

FIVE YEAR ACTION PLAN

The following chart summarizes the recommended actions for the Town of Walpole to address its open space and recreation needs in the next five years. The chart also identifies the recommended lead agency and supporting agencies for each recommendation, indicates the recommended schedule for action, and identifies potential mechanisms that could be used to implement recommendations as appropriate. In the final version of this plan, a Figure 13 will illustrate those actions which can be presented on a map.

WALPOLE FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

Goal 1 - Protect and Improve the Quality of Town's Surface and Ground Water

| YEAR | RECOMMENDATION | LEAD AGENCY | OTHER AGENCIES | MECHANISM(S) |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|---|--|
| 1996-2001 | 1. Acquire additional lands in Water Resource Protection Overlay Districts | Selectmen | Sewer and Water Commission Open Space Committee | Bonding, Grants, Donations Conservation restrictions |
| 1996-2001 | 2. Extend sewer to well/aquifer areas | Sewer and Water Commission | Selectmen, Planning Board | Bonding |
| 1996-2001 | 3. Support and encourage Neponset Initiative | Conservation Commission | Selectmen, Open Space Committee | |
| 1997, 1999 | 4. Evaluate/adjust Water Resource Protection Overlay District By-Law | Sewer and Water Commission | Conservation Commission, Planning Board, DEP | |
| 1996-2001 | 5. Discourage use of fertilizers, pesticides, road salt, herbicides, and other contaminants in Water Resource Protection districts, and near surface water bodies | Sewer and Water Commission | Conservation Commission, Norfolk County Agricultural School, Norfolk County Conservation District, MHD | Prepare and distribute educational materials, Conduct workshops |
| 1996-2001 | 6. Identify and remove underground storage tanks | Fire Department | Selectmen, Board of Health | |
| 1996-2001 | 7. Identify and protect vernal pools | Conservation Commission | Planning Board, DEP | Educational efforts, Revise Bylaws and Subdivision Rules and Regulations |
| 1996-2001 | 8. Encourage water conservation and xeriscaping | Sewer and Water Commission | Conservation Commission, Norfolk County Agricultural School, Norfolk County Conservation District | Prepare and distribute educational materials, Conduct workshops |
| 1996-2001 | 9. Strictly enforce Title 5 | Board of Health | | |

Goal 2 - Protect the Natural and Cultural Environment in a Manner Which Reflect's the Town's Special Character

| YEAR | RECOMMENDATION | LEAD AGENCY | OTHER AGENCIES | MECHANISM(S) |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 1996 | 1. Acquire Green property off Lincoln St. | Conservation Commission | Selectmen, Open Space Committee | Town appropriation, Self-Help Grant, |
| 1997 | 2. Identify and designate wildlife corridors | Planning Board | Conservation Commission, Selectmen | |
| 1997-1998 | 3. Develop policies to protect and enhance the character of villages | Planning Board | DPW, Selectmen | Zoning, Infrastructure improvements, Buffers |
| 1996-1997 | 4. Acquire Isaacs land to preserve rural character of North Walpole and provide for municipal needs | Isaacs Land Study Committee | Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission | Bonding, Transfer of Development Rights, Limited development |
| 1996-1998 | 5. Work with State/County to plan future of DOC/MWRA and Agricultural School land | Selectmen | Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee | |
| 1996-1998 | 6. Acquire Bird property | Conservation Commission | Selectmen, Open Space Committee | Town appropriation, Self-Help Grant, |
| 1996-2001 | 7. Encourage continuation of agricultural uses | Selectmen | Open Space Committee | Zoning, Lease public land as appropriate |
| 1997-1999 | 8. Evaluate all ponds for recreation potential | Conservation Commission | MADEP, Selectmen | |
| 1996-1997 | 9. Encourage the establishment of a community land trust or request that a regional one include Walpole | Open Space Committee | Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission | |

