
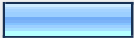

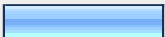
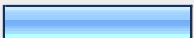
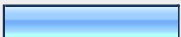
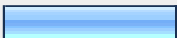
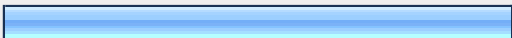



APPENDIX B
SURVEY RESULTS

Norwood Open Space Plan Survey

1. Do you or any members of your household currently use Norwood Recreation Department facilities or programs?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		86.2%	374
No		13.8%	60
answered question			434
skipped question			20

2. Which programs and facilities do you use? Please check all that apply.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Children's programs at the Civic Center		68.8%	262
Adult programs at the Civic Center		17.3%	66
Tennis courts		20.5%	78
Basketball courts		19.2%	73
Fitness area at the Civic Center		18.6%	71
The pools		55.9%	213
The track at Norwood High School		29.9%	114
Other (please specify)			57
answered question			381
skipped question			73

3. Do you or any members of your household currently participate in town-wide athletic activities? If yes, please check all that apply.

	My child or children participate in this program	I am an adult volunteer	Response Count
Little League	99.3% (138)	29.5% (41)	139
Babe Ruth	100.0% (46)	8.7% (4)	46
Norwood Youth Football	97.9% (47)	25.0% (12)	48
Cheerleading	88.9% (16)	27.8% (5)	18
Soccer	99.4% (175)	27.3% (48)	176
Lacrosse	94.5% (52)	14.5% (8)	55
Hockey	100.0% (82)	32.9% (27)	82
Stingrays	100.0% (49)	10.2% (5)	49
Norwood Baskets	95.2% (59)	19.4% (12)	62
Challenge programs	82.4% (14)	23.5% (4)	17
		Other (please specify)	26
		answered question	272
		skipped question	182

4. Please tell us how you feel about recreational facilities for young children (0-5 years old). How satisfied are you with:



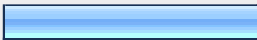
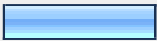
	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Response Count
The number of playgrounds?	27.4% (108)	46.7% (184)	17.8% (70)	6.9% (27)	1.3% (5)	394
The location of playgrounds?	26.0% (101)	48.7% (189)	20.1% (78)	4.6% (18)	0.5% (2)	388
The kinds of play apparatus?	19.4% (76)	42.3% (166)	26.8% (105)	10.5% (41)	1.0% (4)	392
The maintenance and cleanliness of playgrounds?	15.1% (58)	42.7% (164)	29.7% (114)	11.2% (43)	1.3% (5)	384
						answered question
						397
						skipped question
						57

5. Please tell us how frequently you use the playgrounds.						
	Never	1-5 times per year	6-10 times per year	More than 11 times per year	At least once a week	Response Count
How often do you and your children use the playgrounds?	20.6% (83)	17.4% (70)	15.7% (63)	25.1% (101)	21.1% (85)	402
	<i>answered question</i>					402
	<i>skipped question</i>					52

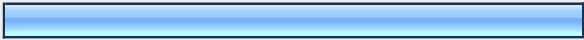
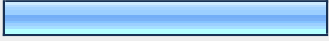
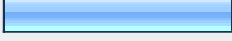


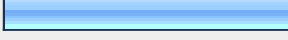

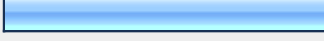
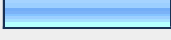
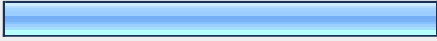

6. Please tell us how you feel about our sports fields for school-aged children (6-17). How satisfied are you with:						
	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Response Count
The number of sports fields?	14.5% (55)	42.1% (160)	26.1% (99)	14.2% (54)	3.2% (12)	380
The location of sports fields?	13.9% (52)	50.7% (189)	27.6% (103)	6.7% (25)	1.1% (4)	373
The types of sports fields?	13.5% (51)	41.2% (156)	27.4% (104)	14.2% (54)	3.7% (14)	379
The maintenance and cleanliness of sports fields?	10.9% (40)	34.5% (127)	26.6% (98)	20.1% (74)	7.9% (29)	368
	<i>answered question</i>					383
	<i>skipped question</i>					71

7. Please tell us how frequently you use the sports fields.						
	Never	1-5 times per year	5-10 times per year	More than 10 times per year	At least once a week	Response Count
How often do your children use the sports fields?	23.3% (94)	8.2% (33)	6.2% (25)	23.8% (96)	38.6% (156)	404
	<i>answered question</i>					404
	<i>skipped question</i>					50

8. In 2002 the Town hired Gale Associates to prepare a Norwood Athletic Field Master Plan for the revitalization and redevelopment of its athletic fields. The Master Plan recommended 28 high quality fields (a net increase of four new fields). Some of the recommendations have been accomplished while others remain to be done. The plan also recommended an increase from 4 to 8 full time staff dedicated to field maintenance year-round and an additional 2-3 part time staff. Do you support the Gale Report recommendations on increasing staffing levels to maintain 28 high quality athletic fields?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, I support the staffing recommendations.		46.4%	201
No, I don't support the staffing recommendations.		9.5%	41
I would support a smaller increase in staff.		27.7%	120
Don't know/no opinion.		16.4%	71
		answered question	433
		skipped question	21

9. What are your major concerns regarding the town's recreational facilities? Mark all that apply.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Maintenance in general.		64.0%	261
Trash collection.		35.5%	145
Pruning/clearing/mowing.		25.0%	102
Vandalism/graffiti.		35.5%	145
Accessibility for people with physical disabilities.		14.2%	58
Dogs (clean up/disturb others).		31.4%	128
Limits on use - hours or other restrictions.		17.6%	72
Nuisance wildlife like geese.		35.3%	144
Game lines/field markings.		18.1%	74
Condition of equipment and structures.		47.8%	195
Adequacy of parking.		41.9%	171

	<i>answered question</i>	408
	<i>skipped question</i>	46

10. If you are dissatisfied with a particular aspect of Norwood's recreational facilities, please tell us what the problem is.		
		Response Count
		160
	<i>answered question</i>	160
	<i>skipped question</i>	294

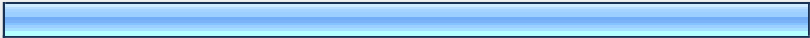

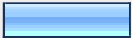

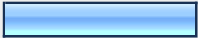

11. Should the Town act first to maintain its current recreational facilities, acquire more recreational land for new facilities, or should there be an equal emphasis on both?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Maintain current recreation areas.		41.5%	179
Acquire new recreation land.		10.7%	46
Equal emphasis on both.		43.4%	187
No opinion.		4.4%	19
		<i>answered question</i>	431
		<i>skipped question</i>	23

12. Please check the TOP FIVE recreational facilities you feel are needed in Norwood. Please check only five.

	This is one of my top five choices	Response Count
Walking/jogging paths (gentle slopes)	100.0% (224)	224
Hiking/cross-country skiing trails (steeper slopes)	100.0% (49)	49
Non-motorized bike trail	100.0% (110)	110
Tot lots for young children (0-5 years old)	100.0% (81)	81
Playgrounds for older children (6-17 years old)	100.0% (128)	128
Outdoor basketball courts	100.0% (67)	67
Outdoor playing fields for soccer, football, baseball, etc.	100.0% (150)	150
Public boat launch/access (non-motorized boats)	100.0% (49)	49
Fishing areas	100.0% (38)	38
Community gardens	100.0% (72)	72
Skateboard/inline skating park	100.0% (33)	33
Indoor swimming pool	100.0% (267)	267
Outdoor swimming pool	100.0% (55)	55
Indoor ice skating rink	100.0% (148)	148
Outdoor ice skating rink	100.0% (59)	59
Indoor tennis courts	100.0% (28)	28
Outdoor tennis courts	100.0% (28)	28
Dog park	100.0% (67)	67
Hockey rink	100.0% (82)	82
Access to the Neponset River	100.0% (78)	78
Indoor track	100.0% (56)	56
A spray park at Father Mac's pool	100.0% (73)	73

Picnic areas	100.0% (68)	68
	<i>answered question</i>	442
	<i>skipped question</i>	12

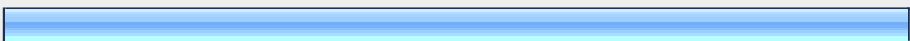
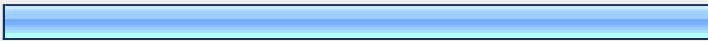

13. Do you have any ideas for improving recreational facilities in Norwood?		
		Response Count
		105
	<i>answered question</i>	105
	<i>skipped question</i>	349

14. Do you or any members of your household use Norwood Conservation Land for any of the following activities? Please check all that apply.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Walking		88.8%	182
Canoe launch		8.3%	17
Picnicking		13.7%	28
Fishing		17.6%	36
Biking		21.0%	43
Bird watching/enjoying nature		26.8%	55
	Other (please specify)		33
	<i>answered question</i>		205
	<i>skipped question</i>		249

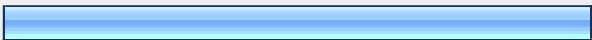


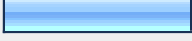
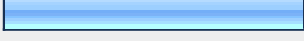
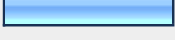
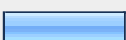
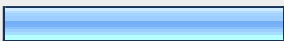

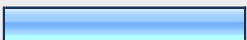
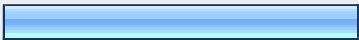

15. Please tell us how you feel about the town's conservation areas.

	I don't know where this property is.	I am aware of this property but I have never been there.	I have been to this property and I liked it.	I have been to this property and did not like it.	Response Count
Endean Conservation Land	47.3% (181)	23.8% (91)	26.6% (102)	2.3% (9)	383
Ellis Pond	18.2% (70)	33.9% (130)	43.2% (166)	4.7% (18)	384
La Salle Conservation Land	85.1% (320)	11.7% (44)	2.1% (8)	1.1% (4)	376
University Avenue Conservation Land	63.5% (235)	29.2% (108)	4.3% (16)	3.0% (11)	370
Bade Canoe Launch	83.4% (316)	14.0% (53)	2.4% (9)	0.3% (1)	379
Fortune Drive Lot	82.0% (305)	13.4% (50)	2.2% (8)	2.4% (9)	372
Hawes Brook Park	19.9% (75)	19.7% (74)	53.2% (200)	7.2% (27)	376
Hennessey Field	41.4% (155)	28.6% (107)	24.9% (93)	5.1% (19)	374
Allendale Property	75.1% (280)	17.2% (64)	5.9% (22)	1.9% (7)	373
Shattuck Park	20.5% (79)	23.6% (91)	45.1% (174)	10.9% (42)	386
Vanderbilt Land	65.2% (245)	27.9% (105)	4.3% (16)	2.7% (10)	376
Alevizos Land	84.8% (317)	12.3% (46)	1.6% (6)	1.3% (5)	374
	<i>answered question</i>				402
	<i>skipped question</i>				52

