



TOWN OF LINCOLN

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

CONSERVATION OFFICE
TOWN OFFICES
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"Open space plans allow a municipality to maintain and enhance all the benefits of open space that together make up much of the character of the community and protects the "green infrastructure" of the community. Planning this green infrastructure of water supply, land, working farms and forests, viable wildlife habitats, parks, recreation areas, trails, and greenways is as important to the economic future of a community as planning for schools, roads, water and infrastructure."

- √ Motion from Conservation Commission to proceed with Open Space Planning Process.
- √ Solicit members from Conservation, Recreation, Selectmen, Planning, Health, Disabilities, Conservation Organizations and community at large to serve on the Open Space Committee.

Create an Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) that will serve as a stand alone, state-approved document to guide future conservation and recreation opportunities in Town. Incorporate into Town Master Plan.

Role of Conservation Commission

- Maintain open communication with Open Space Committee;
- Review progress reports/plans prepared by Open Space Committee;
- Validate conservation and recreation vision, goals, needs and desires;
- Approve draft Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP);
- Distribute draft OSRP to Town Boards and Regional Agencies with letters of review;
- Submit revised draft OSRP to Division of Conservation Services and include approval;
- Submit final OSRP to Environmental Office of Executive Affairs;
- Provide at least two copies to library. Provide additional copies to interested parties.

Role of Open Space Committee

- Review existing plans/determine needs to accomplish plan;
- Establish OSRP Statement of Purpose, Values, Goals & Objectives;
- Identify potential areas of conflict with other land uses;
- Establish criteria for evaluating land of conservation interest;
- Establish working groups;
- Review progress reports/tasks completed by working group;
- Get letters of review from Town Boards and Organizations.

Role of Working Group (4-8 people) of the Open Space Committee:

- Identify goals and objectives within specific categories;
- Hold public forums/workshops;
- Prepare and send questionnaire;
- Prepare OSRP (research and analysis, writing, mapping)
- Present progress reports to Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission, and Master Plan Committee.

Estimated Work Program:

2006	September 27:	Committee kick-off meeting; review existing plans and maps; outline conservation goals and objectives.
	October:	Host public forums/workshops; prepare and analyze questionnaire; communicate with Town Boards and Master Planning Committee; prepare Town Meeting report and RFP for consultants as needed.
	Nov-Dec:	Report out at State of Town Meeting; begin writing Open Space & Recreation Plan.
2007	Jan-Feb:	Check-in with Master Plan Committee; continue writing Open Space & Recreation Plan; prepare maps; host public forums/workshops.
	March:	Update report to Town Meeting.
	Mar-Oct:	Incorporate feedback into draft Open Space & Recreation Plan; distribute draft plan to boards and organizations for review; consolidate plan with Master Planning Committee.
	November:	Report to State of the Town Meeting.
2008	Jan-Feb:	Prepare final Open Space & Recreation Plan for submission to DCR and Town Meeting.
	March:	Town Meeting.