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APPENDIX A

DESCRIPTIONS OF OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES

Dover Conservation Commission:

Valley Farm Land
Open fields without trails; leased for hay.

Haven
Wetlands.

Rice Land
Part of the Centre Street Corridor. Wooded land with trails.

Channing Land
Part of the Centre Street Corridor. Wooded with trails.

Snow Hill
Part of the larger Snow Hill Reservation owned by the DLCT. Wooded and hilly with trails.

Charles River
Wetlands with no trails. There is a public landing on the river at the west end of Riverside Drive.

Wylde Property
Wooded with trails. Part of the Centre Street Corridor.

Ferguson Property
Part of Centre Street Corridor. Wooded with trails.

All lands are held in fee.

Other Town Land:

Bridge Street
Public landing. Connected to Peters Reservation.

Snow Hill
Part of larger Snow Hill holdings.

Larrabee Estate
Wooded, with trails connecting TTOR's Noanet Woodlands and Hale Reservation.

Valley Farm Land
Leased for hay with a trail around the edge of the field.

Ponzi Land
Wetlands with a seasonal trail connecting to DLCT Gregg land.

All lands held in fee.

Dover Land Conservation Trust:

Snow Hill
This property contains woodlands and hills with trails. A fire tower sits on top of the hill, from which there is a view of the Boston skyline.

Bartlett Pines
This holding has a small field, a trail and tall pines abutting a wetland.

Springdale Field
A large open field with a brook and woodlands.

Gregg Property
Woodlands with limited trails.

Sanger Property
Woodlands and fields with trails.

Russell Property
Woodlands and wetlands abutting Trout Brook.

Donnelly Property
Woodlands with limited trails.

Reidy Field
A field with access off Pleasant Street.

Trout Brook Parcels
These holdings include a farmed field with access off Main Street and woodlands and wetlands off Main Street.

Olsen's Pond Lot
Fields and pond with access off Pine Street.

All lands are held in fee.

The Trustees of Reservations:

Chase Woodlands
An 85-acre woodland property with foot trails through groves of white pine, hemlock and beech trees.

Noanet Woodlands
This large holding has 695 acres of woodland with over ten miles of trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding. Noanet Peak rises 387 feet, offering a view of the Boston skyline. The property includes Noanet Brook, a perennial stream with four small ponds. A major cultural feature is the 60-foot high stone dam built in 1815 for an iron works operation (the site was abandoned in the 1830s).

Pegan Hill
A 32-acre drumlin, part of which lies in Natick. These woodlands have a short trail leading to the summit, which was once an Indian place of worship.

Peter's Reservation
A 96-acre woodland property bordered on one side by the Charles River. A red pine plantation and other plantings remain from the original designed landscape.

Powissett Farm
This 119-acre agricultural farm was purchased for preservation under the mission of the Trustees. The property includes open hay fields, numerous farm buildings, wetlands, and woodlands. There is no public access.

All properties are held in fee by the Trustees of Reservations.

Hale Reservation:

Hale Reservation encompasses just over 1,100 acres in Dover and Westwood. The land includes heavily wooded areas, three ponds, streams, wetlands, and vernal pools. There are over twenty miles of trails. Although it is privately owned, the reservation is open to the public for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and other passive recreation. During the summer Hale hosts nine licensed camps and environmental and adventure education programs are held throughout the year.

This property is not officially protected as open space.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

Elm Bank
Partially developed home of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and soccer fields shared by three adjoining towns, as well as a water supply wells for the Town of Natick. A large part of the reservation is wooded with trails.

Charles River Reservation (DRC)
Partially wooded with trails. Part of the land is leased for haying.

All lands are held in fee.

Army Corps of Engineers:
Flood control holdings.

Held in fee.

