

SECTION 8

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following goals and objectives were formulated by the Town of Wendell Open Space Planning Committee based on the results of the 2008 Wendell Open Space and Recreation Planning Survey, discussions with several Town boards and committees, the public forum process, and associated public comment.

- A. Ensure that the Town of Wendell retains its rural character and sense of community and maintains or improves the quality of its air and water, and the diversity and integrity of native fauna and flora through the conservation of locally important natural, open space, and cultural resources.
 - 1. Prioritize land protection projects that conserve forestland, drinking water, streams and ponds, open fields, scenic views, wildlife habitat, wetlands, and farmland.
 - 2. Take advantage of the Town's right-of-first refusal with Chapter 61 parcels or assign this right to a third party.
 - 3. Coordinate with regional and state land protection entities, in and around Wendell, to ensure the continued conservation of important natural and open space resources and to promote and participate in landowner outreach programs.
 - 4. Coordinate and promote donations of land and conservation restrictions and facilitate local investment of land protection funding by private land trusts and state agencies.
 - 5. Provide stewardship for Town-owned lands.
 - 6. Collaborate with the library, schools, Council on Aging, and other local and regional groups to foster environmental sustainability by facilitating ecologically based recreation programs and hands on stewardship projects.
 - 7. Participate with the Millers River Watershed Council in its water quality monitoring program for the rivers, brooks, streams, lakes, and ponds in Wendell.
 - 8. Encourage broad public participation in local planning to ensure that appropriate land use and growth management tools and strategies are identified.

9. Promote and help protect historically significant properties and landscapes within Town.
 10. Encourage sustainable local cottage industries and farm- and forest-based economic activities.
 11. Ensure adequate support for Town departments that regulate, protect, monitor, and maintain Wendell's open space.
- B. Ensure that the Town of Wendell improves the quality, quantity, and accessibility of its recreational resources for current and future generations.
1. Identify and facilitate the acquisition of additional lands for active recreational activities and sports fields, as the need arises.
 2. Determine the specific recreational programming and facility needs of Wendell residents of all ages and abilities.
 3. Develop and publicize recreational programming for residents of all ages and abilities.
 4. Support and identify funding for the continued development of community arts festivals and events.
 5. Identify appropriate areas to expand multi-use (walking, hiking, bicycling, cross country skiing) trail systems within Town as well as connections to trails beyond the Town's borders.
 6. Catalogue existing recreational uses on current town-owned conservation lands and lands with priority for protection.