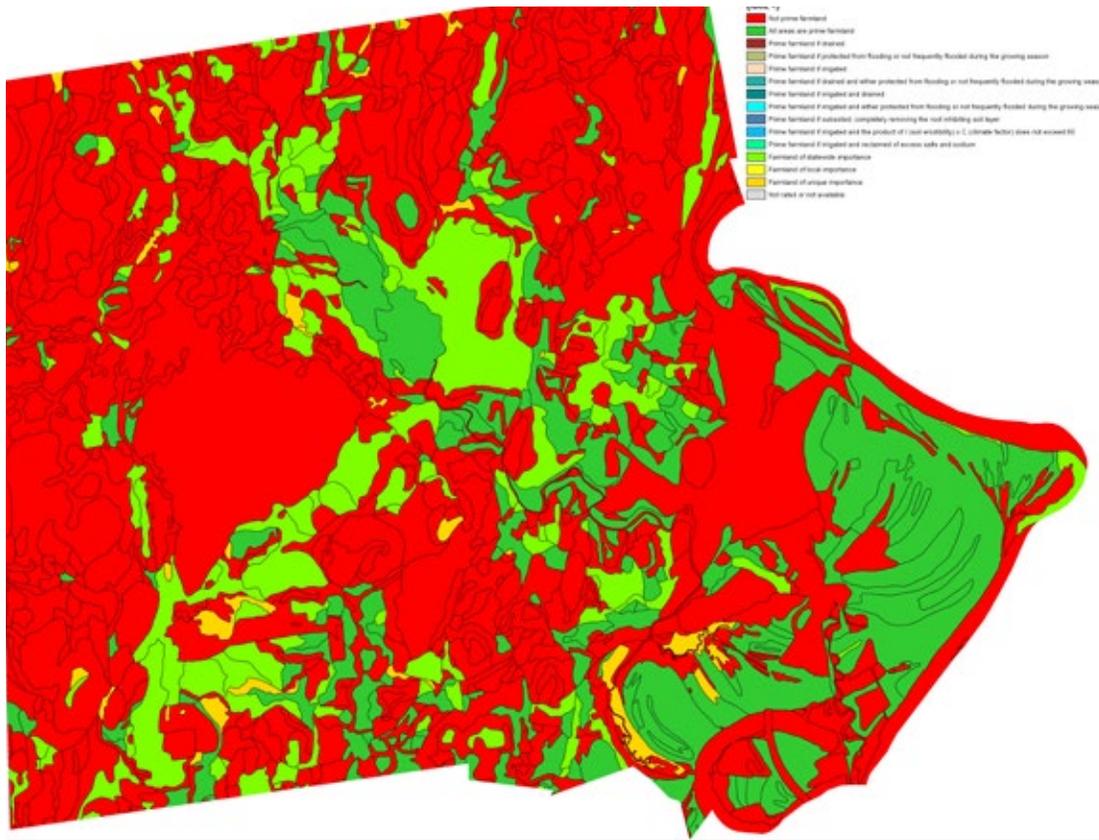
Water Resources

Watersheds

Northampton is rich in water resources, including brooks, streams, ponds, vernal pools, wetlands, and aquifers (*see the Water Resources Map*).

Most of the City of Northampton lies in the Connecticut River Watershed. The Connecticut River has a "Class B" water quality designation from the New Hampshire-Vermont border to Holyoke and is classified as a warm water fishery. Class B waters should provide suitable habitat for fish and other wildlife and should support primary contact recreational activities such as fishing and swimming. The water should also be suitable for irrigation and other agricultural uses. The classification of rivers in Massachusetts represent the state's goal for each river.

SOILS



The Connecticut River still has some contamination from PCBs, chlorine, heavy metals, erosion, and storm water runoff. These pollutants come from both point sources, like wastewater treatment plants and manufacturing plants, and non-point sources, including improperly operating septic systems, and farm and stormwater runoff.

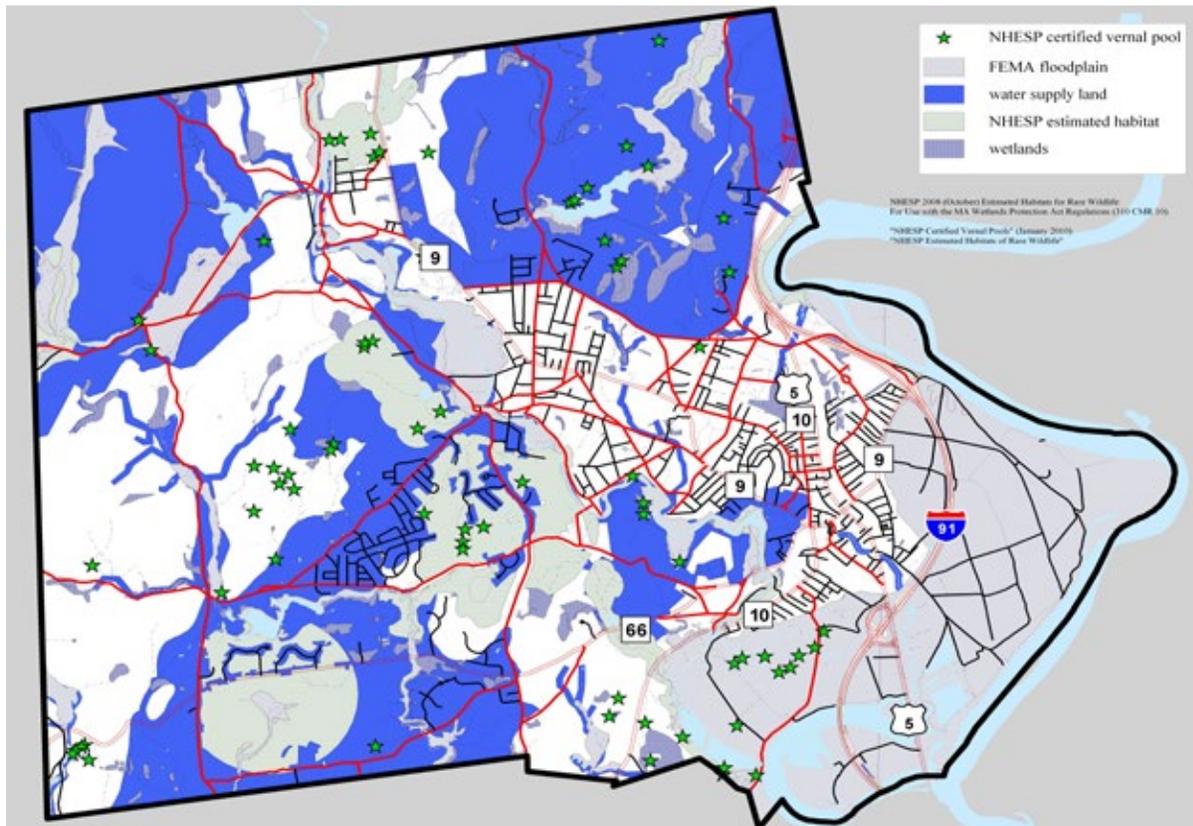
Although never as polluted as the section of the river below the Holyoke Dam, the water quality in the Connecticut River in Northampton has improved since the Clean Water Act (1972). Improved sewage treatment plants, expansion of areas served by sanitary sewers, and the ending of combined sanitary and storm water sewers (CSOs), have combined to improve water quality in the Connecticut River and Mill River. Northampton's Hockanum Road wastewater treatment plant was upgraded to secondary treatment in the early 1980s and currently services almost 90% of

Northampton's population. Improving the quality of stormwater runoff is a work in progress, with some major success stories and much left to be done.

Flood Hazard Areas

The 100-year floodplain (1% chance of flooding in a given year) and 500-year floodplain (0.2% chance of flooding in a given year) have been mapped based on historical rainfall and flooding, but do not take climate change into account. The floodplain includes floodway and flood fringe. The floodway is the channel of a river or stream and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water elevation more than one foot. Construction on floodways creates significant risk to structures from flood depths and velocities of floodwaters. Northampton zoning prohibits

WATER RESOURCES



structures in these areas.

The flood fringe is the area of the floodplain lying outside of the floodway but subject to periodic inundation from flooding. Northampton's zoning severe limits development in the FEMA 500 year floodplain, as a surrogate for the 100 year floodplain with climate change.

Floodplain and floodway boundaries are delineated on FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). In Northampton, the 500-year floodplain does not generally extend significantly beyond the 100-year flood area. Major floods, such as those caused by heavy rains from hurricanes, and localized spot flooding can exceed the 100- and 500-year flood levels. In addition, many small streams are not mapped for their flood hazard on FEMA maps, but are estimated in Northampton's zoning.

Northampton can experience flooding in any part of the City, even outside of the floodplain. With sufficient rain, almost any area will experience

at least pockets of surface flooding or overland flooding. Overland flooding in rural areas can result in erosion, washouts, road damage, loss of crops, and septic system back-ups. Heavy rain in the more urbanized parts of the City with extensive paved and impervious surfaces can easily overwhelm stormwater facilities resulting in localized flooding and basement damage. Stormwater flooding also contributes to water pollution by carrying silt, oil, fertilizers, pesticides, and waste into streams, rivers, and lakes.

The following table represents existing flood mitigation strategies in Northampton.

Wetlands

Wetlands are transitional areas where land-based and water-based ecosystems overlap. Inland wetlands are commonly referred to as swamps, marshes, and bogs. Wetlands are places where the water table is at or near the surface or the land is

covered by shallow water.

Historically, wetlands were drained, filled and “improved” for more productive uses. Over the past century, scientists have recognized that wetlands perform a variety of extremely important ecological functions. They absorb runoff and prevent flooding. Wetland vegetation stabilizes stream banks, preventing erosion, and trap sediments that are transported by runoff. Wetland plants absorb nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, which would be harmful if they entered lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams. They also absorb heavy metals and other pollution. Wetlands are extremely productive, providing food and habitat for fish and wildlife. Many plants, invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, and fish depend on wetlands to survive. Wetlands also have economic significance related to their ecological functions. It is far more cost-effective to maintain wetlands than build treatment facilities to manage stormwater and purify drinking water, and wetlands are essential to supporting lucrative outdoor recreation industries including hunting, fishing, and bird-watching.

The Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act is designed to protect eight “interests” related to their function: public and private water supply, ground water supply, flood control, storm damage of pollution, and protection of land containing shellfish, fisheries, and wildlife habitat. The law defines and protects wetland resource areas, including banks of rivers, lakes, ponds, and streams; wetlands bordering the banks; land under rivers, lakes, and ponds; land subject to flooding; and riverfront areas within 200 feet of any stream that runs all year. The Northampton Conservation Commission administers both the state Wetlands Protection Act and the Northampton Wetlands Protection Ordinance.

Many, but certainly not all, of Northampton’s wetlands are mapped by the National Wetlands Inventory and local supplemental data extracted from wetlands protection filings (*see the Water Resources Map*).

Vernal Pools

Vernal pools are temporary bodies of fresh water

that provide critical breeding habitat for many vertebrate and invertebrate wildlife species. They are defined as “basin depressions where water is confined and persists for at least two months during the spring and early summer of most years, and where reproducing populations of fish do not survive.” Vernal pools may be very shallow, holding only five or six inches of water, or they may be quite deep. They range in size from fewer than 100 square feet to several acres (Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, *Massachusetts Aerial Photo Survey of Potential Vernal Pools*, Spring 2001). Vernal pools are found across the landscape, anywhere that small woodland depressions, swales, or kettle holes collect spring runoff or intercept seasonal high groundwater and along rivers in the floodplain. Many species of amphibians and vertebrates are completely dependent on vernal pools to reproduce. Loss of vernal pools can endanger entire populations of these species.

The state’s Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) has predicted the location of vernal pools statewide based on interpretation of aerial photographs. This probably misses smaller pools. The NHESP has identified approximately 60 potential vernal pools throughout Northampton with several clusters especially in the northwestern part of town. According to NHESP, clusters indicate a particularly good habitat for species. Also, with clusters, there are alternate habitats if something happens to one pool, and slightly different conditions in each may provide different habitats for species dependent upon the pools.

NHESP also certifies vernal pools when they receive evidence on the presence of certain breeding amphibians that depend on vernal pools. Certified vernal pools are protected by the Massachusetts and Northampton Wetlands regulations. Northampton has 74 Certified Vernal Pools.

Aquifers and Recharge Areas

Aquifers are composed of water-bearing soil and minerals, which may be either unconsolidated (soil-like) deposits or consolidated rocks. Consolidated

rocks, also known as bedrock, consist of rock and mineral particles that have been welded together by heat and pressure or chemical reaction. Water flows through fractures, pores, and other openings. Unconsolidated deposits consist of material from the disintegrated consolidated rocks. Water flows through openings between particles.

As water travels through the cracks and openings in rock and soil, it passes through the unsaturated zone, in which both air and water fill the spaces between soil particles. Below the unsaturated layer, water fills all spaces in the saturated zone, the groundwater. The upper surface of the groundwater is called the water table.

Groundwater travel and speed is determined by the properties of the aquifer materials and the aquifer's width, depth and composition. This information helps determine how best to extract the water for use and determine how contaminants will flow in the aquifer.

Aquifers are unconfined or confined. The top of an unconfined aquifer is identified by the water table. Above the water table, in the unsaturated zone, interconnected pore spaces are open to the atmosphere. Precipitation recharges the groundwater percolating to the water table. Confined aquifers are sandwiched between two impermeable layers. Northampton public wells and many private wells tap unconfined aquifers. Wells in confined aquifers are artesian wells.

The Northampton Aquifer has three delineated Zone II recharge area. A Zone II is that area of an aquifer that contributes to a well under the most severe pumping and recharge conditions that can be realistically anticipated (180 days of pumping at approved yield with no recharge from precipitation). The Zone II areas are located in the southwestern section of the City and the northeastern section of the City. Threats to the Zone II recharge areas can include contamination from residential use, roadways, hazardous materials, oil contamination, and agricultural uses.

Vegetation

Northampton has diverse natural habitats

that support a variety of plants and animals. Approximately 50 percent of Northampton is covered by a mixed deciduous forest, including oak, maple, and beech, with smaller coniferous forests, including spruce, pine, and hemlock. Several thousand more acres of land are in agriculture, abandoned fields, and wet meadows.

In 1993 and then again in 2014, Planning & Sustainability hired a naturalist to do an ecological assessment of conservation properties, and some other key parcels. This report, *Rediscovering Northampton, The Natural History of City-Owned Conservation Areas*, provides data for land management and land acquisition decisions. Major findings have been incorporated into this plan.

Unfortunately, certain non-native invasive plants are threatening natural habitats. These plants can take over part of the indigenous habitat and decrease the ecological value for native animals.

Public Shade Trees

Public shade trees are highly valued and can substantially to the economic and ecological values of those neighborhoods. The City's Tree Committee and the City's Tree Warden, work to protect and expand shade trees.

City trees in parks, cemeteries and public spaces are generally protected with the same care as public shade trees, but are not subject to the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Public Shade Tree Law (M.G.L. Chapter 87).

Forests

Plants moderate temperatures, store carbon, and provide shelter, food, and habitat for other plants and animals. *Natural communities* are interacting groups of plants and animals that share a common environment and occur together in different places on the landscape. The City generally focuses on protecting natural communities, rather than focusing on individual species.

Forests are one of the City's most important renewable natural resources. The City's forests are diverse, including unusual communities such as

major river floodplain forests.

FLOODPLAIN FOREST

Major-River Floodplain forests occur along large rivers such as the Connecticut River. Soils are predominantly sandy loams without a very minimal surface organic layer. Flooding occurs regularly is often intense. The dominant species of this floodplain forest is the silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*), with lesser amounts of cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*). American elm (*Ulmus americana*) and/or slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*) can be found in the subcanopy. Shrubs are lacking and the herbaceous layer primarily consists of stinging nettles (*Laportea canadensis*). Ostrich fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*) also occurs and whitegrass (*Leersia virginica*) is found in small amounts. Riverbank floodplain forests have similar species, but cottonwood, sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), and American ash (*Fraxinus americana*) are also present in the canopy. Box elder (*Acer negundo*), staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculata*), riverbank grape (*Vitis riparia*), and Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) are also present.

Floodplain forests are insect-rich habitats that attract many species of songbirds. Raptors such as bald eagles and red-shouldered hawks also use riverbank trees as perch sites. Wood ducks and hooded mergansers are found along the shady edges of the riverbanks, as are Eastern comma butterflies and several species of dragonflies. Floodplain forests also provide sheltered riverside corridors for deer and migratory songbirds. Many state protected rare animal species use the floodplain forest as an important component of their habitat.

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plant Species

- Vascular Plant *Lygodium palmatum* Climbing Fern SC
- Vascular Plant *Ophioglossum pusillum* Adder's-tongue Fern T
- Vascular Plant *Panicum philadelphicum* Philadelphia Panic-grass SC
- Vascular Plant *Eragrostis frankii* Frank's Lovegrass SC

- Vascular Plant *Eleocharis diandra* Wright's Spike-rush E
- Vascular Plant *Eleocharis intermedia* Intermediate Spike-sedge T
- Vascular Plant *Carex typhina* Cat-tail Sedge T
- Vascular Plant *Carex bushii* Bush's Sedge E
- Vascular Plant *Arisaema dracontium* Green Dragon T
- Vascular Plant *Salix exigua* Sandbar Willow T
- Vascular Plant *Waldsteinia fragarioides* Barren Strawberry SC

Fisheries and Wildlife

Deer, bear, and other mammals thrive in the woodland and forest edge, especially in the northern and western sides of Northampton. Game birds, such as pheasants, native grouse, woodcock, and turkey are also present in large numbers, along with raccoons, muskrats, and fox. For several years, there have been increases in the numbers of otter, opossum, and beaver. Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, which conducts detailed biological assessments and bird counts, has counted upwards of 200 species of birds in or passing through the sanctuary, including the Bald Eagle, Redtail Hawk, and Screech Owl.

Northampton's lakes, rivers, and streams support a variety of fish, including trout, salmon, bass, pickerel, northern pike, shad, and walleye. The Connecticut River, the Ox-Bow, and the Mill River in the Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary are especially significant aquatic habitats.

Northampton wildlife habitat is not as productive as it once was; wetlands were filled prior to federal, state and local wetlands protection programs, development has fragmented habitat, and non-native species have been introduced.

Wildlife Corridors

Rediscovering Northampton and other data sources have helped identify key wildlife corridors and are represented in this plan's acquisition targets.

The short version of wildlife corridors can be summarized in an exercise we often with the community. Take a map of Northampton. Draw a 200' corridor in blue along every stream and river in the city. Then add connecting lines between

all of the major conservation areas in the city. These maps will cover the vast majority of the wildlife corridors in the city. The City prioritizes all wildlife corridors, not only the ones used by charismatic large game species that spark the public’s imagination.

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

We have identified many species that are rare or of special concern (“SC”), threatened (“T”), or endangered (“E”) in Northampton. This information is considered in permitting, planning, and open space preservation efforts:

- Amphibian *Ambystoma jeffersonianum* Jefferson Salamander SC
- Amphibian *Ambystoma opacum* Marbled Salamander T
- Amphibian *Scaphiopus holbrookii* Eastern Spadefoot T
- Beetle *Cicindela duodecimguttata* Twelve-spotted Tiger Beetle SC
- Bird *Botaurus lentiginosus* American Bittern E
- Bird *Ixobrychus exilis* Least Bittern E
- Bird *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* Bald Eagle E
- Bird *Accipiter striatus* Sharp-shinned Hawk SC
- Bird *Vermivora chrysoptera* Golden-winged Warbler E
- Bird *Pooecetes gramineus* Vesper Sparrow T
- Bird *Ammodramus savannarum* Grasshopper Sparrow T
- Bird *Ammodramus henslowii* Henslow’s Sparrow E
- Butterfly/Moth *Satyrrium favonius* Oak Hairstreak SC
- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Gomphus ventricosus* Skillet Clubtail SC
- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Gomphus abbreviatus* Spine-crowned Clubtail E
- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Ophiogomphus aspersus* Brook Snaketail SC
- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Aeshna mutata* Spatterdock Darner SC
- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Boyeria grafiana* Ocellated Darner SC
- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Neurocordulia yamaskanensis* Stygian Shadowdragon SC
- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Stylurus amnicola* Riverine Clubtail E

- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Stylurus scudderii* Zebra Clubtail SC
- Dragonfly/Damselfly *Stylurus spiniceps* A Clubtail Dragonfly T
- Fish *Acipenser brevirostrum* Shortnose Sturgeon E
- Fish *Hybognathus regius* Eastern Silvery Minnow SC
- Fish *Catostomus catostomus* Longnose Sucker SC
- Fish *Lota lota* Burbot SC
- Mussel *Alasmidonta heterodon* Dwarf Wedgemussel E E
- Mussel *Alasmidonta undulata* Triangle Floater SC
- Mussel *Lampsilis cariosa* Yellow Lampmussel E
- Mussel *Ligumia nasuta* Eastern Pondmussel SC
- Mussel *Strophitus undulatus* Creeper SC
- Reptile *Glyptemys insculpta* Wood Turtle SC
- Reptile *Terrapene carolina* Eastern Box Turtle SC
- Snail *Ferrissia walkeri* Walker’s Limpet SC

Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

Building on the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation Scenic Landscape Inventory the City has identified significant scenic resources and unique environments. These resources include notable viewsheds, or vistas, from roads, water bodies, protected open space, and historic districts. Archaeological sites are **not** specifically identified to protect them. They are primarily concentrated on the Connecticut River and, to a lesser extent, on the Mill River.

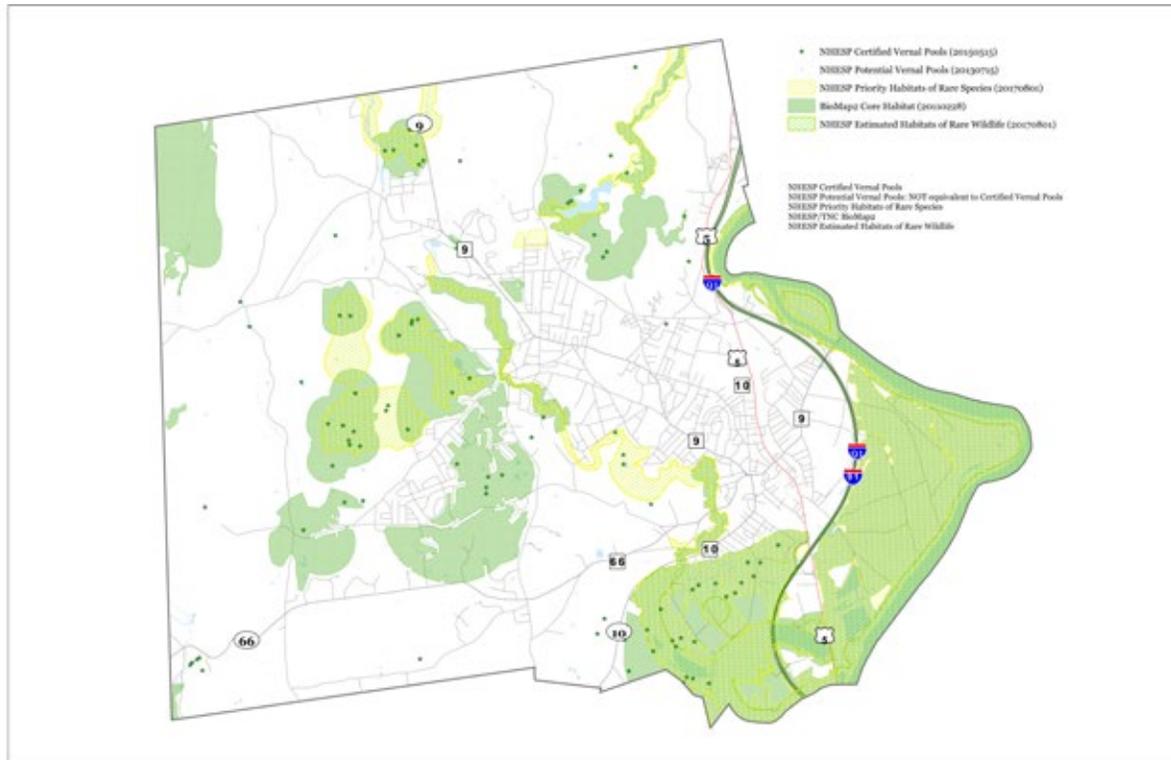
Some development with little sensitivity to the community’s views has obscured some scenic views. As farmland is abandoned, closed forests are replacing formerly pastoral views.

Scenic Landscapes

Cultural and historic areas and areas with

Northampton Water Resources	Acres
Water bodies (rivers, streams, ponds)	1,200 +/-
Floodplain (100 year flood)	4,800 +/-
Wetlands (swamps, marshes)	3,000 +/-
Water supply watersheds & Aquifers	5,000 +/-
<i>Note: Some resources are in more than one category</i>	

VEGETATION, FISHERIES & WILDLIFE



unique geology (see below) provide important local scenery. Community members identify the following as the most scenic landscapes in Northampton:

- The Northampton Meadows, in essence the 3,000 acre floodplain of the Connecticut River, and all other pastoral and agricultural views in the city.
- Vistas of Mt. Tom and the Holyoke Range, the Saw Mill Hills and the Mineral Hills.
- Vistas of any water bodies (e.g., Connecticut River, Mill River, Manhan River, Oxbow, City reservoir system and streams).

Cultural and Historical Areas

THE NORTHAMPTON STATE HOSPITAL

The Northampton State Hospital (NSH) and

its burial ground are on the National Register of Historic Places. The *Preservation Guidelines for Municipally Owned Historic Burial Grounds and Cemeteries* (Dept. of Environmental Management Historic Cemeteries Preservation Initiative, 2000) provides additional details on the NHS cemetery:

The *Northampton Lunatic Asylum* (1858) was the state's second state hospital. It was co-founded by Dorothea Dix, who led the reform movement for more humane treatment of the "insane." She found the mentally ill people were often chained or caged in basements and attics and beaten or otherwise mistreated. She successfully campaigned for state asylums with more humane methods (Brown 1998).

The NSH burial ground was in use from 1858 until 1921. At least 181 patients who were not claimed for burial were buried there. An additional 413 burials of state hospital patients are poorly

documented, and at least some of them were probably also buried on-site.

The cemetery location was described as “what used to be the hospital cemetery which borders on Mill River and runs up towards the spring in the back of the barn” (Superintendent’s Report, 1933). This matches the oral history from DMH groundskeepers.

The burial ground is accessed by dirt roads that run from Burts Pit Road to the Mill River. It is an open field with no gravestones, paths, entranceways, or fences indicating the locations of graves or the boundaries of the cemetery. It does contain a monument installed by the Northampton Historic Commission in 2017. There is also an unmarked gravestone in woods to the north of the field. A cobblestone-covered north-south mound marks the grave with a small upright gravestone at the south end that is flat on the north side but is not engraved. A bit to the west, another north-south cobblestone-covered mound that might also be a grave although it lacked a gravestone.

Archaeological reconnaissance of the site confirmed the burial ground’s location. Squarish soil deflations were found extending in two to three fairly straight, nearly north-south rows from the woods on the south edge of the field northerly along the top of the hill. Further, very distinctive squarish to rectangular patches of very green mound cover about one inch high were found where the taller straw-colored hay in the rest of the field did not grow. The long axis of the patches of low green vegetation extended roughly east to west, which is the traditional direction for Christian burials. Further, the patches were roughly formed rows running north-south as is typical in Christian cemeteries.

There is little indication of underground disturbance in the pattern of deflations and patches of low green vegetation, except that some vegetation patches were no longer or shorter than a typical adult burial would be. Historic tilling of the field may have caused some disturbance of the vegetation patches. A 1916 map labels the burial ground parcel as “Tillage” (Davis 1916). Alan Scott reported in 2000 that groundskeeper

Bud Warnock said he planted corn in the field c. 1943. Mr. Warnock had heard that the field was a cemetery from his father and uncle who were groundskeepers in the 1920s. Since the 1950s, the parcel has changed hands between various state departments and, at one point in the 1950s, was used for instruction in haying by the University of Massachusetts agricultural department.

HISTORIC NORTHAMPTON

Historic Northampton is a collection of 50,000 objects and three historic buildings. It is a repository of Northampton and Connecticut Valley history from the Pre-Contact era to the present. The three contiguous historic houses are on their original sites at the edge of downtown Northampton. The grounds are part of an original Northampton home lot laid out in 1654.

The **Damon House** (1813), built by architect, Isaac Damon, contains Historic Northampton’s administrative offices and a Federal era parlor, featuring Damon family furnishings and period artifacts. A modern structure, added in 1987, houses the museum and exhibition area. It features changing exhibits and a permanent installation, *A Place Called Paradise: The Making of Northampton, Massachusetts*, chronicling Northampton history.

The **Parsons House** (1730) affords an overview of Colonial domestic architecture with its interior walls exposed to reveal evolving structural and decorative changes over more than two and a half centuries.

The **Shepherd House** (1796) contains artifacts and furnishings from many generations, including exotic souvenirs from the turn-of-the-century travels of Thomas and Edith Shepherd and reflects one family’s changing tastes and values.

Historic Northampton’s collections attract historians and scholars of New England material culture from around the world. The museum’s collection includes more than 10,000 photographs, documents, and manuscripts from the 17th to the 20th centuries, fine art, furniture, ceramics, glass, metals, toys, tools and implements, and an important collection of textiles and costumes.

SMITH COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

The Smith College Museum of Art is housed in the spectacular and renovated (2003) Brown Fine Arts Center (designed by Polshek Partnership).

THE CALVIN COOLIDGE PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum documents the private life of Calvin Coolidge (1872-1933), beginning with his birth and formative years in Vermont, his student days at Amherst College, and his years as a lawyer in Northampton. Exhibits and manuscripts cover his political career from Northampton to Boston to the White House, his post-presidential years back in Northampton resident, and the life of Grace Goodhue Coolidge (1879-1957).

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern are places that receive special recognition because of the quality, uniqueness, and significance of their natural and cultural resources. They are community nominated and then designated by the Secretary of Environmental and Energy Affairs. There are no ACECs in Northampton.

Unusual Geologic Features

MOUNT HOLYOKE AND MOUNT TOM RANGES

Northampton's many special geologic features include: glacial outwash plains and deltas (i.e. sandplains/pitch pine habitats), drumlins, ravines, woodlands on glacial tills, and rocky uplands.

Mt. Holyoke/Mt. Tom Range, just outside of the city to the east and south help define the city and form the city's backdrop. They formed 200 million years ago when lava flowed from the valley floor, cooled, and was upended. More recently, glaciers left their signature, scouring the ridges' jagged edges smooth in some places, exposing bedrock, or depositing till, sand, clay, or muck in others. Since the early days, settlers used all but the sheerest inclines for woodlots and pastures. Now

mostly wooded, the ridge's steep slopes and east-west orientation create a number of forest types, including birch-beech-hemlock on the north side and oak-hickory on the south. Thickets, streams, ponds, and wetlands add to the diversity.

The Range runs east to west for 20 miles across the Connecticut River Valley, rising up to 900 feet from the valley floor. They are laced with hiking trails including the Metacomet-Monadnock Trail, which runs the length of the Range and is a National Recreational Trail. Mt. Holyoke borders Hadley, South Hadley, Amherst, Granby, and Belchertown to the east of the Connecticut River and rises again to the west of the river as Mt. Tom, bordering Northampton, Holyoke, and Easthampton. The Mt. Holyoke and Mt. Tom Range were named one of 10 'Last Chance Landscapes,' defined as natural wonders with pending threats and potential solutions by the National Scenic Organization (2000).

A MINERAL HISTORY

Turkey Hill Quarry has unique exposures of bedrock. The quarrying operations uncovered a glacially smoothed surface with folded metamorphic rocks intruded by Williamsburg Granodiorite, an igneous rock. Area geologists study this unusual natural feature and incorporate it into classroom teaching.

The Galena Mines section of Mineral Hills Conservation Area preserves historic Galena (a lead containing mineral) mine shafts that were used by local farmers until the mid-19th century when imported bullets replaced local mining.

Environmental Challenges

Northampton has many sensitive ecological resources, especially water resources (e.g., wetlands, streams, floodplain, and aquifers and watersheds). Some of the richest wildlife habitat is at some risk, and some surface water and wetland resources have been degraded, especially from new suburban development.

Over the past 60 years, our approach to the

environment, separation of combined sanitary and storm sewers, construction and expansion of the wastewater treatment plant and pretreatment facilities, lined landfills, wetlands regulations, erosion control standards, improved forest management practices, and our newer focus on reducing city and community energy uses and carbon dioxide emissions have all softened the impacts of development on ecological resources. Air pollution continues to present a local health hazard (especially summer ground level ozone).

