OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

TOWN OF DOVER

2011

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OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN

2011 UPDATE

Board of Selectmen

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Assessor's Office
Building Inspector
Board of Health
Board of Selectmen
Conservation Commission
Conservation Agent
Highway Department
Long Range Planning Committee
Planning Board
Town Administrator
Town Clerk
Town Engineer

A special acknowledgement is due to the residents of Dover who attended and participated in the public hearing and/or otherwise provided valuable comments and assistance.

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Section 1: Plan Summary

This 2011 update of the Dover Open Space and Recreation Plan was prepared using the 2003-2004 Plan as the basis for the issues, information, and goals and objectives contained herein. Residential development and population growth continues to put pressure on the natural resources and infrastructure of the Town, as well as on its overall character.

In accordance with guidelines developed by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' (EOEEA) Division of Conservation Services (DCS), this plan contains the following major elements:

- A description of the plan's purpose and the process of incorporating public participation in developing the plan*;*
- A land use and demographic profile of the town;
- A summary of recent growth trends;
- An inventory and analysis of the town's natural, historic and scenic resources;
- An inventory of existing open space and recreation parcels;
- An analysis of open space and recreation needs;
- A statement of goals and objectives;
- An action plan through 2017; and
- Public comments;

This document presents a picture of the Dover's present demographic and environmental status, along with some discussion of how it evolved. The Inventory includes a list of major public and privately owned open space parcels. The thrust of the plan is a recognition of the need to take actions to preserve and protect Dover's natural resources, rural character, and recreation needs. Specific actions, including the identification of lead and support agencies to spearhead those actions, are included in the action plan.

Among the major recommendations are a number of actions to protect water supplies (including acquiring land in Ground Water Protection District 1), prioritize Chapter 61, 61A and 61B properties, increase awareness of conservation resources and issues, link open space areas, and coordinate efforts among public and nonprofit land owners. Recreation recommendations include developing or improving programs for all age groups, pursuing implementation of new facilities, developing waterfront activities (such as swimming, boating and fishing), and ensuring access to all facilities

.

Section 2: Introduction

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to help ensure that Dover's open space and recreation resources are protected and its needs met to the maximum extent practicable. The 2003-2004 Open Space and Recreation Plan, upon which this update is based, the 1978 Recreation Plan, the 1997 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the 1998 and 2004 Master Plans (also currently being updated), and other previous planning initiatives have contributed to creating the quality of life that exists in Dover today. In addition, Dover is fortunate to have many large landowners who have retained their property in open space uses which have provided Town residents with significant scenic views and substantial rural character.

A survey conducted in 1990 showed strong local support for retention of Dover's country-like feel and support for the acquisition of open space. That support was reinforced by the decision at the 2000 Annual Town Meeting to commit town funds to the acquisition of the Wylde property on Centre Street, a centerpiece of the Centre Street corridor of open space and connecting trails.

This updated Open Space and Recreation Plan is intended to focus past expressions of support for open space acquisition by assessing demographic trends, evaluating environmental conditions, inventorying existing open space and recreation resources, identifying opportunities to expand and enhance open space and recreation resources, and affirming open space and recreation goals and objectives. It culminates with an updated five-year action plan of recommendations.

It should be noted that the Open Space and Recreation Plan is dynamic. Conditions change both locally and regionally, and new information constantly becomes available. The Plan should be reviewed periodically and adjusted as needed. This update conforms to the standard periodic re-assessment, evaluating the success, progress on or failure of goals and actions promulgated by the 2003-2004 Open Space and Recreation Plan, and developing updated goals and recommended actions to be achieved over the next seven years. In addition, demographic, land use and open space data is updated. The next update of the OSRP should be conducted in 2017.

Planning Process and Public Participation

This 2010 update was prepared by the Open Space Committee with the assistance of PGC Associates. Input from Town officials, individual Committee members and other Dover residents has been critical to this effort, providing valuable first-hand knowledge of Town needs, problems and opportunities that must be addressed.

The Open Space Committee is a statutory committee established by Town Meeting in 2001. It is composed of 9 members appointed by the Board of Selectmen and 1 member

each appointed by the Planning Board and Conservation Commission, for a total of 11 members.

A copy of the draft report and notice of an open hearing was posted on the Town's web site on February 18, 2010. Notices were also sent to Globe West and the Dover-Sherborn Press. Readers were encouraged to attend the forum as well as to submit any comments that they may have in advance. Electronic copies of the draft were also sent to Town boards, committees and departments and they were asked to review the draft and provide comments as well.

The open hearing was held on March 2, 2010, Input was solicited on the goals and objectives in particular, but also on any issues that needed to be addressed and opportunities that needed to be explored. Participants at this meeting were also asked to suggest specific parcels of land and/or areas of Town that merited close attention. This public meeting was also recorded and broadcast on the Town's public access cable TV channel (DCTV, Channel 8). TV viewers were also specifically encouraged to submit comments. Minutes of the hearing are included in the Appendix.

Based on the comments received, a revised set of goals and objectives was drafted, and a draft report was prepared which included a set of recommendations as well as the demographic data, environmental inventory and analysis, and inventory of lands of conservation and recreation interest. Copies of the preliminary draft were placed in the Town House and Library for public review. The recommendations were presented to the Board of Selectmen and other Town departments, boards and commissions for any final comments.

Section 3: Community Setting

A. Regional Context

The Town of Dover is located about 15 miles west-southwest of Boston and forms part of the western boundary of Norfolk County. It has a total area of 15.3 square miles (9,876 acres). Abutting towns include Wellesley and Needham to the north, Westwood to the east, Walpole and Medfield to the south, and Sherborn and Natick to the west. Figure 1 illustrates the major connections between Dover and its region.

The boundaries of Dover remain the same today as they were in 1797. The western and northern boundaries are formed by the Charles River, except for a triangle of land in the northwest corner (around Pegan Hill), that was separated from Dedham and given to Natick in 1650. The eastern boundary is a straight line that runs in a slight (about 10 degrees) angle in a northwest/southeast direction. The southern boundary runs from the southern terminus of the eastern boundary along Route 109 (County Road) for about a mile. It then angles north for another mile, and, finally runs due west to a point on the Charles River just south of the Rocky Narrows Reservation.

Dover is in the Metropolitan Boston region. The majority of the town lies in the Charles River Watershed, with its Southeastern corner lying in the Neponset River Watershed. Historically, Dover has been characterized as a small farming town with substantial rural character. It has a small Town Center in which the Town House, Police Station, the Caryl Community Center, the Charles River School, a market, a post office, a sandwich shop, a gas station, and several other small commercial, legal and medical establishments are located. The majority of Dover's commercial, professional, and medical needs are provided for outside its borders.

Dover's farming heritage is evident in the rural quality of the Town. Scenery common to farming communities in New England (such as open pasture land; stands of white pine, birch, oak, and maple; old stone walls dividing properties; and farm houses and barns) is still very much in evidence today. This heritage and country atmosphere is highly valued by the citizens of Dover. There are now three community-supported agriculture (CSA) programs in town that sell local produce to both Dover and non-Dover residents alike.

The Elm Bank aquifer in the northernmost part of town is a resource of regional importance. It is a high-yield aquifer to which four communities have rights. These include Dover, Natick, Needham and Wellesley. Natick developed four well sites in the aquifer. In addition to the Elm Bank surface, the underground aquifer extends to other parts of Dover as well. Dover relies almost entirely on ground water for its drinking water and other domestic water needs.

Dover is also the site of both Noanet Woodlands (owned by The Trustees of Reservations) and about half of Hale Reservation (the other half is in Westwood). Together these contiguous properties total about 1800 acres in the two towns and they draw visitors from all of eastern Massachusetts. It should be noted that Rocky Woods Reservation in Medfield and Pegan Hill Reservation in Natick both abut (and extend into) Dover and there is trail access to both from Dover. These reservations are all-open to the public, and have well-marked trails for walking,

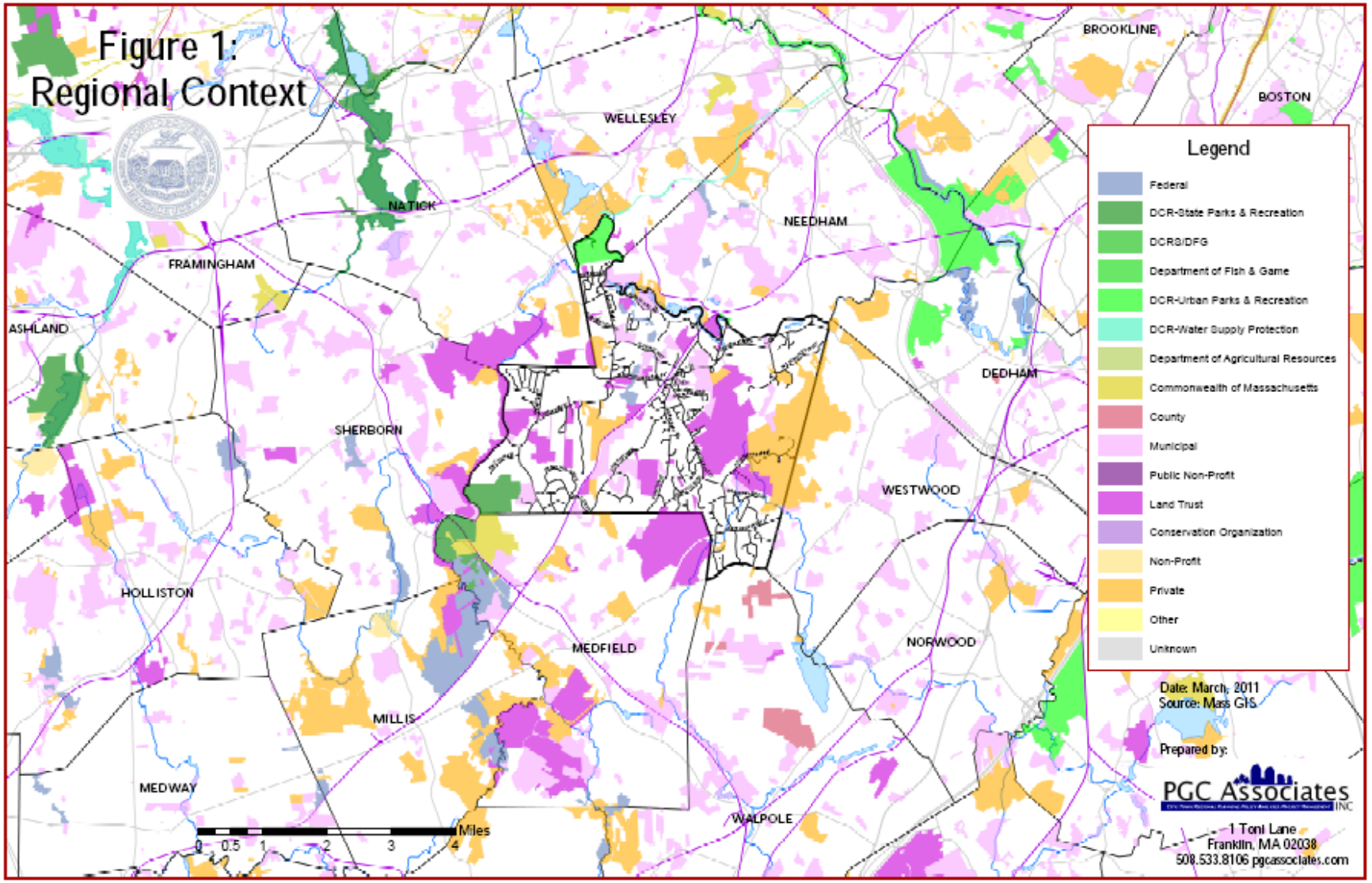
Figure 1:
Regional Context
BROOKLINE
BOSTON
WELLESLEY
NATICK
NEEDHAM
FRAMINGHAM
ASHLAND
DEDHAM
SHERBORN
WESTWOOD
HOLLISTON
MEDFIELD
NORWOOD
MILLIS
MEDWAY
WALPOLE
Legend
Federal
DCR-State Parks & Recreation
DCR/DFG
Department of Fish & Game
DCR-Urban Parks & Recreation
DCR-Water Supply Protection
Department of Agricultural Resources
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County
Municipal
Public Non-Profit
Land Trust
Conservation Organization
Non-Profit
Private
Other
Unknown
0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
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horseback riding, and, in several cases, off-road biking. A major focus for the Town in its open space acquisition efforts is to connect these reservations with trails, as well as to create green belts and wildlife corridors between them. Towards this end, the acquisition of the Wylde and Ferguson properties has helped establish the Centre Street Corridor as a major network of open space in the center of town. These properties have connecting trails.

The Medfield State Hospital grounds also formerly extended into Dover in the vicinity of the Medfield/Dover/Sherborn town boundaries. The portion of the hospital grounds in Dover abutted the Dover-Sherborn Regional Schools campus and was acquired by the regional school district after Town Meetings in both towns authorized the purchase in 2003. Current efforts to address the future of the remaining hospital property in Medfield are extremely important to all three communities. The Elm Bank aquifer, the major reservations and Medfield State Hospital, combine to make Dover a regional resource of major significance.

Of regional significance is the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's (MAPC) MetroFuture, the regional development plan for metropolitan Boston, adopted in 2008. Among the major goals of MetroFuture are to focus on growth where it already exists, linked by efficient transportation choices and protecting natural resources. The recommendations of this Open Space and Recreation Plan are compatible with MetroFuture. It should be noted that Dover is a member of MAPC, as well as both the Three-Rivers Interlocal Council (TRIC) and Southwest Area Planning (SWAP) sub-regions of MAPC.

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), Massachusetts Outdoors 2006, is a 5-year plan developed by the Commonwealth to ensure eligibility for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants. Dover is part of the Metro Boston region in this plan.

Many of the characteristics discussed above contribute to a desirable quality of life. Therefore, like many of its neighbors, Dover has experienced an increase in residential growth in recent years. While that growth has slowed during the recent economic downturn and there is currently an abundance of remaining open space, smart growth planning is necessary to protect existing resources and to secure additional open space land for future conservation and recreation needs.

B. History of the Community

Dover was first settled around 1635 and for many years was part of the town of Dedham. Its history was recorded in Frank Smith's A History of Dover, Massachusetts, published in 1897. More recently, Richard Vara published Dover Days Gone By as part of Dover's contribution to the nation's bicentennial celebration of 1976. The Vara book catalogues the history of Dover and its environs from prehistoric Native American life through the 1970s.

Prior to its incorporation as a Town, the area was named Springfield because it was predominantly a farming community with open fields centered around the "bubbling springs" of Trout Brook. It was incorporated as a Town in 1836. The Chairman of the Springfield Parish committee chose the name “Dover” in honor of his ancestral home in England.

Farming was once the principal industry of Dover. However, its proximity to Boston led to the development of other industries. Lumbering for the shipbuilding industry, a grist mill, a nail factory, and an iron rolling business were all once present in Dover. Little remains of Dover's industrial heritage. However, the remains of the Dover Union Iron Mill in Noanet Woodlands were reconstructed and serve as a monument to the ingenuity of the Town's forebears in using water power to drive the machinery to create iron bars. Dover is also the site of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society headquarters, located at Elm Bank.

In the latter part of the 20th century, Dover became primarily a residential community. Much open space, including farms, remains.

C. Population Characteristics

Population and Household Growth

As shown in Tables 1 and 2, the Town of Dover grew rapidly from 1940 to 1970. During this 30-year period, the Town more than tripled in size from 1,374 to 4,529. The biggest percentage growth spurt occurred during the 1950s when the Town grew by 65%, an increase of more than 1,100 residents. Another 1,683 residents were added in the 1960s, for an increase of 59%.

Table 1:
Population Growth - 1940-2009

Year	Population	Change	% Change
1940	1,374	--	--
1950	1,722	348	25.33%
1960	2,846	1124	65.27%
1970	4,529	1683	59.14%
1980	4,703	174	3.84%
1990	4,915	212	4.51%
2000	5,558	643	13.08%
2009	5,730	172	3.09%

Source: U.S. Censuses, 1940-2000 and 2009 Population Estimates by U.S. Census

Table 2:
Household Growth - 1990-2000

Year	Households	Change	% Change
1990	1,672	--	--
2000	1,884	212	12.68%

Source: U.S. Census

Growth slowed considerably in the 1970's to just 3.84% for the decade. It picked up slightly in the 1980s, increasing by 4.51% to 4915 according to the 1990 U.S. Census. Population growth accelerated again in the 1990s and the 2000 census recorded a population of 5,558, a substantial increase of over 13 percent for the decade. Since the 2000 census, Dover's population has increased by 3.09 percent, resulting in a 2009 population estimate of 5,730.

Density

Changes in population density in Dover are presented in Table 3. By 2009, Dover's housing density had risen to over 374 persons per square mile. Table 4 compares the density of Dover's population and housing units with neighboring towns and with the Commonwealth as a whole. Though still substantially less densely developed than most towns in the region (Sherborn the notable exception), the increase in density is nonetheless striking.

Table 3:
Population Density - 1940-2009

Year	Population	Pop. Density/sq. mile
1940	1374	90
1950	1722	112
1960	2846	186
1970	4529	295
1980	4703	307
1990	4915	321
2000	5558	363
2009	5730	374

Source: U.S. Censuses, 1940-2000 and 2009 Population Estimates by U.S. Census

Table 4:
2009 Population Density – Local, Regional and Statewide

Town	Population	Density (per sq. mile)
Dover	5,730	374
Sherborn	4,288	268
Medfield	12,267	840
Millis	8,029	653
Natick	32,335	2141
Needham	29,021	2281
Walpole	23,448	1117
Wellesley	27,398	2728
Westwood	14,322	1290
Massachusetts	6,593,587	839

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2009 Population Estimates

As Table 4 illustrates, Dover's population density is less than half that of the State as a whole, and substantially (about one-fourth) lower than many neighboring communities in the MAPC sub-region. This attests to the significant open space holdings and prevailing rural character that exists in Dover. Of communities listed in the chart, only Sherborn has a lower population and density.

Education and Income

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Dover's percentage of high school and college graduates is more than double that of the State as a whole, the MAPC region, and the TRIC sub-region. As would be expected based on higher education levels, both median household and per capita income are significantly higher in Dover than in the State as a whole and in the MAPC and TRIC regions. The percentage of Dover residents in management/professional/technical employment categories is significantly higher than the State as a whole as well.

The Median Family Income in Dover was $157,168 in 1999 according to the 2000 US Census. This compares to $77,409 for Massachusetts and $50,046 for the U.S. as a whole. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has estimated that median family income increased in the Boston, MA-NH Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area by a factor of 1.205 between 1999 and 2008. Applying this factor to Dover's 1999 median family income produces an estimate of $189,387 for Dover's median family income in 2008.

Employment Trends

Dover is not a significant employment center. Also, due in part to its high education level, the unemployment rate among its residents tend to fall below the state as a whole. From 2000 through 2008, the average unemployment rate ranged from 1.5% in 2000 to a high of 3.5% in 2002. It dropped below 3% in 2005 and stayed there until 2008. The most recent unemployment rate in August, 2009 was 5.3%. This was a decline from a peak of 6.4% in June 2009.

In 2008, there was an average of 804 jobs in 153 establishments in Dover. More than half of these, 414, were in "educational services" due to the regional middle and high schools, a public elementary school and a private pre-k to 8th grade school. The next three largest sectors were "other services with 58 jobs and 45 establishments, 'retail trade" with 48 jobs in 7 establishments and "construction" with 38 jobs in 12 establishments.

Age

Table 5 presents population projections by age cohort. Because the young and the elderly will continue to represent significant portions of its population, there is a continuing need for the Town to provide recreation opportunities for children and elderly residents.

Table 5:
Current and Projected Population by Age Cohort – 2000-2030

Age Group	2000	2010	2020	2030
0-4	422	341	346	362
5-9	562	386	358	386
10-14	511	422	386	398
15-19	343	377	345	329
20-24	121	204	192	177
25-29	115	177	199	181
30-34	231	171	197	196
35-39	454	186	152	160
40-44	530	377	274	308
45-49	529	563	455	418
50-54	499	642	606	510
55-59	357	608	704	602
60-64	260	538	659	637
65-69	207	365	533	655
70-74	181	164	264	333
75-79	109	99	124	174
80-84	77	91	101	190
85+	50	80	84	106
TOTALS	**5558**	**5791**	**5979**	**6122**

Source: MAPC, 2006

Ethnicity
According to the U.S. Census, Dover was 95.2% white in 2000. The Asian population comprised 3.6% of the population followed by "Other" and "Two or more" at .7% each. Blacks were .4%, and Latinos of any race were 1.7% of the total.

D. Growth and Development Patterns

1. Patterns and Trends

The Town of Dover developed around a Town Center located adjacent to the railroad tracks. The Town Center is the governmental, institutional, retail, social and service center of the Town. It is immediately surrounded by residential development built at a density of one housing unit per half acre. Surrounding this core is a corridor of one-acre zoning running from the south end of town along the Walpole line through the center to the north part of town where it abuts Natick, Wellesley and Needham. Except for the corner of Town that abuts Natick and Sherborn (which is also zoned for one-acre house lots), the remainder of the Town is zoned for two-acre residential lots.

As discussed above, Dover's largest period of growth occurred in the 1950s and 1960s, and to a lesser degree in the 1940s. As recently as 1910, there were only 769 residents. This increased to 1374 by 1940, when the most intensive growth began. The 1970s and 1980s was a period of slow growth, averaging well under .5% annually as the number of residents grew from 4529 in 1970 to

4915 in 1990. This increased much more rapidly in the 1990s, rising to a 2000 census figure of 5558. Since 2000, growth has been much slower, resulting in a 2009 population estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau to be 5730.

It should be noted that population growth somewhat understates the impact of development on the town because household size has declined. In 1980, there were 1487 households, and the number of persons per household was 3.2. By 1990, the number of households had increased to 1643 (according to the U.S. Census), an increase of 10% from 1980. Since the number of persons per household declined to 2.98, the population increase is lower than it would have been had household size remained constant. By 2000, the number of housing units in Dover was up to 1884. According to MAPC's current projections, the total number of housing units is expected to reach 1,994 by 2010.

With the exception of the 56-unit County Court condominium project built in 1993 under a comprehensive permit off Route 109, development has been mostly low-density, primarily one lot at a time. Recent subdivisions have resulted in five or fewer developable lots each. "The Meadows," a high-density Chapter 40B development (25% affordable, with many local regulations not applicable), is being constructed on a prominent site in the center of town formerly used as a sand and gravel operation. The development will consist of 28 single-family detached condominium units. Another similar project, "Dover Farms," is also being constructed on the other side of the Town Center next to the Dover Cemetery. It too is a single-family condominium development with 20 detached units.

In many cases, lot sizes have been greater than the minimums established by zoning. The Snow Hill subdivision of 143+ acres off Centre Street in a two-acre zone resulted in only 15 subdivision lots plus 2 Approval Not Required lots with frontage on existing streets and set aside significant open space and trail connections. In the Francis Street subdivision, which is located in the one-acre zone, seven of sixteen lots are between 10% and 25% greater than the minimum lot size, and one is about 50% greater. The remaining eight lots are at least double the minimum lot size, and two are about 11 and 25 acres, respectively. This subdivision includes a restriction limiting the total number of lots to 16. Dover Pines Estates is also located in the one-acre zone. The seven lots range in size from 1.39 to 2.31 acres. Part of this phenomenon is explained by the limitations of locating septic systems on smaller lots.

2. Infrastructure

With the partial exception of transportation, Dover has relatively little of the three infrastructure elements that substantially impact development -- transportation, sewer, and water. Each of these is discussed below:

A. Transportation

Only one State Highway, Route 109, is located within the boundaries of Dover, bordering the southernmost part of Dover for a short distance. The major town roads, which generally radiate out from the Town Center to provide access throughout the Town as well as to adjacent Towns, include Dedham, Walpole, Pine, Center, Farm, and Main Streets, as well as Springdale Avenue. In addition, Route 128 and Route 9 are readily accessible from Dover in the neighboring towns of Westwood, Needham, Wellesley, and Natick.

No commuter rail service exists within Town, but such service is available in the abutting Towns of Natick, Wellesley, Needham, and Walpole. An MBTA rail line currently traverses Dover, and usage rights for freight still exist but it has not been used in recent years. There is a currently an effort to convert this line into the Bay Colony Trail, a rail trail that would run from Needham to Medfield.

Air service is available at Logan International Airport in Boston and T.F. Green Airport in Warwick, Rhode Island. Both Worcester Regional Airport and Norwood Municipal are also ~~a~~accessible from Dover.

Many trails for both pedestrian and equestrian use are available in Dover. Some of these trails link with trails and/or destinations in adjacent Towns. Sidewalks are limited to the major streets in and near the Town Center, except for a single sidewalk on Glen Street that does not connect to anything. A set of sidewalk guidelines was adopted in 2008 that prescribes a process for petitioning for new sidewalks and establishes design standards for them.

B. Water Supply

About two-thirds of Dover residents rely on private wells for their water supply (MAPC, 1993). The remainder receives their water from the Dover Water Company, (a private company) or other private water companies as well as the Natick and Medfield municipal water departments. These water suppliers also depend on wells as the source of their water.