16. From the above list, please indicate your three most favorite areas.

		Response Percent	Response Count
#1		100.0%	185
#2		77.8%	144
#3		53.5%	99
	<i>answered question</i>		185
	<i>skipped question</i>		269

17. What are your major concerns regarding the town's open space and conservation areas? Mark all that apply.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Maintenance in general.		64.8%	219
Trash collection.		44.1%	149
Pruning/clearing/mowing.		35.8%	121
Invasive plants.		20.4%	69
Vandalism/graffiti.		32.8%	111
Disturbance of wildlife habitat.		18.3%	62
Accessibility for people with physical disabilities.		13.0%	44
Dogs (clean up/disturb others).		30.8%	104
Limits on use - hours or other restrictions.		10.1%	34
Nuisance wildlife like geese.		26.3%	89
Condition of paths.		39.1%	132
Adequacy of parking.		27.2%	92
		answered question	338
		skipped question	116

18. Do you have any ideas for improving open space and conservation lands in Norwood?

		Response Count
		99
		answered question
		99
		skipped question
		355

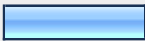

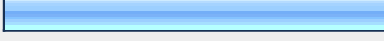
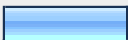

19. How important is it for the Town to acquire open space and conservation areas? Please check one.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Not at all important		5.2%	21
Less important		8.4%	34
Neutral		15.6%	63
Somewhat important		27.2%	110
Very important		42.0%	170
No opinion		1.7%	7
<i>answered question</i>			405
<i>skipped question</i>			49

20. How much would you, as a taxpayer, be willing to spend on a yearly basis to support open space and recreation improvements?

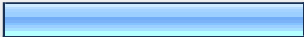
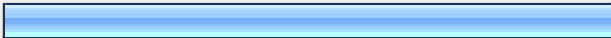
		Response Percent	Response Count
Up to \$20/year		16.5%	62
\$21-\$40/year		15.4%	58
\$41-\$60/year		22.6%	85
\$61-\$80/year		6.1%	23
\$81-\$100/year		31.4%	118
Other amount		1.9%	7
I am not old enough to pay taxes.		1.1%	4
I am not the primary taxpayer in my household.		5.1%	19
Other (please specify)			33
<i>answered question</i>			376
<i>skipped question</i>			78

21. How do you feel about having a small, yearly property tax surcharge under the Community Preservation Act (CPA) as a way of funding open space, conservation and recreation land and facilities? Adoption of the Community Preservation Act enables the Town to access matching funds from the state.

		Response Percent	Response Count
I am opposed.		15.3%	62
I am in favor.		27.1%	110
My support depends on how much the yearly surcharge would be.		42.1%	171
I don't know enough about the Community Preservation Act to decide but I would like to know more.		13.3%	54
No opinion.		2.2%	9
answered question			406
skipped question			48

22. What methods should the town consider for funding open space and recreation improvements? For the following categories of improvements, please check which funding sources you think the town should use.

	Existing town funds	New tax revenues from the CPA	Town bonding	State and federal grants	Private donations	User fees	Sale of advertising	Response Count
Acquisition of new land for parks	21.4% (65)	30.9% (94)	14.1% (43)	71.7% (218)	58.2% (177)	12.2% (37)	22.0% (67)	304
Acquisition of new land for open space	23.5% (68)	31.1% (90)	14.2% (41)	67.5% (195)	55.7% (161)	9.3% (27)	18.7% (54)	289
Construction of new recreational facilities	35.2% (108)	29.0% (89)	16.9% (52)	62.2% (191)	59.6% (183)	31.6% (97)	33.2% (102)	307
Maintenance of the parks	68.9% (213)	22.3% (69)	8.1% (25)	35.6% (110)	33.7% (104)	15.9% (49)	20.7% (64)	309
Maintenance of open space	63.2% (191)	22.5% (68)	7.9% (24)	38.4% (116)	41.1% (124)	12.6% (38)	19.9% (60)	302
answered question								340
skipped question								114

23. What is your gender?			Response Percent	Response Count
Male			32.9%	130
Female			67.1%	265
			answered question	395
			skipped question	59

24. Including yourself, how many in your household are in the following age-groups?									
	0	1	2	3	4	5	Other	Response Count	
0-5 years old	28.6% (52)	39.6% (72)	28.0% (51)	3.3% (6)	0.5% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	182	
6-17 years old	8.9% (24)	28.9% (78)	42.2% (114)	17.0% (46)	3.0% (8)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	270	
18-45 years old	6.3% (19)	25.3% (76)	64.0% (192)	3.0% (9)	1.0% (3)	0.3% (1)	0.0% (0)	300	
45-65 years old	14.8% (29)	29.1% (57)	53.6% (105)	2.0% (4)	0.5% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	196	
Over 65 years old	60.4% (55)	17.6% (16)	19.8% (18)	2.2% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	91	
								answered question	401
								skipped question	53

25. Please check the category that most closely describes your household.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Single adult living alone.		4.2%	16
Single adult sharing living quarters.		1.0%	4
Single parent with children at home.		5.2%	20
Young couple with no children.		3.4%	13
Young couple with children at home.		65.5%	252
Couple with children no longer at home.		7.0%	27
Senior couple (over 65).		3.4%	13
Senior living alone (over 65).		1.0%	4
Other.		9.4%	36
		Other (please specify)	51
		<i>answered question</i>	385
		<i>skipped question</i>	69

26. What is your voting district?

		Response Percent	Response Count
District 1- The Oldham School		11.1%	44
District 2- The Oldham School		9.8%	39
District 3- The Civic Center		10.6%	42
District 4- The Cleveland School		18.9%	75
District 5- The Civic Center		3.8%	15
District 6- The Balch School		10.4%	41
District 7- The Balch School		12.6%	50
District 8- The Callahan School		7.3%	29
District 9- The Prescott School		13.4%	53
I am not old enough to vote.		0.3%	1
I don't know/don't vote.		1.8%	7
		answered question	396
		skipped question	58

27. If you would like the Town to contact you about public meetings related to the open space plan, please provide us with contact information. You do not need to fill out any of these questions.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Name:		88.5%	54
Address:		82.0%	50
Address 2:		14.8%	9
Email Address:		96.7%	59
Phone Number:		68.9%	42
		answered question	61
		skipped question	393

Question 2: Which programs and facilities do you use?

I don't use it but I don't believe the track at the high school belongs to the Rec Department

Bond Street Park

Pleasant Street Park

Outdoor basketball courts at the North/Savage

Fr. Mac's summer camp

Soccer Fields

Adult Golf Clinic at Norwood CC

mom and tots group in gym

Challenger League programs

We did use pre-school classes when g'kids were younger

fields at Coakley Middle School

Other Special events at Civic Center, not part of the current schedule.

Baseball Fields, Soccer Fields

The Playground and Challenger Camps

none

Playgrounds

Coakley football fields. All baseball fields

wight room at civic

Dance at the civic

the playground--Father Macs

Attends meetings at Civic Center

we use none of the programs or facilities.

floor hockey

hockey (Norwood Nuggets)

Mom & Tot's Cooperative

hockey program

NONE

playgrounds

Ball Fields

Playgrounds, Hawes Pond Area

The soccer fields at Fr. Mac's, Oldham School, Callahan School, and the lower & upper fields at the Coakley Middle School complex.

Soccer fields

Youth sports in town

i don't use any of the programs and facilities

Parks

library and adult ed

Soccer fields

Playgrounds

Norwood Baseball

golf lessons at Norwood Country club

football @CMS

Lacrosse @Oldham, Callahan

Soccer @ CMS, Callahan

gym for moms & tots, floor hockey, concerts, holiday things.

soccer and football fields, baseball fields

Will be using the Civic Art Room as a meeting room for a 4-H club I'm leading

soccer and football fields

fr. mac's

soccer fields

Though not currently, I have used the Children's and adult programs at the Civic and the pools.

Norwood Day

All the basketball gyms in all the schools

Soccer Fields

Play grounds at hawes and father macs

youth soccer field for son and idle sports fields for dog (as there is no more suitable area in the town for exercising pets)

soccer, football, and baseball fields

walking the small area at Ellis Pond

Playgrounds/Tot Lots

Indoor pools at Westwood and Dedham

Murphy Field

Baseball facilities

Question 10: If you are dissatisfied with a particular aspect of Norwood's recreational facilities, please tell us what the problem is.

the geese are making a mess of everything .it is so hard for people with little ones that are learning to walk ..you can not put them down.for fear of fall in the gooes poop !!! it is in the soccer field .we need to do something about it .all the parent at scool are talking about how bad it is .it gets stuck in the soccer cleats i have to take my son off befor he gets in the car

I have an issue w/ the fields the Girl's Lacrosse program has to practice & play on. The back 'meadow' at the Ellis is a step up from before, but it's embarassing that the girls have to practice here. It may make sense to alternate weeks or years & let the girls practice here, then swap practice fields w/ the boys' program. Also, the game field at the Callahan is a safety hazard due to ruts & craters. Several ot the officials & other coaches have commented on these, & there have been several injuries & turned ankles.

What can be done ???

lack of bathrooms

limited summer hours for the pools

there are lovely, much nicer playgrounds in Westwood

the need to keep trash barrels at the playgrounds seems like september comes and they take away the trash barrels too early.

Soccer Fields at Middle School are in dire need of upgrade and I realize it is part of plan

As a town we seem to spend an inordinate amount of time and effort manicuring baseball fields using town employees, while our soccer program (900 kids) and our football program (300) play on what amounts to asphalt down at the coakley. The diparity in time and effort is obvious, and it is a joke. how

The soccer fields obviously need lots of work...

I would also like the grounds crew to clean up the hazards like broken boards and piles of junk around and near Kelly/Wall fields. There are loads of boards with nails in the them just sitting out, it's only a matter of time before someone gets hurt.

Also it would be nice if they grass clipping were not composted in the same around, on certain days the smell of rotting grass is overwhelming. Doherty field is a mess, the amount of geese dropping is absolutely disgusting. Same with the play area at Hayes Pool, the geese have made a huge mess.

I love the town pools, but continue to be frustrated with the cleanliness of the bathrooms - they are gross, from the beginning of the summer to the end! They look as if they are never cleaned.

I take my children to the Tot Lot on Bond Street on a weekly basis. The condition of the structures is a hazard. The see- saw is broken, the tire swing is going to come crashing down on someone's head and the little duck has been broken all summer. The other issue is trying to keep teenagers out. They use the equipment and break alot of it. I will stop bringing my children there if things don't improve.

As a newcomer to the city with two small kids, I am missing some stuff for the little ones to do. Perhaps a welcome packet with the different playgrounds that are public. Also there are not a lot of stuff for boys under the age of 5 to do in the fall, as far as the activities goes.

trash collection at tot lot.....some items are broken and hazardous to children

1. safety of apparatus, specifically at Bond Street park, the wooden structure has wide gaps on the railings that children could easily fall through.
2. Swing set at Winslow street park was taken down and never replaced, leaving the structure that is unable to be utilized by area children.