Non-Point Source Pollution, Erosion and Sedimentation and Flooding

Non-point source pollution from contaminated runoff (e.g., stormwater that picks up contaminants from septic systems, soil erosion, roadway salt and sand, leaking underground storage tanks, agricultural runoff, and excessive lawn chemicals). Government and private actions have focused on reducing man-made pollutants, designing and

building to reduce the likelihood of picking up contaminants, and providing opportunity for removal of contaminants that enter stormwater, groundwater, and surface water.

Erosion occurs when soil is exposed to fast moving water and gets carried away by that water. The problem is especially acute from unprotected soil during construction and some agricultural operations. Sedimentation is when the speed of the water slows down and drops its sediment load, typically in lakes and slower water bodies.

Keeping storm drains that connect to our lakes, streams, and rivers clear of debris, minimizing lawn chemicals and roadway sand and salt, controlling soil erosion, enforcing city stormwater and erosion control ordinances, ensuring good septic system use and management, and educating residents about the issues and their role are all critical.

Stormwater, erosion and sedimentation are controlled through four coordinated regulatory programs:

UNIQUE AND SCENIC FEATURES IN NORTHAMPTON



- City stormwater permits for projects that will disturb one acre or more.
- Federal clean water act permits for projects that will disturb one acre or more or is within a water body or wetland.
- Wetlands permits for projects within 100' of a wetlands, 200' of a river, or on any floodplain.
- Planning Board site plan approval for any project over 2,000 square feet.

The City has approximately 4,000 acres of FEMA mapped floodplains with some of the strictest floodplain regulations in the state (no new buildings are allowed in most of the 500-year floodplain) property. These areas suffer from periodic flooding but at least such flooding is predictable using the FEMA maps. Other areas outside of the mapped floodplains have localized flooding from natural sources aggravated by obsolete infrastructure.

Hazardous Waste

Massachusetts General Law, C. 21E and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan regulations regulate the release and clean up of hazardous materials. Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) hire Licensed Site Professionals (LSPs) to oversee most cleanups, with limited DEP oversight. Releases, cleanup, tier classification, institutional controls (“activities and use limitations”) must be reported to DEP. DEP also has emergency response capability, ability to monitor sensitive projects, and audits both cleanups and AULs.

As a post-industrial city, Northampton has its share of historic releases of hazardous materials in various states of cleanup, monitoring, and institutional controls (AUL).

Solid Waste Sites

Northampton’s former regional solid waste landfill opened in 1969 and closed in 2013. The landfill is lined with a leachate collection system with a methane to electricity conversion system and solar photovoltaics on the closed landfill. The City has

aggressive recycling and composting programs.

Development Impacts

Much new development in Northampton is “smart growth,” reusing previously developed land within the historic core of Northampton with few environmental impacts. Suburban projects in undeveloped greenfields usually create more habitat and farmland loss, emit more carbon dioxide, generate more traffic, and consume more energy than urban infill projects.

Forestry Impacts

Northampton has few large scale forestry operations. More common small forest cutting projects support sustainable working landscapes with minimal environmental impacts. Some poor forestry operations, however, reduce wildlife habitat and lead to erosion and sedimentation.

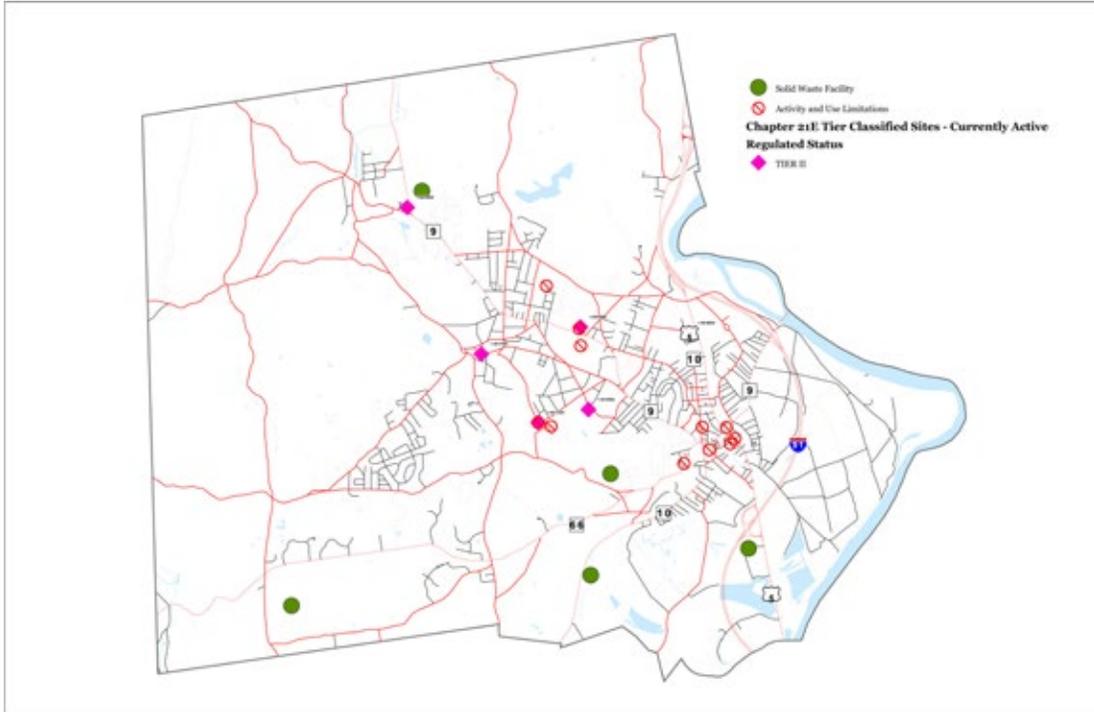
Environmental Equity

The City seeks equitable sharing of its open space and recreation resources by all populations, especially those that have historically been underserved (i.e., environmental justice populations). This issue is discussed and analyzed in detail in Chapter 3, Community Settings. The key finding is that Northampton has equitable sharing of open space and recreation resources, but additional recreation opportunities are necessary to serve diverse cultures with different sport backgrounds.

Unique Community Concerns

This plan was developed with extensive community participation, as described earlier. Urban neighborhoods needs must be addressed consistent with the City’s goal of making urban neighborhoods more desirable, and thus reducing pressure for suburban and rural development.

There was strong support for conserving farmland,



ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

tree-lined streets, significant open space parcels, access to water, community gardens, better access to the cemetery, and ensuring new development is well planned and has open space.

5 Conservation and Recreation Inventory

Northampton open space includes farms, forests, parks, recreation areas and multi-use trails under public, non-profit and private ownership and management. Open space provides wildlife and plant habitat, agricultural and forest products, watershed and groundwater protection, flood control, scenic landscapes, heritage resources, public access, and recreation.

Protected open space is planned to remain in perpetuity. The land can be owned by a land trust, city, state or federal conservation or recreation agency or by less-than fee conservation or agricultural restrictions or easements.

Conservation Restrictions (CRs) and Agriculture Preservation Restrictions (APRs) are legally binding agreements between a landowner and a public or non-profit holder. The landowner agrees to forfeit some or all development rights in the land to protect certain conservation and/or agricultural interests. Northampton's CRs and APRs all run in perpetuity.

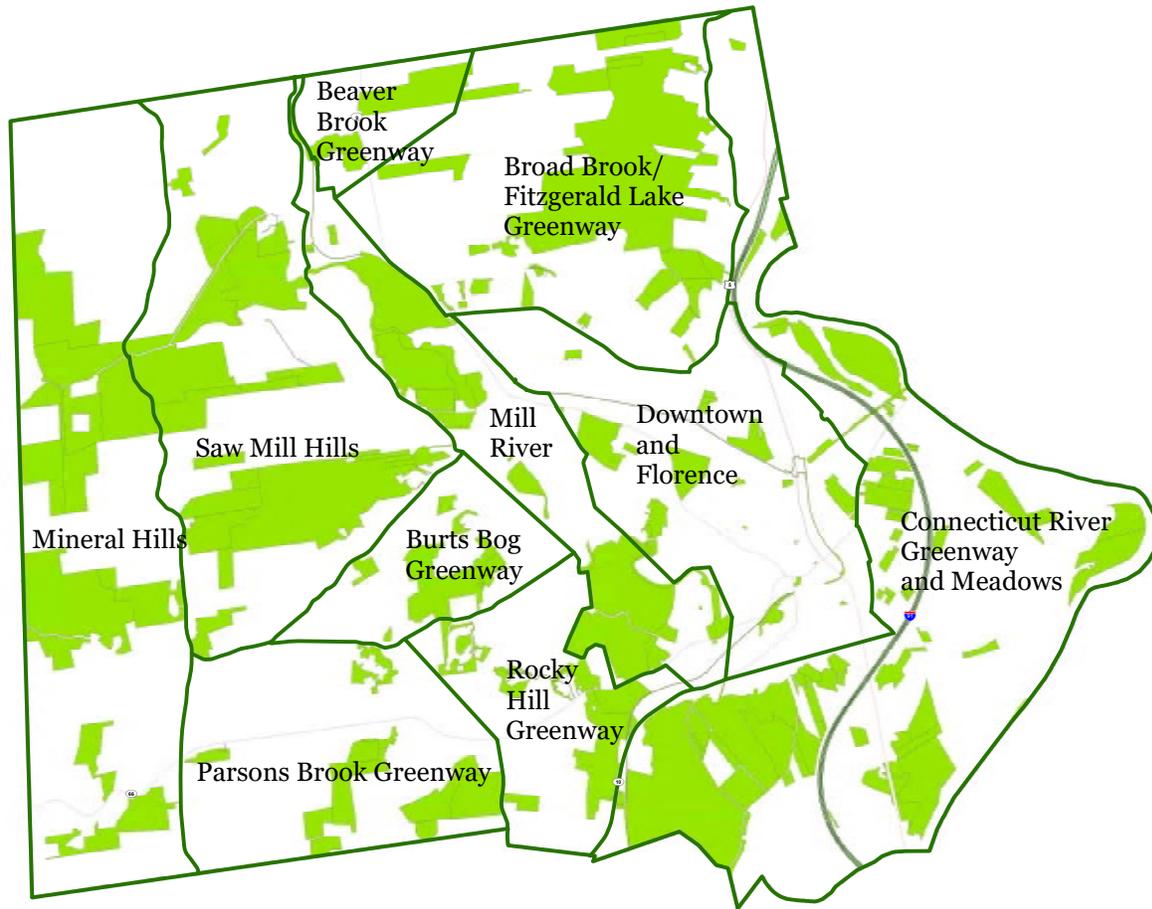
Land can only be removed from an APR, a conservation restriction, or city or state conservation or park control with a roll call by two thirds of the State Legislature (Article 97, Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution). The legislature has, however, voted to release this protection at the request of local communities for some school and public projects not related to resource protection.

Land owned by municipal water supply providers and other non-park, recreation commission, or

conservation commission agencies typically has some protection from development, but this protection is not permanent if there are no restrictions and the land was not purchased for park purposes (thereby subject to Article 97).

Unless there is a legal restriction attached to the deed or if the deed reads that the land was acquired expressly for water supply protection, the level of protection afforded these types of parcels varies. Often, the City would be required to show the Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Protection just cause for converting the use of the land.

Property owners can voluntarily enroll eligible land in the Massachusetts Chapter 61 current use taxation programs. "Chapter lands" offers landowners reduced property taxes in return for maintaining land in productive forestry (Chapter 61), agricultural (61A) or recreation (61B) for a period of time. Public benefits include conservation, recreation, forestry and farming. The City has a 120-day right of first refusal to purchase the land when Chapter land is proposed for conversion to non-Chapter use.



Type of Permanently Protected Open Space	Acres	% of City 2018
Agricultural	780	
Managed for ecological values (conservation and CRs)	4,008	
City Parks and Recreation	350	
Northampton Water Supply	493	
Northampton Parks and Recreation	350	
TOTAL	6,023	

Source: Northampton GIS

The total is less than the sum because of land in two categories

5.1: Permanently Protected

CR#	Grantor	Holder	Acres	Name/Comments
CR# 1	Smith College	Mass Audubon Society		Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary
CR# 2-8				Cancelled
CR#9	Mass Audubon Society	Pascommuck Cons. Trust Inc.	10.0	Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary
CR#10	Commonwealth MA (DAR)	City	37.0	Adjacent & part of APR
CR#11	Millbank II Condominium	City	0.9	Historic Mill River
CR#12	Lathrop Community, Inc.	Conservation Commission	13.5	Broad Brook/Boggy Meadow
CR#13	Gothic St Develop. Partners.	Recreation Commission	0.15	Common law easement
CR#14	Armand & Rosel LaPalme	City	88.0	Cancelled, (APR instead)
CR#15	Nancy Hughes	Conservation Commission	3.6	Broad Brook/Coles Meadow
CR#16	City of Northampton	Broad Brook Coalition	5.5	Braod Brook
CR#17	City of Northampton	Mass Audubon Society	38.0	LC 970010110
CR#18	City	Celico Partnership	11.7	
CR#19	Edward Sheldon III	Broad Brook Coalition	10.0	Recreation area
CR#20	Massachusetts (DCAM)	Conservation Commission	8.1	Meadows, Atwood Dr
CR#21	Elaine G. Boettcher	Conservation Commission	2.2	Protect wetland & wildlife
CR#22	City of Northampton	Mass Audubon Society	66.1	Meadows/Arcadia
CR#23	Schramm, Primm, Russin, Gray, & Peppard	Conservation Commission	23.0	Park Hill Rd, Parsons Brook, adjacent to APR
CR#24	Millbank II Condominium Trust	Conservation Commission	0.3	400' Mill River allow river restoration and trail
CR#25	Lathrop Community, Inc	Conservation Commission	11.2	Park Hill/Parsons Brook
CR#26	Sabra Partnership	Conservation Commission	3.1	Broad Brook/trail access
CR#27	TCB Hospital Hill, LLC	Conservation Commission	3.2	State Hospital/Village Hill
CR#28	Oak Ridge Road, LLC	Conservation Commission	38.0	The Oaks
CR#29	Joseph Kielec	Broad Brook Coalition		Sheldon Field addition
CR#30	Tofino Association, Inc.	Conservation Commission	10.3	Rocky Hill Cluster
CR#31	Seven Bravo Two, LLC	Conservation Commission	0.8	Conn. River, Airport
CR#32	Stephen & Heidi Robinson	Conservation Commission	4.5	Broad Brook/Coles Meadow Road
CR#33	Bridge Road, LLC	Recreation Commission/ Conservation Commission	4.6	Bear Hill subdivision
CR#34	Sweet Meadow Properties	Conservation Commission	1.3	Reservoir Road
CR#35	John & Diane Clapp	Conservation Commission	20.0	Mineral Hills/Chesterfield Road
CR#36	Patrick Melnick (Beaver Brook)	Conservation Commission	41.0	Beaver Brook
CR#37	Clarke School, Hinckley & James	Conservation Commission	0.4	Round Hill
CR#38	Miriam Clapp	Conservation Commission	57.9	Mineral Hills
CR#39	Benjamin G. James & Oona Mia Coy	Conservation Commission	1.8	Meadows/Venturers Field Road

CR#	Grantor	Holder	Acres	Name/Comments
CR#40	John & Diane Clapp	Conservation Commission	35.7	Mineral Hills
CR#41	John & Diane Clapp	Conservation Commission	11.1	Mineral Hill addition
CR#42	Jane Hill	Conservation Commission	9.8	Roberts Meadows
CR#43	Benjamin G. James & Oona Mia Coy	Conservation Commission	3.6	Meadows/Venturers Field Road
CR#44	Guyett & Anderson	Nonotuck/N'hampton BPW	168.4	Priority wildlife habitat
CR#45	Joseph & Kira Jewitt	Conservation Commission	5.6	Parsons Brook, Westhampton Rd
CR#46	Robert Zimmerman	Conservation Commission	36.0	Broad Brook/N. Farms
CR# 47	Conservation Commission	Kestrel Land Trust		Turkey Hill (Skibiski)
CR# 48	Moses Miller	Conservation Commission	0.6	Mill River, Leeds
CR# 49	Conservation Commission	Kestrel Land Trust	369	Saw Mill & Mineral Hills, Broad Brook Greenway, Mill River Greenway
CR# 50	Parsons Brook/Burke	Conservation Commission	19	Parsons Brook/Park Hill
CR#51	City of Northampton	Friends of Northampton Recreation	24	Florence Recreation Fields
CR#52	City of Northampton	Friends of Northampton Recreation	6.08	Connecticut River Greenway riverfront park
CR#53	City of Northampton	Meadows City Conservation Coalition	14.8	Montview Ave, Pomeroy Terrace, Damon Road
CR#54	City of Northampton	Mass. Audubon Society	49	Rocky Hill Greenway
CR#55	Dostal	City of Northampton	1.138	Parsons Brook, Westhampton Rd
CR# 56	City of Northampton	Kestrel Land Trust		Saw Mill Hills
CR# 57	Hampshire COG	City of Northampton		Main Street, Historic Courthouse Lawn
CR# 58	City of Northampton	Kestrel Land Trust		Beaver Brook/Broad Brook Greenway
CR# 59	Hospital Hill Development	City of Northampton		Morningside, Beech Tree and Oak Parks
CR# 60	City of Northampton	Kestrel Land Trust		Burts Bog
CR# 61	City of Northampton	Mass. Audubon Society		Rocky Hill Greenway - Goldfarb
CR# 62	City of Northampton	Mass. Audubon Society		Rocky Hill Greenway - O'Brien

Inventory of Permanent Open Space Summary (listed alphabetically) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See full entries below for details • Grants & funding in entries below • ALL have permanent protection; No additional protection needed. 	Use (public access on all EXCEPT private and water)	Owner & manager (if different)	Acres	Condition	Recreation potential	Zoning
408 Bridge Road	conservation	Cons. Com.	<1	good	poor	residential
64 Gothic Street	park	Private, Cons. Com. oversight	<1	good	poor	residential
Agnes Fox Playground	recreation	Rec. Com.	2	good	excellent	residential
Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary	conservation	Mass Audubon	47	good	fair	floodplain
Arcanum Field Recreation Area	recreation	Rec. Com.	9	good	fair	residential
Barrett St. Marsh Conservation Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	26	good	fair	FFR
Bear Hill Recreation Area	recreation	Rec. Com.	3	poor	excellent	residential
Beaver Brook Greenway	conservation	Cons. Com.	48	good	fair	FFR
Broad Brook/Fitzgerald Lake Greenway	conservation	Cons. Com.	746+	good	boating excellent	FFR
Brookwood Marsh	conservation	Cons. Com.	22	good	fair	FFR
Burts Pit Road CR	conservation	Private, Cons. Com oversight	2	good	poor	residential
Childs Park	park	Child's Park Association	40	excellent	fair	residential
Clarke School CR	conservation	Private, Cons. Com oversight	<1	excellent	poor	residential
Community Gardens	agriculture	Cons. Com.	8	good	fair	FFR
Connecticut River Greenway	conservation	Cons. Com.	142	good	excellent	FFR
David Musante Beach	recreation	Rec. Com.	11	good	excellent	residential
Edmund J. Lampron Memorial Park	park	City	1	good	excellent	residential
First Churches Park	park	City	<1	good	excellent	CBD
Florence Conservation Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	4	good	excellent	FFR
Florence Recreation Fields	recreation	Rec. Com.	24	poor	excellent	residential
Halligan and Daley Historic Site	park	Rec. Com.	<1	good	fair	PV
Hospital Hill CR	conservation	Smith College, Cons. Com. oversight	20	good	fair	FFR
Look Memorial Park	park	City	140	good	excellent	residential
Maines Field Recreation Area	recreation	Rec. Com.	21	poor	excellent	residential
Manhan Conservation Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	1	good	poor	FFR
Manhan Rail Trail	recreation	City	6	excellent	fair	residential
Marble Brook Conservation Restriction	conservation	Private, Cons. Com oversight	169	good	poor	FFR
Mary Browns Dingle	conservation	Cons. Com.	2	good	poor	FFR
Meadows Conservation Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	134	good	poor	FFR
Mill River Greenway	conservation	Cons. Com.	181	good	excellent	FFR
Mineral Hills Conservation Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	384	good	fair	FFR
Northampton State Hospital Agriculture Lands	agriculture	MA DAR	200	good	fair	FFR
Northampton Water Supply	water supply	City Water	505	good	fair	WSP

Inventory of Permanent Open Space Summary (listed alphabetically) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See full entries below for details • Grants & funding in entries below • ALL have permanent protection; No additional protection needed. 	Use (public access on all EXCEPT private and water)	Owner & manager (if different)	Acres	Condition	Recreation potential	Zoning
Norwottuck Rail Trail	recreation	City	25	excellent	fair	residential
Oaks Subdivision	conservation	Private, Cons. Com oversight	33	good	excellent	residential
Park Hill Road Restrictions (CR and APR)	agriculture	Private, Cons. Com oversight	262	good	poor	residential
Parsons Brook Conservation Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	28	good	fair	FFR
Pulaski Park	park	City	1	poor	excellent	CDB
Rainbow Beach	conservation	MA DFW	81	good	poor	floodplain
Rainbow Beach Cons Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	16	good	poor	floodplain
Ray Ellerbrook Recreation Field	recreation	Rec. Com.	14.4	good	fair	FFR
Ridge Conservation Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	36	good	excellent	FFR
Roberts Meadow Conservation Area	conservation	Private, Cons. Com oversight	22	good	poor	FFR
Rocky Hill Greenway (includes Ice Pond)	conservation	Cons. Com.	73	good	excellent for trail	FFR & BP
Sawmill Hills Conservation Area	conservation	Cons. Com.	564	good	excellent	FFR
Sheldon Field Recreation Area	recreation	Rec. Com.	13	poor	excellent	floodplain

A. Conservation & Agriculture—Public & Non-Profit

The lands in this section are as close to permanently protected as possible. Municipal and state fee and less than fee interests listed here all require, in accordance with Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, a two-thirds roll call vote of the state legislature. This section includes fee interests and less than fee interests held by federal, state, municipal, and non-profit conservation groups.

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

650 acres

Ownership: Massachusetts Audubon Society

Location: Connecticut River Ox-Bow

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
	B12, p44	45-67	
11/1/1966	B1497, p25	45-10	
9/13/1968	B1538, p277	52-01	
5/17/1974	B1772, p199	45-10; 45-63; 45-65 (bridle path)	
4/17/1979	B2091, p126	38D-75	
1/14/1982	B2260, p100	45-10	
4/13/1986	B1880, p241	38D-75	
6/23/1988	B3199, p238	38D-75	
4/13/1986	B1880, p241	38D-73	
Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/31/1987	B3114, p29	38D-77	
12/31/1987	B3114, p29	38D-70	
1/6/1988	B3316, p1	38D-70	
12/31/1987	B3114, p29	45-10	
1/23/2004	B7662, p85	From Mitchell G. Watras, Jr for \$218,725	

Description:

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary has varied habitats, wetlands, and the last mile of the Mill River before it connects with the Connecticut River Oxbow. Arcadia offers environmental education, hiking (five+ miles of trails). It receives heavy use throughout the year. The former Easthampton Trolley Line was donated by Smith College to Mass. Audubon and is now part of Arcadia (Conservation Restriction on trolley line merged with fee ownership). Conservation Restriction on Map ID 38D, Parcel 70 held by Pascommuck Conservation Trust).

Barrett Street Marsh

24.7 acres

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission

Location: Barrett St. & bicycle path

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/21/1976	B1939, p321	Transfer from City	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/29/1978	B2075, p28	Private donations	
2/8/1990	B3518, p204 & 206	Land swap	
2/8/1990	PB165, p70		
12/31/1993	PB176, p133		
2/9/1994	B4420, p243	Donation in settlement of lawsuit of Carlon Dr.	4.978
2/10/1998	B5309, p206	Right of Way Easement from Carlon Dr.	

Permit history:

Date	Permit History
1990/1991	Walkway permits (wetlands & building)
	Wetlands 246-114, Stop & Shop's responsibility to clean up trash

Partners: Formerly Barrett Brook Advisory Committee, currently none.

Description:

This meadow and wetland serve as important stormwater detention and filtration facilities, provides wildlife habitat, and provides nature viewing in an urban environment. The site is surrounded by heavily developed residential and commercial properties. A city drainage easement runs through the site. The area includes a right-of-way from Carlon Drive.

A 600-foot (375' Trap Rock Gravel/stone dust & 200' wooden boardwalk completed in 1992) wheelchair accessible walkway extends from the bikeway into the marsh. The Commission, Smith Vocational School, and volunteers built the boardwalk. The Jackson Street Parent Teacher Organization and the Community Development Block Grant provided the materials.

The City manages the property to allow beaver activity while preventing flooding. Beaver deceiver pipes have been installed on several successive beaver dams, the most recent in 2010 (CPA funding).

History: Barrett Street Marsh was originally part of a larger wetland system. In the early nineteenth century it was used for agricultural purposes. Ditches were put in place to dewater the marsh. In 1905 Northampton sewer commissioners diverted the flow of King Street Brook away from "the mouth of the State Street River." The Brook was diverted into what is known today as Barrett Street Marsh.

The history of the Barrett Street Marsh is well documented and shows that the entire area has been highly altered since the early 1800s, when transportation corridors began to be established nearby and development spread northward from the center of Northampton. The area now known as the Barrett Street Marsh was originally part of a much larger wetland system that extended to the east, having been severed from the larger system by development. Reportedly, the Barrett Street Marsh was used as agricultural land from the early 19th century, having been dewatered by a system of drainage ditches that were dug throughout the low-lying area.

The Hampshire and Hampden Canal (reorganized as the New Haven and Northampton Canal) was built through the Barrett Street Marsh (1829-1847). The canal changed the area drainage patterns and gave Northampton a permanent liability to maintain the waterway (something that does not happen from a natural flowing stream). This led to a lawsuit against the City for lack of maintenance over 180 years after the canal was abandoned (referred to in liability circles as a long liability tail). Human-built drainage was developed on the site to allow much of the site to be used as farmland. Portions of the site were farmed until the early to mid 1960s.



Hampshire and Hampden Canal at Barrett Street Marsh

The main flowage into the marsh is a perennial stream known as King Street Brook that consists of drainage from the Round Hill/Prospect Street area. The brook enters the southern-most point of the marsh, through a culvert under the bike trail that runs along an abandoned railroad embankment. Until the early 1900s, King Street Brook did not flow into the Barrett Street Marsh but instead flowed in a more southeasterly direction

towards State Street and the center of Northampton. As recorded at the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds (Book 596, Page 375), in 1905 the Northampton Sewer Commissioners voted to divert the flow of King Street Brook away from “the mouth of the State Street sewer,” for the purposes of “public health and convenience”. The brook was to be diverted to the “center of an old ditch” which then existed northeast of the railroad embankment and presumably ran through what is now known as the Barrett Street marsh. The City proceeded with the taking of a strip of land almost 1,800 feet long and 15 to 25 feet in width to encompass the old ditch and hence the brook along its diverted course to the Connecticut River. The ditch was thereafter known as the King Street Brook Diversion. Also in 1905, the City was granted an easement from the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad Company to construct “a box culvert four feet deep by four feet wide suitable for carrying through the waters now running in King Street Brook, so-called” (HCRD, Bk 597, pg 202), which is the now-existing culvert under the bike trail.

The character of the King Street Brook Diversion was thus established almost one hundred years ago. The configuration of the ditches within the Barrett Street Marsh at the time of the diversion is not known. Anecdotal information indicates that the marsh area was used for agricultural purposes into at least the 1970s. Aerial photographs from the 1960s and ‘70s clearly show the ongoing agricultural use and the diversion channel in its original (1905) location with a geometric array of ditches leading to the diversion from many areas of the marsh. In a photograph taken on April 20, 1971, the water within the diversion appears to be 8-10 feet in width, and the most upgradient half of the diversion channel within Barrett Street marsh appears to have been recently maintained prior to the photograph being taken.

Coincident with the advent of restrictive environmental regulations and changing attitudes regarding the value of wetland areas, maintenance of the diversion channel and system of ditches waned in the 1970s, and use of the land for agriculture altogether ceased over twenty years ago. The date of the last maintenance dredging of the King Street Brook Diversion is not known. While records of ditch construction and effectiveness are not available, considerable evolution of the marsh’s hydrology has taken place in the recent past since the ditches were last maintained.

Broad Brook-Fitzgerald Lake Greenway

1,055 acres

Includes Beaver Brook and all related Conservation Restrictions

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission (land under CR is privately owned)

Location: N. Farms Rd, Coles Meadow Rd, Morningside Dr., Marian St, Boggy Meadow Rd, Haydenville Rd (Rt 9).