C. Sewer Service

Dover has no public sewer system. This has been a factor in limiting growth as well as resulting in low-density development. There are no plans to provide sewer service in Town. The three local Chapter 40B projects rely on on-site wastewater treatment plants.

3. Long-Term Development Patterns

The primary land use control in Dover is the Zoning By-Law. Figure 2 illustrates the current zoning districts in Town. The Zoning By-Law provides for four residential districts (including one multi-family district which is an overlay district that has not been used to date). The three conventional districts have minimum lot sizes and frontages of one-half acre and 100 feet, one acre and 150 feet, and two acres and 200 feet. It also designates districts for business, medical-professional, and manufacturing uses. There is also an Official or Open Space District for those public and semi-public non-profit uses such as park and recreation areas, public buildings, cemeteries, schools, churches, reservoirs, and open space reservations. In addition, there are two overlay districts for flood plain protection and for protection of ground water, natural conditions, wildlife, etc.

Dover adopted a General Bylaw in 1993 that created Ground Water Protection Districts in which various activities are regulated or prohibited. Groundwater Protection District 1 (GW-1), which is includes aquifer areas with the capability of supplying municipal water for Dover and/or adjacent towns, is very restrictive. Some municipal wells are already located in this district. Groundwater Protection District 2 (GW-2), which includes the remainder of the Town, is less

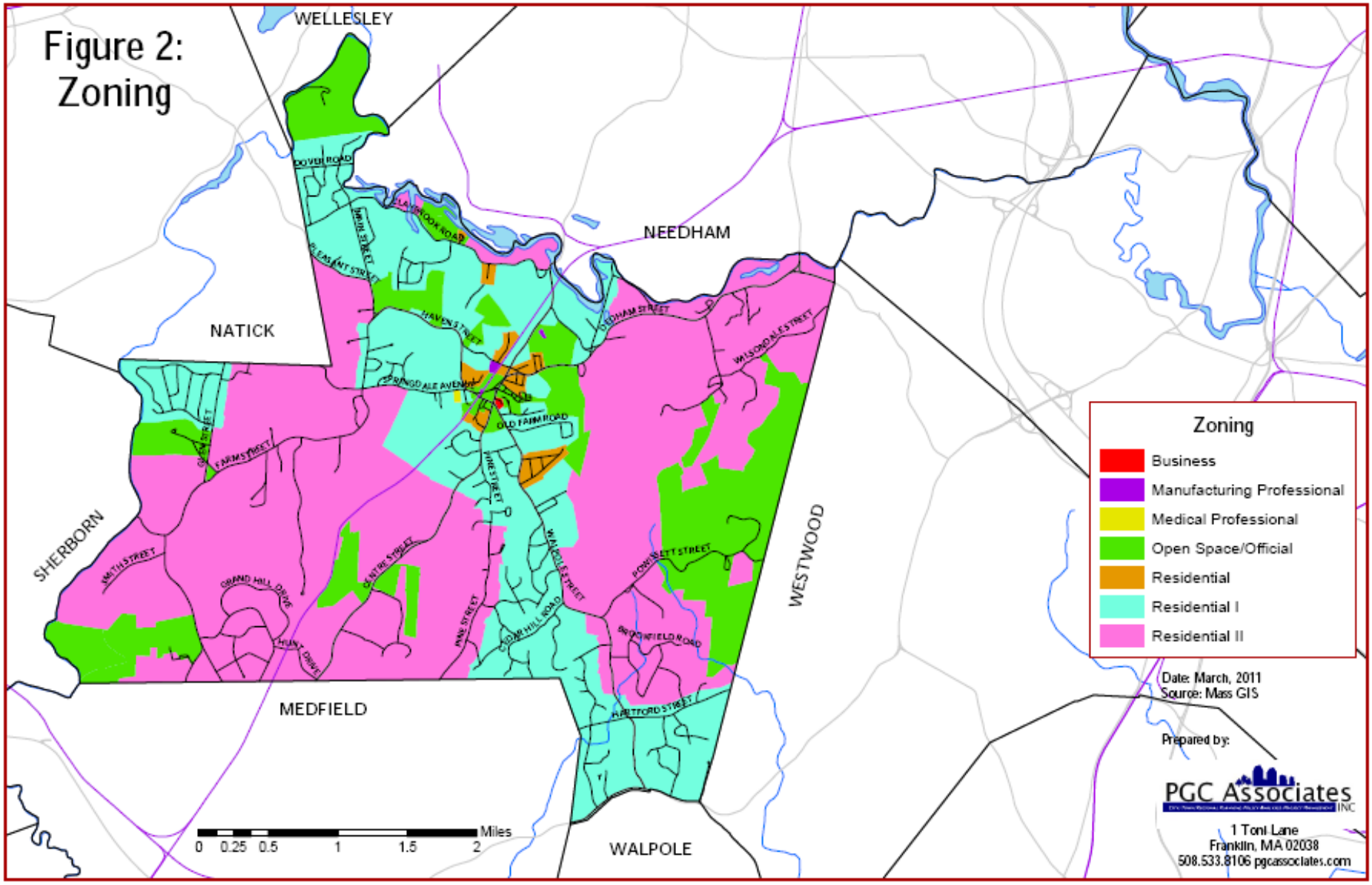
Figure 2:
Zoning
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Zoning
Business
Manufacturing Professional
Medical Professional
Open Space/Official
Residential
Residential I
Residential II
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
Prepared by:
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restrictive than GW-1 but still protective of water sources. Wellhead Protection (WP) areas, the areas immediately surrounding public wells, have the most stringent restrictions.

The Conservation Commission administers the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act and the Town of Dover Wetlands Protection Bylaw. A part-time Conservation Agent assists the Commission in its enforcement and administrative duties. It should be noted that the Dover Wetlands Protection Bylaw contains provisions (such as setback distances for structures and disturbances in the buffer zones) that are stricter than the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. Dover also has a Conservancy District that includes many of the wetlands in town. It should also be noted that the Rivers Protection Act, enacted by the Legislature in 1996, provides protection to lands within 200 feet of rivers and streams. This law is also administered by the Conservation Commission.

The Board of Health, with the assistance of a health agent, enforces the provisions of Title 5 of the State Sanitary Code regarding the design and installation of septic systems and alternative waste disposal systems. The Dover Board of Health also has its own regulations for septic systems, which are stricter than Title 5.

Since 1950, land use in Dover has changed dramatically in the amount of land devoted to "urban" use, primarily the development of single-family houses. While residential use has more than tripled in acreage, agricultural use has declined by about half. However, the amount of forestland has only decreased by about 20% over the same period. Table 6 shows the breakdown of land use categories in acreage in 1971 and 1999 (the most recent such available data).

Table 6:
Land Use Categories and Change

Land Use Type	1971 Acreage	1999 Acreage	Change
Forestry	6252	5706	-8.7%
Agriculture	876	797	-9.0%
Open Land	148	134	-9.5%
Wetlands	284	256	-9.9%
Single-Family – (low density)	1826	2207	20.9%
Single-Family – (medium density)	311	587	88.7%
Multi-Family	0	5	NA
Commercial	16	16	0%
Industrial	0	0	0%
Mining	8	0	-100%
Waste Disposal	0	3	NA
Recreation	57	68	19.2%
Public or transitional	99	100	1.0%
Total	9878	9878	0%

Source: MassGIS, from Resource Mapping Project at UMass-Amherst

The potential maximum build-out for Dover was analyzed by the Master Plan Committee in the mid-1990s. It was based on five assumptions:

- Acceptance of zoning districts currently in place
- Each large lot will be subdivided and retain its existing house.
- Locations of wetlands and surface waters will be accepted as they are shown on maps. Site visits were not utilized to verify location of these natural features.
- Cul-de-sacs will be considered possible even though they require Planning Board approval.
- Large parcels under separate ownership will be looked at individually.

This initial estimate for build-out indicated a possible 553 to 580 additional house lots. This is not the final estimate because it does not consider vacant lots in existing subdivisions or smaller lots with a house, which may have additional development potential. More recently (2002), the MAPC prepared a build-out study for Dover as part of a statewide effort. This analysis projected an increase in residential units of 1,150 and 3,233 additional residents. The huge discrepancy between the two build-out figures may be largely due to the more recent study's failure to consider environmental constraints (including a great deal of land that cannot be developed due to the presence of wetlands, poor soil permeability, ledge, and other conditions), as well as some inaccuracies in the land use inventory. The true build-out figures may lie somewhere in the middle, and additional factors can be introduced to the MAPC analysis to make it more accurate in assessing local conditions.

In any case, build-out estimates assume full build-out under current zoning and environmental constraints. Market and economic forces also impact the timing of such build-out scenarios. As shown in Table 5, taking these factors into account produces a projection of relatively slow growth through 2030 to 6122 residents from 5558 in 2000. This represents an increase of 10.1% (564 residents) over 30 years. This averages about 19 new residents per year over that time span.

Section 4: Environmental Inventory and Analysis

A. Geology, Soils and Topography

Essential Structure
Dover is located in western Norfolk County in eastern Massachusetts. It shares many characteristics with other New England towns, including varying soils, abundant forest land and wetlands, and a system of rivers and streams. The town lies within the Eastern Plateau (also known as the Coastal Hills) subregion of the Lower New England Physiographic Province. This subregion is characterized by gently rolling hills with low relief and subtle breaks between major landforms (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1989).

Figure 3 illustrates the generalized bedrock geology of Dover. Most of the bedrock beneath Dover consists of Dedham Granite and Mattapan Volcanic Complex. The north end of Town along the Charles River is Roxbury Conglomerate, while the south central part of Town consists of Diorite and Diabase dikes and soils (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1989).

The older bedrock, mostly granite, diorites, granodiorites, and quartzites, was formed 750 million years ago during the Precambrian Era. The younger bedrock, mostly volcanics, was formed 415 to 285 million years ago during the Upper Silurian to Carboniferous Periods of the Paleozoic Era. During the Tertiary Period of the Cenozoic Era (65 million to 2.5 million years ago), eastern New England experienced slight, but numerous, crustal uplifts that resulted in deep dissection of the landscape. Stream erosion predominated during the end of the Tertiary and beginning of the Quartenary Periods (2.5 million years ago to the present). Major bedrock faults trend northeast-southwest through Dover, and minor fractures occur throughout the Town. These faults and fractures allow groundwater to travel through them, providing a source of water for most of Dover's residents. (IEP, 1990).

The most widespread surficial deposits in New England are till and stratified drift left by the last two glaciers as they advanced southward about 100,000 to 140,000 years ago. As the ice retreated, large blocks, several miles wide, sometimes became detached from the glacier and began melting slowly. These melting blocks resulted in meltwater streams which transported and deposited glacial sediment, mainly in the valleys. Many of these stratified drift deposits are now aquifers capable of yielding hundreds of gallons of water per minute. Four such aquifers in the Dover area include Morse's Pond/Elm Bank aquifer, and the Sherborn, Walpole and Millis/Medfield aquifers. (IEP, 1990).

As Figure 4 (General Soil Map) illustrates, most of Dover's soil is of the Canton-Charlton-Hollis variety. These soils are very deep to shallow, gently sloping to steep, somewhat excessively drained and well-drained. They are loamy soils formed in glacial till and in ice-contact, stratified drift on upland, low hills. Soil in this category tends to be woodlands, while some areas tend to be used as cropland or pasture. Septic systems in Canton soils present a ground water pollution hazard because they readily absorb but do not adequately filter the effluent. Hollis soils are too shallow for use as leaching fields. (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1989). This soil complex covers most of the eastern part of Dover.

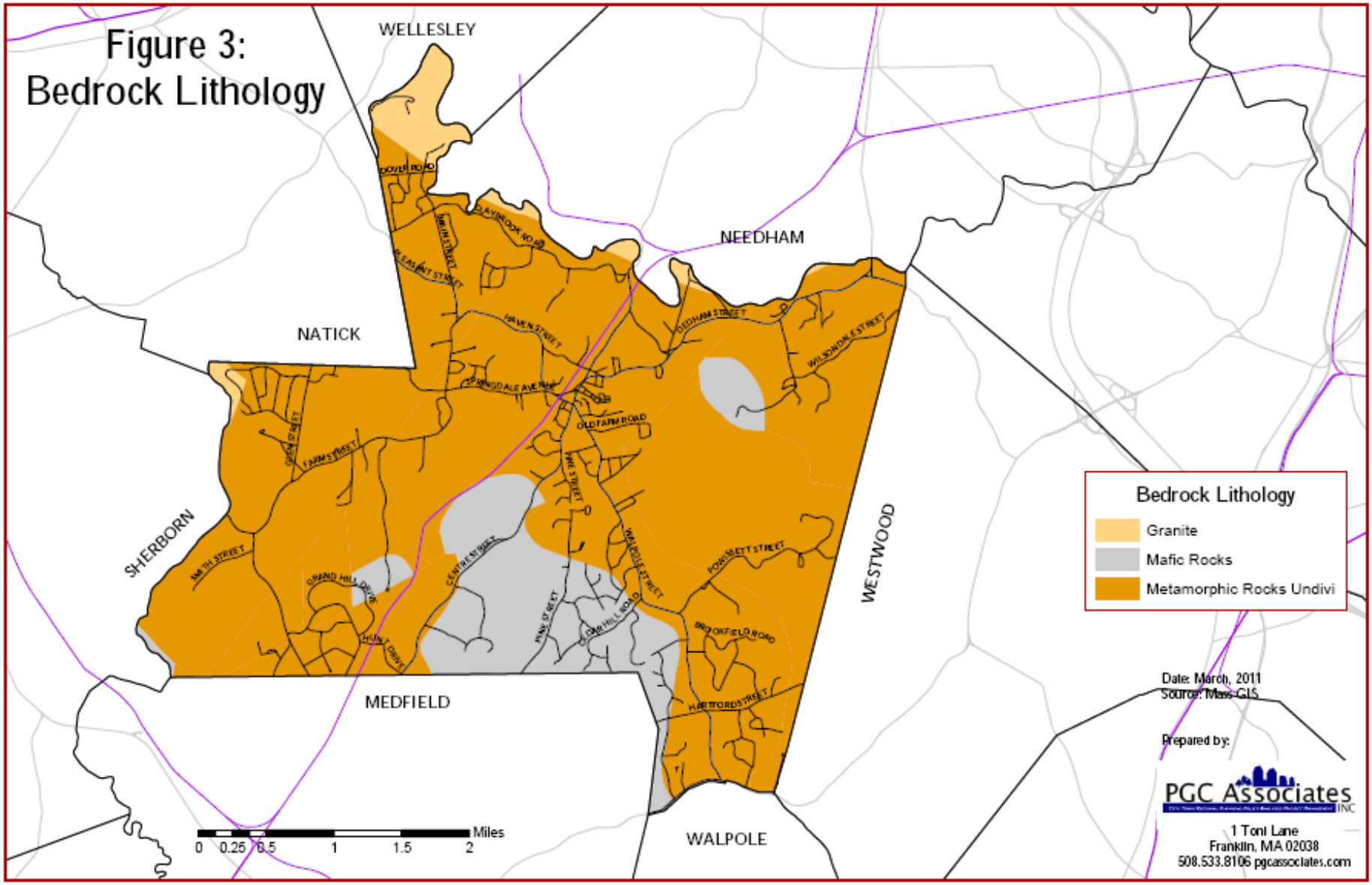
Figure 3:
Bedrock Lithology
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Bedrock Lithology
Granite
Mafic Rocks
Metamorphic Rocks Undivi
Miles
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
Prepared by:
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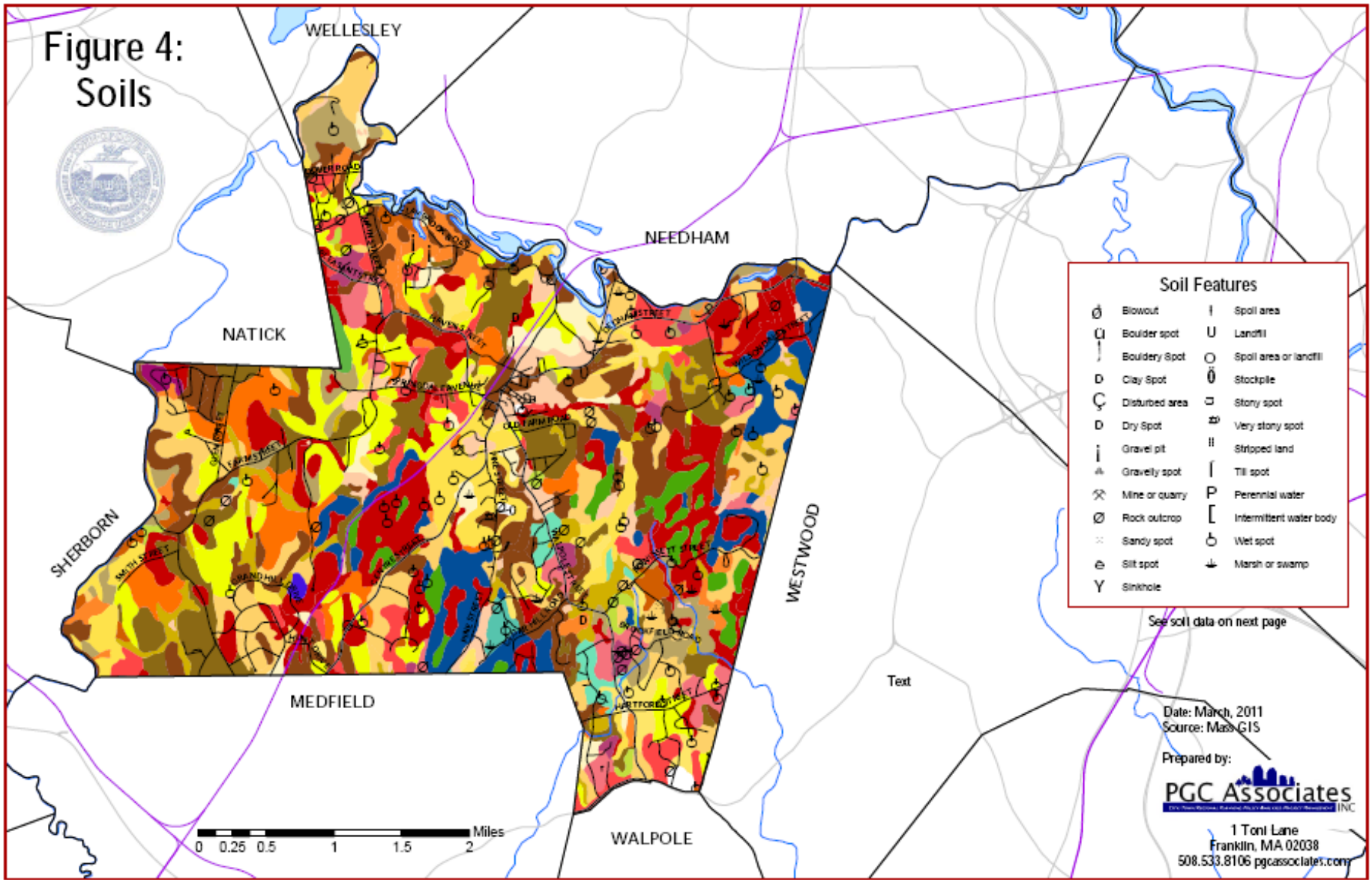
Figure 4:
Soils
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Soil Features
Blowout
Boulder spot
Bouldery Spot
Clay Spot
Disturbed area
Dry Spot
Gravel pit
Gravelly spot
Mine or quarry
Rock outcrop
Sandy spot
Silt spot
Sinkhole
Spoil area
Landfill
Spoil area or landfill
Stockpile
Stony spot
Very stony spot
Stripped land
Till spot
Perennial water
Intermittent water body
Wet spot
Marsh or swamp
See soil data on next page
Text
Date: March, 2011
Source: MassGIS
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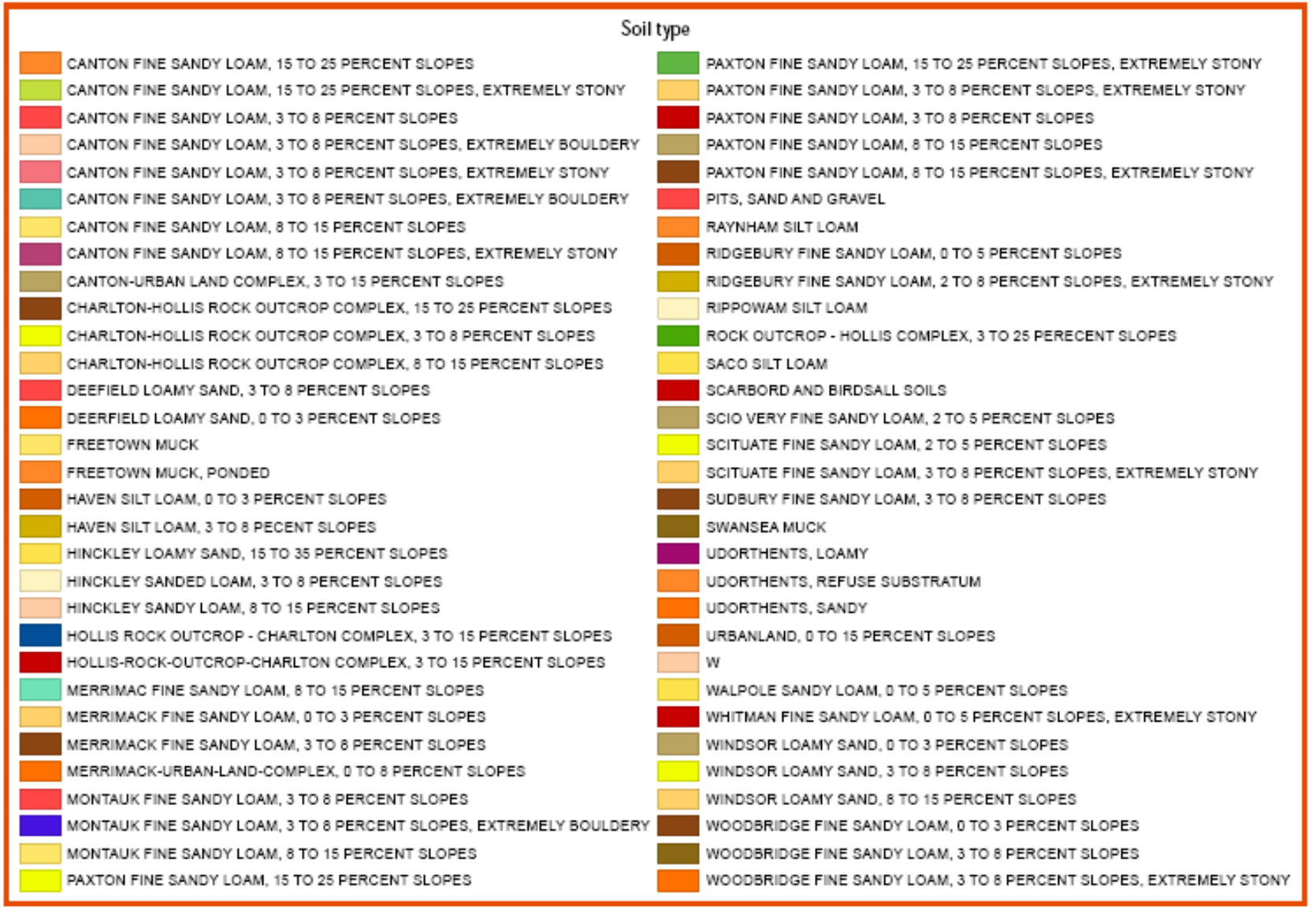
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2
Miles

Soil Map Legend



The second most common soil complex is Woodbridge-Paxton-Montauk. These are very deep and range from nearly level to steep. They are moderately well drained and well drained soils formed in friable, loamy glacial till overlying a firm substratum. These soils are well suited for cultivating crops, as pasture, and as woodlands because of smooth slopes and high productivity. They are poorly suited for septic systems because the firm substratum does not readily absorb the effluent. (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1989). Most of the western part of Town, with the exception of the strip along the Charles River, consists of this soil type.

Most of the remainder of Town, particularly along the Charles River in the west and north (but also in the southeastern corner) consists of the Hinckley-Merrimac-Urban complex. These soils are very deep, and range from nearly level to steep. They are excessively drained and somewhat excessively drained soils formed in sandy and loamy glacial outwash overlying stratified sand and gravel, and areas of urban land. They are generally found in major stream valleys and on coastal plains. These soils are generally well suited for buildings as well as roads and streets. However, because they are well drained they can pose a water pollution hazard when used for septic systems since they readily absorb, but do not adequately filter, the effluent. (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1989).

The major topographical feature is the Charles River (Figure 5 illustrates the surface waters of Dover), which forms the western and northern boundaries of the Town. Elevations range from about 88 feet above mean sea level (msl) on the Charles River to 450 feet msl at the top of Snow Hill. Many of the hills are exposed bedrock that has been shaped and scraped by glaciers. Others, including Pegan Hill (410 feet), Miller Hill (300 feet) and Juniper Hill (297 feet) are drumlins, having been formed by deposits of glacial drift (Norfolk Conservation District, 1976). Generally, the hills in the southeast part of Town consist of bedrock, while those in the northwestern part are covered by glacial sediments, including permeable sand and gravel. Other significant hills include Cedar Hill (442 feet), Powissett Peak (410), Strawberry Hill (391 feet), and Noanet Peak (384 feet).