The fields behind the Coakley are overused and poorly maintained. The ruts and holes in the fields present a safety hazard to the children who use them.

Trash collection and trash barrel availability.

Would be great to have an indoor pool so that kids could take lessons during the year and adults could swim during the winter. Also, the outdoor pools are in need of repair and could use longer hours.

There is no way to tell when a field is open for neighbors to use. If we bring our child to a baseball field to practice batting, fielding, or just have fun throwing a football, we are frequently disappointed when we arrive to discover that it is being used by a local team. It seems that access is only for teams, not spontaneous play. This is very difficult for families like mine who have a special needs child who is not able to join teams who play FREQUENTLY. Yes, he plays challenger sports, but once a week is not enough sports play for him. Most Norwood boys are playing baseball or other sports almost every day. Also, why is the Challenger League relegated to using Father Mac's field for practices every year? It is a horrible field, poorly maintained and the bottom of the barrel. It sends a message to special needs families that our kids come last as far as the town is concerned.

The playgrounds need to be better equipped for picnic tables for when parents would like to go to the playground and have lunch in a well-equipped and safe area.

Pool tags

greater control of noise/lights late at night when field abuts a neighborhood

Fields that are on School Property for multi-users there is nobody designated for trash removal and the landscaping is not maintained.

Babe Ruth fields are used by other schools EX:

xaverian we pay for our son to play and practice Babe Ruth baseball and it is frustrating when other teams are occupying the field We need more Babe Ruth fields for Norwood

I'm a parent of two swimmers and very involved in the Stingrays program as well as Dedham Clippers. I'd really like to see some focus on the Norwood Swimming program - management, pools, availability etc. I'd like to see the emphasis/energy be mirrored like soccer, baseball and football in Norwood!

The most pressing concern is the lack of an indoor pool in Norwood. Secondly, I am continually frustrated that the rec department offers very little programming for children whose parents are working. I would appreciate at least some options for those of us who are working until 5pm.

bathroom facilities

geese droppings - unhealthy for kids

I think there should be public access to Willett Pond. I know that's not a town-owned facility, but I still believe it is important to the town.

.swimming pools changing room could certainly do with a new makeover because during the summer you want your child to have a nice environment to change in especially with all those kids who take swimming lessons there and all the kids who come through at the Day Camps I love the swimings and the camps. It would be wonderful to see this.

The condition of many rectangular fields has been very poor. The main-level fields at the Coakley are pretty bad (But the newly seeded upper field, and the lower fields are OK). And last spring (last I used it), the field at the Callahan was mostly dirt & gravel. And in the fall in particular, there is a crunch for space for soccer, when darkness sets in and the Coakley is the only facility with lights. I think one problem is that the main Coakley fields just get too much use to grow grass very well. Converting these to artificial turf fields, or building some other lighted, rectangular fields to take the pressure of these might help.

I would like Town/Taxpayer money spent on redoing the high school before I see another field redone. I feel my daughters education & ability to get into college is far more important than having a field redone or kept up better.

The fields sometimes are very muddy...need more grass upkeep. The playgrounds could use more equipment.

The lack of maintenance of clean restrooms around the pools.

football field you need to make them better

Lack of girl's softball fields-girl's are forced to use baseball fields which do not play the same way a softball field does. Also, there are NO girl's lacrosse fields in this town. There are no areas for passive recreation-hiking, snowshoeing etc

NO INDOOR POOL

Front desk staff to be courteous and understanding

If people have an issues with dogs in the sports fields, then a dog park needs to be opened. We pick up after ours, and those that don't should get a \$100 fine if caught.

Doherty Field playground needs to be updated.

The soccer/football fields at Coakley are an embarrassment. This is amplified when you travel to neighboring communities and see the quality fields they have or at the least what they are entitled to use ie their high school fields.

The lay out is difficult for people with mobility problems at the Coakly Middle School. There is no Handicapped parking near the fields.

Not alot of Softball fields

Need more facilities

Need synthetic turf fields

The fields at the Prescott School are in disrepair and need some attention.
No walking trails. It would be nice to have something like bird park in Walple or Rocky Woods in Medfield. Norwood is over built. It is starting to look like a city. Open space and parks are great to have. Please no more baseball fields. No more car dealerships or apartments.

The high school track is in very poor condition. The surface is extremely hard, and there isn't much resistance. In addition, the sprinkler system at the football field isn't programmed correctly, and the track is often watered instead of the grass. This

occurred many times during this past summer, and

was a huge waste of taxpayers' money, as well as

presented a potential danger to runners and walkers who were using the track. A runner or walker may not expect that a track would be soaking wet on a very hot sunny summer day.

The ground near the bubbler, at Father Macs, doesn't drain properly. A few years ago, someone slipped in the mud, and broke an ankle because the

ground cover under the grass was so saturated with water. The problem has never been corrected and still poses a potential hazard, especially to young children who attend the Father Macs' camp in the summer time.

Not enough police patrols at night to prevent vandalism of basketball and tennis courts

pools need to be updated

the soccer fields behind the coakley are dangerous. Not enough grass and kids slip in the mud when it rains. Also, the grading is very bumpy. The fields in the "way" back are fine except they could be mowed more often.

It is absolutely ridiculous that Norwood High does not have lights to host evening sporting and cultural events. I'm told this is because of opposition by nearby residents and support of the position by our selectmen. The high school is a public resource is badly under-utilized. I feel like its neighbors get the benefit of my tax dollars to keep the facility clean and attractive on the outside but my family, kids and their friends don't get full and comparable use of it.

There is no recreation facilities on my side of norwood. We are by the airport area. We could use a recreation facility in our area. There are many children in our neighborhood.

Wilson St.- parking and danger of children being hit by fly balls while they play on equipment.

Playground equipment ALL out in full sun- gets hot and could burn youngsters bare legs

Need shade over equipment and drinking fountain

Need upkeep of soccer fields (all dust or mud)

Need scheduled field use for practice for softball and baseball rather than have coaches and teams driving around looking for empty field on a given night

at a selectmen's mtg, Mr. Miller stated all fields/playgrounds had toilet facilities- THEY DO NOT should not allow one group/person to control concession stand

eliminated tennis courts at Willett School and never replaced- have confusing, incomprehensible

rules posted on Coakley Tennis Courts

People from other towns use the courts- not supervised

Coakley courts are only ones with lights and shouldn't be booked for Mon, Tue, Wed nights in season to the Nor Tenn Assoc- they have members from other towns and prohibit Nor residents from playing

The soccer fields are so over used they are like playing on dirt and rocks. I don't blame personnel as there is nothing that the staff could do to make grass grow in an over used field. The fields should be artificial surface like many towns have. It would be cheaper in the long run. Don't be penny wise and pound foolish.

Field #7 behind the pool. That is embarrassing having other towns have to go back there for soccer games. The soccer field is disgusting. Go visit any other town around and look at their fields. they are beautiful and ours is in horribble shape. I've had coaches from other towns say that our fields are dangerous for the kids because it's all hard dirt and on hot days it flies around in everyone's eyes. This is a disgrace to our town. We spend more time on the baseball fields and no time on the soccer fields.

Upgrade playground on Brewster Drive.

Pool hours are limited. Pool is not always very clean.

The youth soccer fields need help and we need a hockey rink!!!

The bond street playground needs to be updated.
Norwood needs a hockey rink

The town needs an Ice rink. The two pools are in disrepair. There should be one year round indoor pool.

The Coakley School parking is extremely difficult when there activities up there. Sometimes there can be baseball, soccer and a dance recital all going on up there and the parking is impossible. Even at youth football if there is more than one game going on the spots seem to fill up quickly.

The fields behind the Coakley Middle School are a disgrace, I know money is tight but most of them are in sad shape.

Certain areas of town, the Prescott district do not have any fields or playgrounds (town sponsored)

the fields never get a chance to recover due to the heavy use. coakley fields have little grass

parking is a real problem, particularly at the Coakley.

the equipment at the tot lot is old and needs to be maintained better. I often hear other moms ask if the tire swing is safe and comment that the equipment should be checked and maintained more often.

bond street tot lot has very dangerous structures- daughter has fallen off of bridge, as have others

need an indoor pool

I dislike having to walk through the goose poop or worse yet have the kids playing on a field with it. Adequate parking and safe access at the middle school is also a concern. I am extremely pleased with the quality of playground equipment at the Prescott, but other playgrounds seem to have far less extensive and older equipment in place.

The lower soccer field at the CMS is poorly located, and poorly maintained. There is no hockey rink in Norwood and the fee to play hockey in Norwood is too high.

Field conditions are a huge concern. Compared to many other towns in Massachusetts, our field conditions pale in comparison.

Safety of playgrounds. Tot lot equipment is old and unsafe for the young users and other playgrounds do not seem maintained.

I think the playground on Brewster St, Doherty field is dangerous and needs updating

I completely understand that we have too few fields for the number of programs requiring field space. The primary field with the most usage (Coakley) is in deplorable condition, and without a plan to use other space, I do not see how that field will ever recover.

The number of rectangle size fields that have not been upgraded is a shame. The timeline of reconstruction of fields in the Gale report is not being followed. The only trimming of overgrown limbs and small trees has been performed by volunteer groups. The areas outside of Fr. Mac's fences and the along the fence on the Lower Coakley field should be trimmed each year on a regular basis and not allowed to get out of control. The drainage issues at Fr. Mac's are not being addressed in a common sense and effective manner. When the piecemeal efforts do arrive they always come right before the start of the fall sports season.

The Norwood Soccer/Football Fields still need help. There are two ball fields in dire need of repair at the Prescott. There needs to be more green area for the kids to play the Balch. Most of the basketball hoops and nets outside the school are absolutely awful. Some kids don't participate in town sports but they do use the fields to play and every school area should be open to play after school and weekends with out someone flying through a parking lot or some older kids ruining the area.

Not enough rectangular fields for the number of users. Coakley fields are in such poor shape they are a safety hazard

there seems to be an overabundance of fields & programs. with the recent flood of bad economic news, i fear norwood will find it hard to maintain fields and support programs.

QWe need an indoor pool!

Would be nice to be able and schedule baseball field time for practices.

There isn't enough parking anywhere

The fields are not well maintained and marked.

the "tot lot" is UNSAFE!!! It's really for ages 5+

we have to drive to westwood to find a safe park for a toddler

The soccer fields are not in that great of shape.

there are no dog parks and the park near my house i cannot even walk my leashed dog through--even when very few people use it. i have to go to neighboring towns to use a park.

The soccer fields at the Coakley are all dirt and no grass. On some days it is a dust bowl or a mud bowl

NORWOOD NEEDS AN ICE RINK!

Bond Street Tot Lot has a few pieces of equipment that are broken.