Goal 3 - Develop a Sound Public Policy Toward Open Space Preservation

| YEAR | RECOMMENDATION | LEAD AGENCY | OTHER AGENCIES | MECHANISM(S) |
|-------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|
| 1996 | 1. Establish an Open Space Committee to prioritize recommendations of this Plan and oversee its implementation | Selectmen | Planning Board, Conservation Commission | |
| 1996 | 2. Develop criteria for evaluating potential land acquisitions | Open Space Committee | Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Recreation Commission, Selectmen | |
| 1997-1998 | 3. Gather (and/or prepare) fiscal information on the costs and benefits of development and conservation land | Planning Board | Selectmen, Assessors Office, Open Space Committee | |
| 1996-1998 | 4. Improve GIS by adding information on soils, topography, etc. | Engineering Department | | |
| 1996-2001 | 5. Expand access to open space through additional acquisitions and by providing parking, trails, signage, and handicapped accessibility | Open Space Committee | Planning Board, Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Public Works | Bonding, Grants, Infrastructure improvements |
| 1996-2001 | 6. Maintain and/or provide links among protected open space parcels for wildlife migration as well as trails | Open Space Committee | Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Selectmen | Acquisition, Conservation easements, Open Space Residential Development, Donations |
| 1997-1999 | 7. Acquire remaining private lands along Neponset River Corridor | Conservation Commission | Open Space Committee, Planning Board, Selectmen, EOEA Neponset Initiative | |
| 1996-2001 | 8. Continue improvements to Bay Circuit Trail | Conservation Commission | Selectmen | |

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|-----------|--|----------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 1996-2001 | 9. Develop linked system of trails, bikeways, and sidewalks (connect Bay Circuit and Warner Trails, run along Neponset River and link recreation/conservation areas, commercial and transportation facilities and residential areas) | Open Space Committee | Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Selectmen, Public Works | Acquisition, easements, volunteers |
|-----------|--|----------------------|--|------------------------------------|

Goal 4 - Expand the Number of Fields and Facilities to Provide a Wide Variety of Active Recreation Opportunities

| YEAR | RECOMMENDATION | LEAD AGENCY | OTHER AGENCIES | MECHANISM(S) |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------|--|---|
| 1996-2001 | 1. Increase the number of fields available for all sports and for all age groups | Recreation Committee | Selectmen | Bonding, Annual appropriation, grants, volunteers, donations, Town land lease |
| 1996-1997 | 2. Evaluate Mylod Street Tripartite Agreement as possible model for use elsewhere | Selectmen | Recreation Committee, Planning Board | |
| 1996-1997 | 3. Evaluate feasibility of recreation complex on Isaacs land | Isaacs Land Committee | Recreation Committee, Selectmen, Planning Board | |
| 1997-1998 | 4. Pursue DCS grant for converting Lincoln Road landfill site to recreation facility. | Town Administrator's Office | Recreation Committee | |
| 1996-1998 | 5. Identify public and private parcels suitable for use as fields on permanent or temporary basis | Recreation Committee | Open Space Committee, Planning Board, DOC/MWRA, Norfolk County Agricultural School | |

Goal 5 - Improve, Promote and Maintain Existing Recreation Facilities and Conservation Areas

| YEAR | RECOMMENDATION | LEAD AGENCY | OTHER AGENCIES | MECHANISM(S) |
|-------------|---|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1997-1998 | 1. Improve quality of maintenance of recreation areas | DPW Recreation and Cemeteries Division | Selectmen | New Growth revenue, user fees |
| 1997-1998 | 2. Investigate maintenance agreement with School Department | DPW Recreation and Cemeteries Division | School Department, Selectmen | |
| 1996-1997 | 3. Repair and upgrade Memorial Park pool | DPW Recreation and Cemeteries Division | Recreation Committee, Selectmen | Appropriation, Urban Self-Help Grant |
| 1998-2001 | 4. Install irrigation where feasible (Johnson and Bird Middle Schools, Common, Memorial Park) | DPW Recreation and Cemeteries Division | Selectmen, School Department | |
| 1996-2001 | 5. Continue current efforts to promote availability of recreation programs and facilities | DPW Recreation and Cemeteries Division | | |
| 1997-2001 | 6. Develop and implement plan for handicapped accessibility for all recreation facilities | DPW Recreation and Cemeteries Division | Selectmen | |
| 1998 | 7. Establish canoe launch on Neponset River | DPW Recreation and Cemeteries Division | Selectmen, Conservation Commission | |