Those hills in the northwestern part of Town tend to be flatter and smoother. Some flat-topped rises, such as those near Chickering School and Caryl Park, are remnants of river terraces associated with the Charles River. The river valleys in this area are significantly wider than those in the southeastern section of Dover (unpublished data, 1971).

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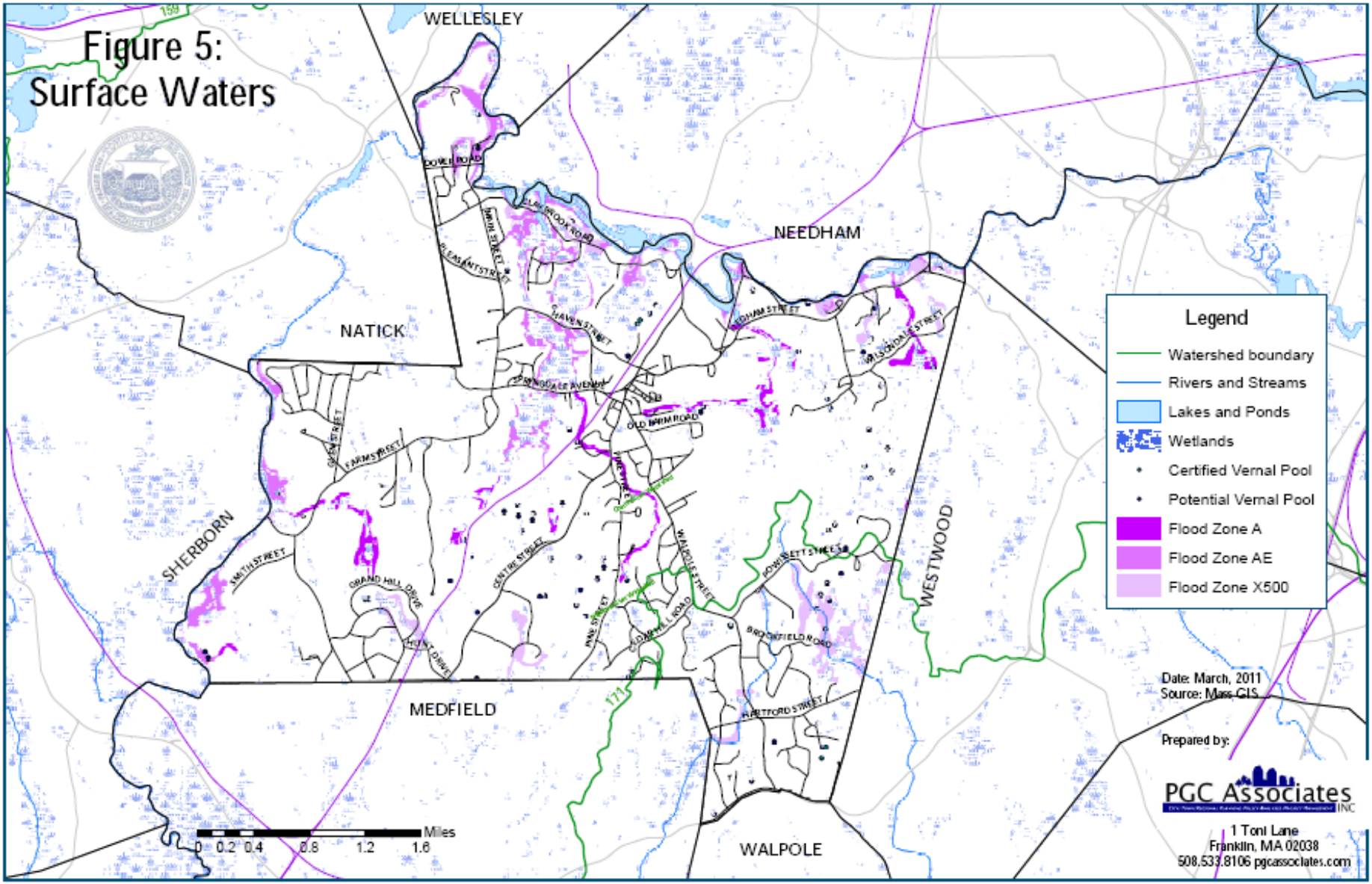
Figure 5:
Surface Waters
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Legend
Watershed boundary
Rivers and Streams
Lakes and Ponds
Wetlands
Certified Vernal Pool
Potential Vernal Pool
Flood Zone A
Flood Zone AE
Flood Zone X500
Miles
0 0.2 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
Prepared by:
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Effects on Development, Drinking Water and Wastewater

Dover relies on groundwater for its drinking supplies. Glacial soils provide the primary medium by which the aquifers are recharged. There are two primary sources of groundwater, both of which exist in Dover. The first is bedrock. Fractures (cracks) and faults (fractures along which movement has occurred) provide pathways for water to travel through the rock. Wells which intercept these faults and fractures provide generally 5 to 20 gallons of water per minute. (IEP, 1990). This source of groundwater is suitable for serving individual homes but generally not as a source for a municipal water supply. Most homes in Dover use this source.

Because of the nature of the fractures, recharge areas can be miles from the pumping location, and it is difficult to determine the source of bedrock ground water. Areas of till and bedrock are presumed to provide recharge to the underlying bedrock. Due to the slower permeability rates of till compared to stratified drift deposits, less surface water infiltrates to the ground water system in these areas. However, water that does infiltrate will often migrate into the underlying bedrock due to the relatively thin layer of till overlying bedrock. The largest areas of till/bedrock in Dover lie in western and south central Dover. Another large area is found in eastern and southeastern Dover. (IEP, 1990).

The other major groundwater source is unconsolidated sediments, especially those associated with surface water. These resources can supply large amounts of ground water depending upon the permeability of the deposit, its areal extent, and its saturated thickness. Stratified drift generally has greater permeability than till. Coarse grained deposits yield larger volumes than fine grained deposits. Saturated thicknesses of greater than 30 feet are needed to produce large volumes of water. Most public water supplies in Dover use these deposits as a source. (IEP, 1990). Figures 6 and 7 present the aquifers, public water supply wells and Zone II (areas which serve as recharge for public water supplies) areas in Dover.

While stratified drift is found throughout Dover, the largest area is in central and north central Dover along the Charles River. There are smaller deposits along the Charles in northeastern and western Dover. Deposits can also be found in southeastern Dover. The greatest saturated thickness (up to 100 feet) occurs in northern Dover along the Charles River. (IEP, 1990).

Because of the importance of these groundwater sources to the residents of Dover and surrounding towns, both types of ground water sources are afforded special protection in Dover. A map of the Groundwater Protection Districts 1 and 2, in which activities that threaten groundwater are regulated or prohibited, is included in the Appendix.

Dover has no public wastewater system. However, there are three small, private wastewater systems in town that are all associated with Chapter 40B housing projects. One such system is at County Court, off Route 109. Another system is in Dover Meadows in the center of town. Lastly, a small private wastewater system is under construction at Dover Farms, next to Highland Cemetery.

Since almost all development depends on septic systems so the soils represent a constraint on development. Combined with the need to provide private wells and the various requirements for separation of wells and septic systems, the geology, soils and topography are significant factors

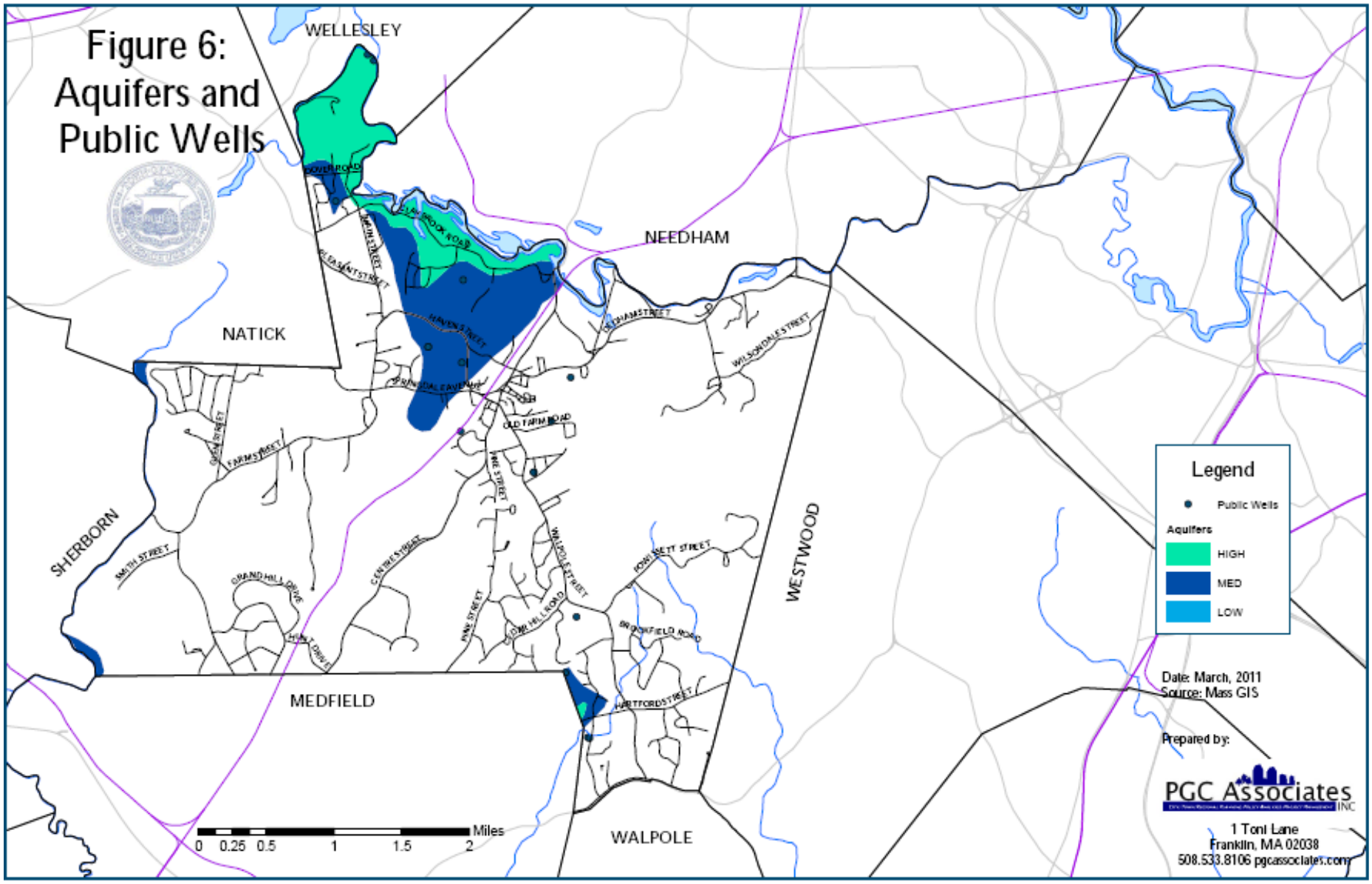
Figure 6:
Aquifers and
Public Wells
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Legend
Public Wells
Aquifers
HIGH
MED
LOW
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
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Miles
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2

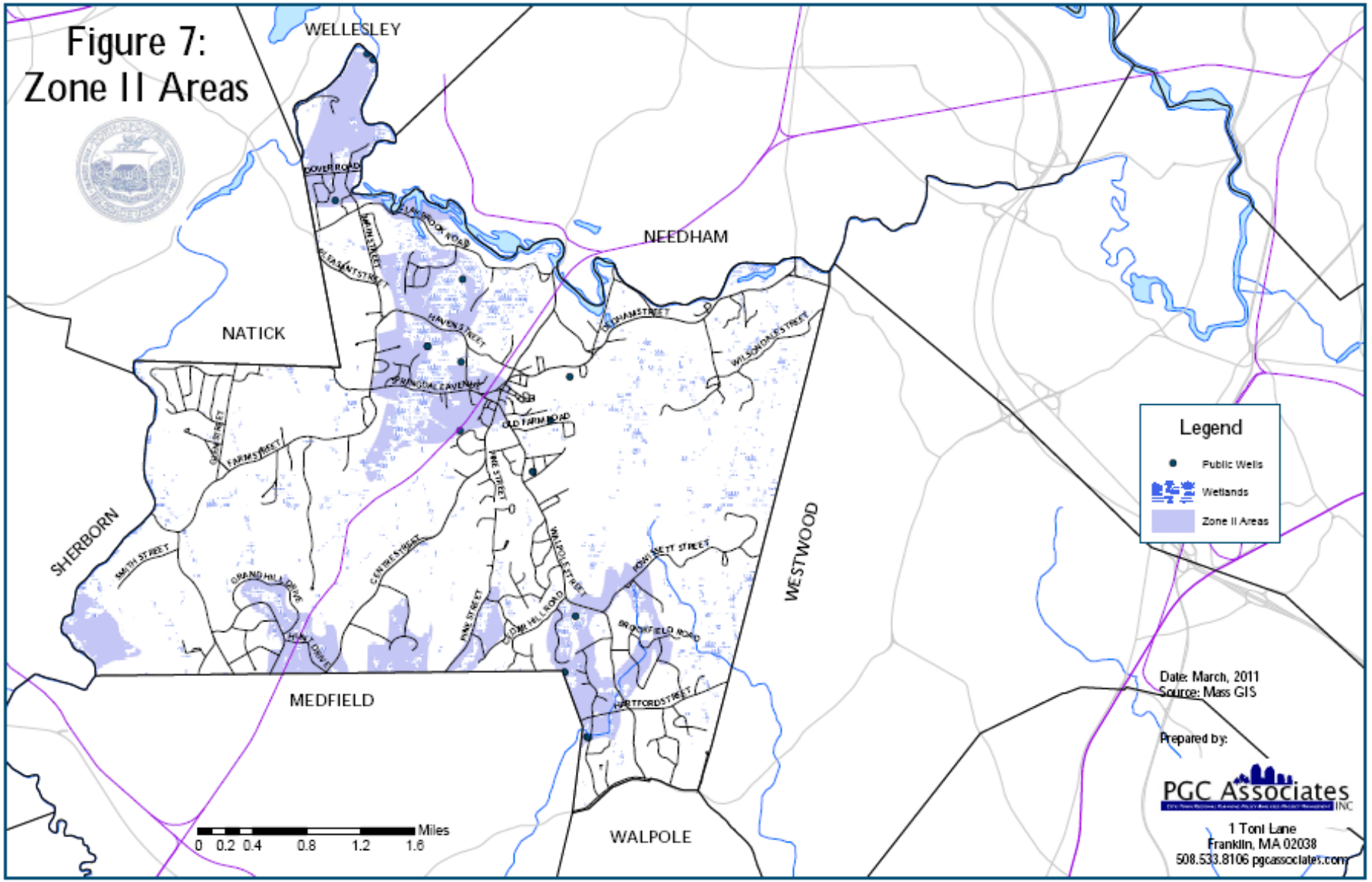
Figure 7:
Zone II Areas
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Legend
Public Wells
Wetlands
Zone II Areas
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
Prepared by:
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Miles
0 0.2 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6

impacting development in Dover. The constraints they represent account, to a significant degree, for Dover's character.

B. Landscape Character

The major landscape characteristics of Dover include a number of farms, pastures, and open fields interspersed among forest lands. A number of scenic roads, lined by trees and stone walls traverse the town (in fact, with the exception of modern "subdivision" roads, most roadways in Dover are designated Scenic Roads, discussed later in this section). The Charles River and its tributaries, as well as several hills accent these features, while a small Town Center provides a focal point for the Town.

Much of Dover's character is due to these features. Therefore, it is a long-standing high priority of the Town to maintain this character. Targeting lands within or connecting these areas is an important component of preventing adverse impacts to Dover's landscape character.

C. Water Resources

Watersheds

Except for its southeastern corner, Dover lies in the Charles River Watershed. Water in Dover flows into the Charles River either directly or through brooks. The southeastern part drains into the Neponset River and has been declared a sole source aquifer. It should be noted that, during dry weather conditions, that portion of the Charles River that flows through Dover meets swimmable/fishable criteria (that is, its fecal coliform count is less than 200 fecal colony forming units (cfu's) per 100 milliliters of water). However, after heavy storm conditions, this standard is not met in Dover nor anywhere along the length of the Charles, except for a short segment at its source in Hopkinton. (Charles River Watershed Association, 1996).

The sub-basins in Dover that are within the Charles River Basin include those of Trout Brook, Noanet Brook, Powisett Brook, and Mill Brook (IEP, 1990). Trout Brook is the largest drainage area in Town, and Noanet Brook is the second largest. (It should be noted that there are two brooks in Town named Mill Brook. The other Mill Brook, mentioned below, flows in the Neponset watershed.) Except for Mill Brook, which flows south and west into North Brook in Medfield and then into the Charles River, these brooks flow generally northward directly into the Charles River.

The Dover portion of the Neponset watershed includes parts of the Bubbling Brook sub-basin and the Mill Brook-Tubwreck Brook sub-basin. Bubbling Brook is in Walpole and flows into Willett Pond. Mill Brook flows through Westwood into Willett Pond also. Willett Pond then flows through Hawes Brook in Norwood into the Neponset River.

Surface water

All of the rivers and brooks that drain into the above-mentioned watersheds are important surface waters in Dover. Several additional minor streams in Dover include Otter Brook (which runs through the Medfield State Hospital property from Juniper Hill into the Charles River), Fisher

Brook, and Wight Brook. The ponds in Dover include Lyman's, Channing's, Hale's, Powissett, and Noanet ponds. Noanet is the largest. Figure 5 illustrates these surface water features.

Aquifer recharge areas

Aquifer and recharge areas are shown Figure 6. The only significant aquifers are in the Northern part of town between Springdale Avenue, Centre Street, and Elm Bank, at the northern town borders with Natick, Needham and Wellesley. These are generally wetland areas located just south of the Charles River. The northern part of the area, closest to the Charles River, is a high yield aquifer. The southern part, further removed from the river is a low yield aquifer.

Another aquifer slightly extends into the southernmost part of town from the border with Medfield just north of Route 109. There is a small low yield area and even smaller high yield area that are associated with the Chickering Lake/Cedar Hill area of Medfield.

Flood Hazard Areas

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) special flood hazard areas are also presented in Figure 5. As one might expect, the major flood zones are those areas along the Charles River as well as along Trout and Noanet Brooks. There is also a flood hazard area in the large wetlands area between Haven Street and Claybrook Road.

According to FEMA's most recent Q3 Flood Zone data from July, 1997, there are three levels of flood hazard areas present in Dover: A, AE, and X500. Zone A is an area inundated by 100-year flooding or which no Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) have been determined. These zones include the wetlands along Noanet, Powissett and Trout Brooks, along a small brook that offshoots from Trout Brook near Springdale Avenue, wetlands around Lyman's Pond, a small patch at the southern end of Trout Brook, and a small pool o water north of Oak Hill and West of Center Street. Zone AE is an area inundated by 100-year flooding for which BFE's have been determined. In Dover these areas include all along the Charles River, and some wetlands along Trout Brook. Zone X500 is an area inundated by 500-year flooding; an area inundated by 100-year flooding with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; or an area protected by levees from 100-year flooding. X500 zones in Dover include areas surrounding the AE zones along the Charles River and Trout Brooks. Additionally, X500 zones include a small patch of water just Northeast o Powissett Brook, wetlands at the Northern end of North Brook, a small patch of wetlands north o Oak Hill and east of Center Street, wetlands along the Westwood border near Powissett Peak, along Mill Brook, and along Snow Hill Lane. It should be noted that new flood maps have been drafted and should be approved in 2010.

Wetlands

Wetlands in Massachusetts are protected by the Wetlands Protection Act. Dover supplements the state law with a local bylaw in Chapter 181 of the Town Code under "Dover Wetlands Protection." The Conservation Commission is charged with protecting the wetlands, and its wetlands regulations are in Chapter 263 of the Town Code. The Bylaw states that a Permit or negative Determination of Applicability is required from the Commission in order to remove, fill, dredge, alter, or build upon or within 100 feet o any area subject to the Bylaw. The areas include vegetated wetlands, banks, beaches, lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, vernal pools and areas subject to flooding.

Wetland areas and both certified and potential vernal pools in Dover are displayed in Figure 5. As can be seen, the largest wetland areas are associated with Trout, Clay, Noanet, and Powisset Brooks. Other wetland areas are scattered throughout the Town. The Charles River in Dover is protected by the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act, MGL Chapter 131 Section 40, adopted in 1996. More information is available at: http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/laws/riveract.htm

D. Vegetation

General Inventory

Shrubs and vines include blackberry, raspberry, sheep laurel, blueberry, huckleberry, cranberry, sweet fern, elder, barberry, lilac, rose, grape vines, woodbine, bush honeysuckle, bittersweet, greenbrier, bayberry and clematis. Other plants found in Town are asters, dandelions, sunflowers, thistle, jack-in-the-pulpits, forget-me-nots, columbine, marsh marigolds, foxglove, geraniums, ginseng, dogbane, honeysuckle, irises, lilies, ground ivy, poison ivy, milkwort, peppermint, milkweed, mustard, nightshade, orchids, wild parsnip, parsley, carrot, poppies, clover, roses, trillium, violets, water lilies, and ferns. Blue-joint and fowl grass are commonly found in meadows. (Park and Recreation Commission and John Brown Associates, 1978).

This wide variety of flora is due to the diversity of soil types. Also, Native Americans cultivated a large number of medicinal plants and herbs, many of which remain today. (Park and Recreation Commission and John Brown Associates, 1978). Figure 8 presents a map of vegetation and wildlife.

Forest Land

As shown in Table 6 (Section III.), the most recent land use data available indicates that 5706 acres (about 58% of the town's total land area) was forestland in 1999. According to the 1978 Dover Recreation Plan (which cited a Harvard University Thesis by John W. Brainerd entitled "The Vegetation of Dover, Massachusetts" as a source) more than two-thirds of the forestland is composed of hardwoods, with the remainder a mix of hardwoods and softwoods. The predominant species are white, black and red oaks; red and sugar maples; American elm (since losing to Dutch elm disease), eastern white pine, and hemlock. Other important species include dogwood, linden, white ash, sycamore, hickory, beech, birch, and red cedar. Some major areas of forest land with recreational opportunities include:

> **Elm Bank Reservation** – This 110-acre site is owned and managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. In addition to its playing fields and gardens, it

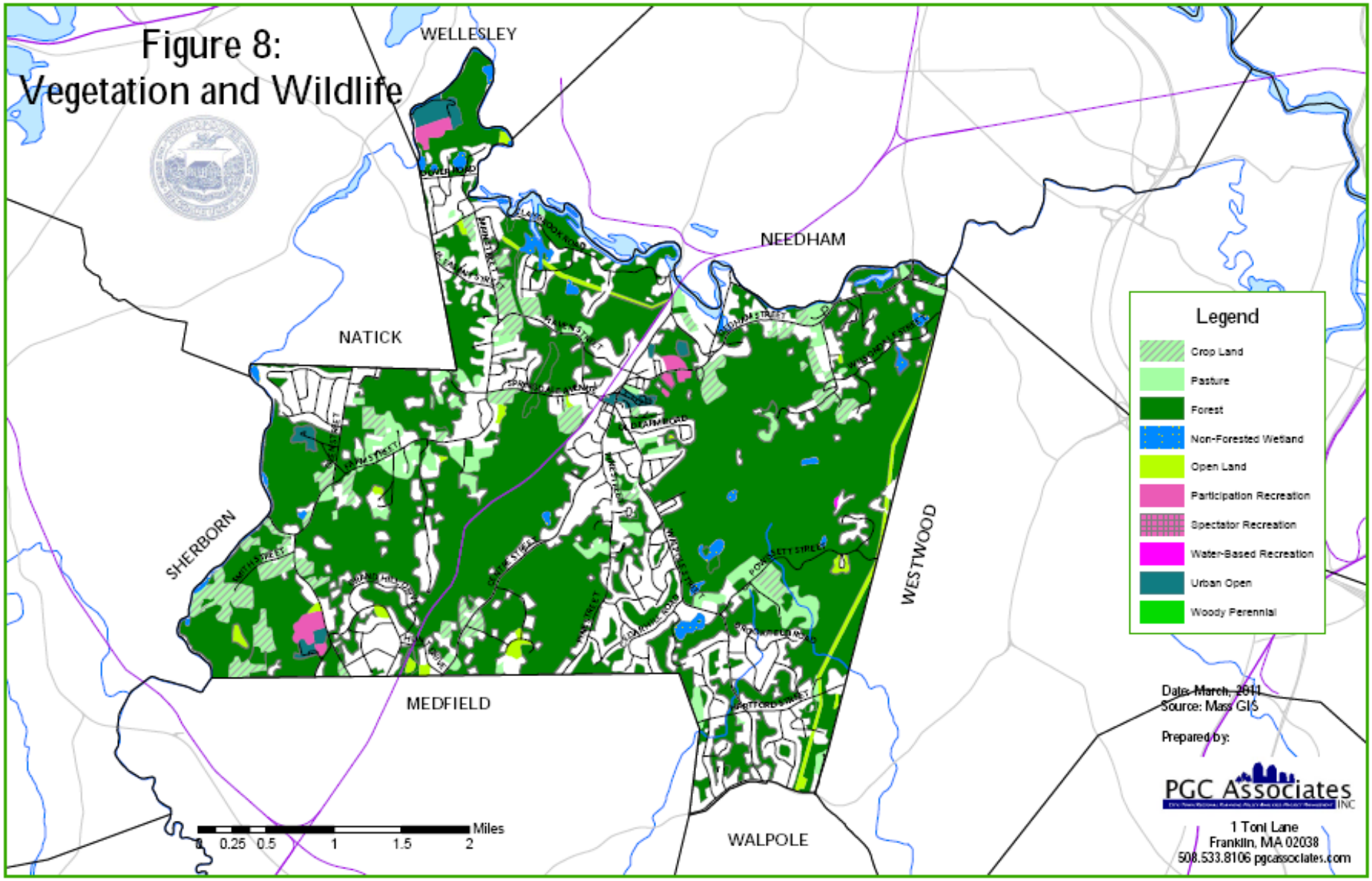
Figure 8:
Vegetation and Wildlife
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Legend
Crop Land
Pasture
Forest
Non-Forested Wetland
Open Land
Participation Recreation
Spectator Recreation
Water-Based Recreation
Urban Open
Woody Perennial
Miles
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2
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offers a large forested area with recreation trails for activities such as hiking and bird watching. The main entrance is located on Washington Street in Wellesley.