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
5/20/1977	B1951, p261	Fitzgerald Lake: Self-help (\$72,825) & City (\$72,826), Land & Water Conservation Fund covenants in 1993	152
	B1993, p11	R-O-W to dam (NO longer valid)	
3/13/1989	B3344, p284	Dorothy Burke donation- N. Farms Rd	
5/8/1990	B3557, p148; PB166, p52	Pines Edge: comprehensive permit cluster donation	15.89
3/25/1991	B3696, p9	CR, Lathrop (permit condition)	14
1/28/1993	B4138, p271	Richard Abuza bargain sale: Bargain discount (\$33,200), Land & Water (\$37,500) & City (\$5,000)	86
6/10/1993	B4223, p145	John A. Cimek: City (\$25,000), BBC (\$5,250) w/Land & Water Conservation Fund covenants	38
10/13/1994	B4570, p294, 298, 300, 302	New England Telephone release, donation	
11/30/1994	B4595, P134	Cooke's Pasture: City (\$39,540), self-help (\$112,200), BBC (\$26,000), Wharton Trust (\$5,000) & Sweet Water Trust (\$10,000). Commonwealth Land Title w/City Clerk	161.1
12/18/1994	B2521, p1	Marian St: self-help w/34% match from neighbors	11.85
12/4/1995	B4785, p150	Conservation easement, Anciporch (held by USFS)	36
12/20/1995	B4796, p38	Wharburton: purchase	5.5
2/9/1996	B4822, p184 PB179, p98	Nancy Hughes: donation required by cluster. Lawers Title Insurance Corp policy 136-00-110653 w/City Clerk	8.876
2/20/1996	B4826, p170	Conservation Restriction to BBC. Commonwealth Land Title insurance on underlying title 165-686836 on file with City Clerk	
5/9/1996	B4880, p192 & 203 PB179, p235	Nancy Hughes CR, required by cluster special permit	3.481
4/30/1998	B5360, p15	Swayze: Broad Brook Coalition (\$2,000); Wharton Trust (\$6,000) & City (closing costs),. First American Title insurance 20301162, w/City Clerk	10
12/19/2000	B6090, p202	Helen Kabat donation north of lake	17
1/15/2001	B6100, p313 & 320	Finn, "friendly" taking, City (\$2,000), BBC (\$10,000)	15
1/22/2001	Land Court B18, p107	Paasch Flag Lot, donation required by flag lot permit; & temporary right-of-way to Coles Meadow Rd	3.074
6/19/2001	B6250, p72	Vaughn, "friendly" taking, BBC (\$15,000)	17
	Land Court B17, p208	Mortgage release	
	Land Court B18, p107		
11/27/2002	B6908, p173	Stoddard family donation, friendly taking	7.5
3/17/2003	B7097, p156	Confirmatory deed donation from Anita Stoddard Packar, Laurence Stoddard, George Barrett, Ruth B. Drury, Peter Hehey, Jason Charlton, & Monica Doyle Lynch; BBC (\$500)	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
6/10/2003	B7253, p94	Sabra Pedestrian Easement ROW & CR	3
8/22/2003	B7407, p172 (and p201)	Conservation Restriction (and related mortgage subordination) as special permit condition	
10/5/2004	B8013, p326	Morin purchase, BBC (\$3,560), City (\$1,040)	5.75
2/4/2005	B8155, p50 and p56 PB152, p36	Lathrop, boundary line agreement (and partial bank release)	
5/18/2005	Decision B8181, p292;B205, p11;Eminent Domain Order of Taking B8265, p80	Michalski/Stewart section (\$17,000 of which \$15,000 from Broad Brook Coalition-- all to pay off back taxes)	33.5
1/4/2006	B8579, p1 PB208, p91	CR #32, Robinson donation for waived right-of-first-refusal	8.54
11/6/2006	B8953, p349	Bereska Taking, ID 2-12	8.1
12/4/2006	B8967, p324	Confirmatory deed	
8/28/2006	B8854, p77	Unknown/Porter section, eminent domain of tax title	8.8
	B8688, p315B8688, p320	Private William Adams Memorial	
6/29/2007	B9035, p312B9182, p5	Dryzgula friendly taking, north of lake	3.6
1/17/2008	B9383, p58	Sullivan purchase (\$103,000 in back taxes)	3.9
9/9/2009	B9961, p111 (deed) B9948, p228 (permits) PB221, p77	N. King Street (was part of 360 N. King) (\$75,000: \$20,000 CPA & \$10,000 BBC) Special Permit and Survey First American Title insurance policy, 5600050443	12.08
	B9182, p5	Laverdiere confirmatory deed	
1/27/2010	B10085, p232 (deed) B10085, p239 (agreement)	Beaver Brook: McLoughlin, Watson, Culver(s) (\$550,000: \$364,000 LAND, \$10,000 BBC & \$364,000 CPA w/soft costs)--First American Title MAEOe-560057116 AND #5011400-0123453e Beaver Brook: LAND Agreement and conditions	102
9/26/2013	B11476, p237 (agreement)	Beaver Brook: USF&WS NAWCA notice of grant	
6/30/2010	B10221, p100	Zimmerman CR (\$18,000 CPA)	36
7/12/2010	B10230, p205	Humphreys Morningside Dr. deed restriction only: used as trade land for 2012 Sullivan purchase.	0.5
12/09/2011	B10745, p134		
12/09/2011	B10745, p128	Sullivan purchase, Morningside Drive	1.0
2/15/2012	B10813, p1	Forest Legacy/Laizer-subject to USFS forest legacy conservation easement (\$13,000 CPA + \$7,000 BBC)	36
3/3/2011	B10493, p304 PB224, p81	Girl Scouts (I) (\$23,000, \$20,000 CPA and \$4,000 BBC with soft costs). Girl Scouts retain easement for environmental education.	23
3/13/2012	B10839, p254 PB226, p66	Girl Scouts (II) (\$13,000 CPA, \$4,000 BBC). Girl Scouts reserve easement for environmental education. City reserves the right to grant right of way and timber easement to Smith Vocational and Agriculture School.	17

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
7/23/2012	B10983, p43	Sullivan purchase: tax title redemption (1 acre)	
2/25/2013	PB229, p6 (excluded land)	Broad Brook Gap/Kubosiak (total: \$496,628. LAND, CPA, \$14,000 BBC). Cross access easements CATIC owners Title Insurance Policy/certificate of title USFWS NAWCA Notice of Grant Requirements	81
	B11228, p282 (deed)		
	B11228, p295 (agreement)		
	CATIC OP 03259656 MA		
12/09/2013	B11539 p298		
10/7/2013	B11488, p202 (deed)	Rothenberg-Wolpine (\$10,800 purchase plus soft costs-\$3,000 BBC & \$11,000 CPA)	9
3/24/2014	B11604, p230 (affidavit)	18 acres (\$24,000, \$4,000 BBC, remainder CPA)	18
	B11604, p240 (taking- 5 A)	Gleason 5 acres (was Map ID 7-21 N. Farms Rd)	
	B11604, p247 (release- 5 A)	Gleason 5 acres (was Map ID 7-21 N. Farms Rd)	
	B11604, p255 (taking-12 A)	Gleason 13 acres (was Map ID 8-47, N. Farms Rd)	
	B11604, p262 (release-12 A)	Gleason 13 acres (was Map ID 8-47, N. Farms Rd)	
12/29/2014	B11838, p255	McKown purchase	12.1
6/12/2015	PB234, p71	Survey-- Derouin	25.0
8/03/2015	B12024, p342	Derouin deed (was portion 17B-003)	
8/14/2015	B12036, p208	Vollinger (\$21,400=\$4,300 BBC, \$17,100 CPA)	17.76
11/27/2013	PB231, p17 & 18	Vollinger survey	
8/20/2015	B235, p15	Broad Brook Greenway-- survey entire area	
1/30/2017	B12540, p265	Randall purchase	20
	PB240, p5	Randall purchase survey	
9/25/2017	B12756, p100	Rakhmanov, North Farms Road	0.5

Partners: Memorandum of Agreement w/Broad Brook Coalition (BBC) for joint management (last amended 2010). BBC conducts routine maintenance of conservation area, including boardwalk maintenance, trail maintenance, & dam brush clearance.

Permits: **Wetlands:** 246-224 (trails & dam, expired with maintenance allowed); 246-149 (road, certificate issued); 246-322 (accessible trail and parking lot); 246-325 (herbicide on dam); Cookes Pasture (expired).

Trails: Lake Trail, Hillside Trail, Old Telephone Line Trail, Boggy Meadow Rd, Cooke's Pasture Trail, Marian St Trail, & Halfway Brook Trail

Improvements: Parking lot & paved trail from parking lot to Broad Brook completed in 1996 for \$19,977 (\$3,500 from MA Lakes & Ponds Grant; \$16,477 from CDBG Handicap Access)

Dam: Dam & access road to dam reconstructed in 1999 for \$305,967 (\$199,288 state self-help funds & \$136,000 City funds). Last dam inspection report 11.2013.

- Public Info:** Fitzgerald Lake Conservation sign and other information have been installed at North Farms Rd and Cook Ave. Self-guided nature trail brochures are available at trail off of North Farms Rd.
- Wildlife:** Otter & extensive number of turtles have been seen in lake. There is large amount of beaver activity in northern and eastern sections of conservation area. Great blue herons & winter wrens rely on site for critical habitat. Several rare species have been identified in wetlands bordering Lake & in Cookes Pasture. Elderberry Longhorn, or Elder Borer (*Desmocerus palliates*, large, showy, black & yellow beetle) and Wood Turtle (*Clemmys insculpta*) are two of state-listed species that have been identified at FLCA. Several vernal pools exist in conservation area.
- ESA:** Phase I ES at Beaver Brook by O'Reilly Talbot and Okun, with witnessing of removal of oil tank. No problems. The seller demolished two homes on the property prior to the City taking title.

The 40-acre Fitzgerald Lake, created by an earthen dam that dams Broad Brook. It is surrounded by pine, hemlock, hardwood forest uplands, wooded wetlands, and meadows. Its wet and rocky setting offers excellent hiking trails, nature study, fishing, canoeing, and skating. It is one of the most diverse and richest ecological resources in Northampton, with rare plant and animal species.

The Beaver Brook/Broad Brook section includes Broad Brook along Route 9 on the west side of the property and the headwaters of Broad Brook on the east side. The Forest Stewardship Plan (prepared 2010) included in the management plan section of this plan provides more detail on the property.

A wheelchair accessible path from the parking lot to Fitzgerald Lake (120 feet of asphalt path, 360 feet of boardwalk, 60 feet of gravel, and a boardwalk dock/platform) was installed in 1993.

The Fitzgerald Lake Dam is classified as a low hazard dam, The City reconstructed the dam spillway in 1998.

The former telephone right-of-way on the property, (quitclaimed in 1994) is now a trail.

The Lathrop Conservation Restriction (no public access) protects sensitive stream and riparian environments.

The Robinson CR preserves Hatfield's water supply and Fitzgerald Lake area wildlife habitat. The parcel is landlocked, but the CR grants the City a right for defined walking trails on the property if the City ever acquires rights for a trail to the edge of the property.

The Anciporch property on the east side of Boggy Meadow is owned by the city with a conservation easement held by the USFS. This parcel is outside of the Broad Brook watershed but contains the headwaters of a stream that has caused serious flooding in the past and contains a large productive wetland.

The Zimmerman CR is on the west side of Broad Brook and does not include public access.

The Broad Brook Gap/Kubosiak parcel, "supports seven different habitat types, including one of the most unusual swamp forests in Northampton, a marsh that contains a small great blue heron rookery, and some of the best black bear habitat in the Commonwealth. In addition, it includes a stretch of Broad Brook that is immediately upstream from known habitat for three state-listed freshwater mussels, including the Federally Endangered Dwarf Wedgemussel." (Laurie Sanders)

The Conservation Commission approved Broad Brook Coalition's Management Plan and a Memorandum of Understanding by which BBC carries out day-to-day management. (see www.Northamptonma.gov/plan).

A Forest Stewardship Plan for the 102.4 acre Beaver Brook/Broad Brook Greenway was completed in 2012 by Michael Mauri, identifies a large wetlands complex adjacent to Route 9/Haydenville Road, the headwaters of Broad Brook, and significant stands of mature red oak and affiliated hardwoods, hemlock in the eastern section, and a mix of white pine, hemlock, and black locust in the western section. Because of the stream and wetlands, there is no realistic access to most of the forest from Haydenville Road. The area was farmed until approximately WWII, and barbed wire fences and stone walls occur throughout the property. Two dilapidated farmhouses along Route 9 were torn down just prior to purchase. The area adjacent to the road is dominated by non-native invasive species, black locust, Japanese Knotweed and bittersweet. The full plan is available at www.Northamptonmag.gov/plan, under public file cabinet).

Burts Bog Greenway

28.3 acres

Ownership: City care and custody of Conservation Commission

Early Broad Brook Conservation

David Dill, Jr. (BBC Newsletter, Spring 1994)

By early 1684, 30 years after the founding of Northampton, the growing shortage of forest products was becoming a crisis. There was squabbling over the use of forest land in common areas outside the town center where almost everyone lived. Homes, many with two fireplaces, required a great cordage of wood for cooking and heating, and there was increasing demand for turpentine and fence poles. Up to then, settlers had been free to cut wood and tap pines on common land two or three miles away. Probably the most accessible supply came from the dense hardwood and white pine of the Broad Brook drainage area.

First, the town hired surveyors to lay out major subdivisions of the common lands. In 1685 the Broad Brook was surveyed and became the boundary between the Inner Commons and the outlying Long Division. Conservation measures followed; by 1698, cutting down trees under nine inches was punishable by fines - half of which went to informers.

Two years later the town banned the barking, boxing or bleeding of any pine within three miles of the meeting

Calamity at Broad Brook

extracted from article by David B. Dill, Jr. (BBC Newsletter, Spring 1997)

January 7, 1780, four Northampton hunters, Seth Lyman, Sr., Major Jonathan Allen, John King, and Daniel Pomeroy, rode out from the Center, snowshoes tied to their saddles, with nothing more than the expectation of bringing home a side of venison for the family table.

The men turned off the Hourse Mountain Road at Broad Brook, tied up their mounts, and on snowshoes plunged into the swamp (now under Fitzgerald Lake), an environment well known for its abundance of deer. Snow lay three feet deep, favorable for deer hunting, but visibility worsened as snow fell steadily. A shot rang out. King and Pomeroy hustled over to find Seth Lyman standing over the mortally wounded major, the accidental victim of Lyman's musket ball.

One of the men rode posthaste to the Center, where the news, of course, created a great excitement. Many townspeople arrived in sleighs to watch as the rescuers brought out the dying major in a litter and loaded him in a sled for the ride to his home. Feelings continued to run high in town, for Major Allen was highly regarded as decorated veteran of the Revolution and now as a first class finishing carpenter. Some suspected Seth Lyman shot Allen deliberately, out of bad feeling, but he was acquitted in the April term of the Supreme Court.

Broad Brook Greenway Cultural History (adopted from Peter Rowe)

The use and distribution of the lands purchased from the Nonotuck natives in 1654 were among the first concerns of the early Northampton settlers. Home lots were chosen freely to afford easy access to the principal attraction of the settlement: the fertile meadows along the Connecticut River. These were divided according to the size and wealth of the family. The uplands, including the Broad Brook watershed, apparently were undistributed and were known as “the commons,” whereby individuals had proprietary rights to use the land as they needed.

Following conflicts over shortages of forest products, the unclaimed land was surveyed and divided into two major subdivisions in 1684 Broad Brook became part of the northern boundary between the Inner Commons (for crops and pasture) and the outlying upland Long Division (mostly woodlots). Over the years, as the fertility of the meadows deteriorated and a wheat rust reduced the grain yield, some upland holdings were awarded to Proprietors in lieu of lands in meadows, or to newcomers. The remaining undivided commons and the “pine lands” were either pasture ground or restricted woodlots.

Dissatisfaction with the original distribution of lands flared up from time to time, with the proprietors calling for legal help from Connecticut in 1715. The source of discontent was chiefly the inequality of land holdings and the fact that individual plots were scattered around town making for a more laborious and inefficient farming system. Gradually claims were consolidated and the town surrendered its rights to the lands to individual Proprietors.

By 1728, Colonel Timothy Dwight had acquired most of the 350 acres of land north of Bridge Road. Dwellings were on Bridge Road (#340 today) and there was a sawmill on Broad Brook behind Fortification Hill. Various owners followed and in 1935, it became the Harold K. Fitzgerald farm. On land near our North Farms parking area a recreation hall was built where dances were held in the 1950s for the workers at the Corticelli Silk Mill.

In 1965, preparatory to a planned single-family home condominium housing project, he constructed a dam on Broad Brook, creating the 40-acre lake. A neighborhood group formed in opposition to development in the area, led by Frank Olbris, who called the group the Broad Brook Coalition. Mr. Fitzgerald abandoned the project after wetlands restrictions proved too burdensome.

In 1977 Mr. Fitzgerald sold the northerly 152 acres of his land, including the lake, to the City for \$145,651.

Cooke’s Pasture consists of parcels consolidated into a farm by Dr. Edward E. Denniston in 1859. He had attached to his medical practice a hydropathic institute on grounds now occupied by the Cooley Dickinson Hospital. To provide his patients with a good diet, he added to his kitchen garden the eight parcels of land he called “Broad Brook Pasture.” Dr. Denniston cleared the land, built a causeway across Broad Brook, and erected a barn to house chickens and turkeys. Part of the cellar wall of that barn still can be seen 450 feet north of the old bridge.

After 1885, the farm was owned and operated by Francis Cooke and his sons, who gave it the name “Broad Brook Farm;” the farm was sold in 1927 to John Pollard. The Pollard dairy cows and barns were located on Jackson Street, and only beef cattle were kept out on Cooke’s Pasture, with a cattle-holding pen just inside the gate on Boggy Meadow Road.

In the 1950s Cooke’s Pasture was cleared, with wet fringes around the open field. At the edges were stands of white pine and red maple. In the late 1960’s the cattle operations ceased. In 1987, the Pollard family sold the land to the Northampton Land Partnership who planned a housing development. In 1994 the City, with the help of Broad Brook Coalition, purchased 147.5 acres of Cooke’s Pasture for conservation land.

The land along Boggy Meadow Road saw a variety of activities: during World War II, there were field maneuvers by National Guard units from Springfield on Cooke’s Pasture and there are remains of old trenches; there was once a Boy Scout camping ground in a grassy area off Boggy Meadow Road. In the 1950’s, the Mondegas Park recreation hall was established by the Corticelli Silk business for its workers on land near where a saw mill had once operated

Location: Ellington Rd, Crestview Dr, Sandy Hill Rd, Brookwood Dr., Indian Hill, & Florence Rd

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
3/21/1990	B3536, p85 & 95	Deed for Brookwood Marsh (for abatement of back taxes)	15
9/12/1986	PB141, p18	Indian Hill survey	7.065
3/22/1990	B3535, p234	Indian Hill deed (via donation cluster project)	
7/25/1994	B4521, p248 B4521, p259 B4531, p302 B4539, p153	Deed for Brookwood Marsh, Gutowski donation	5
1992	B3994, p162	Waterline easement for Brookwood Marsh	
11/14/2014	B11801, p238	Virginia Hayseen donation	1.288
	B p PB239, p59	Deed for 2017 Burts Bog purchase Burts Bog Survey	114.76
10/26/2017	B12785, p256	Release from Stone Ridge Pond covenants	

This parcel provides critical wetland habitat and filtration of pollutants. It also protects the City’s drinking water aquifer (Zone III) and rich beaver activity.

Burt’s Pit: The Gutowski’s donated rich wetlands and the original “Burt’s Pit,” formerly owned by the Northampton State Hospital and used for mining peat and other organic material for their gardens.

Brookwood Marsh: Norman Keedy d/b/a KV Homes was developing the land at the time the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act passed, when his development was shut down by the City. In 1990, the City acquired the 16 acre Brookwood Marsh, with a deed in lieu of foreclosure for back taxes, to preserve and restore critical wetlands habitat. A portion of the land was filled in the 1970s when Ellington and Crestview were built, prior to the adoption of the MA-WPA. In 2001, the City restored an acre of wetlands by removal of fill material and relocating a beaver dam further away from the surrounding residential homes. In 2005, the city released 16,000 Galerucella beetles in the northern section of the marsh to control invasive non-native and low wildlife value Purple loosestrife. In 2014 the protected area was expanded with Virginia Hayseen’s donation.

Indian Hill: contains an attractive stream and protects the City’s drinking water aquifer Zone 3.

Mary Brown’s Dingle

1.56 acres

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission

Location: Glendale Ave, between Franklin St & Crescent St

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
11/17/1983	B2407, p270	Donation from Mary Brown	1.56

Partners: None

Description:

This area serves as a natural open space and bird habitat in a residential neighborhood. A City storm sewer easement runs through the middle of this area. Some fill from abutting properties has altered this area.

Childs Park

40 acres

Ownership: Childs Park Foundation, Inc.

Location: Between Elm Street, North Elm Street, Woodlawn, and Prospect

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
10/5/1952	B1103, p147	Estate of Annie H. Childs	40

Donated through the will of Annie H. Childs, to remain forever “as a public park and a place of rest and quiet recreation.”

Clark Street Well/Aquifer Area

8.18 acres

Ownership: City, Department of Public Works (water supply area)

Connecticut River Greenway (includes CR) 142 acres

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission (primarily)

City/Recreation Commission (6.08 acres at riverfront park)

CR owned by City, land is private (part of airport)

Location: Hatfield Rd, Damon Rd and River Road, Connecticut River

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
4/30/1981	B2220, p339 PB234, p14	James H. Elwell section: Deed (\$65,350; LAND \$52,280; & LWCF \$6,500) Survey	100
7/5/2005	B8332, p130 B8332, p148 B8332, p162 PB29 & 204, p83	Boundary line agreement Seven Bravo Two CR on Ct. River Subordination agreement	3.82
4/01/2011	PB224, p97 B10516, p307	Survey Ct River Greenway at Hatfield town line 50% interest in land on Hatfield/Northampton town line (\$8,000 CPA, \$4,000 from donations)	20
11/5/2012	B11105, p274	Hatfield Road expansion	6.5
5/31/2013	PB229, p40 B11332, p214 B11930, p1	Survey Connecticut River Greenway riverfront park Deed to Conservation Commission (Lane donation) Conservation Restriction (CR#53)	4.97

Signage: Land & Water Conservation Fund sign at Damon Road

Partners: Expired Memorandum of Agreement with DCR for joint management at Elwell

Description: Seven Bravo Two CR: abuts the Connecticut River and the CR allows a dock.

Elwell: 60-acre Elwell Island and 40 acres of adjacent riverfront land. The island provides habitat for endangered floodplain plants and animals. The eastern edge of the island has a beach and is heavily used by motor boaters (with some unauthorized camping). A local farmer, in accordance with a Farm Use License, utilizes approximately 15.5 acres of prime farmland on the mainland. The farmland has been organic since 2006. This property is managed in cooperation with the Department of Conservation and Recreation with a joint management agreement in conjunction with the adjacent Greenways State Park.

Elwell Island has been growing from river sedimentation (accretion) at a faster rate than it has been eroding for over a century. According to the Daily Hampshire Gazette (7/24/1980), “In the early 1780s, what now is Elwell Island was nothing more than a sandbar. Then, in 1830, Levi Elwell...plant[ed] rocks and willow shoots on the sandbar... By 1904, the sandbar had grown to an island of 24 acres, and Levi’s grandson, James Elwell, began farming the island, using a cable ferry to get his crops and equipment back and forth to the mainland.”

In 1982, scientists estimated that the island grew 9.7’ to 18.2’ per year from 1884 to 1939 and 12.3’ per year from 1939 to 1977. The island is now larger than its official 60 acres. New layers of silt are added each year, creating an extremely lush interior, but one in which trees have a difficult time colonizing.

Hatfield: The Greenway also includes a 50% interest in land recently acquired on the Northampton/Hatfield town line. The city is currently working on acquiring the remaining 50% interest.

The two existing Greenway holdings will eventually be the anchor for a Connecticut River Greenway rail trail extending from Damon Road to Elm Court in Hatfield.

Greenway Park: Lane Construction donated the land along the river in two parts, part to conservation and part to recreation which now includes the community boathouse.

Conte Fish & Wildlife National Refuge

230.38 acres

Ownership: USA, managed by USF&W

Location: Hockanum Rd, Mt. Tom Rd/Route 5

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
11/28/2006	B8961, p348	Parcel 4 (Hockanum Rd), donation from Joseph M. McNerney	19.52
2008	B9429, p236	Taking to City, donation	
11/16/2006		Site assessment by OTO	
6/19/2008	B9518, p66	Deed to USA (\$25,000)	
10/19/2007	B9299, p242	Parcel 19B.1 (Hockanum Rd), includes 16.0 acres transfer from City to Valley Land Fund (\$25,000)	197
	B5738, p221	Sheldon CR to Broad Brook Coalition	
8/17/2007	B9238, p229	Parcel 4a, taking to City (\$13,860)	13.86
6/19/2008	B9518, p62	Deed to USA (\$19,000)	
10/8/2008	B9615, p174	Parcel 4b (\$9,000)	
10/9/2008	B9616, p97	Confirmatory deed from Wodicka (\$9,000)	
		Eventual sale to USA Conte expected in 2009	

Description:

The Mill River fueled manufacturing during the industrial revolution. In 1936 and 1938, back-to-back floods turned the city streets into canals and caused a large amount of water damage. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers took on a major flood control project from 1939 to 1940, cutting off the flow of the Mill River through downtown.

Florence Conservation Area**4.9 acres****Ownership:** City/Conservation Commission**Location:** Garfield Ave.

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/15/2005	B8557, p106	Montgomery friendly taking	
3/1/2006	B8632, p77	Montgomery confirmatory deed	
1/4/2010	B10067, p301; PB 222, p10-11	Deed from City to Northampton Conservation, part of settlement for former landfill & limited development project. Commission and supporting plans	4.097
3/15/2013	PB229, p23	revised survey with 2013 expansion of conservation area	0.4
6/12/2013	B11345, p226	Deed for 2013 expansion of conservation area	

Partners: None**Description:**

DPW has a permanent right and responsibility to maintain the cap on the former landfill at the northerly end of Garfield Avenue, beyond the last home on the road. This limited development project includes the old landfill, five Habitat for Humanity affordable houses, and one market rate house lot.

The City purchased the parcel as a settlement of litigation around a former landfill on the site. The dump was privately owned in an old quarry, but in the early twentieth century the City allowed dumping on the site. With all responsible parties gone, the city was the only remaining potentially responsible party.

Kestrel Conservation Restrictions on Cons. Area**639 acres****Ownership:** City/Conservation Commission**Location:** Broad Brook Greenway, Mill River Greenway, Mineral Hills, Saw Mill Hills

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
4/19/2013	B11287, p206	CR on land purchased with CPA fund (catchup)	639

The Kestrel Conservation Restrictions are on existing Northampton Conservation Commission property and provide an additional layer of protection. These do NOT create any new open space not already listed in other entries. The CRs are also mentioned in each of the conservation areas that they are part of.

See also baselines of all conservation lands so protected

Marble Brook Greenway CR**168 acres**

Ownership: Private (Guyette and Anderson)
CRs: by City though Board of Public Works

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
04/14/2010	B10147, p238	CR to Nonotuck Land Fund (\$134,720 CPA)	168
04/14/2010	B10147, p255	CR to City Board of Public Works	

Meadows Conservation Area and CRs and APRs**248 acres**

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission
CRs: by Conservation Commission, land privately owned
APRs: by Commonwealth/City and by City alone
Mass Audubon Society Conservation Restriction on 103 acres

Location: Manhan Rail Trail Buffer: Easthampton Road/Route 10
Emerald Necklace: Crosspath Rd and Venturers' Field Rd
Montview Avenue section: Montview Ave and Venturers Field Road
Bleiman Donation: Manhan Rd, & Potash Rd.
Massachusetts Audubon: Old Springfield Road
Atwood Drive: Atwood Drive
Jasinski APR: Cross Path, Hockanum, Hunts, Rainbow, and Young Rainbow Roads
Russell APR: Fair Street Extension
Baye APR: Kings Highway

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
6/24/1966	PB69, p1	Plan "Manhan Meadow Lots" w/"R.H. Clapp Meadow Lot"	
4/3/1997	B5115, p113 B5115, p127 Ticor Title Insurance	Deed--Sparko: Self Help (\$84,480) and Mass Audubon (\$43,520) CR- Sparko gives Mass Audubon management rights 22-2620-106-00000151 on file w/City Clerk	38
9/22/1999	B5796, p82	CR retained by City when city surplus land	8.019
11/18/1999	B5842, p281	\$1,000 by eminent domain	0.79
2/5/2001	B6120, p19	Deed-Kossakowski, 3 acres w/right-of-way	3
	PB188, p1 First American Title Insurance	Plans 100367887 on file w/City Clerk	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
3/24/2000	B5905, p298	Montview donation	3.246
	PB186, p131	Survey	
	First American Title Insurance	20329816 on file w/City Clerk	
5/5/2015	B11930, p1	Consevation Restriction (CR#53)	
4/6/2001	B6167, p282	Taking: Burt	65
	B6192, p112	Confirmatory Deed-- Burt	
	B6192, p112	CR-- Burt, gives Mass Audubon management rights	
8/15/2007	B9234, p324	CR at Montview/Venturers Field Road (Town Farm)	2
	B9234, p339	Access easement (trade for CR)	
	PB215, p317	Survey of Montview/Venturers Field Rd CR	
2/23/2009	B9712, p317	Venturers Field Road CR, north of dike, e of road	3.56
2/6/2012	B10804, p160	Agreement for Dike Road closure	
2/10/2012	B10808, p294	50% interest in land (Naumowicz owns 50%)	20
10/3/2012	PB228, p14	Survey old Hampshire County jail farm on Venturers Field Road as hoped for future conservation land subject	
10/11/2012	B11076, p1	Jasinski Agriculture Preservation Restriction	81.6
5/8/2012	B9801, p177	Rogers Farm- given as partial consideration for APR	
8/5/2013	PB230, p21	Survey Rogers Farm, now part of APR	
11/7/2012	PB 228, p48	survey of Pomery Terrace state land coming to city	6.6
5/21/2013	B11318, p267	Release deed from state (no consideration)	
5/5/2015	B11930, p1	Conservation Restriction (CR#53)	
6/27/2014	B11679, p177	Russell Agriculture Preservation Restriction (w/state)	8.6
	B11679, p198	Co-Holders Agreement (City/State)	
9/22/2015	B12075, p43	Baye Agriculture Preservation Restriction	7

Partners: MassAudubon: MassAudubon has full management rights under the Burt CR.
Commonwealth of Mass: Russell is co-held with MA DAR, who is the lead.

Description:

Most of Meadows Conservation Area (and related CRs) is within the 100-year flood plain of the Connecticut River, much of it with sensitive wetlands and prime farmland.

Jasinski APR: 81.6 acre local (not co-held with state) in three corners of the Meadows. Includes affirmative obligation for the landowner to ensure that the land is farmed.

Russell APR: 8.6 acres of farmland in state APR on Fair Street extension.

Manhan buffer: Protects the viewshed of the Manhan Rail Trail and a small portion of the New Haven and Northampton Canal.

Northampton Dike at Pomeroy: 6.6 acres from the state off Northampton dike.

Purcell and Budah-- Agreement to discontinue Dike Road- This agreement reduces the risk of trash being dumped and allows an eventual expansion of the conservation area.

Historic Mill River Greenway (Naumowicz/Gonski): 20 acres owned 50% by city and 50% by Naumowicz. Goal is to purchase Naumowicz interest in land and merge three parcels into the adjacent Bleiman parcel. Property contains rich wetlands, vernal pools and floodplain forest. Except for maintenance, no improvements planned.

The MassAudubon Partnership: 103 acres were purchased by the City to preserve grassland bird habitat. Massachusetts Audubon Society at Arcadia holds a Conservation Restriction and is responsible for day-to-day management of the property. Arcadia census data for the grassland nesting species shows an increase in the numbers of Bobolinks and Savannah sparrows since the property was purchased. Peter Vickery, the Massachusetts Audubon ornithologist who manages its grassland bird project, reports that the Sparko piece provides good Meadowlark habitat. Mass. Audubon will be watching over the next several years to see if this or the other grassland species are able to establish themselves.

Arcadia is also conducting butterfly surveys. Butterflies appear to be less plentiful on these hayfields than expected. Arcadia is allowing their field on the north side and abutting the Sparko parcel to grow milkweed to encourage butterflies.

While flood plain forests are rare, Arcadia will manage the hayfields (and eventually other Massachusetts Audubon fields in Northampton now under cultivation) for grassland species. While other areas of the sanctuary have been allowed to grow up into brush, these fields are very wet and are better not cultivated and some “weedy” areas provide food and shelter for migrating species particularly in the fall. Arcadia’s ecological management goal is to encourage native diversity.

The hayfield is primarily non-native agricultural plants that have been cultivated for hay production. The “fields” may not appear the way a skilled farmer would be accustomed to seeing them or the way our aesthetic sense might expect to see them. The land in the meadows, owned and/or managed by Audubon, is increasingly being used by wildlife. Hay cutting is delayed until the birds complete their nesting cycle. The hay is not a prime sweet crop. Some bird species require thinner grasses for nesting sites. Arcadia staff will not feed the land to produce a more abundant crop of hay. Bare spots are just fine. Plants going to seed may be great for migrating species.

The City of Northampton reserves the right to treat this area for mosquitoes.