TOWN OF DOVER

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN 2003-2004 UPDATE

Prepared by:

Dover Open Space Committee
and
David Everett
Based on 1997 OSRP prepared by
PGC Associates

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many Town of Dover boards, commissions, and departments participated in supplying and/or reviewing information that went into the preparation of this report. These include:

Assessor's Office
Building Inspector
Conservation Commission
Conservation Agent
Board of Health
Park and Recreation Commission
Planning Board
Highway Department
Board of Selectmen
Town Administrator's Office
Town Clerk
Town Engineer
Town Planner

A special acknowledgement is due to the residents of Dover who attended and participated in the public hearing.

I. PLAN SUMMARY

This 2003 update of the Dover Open Space and Recreation Plan was prepared using the 1997 Plan as the basis for the issues, information, and goals and objectives contained herein. Residential development and population growth continues to put pressure on the natural resources and infrastructure of the Town, as well as on its overall character.

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

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

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

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

APPENDIX B

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Copies of the draft of this update were distributed for public review at The Dover Library and the Town Clerk's office more than a month prior to the public hearing on October 18, 2003. It was also displayed on the Town's website and copies were distributed to the Park and Recreation Department, Planning Board and Selectmen.

An advertised public hearing was held on October 18 at 10 A.M. in the Great Hall of the Dover Town House. A list of attendees is included below. The public hearing provided the opportunity for citizens to offer input and feedback, and ensured an inclusive public participation process.

The hearing consisted primarily of a summary of the Goals and Objectives by Beedee Ladd and comments from citizens, the Selectmen and members of the Open Space Committee. A large copy of the map showing Protected Land was on display and a handout detailing addenda having to do with an additional Open Space Goal (Goal 6) were made available to those assembled.

Dover resident Ted Ladd praised the efforts of the Committee and suggested that there should be greater dissemination of information about trails on public lands. This was echoed by Selectmen Chair Tobe Deutschmann, who suggested that more information should be available but not necessarily on the Town website. Open Space Committee and Planning Board member Henry Faulkner thanked the previous speakers for their articulation of the issue and said that a gradual and cautious effort was likely needed in the dissemination of trails information. He said that regardless of the approach, some support for open space efforts might be lost in the process. Beedee Ladd said that trail walks were planned for the Spring 2004, led by Committee member Ross Whistler.

Mr. Deutschmann praised the efforts of the Committee and said that the Open Space Committee is the Town's watchdog on land protection. He also said that the newly received Open Space Goal 6 and attendant objectives would entail further review by the Selectmen.

Dover resident Janet Bowse suggested an additional Open Space Goal much like Goal 6 but applying to non-Town-owned land. After some discussion, it was agreed that such a goal would be impractical.

Discussion followed regarding conservation restrictions held by The Trustees of Reservations and other landowners in Dover and the availability of these areas to Dover residents. Mrs. Ladd said that, while the Committee was aware of these restrictions, they were primarily in place not for access but for watershed and wildlife preservation.

The hearing was closed at approximately 10:40 A.M.

ATTENDANCE
Public Hearing, October 18, 2003
Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2003

Janet Bowse, 17 Sterling Drive, Dover
Ted Ladd, 125 Claybrook Road, Dover
Ed Dennison, Dover Open Space Committee
Jack Walsh, Dover Park and Recreation Commission/Dover Open Space Committee
Jim Fleming, Dover Open Space Committee
Ross Whistler, Dover Open Space Committee
Tobe Deutschmann, Selectmen
Charles Helliwell, Selectmen
Henry Faulkner, Dover Planning Board/Dover Open Space Committee
Beedee Ladd, Dover Open Space Committee
Chris Orchard, Dover-Sherborn Press
Dave Hall, Dover Open Space Committee
David Everett, Consultant to Open Space Committee

II. INTRODUCTION

Statement of Purpose

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

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

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

It should be noted that the Open Space and Recreation Plan is dynamic. Conditions change both locally and regionally, and new information constantly becomes available. The Plan should be reviewed periodically and adjusted as needed. This update conforms to the standard five-year re-assessment, evaluating the success, progress on or failure of goals and actions promulgated by the 1997 Open Space and Recreation Plan, and developing updated goals and recommended actions to be achieved over the next five years. In addition, demographic, land use and open space data is updated. The next update of the OSRP should be conducted in 2008.