Hale Reservation – A 1,200 acre site in Dover and Westwood, Hale Reservation includes 625 acres of forest land in Dover. The forest has five trails ranging in length from .9 to 2.5 miles that are used for hiking, biking, horseback riding, jogging, skiing and nature-watching. The facility is owned and managed by Hale Reservation, Inc and is maintained by rangers and volunteers.

Snow Hill Reservation – This 110- acre parcel on Pine Street is owned by the Dover Land Conservation Trust.

Noanet Woodlands – A 650 acre forest with multiple points for trail access, Noanet Woodlands is owned by The Trustees of Reservations. Recreational opportunities include hiking, biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snow-shoeing.

Peters Reservation – This oak and hickory forest with 2.5 miles of trails is also owned by The Trustees of Reservations. The trails are along the Charles River and offer recreational opportunities such as hiking, nature watching, and jogging.

Chase Woodlands – Another forest owned by The Trustees of Reservations, Chase Woodlands includes a link via trail to the Peters Reservation. 2.5 miles of trails are surrounded by a forest with groves of white pine, beech, hemlock and yellow birch. Recreational opportunities include nature watching, hiking, cross country skiing, and horseback riding.

Wylde Woods – This 60+ acre forest with walking trails is managed by the Conservation Commission. It is part of the Center Street Corridor of Conservation lands. Permitted recreational opportunities include nature watching, hiking, horseback riding and dog walking.

Medfield State Forest –This 122-acre parcel (in Dover) abuts the Dover-Sherborn Regional Schools campus and has additional acreage in Medfield. It is also across the Charles River from Rocky Narrows in Sherborn.

Shade Trees

Public Shade Trees in Dover are managed by the Tree Warden who is responsible for both their care and maintenance. Public shade trees are protected by Chapter 87 of the Massachusetts General Laws and include all trees within a public way or planted by or caused to be planted by the Tree Warden on adjoining land (with the permission of the owner) within 20 feet of a public way. The Tree Warden is a three-year termed position appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The powers of the Tree Warden are detailed in M.G.L. ch. 87, § 2. In Dover, the Tree Warden also works with a three-member Tree Committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen. .

Agricultural Land

As shown in Table 6, 797 acres of land in Dover were classified as agricultural as of 1999. Two particularly valuable agricultural resources are Powisset and Valley Farms:

Powisset Farm - This 109 acre farm has been revived by The Trustees of Reservations as a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) project. It includes pastures and planted fields that date as far back as the 1700s. There are rows of vegetables and herbs in addition to farm animals such as pigs and chickens.

Valley Farm - This 52.6 acre agricultural area was the first ever land acquired by the Dover Conservation Commission. It is located on Haven Street and Main Street and is comprised of open fields that are primarily used for hay. There is a trail around the edge of the fields.

Dover also has two other Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farms [CSA is a system in which members of the public purchase "shares" of a farms output in advance and then receive the farm's products as they are harvested] as follows:

Vanguarden – This CSA farm on Haven Street distributes vegetables to its members every week of the summer.

The Dover Farm – This CSA farm is located at 59 Main Street. It focuses on sustainable farming and uses no synthetic fertilizers or pesticides.

Wetland Vegetation

Dover had 256 acres of wetlands as of 1999 (See Table 6). Wetland vegetation in Dover is typical of wetland vegetation found throughout New England. Palustrine Forested Wetlands are wetland areas commonly referred to as "wooded swamps." The flora in this habitat is varied in the canopy level by species such as red maple, white cedar, hemlock, spruce and fir. Other trees sometimes found in Palustrine Forested Wetlands include white pine, yellow birch, elm and ash. Wetlands shrubs occurring in these areas include highbush blueberry, sweet pepper-bush, swamp azalea, silky dogwood and common arrowwood. The herbaceous vegetation includes cinnamon fern, sensitive fern, royal fern, skunk cabbage, spotted jewelweed, sphagnum and goldthread.

Palustrine Scrub-shrub wetlands are dominated by species that are still in the sapling and shrub stages. Such species include highbush blueberry, sweet pepperbush, swamp azalea, spicebush, arrowwood, winterberry, willow alder, dogwood, common elder, buttonbush and meadowsweet. Additionally, herbaceous species associated with these areas include cinnamon fern, sensitive fern, spotted jewelweed, sphagnum sedges, rushes and hydrophilic grasses. The vegetation is an important resource for associated wildlife as it provides nesting habitats and food resources for various bird and insect species.

Other wetland areas include Palustrine Emergent Wetlands, Lacustrine Habitat and Riverine Habitat wetlands. Palustrine Emergent Wetlands are the marsh and wet meadow areas. These are easily recognized by cattail vegetation and sometimes also contain tussock sedge, blue flag, and water willow. Lacustrine Habitats are permanently flooded lakes or reservoirs while Riverine

Habitats are deepwater areas with flowing water such as rivers and streams. Both habitats provide trees and shrubs along their banks that serve as unique resources for wildlife.

Rare and Endangered Species

According to NHESP, Dover is home to nine different rare species of vegetation as shown in Table 7:

Table 7
Rare And Endangered Plant Species In Dover

Group	Common Name	Status	Year Recorded
Vascular Plant	Purple Milkweed	E	1920
Vascular Plant	Few-fruited Sedge	E	1920
Vascular Plant	Climbing Fern	SC	Historic
Vascular Plant	Sweetbay Magnolia	E	1998
Vascular Plant	Lion's Foot	E	1934
Vascular Plant	Pale Green Orchis	T	1907
Vascular Plant	Great Laurel	T	2006
Vascular Plant	Grass-leaved Ladies'-tresses	T	1917
Vascular Plant	Britton's Violet	T	1945

E= Endangered T= Threatened SC= Special Concern
Source: NHESP, 2009

The following is a brief discussion of each of these species:

Purple Milkweed – This herbaceous plant species is native to the Eastern United States. It has pink flowers that turn purple as they mature. These flowers have a tendency to attract butterflies and are often used for this purpose in gardens. It is currently listed as endangered, and was last seen in Dover in 1920. (Blanchan, Neltje (2005). *Wild Flowers Worth Knowing*. Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation.)

Lion's foot – Lion's foot is native to the Southeastern United States but extends as far north as Massachusetts. It was last seen in Dover in 1934 and is now listed as endangered. It is a long-lived perennial with flowering stems as tall as one to two meters. It is found inland in open rocky woods and along power line right of ways. Its current threats are shading from trees and shrubs, and browsing by deer. (http://www.newenglandwild.org/docs/pdf/Nabalusserpentarius.pdf)

Few-fruited Sedge – This grassy, perennial herb grows to a height of about one meter. It has small pollinated flowers that are borne in compact spikes at the top of each stem. It is currently listed as endangered and was last recorded in Dover in 1920. http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/species_info/nhfacts/carexoligosperma.pdf

Climbing Fern – This is an evergreen plant similar to ivy that sprawls over the ground or climbs over shrubs and herbs. It has yellow-green blades of about two inches. The Climbing Fern has been historically spotted in Dover and is currently listed as a species of special concern. http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/species_info/nhfacts/lygodium_palmatum.pdf

Sweetbay Magnolia – This 10' – 20' tree with dark green leaves has small, 2-3 inch white lowers with a lemon sent. The leaves grow in the late spring and early summer. It is listed as endangered and was last recorded in Dover in 1998. http://www.arborday.org/Trees/TreeGuide/TreeDetail.cfm?ID=260

Pale Green Orchis – This is a 6-24 inch perennial orchid that grows in moist habitats. It grows 2 to 5 broad, shiny green leaves each 3-8 inches long. It was last seen in Dover in 1907 and is currently listed as a threatened species.
http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/species_info/nhfacts/platantherea_flava.pdf

Great Laurel – An evergreen shrub/small tree that grows as tall as 33 feet, it has 3-8 inch dark green leaves and pink and white flowers. It is currently listed as a threatened species and was last recorded in Dover in 2006.
http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/species_info/nhfacts/rhomax.pdf

Grass-leaved Ladies'-tresses – This orchid plant grows from 8 to 36 inches tall. It has a pale green stem with 2.5 – 6 inch linear basal leaves. Its last recorded sighting in Dover was in 1917 and it is currently listed as threatened.
http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/species_info/nhfacts/spiver.pdf

Britton's Violet – a low-growing, herbaceous perennial that has purple flowers in May and June. It is a 5-10 inch plant with basal leaves. The Violet's last recorded sighting in Dover was in 1945 and it is currently listed as a threatened species.
http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/species_info/nhfacts/viola_brittoniana.pdf

Unique Natural Resources

According to its most recent publication in August 2009, NHESP has certified nine vernal pools in Dover. Vernal pools create a unique habitat for vegetation. Vernal pools and their surrounding critical terrestrial habitats support wetlands vegetation that is critical for the accompanying wildlife population. During dry times, depressed areas with wet leaves and water siltation evidence on vegetation can be indicative of a vernal pool. Often times, sphagnum moss will gross in the depression as well. During the spring and fall season when a vernal pool is typically filled with water and surrounded by supporting wetland vegetation. (Source:need to add source info)

In 2004, the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife completed a mapping project called BioMap regarding land conservation and biodiversity that identifies Core Habitats and Supporting Natural Landscapes throughout the state. . The portion of the project that pertains to Dover is available at:
http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/land_protection/twnrpts/dover_core_habitats.pdf

The mapping project produced two data layers: core habitats, and supporting natural landscape habitats. The core habitats are the most viable habitats for rare species and natural communities. The supporting natural landscape habitats are the buffer areas that connect core habitats and contain mostly undeveloped land. Figure 9 presents the BioMap areas in Dover.

E. Fisheries and Wildlife

Inventory

The Charles River, its tributaries and ponds are situated on the Atlantic Flyway, a major migratory route along the East Coast and provide nesting and feeding sites for waterfowl and other migratory birds. According to Walter Hoyt, Jr., Northeast District Supervisor, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the swamps and marshes of the U.S. Corps of Engineers' Charles River Natural Valley Storage Project support large numbers of migrant and nesting waterfowl and songbirds, and water-dependent mammals such as muskrat, mink, otter, and beaver. The wetlands along the Charles are only lightly used by waterfowl during the fall migration unless the areas are flooded. Limited numbers of black ducks, wood ducks, and mallards nest in the area.

In recent years the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife successfully transported American shad from the Connecticut River to the Charles, and increased the populations of rainbow smelt, alewife and blueback herring.

Many other fish species are found in the Town's streams and pond including trout, pickerel, perch, eels, hornpout, and other naturally occurring fish (Park and Recreation Commission, and John Brown Associates, 1978). The Charles River and Trout Brook have been stocked by the State with trout.

In addition to the waterfowl mentioned above, Dover's woods and waterways attract many other bird species. These include the Canada Goose, Great Blue Heron, American Bittern (last confirmed in 1970), Wild Turkey, Ruffed Grouse, Spotted Sandpiper, Bobwhite, Red-tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, various owls, a variety of woodpeckers, American Crow, Blue Jay, Northern (Baltimore) Oriole, Chipping, House and other sparrows, Tree Swallow, Yellowthroat, Yellow-rumped (Myrtle), Pine, Palm, Yellow, and other warblers, House Finch, Goldfinch, House, Winter and Carolina wrens, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Eastern Bluebird, Tufted Titmouse, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and others. (Park and Recreation Commission and John Brown Associates, 1978; David Everett, 2003).

Other animal species include a variety of mammals, reptiles and amphibians. The mammal species include woodchuck, deer, skunk, chipmunk, red and gray squirrel, northern flying squirrel, raccoon, rabbit, weasel, field mouse, eastern coyote, and red fox. Reptile species include several kinds of snakes and turtles. Amphibians include frogs, toads and salamanders. A wide variety of spiders and insects also find Dover to be a hospitable habitat. (Park and Recreation Commission and John Brown Associates, 1978). Figure 9 presents the BioMap, which illustrates important habitat areas.

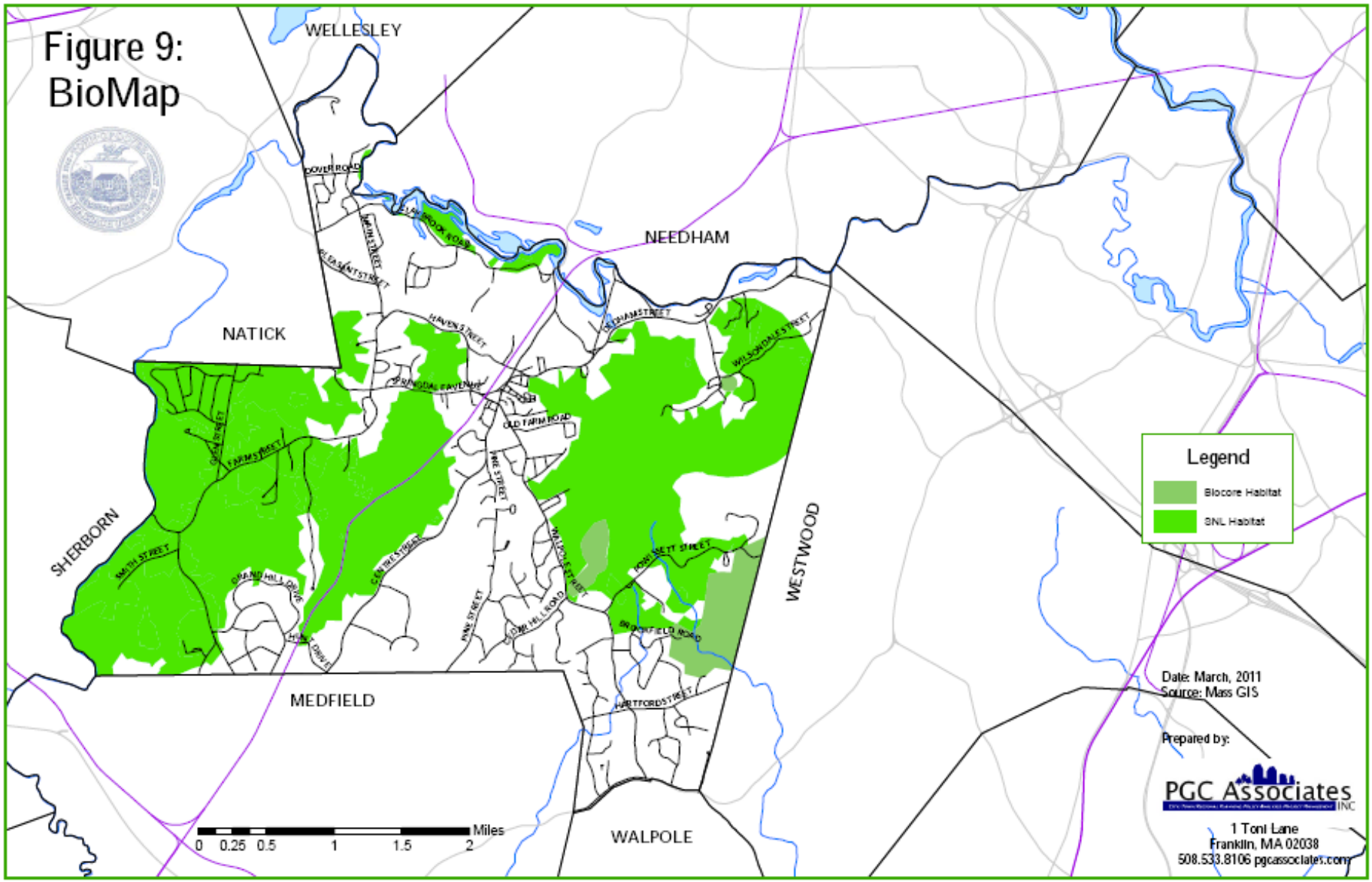
Figure 9:
BioMap
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Legend
Biocore Habitat
BNL Habitat
Miles
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
Prepared by:
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Vernal Pools

Vernal Pools certified by NHESP in Dover are listed in Table 8. Vernal pools are unique wildlife habitats best known for the amphibians and invertebrate animals that use them to breed. Vernal pools, also known as ephemeral pools, autumnal pools, and temporary woodland ponds, typically fill with water in the autumn or winter due to rising ground water and rainfall and remain ponded through the spring and into summer. Vernal pools dry completely by the middle or end of summer each year, or at least every few years. Occasional drying prevents fish from establishing permanent populations. Many amphibian and invertebrate species rely on breeding habitat that is free of fish predators. (Mass DWELE).

A number of vernal pool indicator species are of concern in Massachusetts. The blue-spotted and Jefferson salamanders are listed as species of special concern along with the fairy shrimp. The marbled salamander and spadefoot toad are listed as threatened. Other species present include the spotted salamander, wood frog, and featherfoil. Several other species are facultative vernal pool species in Massachusetts. The eastern ribbon sand eastern hognose snakes are listed as present under their state conservation status. Special Concern species include the four-toed salamander, spotted turtle, wood turtle and eastern box turtle. The blanding's turtle and the ringed boghaunter dragonfly are listed as threatened and endangered respectively. These species of special concern are particularly endangered by the destruction of vernal pools and their surrounding terrestrial habitats.

Table 8
Vernal Pools

	Pool ID Number	Location
1	2066	Crest Drive
2	2067	Ruel Drive
3	2872	Haven Street
4	2873	Haven Terrace
5	2874	Haven Terrace
6	2970	Walpole Street
7	3398	Walpole Street
8	3939	Dedham Street
9	4289	Centre Street

Sources: Mass GIS and NHESP

Corridors for Wildlife Migration

Animals use other natural and man-made features as corridors along which to migrate in addition to water bodies. These can include railroad beds and pipeline or electric transmission line rights-of-way, as well as undeveloped areas of woodlands, meadows, wetlands, or other lands. Some of these features can be important links between habitats within and between towns.

The ability to range over wider areas benefits both animal and plant life by providing more access to food sources, maintain a healthy gene pool within species, and spread seeds of native plants around a greater area (Fretz, 1996) -- all of which help promote biodiversity. While some species will travel through developed areas, others (such as fox, fisher and bobcat) need the undeveloped areas in order to travel.

The Charles River and its tributaries provide some of the most important wildlife corridors in Dover. The river itself, its banks and associated wetlands and uplands, and tributaries such as Trout Brook and Noanet Brook are part of a system that links a large portion of the watershed. In addition, there are links between the Charles River and other natural areas. For example, there is a natural corridor from the Charles River along Fisher Brook and Lyman's Pond then extending south of Miller Hill Road, across Center Street, south of Snow Hill, then across Pine Street to Rocky Woods Reservation. Rocky Woods is, in turn, linked to other systems. The Trout Brook corridor connects the Charles River with this corridor, as well as the large wetlands area between Haven Street and Claybrook Road.

The Noanet Brook/Tubwreck Brook/Mill Brook corridor also links the Charles with Rocky Woods. This corridor is, in turn, linked to Noanet Pond and the Priority Site of Rare Species and Exemplary Natural Communities as well as the Estimated Habitat of Rare, State-listed Wetlands Wildlife area south of Noanet Pond, through the Noanet Woodlands and Hale Reservation (which links the River with Rocky Woods through Fisher Brook and south of Snow Hill).

The High Priority Site and an Estimated Habitat that straddle the Dover-Westwood line south of Noanet Pond is linked to Willett Pond in Walpole and Westwood, which is linked to other systems. The preceding are just a few examples of existing natural wildlife corridors. Maintaining such corridors should be a consideration in planning and evaluating development projects and open space acquisitions.

Man-made facilities can also provide corridors for wildlife. For example, the aqueduct which passes just north of the Elm Bank across the Charles provides a link to Sherborn, Natick and Wellesley. A pipeline corridor from the Ridge Hill Reservation in Needham traverses the Trout Brook corridor and then passes through the Medfield State Forest (adjacent to the Medfield State Hospital) and eventually links with an electric transmission line in Medway that is linked with Lake Winthrop in Holliston. Another pipeline extends from Trout Brook across Noanet Brook and across Hale Reservation and beyond.

F. Rare and Endangered Species

The NHESP's list of Rare and Endangered Species by town is illustrated in Table 9.

Table 9
Rare And Endangered Fisheries And Wildlife Species In Dover

Group	Common Name	Status	Year Recorded
Bird	American Bittern	E	1970
Butterfly/Moth	Hessel's Hairstreak	SC	1982
Dragonfly/Damselfly	Umber Shadowdragon	SC	1968
Mussel	Creeper	SC	2000
Reptile	Eastern Box Turtle	SC	1993

E= Endangered T= Threatened SC= Special Concern

Source: NHESP, 2009

The American Bittern is the only species in Dover that is listed as endangered and its last recorded sighting was in 1970. All other rare wildlife species in Dover are listed as species of Special Concern. These include the Hessel's Hairstreak (last sighted in 1982), Umber Shadowdragon (1968), Creeper (2000) and Eastern Box Turtle (1993).

It is important to note that NHESP does not have the resources to conduct methodical surveys of rare species by town, so species which were last seen many years ago may still be present but difficult to detect.

The NHESP defines two types of habitats for which it urges that special measures be taken to ensure their protection. These include Priority Habitats for Rare Species and Estimated Habitats of Rare Wetlands Wildlife. Dover has three Estimated Habitats and two Priority Habitats. These are illustrated on Figure 10. Two of the Estimated Habitats straddle the Charles River in the area of Elm Bank and along the Dover-Needham border. The other is located in the southwestern part of town. One of the Priority Habitats is located in Noanet Woodlands near Walpole and Powissett Streets, while the other is just south of Dedham Street.

The NHESP provides guidelines on methods of protecting rare and endangered species as well as their habitats. Protective measures such as conservation restrictions or easements, special zoning regulations, and land acquisition are encouraged. Town boards and commissions are also asked seek the advice and assistance of the NHESP in reviewing any proposed development projects or other activities that may occur in the vicinity of habitat areas.