Mill River Greenway and related CRs

612 acres

Includes Leeds, Bean/Allard APR, Florence Community Gardens, Beaver Brook, Northampton State Hospital, and Bleiman

Ownership:	Fee interests conservation areas: City/Conservation Commission
	Fee interest Bean/Allard APR and Community Gardens: Grow Food Northampton
	Fee interests NSH: Mass. Dept. of Ag Resources, MassDevelopment, Smith College
	Other Fee interests Valley Community Development Corp. and Housing Authority
	APR: City and Mass. Dept. Ag. Resources
	CR and Easement on non-city land (NSH, Beaver Brook, Smith College): City
	NSH Management, 25 year lease, renewable 3 times to Smith Vocational School
	Private-- Leeds CR
Location:	Mill River and historic Mill River from Haydenville town line to Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary (Leeds, Florence, Bay State, NSH, downtown)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
6/19/1975	B1837, p222	Florence: donation by Vistron corporation	5.1
10/20/1975	B1855, p121	Right of way on private greenway off Ward Ave 31C-11	
1983	Mass Session Laws Chap. 568	Acts of 1983 ordered land protected and APR/CR	
1800s		NSH land to commonwealth in 1800's	
1984		Care & Control NSH Ag. Land to Mass. DAR	
7/14/1989	B3407, p304PB162, p67	Bay State: donation by James Graham, Yankee Hill	
9/13/1989	PB163, p46 & 47	Survey of NSH agriculture land	
4/3/1990	PB163, p48	Survey of Historic Mill River Greenway	
4/3/1990	B3541, p87	Donation parcel along Historic Mill River greenway	0.3
5/15/1990	B3561, p285	APR and ROW on entire NSH agriculture land except Parcel D	273.9
5/15/1990	B3568, p153	37 acre CR & public ROW on drumlin & along river (overlaps with APR)	
12/31/1997	PB183, p1	Survey of former Northampton State Hospital	
	B5900, p26	Smith College Conservation and ROW Easement	20.1
9/17/1999	PB 185, p156 (plan)	Bay State: donation Cutlery Building Associations	
2/4/2000	B5879, p156 (deed)		1.73
	B2163, p236	Bay State: sewer easement	
3/29/2000	B5898, p39	Survey of CR on Mill River north of Village Hill	
3/29/2000	B5898, p39	CR on Mill River north of Village Hill	8.1
3/29/2001	PB186, p230	Leeds: donation by Myette	0.1
	Mortgage Release B6158, p40	Leeds: mortgage release	
12/3/2002	PB194, p63	Survey of Historic Mill River Greenway	
12/3/2002	B6914, p135 & 137	Historic Mill River Greenway	
12/10/2002	B6925, p302	Fee interest Mill River Parcel to Hospital Hill LLC	
3/16/2004	B7720, p130	Historical Mill River: Steven Berlin-Chavez and Reginal Chavez-Berlin donation	1.44
8/28/2006	B8854, p82	Historical Mill River: eminent domain of tax title parcel	0.4
10/17/2006	B8915, p106	Easement: Housing Authority West Street/Mill River (condition of 7/20/06 permit, 10/16/06 NHA vote)	
4/26/2007	B9109, p58	Beaver Brook CR acquired through permit condition	40.95
2/9/2009	PB220, p26	Survey of Beaver Brook section	
8/24/2009	B9942, p188	Rita and Bruce Bleiman donation, with covenant to maintain field	9.95
	PB221, p67	Plans-Bleiman	
12/11/2009	B10047, p233 and 237	Beaver Brook: Fee ownership + rail trail ROW. (Condition of permit.) Overlaps with Beaver Brook CR	25.44
4/28/2010	B10160, p233	Mill River Greenway, Bean Farm (donation related to permit condition)	1.184

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
4/30/2010	B10164, p119 B8314, p46 PB222, p124	Mill River Greenway, Leeds from Roman Catholic Church (\$35,000 CPA & Rail Trail funding) which includes a rail trail (previous easement from Mass Electric)	4.051
8/10/2010	B10258, p240	Mill River Greenway, Bean Farm (donation related to permit condition)	3.532
10/26/2010	B10347, p195 B10297, p347	Mill River Leeds, Tacy deed in lieu of tax foreclosure, with City reserving right to develop rail trail access Tax title redemption	1.37
12/1/2010	PB 224, p49	Survey of Bean Allard farms, including Mill River Greenway, related APR, and Florence Fields Recreation	
12/1/2010	B10392, p337 B10393, p23	Bean Farm and Allard Farm to Trust for Public Land	
12/13/2010	B10406, p222 #5011400-0082046e	Mill River Greenway Bean/Allard (CPA \$236,000). Grantees retain easement for three 15' rights-of-way to Mill River. City granted easement for 20' pedestrian access from Florence Fields to Mill River Greenway First American Title Insurance to City Clerk	35.04
12/13/2010	B10406, p259	Bean/Allard Grow Food Northampton APR (NOT fee)	121.02
12/13/2010	B10406, p289 #5011400-0082185e	Bean/Allard Grow Food APR Co-Holders Agreement First American Title Insurance on APR (to City Clerk)	
3/1/2011	B10492, p215 5011400-01234504e	Lease (198 years) from Grow Food Northampton for organic community gardens and Mill River Greenway (land all part of the Bean Allard APR above) . First American Title Insurance (to City Clerk)	17.405
6/28/2011	B10585, p100 B10585, p99	Deed Gaustad by Ward Ave parcel "O" related affidavit	0.1
4/23/2012	B10880, p196 B10918, p119 B10977, p342	Order of Taking- Chatfield, Leeds section (0.6 acres) related tax redemption related sale of land to Miller	
7/17/2012	B10978, p1	Conservation Restriction #48- Miller, Leeds	0.6
2/21/2007	B9046, p28	State Hospital Parcel D: care and control to DAR	36.338
8/28/2013	B11442, p250	State Hospital Parcel D: Trail Easement	
8/28/2013	B11442, p254	State Hospital- Parcel D: Agricultural preservation restriction with option to purchase at agricultural value	
8/01/2014	B11714, p264	Historic Mill River at Dike Road (Atwood)	0.75
9/22/2015	B12075, p65	Historic Mill River at Manhan Road (Ksieniewicz)	3.31
4/06/2018	B12919, p 239	Lyman - Ward Avenue Trail Access Easement	0.95

Partners: Historic Mill River at Dike Road and Manhan Road: Mass. Audubon Society
Bay State Section—informal w/Baystate Village Association

Leeds—Informal w/Leeds Civic Association

Florence Community Gardens-- Grow Food Northampton

Other Data: “Inventory of Mill River Corridor Discharge Sources” Environmental Science Seminar, Smith College, 1999 and “Mill River Revitalization Plan,” Landscape Planning Studio, U. Mass, 1999.

Description: (see also entry under **Norwottuck rail trail**)

The Mill River was once indispensable to the establishment of manufacturing in Northampton. The river is one of the unifying themes historic settlements along the river, Leeds, Florence, Bay State, Northampton State Hospital, and downtown. The Mill River Greenway is discontinuous but the name reflects the goal of an eventual continuous greenway from the Haydenville town line to the Oxbow.

Historic Mill River: In 1936 and in 1938 back-to-back tropical storms flooded much of downtown, causing a large amount of damage. The US Army Corps of Engineers (1939-1940) built a major flood control project to cut off the flow of the Mill River through downtown. The Historic Mill River, including the by-pass channel, is a degraded waterway in an urban setting, with impediments to fish passage and degraded instream habitat. Diversion of flow through the by-pass channel, construction of a dam and drop structure, and development along the banks of the former riverbed harmed fisheries. The City has worked with the Corps of Engineers to evaluate alternatives to restore a riverine migratory corridor to the historic Mill River and:

- Restore a riverine migratory corridor and open up high value habitat to aquatic species.
- Restore flow to the historic river channel, thereby recreating aquatic habitat.
- Enhance or restore riparian buffers.
- Increase recreational use of the river and increase public access to the river.
- Provide aesthetic improvement to the historic river channel.

The city has been acquiring land along the Historic Corridor. A right-of-way and conservation restriction was granted for the historic Mill River frontage adjoining Mill Bank condominiums. Title to the original CR and easement were lost by foreclosure, but a new CR was granted in 2002.

Leeds and Beaver Brook: Beaver Brook land contains rare species habitat. See also rail trail easement under rail trail entry and conservation restriction under conservation restrictions entry.

Florence: The former Allard and Bean Farms have all been permanently protected. Most of the floodplain forest is now part of the Mill River Greenway. Fellow travelers from the same transaction created the 24 acre Florence Recreation Fields and the Grow Food farm, owned by Grow Food Northampton with the City and state coholding an Agricultural preservation restriction. The City also holds a 198 lease on 17 acres for a Florence Community Gardens (with the land managed by GFN).

Bay State: From north to south, the Vistron is a small isolated parcel on the Mill River with an intensive amount of invasives. Bay State is a small but very accessible parcel just south of Maines Field. It does not contain any portion of the old raceway, where some debris was dumped by the former cutlery. Yankee Hill is a steep hillside between the Mill River and the permanently protected agricultural lands at the former State Hospital land.

Northampton State Hospital: The NSH agriculture land property has agricultural preservation restriction (APR) with a conservation easement and public right-of-way within 100 feet of Mill River and south of Burts Pit Road on the “drumlin” above 265 feet mean sea level. Northampton holds and enforces these restrictions. A rich wetland complex exists near the Mill River. Ground-nesting birds, including the Grasshopper Sparrow (listed as a special concern), nest in the spring and summer on the drumlin.

The fields/woods edge provides excellent Bluebird habitat. Controlled August-September burns of the drumlin to maintain habitat and control multi-flora rose were effectively done in the 1990s, avoiding ground-nesting birds. Smith Vocation should be careful not to overgraze this area. Cattle or sheep should be rotated through this area, or another area should be used during the nesting season. Bunch grasses should be maintained at 4"-12".

Woody vegetation along the hillsides, particularly the multi-flora rose, should be repeatedly cut and removed from the site or introduce appropriate grazers (e.g., goats, Scottish Highland cattle).

ROW and conservation easements/restrictions have been placed on the land along the river north of Village Hill (MassDevelopment) and on Hospital Hill (Smith College sledding hill). In addition, the Northampton Housing Authority granted an easement along the Mill River at West Street and there are deed restrictions providing right-of-way exist in some of the properties along the east side of the Mill River between Federal Street and the Smith College campus.

Historic Mill River Greenway (Bleiman): 9.95 acres on the corners of Potash Rd. and Dike Rd. The site is in the floodplain with a mixture of wet and dry soils, floodplain forest, a portion of the former Historic Mill River which is now a certified vernal pool, and 5 acres of fields, of which only 1 is very productive. The City has an obligation to maintain the 5 acre field in an open condition. Site limitations include: (1) Vernal pool; (2) All floodplain; (3) No water supply; (4) No electricity; (5) Security limitations; (6) Mosquito heaven; (7) some heavy wet soils.

Soils include: Hadley Silt Loam (1.8 acres, 36% of field) is a well-drained flood plain soil, with slopes 0-3%. Land Capability Class is a measure of the appropriateness of a soil type for particular activities, including agriculture. Hadley land capability class is 1, highly suited for agricultural use.

Winooski Silt Loam (2.9 acres, 57% of field) is a moderately well drained floodplain soil, with slopes 0-3%. The land capability class is 2w, suitable for agriculture but with less than perfect drainage and may retain spring moisture longer than other soils, such as the Hadley Silt Loam.

Limerick Silt Loam (0.3 acres, 7% of field) is a poorly drained flood plain soil, slopes 0-3%, and groundwater within 18" of the surface. The land is capability class 3w, indicating that it is less than suitable for agriculture. Much of the floodplain forest is also wet Limerick Soils.

Access is currently limited to two overgrown entry points in the hedgerow. There is no signage upon approaching or entering the site, no designated parking, and no designated location for delivery of materials (such as compost) or supplies (such as farm tools and implements being delivered or retrieved). Existing access patterns consist of a grassy field road around the exterior of the field, running past each of the access points and along the inside of the hedgerow. Abutting roads and the surrounding woods and wetlands are frequent dumping sites.

Agricultural Use Analysis for Bleiman:

The land could be used for grazing or hay, propagation garden, or perennial planting (e.g., nuts, coppice, silvopasture, fruits, vegetables, herbs, medicinal & wild plants). Long-term plantings mitigate the water constraints on site. In this case, it becomes essential that user maintain a longer term lease appropriate to the harvest timing of the crop, since the yields are not immediate.

Not Recommended Uses: community gardens (frequent flooding), CSA or farm stand (bad access), or farm incubator (wet, flooding, access).

Regenerative Practices

Regenerative soil management practices balance nutrient cycles to conserve water and nutrients, increase soil organic matter, sequester carbon, and meet crop needs with site resources or with recaptured resources present locally. These practices also limit erosion and minimize impact on native ecosystems.

It is recommended that site stewards/users map nutrient cycles (water, carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus) as they relate to the site, and develop regenerative, closed-loop, self-sustaining cycles. What sources of water, organic matter, nitrogen, phosphorus, are available? Can you design closed loop systems that take advantage of these resources? Can you include recaptured organic matter present locally (such as leaves from landscapers), or captured water on site?

In particular, regenerative issues point to the possibilities of whole farm systems with interconnected parts. For example, the Compost Utilization Trial (CUT) at Rodale Institute demonstrated that the use of composted manure with crop rotations in organic systems can result in carbon sequestration of up to 2,000 lbs/ac/year, a greater sequestration than side-by-side comparisons to non-manure compost or chemical fertilizers. Carbon sequestration is associated with the increase in stable soil organic matter (which is mostly carbon). This shows that incorporation of animals and crops into a whole farm system is one example of a regenerative loop that outperforms other options.

Synergistic uses are strongly recommended. Mutually supportive uses are an important component of regenerative agriculture. Single, monocultural uses do not demonstrate long term stability, or other self-sustaining characteristics of regenerative systems.

Cover Cropping

For land not being actively farmed, establishing a nitrogen fixing cover crop is a recommended. Plowing and sowing the cover crop may take place anytime between April and August.

Red clover, a short lived perennial, is recommended. Red clover prefers heavy, fertile soils of near-neutral pH. It can handle less-than-perfect drainage, acid soils and clays. It can even tolerate wet soil conditions but not prolonged flooding. Nitrogen yield averages are 100-110lb/acre per season.

Red clover seed rates are 11-14 lbs per acre. To establish red clover in the spring, because it is slow growing at first, and liable to leave the field at risk to weed growth, it is recommended that a nurse crop of oats at 1.5-2 bushes per acre be seeded with it. Clover inoculants should be mixed with the seed (unless clover has been grown in the field in the previous 3 years).

In the Northeast it is generally planted in spring and allowed to grow for a full year before incorporation. This allows one or more hay cuts or mowing before incorporation as a green manure. The clover should be mowed two or so times over the course of the season, at flowering (before seeding), to prevent developing clover seed as a field weed.¹

Recommended Conditions of License.

- Stable or increasing soil organic matter, up to a 10% soil organic matter maximum.
 - Stable or increasing soil nutrient levels.
 - Adherence to the current NOP Organic Standards.
 - Maintain covered (not bare) soil at all times via the use of crops, cover crops, or mulch. Excluding possible 6 week at-a-time maximum pre-crop soil prep and/or summer bare fallow.
 - Management of plants so they do not set seeds in the field. Including but not limited to: vegetable crops, pasture species, annual and perennial weeds, hedgerows and weedy field edges. Excluding those plants explicitly managed for seed saving purposes.
 - Maintenance of the tree line, including the edge running along Potash Rd, which borders the driest and highest quality agricultural soil on site. However, possibly excluding wet edges and edges abutting the vernal pool area.
-

The Northampton State Hospital burial ground is protected from development by a permanent agricultural-use restriction. The field should not be plowed to avoid disturbing the soil deflations and patches of low vegetation that are the only marks of the locations of the graves. A detailed inventory of the site was done in *Preservation Guidelines for Municipally Owned Historic Burial Grounds and Cemeteries*, with specific information about this site.

A 1958 bench and surrounding bushes were the first memorial commemorating the field as a burial ground and are an important part of the history of the cemetery. M.G..L. Chapter 272, Section 73 of the Massachusetts Laws and Regulations Protecting Burial Grounds require preservation of the bench or the bushes because they were built as a memorial. The Historical Commission installed a new plaque and bench in 2017.

Plaques could be mounted the bench stone supports to honor both the cemetery (1858-1921) with its 181 confirmed burials, and 413 potential burials, and past memorial efforts. The plaque could also note at least two burials in the woods across the road to the north and that the boundaries of the cemetery have not been determined. It is important to preserve the present knowledge about the cemetery.

Any new memorial must avoid disturbing any graves in the cemetery. It is possible to erect a completely above ground dry-laid stone monument such as a stone cairn that would not disturb the ground with a foundation. However, a memorial plaque could not be mounted on this unmortared monument. Because any mortared monument would require a foundation, its design would need to be reviewed by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, which would require an archaeological survey and/ or excavation to mitigate the impact of the foundation excavation on the burial ground. Erecting a sign would involve the least amount of excavation and archaeological investigation to prevent disturbance to burials. Any memorial be placed near the road to minimize disturbance to burials.

It is strongly recommended that haying be conducted only when the ground is completely dry. The Department of Agricultural Resources agreed to draw up such a regulation for Smith Vocational School.

Further archaeological reconnaissance and subsurface testing (e.g., resistivity testing) could identify the boundaries of the cemetery and map the soil deflations and vegetation indicating burials. Further archaeological reconnaissance in the area might also locate small-unmarked gravestones of the types Mr. Mielke found on the burial ground in his childhood.

Mineral Hills Conservation Area and CR _____ acres

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission
 Conservation Restriction: Private land, CR Joint Northampton and Westhampton

Location: West side Sylvester Rd, north side Turkey Hill, north & south side
 CR: Turkey Hill Road on Westhampton side of town line

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
10/12/1994	B4570, p97	LaPalme, bargain sale, City & neighborhood donations	85
4/7/1994	Title Insurance Policy	Filed w/City Clerk	
9/30/1994	PB177, p164 & 167	Sylvester Rd	
	B4570, p87 and p93	Sylvester Road driveway for LaPalme limited development: wetlands permit and special permit for reduction of frontage development	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
	B4570, p102	Right-of-way to building lots	
12/27/1994	B4607, p172	APR	
		Drainage & utility easements of record	
12/11/2003	B7616, p103	Turkey Hill cluster	2.2
	PB198, p23	Survey of Mineral Hills	
		Disclosures filed DSPO	
	PB211, p12	Survey for Turkey Hill Rd parcel south of Turkey Hill	
	B8486, p310	Boundary line agreement with right-of-way to Cowles from Cowles property to Turkey Hill Road for logging.	
1/12/2007	B9009, p36 subject to easement: B8486, P310	Turkey Hill \$685,000 (Self-help, City, Wharton Trust, Highland Communities Initiative, & \$200,000 in community fundraising). Cowles retains easement for logging access. Deed in limits trails and access adjacent to Lots 2 & 3 on plans.	120
	First American Title Insurance Company	102758222	
	B9013, p31	Walking easement between Turkey Hill section & LaPalme section	
	B9013, p35	Mortgage subordinations	
		Authorization in City Council resolution recorded w/ Turkey Hill section	
12/26/2006	B8990, p33	CR in Westhampton- joint ownership Westhampton (primary enforcer) and Northampton (backup role)	29.4
	PB147, p58	Plans--CR and Turkey Hill	
2/9/2009	B9700, p64	Turkey Hill Rd, Bosworth purchase	15
5/9/2008		Kohl survey purchase	
6/4/2008	Warranty Deed, B9503, p293 PB218, p38 Subject to: B5842, p161 B9503, p296 (agreement) First American Title	Kohl purchase, LAND (\$470,000), CPA (\$350,000), City (\$15,000), community donations (\$134,000) Chambers, "in-holding" house, reserves the right to maintain and repair ponds and dam and cut trees to preserve their easterly view. LAND agreement Title insurance for Kohl addition, 106544301	60.6 + 11.53 CR
7/18/2008	B9547, p40	Wilhelm/Mineral Hills Trust	15.1
3/10/2009	PB220, p46	Survey of all of Mineral Hills (since updated by survey below)	
5/31/2011	B10559, p138	Skibiski purchase, Turkey Hill Road	32.1
5/31/2011	First American Title	Title insurance for Skibiski 5011400-0158781e	
11/17/2011	B10722, p81	Conservation Restriction #47 on Skibiski purchase to Kestrel Land Trust	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
2/14/2012	B10812, p162 B10812, p167 (agreement)	Jedoron Realty Inc purchase, \$131,400, LAND and CPA 364 Turkey Hill Road LAND Project Agreement for Jedoron and Sarafin	5.8221
2/14/2012	First American Title: 5011400-0284580e, on file with City Clerk	Title insurance for Jedoron title certificate from Elaine Reall, City Solicitor	
4/27/2012	B10885, p240	Sarfin purchase, Chesterfield Road LAND and CPA	90.394
4/27/2012	CATIC: OP 03154477 MA, on file with City Clerk	Title Insurance for Sarafin-- title certificate from Alan Seewald, City Solicitor	
6/25/2012	B10951, p43	Discontinuance of Turkey Hill Road within cons. area	3.8
7/13/2012	PB227, p82	Survey of all of Mineral Hills	
6/28/2017	B12666, p41 PB239, p57	Fierst purchase Fierst purchase survey	31.58
2/14/2018	B12880, p44	William Walker/Galena purchase	7.968

Description:

A diverse piece of conservation property consisting of wooded uplands, wetlands, and a small field in active agriculture. A small parking lot is on the Sylvester Road side of the parcel.

The Mineral Hills Conservation Area is one of Northampton's natural resource gems. The undeveloped, contiguous woodland contains numerous important habitat areas, supports a wide diversity of wildlife species and provides a variety of recreation opportunities for the citizens of Northampton. Furthermore, the natural amenities in this area have attracted and inspired many past and present and have become a part of the City of Northampton's cultural fabric. Famous writer and Northampton native Brian Kitley aptly captures the spirit of the conservation land in his journal 1852: The Sage of Mineral Hill:

...Northampton below from Mineral Hill is as remote as the Northwest Passage. We live on what we find, the dog and me-service berries in June, tart strawberries, carrots that taste of metal. What is any man's discourse to me, if I am not sensible of something in it as steady and cheery as the creak of crickets? In it the woods must be relieved against the sky. Men tire me when I am not constantly greeted and refreshed as by the flux of sparkling streams. Surely joy is the condition of life.

The 30 acre purchase from Skibiski in 2011 on Turkey Hill Road on the border with Westhampton makes the conservation area continuous from Sylvester Road to Westhampton. This section of land includes the High Street Walking Club trail from Turkey Hill Road to Skibiski Summit, marked by Michael Mauri using a Forest Stewardship implementation grant and built by the Friends of Mineral Hills management partner. This project also included installation of an aluminum boardwalk to provide access to the trail network from the Sylvester Road parking lot.

All of the outer property boundaries of the Mineral Hills Conservation Area were blazed in 2011 by Northeast Survey, with all property corners photographed and the photos on the City's public file cabinet website. This work was done with Forest Stewardship implementation grant funds as well.

In 2012, the city acquired the Mineral Hills Bookends, using a LAND grant and CPA funds, to purchase land from Sarafin on Chesterfield Road and from Jedoron on Turkey Hill Road. City Council then discontinued the portion of Turkey Hill Road going through the middle of the conservation area.

The Mineral Hills Conservation Area consists of a forested landscape ripe with natural resources. The diverse forest matrix provides a complex environment of interacting plant and wildlife biodiversity. Babbling brooks flow from the hilltops to the wetlands below and vernal pools can be found teeming with life during the spring and fall.

In 2010, professional forester Michael Mauri completed a forest stewardship plan, (funding: forest stewardship grant). The full plan is available at the city's website (www.northamptonma.gov/plan, in the public file cabinet) that contains an overview of forest types and recommendations.

Parson's Brook Greenway, Park Hill APR/CR 275 acres

Ownership: Greenway Fee: City through the Conservation Commission (West Farms)

Title under APRs and CRs: Private—no public access

Protection: Lathrop, Gray/Peppard, Burke, & Jewett/Pinkham—Conservation restrictions, City
Kidder & Micka—Agricultural protection restrictions, jointly by City & Massachusetts
DAR

Location: Parsons Brook, the Plantation, Park Hill Rd, Westhampton Rd, & Florence Rd

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
2/16/1979	Plan Book 110, p65-66	Survey of Towne Conservation Easement-- Whittier Street and Westhampton Road	15+
2/16/1979	Book 2082, p84	Conservation Easement, Towne	
		APR, Adams by Department of Agricultural Resources	72
3/3/1986	B2685, p193 & 196	APR, Kidder	47
3/23/1990	B3535, p323	Kidder	
8/5/1998	B5449, p275	APR, Valley Land Fund (VLF) & City (\$450,500)	38
6/24/2000	B5964, p254	Assignment VLF to Depart. of Agricultural Resources (\$408,450 share of original consideration)	
12/22/2000	B6093, p296	APR, Gray/Peppard (donation)	30
	PB187, p253	Survey, Gray/Peppard	
	B6093, p305	Mortgage, Gray/Peppard	
	B6093, p317	Restrictions, APR & Deed to Gray/Peppard	
1/5/2001	B6100, p298	Gray/Peppard, deed & mortgage release, \$225,000	
2/1/2001	B6119, p264	APR, Assignment of co-holding to Department of Agricultural Resources	
	B6117, p265	Affidavit & appraisal	
12/20/2001	B6472, p277	CR, Gray/Peppard, et al (donation)	23.203
	PB190, p114	Survey, Gray/Peppard, et al	
6/20/2002	B6703, p294	City Council Order (accept donation)	
07/02/2002	B9415, p180	Cluster permit right-of-way	
03/10/2008			

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
2/4/2005	B8155, p57 PB204, p22	Lathrop, (by boundary line agreement elsewhere) Survey, Lathrop	11.215
4/21/2010	PB10153, p116	CR #45, Jewett and Pinkham (permit condition)	5.722
5/6/2013	B11304, p298	CR #50, Burke (\$9,500 CPA)	19.5
5/5/2015	B11930, p24	CR#55 Dostal	1.138

Small conservation area with opportunity for walking trails and includes frontage on Parsons Brook just upstream from a series of conservation restrictions and agriculture preservation restrictions that stretch from Parsons Brook and into Easthampton.

Rainbow Beach/Shepard's Island

101 acres

Ownership: **City Rainbow Beach:** City/Conservation Commission

State Rainbow Beach and Shepard's Island: Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

Location: Rainbow Rd, Connecticut River

Partners: Memorandum of Agreement with the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
4/11/1974	B1766, p44	State Shepard's Island, parcel 33-30	15
7/28/1977	B1966, p321	City Rainbow Beach (Self-Help funds)	55
7/19/1989	B3410, p194 PB159, p97	State Rainbow Beach, parcel 33-33 Survey	30.87

State Rainbow Beach (northerly section of the Rainbow Beach complex): It is managed primarily for endangered species by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. Slowly eroding away.

City Rainbow Beach (middle section with most of the beach): Managed with a cooperative agreement with the MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. The site is primarily river bottomland hardwoods and a narrow beach area of river sediment deposits. This area is located along the Connecticut River and receives heavy summer use (swimming and unauthorized camping) by boaters. This floodplain forest and beach provide habitat for endangered plant and animal species. The City parcel had mean accretion (deposition minus erosion) of 15 to 18 square feet per year (Anderson, A. 1973. Vegetation Patterns and Fluvial Processes on a Connecticut River point bar. BA Thesis, Amherst College; Doherty, A. Jr., 1974. Stratigraphy and Geomorphology of the Rainbow Beach Point Bar, BA Thesis, Amherst College).

State Shepard's Island (Former island, now a peninsula, on south side of complex): Wildlife habitat.

The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife gated Young Rainbow Road (c. 1991, with private property owner permission) to prevent illegal use of the area.

Reservoir Complex

Ownership: City, Department of Public Works

Location: Various hill towns

Parcels include the reservoirs and much of the watershed lands. It is a site with future potential.

Roberts Hill Watershed Conservation Area and CR 22.3 acres

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission
CR owned by City, land privately owned

Location: Kennedy Rd and Audubon Road, Leeds

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
11/19/2004	B8068, p162	Deed-Lot 2, Kennedy Rd (donation)	12.56
11/12/2004	B8062, p89	Deed Lot 4, Kenneydy Rd (permit condition)	
	PB 202, p24	Survey of Lot 2 and 4, Kennedy Road	
3/2/2009	PB220, p63	Survey of Hill Audubon Road CR	
3/2/2009	B9773, p30	Hill CR on Audubon Road (donated as permit condition)	9.75

Partners: Leeds Civic Association (informal arrangement)
Includes uplands, wetlands, and a tributary of the Leeds Reservoir.

Roberts Reservoir 57 acres

Ownership: City, Department of Public Works

Location: Upper Leeds and Roberts Meadow Reservoirs and watershed

Description:
Includes two off-line emergency reservoirs and watershed.

Rocky Hill Greenway _____ acres

Ownership: Rocky Hill Cohousing Conservation Restriction owned by Co-Housing
Ice Pond Conservation Restrictions owned by individual lot owners (see also trail easement)
Remainder Rocky Hill Greenway all owned by Conservation Commission

Protection: Rocky Hill and Ice Pond CRs city held. CR on land east of Route 66 MassAudubon held.

Location: Florence Rd, Ice Pond Drive, Rocky Hill Rd (Rte 66), Easthampton Rd (Rte 10)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
10/20/2003	B7534, p333	Rocky Hill Greenway at Ice Pond	22.3
11/18/2003	B7583, p183	Ice Pond Conservation Restriction	3.2
11/29/2004	B8082, p261	Rocky Hill CoHousing Conservation Restriction	10.27
2/18/2005	B8166, p227	Conservation deed restriction on lot 8	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
10/24/2014	B11784, p194	Rocky Hill Greenway (Hewes purchase)	47.6
4/1/2015	B11902, p245	CR #54 to Mass Audubon Society	
5/12/2015	PB 234, p46	Rocky Hill Greenway (survey) DSM Title Insurance (OX-09453575)	
1/12/2018	B12587, p13 PB240, p70 B12905, p265	Goldfarb/Wilson Realty Goldfarb/Wilson Realty Survey Goldfarb/Wilson Realty CR to MassAudubon	48.74
4/6/2018	B12919, p275 B12919, p279	O'Brien purchase O'Brien Conservation Restriction to MassAudubon	2.73

Abuts: Pathways Cohousing trail easement

Rocky Hill and Ice Pond Conservation Restrictions at Rocky Hill Greenway at Ice Pond were a condition of cluster approvals. Ice Pond Discontinuous holdings fill some of the gaps in the abutting Rocky Hill Greenway, with public rights to cross property, and the city with rights to build trails without restriction.

Saw Mill Hills Conservation Area (includes Roberts Hill) acres

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission

Location: Avis Circle, Ryan Rd, Spring St, Chesterfield Rd, Mill River, Old Shepherd Rd, South Main St, Dimock Rd, Reservoir Rd, Sylvester Rd, Kennedy Rd, & Leeds

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
10/20/1995	B4759, p148 Laywers Title Insurance	Saw Mill Hills Avis Circle (cluster open space) Avis Circle Owner's policy, #13600110645	23.96
11/28/1995	B4781, p109	Saw Mill Hills: Towne purchase mortgage release	
7/13/1995	PB178, 223	Saw Mill Hills Plan	
2/9/1996	B4822, p182	Saw Mill Hills Agreement	
1/5/2000	PB186, p97	Plan- Saw Mill Hills	16.103
3/13/2000	B5899, p311	Saw Mill Hills Donation with Avis Circle subdivision	
5/26/2000	First American Title Insurance	Owner's policy, #20325612 Saw Mill Hills Cluster permit (Sienkiewicz 88 acres plus right-of-way)	
6/9/2000	PB187, p25	Plan--Saw Mill Hills	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
7/7/2000	B5979, p75	Order of Taking: Saw Mill Hills/Ryan Rd Sienkiewicz limited development purchase (\$15,000 City & \$5,000 Wharton Trust)	88
	B5945, p231	Cluster permit	
7/14/2000	B5984, p206	Confirmatory deed: Saw Mill Hills: Sienkiewicz	
7/14/2000	B5984, p203	Confirmatory deed: Saw Mill Hills Ryan Rd ROW	
12/2001	B6137, p308	Hawthorne taking Saw Mill Hills	44.742
3/21/2002	B6641, p1 & 11	Curran taking Saw Mill Hills	
12/27/2006	B8991, p221	Off Ryan Rd, Blobel Section- Saw Mill Hills	22
	B8991, p226	\$17,600-- Saw Mill Hills	
1/15/2000	B5864, p246	Chesterfield Road, New Harmony donation	28.079
8/1/2000	Land Court B18, p65	New Harmony donation- Saw Mill Hills	3.93
3/29/2006	B4851, p252	Easement, right-of-way, donation in lieu of c. 61B right-of-first-refusal- Saw Mill Hills/Roberts Hill link	
12/2001	B6492, p1	Golden Drive, Donovan taking Saw Mill Hills	13
1/4/2002	B6491, p334B6576, p83	Fungaroli taking Saw Mill Hills	18.74
11/23/2004	B8075, p165	Boyle donation Saw Mill Hills	17
2/9/2007	B9035, p317	Sylvester Road, Jeep-Eater/Phone Line Parcel	55
1/23/2009	B9686, p204	Sylvester Rd, Ryan Rd, Mielke purchase	11.144
5/8/2009	B9801, p183	Houle purchase (\$11,804 taking) Saw Mill Hills	17
9/1/2009	B9953, p187	Justin West purchase (\$18,000) Saw Mill Hills	18
	PB221, p34	Plans-Justin West, Saw Mill Hills	
2/26/1976	B1840, p162B1874, p21	Roberts Hill, self-help, City (1976), land swap (1981)	96
3/15/1977	B1939, p323	Roberts Hill	
3/31/1982	B2265, p190 (except for B2217, p99)	Roberts Hill Chesterfield Road land swap	
	PB171, p51	Plans: Roberts Hill	
11/4/1991	B3821, p50	Roberts Hill Overlook, eminent domain (1991)	8.128
	PB172, p32	Plans: Roberts Hill Overlook	
6/1/1992	B3963, p250	Roberts Hill Trail to Reservoir Road (Escrow Ledger Land Acquisition Account), bargain sale acquisition (5/29/1992)	0.6
	PB173, p119	Roberts Hill Plans	
	PB221, p93	Survey of Roberts Hill CR	
5/27/2011	B10558, p237 and p243 also PB157, p93	Sawmill Hills Realty Trust deed-in-lieu of tax title foreclosure and purchase for back taxes with CPA funds (two deeds). Includes pedestrian easement from Gregory Lane.	22

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
1/15/2014	PB 231, p49	Survey of Szymanski purchase	58.216
1/21/2014	B11570, p146	Szymanski purchase (\$232,864: \$170,000 CPA, donations, small grants)	
3/20/2015	B11891, p346 PB193, p72 OX-09591252 (2015-630)	Donald B. and Mary B. Reutener purchase Survey (was Map ID 28-007) Old Republic Title Insurance	49.960
7/7/2015	B11994, p99 (deed)	Steidler purchase, stream Dimock to Spring St.	3.0
3/2/2017	B12564, p322 PB238, p102	Williams purchase, Roberts Hill Williams purchase survey	20.67

Partners: Saw Mill Hills Informal “Friends of the Saw Mill Hills”
Roberts Hill: Leeds Civic

Description: Includes wooded land within Zone II and III of the City’s drinking water aquifer, and containing rich vernal pools and the summit swamps. Rights-of-way to Avis Circle and Ryan Road provide access to trails through the Saw Mill Hills. The right-of-way from Chesterfield Road provides access to a detached section of Saw Mill Hills Conservation Area. A right-of-way from Spring Street provides additional access. A Forest Stewardship Plan has been prepared for a portion of this area (see management section).