Not enough tennis courts...high school courts are in poor shape! Soccer - not enough,

limiting parking on street...living next to a field we understand the importance of this temporary inconvenience

There should be a skate park. There should be small storage structure at both play camps, FM & south for staff to store equipment and first aid.

There is no outdoor recreational facilities for older adults ie walking, biking or running trails

I would really appreciate bathroom facilities available like those at the Oldham School. A portable would be expensive I realise, but would make life much easier on parents.

Parking at the Coakley is HORRID

I do not think there are enough baseball fields, Team practice in particular. My son played on a 7 year old team last year and never had a field to practice on. Never.

After traveling to other towns it is dissappointing to see that we have no turf fields in town and the grass fields we have are used so frequently it is difficult to maintain grass for very long

there needs to be a playground at the Callahan School.

The entire emphasis seems to be on sports.

Civic center is very small.

The current Tot Lot on Bond Street is in need of a serious makeover. The equipment is older and in some cases broken or worn down. I am particularly concerned with the bridge on this plaground. The bars are much too wide and are not able to contain small children. I have myself witnessed accidents at this playground and I think it should be a priority as it is centrally located in the town.

NO indoor pool

soccer fields are low priority. baseball is given first priority for care and new fields

Lack of a sufficient amount of quality fields

pool bathrooms and tot lot bathrooms are always smelly.

more permanent bathrooms at the heavily used locations, Coakley and Balch

Staff not friendly at all. They have to show courtesy to the residents. After all we pay their wages/salaries!

We need an indoor pool for swim team and rec year round

The Bond Street Tot Lot is in a sad state of disrepair.

Bond street playground is just plain dangerous

Balls Bounce on Cars at Willet Babe Ruth Field - Poor Back Stop, No bleachers at this field; Not enough bathroom facilities - Balch facilities not always open, drinking fountain doesn't work

Fr Macs soccer field is a problem when it rains.

The fields are not properly maintained. Sometimes the grass is too long. Other times the fields are too dusty. Both conditions can be hazardous to children playing on the fields.

The Bond Street playground needs more mulch/sand to cover the base of the slide.

Some of the equipment at the Bond Street Lot needs to be repaired/replaced.

Not dissatisfied - suggestion - Would it be possible to have an additional after school/kids center at the Civic? The area could have places to play sports/exercise and some Wii game systems to keep the kids active and moving.

Lack of shade at Bond St

Consider adding recycling containers -- lots of plastic containers are ending up in the trash

The baseball fields are generally atrocious. Even the Oldham which was done over is not maintained. The red clay is so hard that it injures the kids who dare slide. The grass is non-existent at the Prescott, no trash cans. The Willet baseball field is too small.

not at all dissatisfied - my major concerns (above) are that they are kept up at the current levels which are great

Hawes Pool Area for Stingrays - restrooms are deplorable; no lacrosse field for younger girls (U12) to use. My daughter practiced last spring on an unmarked field down off Ellis Street. Where do the boys practice?? This sport could easily grow successful for Norwood girls given the chance to practice on legitimate fields, not just the boys.

i very rarely see any cleaning of the playgrounds or fields. the leafs are piling up and should be collected. i called with this request last year for fr Mac's playground to no avail. "No dogs allowed" sinage should be put up on all parks and playgrounds why should the play area have dog crap in it. people should be fined for not picking up after animals.

My no support for the staffing plan is based on the lack of an detail about what these staff members would do. Maybe using a private vendor would be a much less expensive approach.

More "girl" oriented sport fields/time.

I don't particularly like that the soccer fields in Norwood take a back seat to baseball and football.

Charging for the use of pools.

We have used the pools for years, and the pools themselves are fine but the changing and bathroom facilities are absolutely disgusting and a disgrace, especially considering how much the cost of pool tags has increased, it is awful to have bathroom facilities that are dirty and gross and haven't been painted in many years. But Daily maitenance is the most important, and honestly I am totally disgusted by the state of the bathroom facilities, they are awful and dirty. Also, we use Hennesey Field on Cross St, there should be more hiking and walking areas, but this should be maintained, there are huge amounts of broken glass here, my daughter and her father and I have done clean ups ourselves but it is a very daunting task, there is so much broken glass

I feel that you loose a lot of patrons by not having an early am opening at the civic center. Most area gyms open by 5 am to accomadate the working crowd. I know many people who do not use the civic because the hours are unaccomidating. You should open earlier and close earlier. Also the Balch field is embarrassing. All fields in town have the wrong infield gravel. Surfaces are too hard and it tears the kids up. Also, the fields in general -bleachers and fencing are horrible. Bent fences at little league field complex are in dangerous shape at the bottom. Also bleachers at Kelly, Wall and Wilson street are on the verge of collapse. Also, no seating at Willett is a nusience. You also need a new parking design at Wilson street. It is an accident waiting to happen.

repair tennis courts pavements

open space, as once discussed

mill pond

clean park, in area

Coakley Middle School field is a disaster

I live in the prescott school area and there a 2 fields at the prescott that need some tlc.. the oldham is great and kelly is great. keep in mind these are the only fileds I know.. we had practices at shattuck and that needs help to.. we went to the mansfield base ball tournament and their set was great.. 6 fields in a circle and the same with the soccer fields.. all in the same area.. so people with mulitple kids can catch more than one game.. it's the mansfield little league complex it can be viewed on line.

Flooding after rain, or lack of drainage after rain on outdoor fields.

Inadequate parking, especially when there is more 1 event going on at a particular location. (i.e. the Coakley Middle school events and sporting events)

The play grounds could be more modern.

The tennis courts at Norwood High are a disgrace. I can't believe that a sealer was not used to cure the cracks so that grass does not grow and so that freezing does not cause further damage. The nets are not maintained either. Penny wise and pound foolish.

Graffiti and cleanliness

I would like to see them better maintained, I hate to see this beautiful open space become an eyesore or a place we feel unsafe to go to.

Our soccer fields pale in comparison to other towns. We play on dirt! The fence at the Coakley field is also falling down and the kids hang on it and play on it like it's a jungle gym. The upper field looks great though now that it's been done. A football score board would also help, as we play teams that use high school or college facilities.

I BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE STANDS FOR THE FANS AT THE WILLETTE (SP?)

A INDOOR POOL THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN BUILT YEARS AGO.

I wish the pool in the summer was open longer hours, especially in the evenings and on weekend mornings (when working people can use it. Most importantly, we should have an indoor swimming pool for adult lap swimming, water aerobics, lessons and Stingrays and High School Swim Team! It is a shame that such a progressive town as Norwood let the swimming pool plans lapse after they gave it up with the Hospital and never replaced it. It would be a vital part of our community,

Zero adult softball fields- backstops at the Coakley on terrible baseball/softball fields- either remove the backstops or fix the fields. More dirt and weeds on soccer fields than grass.

Football and baseball get nice, new fields -- the soccer programs get dirt (literally)
I wish there were more activities for single adults, especially those with physical and mental health disabilities to socialize and have fun at low cost. I wish there was an indoor pool.

maintenance of soccer/football fields-not safe because of rocks and debris

dogs and dogs using the playground equipment

1. Tennis Courts need trees pruned around fencing, cracks forming @ CMS, and getting worse. The HS courts are unusable due to lack of maintenance

2. Soccer fields at CMS are not always mown

The fields are over-used and the worst are those used for multiple sports are the worst (Coakley -- football and soccer or Oldham -- lacrosse and soccer). Poor goals (fixed posts) with dangerous netting. No lighting at Fr. Mac's. The field usage is so heavy that town needs to invest in multiple field turf fields.

By using the Coakley fields for football and soccer the fields tend to be in extremely poor shape. Norwood needs to rehab the Coakley fields and use them strictly for football while finding a suitable location for the intramural and travel soccer programs. I would like the town to evaluate the cost of building new fields with artificial turf rather than natural turf. Would the overall cost of maintaining natural turf fields be more expensive over a ten year time period than the cost of building and maintaining artificial turf fields.

Trash is a large problem. More trash containers (recycle) would be good. Higher fees for those using the fields to clean up after every use. Emphasize to users that trash is not acceptable

soccer fields are in rough shape

The tot lot playground has several broken pieces as well as the unmaintained skate park (at least I think it's a skate park). Also, the junior high north has tons of trash issues, especially near the basketball court.

no walking or biking paths, mostly sports-related facilities

Not enough youth (13-17) activities- Where do the kids go?

cleanliness of fitness center, dust, dirt, too many machines too close together.

We need bus trips to six flags, duxbury beach, ski trips, canobie lake for the teens- roller blading or a teen club for friday and saturday nights

not used by children when no games

Empty fields when

Not "dissatisfied" but would like a little bit more attention to the fields and parks. Father Macs is very messy (field, park, pool) after the daily camps in the summer.

Men's Sauna in Civic Center is filthy and dangerous. Floorboards have dangerous splinters benches have exposed nails. I have mentioned to staff with no improvement. Board of Health should be notified. Summer hours are too limited for Fitness Center.

The taking away from one group and giving to another because they want it.

Question 13 : Do you have any ideas for improving recreational facilities in Norwood?

Increase fees and have them dedicated to the fields. Also, look at the potential for advertising revenues on outfield fences. Shattuck Park should be upgraded with paved walkways, passive green areas and possible tot lots/playgrounds.

More police patrol during games and off hours to discourage vandalism and field misuse as well as excessive speeding.

Add additional shade trees, crosswalks and fencing in high traffic park areas for safety.

Encourage people to take pride in the community that they live in. Hold a contest for students that are willing to raise money or get street trees donated by local retailers. The shade trees for the playgrounds can be dedicated to a graduating class of children / young adults. Investing pride in the facilities will help to discourage vandalism. Parents should obviously take an active role in this and let kids know that these facilities are there for all of us to use and NOT abuse since it is our money and hard work that has gone into it.

Basically, give young kids a chance to have an active role in building or contributing to these facilities.

the tot lot on bond street i love it for the little ones .but it is getting so DANGER . the wood is breaking the screws are all falling out .some one is going to get hurt

I'm against a spray park at Fr. Mac's. The town should be spending to maintain both pools & parks equally. If the problems at Fr Mac's are serious enough, let's close it down, even if it's just temporarily. I'd like to see these problems corrected before we take on any new services listed iin #12 above. Also, this survey relates to Recreation services. The town can't look at recreation only due to cash problems in the town. If it comes down to spending on rec.& safety (for instance), someone needs to prioritize what the town offers us.

A dog park at Shattuck park-

older 6-12 years/playground

public gardens would be lovely

More adequate parking would be great as well as fields that aren't used for two or more sports (like at the Coakley where there is a baseball field on the football/soccer field)

general cleanliness at the playgrounds is excellent. you do a good job there.

Look at what Westwood and Walpole are doing for rec items,,,,,they offer some great programs

Dogs should not be allowed at Father Mac's.

