

# Town of Wendell Open Space Plan

# Action Plan

Post signage on all roads leading into town informing citizens as well as prospective buyers of property in Wendell that the town of Wendell is a "Right-to-Farm" community.

Formalize public access to the Millers River for recreational purposes.

Develop a comprehensive plan to update the playground in the Town Center for improved safety and aesthetics.

Construct sidewalk and bike path to the north and south of the Commons in center of Town.

Provide ongoing maintenance for trails in the Fiske Pond Conservation Area (including periodic mowing, removal of trees and brush above dam, and maintenance of beaver deceiver) and continue improvements to trails and bridges over wet areas.

Negotiate access with abutters to the Phelps Forest Conservation Area for forestry purposes, clarify the status of abutting properties to the west, and then complete a stewardship plan with a forester.

### Priority Action Steps

- Identify focus or priority areas and clarify the criteria for protection priorities. (Action Item A1b)
- Identify parcels that are of special conservation interest and prioritize parcels using their location relative to focus areas, value, acreage, and threat of development to compare between projects. (Action Item A2b)
- Work with local land trusts to identify potential conservation buyers. (Action Item A2c)
- Identify funding sources for land protection. (Action Item A1a)
- Apply for State Historical Preservation funding. (Action Item A9a)
- Negotiate access with abutters to the Phelps Forest Conservation Area for forestry purposes, clarify the status of abutting properties to the west, and then complete a stewardship plan with a forester. (Action Item A5c)
- Provide ongoing maintenance for trails in the Fiske Pond Conservation Area (including periodic mowing, removal of trees and brush above dam, and maintenance of beaver deceiver) and continue improvements to trails and bridges over wet areas. (Action Item A5a)
- Formalize public access to the Millers River for recreational purposes. (Action Items B3d and A4c)
- Sponsor educational events and materials for residents concerning the management of invasive pests and diseases impacting vegetation, including food crops and trees. (Action Item A6d)
- Post signage on all roads leading into town informing citizens as well as prospective buyers of property in Wendell that the town of Wendell is a "Right-to-Farm" community. (Action Item A10a)
- Create a committee and/or hire a consultant to conduct a comprehensive investigation of the needs of the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Open Space Committee, ZBA, Tree Warden, Cemetery Commission, Historical Commission, Energy Committee, Agricultural Commission, Community Garden, and evaluate the need for additional funds and/or administrative assistance for these departments. (Action Item A11a)
- Construct sidewalk and bike path to the north and south of the Commons in center of Town. (Action Item A5h)
- Develop a comprehensive plan to update the playground in the Town Center for improved safety and aesthetics.

**Legend**

- Road
- Rail Line
- Stream, River
- Pond, Lake

**Wendell Open Space**

- Open Space with Limited Protection
- Open Space with Permanent Protection
- Temporarily Protected Land (Chapter 61)
- Priority Areas

**Map Sources:**  
Map Produced by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments Planning Department. GIS data sources include the FRCOG Planning Department, the Massachusetts Highway Department and MassGIS. Digital data obtained from MassGIS represent the efforts of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and its agencies to record information from the sources cited in the associated documentation. EOEIA maintains an ongoing program to record and correct errors in the GIS data that are brought to or as to the implied validity of any uses of the GIS data. EOEIA maintains records regarding all methods used to collect and process these digital data and will provide this information on request. Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, MassGIS EOEIA Data Center, 251 Causeway St., Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114-2610.  
Note: Depicted boundaries are approximate and are intended for planning purposes only.  
Open Space data digitized by FRCOG Planning staff based on assessment records 2008-2009.