Planning Process and Public Participation

The 1997 Open Space and Recreation Plan was prepared by the Open Space Committee with the assistance of PGC Associates. The 2003 update was overseen by the Committee with the assistance of David Everett. Input from Town officials, individual Committee members and other Dover residents has been critical to this effort, providing valuable first-hand knowledge of Town needs, problems and opportunities that must be addressed.

The first step in the preparation of the 1997 Plan was the establishment of the Open Space Committee by the Board of Selectmen. The Open Space Committee is a statutory committee consisting of representatives of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Board of Health, the Dover Land Conservation Trust, and the GIS coordinator, as well as representatives of public safety, real estate, building, and open space and recreation interests.

Two public hearings were held, clarifying goals and objectives, soliciting and assimilating demographic data. Also presented at this meeting were the results of earlier surveys associated with the Master Plan. Input was solicited on the goals and objectives in particular, but also on any issues that needed to be addressed and opportunities that needed to be explored. Participants at this meeting were also asked to suggest specific parcels of land and/or areas of Town that merited close attention. This public meeting was also videotaped and broadcast on the Town's public access cable TV channel (DCTV, Channel 8). TV viewers were also specifically encouraged to submit comments.

In addition, in a separate but related effort, the Dover Park and Recreation Commission conducted a recreation survey in conjunction with the Sherborn Recreation Commission. That survey revealed a strong interest in creating bike paths, providing a year-round swimming facility, and the establishment of a community center. These results were also incorporated into this Plan. This plan update restates interest in a community center and bicycle facilities but omits a swimming facility as a priority.

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

The plan update was carried out following a similar process, in accordance with the Division of Conservation Services standards. Much of the update involved changing demographics and inventory data.

III. COMMUNITY SETTING

Regional Context

The Town of Dover is located about 15 miles west-southwest of Boston and forms part of the western boundary of Norfolk County. It has a total area of 15.3 square miles (9876 acres). Abutting towns include Wellesley and Needham to the north, Westwood to the east, Walpole and Medfield to the south, and Sherborn and Natick to the west.

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

Dover is a small town with substantial rural character. It has a small Town Center in which the Town House, Police Station, the former Caryl School, the Charles River School, a market, a post office, a sandwich shop, a gas station, and several other small commercial, legal and medical establishments are located. The majority of Dover's commercial, professional, and medical needs are provided for outside its borders. Dover is also the site of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society headquarters, located at Elm Bank.

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

Dover is also the site of both Noanet Woodlands (owned by The Trustees of Reservations) and about half of Hale Reservation (the other half is in Westwood). Together these contiguous properties total about 1800 acres in the two towns and they draw visitors from all of eastern Massachusetts. It should be noted that Rocky Woods Reservation in Medfield and Pegan Hill Reservation in Natick both abut (and extend into) Dover and there is trail access to both from Dover. These reservations are all open to the public, and have well-marked trails for walking, horseback riding, and, in several cases, off-road biking. A major focus for the Town in its open space acquisition efforts is to connect these reservations with trails, as well as to create green belts and wildlife corridors between them. Towards this end, the acquisition of the Wylde and Ferguson properties (since the 1997 OSRP was written) has helped

establish the Centre Street Corridor as a major network of open space in the center of town. These properties have connecting trails.

The Medfield State Hospital grounds also extend into Dover in the vicinity of the Medfield/ Dover/Sherborn town boundaries. The future of this site is in question and current efforts to address its future are extremely important to all three communities. The Elm Bank aquifer, the major reservations and Medfield State Hospital, combine to make Dover a regional resource of major significance.

Many of the characteristics discussed above contribute to a desirable quality of life. Therefore, like many of its neighbors, Dover has experienced an increase in residential growth in recent years.