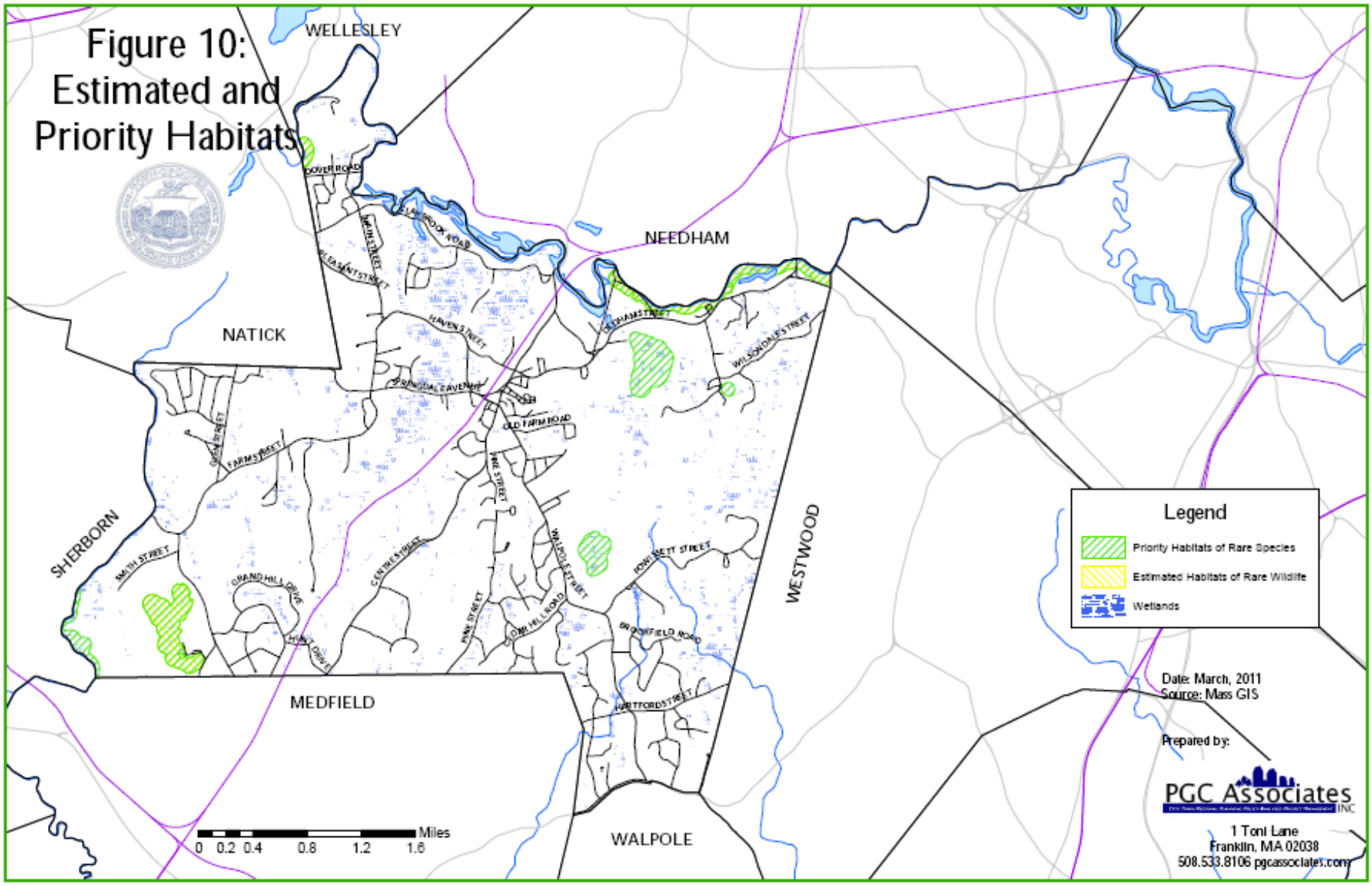
Figure 10:
Estimated and
Priority Habitats
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Legend
Priority Habitats of Rare Species
Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife
Wetlands
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
Prepared by:
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Miles
0 0.2 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6

G. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

Dover is fortunate to have a large number of scenic views as well as several historically significant resources. Prized views and historic points of interest and significance include the fire tower, and nearby ancient hemlock at Snow Hill, Fisher's Saw Mill, the Valley Farm Dairy, the Baptist Church and old town center, and the railroad trestle (see Figure 11 for map showing these and other locations). The farms and pastures along Farm Street, Center Street, Dedham Street, Haven Street, Powissett Street and elsewhere are highly prized for their scenic qualities.

Scenic Landscapes

Many scenic views are visible along the many bridle trails in Town, which are protected and encouraged through the Planning Board's Subdivision Rules and Regulations. These regulations require trail connections wherever possible. These efforts are supplemented by the efforts of generous residents and private equestrian organizations. Property owners have a long history of maintaining the bridle paths on their land. The Valley Landowners Association was organized in 1932, with the purpose of keeping trails and wood roads in Dover, Sherborn, Medfield and Millis open and brushed out for riders (Vara, 1976). Wardner Farm, located on the Dover Medfield town line, and the site of headquarters for the Norfolk Hunt provides open space areas for its riders and beautiful views for passersby. Landholdings of The Trustees of Reservations and Dover Land Conservation Trust are also crucial to trail connections throughout the town.

Dover has a number of designated Scenic Roads under the Massachusetts Scenic Road Act. These include (with year of designation in parentheses) Bridge Street (1991), Buttercup Lane (1989), Centre Street (1991), Church Street (1991), Claybrook Road (1975), Cross Street, (1975), Dedham Street (1991), Dover Road (1991), Farm Street (1976), Glen Street (1991), Hartford Street (1991), Haven Street (1989), Main Street (1991), Mill Street (1975), Old Meadow Road (1991), Pegan Lane (1975), Pine Street (1975), Pleasant Street (1991), Powissett Street (1975), Smith Street (1991), Springdale Avenue (1991), Strawberry Hill Street (1975), Taylor Lane (1976), Walpole Street (1991), Wight Street (1991), Willow Street (1975), and Wilsondale Street (1975). It should be noted that scenic road designation does not guarantee protection of the scenic views. It simply requires that a public hearing be held prior to any changes to the stone walls and large trees that are located within the road right-of-way.

Major Characteristic Or Unusual Geologic Features

Dover has several notable hills that offer scenic value and should be protected: Pegan Hill, Miller Hill, Strawberry Hill, Oak Hill, Snow Hill, Miller Hill and Juniper Hill. Noanet Peak, located in the Noanet Woodlands is one of the highest points in town and offers a view of the Boston Skyline. Powisset Peak is also a very high point in town that offers a similar scenic view.

Cultural/Historic Areas

Dover was once inhabited by Native American tribes, such as the Powissett Indians, Wissetts and Pegans (Vara, 1976) who drew upon the land for their livelihood. The Powissett Rock Shelter, Powissett Brook was the site of the Powissett Tribe from c. 1580 - 1650.

Two organizations, the Dover Historical Commission (a Town commission) and the Dover Historical and Natural History Society, are at the forefront of historic preservation efforts in town.

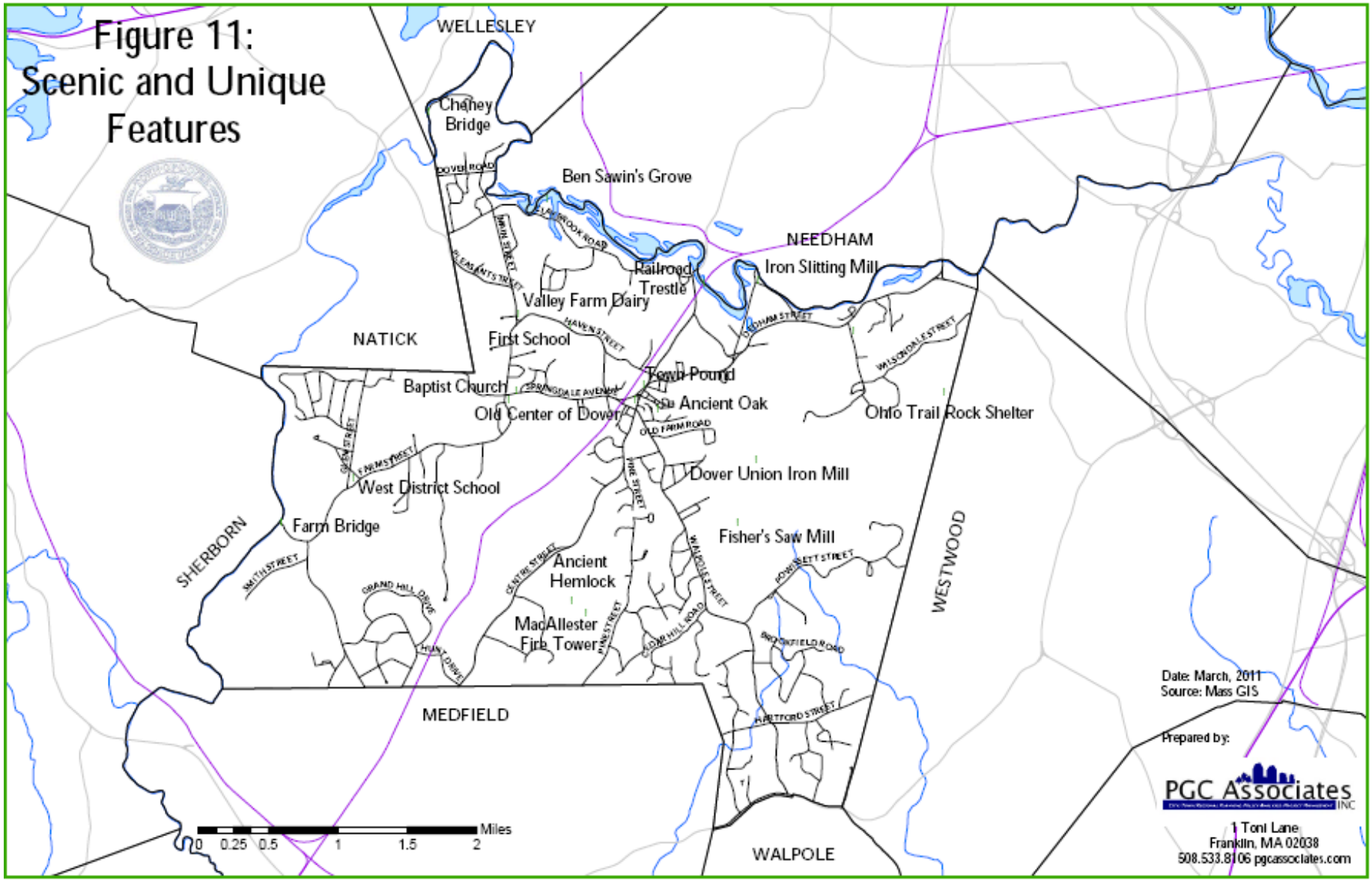
Figure 11:
Scenic and Unique Features
WELLESLEY
Chaney Bridge
Ben Sawin's Grove
NEEDHAM
Iron Slitting Mill
Railroad Trestle
Valley Farm Dairy
NATICK
First School
Baptist Church
Town Pound
Ancient Oak
Old Center of Dover
Ohio Trail Rock Shelter
West District School
Dover Union Iron Mill
Farm Bridge
SHERBORN
Fisher's Saw Mill
Ancient Hemlock
MacAllester Fire Tower
WESTWOOD
MEDFIELD
WALPOLE
Miles
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
Prepared by:
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The Dover Historical Commission has researched and developed an extensive reference document addressing over 150 historic structures in town (Master Plan, 1998). At Spring Town Meeting, 1995, the Commission sponsored a successful Warrant article to provide for a demolition review bylaw. The bylaw will help to preserve historic homes and other structures in town. This bylaw was amended in 2002 to extend the period for demolition delay from six months to one year and to include all structures built prior to 1932 (formerly 1899).

The Dover Historical and Natural History Society is headquartered in the Sawin Building, built for the Society in 1906. The society also manages the Caryl Parsonage, built in 1777. The parsonage is preserved as it existed in the 18th Century. The Society also sponsors several architectural digs in Town.

Some of the most significant older houses in Town are listed below:

Table 10
Historic Houses

Name (if any)	Address	Year
1. Draper Smith House	16 Smith Street	1741
2. Hezekiah Allen House	2 Main Street	1723
3.	6 Farm Street	1724
4.	87 Haven Street	1749
5. Benjamin Caryl House	107 Dedham Street	1775
6.	178 Dedham Street	1870
7.	15 Strawberry Hill Street	1826
8.	25 Strawberry Hill Street	1880

There are also a number of historic sites in town. These include but are not limited to: the Ruins of the "New Mill" for Iron Rolling in Noanet Valley, the Fisher Barn, the Sawin Memorial Building and Powissett Rock Shelter.

Unique Environments
Dover has no areas designated as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. However, there are important ecosystems. The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife's BioMap (Figure 9) displays important areas for biodiversity based on the occurrence of rare species. Dover has a BioCore habitat near its Westwood border in the eastern part of town. Additionally, most of the forest land in town is designated as Supporting Natural Landscape Habitats, totaling about half the town's total area.

H. Environmental Challenges

Hazardous Waste - - According to the DEP, there have been 40 reportable releases of hazardous waste in Dover since 1986. The information is available at http://db.state.ma.us/dep/cleanup/sites/search.asp. Of those 40 reportable releases, 23 were

oil, 4 were hazardous materials, 7 were mixtures of oil and hazardous materials and 6 were other types of hazardous waste.

The DEP classifies the sites of hazardous waste releases by their compliance status. Most sites in Dover are classified under various statuses that are not cause for serious concern. However, two sites in Natick are classified under Tier 1, which is the most dangerous level. The municipal wells site on Church Street and the property at 1 Chestnut Street both fall under Tier 1D for oil releases. Any site/release where the responsible party fails to provide a required submittal to the DEP by a specified deadline is a 1D site.

In 1991, numerous monitoring wells were installed down-grade from the Mobil station in the Town Center, in response to a spill. As part of this investigation and remediation initiative, Mobil removed its old gasoline storage tanks and contaminated soils that same year. However, in 1994, the monitoring wells continued to indicate the presence of gasoline constituents in the soil and groundwater in the vicinity of the Mobil station, the Town Common, the American Legion Hall, and the Dover Town Public Water Facility. Further remediation efforts are underway. The Town's Church Street well field was initially closed in May, 1990, following the discovery of contamination.

The Board of Health adopted a regulation in 1982 that prohibits the installation of underground storage tanks. Furthermore, the regulation requires that any existing underground tanks must be removed within 20 years of its installation date. If the installation date is unknown, it is presumed to be 1963. More than 125 such underground tanks have been removed under this regulation. Under the terms of this regulation, all such tanks whose locations were known were to be removed by 2002.

Landfills -- Since Dover does not have local trash pick-up, residents must deliver their trash to the transfer station at 55 Powisset Street. Residents must obtain a sticker in order to deposit trash there. The site includes a partially capped, inactive landfill in addition to the transfer station.

Erosion -- The banks of the Charles River must be monitored for erosion. Runoff from impervious surfaces including buildings, roads and parking lots can contribute to erosion far downstream from their location.

Chronic flooding -- Dover’s areas of flood concern are located in the Flood Hazard areas discussed in part C4 of this section. The most prominent areas of concern are the wetlands along the Charles River and along Trout and Noanet Brooks. Another flood hazard area is in the wetlands between Haven Street and Claybrook Road. It is important to protect wetland areas to absorb floodwater and prevent it from reaching the built environment.

Sedimentation -- The Charles River is also at risk for sedimentation. According to the Charles River Watershed Association, the river south of Watertown Dam contains sediment and associated chemicals with the potential to cause “serious, persistent environmental and public health problems.” Chromium, lead, copper, mercury, DDT and

various fossil-fuel combustion products can all be found in this part of the river. Many hazardous compounds have been banned, but remain present in sediments that will require cleaning for years to come.]

New development -- Development in Dover has been slow in comparison to some surrounding communities. As a result, an abundance of open space remains. There have been two recent Chapter 40B projects which allow higher density in exchange for affordable housing, which will provide 40 new housing units (including 10 affordable units) when built out. A subdivision of 6 lots was approved in 2009 and is being built out.

Ground and surface water pollution -- The application of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers on lawns, gardens, fields, etc., as well as the application of road salt on icy roads, result in contaminated water running off the lands and roads into wetlands and streams, or draining into the ground posing a threat to both surface and ground waters. While all these substances have legitimate uses, they can also be misapplied. People often unknowingly use improper amounts or apply them at the wrong times, resulting in both diminished effectiveness of the product and contaminated runoff. The use of road salt must be monitored. Also, EPA Phase II stormwater regulations must be enforced to control erosion and treat the stormwater before it is released.

Finally, compliance with local septic system regulations is an issue in Dover. With no sewer system and limited public water supply, Dover residents face the dual-sided issue of having groundwater threatened by malfunctioning septic systems, as well as having no sewer system alternative to replace such malfunctioning systems. The costs of replacing or repairing such systems can be substantial.

Impaired water bodies -- According to the EPA's latest data from 2006, there are three impaired water bodies in Dover: Lyman's Pond, Trout Brook and the Charles River. Lyman's Pond has been reported as an impaired water body on each EPA report since 2002. The pond is contaminated by noxious aquatic plants and turbidity. Trout Brook has also been reported each year since 2002, but its cause of impairment is listed as "unknown." The Charles River has been reported each year since 1998 for metals, noxious aquatic plants, nutrients, organic enrichment/oxygen depletion, pathogens, turbidity and unknown toxicity.

http://iaspub.epa.gov/waters10/state_rept.control?p_state=MA&p_cycle=2006

Ongoing efforts to imporve the condition of these impaired bodies are extremely important. The Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA) continuously works to develop strategies to clean the river. In 1995, the CWRA's research convinced the EPA to launch a plan to restore the Charles to fishable and swimmable conditions by 2005. Water quality has significantly improved through wastewater treatment and the elimination of contaminated discharges. The goal has been met along most of the river but some areas remain in need of improvement.

Invasive species -- The existence of invasive plants in the Algonquin Gas Pipeline right-of-way is another environmental problem. This problem was first revealed by the

Conservation Commission at the November 2, 1996, public meeting. It is a situation requiring continued monitoring.

Invasive species in general also need attention. More information on invasive species in Massachusetts, including lists of species and efforts to address them can be found at http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/unitedstates/ma.shtml.

Forestry – Dover most predominant land use is forestry. However, as shown in Table 6, 8.7% of forestry acreage was lost between 1971 and 1999. This loss has continued as development has progressed. In addition to development pressures, diseases and insects can reduce the population of native trees, reducing the habitat of indigenous species and biodiversity. Like most Massachusetts towns, Dover has a part-time Tree Warden and a limited budget that can be devoted to caring for trees.

Environmental Equity – Dover is fortunate in that its open space and recreation resources extend throughout the community. However, accessibility to and within these resources could be improved, especially for elderly and handicapped residents.

Section 5: Inventory of Lands

A. Introduction

Protected open space serves several valuable functions. Depending on the type (e.g. forest, meadow, wetlands, farmland, etc.) open space can provide valuable habitat for both plant and wildlife, help replenish and protect aquifers, reduce and absorb storm water runoff, produce a sustainable source of a wide range of resources, and absorb and/or treat pollutants. Open space also offers numerous active and passive recreational opportunities and adds scenic views to the landscape. “Protected” open space is land that is preserved because it is under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission, is subject to a conservation restriction or other deed restriction, is owned by a nonprofit organization whose purpose is the preservation of open space, is dedicated as park land or is otherwise protected by Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution (See Appendix).

The Town of Dover is very fortunate to have a significant number of landowners who have maintained large properties in an undeveloped state. Private holdings, which include agricultural and recreational lands as well as forests, fields and meadows, supplement public and private non-profit open space and contribute significantly to Dover's character.

This section inventories existing open space and recreation lands in four categories. These include protected open space and conservation lands; conservation restrictions; public and private recreation areas and facilities; and Chapter 61, 61A and 61B lands. Figure 12 illustrates existing lands of conservation and recreation interest.

B. Protected Open Space and Conservation Lands

The major conservation areas in Dover are presented in Table 11. This list was derived primarily from the Dover Assessor's records.

As shown in the table, Dover has approximately 2,990 acres of protected open space owned in fee by governmental agencies and private, non-profit groups whose mission is primarily the acquisition and holding of conservation lands. This represents over 30 percent of the Town's area of 15.31 square miles (9876 acres). The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) control the largest portion (929 acres), followed by the Dover Conservation Commission (435 acres), the Dover Land Conservation Trust (over 395 acres), the State of Massachusetts (about 304 acres) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (92.75 acres). The Town of Dover owns an additional 206 acres.

With regard to permanent protection (in perpetuity) of the lands listed above, the properties owned by the TTOR and the Dover Land Conservation Trust are protected from a change in use by the charters and mission statements of the two organizations. The land owned by the Dover Conservation Commission and the Department of Conservation and Recreation of the State of Massachusetts are protected under Article 97 of the Article of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.(See Appendix for further explanation of Article 97). Land owned in free by the Town of Dover and currently classified as open space can be used for other purposes upon a vote of the Town Meeting. The land owned by the Dover-Sherborn Regional

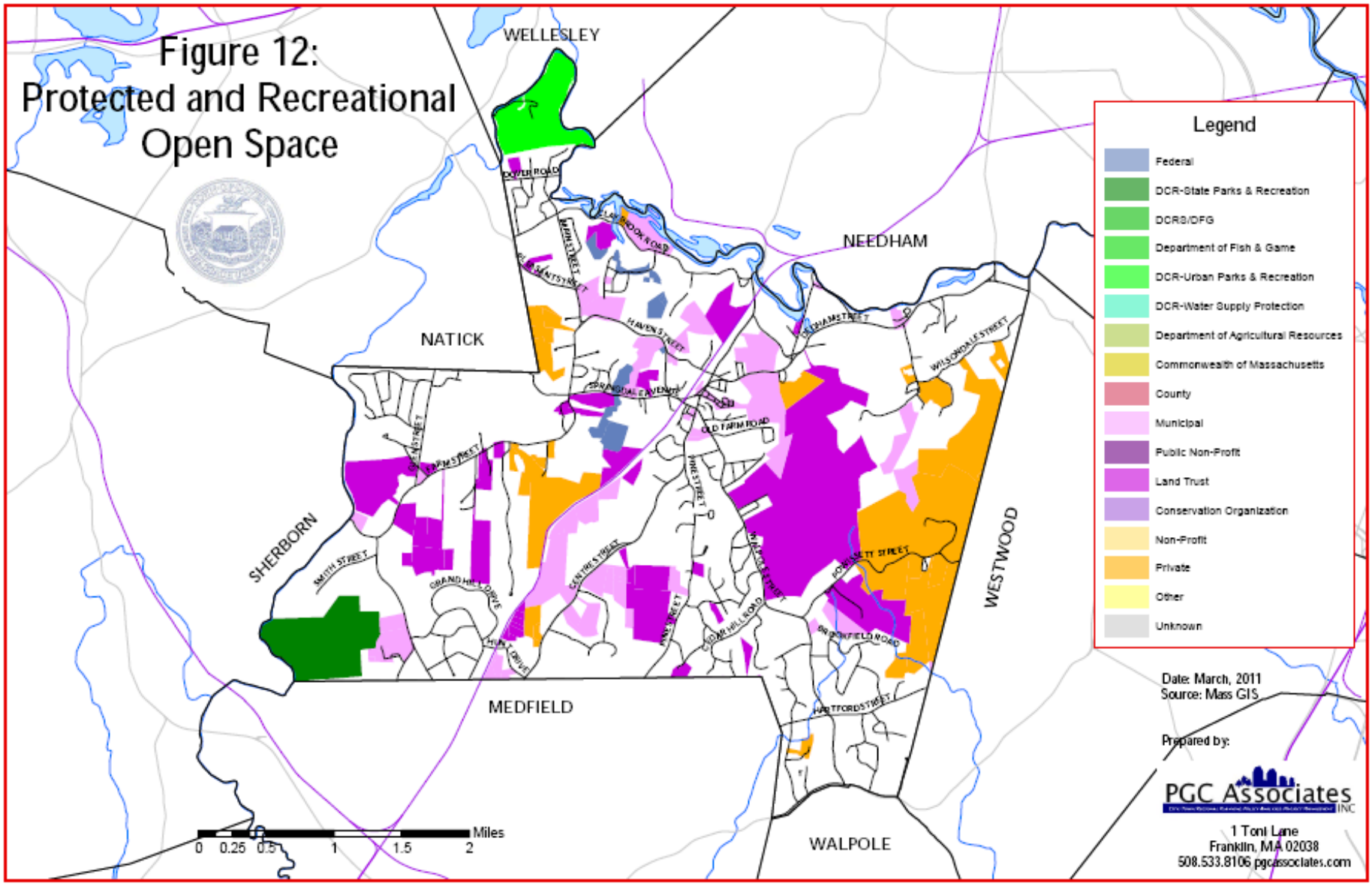
Figure 12:
Protected and Recreational
Open Space
WELLESLEY
NEEDHAM
NATICK
SHERBORN
MEDFIELD
WESTWOOD
WALPOLE
Legend
Federal
DCR-State Parks & Recreation
DCR/DFG
Department of Fish & Game
DCR-Urban Parks & Recreation
DCR-Water Supply Protection
Department of Agricultural Resources
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County
Municipal
Public Non-Profit
Land Trust
Conservation Organization
Non-Profit
Private
Other
Unknown
Miles
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2
Date: March, 2011
Source: Mass GIS
Prepared by:
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Table 11
Dover Conservation Lands

Location/Description	Map/Parcel	Area (Acres)	Zoning	Existing Uses	Public Access	Recreation Potential	Manager	Level of Protection
The Trustees Of Reservations (TTOR)								
Noanet Woodlands (Walpole & Powissett Streets)	12-46A	529.60	R2/C	Reservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Peters Reservation (Farm Street)	9-131A, 9-131B 15-1A	83.75	R2	Reservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Chase Woodlands (Farm Street)	15-35, 15-37A, 15-37B, 15-30A	85.18	R2	Reservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Powissett Farm (Powissett Street)	19-11, 9-12, 18-128E	106.62	R2	Working Farm/Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Strawberry Hill Street	13-8A, 13-8B, 13-10, 13-11	63.45	R2/O	Other	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Off Brookfield Road	24-66E	15.00	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Dedham Street	6-82A	16.15	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Farm Street	15-1C	1.48	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Glen & Wright Streets	9-136	5.63	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Off Grand Hill Drive	15-43B, 16-28, 16-28A	1.04	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Pegan Lane	4-29	.40	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Pond Street	22-28, 22-29, 22-30, 22-31	6.71	R1	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Off Tower Drive	23-31	6.65	R1	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
42 Walpole Street	18-149	4.99	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Off Walpole	18-137, 18-138	2.82	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	TTOR	Permanent
Sub-Total		**929.47**						