Blobel section: Key portion of wildlife corridor connecting Saw Mill Hills with Parsons Brook and with Mineral Hills. DPW holds a reservation from Article 97 that allows them to develop a water tank on the property on not more than five acres of the site within the next couple of years if they repay the Conservation Fund all of the funds used to purchase the parcel.

Reutener purchase: Property owner retains lifetime estate for garden, lawn, and sugarshack. City decommissioned and sealed the drilled well on the property on 5/18/2015 (Henshaw, Inc) to prevent groundwater contamination.

Saw Mill Forest Stewardship Plan (www.northamptonma.gov/plan, public file cabinet):

Recreation-Stand 1 has an open understory, frequent rock outcrops, and rolling terrain. The parcel is well suited to recreational activities such as hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

Recreation-Stand 2 has a view from atop the steep embankment and the likelihood of seeing wildlife is high, so a trail on the property should skirt along the edge.

Recreation-Stand 3 is the approximate route of the 20’ wide right-of-way at the end of Avis Circle. Stand locations are shown on the map included in the Forest Stewardship Plan.

Wildlife-Stand 1 has an abundant acorn crop that supports wildlife. Some thinning of suppressed trees would increase the acorn production and improve the long-term health of residual trees. However, the low value of the trees to be removed as firewood would probably preclude this type of work, unless it was incidental to projects on adjacent lands.

Wildlife-Stand 2 has a good example of natural and rapid regrowth replacing the early successional stage of forest growth, consisting of seedlings, sprouts and shrubs, with pole-sized trees. This is good for timber growing, but it is bad for species that depend on this type of ephemeral habitat. Revisiting this stand every five years to cut back all trees (shrubs can be left) is the best way to maintain a young forest habitat.

Forestry-Stand 1 has white pines in the midstory that could be developed by thinning, as described above,

but also by removing a greater number of trees. The same economic restrictions would likely apply. Ideally, the pine trees would be professionally pruned following the thinning to grow pine of the highest value. If the opportunity arises, it might be worth growing pine in this fashion on about five acres, more by way of demonstration than a serious timber growing operation.

Forestry-Stand 2 is a productive site is well suited to growing timber, but its the small size makes this unfeasible. This area should be controlled for invasive exotic shrubs. Successful control usually involves pulling (for smaller shrubs), or cutting and applying herbicide to the remains.

Roberts Hill should remain closed to vehicles (the driveway in was closed circa 1990).

The Roberts Hill section includes a large wooded hill includes cliffs with spectacular views overlooking the Leeds Reservoir (Roberts Hill Overlook, purchased 1991), large amounts of upland forest, and frontage on the Mill River, Water Street, Main Street, Chesterfield Road, and Reservoir Road. It has two small ponds, a stream and a diverse forest. It provides a linkage between the Leeds Reservoir Watershed and swimming area and the Mill River and Look Memorial Park. In 1986, the area was selectively cut to promote and create preferred wildlife habitats. There are several foot trails on the property. The use of the area is moderate. Snowmobiles are permitted only on marked trails approved for use by the Conservation Commission.

Howard's Ice Pond Dam (DCR No. 2-8-214-8) is classified by the DCR Office of Dam Safety as a "low hazard" dam. The City repaired the dam and spillways in 1999 (Bob Menzone, Sons & Grandson), using City funds and Department of Conservation and Recreation Lakes and Ponds funds. The Department of Conservation and Recreation awarded \$8,000 in grant funds and the City of Northampton paid the remaining \$8,700. A total of \$13,500 was used for construction and the remaining \$3,200 was used for design, inspection and permits (Tighe & Bond). On January 14, 2004, the Office of Dam Safety determined that the dam is no longer under DCR jurisdiction under MGL C. 253 s 44-48, as amended in 2002, meaning that there are no on-going reporting requirements, as long as the dam continues to be properly maintained.

The Saw Mill Hills include a perpetual easement for pedestrian access from Gregory Lane across Parcel A to land owned by City. (See Plan Bk 157 p93 and b3284 p230 for deed). City should work to record two confirmatory deeds to correct deed reference (currently incorrectly states page 227 when it should be page 230) in two grant deeds from Saw Mill Hills Realty Trust to the City. City will also include in confirmatory deeds "together with perpetual easement for pedestrian access as described in deed 3284 page 230" to clarify that the pedestrian access is included in the portion conveyed to the City by Saw Mill Hills Realty Trust.

Spring Street Well/Aquifer Area

31.56 acres

Ownership: City, Department of Public Works

Location: Spring Street

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
6/19/1952	PB40, p65		
10/15/1952	PB41, p55		
11/6/1990	PB168, p106		
12/31/1990	B3667, p67	As well as previous takings and purchases	
1991		Disclosure	

Parcels include the Spring Street wellhead and much of the Department of Environmental Protection

aquifer Zone I. It also contains a small part of Zone II. The parcel serves as water supply protection.

West Farms/The Ridge Conservation Areas

55.4 acres

Ownership: City/Conservation Commission

Location: Off Glendale Rd, Westhampton Rd (Rt 66), Ridge View Rd, & Drury Ln

Taking purchase as part of limited development/landfill buffer; paid by CDBG (affordable housing and cluster related open spaces) and Landfill enterprise (landfill buffer)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
3/2/2001	B6137, p317	West Farms/Route 66 initial taking	
3/2/2001	B6137, p327	West Farms initial confirmatory deed	
		West Farms market rate lot sold (City retains one lot)	
4/8/2003	B7133, p23	Comprehensive permit	
4/8/2003	PB195, p98		
5/23/2003	B7241, p206	West Farms Surplus parcel to Nancy L. Kingsley	
6/2/2003	B7231, p15	West Farms Surplus parcel to Leona V. Pakutinski	
6/2/2003	B7231, p19	West Farms Surplus parcel to Maris and Peter Ludwig	
6/2/2003	B7231, p1	West Farms Surplus parcel to Donald & Norma Sadusky	
6/23/2003	B7271, p216	West Farms transfer to the Conservation Commission	
6/27/2003	B7282, p237	West Farms Surplus parcel to Darleen/Edward LaFond	
7/28/2003	B7347, p320	West Farms affordable housing to Habitat for Humanity with septic system easement	
5/25/2005	B8273, p166	West Farms recreation parcel to Recreation Commission	
5/31/2005	B8281, p88	Deed-The Ridge, as condition of subdivision approval	
	PB205, p71-86, 205	Plans-The Ridge	
	PB205, p75-77	Plans- The Ridge Survey of conservation area	
12/9/2005	B8550, p220	City Council resolution authorizing transfer	

Partners: None

Description: **West Farms is undeveloped** land with a simple trail from Glendale Road to the Recreation Area off Route 66.

The Ridge section of West Farms includes walking trails that will eventually be linked to abutting property. Developer is responsible for building the trails with the City through the Office of Planning and Development, retaining the right to extend the trail to the easterly property boundary. Subject to City of Northampton, holding the right to build multi-use trail across the property (which is consistent with the City Transportation Plan).

Bear Hill Recreation Area

12.76 acres

Ownership: Bridge Road LLC

Location: Bridge Rd on west side of JFK Middle School

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
7/12/2006	B8791, p28	Related to permit condition for Bear Hill	12.76
	PB211, p51		

Common space CR held by the Conservation Commission (7.039 acres)

Active recreation managed and controlled by the Recreation Commission (5.721 acres).

Property provides recreation field, sledding hill, and undisturbed natural space. It surrounds the Bear Hill Estates housing project.

Burts Bog Easements and Restrictions

2.26 acres

Ownership: Fee: Private

CR: Conservation Commission

Location: Off Woods Rd & Burts Pit Rd and Between Dunphy Dr and Westhampton Rd.

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
7/12/2000		CR off Woods Road and Burts Pit Rd retained by City when parcel surplus by city.	2.16
6/9/2003	B7245, p275	Right of way easement for trail from Dunphy Drive to Westhampton Rd (permit condition 4/30/2003)	0.1
	PB196, p10	Survey of Right-of-Way	

Mineral Hills/Marble Brook Cons. Restrictions

292.8 acres

Ownership: Private: John & Diana Clapp (55.79 acres); Miriam L. Clapp (57.922 acres); Joanne Bessett (11.11 acres); Christine & George Guyette, Elizabeth & Garry Anderson (168 acres)

Protection: Clapp & Bessett CR City of Northampton through Conservation Commission
Guyette & Anderson CR: City of Northampton through Board of Public Works

Location: Chesterfield Rd & Turkey Hill Rd

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/11/2006	B8976, p111	John & Diana Clapp—consideration \$18,000 (\$10,185 Nonotuck Land Fund, \$7,815 City for Chapter 61 tax Rollback)	20
	B8976, p128	Mortgage subordination of John & Diana Clapp	
	PB215, p82	Survey of John & Diana Clapp CR	
8/17/2007	B9237, p297	CR #40, \$27,500 Nonotuck Land Fund, \$4,000 City of Northampton	35.79
	B9237, p312	Mortgage subordination of John & Diana Clapp	
6/27/2007	B9177, p253	Miriam L. Clapp—\$52,129 from contributions & previous grants on hand	57.922

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
	B5454, p218	Fee interest in parcel remains w/Miriam Clapp	
6/4/2008	B9503, p298 (deed) PB218, p38 (survey) B9503, p296 (agreement)	Kohl CR--\$40,000 (self-help & CPA) Kohl Survey Kohl self-help agreement	
4/14/2010	B10147, p238	Christine & George Guyette, Elizabeth & Garry Anderson to Nonotuck Land Fund—consideration \$134,720 (\$118,600 from Community Preservation Act)	
4/14/2010	B10147, p255	Assignment of Guyette/Anderson CR to City of Northampton Board of Public Works	

Public access is allowed freely on the Miriam Clapp CR. Very limited public access is allowed by the John and Diane Clapp CR. Conservation Commission regulations should prohibit public access on the John and Dianne Clapp CR because public access on the Miriam Clapp CR has less impact on farming and on the Clapp family. The Marble Brook (Guyette/Anderson) conservation restriction is north of Chesterfield Road No public access. Nonotuck Land Fund reserves right to lead public hikes.

The Oaks Conservation Restriction & Right of Way 30.28 acres

Ownership: Private
Protection: Easement, City of Northampton
Location: Burts Pit Road

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
8/3/2007	B9222, p337	CR	
8/3/2007	B9222, p355	Mortgage subordination	

Public access allowed. The City has right to develop walking trails anywhere in conservation restriction. The City also has the rights to develop a bike path within the trail easement area. Please see the Conservation Restriction for more information.

Round Hill Conservation Restriction 0.34 acres

Ownership: Private
Protection: Conservation restriction
Location: Round Hill Road

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
8/15/2007	B9234, p343 PB214, p7	Conservation Restriction (15,000 sq. ft.) Plans for Conservation Restriction	0.34

B: Parks and Recreation—Public

Properties acquired for park and recreation purposes are considered permanently protected properties. They can be sold with City Council and, in accordance with Article 97 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, state legislature approval. Some of the recreation areas listed below may have been purchased for non-recreation uses and then converted to recreation areas. These areas would not have the protection provided by Article 97 of the Constitution.

Agnes Fox Field Recreation Area

1.61 acres

Ownership: City

Management: Recreation Commission

Maintenance: DPW, Recreation Division

Location: State St, Church St

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
5/17/1995	B1195, p81	Deed from Bishop of Roman Catholic Church. Reverts to Church if no longer used for recreation.	

Equipment: Grassed play area, basketball court, restroom building, playground equipment
The grassed play area covers a large part of the site. This area is heavily used by local residents.

Aquatic & Family Center

Ownership: Northampton School Department

Management: Recreation Commission

Location: JFK Middle School, Bridge Road

Equipment: Public Indoor pool, tennis courts, basketball

Arcanum Field Recreation Area

8.49 acres

Ownership: City

Management: Recreation Commission

Maintenance: DPW, Recreation Division

Location: Bridge Rd, N. Farms Rd, & Mountain St

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
7/25/1957	B1252, p404	Deed Urban self-help project agreement	8.49

Equipment: 2 ball diamonds, soccer field, field house, all-purpose paved area used for basketball, street hockey, soccer, dances, playground equipment, Safety Village

Arcanum is a heavily used year-round recreational area.

Childs Park

30 acres**Ownership:** Childs Park Foundation, Inc.**Location:** North Elm St, Woodlawn Ave, Prospect St

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
1951	B1103, p147	Privately owned. Protected by Will of Anne E. Childs	

Description: This heavily used park is located adjacent to the Northampton High School and a densely populated residential areas It is beautifully landscaped (forest, trees, shrubs, flowers, rose garden, open areas, and has a scenic drive winding through it. There are no picnic or garbage facilities at this site. Except for running, most active sports are prohibited..

Childs City Park

Ownership: City of Northampton**Location:** Elm St & North Elm St (near Northampton High School)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
		Will of Annie Childs, Article Fifth	
8/21/2008		City Council Resolution on management of park	
1948	Probate Court	Will of Anne E. Childs requiring triangle remain a park	

Small, triangle shaped island between High School and Elm Street across Elm Street from Childs Park.

Community Gardens, Northampton State Hospital

8.086 acres**Ownership:** City (acquired by Parks & Recreation, subject to Article 97)**Management:** Northampton Recreation Commission**Maintenance:** DPW, Recreation Division**Location:** Burts Pit Rd

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
1994	Ch. 86 & 307	The acts of 1994, Parcel G, Northampton State Hospital	
12/9/1998	B5558, p13 PB183, p1	Parcel G, Northampton State Hospital	

Heavily used community garden without prime agricultural soils, but soils have been worked as gardens for many years, first as part of State Hospital and then as a community garden. Commonwealth retained right-of-way easement across the gardens in a location approved by the City.

Connecticut River Greenway--city riverfront park

6.08 acres**Ownership:** City of Northampton, Recreation Commission

Location: Damon Rd

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
11/7/2012	B11109, p177	Site plan approval for boathouse and riverfront park	
4/2/2013	PB229, p40	Survey Connecticut River Greenway riverfront park	
5/31/2013	B11332, p194	Lease Lane to Northampton Community Rowing	
5/31/2013	B11332, p206	Deed to Recreation Commission	6.08
5/31/2013	B11332, p211	PARC Agreement (\$400,000 improvement grant)	
5/5/2015	B11921, p212	CR #52 to Friends of Northampton Recreation	

Connecticut River Greenway--Elwell State Park**3.2 acres****Ownership:** Massachusetts Department of Conservation Resources**Location:** Damon Rd, Bates St, & Woodmont Rd

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
8/30/37	B926, p285	Parcel 25A-16	0.872
9/18/1978	B2055, p145	Parcel 25A-14	1.347
1/12/1968	PB92, p64	Survey of what became Elwell State Park	
3/25/1985	B2546, p132	Parcel 25A-168,	0.055
12/22/1987	B3109, p88	Land lease Hampshire County to Commonwealth of Massachusetts	
9/15/1988	B3255, p311	Parcel 25A-17, order of taking of parcel land situated on corner of Bridge St and Damon Rd	0
6/18/1992		City Council approval of state eminent domain: Cichy	0.5

Boathouse, wheelchair accessible dock on the Connecticut River, parking lot, access to the Norwottuck Rail Trail, and access to the Trail's most spectacular feature, the bridge across the Connecticut River.

Florence Fields Recreation Area**24.4 acres****Ownership:** Fee: City of Northampton, through the Recreation Commission**Location:** Meadow Street, Florence

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/1/2010	PB224, p49	Survey of Florence Fields Recreation Area and entire Bean Allard Mill River Greenway	
12/13/2010	B10406, p229	Trust for Public Land \$560,000--CPA 34%, PARC 66%	24.4
12/13/2010	B10406, p235	PARC Agreement for Florence Fields	
12/13/2010	#5011400-0082159e	First American Title insurance (to City Clerk)	
5/5/2015	B11930, p45	CR#51 to Friends of Northampton Recreation	
2/3/2012	B10802, P52 and 56	Planning Board and Wetlands Permits	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
2/16/2012	B10815, P131	PARC Agreement for Florence Fields Phase II	

Gothic Street Pocket Park

0.15 acres

Ownership: Fee: Gothic Street Condominium Association

Easement: Northampton Recreation Commission

Location: Gothic St

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
1/27/1993	B4137, p116	CR	
	Doc #93-02065		
		Special permit to Gothic St Development Partnership	

Recreation Easement allows public to pass through as well as passive recreation during daylight hours. Recreation Commission has no responsibilities except enforcement.

Halligan-Daley Historical Park, Northampton State Hospital

0.5 acres

Ownership: Northampton Recreation Commission (subject to Article 97)

Maintenance: DPW, Recreation Division, & St. Patrick's Association

Location: Prince St, Rt 66

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
1994		Acts of 1994	
12/9/1998	B5558, p19		

Edmond J. Lampron Memorial Park, 1.2 acres

Ownership: City through its Parks and Recreation Commission

Maintenance: DPW

Location: Bridge Street

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/23/2014	B11834, p65	Deed from city (original grant of land from founding of Northampton	1.2

A small, triangle located in front of the Bridge Street School and heavily used by those students. Playground developed on the site in 2014-2015 with an Our Common Backyard grant. The park also contains several monuments and a gateway to Northampton sign.

Look Park 157 acres

Ownership: City (acquired for Parks & Recreation, subject to Article 97)

Management/Maintenance: Trustees of Frank Newhall Look Memorial Park

Location: Rt 9, Mill River

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
6/4/1928	B846, p532	Original grant (donated by Fannie Burr Look)	
11/20/1973	B1745, p309	Mahony expansion of Look Park (by City)	
7/18/1983	B2368, p.83	Rail Road right-of-way (by Trustees of Look Park)	

Funding: Core park donated with endowment

Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund: Look Park Comfort Station, Look Park Improvements Phase I & II, therefore protected by FLWCF Act 6(f)

Mrs. Fannie Burr Look donation of Look Park included the land, development funds, and a maintenance trust fund. The beautiful large park is maintained under the guidance of trustees. Facilities include natural land and water areas; picnicking facilities; six tennis courts; play fields for baseball, volleyball, football, softball, basketball and shuffleboard; train rides; food stands; marked trails; paddle boats; cross-country skiing; ice-skating; band concerts; and theater productions. This area receives very heavy regional recreational use.

The Garden House at Look Park, the former pool building built in 1930 in the Mission style, accommodates public and private parties, meetings, and community events.

Main Street Streetscape Park

.05 acres (2,328 sq. ft)

Ownership: City

Easement: First Church of Christ in Northampton (for area in front of church)

Maintenance: First Church for Easement I, City for art kiosk

Location: Main St at Main St & Center St intersection

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/27/2002	PB195, p26	Boundary Line Agreement Plan	
10/9/2003	B7562, p117	First Church Boundary Line Agreement	
9/10/2004	B7983, p205	First Church Boundary Line Agreement (II)	
	PB202, p21	First Church Boundary Agreement Plan	

This small but heavily used park includes the City's art kiosk installation and a lawn in front of the First Churches, which is maintained by the Church but for which the public has the right to use.

Maine's Field Recreation Area

14.47 acres

Ownership: City

Management: Recreation Commission

Maintenance: DPW

Location: Riverside Dr, Bay State

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
	B778, p177		

Equipment: Lighted ball diamond, two sand volleyball courts, restroom building, storage building, pavilion with tables, paved parking, & playground equipment

The recreation area borders the Mill River and is subject to periodic heavy floods. It receives extremely heavy spring, summer, and fall usage by residents citywide.

David B. Musante, Jr. Beach at Lower Roberts Reservoir 7.46 acres

Ownership: City

Maintenance: City-DPW, Water Division

Location: Reservoir Rd

Acquisition history:

Funding City (\$62,000 capital improvements), CDBG for handicap accessibility (\$10,000), PARC (1989: \$152,800), & Federal Land & Water Conservation Funds (1988: beach, reservoir, & dam improvements--\$200,000)--Property subject to FLWCF Act 6(f)

The former water supply reservoir was converted to a recreation area (1991) with a swimming area, beach, picnic area, parking lot, and restrooms. A trail into Saw Mill Hills Conservation Area-Roberts Hill starts from this recreation area.

Pulaski Park

1.5 acres

Ownership: City of Northampton

Maintenance: DPW

Location: Main St, New South St

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
1893	B457, p21-25	Deed Edward H.R. Lyman with reversion clause	
1905	PB593, p51	Plan	
1906	B603, p319	Deed J.B. O'Donnell	
8/22/1906	PB593, p33	Plan	
1908	B632, p333-335 & 429	Deed Edward H.R. Lyman	
2016		City to park purposes	

Pulaski Park is effectively Northampton's downtown commons type park, with memorials, benches, and paths.

History:

In 1904, Main Street City Park. In 1906, Aldermen authorized purchase of Holley and Prindle properties and took the land in fee as a public park (with community contributions of over \$27,000). The property owners protested the taking in 1907, with those claims settled in 1908.

In 1907, \$4,963 was transferred to Park Commissioners for development of Main Street Park and architect Joseph Gabringer of New York selected for park plans. He designed the park to provide a perspective and an appearance of being much larger, with the walks are laid out with that intention. At intervals, beside curved walks, concrete seats will be placed in shrubbery where users are practically shut off dense shrubbery, hence undisturbed. Later in 1907, work started on the park and the Prindle House was moved.

In 1908, the estate of Edward H.R.Lyman transferred of land in rear of Academy of Music, with the condition that the land be devoted exclusively for public park or revert to heirs of Edward H. R. Lyman.

In 1911, the Prindle property was purchased.

Various efforts to convert the park happened over the years. In 1934 there was a letter opposing taking Main Street Public Park for high school site. In 1954 there was opposition to taking any part of Park for off-street parking. In 1958, there were letters to Gazette opposing plan of taking part of Main Street City Park for off-street parking. In 1958, plans for off-street parking withdrawn at City Council Meeting.

The park was renovated in 1976 for \$47,200, based on a design by Huntley Associates.

In 2015-2017, the park was totally renovated and expanded to the Roundhouse Parking Lot, based on plans by Stephen Simpson Associates.

Sheldon Field Recreation Area

21.986 acres

Ownership: City of Northampton, Parks & Recreation Commission (subject to three CRs)

Protection: Conservation Restrictions (three): Meadow City Conservation Coalition (2013)

Maintenance: DPW, Recreation Division

Location: Bridge St, Old Ferry Rd

Facilities: Four ball diamonds, two basketball courts/overflow parking, restroom, playground and joint recreation/park-and-ride parking w/bicycle lockers.

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
	B601, p132	Historical F Field record	
	B1034, p521	Former lease, interests merged w/purchase	
7/15/1999	PB200, p40	Survey plan	10.16
	B5738, p233	Sheldon deed	
	B5738, p221	Sheldon CR to Broad Brook Coalition (BBC)	
7/12/2013	B11382, p12	Assigned to Meadows City Conservation Coalition	
10/28/2004	B8042, p203-204	Kielec Deed	2.688
	B8042, p190	Kielec CR to BBC (Life Estate Release)	
7/12/2013	B11382, p9	Assigned to Meadows City Conservation Coalition	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
5/9/2008	PB217, p101; PB218, p37	Jasinski donation survey	1.654
5/12/2008	B9482, p193	Jasinski deed, consideration being a farm lease	
/2012	B10953, p257	Jasinski deed (II), consideration being a farm lease Jasinski II CR to Meadows City Conservation Coalition	4.8
	B12529, p53 PB50, p67	Bobala deed	4.467
12/06/17	PB 241, p11	Survey of all of Sheldon Field	

Ray Ellerbrook Fields

13.375 acres

Ownership: City of Northampton, Parks and Recreation Commission

Maintenance: DPW, Recreation Division

Location: Burts Pit Road

Facilities Multiuse fields, softball

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/09/1998	B5558, p19	Deed to City (general municipal uses)	15.494
11/22/2013	PB231, p15	Survey of Ellerbrook Field	13.375
12/18/2013	B11547 p342	Deed to Recreation Commission	

Trinity Row

0.5 acres

Ownership: City of Northampton

Maintenance: City of Northampton DPW

Location: Main Street, Florence

Acquisition history:

Small pocket park with benches

Sojourner Truth Monument

0.3 acres

Ownership: City of Northampton

Location: Park and Pine Street, Florence

Acquisition history:

Description: Monument

Veterans Memorial Field Recreation Area

7.84 acres

Ownership: City of Northampton, Parks & Recreation Commission

Location: Clark Ave. & West Street

Facilities: Skateboard park (2007), basketball, baseball (2013), restroom, parking.

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
		License w/Mass Electric for access from West Street	
	B982, p91		
	B1034, p320		
	B1036, p478-480		
		Land & Water Conservation Fund agreement	

D: Rail Trails and Related

Northampton Multiuse Trail Segments		
Trail	Trail segment	Miles
MassCentral Rail Trail (Norwottuck)	S. Main Street, Williamsburg, to town line	0.1
	Haydenville town line to Grove Ave spur, Leeds	0.631
	Grove Ave spur, Leeds	0.130
	Grove Ave spur to Florence Street, Leeds	0.409
	Florence St to Bridge Rd roundabout	1.398
	Bridge Rd roundabout to N. Maple St., Florence	0.675
	N. Maple St., to Hatfield Street	0.963
	Hatfield St. to Jackson Street	0.478
	Jackson Street to King Street/Railroad tracks	0.680
DCR Mass Central Rail Trail/Norwottuck	Railroad tracks to Hadley town line	0.902
New Haven & Northampton Canal Line (Manhan Trail)	Railroad tracks/King Street to Main Street	0.630
	Main Street to New South Street	0.590
	New South Street to Earle/Grove	0.838
	Earle/Grove to Easthampton Road/Route 10	0.871
	Easthampton Road to Easthampton town line	1.050
Hospital Hill spur	Manhan trail to Hospital Hill (not including sidewalks)	0.400
	The Beaches park sidewalk and multiuse trail easements	0.1
Rocky Hill Greenway (Ice Pond spur)	Ice Pond to Rocky Hill (not including sidewalks)	0.290
Total Northampton multiuse trails		10.94

New Haven & Northampton Canal Line (Manhan)

3.4 miles

Ownership: National Grid (all except downtown)-- city owns easement
 Northampton Parks & Recreation Commission (Nagle walkway 2.5 acres)
 City of Northampton (NSH Parcel on Earle St)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Registry of Deeds)- city owns easement acquired when land was owned by Hampshire County

Location: King St (near State St) to Main St (downtown section)
Main St to Old South St (Nagle section)
Roundhouse parking lot (downtown)
New South to box culvert south of Earle St (NSH B4)
Registry of Deeds off ramp
Hebert Avenue (future ramp)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Meters
6/28/1985	B2582, p243 B134, p96 B2634, p331 PB167, p121-1213	Nagle Walkway (2.5 acres) Plan Project Agreement Survey	
5/15/1990	B3561, p271 PB166, p89	Nagle Walkway: Parking lot right-of-way easement to Housing Associates (Hampton Court) w/ requirement they maintain the walkway from Pleasant Street west to the parking lot.	
5/15/1990	B3561, p27 B3561, p279	Nagle Walkway: Easement to Gleason Brothers/Heldon Trust w/ requirement they maintain park in front of Gleasons. Unclear effect of reconstructed rail trail on maintenance obligations. Easement to National Grid for transformer on northwest corner of the property (Pleasant and Gleason building corner)	
7/5/1991	B3752, p31 PB171, p36	Nagle Walkway: Easement to Tom Masters with requirement they maintain area adjacent to restaurant and clear snow to Main Street.	
7/5/1991	P3572, p35	Nagle Walkway transferred to Recreation Commission	
11/27/1991	B3834, p265	Nagle Walkway: Easement from Union Square Realty Trust--Depot	
2/4/2004	B6682, p292 B7675, p182	Nagle Walkway: Special Permit and Master Deed for Strong Block. Required to keep the paved path from Main Street to Union Station and the steps to Main Street and to Strong Avenue clear of snow.	
6/27/1997	B5144, p152	Donation from Hampshire County (Registry of Deeds)	
12/9/1998	B5558, p19	NSH Earle St parcel (22,839 SF for parking lot, reverts to Commonwealth if not used for transportation)	
3/9/2002	PB191, p83-110	State St. to Easthampton	
5/31/2002	B6661, p92	Downtown	
2/4/2004	B7675, p182	Master deed of Strong Block—Strong Block responsible for some maintenance of trail	
8/11/2005	B8388, p8	Earle/Grove taking from National Grid, O'Connell Oil, Bay State Gas Company	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Meters
10/26/2005	B8492, p105	Earle/Grove confirmatory deed from O'Connell Oil	
10/26/2005	B8942, p108	Earle/Grove sewer easement under Manhan Trail to O'Connell Oil	
11/7/2006	B8940, p175	Searle's Confirmatory Deed (\$3,895.50)	
5/15/2007	B9128, p260	King Street \$1,085 taking	44.48
8/17/2007	B9238, p237	Housing Authority to City (portion of Round House parking lot & related land for Manhan Rail Trail)	
5/6/2008	B9476, p49	Long/Fisher Deed at Route 10 (\$3,300)	
5/13/2009	B9806, p150	Taking south of Earle St to Easthampton town line	
5/13/2009	B9806, p157	Confirmatory deed \$1.00 Mass Electric (CPA funded check #282898)	
5/13/2009	B9806, p162	Confirmatory deed from Frank N. Fournier	
5/13/2009	B9806, p165	Surplus land to New England Power	
5/13/2009	B9808, p170	Easement Reservation for rail trail	
6/15/2009	B9591, p33	Confirmatory deed from Massachusetts Audubon	
5/27/2010	B10186, p159	Bike path and access ramp completed	
9/21/2011	B10662, p320	Deed northwest corner Hebert/South for future ramp	0.03

The former Hampshire and Hampden Canal (reorganized as the New Haven and Northampton Canal) was abandoned in 1847 and much of the right-of-way was redeveloped as a railroad. The Manhan Rail Trail follows this historic right of way from a point mid-way between Earle Street and Route 10 to a point midway between Route 10.

The Manhan Rail Trail from Earle Street to the Easthampton City line includes \$100,000 of Community Preservation Act assistance (\$1.00 for right-of-way from MA Electric and remainder for design and local construction costs).

Strong Block Condominium is responsible for maintaining paved paths and snow removal from Main Street to Union Station, including the stairs from Main Street and Strong Avenue, and not encroaching on the park behind the building.

Includes corner northwest corner Hebert and South as part of future Hebert Ave. Access Ramp.

The portion of the Manhan Rail Trail from Hampton Avenue parking lot to Main Street on the former railroad right-of-way is the Nagle Walkway, owned by the Northampton Recreation Commission. This section was purchased with PARC funds and the PARC sign is required.

Site is adjacent to the Historic Mill River for the walkway's western end. A small park east of Pleasant Street is maintained by the Gleasons in return for a right-of-way across the park to their building. The Strong Block is responsible for snow clearance from the Depot parking lot to Main Street.

Rocky Hill Greenway (Ice Pond Spur)

48,529 square feet

Ownership: Pathways CoHousing Condominiums & Rocky Hill CoHousing Condominiums (fee)

Right-of-way: Northampton Conservation Commission

Location: Rocky Hill CoHousing (Florence Road) & Pathways CoHousing (Ice Pond)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Feet
8/5/2004	B7962, p177	Pathways CoHousing (Ice Pond), Order of Taking	24,529
10/14/2004	B8023, p144	Confirmatory deed	
11/29/2004	B8082, p258	Rocky Hill (Florence Rd)	24,000
11/29/2004	B8082, p274	Rocky Hill subordination	

This parcel is 0.6 miles long and serves as a right-of-way for the portion of the bike path that connects Florence Road, Rocky Hill CoHousing, Pathways CoHousing, Ice Pond Drive, and Route 66.