Of regional significance is the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's (MAPC) MetroPlan, the regional development plan for metropolitan Boston, adopted in 1990. The Land Resources Protection element of MetroPlan, also known as MetroGreen, was adopted by MAPC in 1992. Its four major goals are to preserve and protect critical land resources; to shape the growth of the region; to help preserve and enhance a "sense of place" for the region; and to fulfill the recreational needs of the region's population and provide access, when appropriate, to protected open areas. The recommendations of this Open Space and Recreation Plan are compatible with MetroGreen. It should be noted that Dover is a member of MAPC, as well as both the Three-Rivers Interlocal Council (TRIC) and Southwest Area Planning (SWAP) sub-regions of MAPC (A map of these regions is presented in Figure 1).

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), *Massachusetts Outdoors 2000!*, is a 5-year plan developed by the Commonwealth to ensure eligibility for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants. The current SCORP is an update of the 1988 plan in effect when the 1997 Open Space and Recreation Plan was completed. Dover is in the Metropolitan Boston region.

History

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

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

Farming was once the principal industry of Dover. Other industries, including lumbering for the shipbuilding industry, a grist mill, a nail factory, and an iron rolling business, were also developed. Little remains of Dover's industrial heritage. However, the remains of the Dover Union Iron Mill in Noanet Woodlands were reconstructed and serve as a monument to the ingenuity of the Town's forebears in using water power to drive the machinery to create iron bars.

While farming is largely absent today, Dover's farming heritage is still evident in the rural quality of the Town. Scenery common to farming communities in New England (such as open pasture land; stands of white pine, birch, oak, and maple; old stone walls dividing properties; and farm houses and barns) is still very much in evidence today. This heritage and country atmosphere is highly valued by the citizens of Dover.

Population Characteristics

Population and Household Growth

As shown in Table 1, the Town of Dover grew rapidly from 1940 to 1970. During this 30-year period, the Town more than tripled in size from 1374 to 4529. The biggest growth spurt occurred during the 1950s when the Town grew by 65%, an increase of more than 1100 residents. Another 1683 residents were added in the 1960s, for an increase of 59%.

Growth slowed considerably in the 1970s, only 3.84% for the decade. It picked up slightly in the 1980s, increasing by 4.51% to 4915 according to the 1990 U.S. Census. Population growth accelerated again in the 1990s and the 2000 census recorded a population of 5,558, a substantial increase of over 13 percent for the decade.

Density

Changes in population density in Dover are presented in Table 3. By 2000, Dover's housing density had risen to over 362 persons and 123 housing units per square mile. Table 4 compares the density of Dover's population and housing units with neighboring towns and with the Commonwealth as a whole. Though still substantially less densely developed than most towns in the region (Sherborn the notable exception), the increase in density is nonetheless striking.

TABLE 1

DOVER POPULATION GROWTH, 1940 TO 2000

Year	Population	Change	% Change
1940	1374	--	--
1950	1722	348	25.33%
1960	2846	1124	65.27%
1970	4529	1683	59.14%
1980	4703	174	3.84%
1990	4915	212	4.51%
2000	5558	643	13.08%

TABLE 2

DOVER HOUSEHOLD GROWTH, 1990-2000

Year	Households	Change	% Change
1990	1672	--	--
2000	1884	212	12.68%

TABLE 3

OVERALL POPULATION DENSITY IN DOVER, 1940-2000

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

Source: U.S. Census data.