Continued

Table 11
Dover Conservation Lands
(Continued)

Location/Description	Map/Parcel	Area (Acres)	Zoning	Existing Uses	Public Access	Recreation Potential	Manager	Level of Protection
Hale Reservation	14-1, 19-1, 19-2, 19-3, 19-4, 19-7, 24-69, 24-68	**626.04**	O	Reservation	Yes (Fee)	Active & Passive	HRI	Limited
Conservation Commission (ConCom)								
Bean Land (Off Strawberry Hill Street)	7-20A	10.27	R2	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Bridge Street	15-7	3.00	R2/C	Conservation	Yes	Canoe launch	ConCom	Permanent
Wylde Woods (Channing, Gibbons, Rice & Wylde) Centre Street	16-48, 17-5	199.27	O	Conservation	Yes	Passive	ConCom	Permanent
Claybrook Road	3-6A	1.80	R2	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Dedham Street	7-10A	7.38	R2	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
French Land (Off Snow's Hill Lane)	17-24	11.80	R2	Conservation	Yes	No		Permanent
Fullerton Land (Off Centre Street)	17-40A	7.00	R2	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Halper Land (Edgewater Drive)	5-29	1.18	R1	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Harvey Land (off Centre Street)	17-23, 17-27, 17-28,17-30,	23.77	O/R2	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Haven Street	5-166	25.61	R1/C	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Snow's Hill Lane	22-2-N, 17-22B	8.20	R2	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Koch Land Swap (Off Snow's Hill Lane)	17-24B, 17-25A	12.21	R2	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Murray Land (Pine Street)	17-60	12.60	R2	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent

Continued

Table 11
Dover Conservation Lands
(Continued)

Location/Description	Map/Parcel	Area (Acres)	Zoning	Existing Uses	Public Access	Recreation Potential	Manager	Level of Protection
Conservation Commission (ConCom) (Continued)								
Riverside Drive	5-122	0.04	R	Conservation	Yes	Canoe launch	ConCom	Permanent
Scott Land (Claybrook Road)	3-7	46.00	O	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Off Springdale Avenue	11-48-B	0.20	O	Conservation	Yes	Passive	ConCom	Permanent
Taylor Land (Hunt Drive)	21-43, 21-44, 21-48	14.47	O	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Valley Farm Land (Main Street)	5-186B, 5-186C	13.09	O	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Walpole Street	23-131C, 19-10, 23-131B	33.00	O	Conservation	Yes	No		Permanent
Willow Street	6-72	3.00	R2/C	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Haven Street	5-169, 5-170	2.00	O	Conservation	Yes	No	ConCom	Permanent
Sub-Total		**435.89**						
Dover Land Conservation Trust (DLCT)								
Centre Street	17-31A, 17-26, 17-25, 17-33A, 11-123C	58.83	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Off Haven Terrace (Gregg)	6-35E	40.65	R1/C	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Claybrook Road (Bartlett)	3-9	21.20	R1/C	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Dedham Street	8-2A, 8-2B	10.82	R2/C	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Dover Road	2-75B	2.84	R1/C	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Farm Street	10-50	41.76	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent

Continued

Table 11
Dover Conservation Lands
(Continued)

Location/Description	Map/Parcel	Area (Acres)	Zoning	Existing Uses	Public Access	Recreation Potential	Manager	Level of Protection
Dover Land Conservation Trust (DLCT) (Continued)								
3 Farm Street	10-32C, 10-32B	5.00	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
4 Farm Street	11-43D	5.70	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Off Farm Street	10-49A	6.07	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Hunt Drive	16-44, 16-45, 16-46, 16-48, 21-61, 21-62, 21-63, 21-64	19.49	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Main Street	5-158	5.99		Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Miller Hill Road	10-47, 16-69	7.17	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
80 Pine Street	17-72A	3.63	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
131 Pine Street (Snow Hill)	17-62	71.06	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Off Pine Street	22-4	19.24	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Pleasant Street (Annie King Lane)	4-21A, 4-21B, 4-21C, 4-21D, 4-24B	8.15	R1	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
5 Riverview Terrace & Willow Street	6-66, 6-67	3.50	R1	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Rocky Brook Road	18-98A	4.18	R1	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Springdale Avenue & Church Street	11-18	11.79	R1/C	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Springdale Avenue & Farm Street (Springdale Field)	11-42	17.50	R2/C	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Off Springdale Avenue	11-48C	27.65	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Old Farm Road	12-10, 12-11	3.00	R-1	Conservation	Yes	Passive	DLCT	Permanent
Sub-Total		**395.22**						

Continued

Table 11
Dover Conservation Lands
(Continued)

Location/Description	Map/Parcel	Area (Acres)	Zoning	Existing Uses	Public Access	Recreation Potential	Manager	Level of Protection
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)								
Elm Bank	1-1	182.10	O	Conservation (40 acres leased to Massachusetts Horticultural Society)	Yes	Yes	DCR	Permanent
Medfield State Forest	20-1A	121.74	O		Yes	Yes	DCR	Permanent
Sub-Total		**303.84**						
United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)								
Chickering Drive	5-52, 5-54, 5-57, 5-58	14.67	R/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Claybrook Road	5-1, 5-2, 5-18	1.56	R/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Off Claybrook Road	5-56	10.78	R/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Off Farm Street	11-43B, 11-43C	11.50	R2/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Off Haven Street	5-167A	1.01	R1	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Springdale Avenue	11-14A	14.50	R1/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Off Springdale Avenue	11-47, 11-48A	19.10	R1/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Trout Brook Road	5-13A, 5-14, 5-53	6.16	R/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent

(Continued)

Table 11
Dover Conservation Lands
(Continued)

Location/Description	Map/Parcel	Area (Acres)	Zoning	Existing Uses	Public Access	Recreation Potential	Manager	Level of Protection
United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) (Continued)								
Off Trout Brook Road	5-15	5.36	R/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Off Wakeland Rd	5-207A	8.40	R/C	Conservation/Flood control	Yes	Passive	ACOE	Permanent
Sub-Total		**93.04**						
Other Town of Dover Lands								
Chickering Drive	5-77	3.07	R	Well protection	Yes	Passive	Town	Limited
10 Donnelly Drive	15-47	2.00	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	Town	Limited
Hartford Street	24-14	1.00	R1	Conservation	Yes	Passive	Town	Limited
Heard Land (Walpole Street)	11-142, 12-06	7.43	O	Conservation	Yes	Passive	Town	Permanent
Hynes Land (Walpole Street)	12-7	1.46	O	Post Office	Yes	Passive	Town	Permanent
Mackintosh Land (Centre Street)	17-33A	29.28	R2	Conservation	Yes	Passive	Town	Limited
Main Street	5-196	1.59	R1	Conservation	Yes	Passive	Town	Limited
Ponzi Land (Haven Street)	5-181	31.58	R1/C	Well protection	Yes	Passive	Town	Limited
Valley Farm (Haven Street)	5-186A	52.6	O	Well protection	Yes	Passive	Town	Permanent
Wakeland Road	5-206A	0.18	R	Flood control	Yes	Passive	Town	Limited
Church Street Well Site	11-28	9.20	O	Well protection	Yes	Passive	Town	Permanent
Larrabee Estate (off Strawberry Hill Street)	13-13, 19-6	66.84	O	Conservation	Yes	Passive	Town	Permanent
Sub-Total		**206.23**						
TOTAL		**2989.73**						

Source: Dover Assessor's Office

School can be used for any purpose that the Regional School Committee deems appropriate. Hale Reservation enjoys no protection from development. Land purchased by the Army Corps of Engineers for the Natural Valley Storage Program was purchased with the intent of providing protection to wetlands in the Upper Charles River Basin. It therefore has a high level of protection.

Among the most significant open space parcels in Dover are Hale Reservation and Noanet Woodlands. Hale Reservation, totaling about 1200 acres in Dover and Westwood, is managed by Hale Reservation, Inc., a private, non-profit organization with headquarters in Westwood. It should be noted that Hale Reservation is not permanently protected. Noanet Woodlands (529 acres) is owned by The Trustees of Reservations. Its eastern border, for the most part, is contiguous with the western border of Hale Reservation. Management of the two organizations collaborate in developing rules for the use of trails, and hiking, biking, and horseback riding are allowed on the well-marked trail systems of both reservations. This results in a de facto reservation of more than 1800 acres.

Noanet Woodlands has trail access from several points. The main entrance is from Dedham Street, where a parking lot is at present shared with Caryl Park, abutting Noanet. Another TTOR parking lot is planned for Powissett Street. A ranger station is staffed by TTOR on weekends. The reservation is used heavily for hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and other activities by people from all over eastern Massachusetts. Users include scouting organizations, orienteering clubs, and other groups, in addition to individuals.

The Trustees of Reservations also own and manage Peters Reservation and the Chase Woodlands on the western side of Dover. Peters Reservation totals 89 acres and has significant frontage on the Charles River. It is separated from Chase Woodlands by Farm Street, but a permanent trail easement links these two significant open space areas. Chase Woodlands includes 85 acres of woods and trails. Powissett Farm, which totals more than 106 acres, does not permit public access since it is maintained as a working farm, which now operates as a community-supported agriculture (CSA) program.

Another significant open space parcel is the Snow Hill Reservation. This is the largest parcel and first acquisition of the DLCT and is used for both active and passive recreation. The Boy Scouts of America maintain a camp on the property, which is used as a wilderness experience camp. The Conservation Commission also owns several abutting parcels interlaced with trails for walking and horseback riding. Acquisition by the Town of the Wylde property, combined with Snow Hill, the Ferguson property, Channing Pond, and abutting properties in Chapter 61, links and expands the “Centre Street corridor” of open space and an extended system of trails close to the center of town.

DLCT was organized in 1965 to "assist in and promote the preservation of the rural character of the Town in order to preserve and maintain areas for conservation," according to its Articles of Incorporation. Its goals include water resource protection, plant and animal life enhancement, historic preservation, and active and passive recreation.

Bartlett Pines (owned by DLCT), accessed off of Claybrook Road, is a beautiful property that juts into the Troutbrook Marsh. A seasonal stream is spanned by a primitive bridge and leads to a

path around the property. There are wonderful views of the marsh. Wildlife abounds, from deer and muskrat to geese and ducks.

DLCT also owns Springdale Field. Located at the corner of Springdale Avenue and Farm Street, it is a large open field with a stream running through it. It is used as the gathering place for "the hunt" (Norfolk Hunt Club) several times a year, and townspeople use it to exercise horses and dogs.

In addition to its Snow Hill properties, the Dover Conservation Commission also has custody of several other outstanding parcels. These include the Valley Farm land, Rice land, Channing land, and properties on Walpole and Haven Streets, as well as a 46-acre parcel on the Charles River. The Town is also fortunate to have the 67-acre Larrabee Estate.

With regard to the Conservation Restrictions, described in the following paragraph, the protections afforded to in fee properties owned by the Conservation Commission and the State of Massachusetts by the provisions of Article 97 can be extended to restrictions held by 501c(3) organizations as well as by restrictions held by the Conservation Commission and the Army Corps of Engineers if approved by the Division of Conservation Services.

Besides the in fee ownership of lands listed above, as indicated in Table 12, 540 acres (5.5% of the Town's land area) are protected from future development by conservation restrictions. With a conservation restriction, some or all of the development rights that are inherent to a parcel of land are separated from the ownership of the land itself and held by a governmental entity or an organization dedicated to protection of open space. For example, if a farmer were to place a conservation restriction on his farm, he would still own the land, he could continue to farm it, and he could prohibit public access. He would not, however, be able to subdivide and develop it. The terms of conservation restrictions may differ. In some cases, they may allow one additional house for a family member. In other cases, no additional development at all could occur. Conservation restrictions may be donated and result in an income tax deduction, and a real estate tax reduction due to the reduced value of the remaining ownership rights to the property. Such land may also be bought and sold, but the conservation restriction remains with the land in perpetuity.

The Trustees of Reservations hold the largest area of conservation restrictions with 342 acres. Along with their 929 acres held in fee, they control nearly 1300 acres (almost 13%) of Dover’s land area.

Table 13 presents the easements for flood control held by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. With the 92 acres held in fee, the 183 acres of easements protects about 275 acres.

Table 12
Dover Conservation Restrictions

Location/Description	Assessor's Map/Lot #	Area (Acres)	Public Access	Grantor
The Trustees of Reservations				
15-17-19 Strawberry Hill St.	07-026	25.00	No	Blake, Caroline A. H.
Farm St., Lot 3	10-034	4.20	No	Brixton Realty Trust
28 Farm St., Lot 5	10-036	95.29	No	Brixton Realty Trust
Farm St	16-051	17.30	No	Channing, Charles E. & Katherine T.
74 Farm St., Lot 5A	15-037	10.63	No	Chase, Theodore & Dorethea
36 Farm St., Lot LC4	10-038	24.92	Yes	Guild, Gale R.
Farm St., Lot 3	10-040	2.14	Yes	Guild, Gale R.
125 Claybrook Road	03-006B, 03-006	8.24	No	Ladd, Edward H. & Berthe K.
7-9- Wilsondale St.	13-020	22.80	No	Law, Donald & Sara Molyneaux
Off Pegan Lane, Lot A	04-030	10.09	Yes	Morss, Christopher
Off Pegan Lane	04-031	10.70	Yes	Morss, Christopher
Off Main St., Lot B	04-037	11.48	Yes	Morss, Christopher
Off Pleasant St.	04-038	1.65	Yes	Morss, Christopher
129 Dedham St	12-046	25.18	No	Peabody, Estate of Amelia
344 Dedham St., Lot C	08-005	6.00	No	Rheault, Charles A. & Maud H.
37-39 Powissett St.	19-011	66.62	Yes	The Trustees of Massachusetts Farms and Conservation Lands
Sub-Total		**342.24**		
Dover Land Conservation Trust				
Pegan Ln., Lot 2	10-023A	5.08	Yes	Clowes, Margaret J.
Pegan Ln., Lot 2	10-029	2.21	Yes	Clowes, Margaret J.
75 Wilsondale St., Lot B	08-023	13.80	No	Cunningham, North L. & Colin M.
173 Centre St	21-054	15.10	Yes	Dabney, Thomas N. & Virginia R.
55 Haven St., Lot C	05-182	25.12	No	Faulkner, Henry B. & Kathleen W.
Walpole St	12-126	1.00	Yes	Hallowell, Phillips & Jane C.
Walpole St., Lot 36A	12-127A	16.64	Yes	Hallowell, Phillips & Jane C.
Off Pegan Ln., Lot 4	10-013B	16.59	Yes	Healer, Harry J. and Cynthia P.
Farm St., Lot B1	10-017	5.22	Yes	Jackson, Charles Jr.
Pegan Ln., Lot E	10-019C	4.15	Yes	Jackson, Elizabeth B.
Farm St.	10-016A	4.26	Yes	Jackson, Mary F.
35 Strawberry Hill St., Lot B1	13-001	6.52	No	Law, Donald F., Karlson, & McWilliams
Farm St., Lot 3 + 4	10-007A	5.45	Yes	Prout, Daphne B.
149 Dedham Street	06-081C	10.90	No	Swiny, Mary Helena Wylde
Sub-Total		**132.04**		

Continued

Table 12
Dover Conservation Restrictions
(Continued)

Location/Description	Assessor's Map/Lot #	Area (Acres)	Public Access	Grantor
Dover Conservation Commission				
14 Schaffner Lane, Lot 8	23-095	8.10	Yes	Brook Run Development
16 Schaffner Lane, Lot 7	23-095A		Yes	Brook Run Development
20 Schaffner Lane, Lot 6	23-095B		Yes	Brook Run Development
25 Schaffner Lane, Lot 5	23-095C		Yes	Brook Run Development
21 Schaffner Lane, Lot 4A	23-095D		Yes	Brook Run Development
17 Schaffner Lane, Lot 3 & 4B	25-012A		Yes	Brook Run Development
15 Schaffner Lane, Lot 2	25-012B		Yes	Brook Run Development
11 Schaffner Lane, Lot 1	25-012C		Yes	Brook Run Development
10 Schaffner Lane, Lot 9	25-012G		Yes	Brook Run Development
3 Adams Ln, Lot E	13-015	3.10	No	Fogg, Stephen K. & Katherine T.
Claybrook Rd	06-036A	10.40	No	Hornung, Douglas, Trustee
Centre St., Lot B	16-047-B	9.44	No	Nightingale, Gertrude H.
Centre St., Lot A	16-047-A	4.27	No	Nightingale, Gertrude H.
Sub-Total		**43.55**		
Massachusetts Audubon Society				
Off Main St., Lot C + C1	04-032A	**21.90**	No	Thorndike, John L. & Dorothy D.
TOTAL		**539.73**		

Source: Dover Assessor's Office, Conservation Commission and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Table 13
Army Corps of Engineers Easements

Location/Description	Assessor's Map/Lot #	Area (Acres)	Owner
51 Main St	05-188	0.24	Eda & Caroline Antonellis
Haven St	05-160	2.70	Charles Bean, II
Springdale Ave	11-016	0.40	Town of Dover (Park & Rec)
Springdale Ave	11-018	8.40	Dover Land Conservation
Off Springdale Ave	11-042	1.92	Dover Land Conservation
Claybrook Road	03-009	21.20	Dover Land Conservation Trust
Main St	05-193	3.00	Bryan Austin
55 Haven St	05-182	1.98	Henry B. Faulkner
Chickering Drive	05-055	8.59	Dover Water Co
104 Claybrook	05-004	1.61	Constance Haddleton
10A Farm St	11-044	4.30	Richard L. Healer
10A Farm St	11-044	9.48	Richard L. Healer
84 Haven St	05-163	5.30	Roger & Krista Selmi
92 Haven St	05-162	0.80	Marco Iansiti
90 Claybrook Rd	05-010	0.63	Tracey Mannion
53 Main St	05-190	1.50	Scott Seidman & Shelley Poulsen
28 Trout Brook	05-050	0.52	Donald & Mary Louise Mackay
55 Main St	05-191	1.00	Reen D. Gibb, Trustee
19R Old Colony Road	05-144	9.80	Jeffery Carter et al Trustee
	05-144B		Edward L. Carol A. Larsen
	05-144C		Kevin A. Eileen N. White
	05-144D		Robert & Paula Lordi
47 Springdale Ave	11-017	1.40	Douglas S. Novitch
Cranberry Lane	05-145	5.30	Estate of Eileen Mahoney
Main St	05-158	1.10	Dover Land Conservation Trust
94 Haven St	05-161	0.40	Adam T. & Christine M. Wise
50 Springdale Ave	11-048	12.30	David & Mary Powers
Claybrook Rd	05-008	0.49	Carl & Suzanne Sheridan
	05-007&	0.35	Carl & Suzanne Sheridan
	05-007A		Carl & Suzanne Sheridan
Haven St	05-166	16.70	Town of Dover-Con Comm
Haven St	05-186A	6.90	Town of Dover
Haven St	05-186A	29.50	Town of Dover
Springdale Ave	11-015	1.80	Town of Dover-Parks & Rec
Haven St	05-166	16.70	Town of Dover-Con Comm
Springdale Ave	11-015	1.80	Town of Dover-Parks & Rec
106 Claybrook	05-003	5.45	Judith Ballantine
TOTAL		**183.56**	

Source: Dover Assessor's Office

C. Public and Private Recreation Facilities

Table 14 lists the major public and private recreation areas and facilities. It should be noted that figures may be overstated somewhat since school buildings occupy a significant percentage of "recreation" space. Elm Bank is the site of the Massachusetts Horticultural Center (182 acres, of which a small portion is used for active recreation.) The private Charles River School has recreation space as well.

D. Chapter 61, 61A and 61B Lands

Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B lands are privately owned properties used for forestry, agriculture and recreation purposes respectively. These designations refer to those sections of the Massachusetts General Laws that provide for a property tax reduction for lands in those uses if certain conditions are met. Among those conditions is the provision that before any lands that receive such tax breaks change use, the land must be offered to the Town at fair market value and recent tax abatements must be paid. The Town then has 120 days to respond to such offer before any sale of the property to another buyer can be consummated. These conditions place little impediment upon a landowner who wishes to realize the highest value for his property.

Table 15 lists the Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B properties in Dover in 2010. The largest category is Chapter 61A (agricultural) lands.

E. Other Lands of Conservation and/or Recreation Interest

The Open Space Committee maintains a list of other lands of conservation or recreation interest. These are generally privately owned lands that provide scenic views, agricultural uses, wildlife habitat, or otherwise contribute to the character of Dover. It should be noted that it is not intended that the areas of Town and properties on this list are more important than other areas of Town or other properties. Rather, it is simply a non-exclusive list that indicates that these areas have several large parcels within them that have the potential to preserve Dover's character if many of them remain in their present state. This can be accomplished through the individual initiative of the landowners; the acquisition or donation of easements, conservation restrictions, or in fee title; limited development projects (e.g. creating and selling one or more building lots from a large parcel in order to finance the preservation of the remainder); or some combination thereof.

Table 14
Public and Private Recreation Facilities

Location/Description	Map/ Parcel	Area (Acres)	Zone	Existing Uses/Condition	Public Access	Manager	Level of Protection
TOWN OWNED							
Caryl Park 107 Dedham Street	12-47	82.00	O	Fields, 3 baseball fields, 4 tennis courts, playground, basketball court /Good	Yes	PRC	Permanent
Caryl Community Center 4 Springdale Avenue	11-073	2.00	O	Gymnasium, playground, outdoor basketball court/Good	Yes	PRC	Permanent
Regional High School 157 Farm Street	20-7, 20-1B, 15-23, 20-4, 20-6	78.60	I	2 baseball fields, 2 softball fields, 2 soccer fields, football field, 4 tennis courts, track and field area, indoor and outdoor basketball court/Excellent	No	School	Limited
Chickering School 29 Cross Street	6-87	43.95	O	2 soccer/lacrosse fields, playground/Excellent	No	School	Limited
Channing Pond Springdale Avenue	11-15	6.14		Pond for hockey, skating, fishing/Fair	Yes	PRC	Permanent
Town Common 5 Springdale Avenue	12-9	5.72	O	Paths, benches/Excellent	Yes	PRC	Permanent
West End	9-135	2.80	O	Paths/Good	Yes	PRC	Permanent
Bickford-Ballou Park Claybrook Road	5-112, 5-113, 5-114, 5-120, 5-121	2.28	O	Boat launch into Charles River/Good	Yes	PRC	Permanent
Lower Town Hall 5 Springdale Avenue	12-09	—	O	Meeting space/Good	Yes	COA	Limited
Bridge Street	15-6, 15-7	6.92		Boat launch into Charles River/Good	Yes	PRC	Permanent
Sub-Total		**230.41**					

Continued

Table 14
Public and Private Recreation Facilities

Location/Description	Map/ Parcel	Area (Acres)	Zone	Existing Uses/Condition	Public Access	Manager	Level of Protection
OTHER							
Charles River School 56-58 Centre Street	12-69	10.99	O/R1	Pool, tennis courts, playground, gymnasium, fields/Excellent	No	Charles River Scool	None
Elm Bank Turtle Lane/Buttercup Lane (Main Entrance from Route 16, Wellesley)	1-1	182.00	O	Trails, Mass. Horticultural Society (MHS) headquarters & gardens, soccer fields (used by towns other than Dover)/Good	Yes	DRC and MHS	Permanent
Library	12-10	2.7	O	Grounds/Excellent	Yes	PRC	None
Highland Cemetery (Centre Street)	12-66, 12-68	19.34	O	Paths/Good	Yes	Cemetery Commission	Permanent
Sub-total		**215.03**					
TOTAL		**445.44**					

PRC= Parks and Recreation Commission School= Dover or Regional School Committee

Sources: Assessors Office, Park and Recreation Commission

Table 15
Chapter 61, 61A and 61B Properties In Dover

	Parcel#	Acreage	Street/(Owner)
CHAPTER 61			
1	7-27	2.11	225 Dedham (Cabot)
	7-27A	1.29	
	7-28	18.20	
	7-29B	1.26	
Sub-total		**22.86**	
2	10-13	**50.60**	47-49 Farm (Fisher)
3	10-38	14.15	36 Farm (Guild)
	10-40	.37	
Sub-total		**14.52**	
4	11-123	**10.00**	95 Centre (Stone)
5	15-22	**30.70**	Farm, Lot 2 (Richardson)
6	16-30	**22.80**	64 Farm (Sargent)
TOTAL (61)		**151.48**	
CHAPTER 61A			
7	5-193	**10.65**	Main (Austin)
8	7-10	**7.02**	236 Dedham (Loebelenz)
9	7-26	**37.20**	15-17-19 Strawberry Hill (Blake)
10	8-11	**7.14**	Dedham, Lot 3 (Brodie, P.)
11	8-12C	1.44	Dedham, Lots 92-1, 92-2, 92-3 (Brodie, B.)
	8-12D	2.30	
	8-12E	2.29	
Sub-total		**6.03**	

Continued

Table 15
Chapter 61, 61A and 61B Properties In Dover
(Continued)

	Parcel#	Acreage	Street/(Owner)
CHAPTER 61A (Continued)			
12	10-08	**10.00**	67 Farm (McAndrews)
13	10-19D	6.75	36 Pegan (Thompson)
	10-19E	5.76	
Sub-total		**12.51**	
14	10-34	4.19	26 Farm (Lesser)
	10-36	95.29	
	16-51	18.50	
Sub-total		**117.98**	
15	11-49	**24.00**	46 Springdale (Snyder)
16	13-8	**42.02**	89-90 Strawberry Hill (Cabot)
17	15-12D	10.65	55 Smith (Bright)
	15-13	62.35	
	15-13A	19.70	
	15-14A	6.80	
Sub-total		**99.50**	
18	15-14	**12.00**	16 Smith (Sheble-Hall)
19	15-27	0.98	130 Farm (Yellin)
	15-27A	2.00	
	15-27B	2.17	
	15-27C	2.31	
Sub-total		**7.46**	
20	16-29	12.00	68 Farm (McCormack)
	16-29A	2.34	
Sub-total		**14.34**	
21	16-31	**17.50**	54 Farm (Howe)

Continued

Table 15
Chapter 61, 61A and 61B Properties In Dover
(Continued)

	Parcel#	Acreage	Street/(Owner)
CHAPTER 61A (Continued)			
22	18-151	4.54	Powissett, Lots 3, 4, 5 (Truesdale)
	18-152	3.95	
	18-153	4.40	
Sub-total		**12.89**	
TOTAL (61A)		**438.24**	
CHAPTER 61B			
23	5-145	7.34	Cranberry, Lot 14 (Mahoney)
	5-145A	1.16	
Sub-total		**8.50**	
24	7-12B	1.15	Dedham, Lots C2 & C3 (Lobkowicz)
	7-13	9.07	
Sub-total		**10.22**	
25	10-15	**5.50**	39 Farm (Barrett)
26	10-30	**5.55**	20 Pegan (Colburn)
27	13-09	**38.42**	84 Strawberry Hill (Thornhill)
28	15-08	2.86	Bridge/Smith (Porter)
	15-08A	4.11	
	15-08B	10.26	
	15-08C	3.29	
		20.52	
29	17-34A	2.20	Centre, Lots 1, 3 & 4 (Glidden)
	17-34B	6.95	
	17-34C	6.60	
Sub-total		**15.75**	

Continued

Table 15
Chapter 61, 61A and 61B Properties In Dover
(Continued)

	Parcel#	Acreage	Street/(Owner)
CHAPTER 61B (Continued)			
30	21-51	**32.10**	Centre (Wardner Farm Trust)
31	21-55	**8.00**	181 Centre (Norfolk Hunt Club)
TOTAL (61B)		**144.56**	
SUMMARY:			
Chapter 61		151.48	
Chapter 61A		438.24	
Chapter 61B		144.56	
TOTAL		**734.28 Acres**	

Source: Dover Assessor's Office, 2010

Section 6: Community Vision

A. Description of Process

The primary method of establishing community goals was for the Open Space Committee (OSC) to review the goals and objectives of the 2003-2004 Open Space and Recreation Plan in light of past accomplishments and present needs. The OSC then produced a draft set of new goals and objectives and presented them to other Town Boards and Committees including the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Board of Health and others. The draft was revised in response to comments received.