Hospital Hill Spur

square feet

Ownership: Hospital Hill LLC (Village Hill) and Smith College (hospital hill): Fee

Right-of-Way: City through Cons. Commission: hospital hill and outside of Village Hill
City: Beaches Park and inside of Village Hill

Location: Manhan Rail Trail spur on east side of Earle Street to Olander Drive and within Village Hill

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Feet
8/20/2012	B11014, p250	Right-of-way Olander to Smith College Hospital Hill to Conservation Commission	
8/28/2012	B 11023, p105	592 linear feet right-of-way on Smith College's Hospital Hill	18,700 sq. ft,
8/28/2013	B11441, p258	Sidewalk and multiuse trail easments across Beaches Park in Village Hill-- TO CITY	

Mass Central Rail Trail (Norwottuck)(City)

8 acres/5 miles

Ownership: Mass Electric; City of Northampton (Jackson St ramp); WJG Realty Trust (Stop & Shop); Coolidge Northampton, LLC (Walgreens); Beaver Brook Nominee Trust (spur to Grove Ave, Leeds)

Right-of-way: City of Northampton

Location: State St to Bridge Rd (Francis P. Ryan section), Bridge Rd to Williamsburg Town Line (Leeds section), Grove Ave to railroad bed (Grove Ave/Beaver Brook spur), State St to King St (Stop & Shop easement), King St to railroad (Walgreens easement), Haydenville Road (VAMC access easement to trail)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
5/3/1982	B2274, p282	Francis P. Ryan section	
5/22/2009	PB220, p91	Jackson St ramp	
5/22/2009	PB220, p89-90	Related Safe Routes to School	
5/27/2009	B9823, p35	Jackson St ramp, taking Mass Electric	
5/27/2009	B9823, p35	Jackson St ramp, taking Polachek	
6/9/2009	B9843, p331	Jackson St ramp, confirmatory deed Polachek	

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
2004	PB200, p27	Leeds section	
6/23/2005	B8314, p46	Taking Leeds (Mass Electric)	
5/13/2009	B9806, p180 & 183	Confirmatory, Mass Electric	
5/22/2009	PB220, p92	Route 9/Bridge Roundabout & bicycle access	
6/2/2009	B9833, p202	Confirmatory, Francis & Linda Sweeney	
4/6/2007	B9109, p48	Beaver Brook to Grove Ave right-of-way	
	LC7, p70	Land Court certified of title 713, Stop & Shop spur	
8/14/2008	PB219, p23	Walgreens spur	
10/1/2008	B9610, p210	Walgreens spur (as traffic mitigation)	
7/8/2009	PB221, p13	Rail trail by Megan O'Brien property	
	PB223, p50	Survey of Farkas Property, Williamsburg	
7/2/2010	B10225, p180	Deed from Laurie Farkas, Williamsburg	
10/8/2010	B 10329, p 57 & 62	Farkas property to Williamsburg. City retains easement	
1/23/2013	B11197, p159	VAMC easement for 75 year park-and-ride lot; connects to trail with access ramp at VAMC	
12/13/2013	PB231, p29	Survey easement S. Main Street, Williamsburg spur	
	B11574, p20	Easement to Northampton and Williamsburg	
7/30/2014	B11708, p19	Easement from Pan Am Railways for rail trail underpass	
	PB 232, p40		

The Norwottuck Rail Trail through the Jackson Street ramp includes Community Preservation Act assistance (\$4,000.00) for right-of-way from Massachusetts Electric and the remainder for design, soft costs, and non-participating construction costs.

Norwottuck/Mass Central Rail Trail (State)

6 acres

Ownership: Massachusetts Department of Conservation Resources

Location: Damon Rd

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
2/6/1985	B2546, p132	Parcel 25A-166	6.01
2/6/1985	B2546, p132	Parcel 25A-167	0

The Norwottuck Rail Trail extends from Woodmont Road in Northampton to Amherst. It provides a major recreation and transportation route from non-motorized vehicles, especially for those in wheelchairs and for pedestrians. It links to the UMass bikeway in Amherst and will eventually link to the Northampton rail trail network.

VA Medical Center Park-and-Ride Lot

3.165 acres

Ownership: USA through the Veterans Administration

Location: Haydenville Road/Route 9

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
1/23/2013	B11197, p159	75 year easement for park-and-ride lot, including access from lot to Nowottuck/Mass Central Rail Trail	3.175

The Park-and-Ride Lot serves as one of the largest no-cost parking along the Norwottuck/MassCentral Rail Trail and includes access to the rail trail with a pedestrain phase crossing Route 9.

5.2: Non-Permanently Protected

Bridge Street Elementary School

Ownership: City

Management: School Department

Location:

Equipment: Outdoor: basketball court, some swings

Facilities: Limited outdoor recreational and playground facilities.

Ellerbrook Recreation Area,

15.49 acres

Ownership: City of Northampton (acquired for general City use)

Location: Burts Pit Road and Route 66

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
1994	Chapters 86 & 307	Acts of 1994 (known as Parcel C)	
12/9/1998	B5558, p19	Transfer documents to City	15.49

Two softball fields and one soccer field. The property is not dedicated to recreation use and could be converted to other uses (e.g., future elementary school site and/or fire sub-station) if those are ever needed to accommodate new growth in this area of the town.

Clear Falls Recreation Center

73 acres

Ownership: Private (use by membership only)

Location: Drury Ln

Located in the extreme southwest corner of Northampton, this recreation area offers swimming, picnicking, and nature trails for hiking. It also has a field house, snack bar, and picnicking shelters. With a moderate level of use, this area attracts residents from throughout the region. As of 2005, the property was currently on the market for sale.

Driving Range

Ownership: Private

Location: Haydenville Rd

A practice driving range for golf, this facility receives medium summer use by residents throughout the region. It also has a snack bar. As a commercial facility, a fee is required for admission.

Robert K. Finn Ryan Road School

18.2 acres

Ownership: City

Management: School Department (building use), Recreation Department (field use)

Location: Ryan Rd

Equipment: Outdoor: playground, five ball diamonds, soccer field, skating area
Indoor: gymnasium with six basketball hoops, four volleyball nets; locker rooms w/ shower facilities
Bike racks, drinking water, first aid facilities

Both indoor and outdoor facilities are available on this 15-acre school site that receives medium-heavy, year-round school, neighborhood, and citywide use. The rear wooded area could be utilized for some form of outdoor recreation or nature education.

Florence Community Center (former Florence Grammar School)

2.5 acres

Ownership: City

Management: School Department, leased to Property Committee

Location:

Equipment: Outdoor: limited playground, blacktop play area

This former grammar school (closed in 1992) is now a City alternative high school with some of the inside space serving as a community center.

Hampshire YMCA

4.3 acres

Ownership: YMCA (use by membership or fees)

Location: Massasoit St

This facility is utilized on a region-wide basis. It offers racquetball, basketball, volleyball, and swimming (two pools). It has a sauna, steam room, and fitness center. It is used heavily year-round.

Keyes Field

Ownership: Florence Savings Bank

Location: Keyes St at Northampton Bike Path

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
3/8/2000	B5906, p326	Declaration of Open Space Restriction	

This field is protected by the covenants, “as open space with reasonable access to the public for passive use

and enjoyment under reasonable conditions.”

Jackson Street School

7.2 acres

Ownership: City

Management: School Department (building use), Recreation Department (field use)

Location:

Equipment: Outdoor: extensive playground equipment, two ball diamonds, one soccer/football field, one touch football field, two basketball courts

Indoor: gymnasium with six basketball hoops, gymnastics equipment, bleachers for 175 people

Parking, bike racks, showers, drinking water, supervision, first aid facilities

This elementary school site offers both indoor and outdoor recreational facilities that are heavily used by the school and the neighborhood. The site also offers the City’s first “adventure playground” (wooden play apparatus), constructed by volunteers. The wooded area on site could possibly provide outdoor education or nature study activities.

JFK Middle School

15 acres

Ownership: City

Management: School Department (building use), Recreation Department (field use)

Location: Florence St, Leeds

Equipment: Outdoor: two ball diamonds, three soccer fields, football field

Indoor: pool, gymnasium, six basketball hoops, two volleyball nets

Bike racks, showers, drinking water

Heavily used primarily by the school, this site contains both indoor and outdoor facilities. The facilities are in generally good condition; however, recurring problems with neighbors have limited the use of this site.

Leeds Memorial

1.6 acres

Ownership: City

Maintenance: DPW

Location: Florence St, opposite Leeds School

A small, grassed area, this site contains memorials. It is used by Leeds residents. This park has a memorial, but it is not appropriate for additional memorials. However, benches would increase its potential for use.

Leeds School

9.3 acres

Ownership: City

Management: School Department (building use), Recreation Department (field use)

Location: Florence St, Leeds

Equipment: Outdoor: playground, ball diamond, skating area, soccer field

Indoor: gymnasium with two basketball hoops, two volleyball nets, pull-up bars; auditorium

Parking, bike racks, supervision, first aid facilities

This 9.3-acre site contains both indoor and outdoor recreational facilities. It is used year-round by the school, local neighborhoods, and residents city-wide. This site is large enough to be redesigned to accommodate other types of field layouts, although some site work would be necessary due to sloping terrain.

Northampton Community Music Center (former South St. School)

Ownership: City

Management: Northampton Community Music Center

Location: Florence St, Leeds

This former elementary school is now used by the Music Center for music education. The parcel includes a small tot lot and access from South Street to the adjoining Veterans Field Recreation Area.

Northampton Country Club

Ownership: Private

Location: Main St, Leeds

This private golf club offers its members a nine-hole golf course, swimming pool, and clubhouse. The establishment receives medium use during the golfing season by residents throughout the region.

Northampton High School

23 acres

Ownership: City

Management: School Department (building use), Recreation Department (field use)

Location:

Equipment: Outdoor: playground, two storage buildings, three ball diamonds, soccer field, field hockey field, two grassed gym fields, track, lacrosse field, bleachers, concession stand

Indoor: gymnasium, universal gym, bleachers, basketball hoops, auditorium

This large school site offers both indoor and outdoor recreational facilities. It is used heavily by the school (physical education and interscholastic sports) and by residents citywide. Outdoor facilities are used very heavily in the spring, summer, and fall, depending on the sport season. Ramps and special toilet facilities are available for the handicapped. A small triangular, grassed area is located directly across from the High School. It serves as an informal park, although there are no facilities.

Northampton Revolver Club

34.3 acres

Ownership: Northampton Revolver Club, Inc

Location: Ryan Rd

The Club offers indoor and outdoor target shooting facilities to members from throughout the region.

Oxbow Marina

56.1 acres

Ownership: Private**Location:** Island Rd, CT; Oxbow River

The Marina is a commercial facility, offering boat rentals, storage, and mooring facilities; tennis, swimming, and horseshoes. Utilized on a region wide basis, this facility receives heavy summer use. Fees are charged. The Marina allows one of Northampton's soccer leagues to use their fields during the summer.

Peoples Institute

1.5 acres

Ownership: Peoples Institute**Location:** Gothic Street

This facility offers arts and crafts classes, educational programs, and summer day camps for elementary age children. The facility includes a dance floor and an outdoor pool. Fees are charged.

Pine Grove Golf Course

132.3 acres

Ownership: Private**Location:** Old Wilson Rd

With an 18-hole golf course and field house, this facility is open to members as well as non-members for a fee. Level of use is medium to heavy throughout the golf season. It also offers cross-country skiing in the winter. The facility has a regional-use population.

Smith College Mill River, Paradise Pond, Arboretum, and Athletic Fields

Ownership: Smith College**Location:** Smith College, Mill River, West St

This recreational area is part of the Smith College campus and receives heavy use by both students and area residents (with permission). Facilities include playfields, track and field, tennis courts, rowboats, and ice-skating. It includes a heavily used foot trail from Paradise Pond to the northern edge of Smith College, along Mill River. The trail then continues to Ward Avenue and Federal Street.

Smith School V.A. Parcel/Forestry Studies

182.1 acres

Ownership: City/Smith Vocational School**Location:** Haydenville Rd

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
3/4/1958	B1267, p217		
4/30/1987	B2961, p193		

The Smith Vocational School for Forestry Studies uses this large wooded site. The site contains an informal trail that could be used to link to a proposed northern corridor trail. It also contains land

that could allow an extension of that trail to Route 9. It has been suggested in the past that part of this property be used for a future high school site and some of it for affordable housing. Others have indicated a desire to keep this as permanent open space for use by the Smith School.

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School

78.9 acres

Ownership: City/ Trustees of Smith Vocational School
Recreation Department manages tennis courts and fields

Location: Locust St

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
12/22/1845	Box 249, #2	Will of Oliver Smith	
12/22/1905	B601, p287	Deed	

Equipment: Outdoor: eight tennis courts, soccer field, two ball fields (in construction by students)
Indoor: gymnasium, universal gym, six basketball hoops

This site contains the Smith Vocational School, the original core farm, tennis courts, and recreation fields. It also contains a public farm trail.

This site is used heavily by the school for physical education classes and interscholastic sports and by residents citywide throughout the school year. With a two-acre field area and indoor facility, it offers both outdoor and indoor recreational activities. There are handicap accessible facilities. There is also a large wetland on the south side of the property. The land immediately west of the developed part of the Smith Vocational School campus is currently used for agriculture (primarily grazing land with a farm trail constructed in 1993).

South Main Street and Berkshire Terrace

Ownership: City

Maintenance: DPW

Location:

This is a small, grassed corner lot with no facilities.

Trinity Row

0.5 acres

Ownership: City

Maintenance: DPW

Location: Florence

This is an ornamental, open space street park, containing a foundation and various memorials. This site receives light, year-round, local neighborhood use. Benches could increase its potential for use.

Tri-County Fairgrounds

42 acres

Ownership: Hampshire, Franklin, & Hampden Agricultural Society

Location: Old Ferry Rd, Fair Rd, Bridge St

The Fairgrounds receive heavily regional use during the fair and racing season. This facility contains an exhibition area, race track (horse), baseball field, playfields, picnic area, and a field house.

Former Vernon Street School

Ownership: City

Management:

Location:

Equipment:

This is a former school that includes playground equipment used by the surrounding neighborhoods.

VFW Memorial

Ownership: City

Location: Center of Florence

A small park with a fountain and memorial. It is lightly used by Florence residents.

5.3: Preservation Restrictions

Academy of Music, Main Street

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
10/10/1986	B2826, p49	City owned property, MHC holds PR	

David Ruggles Center, 225 Nonotuck St.

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
8/28/2009	B9948, p215	Committee for Northampton owned property, City/MHC held CR (\$15,000 CPA funds)	

Florence Grammer School, 140 Pine St.

Ownership: Forty Main Street, Inc

Protection: Preservation Restriction Agreement (local agreement not MGL 184) to City of Northampton, through Historical Commission

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
8/22/2013	B11434, p84	Condition of institutional zoning incentive	

Hatfield Street School, 52 Hatfield St.

Ownership: Private

Protection: Preservation Restriction Agreement (City has right to enforce)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
10/22/2002	B6843, p211		

Hampshire County Courthouse, 99 Main St.

Ownership: Hampshire Council of Governments

Protection: Preservation Restriction Agreement (MHC has right to enforce)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
10/02/2011	B10674, p212	Five year PR to 10/3/2016	

Historic Northampton, 46, 58 & 66 Bridge St.

Ownership: Northampton Historical Society d/b/a Historic Northampton

Protection: Preservation Restriction Agreement (City has right to enforce)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
03/06/2015	B11882, p301	Preservation Restriction held by City of Northampton	

The Manse, 54 Prospect St. The Manse, 54 Prospect St.

Ownership: Private

Protection: Preservation Restriction Agreement (Stewards of the Manse has right to enforce)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
	B3198, p91	Preservation Restriction held by Stewards of the Manse	

Masonic Street Fire Station, 60 Masonic St.

Ownership: Private (Media Education Foundation)

Protection: Preservation Restriction Agreement (City has right to enforce)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
6/28/2002	B6696, P48	Deed with City retained Preservation Restriction	
4/10/2007	B9093, P205	Reference to Preservation Restriction	
7/25/2002	B6724, P42	Reference to Preservation Restriction- back building	

West Farms Chapel, West Farms Road

Ownership: Private

Protection: Preservation Restriction Agreement (City has right to enforce)

Acquisition History			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	Acres
6/29/1987	B3007, p250-252	Historic preservation restriction	

5.4: Other Agreements & Easements

Acquisition History and Development Agreement conditions			
Date	Book, page or other	Description of Development Agreement	
9/9/2004	B7982, p197 200-206 King Street	Be compatible with residential neighborhood: No pornographic uses; New buildings will be a minimum of 2 stories; Upper floors only be used for housing; all for as long as zoning is GB or HB.	
3/4/2005	Agreement: B8180, p119	Developer PAID \$150,000 for design N.King/Hatfield intersection. Rezoned to HB for River Valley Market.	

Acquisition History and Drainage Easements			
Date	Book, page or other	Description	
10/10/2007	B9291, p7	Site plan decision	
12/14/2007	B9349, p103 Microcal, 22 Industrial Dr. E	Drainage Easement to City (Board of Public Works)	

Conservation area signage standards

1. Use area names listed in the OSRP plan. Where areas are within greenways or larger conservation groupings, the overall area should be listed in front of the specific title (example: Meadows Conservation Area, Montview Section). Signs should be located at trailheads where applicable; facing the nearest roadway in a central location if the area has no trails.
2. Signs are local Black Locust (prefer) or FSC-certified ipe, 48 inches in length, 6 inches high, and 1 inch deep, with tropical oil finish. Signs should be sanded prior to application of finish. Letters are 2.75 inches in height, routed to a depth of 1/16 inch, with a ¼ inch thickness. Fonts do not include serifs. Letters are finished with pigmented encaustic epoxy fill in an off white color.
3. Signs must also include a 4.5 inch diameter circle, routed to a depth of 1/16 inch following the sign name, for placement of appropriate metal logos of the city and its partners.
4. Install signs on 8 foot lengths of pressure treated “4x4,” painted brown, set four feet into the ground and firmly backfilled. Sign posts are set 3 feet six inches measured on center. Signs are installed 4 inches from the top of the posts. Signs are rear-mounted, with no hardware installed through the face of the sign.

MULTI-USE TRAILS



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6 Community Vision

This plan builds on earlier *Open Space, Recreation, and Multiuse Trail Plans* (1975, 1980, 1985, 1989, 1994, 2000, 2005, and 2011) and the *Sustainable Northampton Comprehensive Plan* (2008).

Open Space, Recreation, and Multiuse Trail Goals

Northampton is endowed with a diverse natural and cultural environment, which provides scenic vistas, opportunity for passive and active recreation, and a wide variety of plant and animal habitats, including habitats for rare and endangered species. Northampton residents want to preserve and enhance these resources, but they also acknowledge that resources are limited and that open space and recreation goals are sometimes in conflict with other community goals.

Major goals are to:

- Manage conservation lands to preserve natural systems and be user friendly
- Preserve the city's most ecologically valuable areas
- Open space to serve people
- Preserve farmland
- Support agricultural operations to ensure farmers for farmland
- Ensure adequate land for active recreation
- Improve parks and recreation areas to serve active recreation needs
- Maintain existing parks and recreation areas
- Develop multi-use trails for easy public access
- Convert unloved pavement to beloved parks
- Honor history in the landscape
- Improve public awareness of all of these resources

7 Analysis of Needs

Resource Protection, Community, and Management Needs

For three decades, Northampton and its partners have protected over 0.5% of the city annually as open space. Over 25% of the City is now (2018) permanently protected open space.

During numerous public forums, the City heard citizen open space and recreation hopes and aspirations. Adopting and endorsing boards and their staff have addressed this public process and past plans by identifying the following needs:

1. Provide recreation opportunities throughout the city, and especially revitalizing and expanding tired recreation areas.
2. Link and expand existing open space to provide passive recreation, wildlife movement between natural habitats, and climate changed induced migrations.
3. Protect of vistas and viewsheds.
4. Protect of a range of critical and natural plant and animal habitats, including wetlands, rare and endangered species habitat, and riparian lands along the Connecticut, Mill, and Manhan Rivers and other rivers and streams.
5. Preserve of open space parcels that help define Northampton's character, including parcels at city entrances and gateways.
6. Protect of farmland, forestland, and the rural character of outlying areas.
7. Protect Northampton, Easthampton, and Hatfield drinking water supply watershed and aquifer lands.
8. Provide access to open space resources especially for environmental justice populations/low and moderate income areas.
9. Ensure development is sensitive to ecological resources, vistas, and open space.
10. Serve the needs of those with disabilities in public open space.
11. Ensure fish and informal swimming opportunities throughout the City.
12. Protect Smith Vocational agricultural and forestry lands, including some of the oldest trees in the city at the former at the Veterans Administration Medical Center.
13. Protect of key parcels in the last remaining large undeveloped areas of town – Broad Brook and Beaver Brook Watersheds, Parsons Brook Greenway, Marble Brook Greenway, Saw Mill Hills, Mineral Hills, and the Meadows.
14. Provide a wider diversity of recreation facilities, especially indoor facilities.
15. Better maintain recreational areas.

16. Develop more multi-use trails and bicycle linkages of all kinds to provide access to active and passive recreation, create healthy lifestyles and provide alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles.

2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs *Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)* identifies critical recreation needs, based on available facilities, current and future demand, and user surveys. This profile of needs are used by communities for planning and when applying for grants under the Land and Water Conservation Fund and state LAND and PARC programs.

Regional needs are useful as indicators, not specific and absolute predictors. The intent was not to create a set of imperatives but to supply communities with statewide and regional data that should be considered and perhaps modified by particular local needs.

At both the state and the regional level, the SCORP identifies unmet needs for trail-based activities, especially non-motorized uses such as walking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing, various types of field sports, and water-based activities, especially swimming.

As part of our focus on environmental justice populations, we also note difference in needs among ethnic groups, especially specific needs around field sports and active recreation. Given our increased focus on how recreation can encourage a healthy lifestyle, this focus on active recreation is especially important.

Finally, we noted the slightly different needs for people with disabilities. Northampton has made enormous progress in creating accessible playground structures and multi-use trails, but we continue to seek to address all passive and recreation needs.

These needs, and the entire SCORP, was considered in creating this plan. In addition, the SCORP is consulted for every city LAND and PARC grant application.

Recreation and Conservation Needs

With limited resources, maintenance of existing municipal facilities has become a challenge. We are exploring new partnerships with leagues and user groups to address the challenges.

1. Maintain existing facilities.
2. Continue to cooperate with Look Park and non-municipal recreation providers to meet Northampton's recreation needs.
3. Meet the special recreation needs of the elderly, environmental justice populations, and those with disabilities.

Northampton Resource Protection Needs

To address significant threats to natural resources, plant and animal habitats, and the environmental health of the City, especially from climate change, the city needs to:

1. Protect critical habitats and link open space.
2. Protect critical and productive habitats, including wetlands, rare and endangered species habitats, wildlife corridors, and riparian corridors.
3. Protect a range of natural habitat types, including riparian (riverfront) habitat, farmland, forest, and vernal pools.
4. Protect Northampton, Easthampton and Hatfield's drinking water supply watershed and aquifer land.
5. Work with partners to ensure protection of resources that cross political boundaries by working with partners.

8

Goals and Objectives

The following are policies, objectives, and actions that were adopted by the Northampton Planning Board and endorsed by City Council and other boards as part of the City's primary planning document, *Sustainable Northampton Comprehensive Plan*. These goals and public sentiment generally were determined from an extensive public participation process. A survey was sent to every residential address in the city as part of the annual City Census and evaluated those results. The city held dozens of public sessions and several public forums, including one specifically targeted for environmental justice populations and used three separate outside consultants (AIA SDAT, Walt Cudnohufsky, and the Cecil Group) to ensure that the city accurately judged community values and goals.

All of these goals shown (below) have major or minor impacts on open-space and recreation. *Sustainable Northampton* has other goals and objectives that are not relevant and are not repeated here.

Land Use and Development

Goal LU-1: Direct changes and improvements in accordance with the Future Land Use Map

1. Before developing rural areas, and after allowing for green space within densely developed areas, encourage infill development of vacant and under utilized land in and around downtown and in existing denser developed areas. This includes places such as village centers or areas that are currently zoned and targeted for development, such as the Business Park.
2. Locate housing within walking distances along safe paths, or with bicycle access, to and from neighborhood commercial areas, parks and recreation, schools, and public transportation.

Goal LU-2: Create and preserve high quality, built environments in the downtown and village centers

1. Add parks, greenspace and appropriate agriculture on city-owned land or on larger infill development

parcels where possible, to keep urban and village centers attractive.

2. Encourage and create incentives to enable well-designed and desired development to occur in downtown and other more densely developed locations or in targeted growth zones. These incentives should also work to maintain the distinctions and historic precedents that define those areas.
3. Define and support a critical mass of retail, cultural, and office space.

Goal LU-3: Maintain a distinction between rural areas, residential neighborhoods, and urban areas

1. Housing projects that are built in rural areas should be cluster development types, leaving more open land, with designs that allow for a variety of housing options.
2. Preserve the character of rural areas through preservation of large undeveloped tracts, vistas, and farmland.
4. Implement ideas for maximizing density on small lots.
6. Create Northampton neighborhoods that provide pedestrian scales, connections to goods and services, and connections to multiple modes of travel.
7. Ensure that zoning and land use regulations encourage mixed-use, multi-family development projects that are in keeping with high quality design and a character that transitions into the surrounding neighborhood.
8. Ensure that expansion of commercial parcels into residential areas coincides with road infrastructure improvements that enhance the value of the abutting residential uses and improve neighborhood character.

Goal LU-4: Preserve and encourage agricultural uses in designated areas, such as the Meadows

1. Maintain the primarily open and agricultural nature of the Meadows as it exists, with no new residential lots and no significant increase in residential density.
2. Continue to allow flooding of the Meadows for restoration of the soils for farming, and preserve the floodplain storage capacity of the Meadows as a means to prevent other areas and neighborhoods from flooding.
3. Support the economic viability of farming within the City, preserving scenic, ecological, and environmental benefits for the City as whole. The City should support farming through allocation of resources and infrastructure investments.

Energy, Environment and Climate Protection

Goal EEC-1: Reduce community's and City's energy demand and natural resource consumption

The City's objectives emphasize education and promotion of "green" policies. Actions will be taken to promote awareness on both public and private levels including increases in energy efficiency, encouragement of green development, use of energy from renewable sources, a campaign for the purchase of local goods, waste management reform, and the reconstitution of a Transportation Commission. Waste management, transportation, and locally produced products relate directly to the open space plan as reforms in these areas will reduce impact on and enhance surrounding landscape.

Goal EEC-2: Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG)

Positive effects on open space will be realized through reforms in transportation, future land use concerning vehicular traffic, and public awareness of strategies for lessening emissions.

Goal EEC-3: Protect valuable and sensitive ecological resources (land, air, water, habitat, plants, & animals)

1. Prioritize and preserve quality wetlands by encouraging development in densely populated areas and in clusters.
2. Protect and conserve water supplies (drinking, surface, groundwater, recharge areas, aquifers) and continue to enforce groundwater protection regulations.
3. Conserve wetlands with programs to ensure no net loss of total wetlands (existing area of approximately 3,000 acres).
4. Preserve floodplains for flood storage and, where appropriate, habitat values.
5. Preserve existing forests, floodplains, wetlands, and agricultural soils of high ecological value.
6. Protect rare and endangered plants and animals and important wildlife corridors.
7. Improve the quality and appearance of the public water supply.
8. Recognize that the protection of environmental resources will improve the quality of life and the value of property in the City.
9. Minimize the loss of tree canopy throughout the City and increase tree canopy in urbanized areas to maintain a higher quality environment in all areas.

Goal EEC-4: Minimize the impacts of infrastructure systems on environmental resources

1. Implement regulations that include measures for soil erosion and sediment control.
2. Encourage and enforce low impact development designs.

3. Develop an inventory of roadways and facilities in environmentally sensitive areas and reduce the use of sand, salts or other de-icing chemicals for their maintenance.
4. Reuse brownfield sites.

Goal EEC-5: Safeguard and improve the quality of the City's surface waters to ensure use for safe public swimming, recreational fishing activities, boating, and drinking

1. Ensure landside land alterations do not adversely impact surface waters.
2. Ensure waterfront property owners comply with regulations and upgrade environmental controls.
3. Ensure safe, high quality, recreational waters are available to all residents.
4. Protect quality of backup drinking water supply located in City reservoir.

Open Space and Recreation

Goal OS-1: Maximize use of the City's open space and recreation areas

1. Determine carrying capacity of facilities and match it with population growth and demographics.
2. Maximize use of recreational space with affordable and quality programs for youth.
3. Make capital improvements and enhance maintenance of recreation facilities.
4. Provide open space and recreation opportunities for individuals of all ages, socioeconomic levels, and physical abilities now and for future generations.

Goal OS-2: Expand open space and recreation areas

1. Acquire land for recreation, conservation and open space needs, preservation of plant and animal habitat, protection of scenic vistas, public enjoyment, and to enhance the character and sustainability of the community.
2. Preserve and expand City holdings of open space and wild lands, as well as open land in developed areas, including densely developed areas.
3. Use open space and recreation to ensure that the urban and village centers are attractive places to live, work, and visit.
4. Make more natural areas available for public use as long as watershed land access does not threaten water supplies.
5. Acquire land and build facilities to meet the needs for adult and youth athletic and recreation and

school teams.

Goal OS-3: Preserve natural and cultural resources and the environment

1. Preserve the character of rural areas, farms, forests, and rivers.
2. Manage conservation properties to restore plant and animal habitats.
3. Preserve the environment and cultural and natural resources through land and easements and regulation changes.
4. Protect important ecological resources, including surface and groundwater resources, plant communities, and wildlife habitat.
5. Preserve ecological linkages and wildlife corridors, especially water-based linkages.
6. Have the City lead in protecting architectural and cultural history.
7. Consistently apply the criteria for preservation of the environment and resources across all neighborhoods and areas.

Goal OS-4: Provide open space connections between public spaces

1. Identify 'greenway' and 'blueway' connections that could provide pedestrian, bicycle, and boat access between open space areas.
2. Use the connections to also link business areas where they can support the pedestrian/biking connections.
3. Improve connections to open spaces for all individuals so they are universally accessible. Operate with sound and explicit standards, guidelines, criteria, and administrative procedures.

Heritage and Historic Resources

Goal HR-1: Protect and preserve the City's heritage resources

1. Educate and inform decision makers and the community about heritage resources.
2. Protect the heritage resources from degradation or destruction by public or private actions or inactions.

Goal H-1: Create new housing

1. Provide developers with options that allow them to build at higher densities in return for creating more affordable housing units.

2. Utilize green and sustainable design funding opportunities for affordable housing.
3. Expand the range of options for detached housing, such as cottage housing development to increase density in designated locations.

9 Seven-Year Action Plan

The City, through the boards adopting and endorsing this plan, has identified the following actions to address the goals and needs outlined in this plan. This action plan includes actions that would be desirable over the next seven years.

All actions are consistent with the City's commitment to fully comply with Title IX, Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board.

Prioritizing Objectives

Primary Objectives

Plans and needs evolve over time. These objectives help staff and the boards establish priorities.

The primary conservation objectives are protecting natural resources, creating greenway networks and linkages of open spaces and trails, and maintaining the City's landscape and character. Conservation evaluative criteria:

- Agricultural features such as open fields, prime agricultural soils, scenic views of agricultural property, active agricultural use, historical agricultural uses, and agricultural structures.
- Location of the parcel in relationship to other protected land.
- Ability to contribute to needed civic space

near village centers or recreational areas.

- Ability to serve environmental justice populations or under-served areas.
- Proximity to sensitive environmental resources, including drinking water sources, wetlands, ponds, lakes, streams, steep slopes, unique geological features, significant vegetative and wildlife habitat or wildlife corridors (especially for rare or endangered species).

The primary recreation objectives are protecting community health and character, providing high quality recreation opportunities, especially for underserved areas and populations, and improving accessibility to recreation. Recreation evaluative criteria:

- Opportunities for new or expanded connections to existing trail networks for alternative transportation, walking, hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, and other recreational opportunities.
- Public access to water, including recreational access to the waterfront.
- Opportunity for a safe, usable, and accessible park and recreation space.
- Opportunity for affordable and accessible spectator and participatory events.

Secondary Objectives

Landowners, land trusts, developers, and other partners may approach the City with conservation or recreation opportunities that have not been identified as primary objectives. These opportunities can be incorporated into life estates, bargain sales, charitable donations, and large-scale developments. These projects may have regional significance: provide access to special or unique natural and cultural resources; have potential as multi-use corridors; provide recreational opportunities and access to amenities or destinations (e.g., parks, downtown and villages, and schools); enhance an area that encompasses a unique or representative biologic community; or have local support (e.g., project is as a priority on a strategic plan).

Seven-Year Action Plan

The Action Plan builds on the 12 goals identified in the Community Vision (outlined earlier).

1. Manage Conservation Land to Preserve Natural Systems and be User-Friendly

Resources: All of these items are to be coordinated by Planning staff, funded with city ordinary maintenance and staff time, volunteer labor, Conservation fund endowment income, grants and fund-raising, and community preservation funds.

Timing: On-going over entire plan period.