I would like a town common in South Norwood in front of Hawes Pond. I think that the kids should be able to play neighborhood ball on a field.

Maintaning

More open space without fields/playgrounds on them. Parks, wooded areas, water access, etc.

please have trails to walk on with my dog - like at bird's park

I want to say that children (pre-K) should be a priority. However, in today's society, there are no children around during the day becuase most are in day care. I can't see spending money on playgrounds that might only be used on weekends.

Focus on more/better multi-purpose (Soccer, Football, Lacross) lighted rectangular fields. Consider some artificial turf rectangular fields.

walking area ,finish Ellis and Guild pond loop

Spray park at Hawes is dangerous (cement, no supervising life guard) and the scene of many accidents. Bathrooms are not maintained and are disgusting.

Yes, the conditions of the non improved fields including several of the grade schools and the football/soccer fields at Coakley need too be rebuilt from scratch. Money has got to be allocated for these projects. The importance of maintaining a strong athletic youth program is something

that cannot be foresaken. The alternative to having a solid youth program is something that no one would ever want the displeasure of realizing.

Leave Hennessey Field alone

I would use Westwood fields as a guideline

We need areas that all age groups can use, like walking trails, bike trails, access to indoor pool and track facilities. This would take some of the emphasis off 'competition' and onto fitness/relaxation. It would also benefit all residents not just children.

install artificial turf to football/soccer fields

There is a lack of nice outdoor places to go on the Rt. 95 side of Norwood.

Please do something with Shattuck Park. It has become a doggie bathroom. It would be great to add a fountain, clean it up, put some benches, lanterns. I think it would add so much to the character of the town. Try and do something with the land fill. A park or something. I head to Foxborough or wrentham for walks in the woods. My kids love it. We hang out at Bird Park and Rocky Woods alot in the nice weather. Norwood has nothing similiar.

Please fix the electrical pole that is leaning near the wall at Father Macs. It seems like it's in a very dangerous position as it has been leaning for several months. Also, when deciding on the surface of the new track for the new High School, you should check the surface of the track at Westwood High because their track is exceptional, and is used by many Norwood residents because it's so much more comfortable to use than the track at Norwood High.

time for rink and pool. nobody cares about jogging/walking paths

parking, shade cover, lights, enforce leash laws and pooper scooping

see above listing

Artificial surface on the soccer/football fields at the Middle School should be a priority. It would save the town a lot of money in the long run. A swimming pool and hockey rink (that was proposed for the YMCA) would really be nice.

First of all we NEED a hockey rink. It's horrible that 6 yrs old have to use Hingham as there home hockey rink. Next, the soccer/lacrosse fields should be improved. Nevermind fixing all the baseball fields. This town favors the boys teams over the girls when it comes to sports. Why can't someone add a soccer field to the Ellis park? The girls lacrosse teams had to practice down behind the Ellis Nursing home near the swamp. Yes the swamp! Not the playground but the swamp. Please help!

Walking/jogging/biking paths do not need to be paved. An indoor pool and 200m indoor track would make this town even better than it already is.

Hockey rink and indoor pool

Start a Community group to oversee maintaince and new equipment requirements

better maintenance of Shattuck Park.

We need a hockey rink/indoor pool

Overall the town does a great job of maintaining the facilities by updating a new recreational field each year. There is tremendous support for the youth of Norwood but it gives very little options for adult recreational activities. Leagues like softball are fun but a little more involvement and organization would be beneficial

Please get us a skating facility

I definitely think that there should be a year round ice skating/hockey rink for the town of Norwood. There are so many children who participate in hockey in the town but it is a REAL inconvenience for the parents who have to take their kids to practices all the way out to Milton, or Hingham. I can't let my youngest son to play like his older brother because it would be impossible for me to travel so far for both children and he feels left out. I know so many other parents who would have their children participate in the sport but don't like the idea of them not being able to practice at a local rink. I think you should advertise/encourage this survey so people know about it and you will see that many others have the same interest in the ice arena as well...

Thank you!

The pools are too old to repair. Build one indoor pool. An ice skating rink is our biggest need.

We are long overdue for a town hockey facility.

Some of the field where there are sporting events it would be nice if there were more shady areas. Also to have some type of bathroom facilities. Most of the ball fields do not have any.

put out houses at the softball fields. Re think the number of baseball/softball fields; rectangular fields are becoming more important as little league numbers decline.

Better coordination in who maintains the fields.

An indoor splash park w/zero depth entrance for young children

The new athletic fields look beautiful. They are well-maintained by the private contractor. The dirt surfaces on the baseball/softball fields are too hard, but overall the fields are great. I believe the town would be well-served by having that private contractor maintain our fields which would allow the Town to cut personnel salary and benefit expenses. Norwood would greatly benefit from a state-of-the-art hockey facility. Assuming the town would not expend the cost to build it, Norwood could certainly make it easier for a private entity to do the same. The building could also house a swimming pool, indoor athletic field, and/or other recreational purposes. The Rec. Dept. could work hand-in-hand with a private entity to offer the residents of our town opportunities that residents of other towns only dream about. The hotels and restaurants would also benefit from a facility like that. Hockey facilities around the state frequently host tournaments, competitions, and meets that attract people from all over. Resident enrollment in hockey, figure skating, swimming, and recreational activities would increase significantly.

Go to artificial turf. You don't water it, mow it or put herbicides on it. It will increase usage of existing space. an outdoor, seasonal hockey rink will provide skating for youth programs and adults while lessening necessity of travel costs new pond could provide boating opportunities for canoe, row boats and sailing programs

I would strongly urge the recreational dept. to consider installing a disc golf course http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disc_golf a great game for all ages

We really need an indoor pool with yearlong reasonable swimming lessons. The Dedham Recreation Dept. has a great effective and affordable program and a great facility. Norwood really needs a pool.

Adequate bathroom facilities. There have been countless times that we've had to leave an outdoor location because of my child's regular bathroom needs.

pool at the new high school - would save money for HS athletics. charge minimal fee for use to residents and more to nonresidents so it is self funding.

We need a hockey rink.....

The greatest issue with maintenance is obviously town budgets. Beyond monetary, the field conditions are poor where overuse is a clear problem. The fields that have been reconditioned seem to be holding up and represent the town well.

Remove control of the school fields from the school department and merge them with the general government/town fields under the jurisdiction of a central Parks department with the resources to maintain them.

I would love for Norwood to have an indoor swimming pool, an indoor hockey rink, a centralized basketball facility, separate the soccer and football area up at the Coakley - make it all football and move the soccer kids to a centralized area with 4 small soccer fields, 2 8v8 fields and 1 11v11 field with adequate parking. Make the Oldham & Father Macs strictly for Lacrosse. Even if you got community volunteers to up keep the areas to save on costs that would be great.

More rectangular fields

no-i hope i'm wrong, but if the bad economic news continues, norwood may have difficulty maintaining recreational facilities in norwood.

make or improve the toddler lot. for the safety of our children. have one of the car dealerships donate...

Use the land available /woods by clearing and expanand the callahan school field, create additional fields for soccer and lacross. REMOVE OLD BASEBALL BACKSTOP. THIS IS A VERY DANGEROUS STRUCTURE, SHARP AND RUSTY.

Thank You

weed killer and water would be a good place to start

Both outdoor pools need to be renovated and pump rooms updated. Need a skate park, but at different location than Elliott Park like before. We should have an indoor swimming pool. Money should be invested in renovating the Civic Center and bringing it into the 21st Century.

Again, bathroom facilities. Cleaning up Hawes Pond.

I am in favor of having a swimming pool at the new high school. I also think a skating/hockey rink would be great. The land off of Vanderbilt Avenue could provide walking trails and boat access.

turf fields

Less emphasis on sports and more emphasis on things for people not playing sports, such as dog walking

Using the existing but underutilized areas and fields by updating, renovating and maintaining them

map of woods walking trails & "hideouts" for 8-18 teens (safe but adventurous & fun)

coffee house style concerts (similar to summer series but in spring or winter)

theater setup somewhere - doesn't have to be permanent room but something that dance, music, other programs could use.

the more public the location the better chance of it being utilized properly w/o vandalism

Re vamp father mac swim pool so not to lose such a valuable asset

I think that the indoor pool that was taken away when the hospital was built should definitely be replaced; it isn't fair that the high school kids don't have a home pool. The hockey team should also have a home rink that could also be used for public skating. Fees could be charged to make this more affordable. The high school winter track team should not have to go to Boston for meets; they should have their own. There are no good outdoor basketball courts. What exists is not maintained and there should be more courts throughout town. The junior high fields are overused.

Upgrade Fr. Mac's pool. Not all the children can get to Hawes easily in the summer.

Thanks

Better maintenance!

Follow the initial Gale report and Update costs to 2009 dollars

If possible it would be great to have a playground near the airport or in that general area. There are many families with kids in those neighborhoods who have little access to playgrounds that are not associated with a school. It would provide a great opportunity for people to meet and kids to get out and exercise.

Public works should take over the year round maintenance of the school fields because the School Dept. neglects same.

A canoe launch for the Neponset River with a picnic area would be great. Also, a boat launch for non-motorized boats in New Pond would be WONDERFUL

IMPROVE ALL FIELDS @ THE COAKLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
hire some staff to clean the parks & playgrounds.

Many of the items listed above already exist. We need to secure more recreational area in town, and maximize its use. Boat launch areas on Ellis pond or access to the Neponset would be great for Canoe or kayakers. As we have gone through the specialized fields in town we have lost general use facilities. For example, at the Willett we have a great new Babe Ruth field, but lost a soccer field, Tennis Courts, as well as a Little League field. We need to better maintain what we have. The fields 1 - 4 at the CMS are a disgrace, but the improvements to Fields 5 and 6 look to show greater promise.

This expands on question #9. It seems like Soccer takes a back seat to all of the other sports and it is the 2nd largest if not the largest sport in the town. yet in question #12 you fail to put any emphasis on Soccer (just one small item). I would like to see an indoor full sized soccer facility other than what the Pond offers. The Pond is very small and way too expensive. I would like to see a facility similar to Mansfield's soccer facility

We need to expand the green space in the town by limiting further development.

I think you do a great job - the pool at Father Mac's seemed to be a little unkempt toward the end of the season but overall is well managed

Yes building a field house on to the New High School. Where multiple games/activities can happen under one roof

I think general cleanliness being improved would be a huge help. If more land is acquired there should be some hiking and conservation land. Land that they already have, like Hennessey field, should be maintained, there is so much trash and broken glass in there it is a disgrace. My daughter is only 6, and I wouldn't want her walking too far ahead afraid she will step in broken glass or trash. It really is disgraceful

See above.

create a paved bike path

Be sure to maintain what we have now physically and financially.

Just get back to basics. Some of these are big money items used by very few

see above. I don't know that the town has the money for it now.. with the high school issue

Increase the number of volunteer days for kids in Middle School and High School. Many kids have volunteer hours to complete. It's free help.