Finally, the draft goals and objectives were included in this draft Open Space and Recreation Plan document. The document was posted on the Town web site and public comment was solicited. Paper copies were also placed in the Library.

B. Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals

Goals for Open Space:

A. Preserve and Protect the Groundwater Water Supplies

B. Acquire and Preserve Agricultural Lands and Community Supported Agriculture

C. Link Existing Open Space and Recreation Sites to Each Other

D. Develop Management Plans for Open Spaces

E. Develop and Publicize Procedures for Changes in the Use of Public Lands

Goals for Recreation:

A. Develop a Community Center that Suits the Needs of Dover Residents

B. Increase Public Awareness of Existing Recreational Opportunities

C. Expand Recreational Opportunities

Section 7: Needs Analysis

The following is an analysis of Dover's primary open space and recreation needs developed through a public meeting, as well as input from Town boards and commissions. Needs are grouped into three categories: resource protection, community needs, and management needs and potential changes of use.

A. Summary of Resource Protection Needs

The major resource protection needs, which have not changed from the 2003-2004 OSRP, are as follows:

1. Protect the water supply.
2. Protect and manage wildlife habitats and corridors.
3. Protect wetlands and surface waters.
4. Preserve existing privately held open space for public views and passive recreation.

Dover depends entirely on wells, mostly private, as the source of its domestic water supply. Its Church Street wells have already been shut down due to contamination. In addition, Elm Bank is an aquifer for which three towns in addition to Dover have water rights. Therefore, protecting water supply is a critical issue in Dover. Protective measures such as reducing use of road salt, encouraging proper and reduced use of herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers, and similar efforts are extremely important.

In order to maintain biodiversity as well as to protect resources, it is important to ensure that important wildlife habitats and migration corridors are protected. Dover has several corridors that should be protected. These are discussed in the Environmental Inventory and Analysis section, but they include the Charles River, Fisher Brook/Lyman's Pond/Snow Hill, Noanet Brook/Tubwreck Brook/Mill Brook corridors, as well as several pipeline and electrical transmission corridors.

However, it should also be noted that certain species, particularly deer and wild turkeys, have increased to the point where they have become a nuisance and/or a threat to human health (e.g. due to Lyme Disease spread by deer ticks). These species need to be managed appropriately.

Dover apparently lost 28 acres of wetlands between 1971 and 1999. Some of this may be attributable to different interpretations of the aerial photographs on which the figures are based. Nevertheless, both the state Wetlands Protection Act and the local wetlands bylaw should continue to be enforced strictly to protect wetlands as well as surface waters with which they are associated. Fertilizer, pesticide, and salt use should be discouraged near wetlands, surface waters or aquifers.

Limited resources preclude the Town from purchasing all properties that are desirable, or even those that become available, as open space. Therefore, there is the need for a set of criteria by which to evaluate land for possible acquisition as well as for best potential uses.

In addition, there is a need to develop management plans for the properties that the Town does own. This includes land under the jurisdiction of the Selectmen, Schools Committees, Conservation Commission, and Park and Recreation Commission.

B. Summary of Community Needs

The following are the primary community needs relating to conservation and recreation:

1. Verification of trail easements, mapping of existing trails and expansion of the trails system to link existing conservation and recreation areas and facilities.
2. Creation of multi-use paths.
3. Establishment of a community center.
4. Expansion of recreation opportunities

Dover already has a significant trail system. There is a significant need to review deeds and other documents to verify public trail easements that do exist and to map and document them to ensure continued availability for public use. When these trails are not marked and their locations unknown, they tend to fall into disuse and then become difficult to use due to overgrowth and abutter opposition. A comprehensive map of all trail easements should be produced.

Multi-use paths for biking, hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, walking, and other uses have been a priority in Dover since at least 1996. Efforts are now underway to convert the former MBTA rail bed into such a multi-use path.

The former Caryl School is currently used as a recreation center, and is now known as Caryl Community Center. However, several studies of the building and its potential uses have been done over the years, but there is not yet a long-term plan for use of that building and site.

Dover is part of the Metropolitan Boston Region of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), entitled Massachusetts Outdoors 2006! The issues with the highest priorities for funding in this region include improving access for people with disabilities; maintaining existing facilities; restoring and improving existing outdoor recreation areas; expanding environmental education programs; improving access by public transportation, providing maps, guides and other interpretive information; and purchasing new outdoor recreational areas. Many of these reflect Dover's preferences.

Dover has an active Council on Aging that provides diverse activities for its elderly residents. Also, the Town's recreation facilities are generally handicapped accessible. Additional programs for elderly and handicapped at the Town's outdoor facilities would be desirable.

There are multiple organizations providing recreation services in Dover. These should be coordinated to ensure maximum efficiency.

C. Management Needs, Potential Change of Use

A key management need is the protection of the Town's groundwater. This issue involves enforcing the Town's Groundwater Protection Districts and Board of Health regulations, as well as discouraging use of pesticides, fertilizers, etc. It also involves monitoring changing alternative technology for septic systems. Changing technologies can also result in potential changes of use as land that is undevelopable with conventional septic systems may become developable with new technology.

As discussed above, there is also a need for management plans for each of the Town's conservation and recreation properties. The plans should identify the uses that are appropriate at each site as well as to establish regulations pertaining to such uses.

Agriculture is an important part of Dover's history and character. Establishing a Right-to-Farm bylaw can be an important component in helping to preserve and promote this agricultural heritage.

Acquiring additional lands for open space purposes and linking existing and future open spaces into an integrated network accomplishes a number of preservation and recreation goals. Funding for acquisition is scarce. Open space preservation zoning is a management tool that result in preserving open space at little or no cost to the Town. Proposals by the Planning Board for such zoning have fallen just short of the two-thirds vote at Town Meeting to adopt it. This tool should be considered again.

Section 8: Open Space and Recreation Goals and Objectives

OPEN SPACE:

A. Preserve and Protect the Groundwater Water Supplies

1. Enforce Existing Groundwater Protection Districts.
2. Monitor New Zoning Regulations in Other Towns Regarding Groundwater Protection
3. Enforce Existing Septic System Regulations
4. Monitor New Septic System Regulations in Other Towns
5. Create a Database to Monitor, Maintain, and Enforce the Maintenance of Unconventional Septic Systems
6. Expand GIS Information on the Location of Private Wells and Private Septic Systems as Requested by Other Boards
7. Reduce the Use of Road Salt
8. Discourage the Use of Fertilizers, Pesticides, and Household Cleaning Supplies
9. Contact Landowners with Land Critical to Groundwater Water Supplies
10. Acquire Additional Lands (Fee Simple or Conservation Restriction) to Protect Water Supplies

B. Acquire and Preserve Agricultural Lands and Community Supported Agriculture

1. Contact Landowners with Agricultural Lands
2. Acquire Additional Agricultural Lands (Fee Simple or Conservation Restriction)
3. Develop a Right to Farm Bylaw

C. Link Existing Open Space and Recreation Sites to Each Other

1. Require Trail Linkages where Appropriate
2. Contact Landowners with Critical Lands for Recreation –
3. Acquire Additional Lands (Fee Simple or Conservation Restriction) for Recreation

D. Develop Management Plans for Open Spaces

1. Develop Land Management Plans for Municipal and School Owned Parcels
2. Develop Wildlife (Deer and Wild Turkeys) Management Plans – Board of Health

E. Develop and Publicize Procedures for Changes in the Use of Public Lands

1. Develop Written Procedures regarding the Permanent Disposition of Tax Taken Parcels
2. Develop Written Procedures regarding the Change in Land Use of Open Space Parcels where No Public Monies are Used

RECREATION

A. Develop a Community Center that Suits the Needs of Dover Residents

1. Develop a Long Term Solution to the Configuration of the Caryl Community Center

B. Increase Public Awareness of Existing Recreational Opportunities

1. Identify Recorded Trail Easements owned by the Town
2. Place Permanent Boundary Markers as Needed on Existing Public Open Space Lands and Trails
3. Perform Annual Monitoring of Town Owned Conservation Restrictions
4. Develop Expanded Parking Opportunities to Open Spaces via Changes in the Zoning Bylaws
5. Produce Printed Trail Maps of Large Public Open Space Parcels for Distribution to Town Residents in Public Buildings
6. Conduct Annual Trail Hikes Open to the Public
7. Maintain and Update Lists of Open Space Parcels Owned in Fee Simple or by Conservation Restrictions

C. Expand Recreational Opportunities

1. Study Proposals to Convert the Railroad Bed into a Hiking and Biking Trail
2. Enhance Coordination Among Recreational Organizations though Monthly Meetings

Section 9: Action Plan

The following chart summarizes the key recommended actions the Town of Dover should undertake to address its open space and recreation needs over the next seven years. The chart also identifies the lead agency and supporting agencies (if any) for each recommendation, a schedule for implementation, potential implementation mechanisms, and possible funding sources, where applicable. Figure 13 illustrates the recommendations.

ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS	SCHEDULE	POSSIBLE FUNDING
OPEN SPACE					
Preserve and Protect the Groundwater Water Supplies					
Enforce Existing Groundwater Protection District	Building Inspector	Conservation Commission, Planning Board	Zoning Bylaw Conservation Commission & Planning Board Regulations	2011-2017	NA
Monitor New Zoning Regulations in Other Towns regarding Groundwater Protection	Planning Board	Conservation Commission	NA	2011-2017	NA
Enforce Existing Septic System Regulations	Board of Health		Board of Health Regulations & Title 5	2011-2017	NA
Monitor New Septic System Regulations in Other Towns	Board of Health		Board of Health Regulations	2011-2017	NA
Create a Database to Monitor, Maintain, and Enforce the Maintenance of Unconventional Septic Systems	Board of Health		Additional staff time	2011-2013	General Fund
Expand GIS Information on the Location of Private Wells and Private Septic Systems	GIS Coordinator	Board of Health	Additional staff time	2011-2013	General Fund
Reduce the Use of Road Salt	Board of Selectmen & Superintendent of Streets		Alternative materials	2011-2017	General Fund
Discourage the Use of Fertilizers, Pesticides, and Household Cleaning Supplies	Board of Health	Dover Community TV	Education materials including web site, cable TV, brochures, etc.	2011-2017	General Fund

Continued

ACTION PLAN SUMMARY (Continued)

RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS	SCHEDULE	POSSIBLE FUNDING
Preserve and Protect the Groundwater Water Supplies (Continued)					
Contact Landowners with Land Critical to Groundwater Water Supplies	Open Space Committee			2011-2017	NA
Acquire Additional Lands (Fee Simple or Conservation Restriction) to Protect Water Supplies	Board of Selectmen	Town Meeting Conservation Commission Planning Board	Purchase Open Space Preservation Zoning	2011-2017	LAND Debt Exclusion CPA*
Acquire and Preserve Agricultural Lands and Community Supported Agriculture					
Contact Landowners with Agricultural Lands	Open Space Committee			2011-2017	NA
Acquire Additional Agricultural Lands (Fee Simple or Conservation Restriction)	Board of Selectmen	Town Meeting Planning Board	Purchase Open Space Preservation Zoning	2011-2017	LAND Debt Exclusion CPA*
Develop a Right to Farm Bylaw	Planning Board	Town Meeting	General Bylaw	2011-2012	NA
Link Existing Open Space and Recreation Sites to Each Other					
Require Trail Linkages where Appropriate	Planning Board		Subdivision Regulations	2011-2017	NA
Contact Landowners with Critical Lands for Recreation	Open Space Committee			2011-2017	NA
Acquire Additional Lands (Fee Simple or Conservation Restriction) for Recreation	Board of Selectmen	Town Meeting Planning Board	Purchase Open Space Preservation Zoning	2011-2017	LAND Debt Exclusion CPA*

Continued *CPA not adopted in Dover

ACTION PLAN SUMMARY (Continued)

RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS	SCHEDULE	POSSIBLE FUNDING
Develop Management Plans For Open Spaces					
Develop Land Management Plans for Municipal and School Owned Parcels	Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission	Dover School Committee Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee	Rules and Regulations	2011-2013	General Fund
Develop Wildlife (Deer and Wild Turkeys) Management Plans	Board of Health		Rules and Regulations	2011-2013	General Fund
Develop and Publicize Procedures for Changes in the Use of Public Lands					
Develop Written Procedures Regarding the Permanent Disposition of Tax Taken Parcels	Open Space Committee	Board of Selectmen		2011-2013	NA
RECREATION					
Develop a Community Center that Suits the Needs of Dover Residents					
Develop a Long Term Solution to the Configuration of the Caryl Community Center	Board of Selectmen	All Other Elected and Appointed Committees		2011-2013	Debt Exclusion
Increase Public Awareness of Existing Recreational Opportunities					
Identify Recorded Trail Easements owned by the Town	Open Space Committee	Assessor's Office	Research records	2011-2013	NA

Continued

ACTION PLAN SUMMARY (Continued)

RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS	SCHEDULE	POSSIBLE FUNDING
Increase Public Awareness of Existing Recreational Opportunities (Continued)					
Place Permanent Boundary Markers as Needed on Existing Public Open Space Lands and Trails	Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission			2012-2014	General Fund
Perform Annual Monitoring of Town Owned Conservation Restrictions	Conservation Commission		Site Visits	2011-2017	NA
Develop Expanded Parking Opportunities to Open Spaces via Changes in the Zoning Bylaws	Planning Board	Town Meeting	Zoning Bylaw	2011-2012	NA
Printed Trail Maps of Large Public Open Space Parcels for Distribution to Town Residents in Public Buildings	Open Space Committee			2011-2013	General Fund Advertising
Conduct Annual Trail Hikes Open to the Public	Open Space Committee			2011-2017	NA
Maintain and Update Lists of Open Space Parcels Owned in Fee Simple or by Conservation Restrictions	Assessor's Office		Staff time	2011-2017	NA

Continued

ACTION PLAN SUMMARY (Continued)

RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS	SCHEDULE	POSSIBLE FUNDING
Expand Recreational Opportunities					
Study Proposals to Convert the Railroad Bed into a Hiking and Biking Trail	Board of Selectmen	Planning Board		2011-2013	DCR MassDOT Debt Exclusion
Enhance Coordination Among Recreational Organizations though Monthly Meetings	Parks and Recreation Commission, Council on Aging Dover-Sherborn Community Education			2011-2017	NA

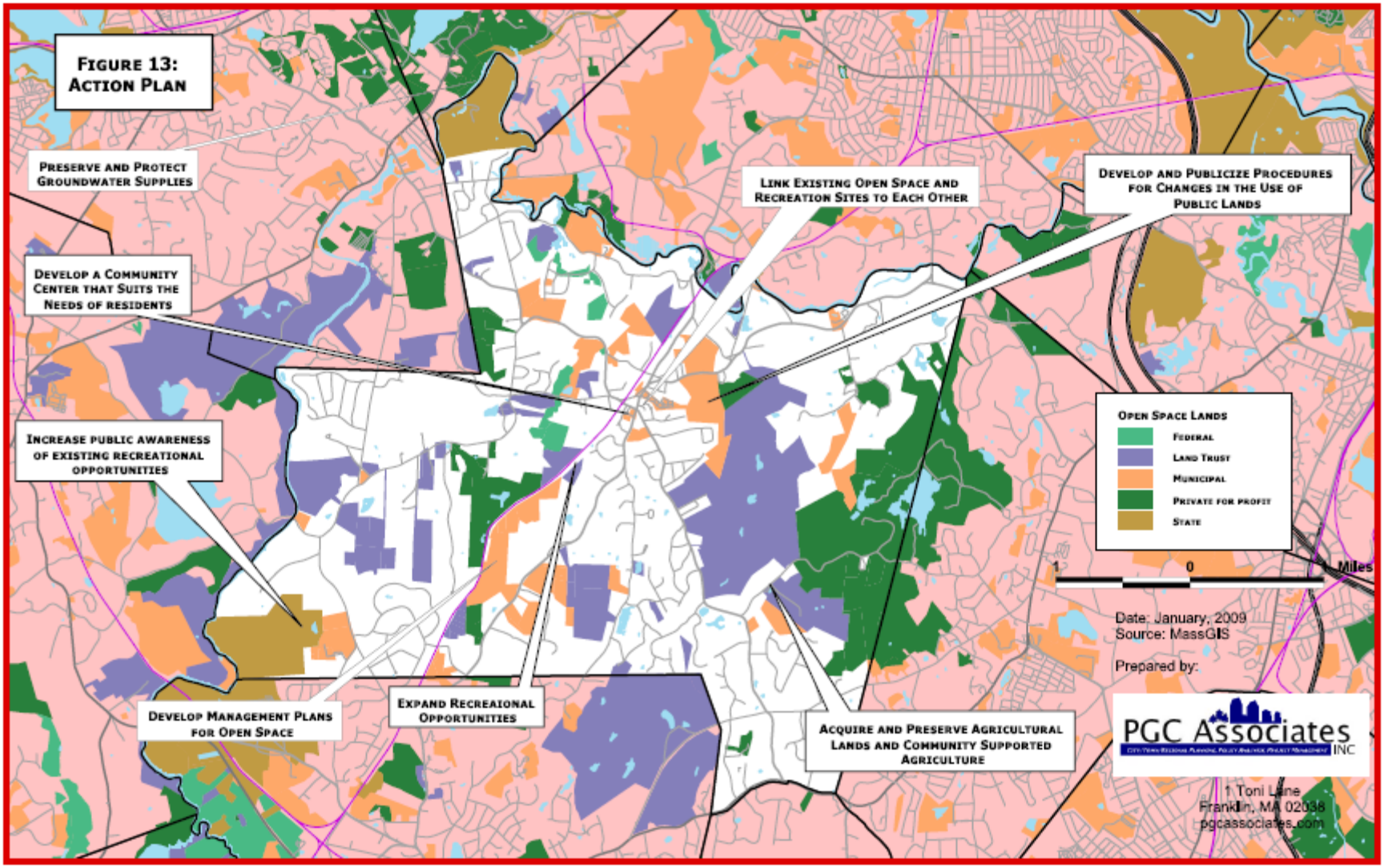
FIGURE 13:
ACTION PLAN
PRESERVE AND PROTECT GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES
LINK EXISTING OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION SITES TO EACH OTHER
DEVELOP AND PUBLICIZE PROCEDURES FOR CHANGES IN THE USE OF PUBLIC LANDS
DEVELOP A COMMUNITY CENTER THAT SUITS THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS
INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF EXISTING RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
DEVELOP MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR OPEN SPACE
EXPAND RECREAIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
ACQUIRE AND PRESERVE AGRICULTURAL LANDS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE
OPEN SPACE LANDS
FEDERAL
LAND TRUST
MUNICIPAL
PRIVATE FOR PROFIT
STATE
1
0
Miles
Date: January, 2009
Source: MassGIS
Prepared by:
PGC Associates
INC
1 Toni Lane
Franklin, MA 02038
pgcassociates.com

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Appendix

Items included:
Minutes of March 2, 2010 Forum
Article 97 Statement
ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan
Letter from Selectmen
Letter From Planning Board
Letter From MAPC
Letter from Division of Conservation Services

Dover Open Space Committee
Minutes
March 2, 2010 – 7:30pm

Committee Attendees: Catherine White (Acting Chair), Sierra Bright, Henry Faulkner, Andy Thompson, Jane Brace, Christopher Oliver, Rich Oasis, Amy Moot, Paul Angelico.

Absent: Carol Lisbon, Justine Kent-Uritam

Additional Attendees: Gino Carlucci(Consultant), Joe Giovangelo, Matthew Schmit, Barbara Roth-Schlecter, Kem Stewart, Geoffrey Merrill, Jim Dawley, Stephen Bates, George Chimento

Meeting Topic: Public forum and review of the draft Town of Dover Open Space and Recreation Plan 2009-2010.

Summary of subjects Covered:

1. Committee approved the minutes of the February meeting.

2. Gino Carlucci explained the Massachusetts Open Space regulations and grant process

a. The table of contents of the states guidelines
b. The goals and objectives

3 Catherine White explained the Committee's approach to updating the Town of Dover's Open Space and Recreation Plan from 2003-2004.

4. Questions from the public were addressed:

a. Ken Stewart – What's the "right to farm" law?
b. George Chimento – Need to address unleashed dogs in and parking at public spaces - Noanet Woods
c. Joe Giovangelo – What are the restrictions at Caryl Park regarding parking and the location of the park ranger booth?
d. Jeff Merrill – How does this effort integrate with the work of the Long Range Planning Committee and the Town Master Plan?
e. Mark Healy –Can Caryl Park have an adult fitness area?

Adjourned: 9:00 pm

<>

APPLICABILITY OF ARTICLE 97
TO
OPEN SPACES

The *2003-4 Dover Open Space and Recreation Plan* contained the goal to "determine the status of development restrictions on town owned lands." While this summary is not absolutely conclusive, it would appear to be indicative of the applicability of Article 97 of the Massachusetts State Constitution to the question at hand.

To start with…Article 97 was adopted in 1972 by the citizens of Massachusetts as the 97th Amendment to the state's constitution. Its language is simple:
"The people shall have the right to clean air and water, freedom from excessive and unnecessary noise, and the natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic qualities of their environment; and the protection of the people in their right to the conservation, development and utilization of the agricultural, mineral, forest, water, air, and other natural resources is hereby declared to be a public purpose."

The General Court (aka the State Legislature) shall have the power to enact legislation necessary to protect such rights. Moreover, lands acquired for such purposes shall not be used for other purposes or otherwise disposed of except by a two-thirds vote of each branch (Senate and House of Representatives) of the State Legislature.

Over the ensuing months, the applicability of Article 97 to lands owned by the state and/or local governments was debated. In 1973, the Attorney General of Massachusetts wrote an opinion that tried to clarify the applicability of Article 97 to various situations in which there were proposals to alter open spaces and/or natural resources. The gist of this opinion is that Article 97 applies to both lands owned by the state as well as to lands owned by the municipalities where the lands in question were dedicated to those specified uses and where either the use (i.e., open space or natural resources) or the control (i.e., ownership) of those lands was to be changed. In such cases, a two-thirds vote of the State Legislature is needed to approve the proposed changes to the land's use and/or control. The two-thirds vote is also needed when lands are traded among state agencies.