Actions

1. Planning staff to implement management plans, including Fitzgerald Lake Dam, and maintain all conservation areas for habitat improvement and for visitors, including those with disabilities. Planning staff is authorized to maintain these areas consistent with the plan. Maintain trails, facilities, and improvements, walk property boundaries annually, and develop and work with volunteers and management partners. When possible, restore natural systems.

2. More agriculture on conservation land.

Staff, with policy input from the Agriculture Commission, is authorized to license and lease agriculture fields in conservation areas and to expand agriculture when possible. These include (but are not limited to): five parcels within the Connecticut River Greenway/Meadows (Damon Road, Potash/Manhan, Cross Path, Montview Avenue, and Former Jail Farm), Mineral Hills (Sylvester Road), and Broad Brook Greenway (Linseed Road)

3. Aggressive invasive removal with a volunteer component when exotics and non-native invasive plants compete with local plants and degrade animal habitat. Planning staff will coordinate along volunteer and other land management partners.

4. Develop a ONE Northampton trail that encircles the city, building on existing trails, adding trails where there are gaps, with a good treadway, consistent signing. ONE Northampton should be an easily identifiable trail and attract more people for long walks.

5. Make accessibility improvements on conservation land, both improving existing accessible boardwalks and trails and adding new accessible trails, benches, and picnic tables.

2. Preserve the City's Most Ecologically Valuable Areas

As of 2018, 25% of Northampton, of which about 20% includes some of the most ecologically valuable land, has been preserved. Preservation efforts should continue, prioritized on ecological values and on contribution to the City's broader land use goals. Land preservation may be done by Conservation Commission ownership of land (fee-simple), or of conservation restrictions and agriculture preservation restrictions (less-than-fee). Ownership is generally prioritized because it provides management rights and appropriate public access, but less-than-fee preservation is appropriate in many cases, especially when useful to preserve working lands.

Resources to fund: LAND, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and other federal, state, and foundation grants, Community Preservation Act

funds, city funds, and community fund-raising.

Timing: On-going over entire plan period.

Actions

1. **Analyze fiscal impacts of open space**, evaluating the marginal costs of providing services, the financial benefits and costs of open space, and the overall costs and benefits.

2. **Ensure new building lots are developed to prevent open space from**

3. **Strengthen partnerships for improved efficacy**, including Kestrel Land Trust (most areas), Mass Audubon Society (Rocky Hill and portions of the Meadows), and Meadows City Conservation Coalition (Ward 3 Meadows and Connecticut River Greenway) for coordinated fund-raising and land preservation and with the partner holding conservation restrictions, at no cost to the city, on City conservation areas.

4. **Preserve ecologically valuable land and fill gaps between protected land**, including but not limited to:

- **Beaver Brook Greenway expansion**, especially land near the brook. This includes valuable ecologically land behind the Roman Catholic cemetery.
- **Broad Brook-Fitzgerald Lake Greenway expansion**, especially along the brook, extending the conservation area and filling gaps between conservation area units.
- **Mill River and Historic Mill River Greenway**, along the entire length of the Mill River, including the Historic Mill River through downtown Northampton, key tributaries, and the Northampton State Hospital area adjacent to the river. This is the historical industrial and population heart of the city and one of the most valuable ecological resources in the city.
- **Saw Mill Hills and Mineral Hills, including Marble Brook and the Glendale Road area** expand preservation along these two ranges, which extend from Williamsburg to

Easthampton. Connecting all of the gaps and missing teeth, acquiring all of the ridge and the vernal pools and buffers to the vernal pools is the top priority.

- **Parsons Brook Greenway, including West Farms and Park Hill Road.** Preserve land to provide ecological and human connection between protected land at the Saw Mill and Mineral Hills to Easthampton along Parsons Brook and the nearby farm and woodland. These seemingly disparate parcels of conservation and restricted land are connected ecologically and can be better connected along waterways (for wildlife) and high points (for human trails).
- **Rocky Hill Greenway** including the corridor from the existing Rocky Hill Greenway at Routes 10 and 66, to the Burts Bog Greenway.
- **Connecticut River Greenway and Meadows Conservation Area**, including the corridor along the Connecticut River and the adjacent floodplain. This includes the greenway from the Coolidge Bridge to Hatfield, the area immediately adjacent to existing protected holdings at the Conte National Fish and Wildlife Preserve and the Aracadia Wildlife Sanctuary. Preservation should include agriculture preservation restrictions of privately owned farmland.

3. Open Space to Serve People

Conservation is primarily about preserving natural systems, but providing opportunities for users, in parks, recreation areas, and even in conservation areas to the extent those opportunities do not significantly degrade natural systems, is critical.

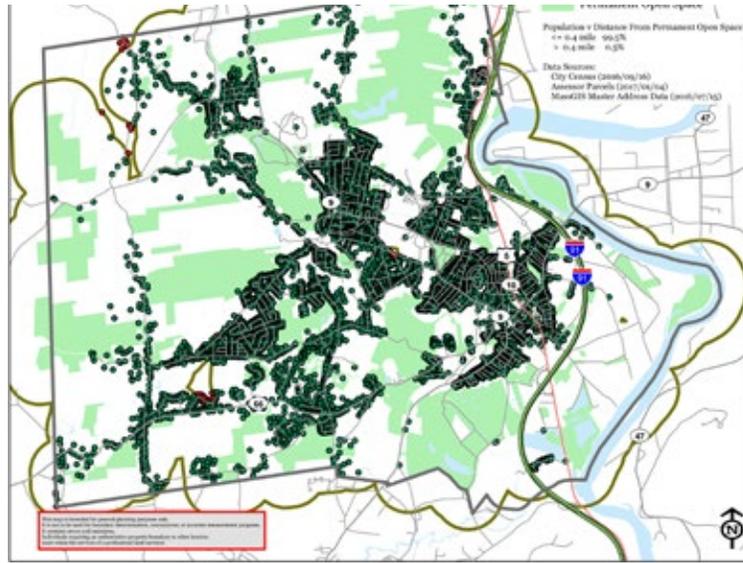
Resources to fund: Grants, city staff time, in-kind resources, volunteer efforts.

Timing: On-going over entire plan period.

Actions

1. **Ensure open space within walking distance of all urban neighborhoods.** This provides access for the public, promotes nature appreciation, active

OPEN SPACE IN WALKING DISTANCE



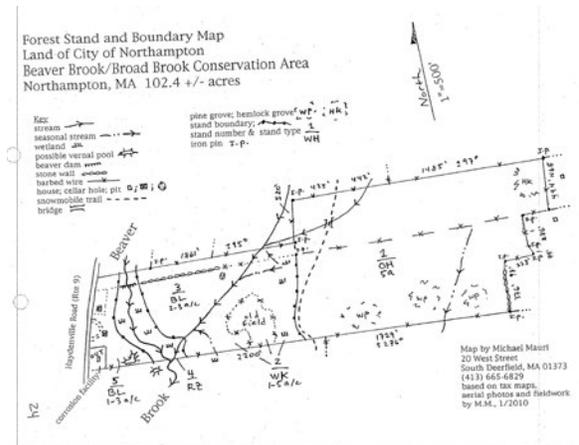
and passive recreation, and improved public health. This is a critical part of the city’s equity goals.

2. Focus on serving environmental justice populations. In addition to providing open space within walking distance, concentrations of low income populations without access to cars also need culturally appropriate sports and community gardens within walking distance of their need or, when bike share is available, within biking distance.

3. Develop new partnerships, whether for trail improvements or potential green burials on

3. Allow snowmobile use on Burgy Bullets and Turkey Hill Road IF management partners are available. Both areas have long and uninterrupted history of snowmobile use. The Burgy Bullets do a superb stewardship job and trail should remain open as long as this stewardship continues. Turkey Hill Road suffers from more abuse. This trail on the road should only remain open if a responsible steward takes responsibility for maintaining the trail and keeping users on it.

5. Maintain the “Jeep Eater” jeep trail and extend it easterly, while managing to protect conservation values. This trail predates city ownership by decades and is generally well stewarded. The trail should remain open as long as the stewardship continues **if** the stewards can get keep users on the rocky trail and not into nearby wet areas. The city should acquire the portion of the trail on private land east of the current conservation land to expand and husband the trail and protect the land.



BEAVER BROOK Snowmobile Trail

conservation land. These opportunities serve a wider variety of stakeholders, lower city costs, provide new opportunities, and build social connection to open space.

6. The Conservation Commission should discuss the hunting framework in future public hearings. During the public conversation on this plan, the issue of expanding hunting opportunities on conservation land was the only subject where no consensus or compromise emerged. As a result, the plan makes no recommendation about hunting and the issue remains with the Conservation Commission, which is charged with regulation

the use of conservation land. Hunting is currently allowed at Rainbow Beach and bow hunting is allowed at Beaver Brook Greenway. Hunters, their families, friends, and supporters have advocated for more hunting opportunities, advocating that all residents should have the opportunity to use conservation areas in non-destructive ways. Hunting opponents have strongly opposed any new hunting, raising issues of safety, noise, and use conflicts.

When the Conservation Commission takes this up, they might want to consider the following as they work on a framework:

- Hunting is not appropriate in areas with high visitation and near dense residential areas, including for example Burts Bog, Broad Brook-Fitzgerald Lake, Mill River Greenway, Mineral Hills, Parsons Brook and Saw Mill Hills.
- The community perception is polarized more than any other issue in this plan with disagreement on even basic facts (how noisy is hunting in terms of number of shots fired, is hunting consistent with conservation, does inclusiveness mean that hunters should have opportunities within the city, and should a majority of non-hunters be able to preclude hunting opportunities).
- Issues of enforceability, safety, noise, compatibility of uses, maintenance, and alternative uses that are inconsistent with hunting are all legitimate for discussion.
- In discussing the issues, the Conservation Commission can ignore this plan, set geographic limits on where hunting is or is not allowed, set seasonal limits (e.g., deer season only hunting), set species limits (e.g., hunt only non-predators), and hunting methods (e.g., limit some areas to bow hunting).

4. Preserve Farmland

Farmland should be generally be preserved in Northampton, especially the rich fertile soil in and adjacent to our floodplains. This effort is critical to our local economy, our history and values, and to

provide a healthy living environment.

Resources to fund: Massachusetts APR program, LAND and Land and Water Conservation Fund and other federal, state, and foundation grants, Community Preservation Act funds, and city funds.

Timing: On-going over entire plan period.

Actions

1. Meadows and other areas, especially with prime agricultural soils, needs state and local agricultural preservation restrictions (APRs). Most of the farmland at greatest risk of development in Northampton has already been lost to development or is already permanently preserved. There are a few farms left that could be developed. The greater risk is farmland going fallow or being converted to other uses. The City should work with the farmers, the Massachusetts APR program, and local resources for local APRs to preserve as much farmland as possible.

2. City farmland ownership is appropriate as part of larger conservation areas and community gardens, but otherwise the ideal is private farmland with APRs. Farmland is best left in private ownership (farmer or farming non-governmental organization). When farmland is included in larger portions of conservation land, however, the city should still preserve this farmland and then lease it to farmers for productive use.

The city has established two large community gardens that mostly serve the city, but there is still demand for small community gardens near environmental justice and urban neighborhoods to serve those neighborhoods without requiring access to a car to drive to an existing community garden.

3. Restore Hampshire County Jail Farm. This newly acquired (2018) should be restored to farming outside of the wetlands and used for a community gardens or leased to farmers.

5. Support Agricultural Operations to Ensure Farmer for Farmland



Ensuring that farming is a viable occupation is as important as preserving farmland to encourage locally grown and healthy food. The state has been helpful through their farm viability program and the City has helped by adjusting rents at our farmland to meet current market conditions. The Keep Farming planning process identified some of the issues and opportunities.

Resources to fund: Community Preservation funds, community fund-raising, and state, federal and foundation grant funds.

Timing: On-going, with the Agriculture Commission.

1. **Supporting farming operations, including no-till that sometimes requires herbicides.**

The city adopted a right-to-farm ordinance that acknowledges farmers right to continue to farm and not be limited in generally accepted farming practices. In addition, no-till agriculture creates far less soil erosion and loss of carbon sequestration in soil than traditional plowing, that exposes more soil to the elements.

2. **Improve Meadows security.** From dogs to off road vehicles, farmers have suffered abuse. A grand

compromise, better security, no public nighttime use, might lead to a grand compromise of opening up some of the private roads to public walking and use.

3. **View tree farms as a kind of agriculture,** with working landscapes one of the best ways to generate local income and protect open space.

4. **Explore photo-voltaic as opportunity to supplemental farm income,** if it can be done without creating any incentives for converting prime farmland to non-farm uses or extending power lines into the Meadows where none currently exist.

6. Ensure Adequate Land for Active Recreation

Land for active recreation is critical to helping create healthy lifestyles. The recent purchase of the 24 acre Florence Fields Recreation Area and the Connecticut River Greenway Riverfront Park brings the city closer to the land base necessary to meet its future recreation needs.

Resources to fund: PARC, Land and Water



Conservation Fund and other federal, state, and foundation grants, Community Preservation funds, city funds, community fund-raising, limited development dividends.

Timing: As opportunities arise.

1. Fill in gaps at Sheldon Field and explore some recreation uses at Oak Street parcel. There is some land available adjacent to Sheldon Field that should be added to Sheldon Field. Some is currently owned by the City and leased to a farmer and some is currently privately held. A small amount of land would allow this area to reach the critical mass to serve multiple recreation needs. Oak Street is a surplus city school site that could be used for BMX riding and recreation, as well as none recreation uses.

2. Serve environmental justice populations, including playgrounds. There may be some local opportunities, such as the recent playground added at Lampron Park, for additional facilities in the city's most urban and environmental justice areas.

3. Move rail trail easement to fee ownership for PARC grants. Much of the city's railtrails are owned by the city by easement. This serves almost every city need but does not allow the city to access PARC grants for railtrail projects.

7. Improve Parks and Recreation Areas to Serve

Active Recreation Needs

The City has slowly been rehabilitating and adding fields (the new Florence Fields and Connecticut River Greenway, parking at Sheldon Field, and redeveloping Veterans' Field and Arcanum Field. Recreation needs are still not completely met, however.

Resources to fund: PARC, Land and Water Conservation Fund and other federal, state and foundation grants, Community Preservation funds, city funds, and community fund-raising.

Timing: On-going over term of the plan.

1. Implement next phases of Florence Recreation Fields and Connecticut River Greenway Riverfront Park. Both properties have been built in the last few years and have become the heaviest used recreation areas in the city. Neither project, however, is completely done and more work is required to fully implement the vision and promise of these areas.

2. Accessibility improvements to provide more opportunities, from accessible benches to walkways to bathrooms.

3. Rehabilitate and expand recreation opportunities at Sheldon Field, Maines Field, Ellerbrook Field, Bear Hill Soccer Field, and Mulberry/Leeds Park

These recreation areas all are loved, but are ready for rehabilitation, upgrading, and expansion.

Sheldon Field has relatively new basketball courts, but the field is aging and needs a major rehabilitation and expansion.

Maines Field is ready for a major overhaul.

Ray Ellerbrook Fields has opportunities for creation of additional fields.

4. Explore future dog park and playground needs. Both a dog park and playground represent partially unmet needs for the city.

8. Maintain Existing Parks and Recreation Areas.

1. Work with the new Friends of Northampton Parks and Recreation to fund and draw attention to recreation needs.

2. Consider winter sports needs, such as parking for cross country ski use and other opportunities.

9. Develop Multi-Use Trails for Easy Public Access.

Northampton is increasingly becoming the mecca for multi-use trail users. With the doubling of the length of rail trails in Northampton in 2009-2010 and the slow but steady growth since then, the city has become the hub for a rail trail system that will eventually extend from Northampton north to Turners Falls, east to Boston, and south to New Haven.

The trails having been serving recreation uses for many years, but with the growth in the network they are now increasingly being used for all uses, including journey to work, play, and shopping. This decreases, even if only marginally, vehicular traffic, improves healthy lifestyles, and creates a transportation route far less expensive to tax payers than roads and highways.

The City's objective is to make 75% of the city easily accessible to trail systems. This would be done through additional trails, improved access to neighborhoods as multi-use spurs, standalone

“short-cuts,” and bicycle lanes for that last mile.

Resources to fund: LAND, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and other federal, state, and foundation grants, Community Preservation funds, city funds, Northampton Bikes Endowment Fund, n grants, community fund-raising, and limited development dividends.

Timing: On-going over entire plan period

1. Develop bike infrastructure to connect to multiuse trails, including ValleyBike Share, connecting bike lanes and tracks, bike repair and storage, and repaving State and Bridge Streets. None of these are multi-use trails, but they are the feeders and the infrastructure needed to build bike culture and make the trails a success.

2. Major trail expansions, Rocky Hill Greenway (the top priority), MassCentral connection to Williamsburg, Damon Road Multiuse Trail, and the Connecticut River Greenway.

The **Rocky Hill Greenway** is the City's top multiuse trail priority, connecting the existing multiuse trail network with the largest neighborhood in the City currently unserved by multiuse trails. In order of priority: 1) Rocky Hill Greenway through Burts Bog is critical to connect the neighborhood and provide access to the conservation area, 2) Rocky Hill Greenway from the New Haven and Northampton Canal Greenway, which is currently under design and an approved MassDOT project, and 3) the remaining gap between these projects and the already completed section of the Rocky Hill Greenway.

The next priority is the **Connecticut River Greenway trail to Hatfield**, from Damon Road or 1.3 miles from River Run Access Road to Elm Court in Hatfield would dramatically open up multi-use trail opportunities. It would connect a new town to the growing rail trail network and provide easy access to Hatfield's safe back roads for Northampton bicyclists. It would also be a spectacular trail with great Connecticut River vistas and it would be anchored by the south by the new greenway community boathouse park and on the north by the Connecticut River Greenway parcel with frontage on the river.

3. Major new access points at Edwards Square, Burts Pit Drumlin, Hotel Bridge access, Florence Street, Hebert Access, and Riverbank Access. Although these projects do not create a lot of multiuse trail mileage, they are critical to serve residents and new areas. In all of these areas, existing trails go near unserved neighborhoods, but lack of trail access prevents those neighborhoods from benefiting from trails.

4. Other easier access points at Blackberry Lane and at other locations along the trail. Blackberry will provide relatively low cost new access to a dense neighborhood, Jackson Street, and the largest environmental justice neighborhood in the city. Other access points are possible as neighborhoods have a chance to weigh in and as desire lines (where people walk even without a trail) develop.

10. Convert Unloved Pavement to Beloved Parks

Building on the success of the City Hall curb

extension, the Roundhouse parklet, the Amber Lane parklet, and the Pleasant Street parklet, and the city's portable parklet kit, the city is considering more urban parklet opportunities.

1. Create additional downtown parklets and pavement to parks.

2. Create marked trails connecting public and private parks

3. Explore easement to protect walking shortcuts.

11. Honor History in the Landscapes

Northampton has a rich 355 year history that is honored in written histories and building preservation. There has been less emphasis, however, on the living and outdoor landscapes, especially cemeteries, historically significant landscapes, and historical farms and other working landscapes.



1. **Preserve historic cemeteries, both those subject to Article 97 (Northampton State Hospital) and those not.** Bridge Street Cemetery is the city's oldest European-focused cemetery and should be listed on the National Register, either by itself or as part of an expanded downtown register district.

2. **Develop historic mine site, the Galena Mine in the Mineral Hills.** The Galena Mine includes interesting mineral and mine shafts.

3. **Add historic interpretation for Mill River and other historic sites,** probably in partnership with Leeds Civic Association and the Mill River Initiative.

4. **Develop heritage landscape histories** to bring the history alive for users.

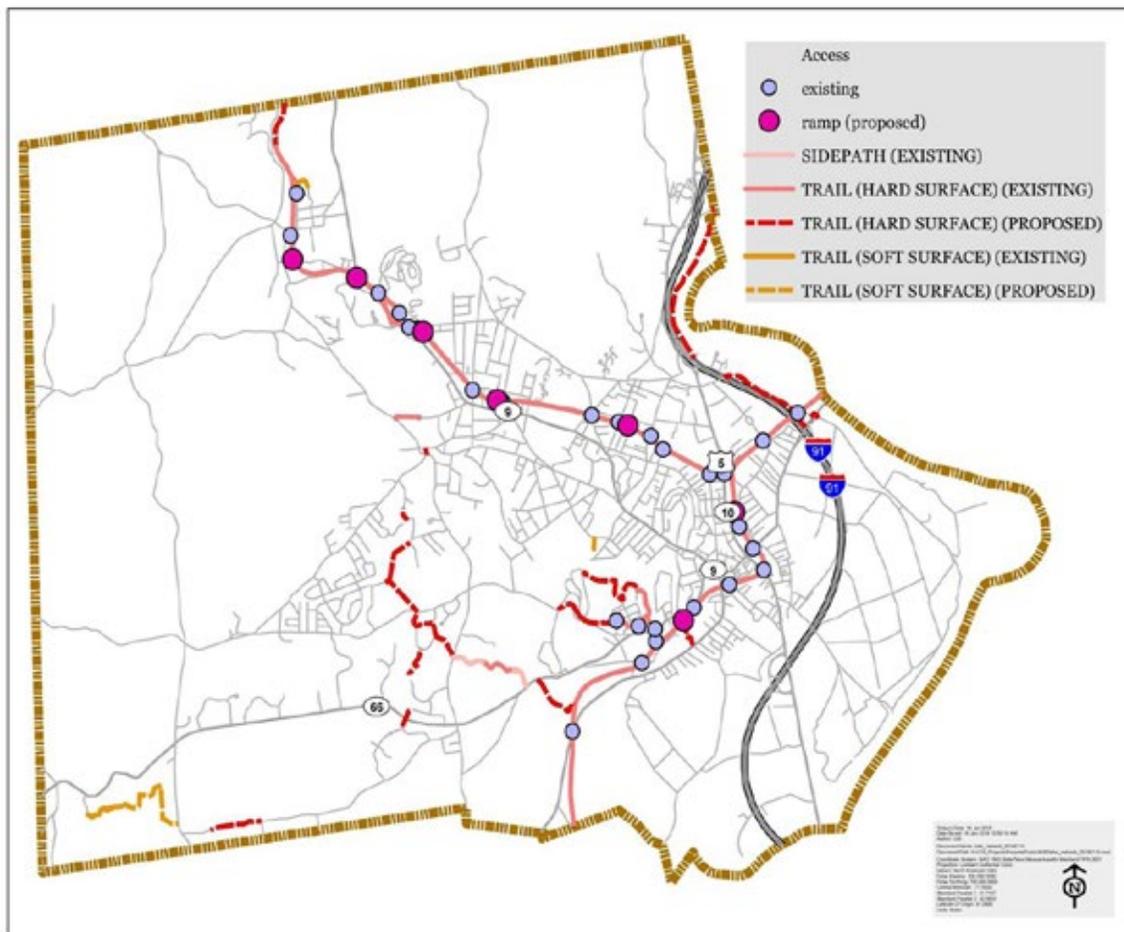
12. Improved Public Awareness

It is important to improve public awareness of open space, recreation, and multi-use trail opportunities. We have a responsibility to ensure that the public is aware of resources in the community.

1. **Expand bicycle rack and infrastructure program to raise public awareness.**

2. **Improve web information resources**

3. **Mark all open space property boundaries.**



Multi-Use Trail Expansion

10 Public Comments

The Open Space, Recreation, and Multi-Use Trail Plan was written in an iterative process and comments were incorporated into the plan. All comments were either incorporated, or compromises were found, or, in the case of hunting on conservation land, concerns were noted so that they are part of the public agenda moving forward.

The hunting public record is many dozens of pages. We have entered it into our Public File Cabinet website so that it can inform future public conversations.

No other written comments outside of hunting were received. Written comments from the Broad Brook Coalition and numerous emails were submitted. Written and oral hunting comments were widely varied:

- Many hunters and supporters wanted more areas to hunt and a better sense of being included in their own communities. Feeling included came up almost as often as wanting specific hunting opportunities. Shotgun hunters reported that bow hunting doesn't meet their needs. Hunters reported benefits of reduced tick populations and deer starvation from hunting.
- Those opposed to expanding where hunting is allowed focused on incompatibility of hunting and non-hunting, human and dog safety, noise within conservations and nearby

neighborhoods, disrespectful hunters shooting at signs, incompatibility with conservation and ecological goals, and opposition to hunting in specific areas.

In partnership with the City, the *Friends of Northampton Trails and Greenway* conducted a survey of community desires for multi-use trail improvements. The major findings are:

- There is a desire for more trail access points, with some wanting access at every street (especially improved access at Blackberry Lane, Florence Village, North Street, and Hebert Ave)
- There is a desire for better trail maintenance, especially repairing root problems/bumps along the trail and more aggressive cutting of vegetation along the trail.

The final state approval of this plan will be bound into the final plan on the next page.

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11 References

Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

Ryan, R., D. Bacon et al. The Connecticut River Watershed Action Plan for the Massachusetts Section of the Watershed. 2002.

MassGIS statewide GIS and related attribute data.

The following are attached by reference:

“Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan, City of Northampton,”

“Rediscovering Northampton, The Natural History of City-Owned Conservation Areas,” 1993

“Sustainable Northampton Comprehensive Plan”

“Broad Brook Coalition’s Management Plan for the Fitzgerald Lake Conservation Area”

City of Northampton Code of Ordinances

A ADA Self-Evaluation Report

The City of Northampton's goal is to increase handicap accessibility at park, recreation, and conservation lands. In the short term, the goal is to increase the variety of accessible facilities and to provide disabled populations with the same range of recreational opportunities available to the general population. It is Northampton's goal to fully comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, as well as the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board standards.

The ADA Access Self-Evaluation document was drafted by the Office of Planning and Development with the assistance of the Mayor's Committee on Disabilities, the Recreation Commission, and the Conservation Commission. The Committee on Disabilities, an organization representing and including people with disabilities, provided input. The Committee on Disabilities is charged with studying the needs of individuals with disabilities in the community in relation to housing, employment, public assembly, transportation, education, health, recreation and other relevant matters, and is an active advocate for the integration of people with disabilities in all phases of community life.

Part I: Administrative Requirements:

Designation of an ADA Coordinator: The Director of the Northampton Council on Aging is designated by Ordinance as the Director of the Northampton Council on Aging. The ADA Coordinator also serves as the staff support to the Northampton Committee on Disabilities.

Grievance Procedures: Northampton has a single grievance procedure that provides for "prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any violation of state and federal laws protecting individuals from discrimination." The complete Non-Discrimination and Grievance Procedure can be found below.

Public Notification Requirement: In accordance with ADA and 504 requirements, Northampton notifies the public of its non-discrimination policies, and all job advertisements include an EOE clause. The City's full non-discrimination policy is part of its Grievance Procedures, and can be provided in alternative formats.

Part II: Program Accessibility

Facility Inventory: A facility inventory of all areas under the control of the recreation department and Conservation Commission is provided in Table A1 below.

Transition Plan: The City completed a full ADA transition plan in 1992, updated in 1995. Although the City is working to improve handicap accessibility, additional steps are needed to make all park, recreation, and conservation facilities accessible to people with disabilities.

All of the goals for ADA improvements identified in the 2011-2018 Open Space and Recreation Plan have been implemented

The goals are established for the next seven years have been incorporated into the plan, namely add accessibility improvements in parks, recreation areas and conservation areas

ADA Inventory - Conservation Areas

FACILITY INVENTORY

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES	LOCATION												
			Barrett St. Marsh	Brookwood Marsh	Fitzgerald Lake (N. Farms Rd.)	Fitzgerald Lake (Cooke Ave.)	Beaver Brook/Broad Brook Greenway	CT River Greenway	Saw Mill Hills (Syvester Rd.)	Saw Mill Hills (W. Farms Rd.)	Saw Mill Hills (Avis Circle)	Mineral Hills (Syvester Rd.)	Mineral Hills (Turkey Hill Rd.)	Mineral Hills (Ridge View Rd.)	Ice Pond (Ice Pond Dr.)
Picnic Facilities	N/A		None		N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Trails		Surface material	Paved, mixed earth		Paved, mixed earth	Mixed earth	Mixed earth	Paved	Mixed earth			Mixed earth	Mixed earth		
		Dimensions	5'		9'	3' min	3' min	3' min	Some less than 3'			Some less than 3'	3' min		
		Rails	None		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
		Signage (for visually impaired)	None		None	None	None	None	None			N/A	None		
Swimming Facilities	N/A		N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A			
Play Areas (tot lots)	N/A		N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A			
Game Areas	N/A		N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A			
Fishing Facilities & Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A		✓	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A			N/A	N/A		
	Equipment	Handrails	N/A		No	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A			N/A	N/A		
		Arm rests, bait shelves, & fish cleaning tables	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	None	N/A			N/A	N/A		
		Handrails	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Programming & Services	Information available in alternative formats, i.e. for visually impaired	N/A		Self guided tour 1 brochure format	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
	Process to request interpretive services, i.e. sign language interpreter for meetings	N/A		None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		

PARKING

Specification for Accessible Spots	LOCATION												
	Barrett St. Marsh	Brookwood Marsh	Fitzgerald Lake (N. Farms Rd.)	Fitzgerald Lake (Cooke Ave.)	Beaver Brook/Broad Brook Greenway	CT River Greenway	Saw Mill Hills (Syvester Rd.)	Saw Mill Hills (W. Farms Rd.)	Saw Mill Hills (Avis Circle)	Mineral Hills (Syvester Rd.)	Mineral Hills (Turkey Hill Rd.)	Mineral Hills (Ridge View Rd.)	Ice Pond (Ice Pond Dr.)
Number of spaces/accessible spaces	None		✓	None	None	✓	1			None	None		
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance	No		✓	No	No	✓	✓			No	No		
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within 100 ft	No		✓	✓	No	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	N/A		✓	N/A	N/A	✓	No			N/A	N/A		
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8ft wide plus 8 ft aisle	None		None	None	None	✓	None			None	None		
Sign with intl. symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces, min. 5 ft, max. 8 ft to top	No		✓	No	No	✓	✓			No	No		
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	N/A		✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓			N/A	N/A		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	N/A		✓	No, uneven gravel	N/A	✓	Most areas			✓	✓		
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	N/A				N/A	✓							
Curbs on pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present	N/A		✓	✓	N/A	No	✓			✓	✓		
Curbs min. width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, & textured or painted yellow	N/A		✓	✓	N/A	No	✓			✓	✓		

RAMPS

Specification	LOCATION												
	Barrett St. Marsh	Brookwood Marsh	Fitzgerald Lake (N. Farms Rd.)	Fitzgerald Lake (Cooke Ave.)	Beaver Brook/Broad Brook Greenway	CT River Greenway	Saw Mill Hills (Sylvester Rd.)	Saw Mill Hills (W. Farms Rd.)	Saw Mill Hills (Avis Circle)	Mineral Hills (Sylvester Rd.)	Mineral Hills (Turkey Hill Rd.)	Mineral Hills (Ridge View Rd.)	Ice Pond (Ice Pond Dr.)
Slope maximum 1:12	✓			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails	✓		✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft	✓		No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Handrails at 34" & 19" from ramp surface	✓		No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Handrails extend 12" beyond top & bottom	✓		No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Handgrip oval or round & smooth surface	✓		No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Handgrip diameter between 1 ¼" & 2"	✓		No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Clearance of 1 ½" between wall and wall rail	✓		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Non-slip surface	✓		✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Level platforms (4 ft X 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, bottom, direction change	✓		✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES

Specification	LOCATION												
	Barrett St. Marsh	Brookwood Marsh	Fitzgerald Lake (N. Farms Rd.)	Fitzgerald Lake (Cooke Ave.)	Beaver Brook/Broad Brook Greenway	CT River Greenway	Saw Mill Hills (Sylvester Rd.)	Saw Mill Hills (W. Farms Rd.)	Saw Mill Hills (Avis Circle)	Mineral Hills (Sylvester Rd.)	Mineral Hills (Turkey Hill Rd.)	Mineral Hills (Ridge View Rd.)	Ice Pond (Ice Pond Dr.)
Site Access													
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area & parking area to accessible entrance	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	✓		✓	No, uneven	✓	✓	No			✓	✓		
No ponding of water	✓		✓	potentially	✓	✓	Some areas			✓	✓		
Path of Travel													
Path does not require use of stairs	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Path is stable, firm, & slip-resistant	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
3 ft wide minimum	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Some areas			Some areas	✓		
Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) & maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50)	✓					✓							
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½"	✓		✓	Some sudden slope changes	Some slight slope changes	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Any objects protruding onto pathway must be detected by person with visual disability, using cane	✓		N/A	Rocks, logs, trees, roots, etc	N/A	✓	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Objects protruding more than 4" from wall must be within 27" of ground, or higher than 80"	✓		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A		
Curb on pathway must have curbcuts at drives, parking, & drop-offs	✓		✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			✓	✓		
Entrances (not applicable)													