First they need to locate additional land/property in order to build new facilities. They then should consolidate the fields and have one designated area for all outdoor sporting events. This would also help out in staffing maintenance personnel, one area would not require as many people to maintain the area.

I would engage students at Norwood High so that they receive credit for work done such as a gardening class etc. along the lines of programs at Norfolk Agricultural school as say an alternative to gym class. I would also work with youth groups like the boy scouts etc. for specific projects.

Grass on soccer fields. Fence repairs. Score boards for football.

Better awareness of the recreation areas that are available to us

make the coakley fields all purpose synthetic turf and call it the norwood sports complex. Every other town has these type of fields.

give local corporations naming rights on fields and playgrounds to help the cost of upgrade and maintaining the fields and parks.

Recruit volunteers, especially new immigrants to be a part of making this a great town, with great facilities. Find a way to make service projects fun.

field turf and lights

Biking paths like tying into rail trails would help, not only for Norwood residences but also businesses

I'd love to see better marketing and communication for the programs through the civic.

build a skate park behind the police station in the open grassland that way it would not be vandalized or misused.

Put in cement sidewalks and more people will take their kids in their parks.

Money is a concern and all the ideas above would be great, but taking care of what we have is important and anything we can get added to the town would be great!

bring back the full dimensional Baseball diamonds

Question 14: Do you or any members of your household use Norwood Conservation Land for any of the following activities?

My wife and I often walk through Hennessey field as it is a nice alternative from the busy streets. In the summer it is much cooler with the shade from the trees as well.

I dont even know where the Norwood Conservation Land is.

None, Did not know Norwood had one...

I dont know

photography

I would like to know what is the University Ave Conservation land and the Fortune Drive lot.

No.
photography

where is Nor Conservation Land??

I walk around Germany Brook- does that qualify?

I didn't know these were available at Norwood Conservation Land. If they are, perhaps they should be advertised more.

jogging

Ellis Pond is one of my favorite areas in the town and a major selling point as to why I moved to the neighborhood near it. Over the past few years I have seen it deteriorate and does not show the natural beauty that it is. The water level is extremely low allowing weeds to take over. Instead of a nature sanctuary in the town, it tends to become an eye sore.

NONE

Other than Ellis Pond and Shattuck Park, I have no idea where the town's conservation areas are.

where is the canoe launch????

Dog walking

we do not feel this is a real safe area, we have seen empty beer cans and other trash. I would not send the children out with out supervision.

norwood has conservation land?

Have no idea where to do above activities!

No

My son runs cross country on the Conservation Land near the Junior High. My other son fishes at the Walpole Fish and Game Club, it would be nice to have more places accessible in Norwood to fish. What exists should be better maintained.

I don't even know where the Norwood Conservation Land is....

AM not sure which areas are available for the above listed activities? How would one find out?

I didn't know there was a place to go fishing or to launch a canoe, there should be more info as to what land and services are available

I honestly didn't know Norwood had conservation land for any of the activities listed.

Not sure where this land is located. Is it lit so it's safe?

I am not aware of all the land. I do sometime walk around the pond near shaws. Are there bike paths in Norwood???????

sledding at the dump

We would use the land for these activities if we knew where they are

Not sure?

What happened to Vanderbilt walking path?

at least one side of street should have decent sidewalk

High school track. Could walk to town if the sidewalks were walkable.

Question 16: From the above list, please indicate your three most favorite areas.

First Choice	# of Responses	Second Choice	# of Responses	Third Choice	# of Responses
Ellis	63	Ellis	29	Ellis	19
Endean	20	Endean	21	Endean	13
Hawes	44	Hawes	40	Fortune	1
Hennessey	14	Hennessey	10	Hawes Brook	20
Shattuck	34	Shattuck	32	Hennessey	12
University Ave.	1	University Ave.	1	Shattuck	24
Vanderbilt	2	Vanderbilt	2	University Ave.	2
Bade Canoe Launch	1				

Question 18: Do you have any ideas for improving open space and conservation lands in Norwood?

Don't let go of what we have and given the opportunity create more open space. I like the open spaces available, the town does a good job maintaining them. Again I wish we had more, as Norwood appears densely populated.

Utilize Shattuck Park to its fullest

Active summer programs for Norwood youths could be conducted with the supervision of town employees. They could help clean up areas like these that may have been vandalized or filled with litter. In Lincoln, RI a similar program called the Oscar Clean Team was implemented successfully.

get rid of geese

where can I find a listing or map of all the properties listed ? can't find it on the website under Conserv. Commission. Maybe at the Library ?? Make these resources more visible, maybe an intro program for elementary schools.

Have a dog park so people don't complain about the dogs. Need more paths for Bikes

Shattuck park in particular has a real issue with dogs not being picked up after

Advertise more. I had no idea the town had so many conservation lands

Turn parts/ some in to 1 or 2 large rectangular playing fields

Advertise where they are. I have been here 12years and don't know any of these areas

Publicize hours and locations.

Since I have no idea where these parks are, it would be a good idea to have a flyer/supplement explaining where these areas are first. Once I have seen them, I'd have a better opinion on improvements if necessary.

South Norwood open space for walking paths

We need more open space and better signage of the open space that we have. Also signage about the rules relating to dogs (where they can be walked and not.) I think Adams Farm in Walpole is a great example of a well-maintained area and I wish we had something like that in Norwood.

post dog poop bag dispensers and more trash barrels.

Promote them - I looked at the town of Norwood web site to try and find some of the conservation areas listed on this survey, and could not find them. I had no idea there was a canoe launch.

The geese have to be taken care of, they make a terrible mess. Also, there is way to much poison ivy. This problem needs to be cleared away. Paths need to be maintained by clearing away bushes.

Include in your semi-annual brochures

would like access to pond by St Tim's church-- canoes, boats, path to walk around

Keep as much green and open space as possible

for the seniors, places where the paths are even and unobstructed with seats for resting, for kids, places to ride bikes and roller blade, for tweens and teens the fields are pretty good.

More publicity - I don't know where most of the land is and don't know how to find out about it. Also, in some places (Ellis) I don't feel welcome - I feel like I am trespassing.

Need to do more marketing to promote the use of these areas. Everything seems to be geared to people with children. Not much information available for others.

Yes stop building on the only open spaces in Norwood such as the Talbot Farm Estates. It is a joke to list Fortune Drive lot as conservation land.

As stated earlier it would be nice if we added a few parks. places to cook out, walk. Places with fountains, flowers, etc.

need more of it. Access to neponset canoe launch

It was sad to see that someone had vandalized the nice wooden sign at Shattuck Park. Maybe if the area was cleared out a little more, and had a clean walking path, it would be used more, and people would respect it so you could up another sign. Presently, it just looks like it's overgrown area, and isn't a really safe place to be walking through. I would never walk through it with my dog because it's too dark and overgrown. In addition, I think there is a lot of broken glass near the area.

I say leave it do not over develop it. Land is needed for wildlife and collects water so we don't have as much flooding around town.

The idea of putting a walking path around Ellis Pond, which has been explored in the past, is totally ridiculous and would be a waste of money -- not to mention a violation of the federal wetlands protection act.

advertise them and have 'watch groups' patrol and occasionally clean up...sponsor an event that showcases these areas as I'm not aware of them and I've lived here 31 years!

cut/mark a path around periphery (such as Ellis)

add fitness stations along path (maybe Germany Brook) Promote use Have guided walks discussing wildlife/flora/fauna, etc My Girl Scouts (any Scouts) would want to check out any vernal pools maybe even have a sanctioned campout

Make people more aware of the space and its uses

Do we have volunteer groups that would like to spend time planting flowers or cleaning.

the more jogging trails the better

need more info put into the community about what each of these locations offer

Norwoods Pride and Joy, Ellis Pond is overgrown and poorly managed. The low water level and the weeds are out of control. By actively controlling the dam with lowering the water level in the winter months so the weeds die and raising it in the summer and spring mos. to decrease the

growth of the weeds. As an active walker along the path at Ellis Pond, the Poison ivy growth is alarming. By actively maintaining and landscaping the walking areas would be an improvement.

some are located too close to homeowners

Public education to inform townspeople about the properties and funding, either raised thru donations or from town meeting for maintenance and improvements.

spaces are not large enough. Maybe sell some small stuff and buy a larger tract of land

Develop Endean Farm and Vanderbilt paths

No, but I feel like every inch of town is being built on and we are attracting more and more low-income families which are draining our school system!

zoning board stop approving variances and exemptions to build on open space that are not up to code

Again, we need an indoor pool.

market where they are located, perhaps in the calendar the civic center puts out. again, is fr macs in the list above?

We should make it more of a priority

Signage

mow more often

taxpayer funds should not be spent on improvements. donations and fundraising efforts should be tried. perhaps grant money is available.
Add a dog park.

For instance--Ellis Pond---you cannot even walk around it. You have to back track and it's awkward. Just not really a thought out place to be.

HOCKEY RINK

Don't get more if you can't maintain it

need dog park

Hold community clean up days once a quarter, Start a task group on cleaning the water areas.

Notify people where these places are. I have lived in Norwood since 1981 and have no idea where these parks are!(other than Shattuck)

MAPS FOR RESIDENTS

ESPECIALLY TEEN hideouts

publicize them more and what they offer

try to clear but remain natural like

More frequent maintenance.

Ask for more volunteer days.

Better maintenance!

Please let me know where these lands are.

Concern over mismanagement of natural resources --I.E. clear cutting brush & not allowing the natural regrowth of trees to maintain the environment. This should NOT be left to the public works department employees, untrained & without the supervision of an expert in natural resources.

Community sponsored events to raise awareness of these areas

better "advertising"--I've lived in Norwood my whole life and am unaware of nearly all of these areas

There should be a list of potential projects that community groups could help with. There are also many Eagle Scout candidates looking for projects to complete. They have to call everywhere in town to find what can be done.

a list of where conservation lands are, hours of use, and how to find them on the town website

Making these spaces more available for family activities, hiking, biking, picnicing, walking dogs, etc. and making them more user friendly...as I stated above I didn't know half of these existed let alone what I could possibly be done at them?

We need to do a better job in letting people know about the open space.

Nowhere in Norwood do I ever see signs directing you to these parks. People coming from out of town have a very difficult time finding fields because they are poorly marked.

Town needs to promote the use of these spaces. As noted above, I don't know where these are.

more promotion of their uses - I wasn't aware of most of the ones listed

Since our weather discourages outdoor use for many months of the year, I would like to see more emphasis on indoor space.

Clean them up, there is so much broken glass and trash that they are not functional. Also, I have never heard of over half of the lands you mention, how does one find out about them? Make information about the conservation land more available

Increase awareness of these places. Encourage the public to help maintain these areas.

I do not think that many people use it. so do not waste alot of money

I am very unaware of most of the space.