Additionally in 1998, the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) made the ruling that lands owned by EOEA may not be transferred unless there are "exceptional circumstances." EOEA also requires municipalities to comply with its policy in order to receive EOEA funding. The purpose of this policy is to have "no net loss" associated with open space land.

In addition to Article 97, there is a long tradition of case law in Massachusetts that governs the disposition of all types of lands (i.e., municipal buildings, easements, railroad beds, etc.) owned by both the state and municipalities. This is the so called common

law known as "prior public use." The 1973 opinion of the Attorney General required a two-thirds vote by the State Legislature to approve ownership changes and land use changes for other types of properties also.

Under the Article 97 Amendment and the "prior public use doctrine," it is critical to establish the ownership and the restricted use (if any) of the land. In 1974, the Massachusetts Appeals Court (see enclosed) held in *Muir v. Leominster* that private land acquired by the Town of Leominster – without any restrictions on its land use – could be conveyed to a different entity without the approval of the State Legislature.

So, how do these laws and policies apply to open space lands in Dover? In our town, the State owns several large parcels, specifically the 112 acre Medfield State Forest land along the Charles River in Dover behind the Dover-Sherborn Regional Schools and the 182 acre Elm Bank near the Wellesley line. It would appear that both Article 97 and EOEA policy would govern any change of ownership and/or land use of these properties.

Regarding open space lands owned by municipal agencies such as the Dover Parks and Recreation Commission, it is important to establish how the land was acquired and whether or not its use was restricted. In the case of Caryl Park, George Chickering donated the land in 1917 through his will (see enclosed) "to the town of Dover to be used by the citizens of said Dover as a Public Park forever and to be known as Caryl Park."
Mr. Chickering's will did not specify that the land be left in its natural state nor that the land be dedicated to specific uses. Various sections of Chapter 45 of the General Laws of Massachusetts (see enclosed) govern the activities of the Parks and Recreation Commissioners and would seem to authorize them to do whatever they want to do at Caryl Park, provided that the land remain as a park. Thus, Article 97 would only seem to apply if the land use changed (i.e., it were no longer a park) or the ownership changed
(i.e., the Parks and Recreation Commission changed to ownership to another entity).

Another example in Dover would be the Wylde Woods property. In 2000, the Dover Town Meeting acquired Wylde Woods on Centre Street with the specific stipulation that it be used for conservation and be managed by the Dover Conservation Commission. Thus, again, Article 97 would only seem to apply if either the land use changed or the ownership interest changed.

ADA SELF-EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN

Part 1: Administrative Requirements

Designation of an ADA Coordinator

The Town Administrator is designated as the ADA Coordinator.

Grievance Policy

EQUAL ACCESS TO FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES
Maximum opportunity will be made available to receive citizen comments, complaints, and/or to resolve grievances or inquiries.

STEP 1:
The Town Administrator will be available to meet with citizens and employees during business hours. When a complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification is received either in writing or through a meeting or telephone call, every effort will be made to create a record regarding the name, address, and telephone number of the person making the complaint, grievance, program policy interpretation or clarification. If the person desires to remain anonymous, he or she may.

A complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification will be responded to within ten working days (if the person making the complaint is identified) in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient, (i.e. verbally, enlarged type face, etc).

Copies of the complaint, grievance, request for program policy interpretation or clarification and response will be forwarded to the appropriate town agency (i.e. park commission, conservation commission). If the grievance is not resolved at this level it will be progressed to the next level.

STEP 2:

A written grievance will be submitted to the Town Administrator. Assistance in writing the grievance will be available to all individuals. All written grievances will be responded to within ten working days by the Town Administrator in a format that is sensitive to the needs of the recipient, (i.e. verbally, enlarged type face, etc.). If the grievance is not resolved at this level it will be progressed to the next level.

STEP 3:

If the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved, citizens will be informed of the opportunity to meet and speak with the Board of Selectmen, with whom local authority for final grievance resolution lies.

Public Notification

Notices in large print are posted in Town Hall indicating that the Town of Dover does not discriminate on the basis of disability**.** The Town's standard employment application includes a non-discrimination statement (see attached) and is posted on the Town's web site.

Part 2: Program Accessibility

The following pages contain a discussion of each of the Town's recreation sites and any measures needed to bring them into compliance. Attached to this report is an inventory of facilities at each of these sites.

Caryl Park
This large recreation area has a gravel parking lot with no spaces marked. It appears to be capable of accommodating 40 or 50 cars. There are no signed handicapped spaces. While there is no paving, it appears that wheelchairs could be accommodated with little difficulty. Signed spaces with a paved path would improve accessibility. A major renovation is planned which will include full accessibility.

Caryl Community Center
This is a former elementary school now used as a community center with a gymnasium, playground and outdoor basketball court. As shown on the inventory form, this facility is fully accessible.

Channing Park
This park consists of a pond that is used for skating and fishing. It has a gravel lot with a capacity of about 20 or 25 cars. No specific handicapped spaces are marked. There is a bench and picnic tables overlooking the pond. Again, marked spaces and a paved path would enhance accessibility.

Town Common
This grassy area adjacent to the Town House has on-street parking and the parking lot for the Lower Town House. Abuts it. There is a single paved path across this space on the west side that runs along side the Town House down to a point nearly across the street from the Library. The asphalt path is too steep for wheelchair access. It is also rough in some spots. It should be noted that curb ramps have been installed on the sidewalks throughout the Town Center, including those adjacent to the Common.

West End Park
This is an undeveloped wooded area bordered by Farm, Wright and Glen Streets. It has no parking or facilities of any kind.

Bickford-Ballou Park
This boat launch site is otherwise undeveloped. There is no real parking lot except the side of a narrow unpaved road.

Lower Town House
This space houses Town Offices and meeting space. It is serves as the home of the Council on Aging which sponsors recreational activities for seniors. It is universally accessible. It has about 21 parking spaces and the spaces closest to the door are marked as handicapped. The entrance and the other doors are wide enough, as are the corridors. The rest rooms are also universally accessible.

Bridge Street
This boat launch site is otherwise undeveloped. There is no real parking lot except the side of a narrow unpaved road.

Part 3: Administrative Requirements

Attached to this report is a letter from the Town Administrator (and designated ADA Coordinator) stating that Dover's employment practices are consistent with ADA requirements.

Attachments

Employment application (first page) with non-discrimination statement
Letter from ADA Coordinator regarding employment practices
Forms inventorying the recreation sites.

The TOWN OF DOVER, MA is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, marital or veteran status, age or other protected status.

PLEASE ANSWER ALL OF THE QUESTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ACCURATELY AND COMPLETELY. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE COMPLETING THIS APPLICATION, ASSISTANCE WILL BE PROVIDED.

I. General Information

Date: _____

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Present Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Permanent Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Previous Addresses within the past 5 years, if different

_____ /
Street City State Zip Code From To

_____ /
Street City State Zip Code From To

Home Telephone Number: (_____) _____ Other telephone number(s) where you can be reached:
Area Code

Social Security Number: _____ - _____ - _____ (_____) _____ (_____) _____
Area Code Area Code

Are you authorized to work in the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Note: All applicants hired by the Town of Dover will be required to present documentation prior to starting work with the Town of Dover that verifies identity and authorization to work in the United States in accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

Position Desired: _____ Salary Desired: _____ Date Available _____

Please check whether you are seeking: ☐ Full Time ☐ Part Time ☐ Days
☐ Weekends ☐ Summer Only ☐ Nights

If you have a relative(s) who currently works for the Town of Dover please indicate name, position, and location:

_____

If you have ever worked for the Town of Dover please answer the following:

_____ Dates? _____
Department/Branch Location Position Start Date End Date

If you have ever applied for a position with the Town of Dover, please answer the following:

Where? _____ Date? _____

TOWN OF DOVER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

5 SPRINGDALE AVENUE
P.O. BOX 250
DOVER, MASSACHUSETTS 02030

David W. Ramsay
Town Administrator

TELEPHONE (508) 785-0032 EXT 221
FAX (508) 785-2341
www.doverma.org

February 7, 2011

Mr. Robert O'Connor
Director of Conservation Services
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Mr. O'Connor,

As the Town of Dover's ADA Coordinator, I hereby confirm that Dover's employment practices, including recruitment, personnel actions, leave administration, training, tests, medical exams/questionnaires, social and recreational programs, collective bargaining agreements, and wage and salary administration, are consistent with ADA requirements.

In the event you have questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

David W. Ramsay
Town Administrator

Caryl Park

Parking

Total Spaces	*Total Handicapped Spaces*	*Required Handicapped Spaces*	
40-50	0	2	There are no marked spaces.

Specification for Accessible Spaces	**Yes**	**No**	**Comments**
Accessible Space located closest to accessible entrance		x	There are no marked spaces.
Drop-off area is provided within 100 feet		x	There is no marked drop-off area
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8ft space plus 5ft access aisle		x	There are no marked spaces.
Van space - Minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		x	There are no marked van spaces
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		x	There are no marked spaces.
Sign minimum 5 ft maximum 8 ft to top of sign.		x	There are no signs.
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	x		Parking lot is unpaved.
Surface slope less than 1:20 (5%)	x		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present.			Not applicable
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	x		No marked path
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		x	There is no designated disembarking area
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	x		
No ponding of water	x		
Path of travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	x		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant.	x		
3 ft wide minimum	x		
Slope maximum 5% and maximum cross pitch is 2%	x		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch.		x	

Caryl Community Center

Parking

Total Spaces	*Total Handicapped Spaces*	*Required Handicapped Spaces*
20-25	1	1

Specification for Accessible Spaces	**Yes**	**No**	**Comments**
Accessible Space located closest to accessible entrance	x		
Drop-off area is provided within 100 feet		x	There is no marked drop-off Area.
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8ft space plus 5ft access aisle		x	Handicapped space is on street.
Van space - Minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		x	There are no marked van spaces.
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	x		
Sign minimum 5 ft maximum 8 ft to top of sign.	x		
Surface evenly paced or hard-packed (no cracks)	x		
Surface slope less than 1:20 (5%)	x		There is no visible slope
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present.	x		
Curbcut is a minimum width of 3 ft. excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow.	x		
Ramps		x	There are no ramps at this facility.
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	x		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		x	There is no marked disembarking area.
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	x		
No ponding of water	x		

Continued

Caryl Community Center (Continued)

Path of travel	**Yes**	**No**	**Comments**
Path does not require the use of stairs	x		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant.	x		
3 ft wide minimum	x		
Slope maximum 5% and maximum cross pitch is 2%	x		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch.	x		
Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane	x		
Objects protruding more than 4″ from the wall must be within 27″ of the ground, or higher than 80″	x		
Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking and drop-offs	x		
Entrances			
Primary public entrances accessible to person using wheelchair, must be signed, gotten to independently, and *not* be the service entrance			
Level space extending 5 ft. from the door, interior and exterior of entrance doors	x		
Minimum 32″ clear width opening (i.e. 36″ door with standard hinge)	x		
At least 18" clear floor area on latch, pull side of door	x		
Door handle no higher than 48″ and operable with a closed fist	x		
Vestibule is 4 ft plus the width of the door swinging into the space	x		
Entrance(s) on a level that makes elevators accessible	x		
Door mats less than 1/2″ thick are securely fastened	x		
Door mats more than 1/2“ thick are recessed	x		
Grates in path of travel have openings of 1/2″ maximum	x		
Signs at non-accessible entrance(s) indicate direction to accessible entrance	x		
Emergency egress – alarms with flashing lights and audible signals, sufficiently lighted	x		

Continued

Caryl Community Center (Continued)

Stairs and Doors	**Yes**	**No**	**Comments**
Stairs			
No open risers	x		
Nosings not projecting	x		
Treads no less than 11″ wide	x		
Handrails on both sides	x		
Handrails 34″-38″ above tread	x		
Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits)	x		
Handgrip oval or round	x		
Handgrip has a smooth surface	x		
Handgrip diameter between 11/4″ and 11/2″	x		
11/2″ clearance between wall and handrail	x		
Doors			
Minimum 32″ clear opening	x		
At least 18″ clear floor space on pull side of door	x		
Closing speed minimum 3 seconds to within 3″ of the latch	x		
Maximum pressure 5 pounds interior doors	x		
Threshold maximum 1/2″ high, beveled on both sides	x		
Hardware operable with a closed fist (no conventional door knobs or thumb latch devices)	x		
Hardware minimum 36″, maximum 48″ above the floor	x		
Clear, level floor space extends out 5 ft from both sides of the door	x		
Door adjacent to revolving door is accessible and unlocked	x		
Doors opening into hazardous area have hardware that is knurled or roughened	x		

Continued

Caryl Community Center (Continued)

Restrooms	**Yes**	**No**	**Comments**
5 ft turning space measured 12″ from the floor	x		
At least one Sink:			
Clear floor space of 30″ by 48″ to allow a forward approach	x		
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34″ to top of rim	x		
Extends at least 22″ from the wall	x		
Open knee space a minimum 19″ deep, 30″ width, and 27″ high	x		
Cover exposed pipes with insulation	x		
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)	x		
At least one Stall:			
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60″ wide by 72″ deep	x		
Stall door is 36″ wide	x		
Stall door swings out			
Stall door is self closing	x		
Stall door has a pull latch	x		
Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and 32″ above the floor	x		
Coat hook is 54″ high	x		
Toilet			
18″ from center to nearest side wall	x		
42″ minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture	x		
Top of seat 17″-19″ above the floor	x		
Grab Bars	x		
On back and side wall closest to toilet	x		
11/4″ diameter	x		
11/2″ clearance to wall	x		
Located 30″ above and parallel to the floor	x		
Acid-etched or roughened surface	x		
Fixtures			
Toilet paper dispenser is 24″ above floor	x		
One mirror set a maximum 38″ to bottom (if tilted, 42″)	x		
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42″ above the floor	x		

Continued

Caryl Community Center (Continued)

Floors, Drinking Fountains, Telephones	**Yes**	**No**	**Comments**
Floors			
Non-slip surface	x		
Carpeting is high-density, low pile, non-absorbent, stretched taut, securely anchored	x		
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft	x		
Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4″ into the path of travel from a height of 27″ to 80″ above the floor	x		
Drinking Fountains			
Spouts no higher than 36″ from floor to outlet	x		
Hand operated push button or level controls	x		
Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible	x		
If recessed, recess a minimum 30″ width, and no deeper than depth of fountain	x		
If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space 30″ x 48″ to allow parallel approach	x		
Telephones			Not Applicable
Signs, Signals and Switches			
Switches and Controls			
Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation, windows, fire alarms, thermostats, etc, must be a minimum of 36″ and a maximum of 48″ above the floor for a forward reach, a maximum of 54″ for a side reach	x		
Electrical outlets centered no lower than 18″ above the floor	x		
Warning signals must be visual as well as audible	x		
Signs			
Mounting height must be 60″ to centerline of the sign	x		
Within 18″ of door jamb or recessed	x		
Letters and numbers a t least 11/4″ high	x		
Letters and numbers raised .03″	x		
Letters and numbers contrast with the background color	x		

Channing Park

Parking

Total Spaces	*Total Handicapped Spaces*	*Required Handicapped Spaces*	
20-25	0	1	

	Yes	No	Comments
Accessible Space located closest to accessible entrance		x	There are no marked spaces.
Drop-off area is provided within 100 feet		x	There is no marked drop-off area
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8ft space plus 5ft access aisle		x	There are no marked spaces.
Van space - Minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		x	There are no marked van spaces
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		x	There are no marked spaces.
Sign minimum 5 ft maximum 8 ft to top of sign.		x	There are no signs.
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	x		Parking lot is unpaved.
Surface slope less than 1:20 (5%)	x		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present.			Not applicable
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	x		No marked path
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		x	There is no designated disembarking area
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	x		
No ponding of water	x		
Path of travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	x		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant.	x		
3 ft wide minimum	x		
Slope maximum 5% and maximum cross pitch is 2%	x		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch.		x	

Continued

Picnicking

	Yes	No	Comments
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30″ wide and 19″ deep per seating space and not less than 27″ clear from the ground to the under side of the table. An additional 29″clear space (totaling 48″) must extend beyond the 19″ clear space under the table to provide access	x		
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28″ high, 30″ wide and 24″ deep.	x		
Top of table no higher than 32″ above ground	x		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions	x		
A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30″ wide and 19″ deep per seating space and not less than 27″ clear from the ground to the under side of the table. An additional 29″clear space (totaling 48″) must extend beyond the 19″ clear space under the table to provide access	x		
For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28″ high, 30″ wide and 24″ deep.	x		
Top of table no higher than 32″ above ground	x		
Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firm and slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions	x		

Town Common/Lower Town Hall (Shared parking)

Parking

Total Spaces	*Total Handicapped Spaces*	*Required Handicapped Spaces*
20-25	2	1

	Yes	**No**	**Comments**
Accessible Space located closest to accessible entrance	x		
Drop-off area is provided within 100 feet	x		
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8ft space plus 5ft access aisle	x		
Van space - Minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.	x		
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces	x		
Sign minimum 5 ft maximum 8 ft to top of sign.	x		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	x		
Surface slope less than 1:20 (5%)	x		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present.	x		
Site Access			
Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	x		
Disembarking area at accessible entrance	x		
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	x		
No ponding of water	x		
Path of travel			
Path does not require the use of stairs	x		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant.	x		
3 ft wide minimum	x		
Slope maximum 5% and maximum cross pitch is 2%	x		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch.	x		

Bridge Street

Parking

Total Spaces	*Total Handicapped Spaces*	*Required Handicapped Spaces*	
20-25	0	1	

	Yes	No	Comments
Accessible Space located closest to accessible entrance		x	There are no marked spaces.
Drop-off area is provided within 100 feet		x	There is no marked drop-off area
Minimum width of 13 ft includes 8ft space plus 5ft access aisle		x	There are no marked spaces.
Van space - Minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle.		x	There are no marked van spaces
Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces		x	There are no marked spaces.
Sign minimum 5 ft maximum 8 ft to top of sign.		x	There are no signs.
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	x		Parking lot is unpaved.
Surface slope less than 1:20 (5%)	x		
Curbcut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present.			Not applicable

Site Access

Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance	x		No marked path
Disembarking area at accessible entrance		x	There is no designated disembarking area
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed	x		
No ponding of water	x		

Path of travel

Path does not require the use of stairs	x		
Path is stable, firm and slip resistant.	x		
3 ft wide minimum	x		
Slope maximum 5% and maximum cross pitch is 2%	x		
Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than 1/2 inch.		x	

TOWN OF DOVER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
5 SPRINGDALE AVENUE
P.O. BOX 250
DOVER, MASSACHUSETTS 02030

Joseph M. Melican, Chairman
Carol Lisbon, Clerk
James P. Dawley, Jr.

Telephone 508-785-0032 x 221
FAX 508-785-2341
www.doverma.org

September 13, 2010

Justine Kent-Uritam, Chairman
Dover Open Space Committee
5 Springdale Avenue
Dover, MA 02030

Dear Ms. Kent-Uritam,

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I wish to commend the Open Space Committee for its work in producing the 2010 update to our Open Space and Recreation Plan. Open space and recreation are essential elements of Dover's character.

The Open Space and Recreation Plan contains valuable data about the Town. It is also timely as Dover faces important decisions in addressing several issues regarding the capacity and use of its open space and recreation resources in light of changing needs and interests. The Plan's recommendations will be a valuable resource as our town continues to address these needs in the coming years.

Sincerely yours,

Joe Melican
Chairman

PLANNING BOARD

DOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

August 13, 2010

Justine Kent-Uritam, Chairman
Dover Open Space Committee
5 Springdale Avenue
Dover, MA 02030

Dear Justine:

On behalf of the Planning Board, I would like to offer our enthusiastic congratulations to the Open Space Committee for its efforts in producing the updated Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Plan provides a great deal of valuable data that will be extremely helpful to the Town and to the Planning Board as it works to update the Town Master Plan.

The Plan will be an effective tool for furthering Dover's efforts to protect its natural resources and retain its relatively rural character. In fact, based on the results of the 2010 Town Meeting, which voted to allow parking lots to exceed five cars at large open space parcels, we have already made progress on the Plan's recommendation to amend the Zoning Bylaw to expand parking and access to open space! The Planning Board looks forward to continuing to work together with the Open Space Committee in implementing the other recommendations of the Plan in the coming months and years.

As you know, good stewardship of Dover's remaining open space is an issue of great importance to the Planning Board. We appreciate the Open Space Committee's efforts in that regard, and we applaud the work of your Committee on the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Thank you!

Sincerely,

The Dover Planning Board

Mark Sarro
Chairman

March 22, 2010

Justine Kent-Uritam, Chairman
Dover Open Space Committee
5 Springdale Avenue
Dover, MA 02030

Dear Ms. Kent-Uritam:

Thank you for submitting the Dover draft Open Space and Recreation Plan dated February 2010 to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) for review.

The Division of Conservation Services (DCS) requires that all open space plans must be submitted to the regional planning agency for review. This review is advisory and only DCS has the power to approve a municipal open space plan. While DCS reviews open space plans for compliance with their guidelines, MAPC reviews these plans for their attention to regional issues generally and more specifically for consistency with *MetroFuture*, the regional policy plan for the Boston metropolitan area.

Recommended revisions to the plan

The following are MAPC's recommendations for amendments to the Dover Open Space and Recreation Plan that will serve to bring a more regional perspective to the plan.

Surrounding Communities – While the plan does include a good description of regional resources, within the discussion of the regional context, there should be mention made of the open space planning activities and open space plans of surrounding communities. Connections between those communities and the open space needs and objectives of Dover should be explored. We encourage all communities to consult with their neighbors concerning their open space plans and initiatives especially since open space parcels and similar resources often occur near municipal boundaries and can be influenced by the actions of neighbors.

MetroFuture – We are pleased to note that the section on regional context mentions *MetroFuture.* More information on *MetroFuture* is provided below.

Subregion –The plan acknowledges Dover's membership in both the Three Rivers Interlocal Council (TRIC) and the Southwest Area Planning (SWAP) subregions of MAPC.

Environmental Justice – We note that the plan does not address the issue of environmental justice as required by the new 2008 guidelines for preparing an open space plan. The environmental justice guidelines are spelled out in more detail in the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Planners Workbook.

In brief, the guidelines indicate two levels of addressing EJ. If a municipality includes EJ populations as defined by the state (for more information please see the list of communities at http://www.mass.gov/mgis/ej.htm,) you must include the data/information specified in Section 2 (Introduction), Section 3 (Community Setting), and Section 5 (Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest). If your city or town does not have identified EJ populations you are still required in the inventory section to consider and describe park and

recreation inequities within the community as well as strategies to address those inequities. Although Dover does not include any EJ populations as defined by the state, it does need to address park and recreation inequities.

You should consult the workbook for more details on these requirements and discuss these new requirements with the staff at the Division of Conservation Services. The workbook is on-line at http://www.mass.gov/envir/dcs/pdf/osrp_workbook.pdf).

Consistency with MetroFuture

MetroFuture is the official regional plan for Greater Boston, adopted consistent with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law. The plan includes goals and objectives as well as thirteen detailed implementation strategies for accomplishing these goals. We encourage all communities to become familiar with the plan by visiting the web site at http://www.metrofuture.org/. We are pleased to see that the plan does reference MetroFuture on page 8.

The following comments are provided to help your community understand how your plan fits within the *MetroFuture* framework. Overall, we see many positive connections between your plan and *MetroFuture.*

Community Preservation Act- Strategy 3E of *MetroFuture* calls for increased participation in the Community Preservation Act (CPA). As stated in a footnote to the Five Year Action Plan, the town has not adopted the CPA although it is noted as a potential funding source in the action plan. The plan should include information about whether the CPA has ever been put on the ballot in Dover and whether there is any interest in pursuing this.

You might also be interested in the fact that MAPC was instrumental in drafting legislation filed by Senator Cynthia Creem (D-Newton) and Representative Stephen Kulik (D-Worthington) to strengthen the financial position of the CPA Trust Fund that provides matching funds to participating cities and towns. A robust trust fund can help communities to pass CPA, since it would provide them with more state money once they adopt. Dover's support for this legislation would be most helpful.

Supporting Agriculture – MetroFuture contains a number of implementation strategies aimed at increasing the role of agriculture in both urban and suburban portions of the region. The Dover Open Space and Recreation Plan does a good job of addressing issues related to the preservation of agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan.

Sincerely,

Marc D. Draisen
Executive Director

Cc: Melissa Cryan, Division of Conservation Services

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Deval Patrick
GOVERNOR

Timothy Murray
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.
SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000
Fax: (617) 626-1181

March 2, 2011

Gino D. Carlucci, Jr.
PGC Associates, Inc.
1 Toni Lane
Franklin, MA 02038-2648

Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. Carlucci:

Thank you for submitting Dover's Open Space and Recreation Plan to this office for review for compliance with the current Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements. I am pleased to write that the plan is approved. This final approval will allow Dover to participate in DCS grant rounds through November 2017.

Congratulations on a great job. Please call me at (617) 626-1171 if you have any questions or concerns about the plan.

Sincerely,

Melissa Cryan
Grants Manager