ADA Inventory - Recreation Areas

FACILITY INVENTORY

ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT	NOTES	LOCATION													
			Agnes Fox Field	Arcanum Field	Childs City Park	Community Gardens	JFK Middle School	Look Park	Main St. Park	Maine's Field	Musante, Jr. Beach	Northampton High School	Pulaski Park	Sheldon Field	Veterans Memorial Field	
Picnic Facilities	Access	All facilities (tables, benches, grills, trash cans, picnic shelters, etc.) are adjacent to accessible paths & open spaces	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Tables & Benches		✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Grills		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Picnic Shelters		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Trails	Surface material	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Dimensions	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Rails	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	
	Signage (for visually impaired)	No	No	No	No	No	N/A	No		No	✓	No	✓	No	No	
Swimming Facilities	Pools & Beaches	Location from accessible path to pool/into water	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Location from accessible parking	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Safety features	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Handrails	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Shade provided	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Play Areas (tot lots)	All Play Equipment	Same experience provided to all	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		No	N/A	No	No	✓	No	
	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	
		Enough space between equipment for wheelchairs	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		✓	N/A	✓	Some areas	✓	✓	
Game Areas	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	No	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	
		Equipment	Berm cuts onto courts	No	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	N/A	No	N/A	✓	✓
			Height & dimensions	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓
			Spectator seating	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓
Fishing Facilities & Boat Docks	Access Routes	Located adjacent to accessible paths	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Handrails	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	Equipment	Armrests, bait shelves, & fish cleaning tables	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Handrails	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Programming & Services	Are special programs at your facilities available?		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	Information available in alternative formats?		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		No		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	Process to request interpretive services?		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A				N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

PARKING

Specification for Accessible Spots	LOCATION												
	Agnes Fox Field	Arcanum Field	Childs City Park	Community Gardens	JFK Middle School	Look Park	Main St. Park	Maine's Field	Musante, Jr. Beach	Northampton High School	Pulaski Park	Sheldon Field	Veterans Memorial Field
Number of spaces/accessible spaces	None	✓	✓	None	✓	✓		None	✓	✓	None	✓	None
Accessible spaces located closest to accessible entrance	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	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 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Van space – minimum of 1 van space for accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle	None	✓	None	None	✓	✓		None	✓	✓	None	✓	None
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces, must be min. 5 ft, max 8 ft. to top	No	✓	✓	No	✓	✓		No	✓	✓	No	✓	No
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	✓	✓	No	No	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	No
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%		✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Curbs to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present	No	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Curbs has min. width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, & textured or painted yellow	No	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓		Not textured/ye llow	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A

RAMPS

Specification	LOCATION												
	Agnes Fox Field	Arcanum Field	Childs City Park	Community Gardens	JFK Middle School	Look Park	Main Street Park	Maine's Field	Musante, Jr. Beach	Northampton High School	Pulaski Park	Sheldon Field	Veterans Memorial Field
Slope maximum 1:12	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Minimum width 4 ft between handrails	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Handrails at 34" & 19" from ramp surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Handrails extend 12" beyond top & bottom	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Handgrip oval or round & smooth surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Handgrip diameter between 1 1/4" & 2"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Clearance of 1 1/2" between wall and wall rail	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Non-slip surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Level platforms (4 ft X 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at direction change	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A

SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES

Specification	LOCATION												
	Agnes Fox Field	Arcanum Field	Childs City Park	Community Gardens	JFK Middle School	Look Park	Main St. Park	Maine's Field	Musante, Jr. Beach	Northampton High School	Pulaski Park	Sheldon Field	Veterans Memorial Field
Site Access													
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area & parking area to accessible entrance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	No	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	✓	✓	No	No	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No ponding of water	✓	✓	✓	Some areas	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path of Travel													
Path does not require use of stairs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path is stable, firm, and slip resistant	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 ft wide minimum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Slope max. 1:20 (5%) & max. cross pitch is 2% (1:50)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2"	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Any objects protruding onto pathway must be detected by person w/ visual disability, using cane	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Objects protruding more than 4" from wall must be within 27" of ground, or higher than 80"	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Curb on pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, & drop off area	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Entrances													
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, & NOT be service entrance	Not signed	✓	No	✓	✓	✓		N/A	✓	✓	✓	Not signed	Not signed
Level space extending 5 ft from door, interior & exterior of entrance doors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum 32" clear width opening (i.e. 36" door with standard hinge)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Door handle no higher than 48" and operable with closed fist	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vestibule is 4 ft plus width of door swinging into space	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Entrance(s) on level that makes elevators accessible	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Door mats less than 1/2" thick are securely fastened	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Door mats more than 1/2" thick are recessed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2" maximum	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights & audible signs, sufficiently lit	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A

STAIRS AND DOORS

Specification	LOCATION												
	Agnes Fox Field	Arcanum Field	Childs City Park	GardensCommunity	JFK Middle School	Look Park	Main St. Park	Maine's Field	Musante, Jr. Beach	Northampton High School	Pulaaski Park	Sheldon Field	Veterans Memorial Field
Stairs													
No open risers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Nosings not projecting	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Treads no less than 11" wide	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Handrails on both sides	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Handrails 34"-38" above tread	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Handrail extends min. of 1 ft beyond top & bottom riser (if no safety hazard & space permits)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Handgrip oval or round, has a smooth surface, & has diameter between 1 1/4" & 1 1/2"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
1 1/2" clearance between wall & handrail	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Doors													
Minimum 32" clear opening	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
At least 18" clear floor space on pull side of door	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3" of latch	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum pressure 5 lbs. interior doors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Threshold maximum 1/2" high, beveled on both sides	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hardware operable with closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hardware minimum 36", maximum 48" above floor	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of door	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible & unlocked	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
5 ft turning space measured 12" from floor	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A

RESTROOMS – also see DOORS AND VESTIBULES

Specification	LOCATION												
	Agnes Fox Field	Arcanum Field	Childs City Park	Community Gardens	JFK Middle School	Look Park	Main St. Park	Maine's Field	Musante, Jr. Beach	Northampton High School	Pulaaski Park	Sheldon Field	Veterans Memorial Field
At least one sink:													
Clear floor space of 30" by 48" to allow forward approach	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34" to top of rim	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Extends at least 22" from wall	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Open knee space minimum 19" deep, 30" width, & 27" high	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cover exposed pipes with insulation	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
At least one stall:													
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60" wide by 72" deep	N/A	N/A, single	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		No	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stall door is 36" wide, swings out, is self-closing, & has a pull latch	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	No		No	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lock on stall door is operable with closed fist & is 32" above floor	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		No	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coat hook is 54" high	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Toilet													
18" from center to nearest side wall	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Top of seat is 17"-19" above floor	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	15"		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grab Bars													
On back & side wall closest to toilet	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		No	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
1 1/2" diameter	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
1 1/2" clearance to wall	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Located 30" above & parallel to floor	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Acid-etched or roughened surface	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	No	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
42" long	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fixtures													
Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	37"		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
One mirror set maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42")	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dispensers (towels, soap, etc.) at least one of each, maximum 42" above floor	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A

FLOORS, DRINKING FOUNTAINS, TELEPHONES

Specification	LOCATION												
	Agnes Fox Field	Arcanum Field	Childs City Park	Community Gardens	JFK Middle School	Look Park	Main St. Park	Maine's Field	Musante, Jr. Beach	Northampton High School	Pulaski Park	Sheldon Field	Field/Veterans Memorial
Floors													
Non-slip surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	No		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taught, securely anchored	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Corridor width minimum 3 ft	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can protrude 4" into path of travel from height of 27" to 80" above floor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drinking Fountains													
Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hand operated push button or lever controls	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
If recessed, recess minimum 30" width & no deeper than depth of fountain	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30" X 48" to allow parallel approach	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Telephones													
Highest operating part maximum 54" above floor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Access within 12" of phone, 30" high X 30" wide	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Adjustable volume control on headset is identified	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Signs, Signals, and Switches													
Switches, Controls, and Signs													
Switches & controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc. must be min. of 36" & max. of 48" above floor for forward reach, max. 54" for side reach	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18" above floor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A
Signs													
Mounting height must be 60" to centerline of sign	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Within 18" of door jamb or recessed	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Letters & numbers at least 1 1/4" high	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	No
Letters & numbers raised .03"	✓	✓	✓	No	✓	✓		✓	No	✓	✓	✓	✓
Letters & numbers contrast with the background color	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Specification	LOCATION												
	Agnes Fox Field	Arcanum Field	Childs City Park	Community Gardens	JFK Middle School	Look Park	Main St. Park	Maine's Field	Musante, Jr. Beach	Northampton High School	Pulaski Park	Sheldon Field	Veterans Memorial Field
Swimming Pools – accessibility can be via ramp, lifting device, or transfer area													
Ramp at least 34" wide with non-slip surface extending into shallow end, slope not exceeding 1:6 with handrails on both sides	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lifting device	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transfer area 18" above path of travel and minimum 18" wide	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Unobstructed path of travel not less than 48" wide around pool	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-slip surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shower Rooms – Showers must accommodate both wheel-in and transfer use													
Stalls 36" X 60" minimum, with 36" door opening	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Floors are pitched to drain stall at corner farthest from entrance	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Floors are non-slip surface	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shower heads attached to flexible metal hose	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Controls located on center wall adjacent to hinged seat	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shower heads attached to flexible metal hose	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shower heads attached to wall mounting adjustable from 42" to 72" above floor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Seat is hinged & padded & at least 16" deep, folds upward, securely attached to side wall, height is 18" to top of seat, & at least 24" long	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Soap trays without handhold features unless they can support 250 lbs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2 grab bars are provided, one 30" & one 48" long, or one continuous 'L' shaped bar	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grab bars are placed horizontally at 36" above floor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Picnicking													
Minimum of 5% of total tables must be accessible with clear space under table top not less than 30" wide and 19" deep per seating space & not less than 27" clear from ground to underside of table An additional 29" clear space (totaling 48") must extend beyond 19" clear space under table to provide access	✓	No	No	✓	N/A	✓		✓	✓	No	✓	N/A	N/A
For tables without toe clearance, knee space under table must be at least 28" high, 30" wide, & 24" deep	✓	No	N/A	✓	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Top of table no higher than 32" above ground	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Surface of clear ground space under & around table must be stable, firm, & slip-resistant, & evenly graded with maximum slope of 2% in all directions	✓	✓	No	✓	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Accessible tables, grills, & fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36" around perimeter	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A

ADA Inventory - Open Space Plan

**NOTE: ADA Compliance Plan/Transition Plan is under revision.
It will be updated by the end of FY2018.**

ADA COMPLIANCE PLAN CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

January 1995

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APPENDIX A: Allocations of CDBG Funds

Report Prepared By: Penelope G. Kim
Office of Planning & Development

Contributors to Report: Irene Lamson, ADA Co-ordinator
Brett Jacobus, Buildings & Grounds
Samuel Brindis, Department of Public Works
Donald Teres, Personnel
Frank Sienkiewicz, Building Inspector
Michael Vito, Exec. Assistant to the Mayor

BACKGROUND

The City of Northampton adopted an ADA Transition Plan in August 1992.

That Transition Plan was based on a city-wide assessment which identified barriers to accessibility (physical, employment and program delivery). The Plan outlined recommendations for change/improvements and set forth a two year implementation strategy.

This report describes the progress made and projects undertaken by the City in the following areas:

- Section 1 Public Buildings\Program Access
- Section 2 Open Space and Recreational Areas
- Section 3 Pedestrian Circulation and Signage
- Section 4 Employment Policies
- Section 5 Grievance Procedure

The final section of this report discusses "Next Steps" as the City continues to insure equal access to its buildings, facilities, employment and programs.

Appendix A details the expenditure of HUD/CDBG funds (a total allocation of \$411,834.77) to achieve ADA compliance objectives.

SECTION 1

PUBLIC BUILDINGS\PROGRAM ACCESS

A. Public Buildings

An assessment of all Municipal Buildings was made in 1992. The buildings were classified into the following categories:

Largely Accessible	Municipal Annex Memorial Hall Bridge Street School Leeds School Ryan Road School Forbes Library
Partially Accessible	Dept. of Public Works Smith Vocational School High School John F. Kennedy Middle School Police Station Florence Fire Station
Partially Inaccessible	Vernon Street School Academy of Music
Largely Inaccessible	Main Fire Station Florence Grammar School Water Treatment Plant Lilly Library City Hall

A Municipal Access Committee (M.A.C.) reviewed the Assessment and assigned a priority ranking (1 to 3) to the needed projects based on the publics' need for access. For example, City Hall which was largely inaccessible was deemed of the highest priority based on the nature of the offices located therein and the need for full public access to those offices.

The M.A.C. consists of representatives of the following departments:

- Property Committee
- Building Inspection
- Office of Planning & Development
- School Department
- Smith Vocational School
- Personnel Department
- Council on Aging/ADA Co-ordinator

After assigning priorities and identifying projects, members of the M.A.C. met with the City Property Committee to seek authorization to proceed. Further, funding for improvements was allocated through the City's U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Program under the direction of Mayor Mary L. Ford (see Appendix A for an overview of funding).

Table 1 illustrates the scope of projects as first identified in July 1992. Table 2 provides a report as of January 1995 showing the status of those projects with some additional work identified for future attention.

Improvements to two buildings are of particular note. City Hall, which houses the Mayor's Office and numerous city departments to which the public needs access, was "Largely Inaccessible" in 1992. In 1995, it had been moved to the "Accessible" category. To make this central municipal building accessible, an elevator was installed, rest rooms were upgraded and a pathway system redefined the main entranceway to the building. The Florence Community Center, listed as "Largely Inaccessible" in 1992, is now "Partially Accessible" and future improvements are planned within the interior to make it fully accessible.

Through these projects, access to municipal buildings has been improved for the physically limited residents of the City. The elevators in municipal buildings have information in braille to assist the visually impaired.

B. Program Access

In order to insure access to programs, services and public meetings for the hearing impaired, the City provides the following:

- sign language interpreters upon request
- TDD\TTY devices at the Police Department, City Hall and the School Administration *COA*
- the Council on Aging has an assistive listening device as does the City Council Chambers

ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS		TABLE 1 prepared 7/92	
	NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS	ACTION	PRIORITY
LARGELY ACCESSIBLE			
Municipal Annex	Front Doors and Signage Entranceway Regrading		1
Memorial Hall	Side Entranceway:Doors Regrading of Driveway Repair of Threshold		1
James House	None		
Bridge St. School	Signage/Buzzer at entrance		
Leeds School	Signage re: parking		
Jackson St. School	None	ramp for convenience requested	
Forbes Library	Parking	Define spaces; improve entry	
Ryan Rd. School	Parking	Relocate spaces	
PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE			
D.P.W.	Entry Access: ramp	ramp vestibule and doors	1 1
Smith Voc.	A Bldg: access C Bldg. D Bldg.	sidewalks/curb cuts/speed bump two ramps needed three ramps renovate bathrooms	1 1
	E Bldg.	ramp rear entrance	1
High School	Front entry A.V. room	redesign; signage	1/2
JFK	Access to stage	renovations underway	3
Police Station	Entry Access Parking Designation	Improve ramp Add parking & signage	1
Florence Fire Station	Entry Access	Ramp in Rear	1
PARTIALLY INACCESSIBLE			
Vernon St. School	Landing at top of ramp Interior Access	Property Committee requesting info. from HCAC re: compliance	
Academy of Music	Seating and Parking Rest Rooms	Referred to the Bd. of Directors	
LARGELY INACCESSIBLE			
Fire Station	Entry Access	None feasible	3
Florence Community Center	Phase 1 Phase 2	Entry Access Preliminary Interior Rest Rooms Interior Access	1/2
Water Treatment Plant	Entry Access Restroom	none recommended: not a public access facility	3
Lilly Library	access to 2nd floor Lower level access	none recommended grading and rear entry upgrading	3
City Hall	Entry Access Restrooms Interior Access:elevator		1

ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS		TABLE 2		
		January 1995		
	NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS	ACTION	PRIORITY	STATUS
COMPLETELY ACCESSIBLE				
City Hall	Entry Access Restrooms Interior Access: elevator		1	completed " "
Municipal Annex	Front Doors and Signage Entranceway Regrading		1	completed "
Memorial Hall	Side Entranceway: Doors Regrading of Driveway Repair of Threshold	scheduled for Spring 1995	1	completed "
City House	None			
George St. School	Signage/Buzzer at entrance			
Madison School	Signage re: parking			
Madison St. School	None	ramp for convenience requested		
City Library	Parking	Define spaces; improve entry		
Madison Rd. School	Parking	Relocate spaces		
PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE				
City W.	Entry Access: ramp	ramp vestibule and doors	1 1	completed
High Voc.	A Bldg: access C Bldg. D Bldg.	sidewalks/curb cuts/speed bump two ramps needed three ramps renovate bathrooms	1 1	completed completed
	E Bldg.	ramp rear entrance	1	underway completed
School	Front entry A.V. room	redesign; signage	1/2	on hold
	Access to stage	renovations underway	3	underway
City Station	Entry Access Parking Designation	Improve ramp Add parking & signage	1	on hold
City Fire Station	Entry Access	Ramp in Rear	1	
City Community Ctr.	Phase 1 Phase 2	Entry Access Preliminary Interior: lift Rest Rooms Interior access	1/2 1/2	completed in progress to be determined
PARTIALLY INACCESSIBLE				
Madison St. School	Landing at top of ramp Interior Access	Property Committee requesting info. from HCAC re: compliance		
City Symphony of Music	Seating and Parking Rest Rooms	Referred to the Bd. of Directors		
COMPLETELY INACCESSIBLE				
City Station	Entry Access	None feasible	3	
City Treatment Plant	Entry Access Restroom	none recommended: not a public access facility	3	
City Library	access to 2nd floor Lower level access	none recommended grading and rear entry upgrading	3	underway

SECTION 2 OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION AREAS

The Assessment done for the ADA Compliance Plan included a review of all City owned Conservation and Recreation Areas. Table 3 on the following page shows the summary of recommended actions and priorities as established in August, 1992.

That Assessment was drawn from the 1990 Section 504 Accessibility Self-Evaluation. Since that time, City Boards and staff have developed a new Five Year Open Space and Recreation Plan which established new priorities and new projects. That Plan was adopted in January, 1994.

A. Conservation Areas

Most of the Conservation Areas remain largely inaccessible due to the nature of the properties themselves.

The Barrett Street Marsh provides access to an area of great natural interest. While the City-owned portion of the Elwell Island area remains inaccessible, the State facilities are accessible. Access to the Fitzgerald Lake area has been accomplished. the parking area has been resurfaced and a spot for parking identified. An accessible path provides access for approximately 150' and an extension is under construction which will provide access to fishing.

At this time, the path suggested for the Roberts Hill area is not recommended due to the nature of the terrain.

B. Recreation Areas

Some progress has been made in the City's Recreation Areas. Since the construction of improvements to the major areas is dependent on securing grant funds, the planned projects for Sheldon Field and Arcanum Field have not yet commenced. However, design studies have been accomplished and plans have been submitted. It is hoped that Arcanum Field improvements will be funded in the FY 96 summer season and Sheldon Field improvements the following year.

The Agnes Fox Playground provided an opportunity for a neighborhood group to participate in the design and implementation of improvements. Working with the Recreation Commission, the neighborhood group planned for accessible paths and play equipment. They decided against a fountain; funds were not available for construction of a rest room. The project was completed in 1994. The designation of a HP space on State Street has been proposed.

During the FY 95 year, improvements will be made to Veteran's Field. Paths and play equipment will be installed and parking better defined. Other fields will be addressed as funding allows.

Table - Overview of accessibility needs, actions, and priorities for Northampton conservation areas

ACCESSABILITY	FACILITY	NEEDS	ACTION	PRIORITY	
Largely Accessible	Barrett St Marsh	Parking	none needed	-	
		Paths	boardwalk completed		
Largely Inaccessible	Elwell	none	use state facilities	3	
	Aquifer Protection	Trail	none recommended	3	
	Marrion Area	none	none recommended	3	
	Mill River	none	none recommended	3	
	Pines Edge	none	none recommended	3	
	Rainbow Beach	none	none recommended	3	
	Roberts Hill	Parking		dedicate space	2
		Paths		provide accessible path for 1st stretch	
Fitzgerald Lake		parking	resurface	2	
			dedicate space		
		Paths	provide accessible path for 1st stretch		

Table - Overview of accessibility needs, actions, and priorities for Northampton recreation areas

FACILITY	NEEDS	ACTION	PRIORITY
Roberts Reservoir	none		-
Bike Path	Parking	dedicate spaces	1
	Access	State St ramp	
		Bollard spread	
	Use	Pull off rest spots	
Agnes Fox	Parking/drop off	dedicate spaces	3
		install curbcuts	
	Path system	install paths	
	Fountain	install fountain	
	Restrooms	renovate	
	Play equipment	replace some	
Arcanum Field	Parking/drop off	Increase lot	1
		dedicate spaces	
		pave parking	
	Path system	install paths	
	Fountain	install fountain	
	Play equipment	replace some/add to	
Kearney Field	Parking/drop off	Restrooms	renovate
		provide spaces	1
		pave parking	
	Path system	install paths	
	Fountain	install fountain	
	Play equipment	renovate	
Maines Field	Parking/drop off	Restrooms	renovate
		Provide closer spaces	1
		install paths	
	Fountain	install fountain	
	Restrooms	renovate	
	Decaying wall	replace	
Veteran's Field	Play equipment	replace	2
	Parking/drop off	replace	
		pave parking	
		dedicate spaces	
Sheldon Field	Paths	install paths	
		install fountain	
		Restrooms	renovate
	Parking	enlarge paved area	1
		dedicate spaces	
		Play equipment	replace some/relocate
Paths	install paths		
	install fountain		
	Restrooms	replace	

TABLE 3 1992

The Northampton Bike Path continues to be used by many Northampton residents. The City's M.A.C. Committee recognizes the desirability of locating HP spaces and/or drop off areas at various access points to the bike path. An extension of the Northampton Bike Path from Damon Road to King Street is to be constructed within the next year. This Bike Path provides a recreational opportunity for people of all ages and of all physical conditions as it is a smooth, flat surface which extends throughout the heart of the City.

SECTION 3 PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION AND SIGNAGE

The Assessment done for the ADA Compliance Plan in August 1992 included a review of sidewalks in areas of high pedestrian traffic. Additionally, as a part of the assessment of municipal buildings, note was made of the presence or lack of handicap parking spaces.

Within this general category, four components have been addressed:

- A. Curb Cuts\Handicap Ramps
- B. HP Spaces
- C. Signage
- D. Other

A. Curb Cuts\Handicap Ramps

It has been the policy of the City, through its Department of Public Works, that, when new roadway or sidewalk construction is undertaken, appropriate handicap ramps will be included in the projects' specifications and new handicap ramps installed. In 1994, as a result of requests from residents, six areas in Florence were identified and handicap ramps constructed to further enhance accessibility in the downtown Florence vicinity.

Currently, as a part of a Downtown Access Plan, eight (8) curb cuts\ramps in need or repair and four (4) locations where new ones should be installed have been identified. Funds from the HUD\CDBG program have been reserved and the DPW will be asked to incorporate these improvements in the coming construction season. (See Table 4)

Other areas, especially along the major pedestrian routes leading to the downtown, have been earmarked for future attention. Especial attention will be directed to Bridge Street, South Street and Pleasant Street.

B. HP Spaces

As a part of the Assessment done in 1992, note was made of the location of handicap parking spaces at or near all municipal buildings. Recommendations for creation of new spaces, relocation of others and installation of signage were made and implemented.

Table 4**CURB CUTS \ HANDICAP RAMPS**

A number of existing curb cuts need attention to bring them up to the standard:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Problem\Solution</u>
1. Corner of Green and West Streets	Curb too high Add paving for ramp
2. SW Corner of Main and Pleasant Streets	Ramp needs patching
3. NE Corner Main and King Streets	Ramp needs patching
4. NW Corner Main and Gothic Streets	Ramp needs patching
5. SW Corner King and Trumbull	Patch to eliminate lip
6. NE Corner Main and Masonic	Patching needed
7. North Curb - intersection of Randolph Place and Pleasant Street	Lip high, needs patching
8. Hampton Ave., Entrance to Armory St. Lot (next to WHMP)	Curb cut needs patching

There are several areas where curb cuts need to be installed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Problem\Solution</u>
1. Conz Street - Front of Salvo House	4 curb cuts needed
2. Conz Street and Smith St. Intersection	Curb cut needed, north side
3. Main Street (front of Fitzwilly's)	High curb. Cut needed
4. New South St. crosswalk in front of Old School Commons	Needs curb cuts installed on east and west ends of crosswalk

Further, as Table 4 demonstrates, an Inventory of HP spaces in Municipal Lots and on City Streets was made in 1994. A Community Access in Northampton (C.A.N.) Committee proposed the creation of three (3) new HP spaces on City Streets: namely, on New South Street, State Street and Pleasant Street. It further recommended the move of one space on Green Street to a more accessible corner location and the creation of three (3) additional spaces in three of the municipal lots (one of which will accommodate a van).

These recommendations will be implemented in Spring 1995.

C. Signage

The Assessment of Municipal Facilities identified the need for improved signage to direct people to accessible building entrances and parking spaces.

A total of twenty-nine (29) new sign posts, twenty-six (26) new HP signs and thirty-four (34) directional signs (with arrows pointing left or right) on or near municipal buildings (Schools, libraries, City Hall, the Municipal Annex, Memorial Hall) were installed.

A follow-up survey completed in the Fall of 1994 demonstrated the need for additional signage.

D. Other

The C.A.N. Committee, in reviewing a Downtown Access Plan, identified two corners in the center of the downtown to be assessed:

1. Main Street and Strong Avenue: Examine feasibility of constructing a ramp at the site of a stone staircase
2. Center and Main Streets: Examine alternatives to steps in front of several buildings

Discussion has arisen in various meetings concerning the need for an activated audio signal at major intersections (principally at Main and Pleasant/North King Street). The D.P.W. has been asked to address this matter.

SECTION 4 EMPLOYMENT

The City of Northampton is finalizing its own policy regarding Title 1: Employment of the ADA. Until the time that the policy is adopted, the City of Northampton continues to comply with the mandates of the legislation as contained and enumerated in the Federal Register of Friday, July 26, 1991, and to work vigorously toward identifying any potential job related barriers to employment and to making reasonable accommodations whenever necessary or appropriate. On December 24, 1991, the Personnel Director issued a Personnel Policy Statement in a memo to the then-Mayor, describing his department's commitment to implementation of ADA mandates. (see attachment)

The City of Northampton is in the final stage of adopting a comprehensive reclassification of all city positions (with an attendant wage plan). Each employee has a new job description designed specifically to adhere to and include essential ADA related requirements. The new descriptions provide clear definitions and outline skills required to accomplish the job(s). Recruiting and hiring of new employees pursuant to the ADA vis-a-vis new job descriptions, is already a well-established administrative practice.

Addressing the concerns of employees who desire to return to work after sustaining a disability is facilitated by the review of their essential duties and what the City is required to do as an employer in order to provide reasonable accommodations until their disability is relieved.

The overall reclassification plan, with its focus on job descriptions that are ADA compliant, is considered to be state of the art and unequivocally will ensure that all qualified individuals with disabilities will be provided fair and nondiscriminatory treatment covering all aspects of public employment.

The City of Northampton has and will continue to strive to ensure that the basic requirements of the ADA are implemented and that all employees and potential employees are precluded from discrimination on the basis of a disability.

SECTION 5 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The City has identified Procedures for addressing any grievances as they fall into two general categories: 1. Employment and 2. Access to programs and facilities.

1. Employment

For any individual who feels that they have not been afforded appropriate treatment when applying for a position with the City, the Personnel Director will review the procedures with the applicant. If the applicant feels that discrimination has occurred, then s/he will be referred to the MA Commission Against Discrimination for review of the issues.

For any individual employed by the City whose duties are being transferred, should the employee feel the need to file a grievance, the employee will be referred to:

- a. his/her union representative and/or
- b. civil service regulations and procedures

2. Access to Programs and Facilities

For any individual who feels that s/he has been denied access to the physical facilities or the programs of the City because of a disability, a grievance can be brought to the ADA Co-Ordinator. The Co-Ordinator will convene a Review Panel (made up of a pool of individuals drawn from various departments and agencies within and beyond municipal government). The Review Panel will consist of the ADA Coordinator and two other individuals who will meet within 21 days of receipt of the complaint and will hold a hearing (with notice of said hearing made at least one week prior to its date) at which time the complainant will present his/her case. The Review Panel will be required to make a recommendation in one week's time and notify, in writing, the complainant of that recommendation.

This Grievance Procedure will be established as an Executive Order of the Mayor and will be in effect from the date of its issuance.

NEXT STEPS

The City will continue to address the projects identified above through the combined efforts of the various departments (Public Works, Building, Recreation, Planning, e.g.) involved. The City will continue to utilize HUD/CDBG funds, where appropriate, and to seek additional funding to construct the physical improvements indicated.

The City will continue to implement and enforce its Employment Policies and Grievance Procedures.

The City has an ADA Co-Ordinator, Irene Lamson, who is charged with overseeing all ADA Compliance activities. The City also has a Committee on Disabilities which serves to review requests for variances from the Architectural Access Board and to initiate projects and programs.

Further, The City of Northampton will continue to provide leadership throughout the community by setting an example, providing information on ADA requirements and encouraging all business people and property owners to ensure accessibility for all who need their services and facilities.



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

Mayor David J. Narkewicz

City Hall
210 Main Street Room 12
Northampton, MA 01060-3199
(413) 587-1249
mayor@northamptonma.gov

Northampton Grievance Procedure under the Americans with Disabilities Act

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"). This may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the City of Northampton.

The City of Northampton's Personnel Policy governs employment-related complaints of disability discrimination. The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to: ADA Coordinator, Senior Center, 67 Conz Street, Northampton, MA 01060.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the Northampton ADA Coordinator or ADA Coordinator designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, ADA Coordinator or ADA Coordinator will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the City of Northampton and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by ADA Coordinator or ADA Coordinator does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the Mayor's Chief of Staff or Chief of Staff's designee.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the Mayor's Chief of Staff or Chief of Staff's designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the Mayor's Chief of Staff or Chief of Staff's designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by Northampton ADA Coordinator or ADA Coordinator designee, appeals to the Mayor's Chief of Staff or Chief of Staff's designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the those respective offices for at least three years.

Approved Mayor David J. Narkewicz

Date: November 8, 2017

Approved Linda Desmond, ADA Coordinator

Date: November 8, 2017



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

Mayor David J. Narkewicz

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(413) 587-1249
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Public Notice

In accordance with the requirements of title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Northampton will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: The City of Northampton does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under title I of the ADA.

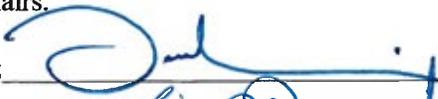
Effective Communication: The City of Northampton will generally, upon request, make reasonable accommodation to provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in Northampton programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The City of Northampton will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in City of Northampton offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the City of Northampton, should contact the office of ADA Coordinator, Northampton Senior Services as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the City of Northampton to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden. Complaints that a program, service, or activity of the City of Northampton is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to the ADA Coordinator, Northampton Senior Services

The City of Northampton will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

Approved Mayor David J. Narkewicz  Date: November 8, 2017

Approved Linda Desmond, ADA Coordinator  Date: November 8, 2017



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

Mayor David J. Narkewicz

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210 Main Street Room 12
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ADA Coordinator Designation

ADA Coordinator Name: **Linda Desmond**

City Department housing ADA Coordinator: **Senior Services**

Job Title: **Director of Senior Services**

E-Mail: **ldesmond@northamptonma.gov**

Phone: **413-587-1231**

Address: **67 Conz Street, Northampton, MA 01060**

Date Appointed: **July 5, 2016**

Is This Appointment: **Permanent**

Does this ADA Coordinator report directly to the appointing authority? **Yes**

Are the ADA Coordinator Duties: **Position is full-time but portion devoted to ADA is part-time**

Direct Supervisor and Appointing Authority: **David J. Narkewicz, Mayor**

Approved Mayor David J. Narkewicz  Date: November 8, 2017

Approved Linda Desmond, ADA Coordinator.  Date: November 8, 2017

**Please send copy of completed form to:
The Massachusetts Office On Disability, 1 Ashburton Place, Room 1305
OR email to mod-info@state.ma.us**