Advertise their locations and use more. Make walking paths in Father macs woods. Better utilize/open the land around Neponset river.

Please see #13.

make them feel more safe

Publicize the locations - I had no idea we had so many and I have lived in Norwood for 23 years!!

it would be nice to have a path for running or biking that is at least 3-5 miles long thath is not overgrown with weeds and not full of trash

Start a volunteer based group that will help maintain and become advocates for the facilities

Post information about animals that can be found in the areas. Post historical information.

clean up hennessey field. open it up for picnic tables, there is to much underbrush there

make it know to the public where these lands are and what we can use them for. If you are not a life long resident of Norwood, you are out of the loop. We need to do a better job of informing and communicating.

Better advertisement of the conservation lands their and the uses (in the rec guide??). I've lived in the town all my life and only have heard of a handful of these areas.
Need more How about connecting like the Emerald Necklace

Yes, stop trying to sell off available open space.

There are a lot of teenagers going in and out of the Hennesey field pathways and I am concerned about what is going on... we have a young son and sometimes I'm not sure what we'll come across when walking down to use the ballfield/playground. There are an increasing number of young families in this part of norwood and it would be better if these areas were better patrolled.

More information about usage and location of conservation lands.

I would like to see Senior communication and cooperation among all kinds of sports-school based and community based.

Limited access to New Pond

leave it open. we need to conserve land. nature.

leave it alone, norwood is looking like a city. wildlife is good. there is not enough saved land.

Have a town clean up day would get people out and taking care of the lands or have more events at these locations so people will be aware of them and start to use them.

Keep it clean

Just leave them alone except for a couple times a year and let nature take its course.

Let's not lose any more to development! Also, I would REALLY like to see a community garden created.

Question 20: How much would you, as a taxpayer, be willing to spend on a yearly basis to support open space and recreation?

I would rather spend money on the schools

Volunteer work is always an option as well.

does this charge apply to renters in town ? it should.

Only if it went o something other than baseball and useless/unused conservation land

0

For open space, but not recreational facilities.

Re-allocate funds; better use of tax payer funds

add it to my taxes

other things need our tax money more

If it's something I would use, I'd pay up to \$100/year

\$5 a year max

Preferably no more than currently being spent.

I'm tired of picking up after other people's dogs or kids. I pick up after my own and will be damned if I'm going to pay for Mutt Mitts AND pay for the town to pick up after other people's dogs. Until folks become responsible, I have no interest in seeing an increase in taxes. None. we should make better use of the tax dollars. we already sold propretry years ago to pay for a indoor pool

over \$100.00

zero dollaars

\$

0

I think we spend plenty for maintance,maybe have the guy that waters the plant baskets around town do it

Get High School done ASAP

We are seniors and can't afford to spend more money.

More for an indoor pool.

This question is too general - there is a distinction between open space use & recreation . They should not be lumped together in one question as they are not the same

too vague...it depends on what the pain was first.

I chose this amount because this is aproximately how much wear and tear one child of average age would use the fields

Not sure what the costs are, so that would help answer the question

not now, where the economy is at.

same as now use the same budget

unfair question- I am not aware of the current budget and what I pay today.

That number could change depending on other upcoming town expenses like the HS...

I am not sure if you mean me personally or the town as a whole?

I can't afford what I pay in taxes now!!!!!!!!!!

whatever it takes in the right area

Question 25:

Middle-aged couple with children at home.

couple - teenagers at home

couple with 2 children, and 2 elderly parents in an in-law

Couple with children at college

Couple with no children

middle age couple with no children

midle age couple with teenager

older (over 50) couple with child and elderly parents

Grandparent with children and grandchildren living at home

couple with adult children at home

couple with small children at home

plus an elderly parent

adult couple one in college one senior one age 10

Couple with child at home and child in college

couple with 1 child

Childless couple

couple with children at home

couple with adult child at home

couple with adult child at home

Couple with college age child

couple with children in college and one at the high school

Middle aged couple with 1 teen at home.

Middle aged couple with Children at home

middle aged couple with kids in college and at home

older couple with children at home

married with 2 young children

middle aged couple with teenage children at home

older adult (60) with grown child (33) living in residence

Middle aged couple ,2 high school age children, 1 college student

Couple with Adult child now living at home

Over 55 couple with children at home

single adult and senior parent

Couple with children at home, college student and a parent living with us

Older couple with 3 young children

middle-aged couple with kids at home and at college

3 seniors

Couple with children at home.

Not so young couple with children both at home and not at home

senior couple over 60

married couple, 2 children

Couple with college age children

parents, adult children, grandchild

Couple with one child in high school and one in college.

Couple with adult child at home

One child at home full-time and the other in college and lives at home on vacations & Summer

two single parents living with 4 teenaged kids

"Sandwiched" Couple with children and elderly parents

multigeneration extended family

grandchildren

Middle aged couple with no children YET

**APPENDIX C
PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA**

Norwood Open Space and Recreation Plan Update

Willet Room

Norwood Civic Center 2nd Floor

January 22, 2009

7:00 -9:00 PM

Welcome and Introductions: 7:00 – 7:15 PM – Steve Costello

Overview of Plan Update and Tonight’s Meeting: 7:15 – 7:20 PM - Joan Blaustein

Survey results: key findings: 7:20 – 8:00 PM - Joan Blaustein

Funding and the Community Preservation Act: 8:00 – 8:20 PM – Steve Costello

Open Forum for Residents: 8:20 – 9:00 PM– Joan Blaustein

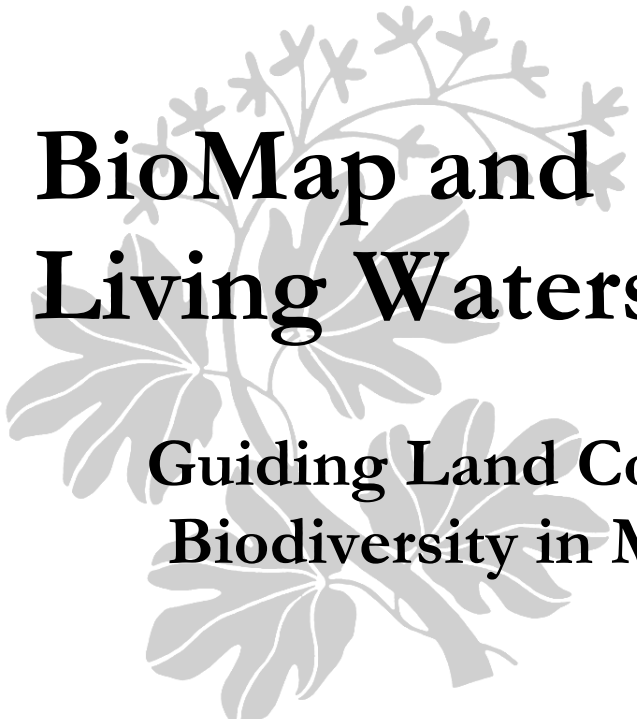
Wrap Up and Next Steps: Steve Costello

Highlights of the Norwood Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey

- Most popular programs/ facilities are children's programs at the Civic Center (69%) and the pools (56%)
- Most popular sports programs are soccer (65%), Little League (51%) and hockey (30%).
- Respondents are generally satisfied or very satisfied with the number and location of playgrounds for young children (75%) but slightly less satisfied with the equipment and maintenance at the playgrounds (60%).
- Respondents are somewhat less satisfied with sports fields for school-aged children. With regards to the location of fields, 64% were satisfied/very satisfied but only 45% were satisfied/very satisfied with the maintenance and cleanliness.
- The 3 major concerns about recreational facilities: maintenance, condition of equipment and structures and parking. Maintenance is top concern for conservation areas as well.
- 43.4% of all respondents think there should be an equal emphasis on maintaining existing recreational facilities and acquiring more recreational land.
- The top five recreational facilities that respondents would like to see are:
 - Indoor swimming pool
 - Walking/jogging paths
 - Outdoor playing fields
 - Indoor ice skating rink
 - Playgrounds for older children (6-17)
- Walking is the most popular activity on town conservation land followed by bird watching/enjoying nature.
- Many conservation areas are not well known to the respondents including La Salle Conservation Land, Alevizos, the Bade Canoe Launch, the Fortune Drive lot, the Allendale property and the Vanderbilt land.
- 3 most favorite areas are Ellis Pond, Endean Conservation land and Hawes Brook Park.
- 42% of respondents said that it is very important for the town to acquire more open space. An additional 27% said it was somewhat important.
- 31% of respondents said they were willing to spend \$81-\$100 per year to support open space and recreation improvements while 22% said they would be willing to spend \$41-\$60 per year. Combined, this means that over 50% of respondents would be willing to spend at least \$60.
- 42% of respondents would consider supporting passage of the Community Preservation Act depending on the amount of the yearly surcharge and 27% were in favor of passing the act without consideration of the amount.

APPENDIX D

CORE HABITATS



BioMap and Living Waters

Guiding Land Conservation for Biodiversity in Massachusetts

Core Habitats of Norwood

This report and associated map provide information about important sites for biodiversity conservation in your area.

This information is intended for conservation planning, and is not intended for use in state regulations.

Produced by:

**Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

Produced in 2004



BioMap and Living Waters: Guiding Land Conservation for Biodiversity in Massachusetts

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Next Steps

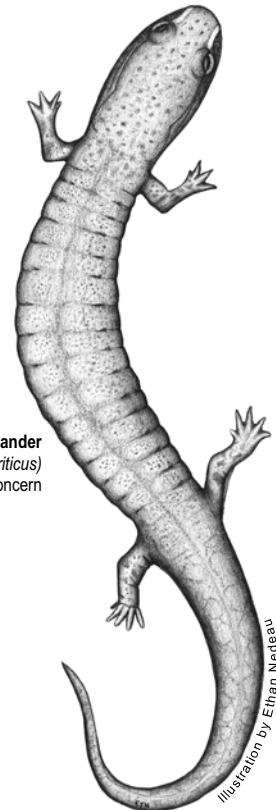
- Protecting Larger Core Habitats
- Additional Information

Local Core Habitat Information*

- BioMap: Species and Natural Communities
- BioMap: Core Habitat Summaries
- Living Waters: Species and Habitats
- Living Waters: Core Habitat Summaries

* Depending on the location of Core Habitats,
your city or town may not have all of these sections.

Spring Salamander
(*Gyrinophilus porphyriticus*)
Species of Special Concern



Funding for this project was made available by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, contributions to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Fund, and through the State Wildlife Grants Program of the US Fish & Wildlife Service.