TABLE 4

COMPARATIVE 2000 DENSITY, DOVER, SELECTED ABUTTING TOWNS AND STATEWIDE

Town	Population	Pop. Density	Hsg. Density
Dover	5558	362.6/sq. mile	122.9/sq. mile
Sherborn	4200	263.1	90.9
Needham	12,273	1325.3	483.2
Wellesley	26,613	2614.1	870.4
Westwood	14,117	1286.7	478.6
Massachusetts	6,349,047	809.8	NA

TABLE 5

EXISTING AND PROJECTED POPULATION BY AGE GROUPS

Age Group	2000	2005	2010
0-4	422	353	250
5-9	562	607	508
10-14	511	725	785
15-19	343	515	733
20-24	121	243	367
25-29	115	84	170
30-34	231	168	123
35-39	454	336	245
40-44	530	659	491
45-49	529	549	697
50-54	499	537	569
55-59	357	416	476
60-64	260	263	452
65-69	207	172	203
70-74	181	136	132
75-79	109	60	176
80-84	77	36	34
85+	50	42	44

Source: MAPC, 2003

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

Since 1950, land use in Dover has changed dramatically only in the amount of land devoted to "urban" use, primarily the development of single-family houses. While residential use has more than tripled in acreage, agricultural use has declined by about half. However, the amount of forestland has only decreased by about 20% over the same period. Table 6 at the end of this section shows the breakdown of land use categories in acreage in 1991 and 1999 (the most recent such available data).

Education, Income and Employment

Dover's percentage of high school and college graduates is more than double that of the State as a whole, the MAPC region, and the TRIC sub-region.

As would be expected based on higher education levels, both median household and per capita income are significantly higher in Dover than in the State as a whole and in the MAPC and TRIC regions.

The percentage of Dover residents in management/professional/technical employment categories is significantly higher than the State as a whole as well.

Age

Because the young and the elderly represent significant portions of its population, there is a continuing need for the Town to provide recreation opportunities for children and elderly residents.

Growth and Development Patterns

Patterns and Trends

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

As discussed above, Dover's largest period of growth occurred in the 1950s and 1960s, and to a lesser degree in the 1940s. As recently as 1910, there were only 769 residents. This increased to 1374 by 1940, when the most intensive growth began. The 1970s and 1980s was a period of slow growth, averaging well under .5% annually as the number of residents grew from 4529 in 1970 to 4915 in 1990. This increased much more rapidly in the 1990s, rising to a 2000 census figure of 5558.

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

With the exception of the 56-unit County Court condominium project built under a comprehensive permit off Route 109, recent development has been mostly low-density, primarily one lot at a time. Recent subdivisions have resulted in five or fewer developable lots each. Currently, “The Meadows,” a high-density Chapter 40B development (25% affordable, with many local regulations not applicable), is proposed for a prominent site in the center of town formerly used as a sand and gravel operation. Initially proposed as over 50 units, if approved, it may result in 28 units total.

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

Infrastructure

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

Transportation -- Only one State Highway, Route 109, is located within the boundaries of Dover, bordering the southernmost part of Dover for a short distance. The major town roads, which generally radiate out from the Town

Center to provide access throughout the Town as well as to adjacent Towns, include Dedham, Walpole, Pine, Center, Farm, and Main streets, as well as Springdale Avenue. In addition, Route 128 and Route 9 are readily accessible from Dover in the neighboring towns of Westwood, Needham, Wellesley, and Natick.

No commuter rail service exists within Town, but such service is available in the abutting Towns of Natick, Wellesley, Needham, and Walpole. A freight rail line currently traverses Dover but is marginally used.

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

Many trails for both pedestrian and equestrian use are available in Dover. Some of these trails link with trails and/or destinations in adjacent Towns.

Sewer -- Dover has no sewer system. This has been a factor in limiting growth as well as resulting in low-density development. There are no plans to provide sewer service in Town.

Water -- About two-thirds of Dover residents rely on private wells for their water supply. (MAPC, 1993). The remainder receives their water from a number of providers. These include the Town of Dover Water Department, the Dover Water Company, Dover Water Works, Springdale Farms, and Old Farm Road Trust, as well as the Natick and Medfield municipal water departments. These water suppliers also depend on wells as the source of their water.

Long-Term Development Patterns

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

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

than GW-1 but still protective of water sources. Wellhead Protection (WP) areas, the areas immediately surrounding public wells, have the most stringent restrictions.