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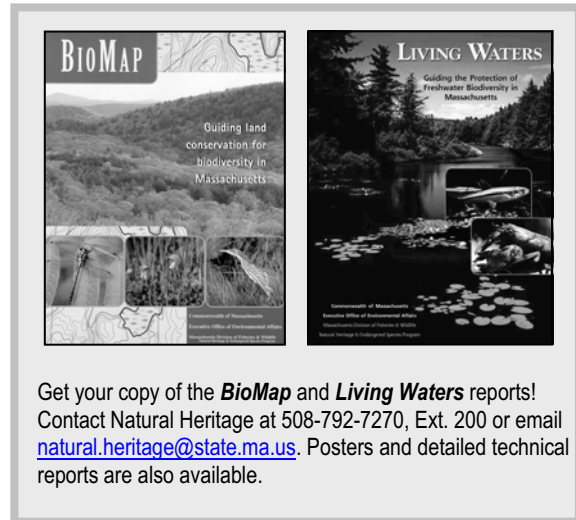
Introduction

In this report, the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program provides you with site-specific biodiversity information for your area. Protecting our biodiversity today will help ensure the full variety of species and natural communities that comprise our native flora and fauna will persist for generations to come.

The information in this report is the result of two statewide biodiversity conservation planning projects, *BioMap* and *Living Waters*. The goal of the BioMap project, completed in 2001, was to identify and delineate the most important areas for the long-term viability of terrestrial, wetland, and estuarine elements of biodiversity in Massachusetts. The goal of the Living Waters project, completed in 2003, was to identify and delineate the rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds that are important for freshwater biodiversity in the Commonwealth. These two conservation plans are based on documented observations of rare species, natural communities, and exemplary habitats.

What is a Core Habitat?

Both BioMap and Living Waters delineate *Core Habitats* that identify the most critical sites for biodiversity conservation across the state. Core Habitats represent habitat for the state's most viable rare plant and animal populations and include exemplary natural communities and aquatic habitats. Core Habitats represent a wide diversity of rare species and natural communities (see Table 1), and these areas are also thought to contain virtually all of the other described species in Massachusetts. Statewide, BioMap Core Habitats encompass 1,380,000 acres of uplands and wetlands, and Living Waters identifies 429 Core Habitats in rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds.



Core Habitats and Land Conservation

One of the most effective ways to protect biodiversity for future generations is to protect Core Habitats from adverse human impacts through land conservation. For Living Waters Core Habitats, protection efforts should focus on the *riparian areas*, the areas of land adjacent to water bodies. A naturally vegetated buffer that extends 330 feet (100 meters) from the water's edge helps to maintain cooler water temperature and to maintain the nutrients, energy, and natural flow of water needed by freshwater species.

In Support of Core Habitats

To further ensure the protection of Core Habitats and Massachusetts' biodiversity in the long-term, the BioMap and Living Waters projects identify two additional areas that help support Core Habitats.

In BioMap, areas shown as *Supporting Natural Landscape* provide buffers around the Core Habitats, connectivity between Core Habitats, sufficient space for ecosystems to function, and contiguous undeveloped habitat for common species. Supporting Natural Landscape was



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BioMap and Living Waters: Guiding Land Conservation for Biodiversity in Massachusetts

generated using a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) model, and its exact boundaries are less important than the general areas that it identifies. Supporting Natural Landscape represents potential land protection priorities once Core Habitat protection has been addressed.

In Living Waters, *Critical Supporting Watersheds* highlight the immediate portion of the watershed that sustains, or possibly degrades, each freshwater Core Habitat. These areas were also identified using a GIS model. Critical Supporting Watersheds represent developed and undeveloped lands, and can be quite large. Critical Supporting Watersheds can be helpful in land-use planning, and while they are not shown on these maps, they can be viewed in the Living Waters report or downloaded from www.mass.gov/mgis.

Understanding Core Habitat Species, Community, and Habitat Lists

What's in the List?

Included in this report is a list of the species, natural communities, and/or aquatic habitats for each Core Habitat in your city or town. The lists are organized by Core Habitat number.

For the larger Core Habitats that span more than one town, the species and community lists refer to the entire Core Habitat, not just the portion that falls within your city or town. For a list of all the state-listed rare species within your city or town's boundary, whether or not they are in Core Habitat, please see the town rare species lists available at www.nhesp.org.

The list of species and communities within a Core Habitat contains only the species and

Table 1. The number of rare species and types of natural communities explicitly included in the BioMap and Living Waters conservation plans, relative to the total number of native species statewide.

BioMap		
Biodiversity Group	Species and Verified Natural Community Types	
	Included in BioMap	Total Statewide
Vascular Plants	246	1,538
Birds	21	221 breeding species
Reptiles	11	25
Amphibians	6	21
Mammals	4	85
Moths and Butterflies	52	An estimated 2,500 to 3,000
Damselflies and Dragonflies	25	An estimated 165
Beetles	10	An estimated 2,500 to 4,000
Natural Communities	92	> 105 community types
Living Waters		
Biodiversity Group	Species	
	Included in Living Waters	Total Statewide
Aquatic Vascular Plants	23	114
Fishes	11	57
Mussels	7	12
Aquatic Invertebrates	23	An estimated > 2500

natural communities that were explicitly included in a given BioMap or Living Waters Core Habitat. Other rare species or examples of other natural communities may fall within the Core Habitat, but for various reasons are not included in the list. For instance, there are a few rare species that are omitted from the list or summary because of their particular sensitivity to the threat of collection. Likewise, the content of many very small Core Habitats are not described in this report or list, often because they contain a single location of a rare plant



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species. Some Core Habitats were created for suites of common species, such as forest birds, which are particularly threatened by habitat fragmentation. In these cases, the individual common species are not listed.

What does 'Status' mean?

The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife determines a status category for each rare species listed under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act, M.G.L. c.131A, and its implementing regulations, 321 CMR 10.00. Rare species are categorized as Endangered, Threatened, or of Special Concern according to the following:

- **Endangered** species are in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range or are in danger of extirpation from Massachusetts.
- **Threatened** species are likely to become Endangered in Massachusetts in the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of their range.
- **Special Concern** species have suffered a decline that could threaten the species if allowed to continue unchecked or occur in such small numbers or with such restricted distribution or specialized habitat requirements that they could easily become Threatened in Massachusetts.

In addition, the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program maintains an unofficial **watch list** of plants that are tracked due to potential conservation interest or concern, but are not regulated under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act or other laws or regulations. Likewise, described natural communities are not regulated any laws or regulations, but they can help to identify ecologically important areas that are worthy of protection. The status of natural

Legal Protection of Biodiversity

BioMap and Living Waters present a powerful vision of what Massachusetts would look like with full protection of the land that supports most of our biodiversity. To create this vision, some populations of state-listed rare species were deemed more likely to survive over the long-term than others.

Regardless of their potential viability, all sites of state-listed species have full legal protection under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (M.G.L. c.131A) and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00). Habitat of state-listed wildlife is also protected under the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10.37 and 10.59). The **Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas** shows **Priority Habitats**, which are used for regulation under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act and Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (M.G.L. c.30) and **Estimated Habitats**, which are used for regulation of rare wildlife habitat under the Wetlands Protection Act. For more information on rare species regulations, see the *Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas*, available from the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program in book and CD formats.

BioMap and Living Waters are conservation planning tools and do not, in any way, supplant the Estimated and Priority Habitat Maps which have regulatory significance. Unless and until the combined BioMap and Living Waters vision is fully realized, we must continue to protect all populations of our state-listed species and their habitats through environmental regulation.

communities reflects the documented number and acreages of each community type in the state:

- **Critically Imperiled** communities typically have 5 or fewer documented sites or have very few remaining acres in the state.
- **Imperiled** communities typically have 6-20 sites or few remaining acres in the state.
- **Vulnerable** communities typically have 21-100 sites or limited acreage across the state.
- **Secure** communities typically have over 100 sites or abundant acreage across the state; however excellent examples are identified as Core Habitat to ensure continued protection.



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Understanding Core Habitat Summaries

Following the BioMap and Living Waters Core Habitat species and community lists, there is a descriptive summary of each Core Habitat that occurs in your city or town. This summary highlights some of the outstanding characteristics of each Core Habitat, and will help you learn more about your city or town's biodiversity. You can find out more information about many of these species and natural communities by looking at specific *fact sheets* at www.nhesp.org.

Next Steps

BioMap and Living Waters were created in part to help cities and towns prioritize their land protection efforts. While there are many reasons to conserve land – drinking water protection, recreation, agriculture, aesthetics, and others – BioMap and Living Waters Core Habitats are especially helpful to municipalities seeking to protect the rare species, natural communities, and overall biodiversity within their boundaries. Please use this report and map along with the rare species and community fact sheets to appreciate and understand the biological treasures in your city or town.

Protecting Larger Core Habitats

Core Habitats vary considerably in size. For example, the average BioMap Core Habitat is 800 acres, but Core Habitats can range from less than 10 acres to greater than 100,000 acres. These larger areas reflect the amount of land needed by some animal species for breeding, feeding, nesting, overwintering, and long-term survival. Protecting areas of this size can be

very challenging, and requires developing partnerships with neighboring towns.

Prioritizing the protection of certain areas within larger Core Habitats can be accomplished through further consultation with Natural Heritage Program biologists, and through additional field research to identify the most important areas of the Core Habitat.

Additional Information

If you have any questions about this report, or if you need help protecting land for biodiversity in your community, the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program staff looks forward to working with you.

Contact the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program:

by Phone 508-792-7270, Ext. 200

by Fax: 508-792-7821

by Email: natural.heritage@state.ma.us.

by Mail: North Drive
Westborough, MA 01581

The GIS datalayers of BioMap and Living Waters Core Habitats are available for download from MassGIS: www.mass.gov/mgis

Check out www.nhesp.org for information on:

- Rare species in your town
- Rare species fact sheets
- BioMap and Living Waters projects
- Natural Heritage publications, including:
 - * Field guides
 - * Natural Heritage Atlas, and more!



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BioMap: Species and Natural Communities

Norwood

Core Habitat BM958

Vertebrates

Common Name

Scientific Name

Status

Least Bittern

Ixobrychus exilis

Endangered



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BioMap: Core Habitat Summaries

Norwood

Core Habitat BM958

Vertebrates

This Core Habitat contains deep freshwater marsh habitats along the Neponset River that used by the Least Bittern, a rare species of wetland bird.



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Living Waters: Species and Habitats

Norwood

Core Habitat LW139

Exemplary Habitats

Common Name

Scientific Name

Status

Fish Habitat



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Living Waters: Core Habitat Summaries

Norwood

Core Habitat LW139

Traphole Brook supports a fish community typical of slow-moving streams with good water quality and abundant aquatic plants. The mostly native community is made up of Banded Sunfish, Brook Trout, Redfin Pickerel, Swamp Darter, and White Suckers. The diversity in the community suggests a diversity of underwater habitats. For example, the presence of Brook Trout suggests that parts of this underwater habitat are flowing, well-oxygenated, and cold, possibly associated with groundwater seeps.



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Help Save Endangered Wildlife!

Please contribute on your Massachusetts income tax form or directly to the



Natural Heritage &
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To learn more about the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program and the Commonwealth's rare species, visit our web site at: www.nhesp.org.