The Conservation Commission administers the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act and the Town of Dover Wetlands Protection Bylaw. A part-time Conservation Agent assists the Commission in its enforcement and administrative duties. It should be noted that the Dover Wetlands Protection Bylaw contains provisions (such as setback distances for structures and disturbances in the buffer zones) that are stricter than the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. Dover also has a Conservancy District that includes most of the wetlands in town. It should also be noted that the Rivers Act, enacted by the Legislature in 1996, was updated in 2002 to extend protection to lands within 200 feet of rivers and streams. This new law is also administered by the Conservation Commission.

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

It is evident that Dover is undergoing its most rapid period of growth since the 1960's, although current growth is not nearly as rapid as that of the 1950's and 1960's.

Addressing future growth, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council projected Dover's population by age group for the years 2005 and 2010, as presented in Table 5.

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

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

This initial estimate for build-out indicated a possible 553 to 580 additional house lots. This is not the final estimate because it does not consider vacant lots in existing subdivisions or smaller lots with a house which may have additional development potential. More recently (2002), the MAPC prepared a build-out study for Dover as part of a statewide effort. This analysis projected an increase in residential units of 1,150 and 3,233 additional residents. The huge discrepancy

between the two build-out figures may be largely due to the more recent study's failure to consider environmental constraints (including a great deal of land that is undevelopable do to the presence of wetlands, poor soil permeability, ledge, and other conditions), as well as some inaccuracies in the land use inventory. The true build-out figures may lie somewhere in the middle, and additional factors can be introduced to the MAPC analysis to make it more accurate in assessing local conditions.

TABLE 6

LAND USE CATEGORIES AND CHANGE

Land Use Type	1991 Acreage	1999 Acreage	Change
Forestry	5825	5719	-1.8%
Agriculture	823	797	-3.2%
Open Land	346	302	-12.6%
Wetlands	259	251	-3.2%
Single-Family	2607	2786	6.9%
Multi-Family	0	5	--
Commercial	17	17	.0%
Industrial	0	0	--

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Introduction

Dover is located in western Norfolk County in eastern Massachusetts. It shares many characteristics with other New England towns, including varying soils, abundant forest land and wetlands, and a system of rivers and streams. These characteristics are discussed in more detail below.

Geology

Dover lies within the Eastern Plateau (also known as the Coastal Hills) subregion of the Lower New England Physiographic Province. This subregion is characterized by gently rolling hills with low relief and subtle breaks between major landforms (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1989).

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

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

Figure 4 shows surficial geology. This map indicates that a wedge forming the northern border on the banks of the Charles River narrowing to the southeastern corner of Town, consists of sand and gravel. A narrow strip on the western town line bordering the Charles River is also sand and gravel. The remainder of the Town is glacial till. (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1989).

The most widespread surficial deposits in New England are till and stratified drift left by the last two glaciers as they advanced southward about 100,000 to 140,000 years ago. As the ice retreated, large blocks, several miles wide, sometimes became detached from the glacier and began melting slowly. These melting blocks resulted in meltwater streams which transported and deposited glacial sediment, mainly in the valleys. Many of these stratified drift deposits are now aquifers capable of yielding hundreds of gallons of water per minute. Four such aquifers in the

Dover area include Morse's Pond/Elm Bank aquifer, and the Sherborn, Walpole and Millis/Medfield aquifers. (IEP, 1990).

Topography

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

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

Soils

As Figure 5 (General Soil Map) illustrates, most of Dover's soil is of the Canton-Charlton-Hollis variety. These soils are very deep to shallow, gently sloping to steep, somewhat excessively drained and well-drained. They are loamy soils formed in glacial till and in ice-contact, stratified drift on upland, low hills. Soil in this category tends to be woodlands, while some areas tend to be used as cropland or pasture. Septic systems in Canton soils present a ground water pollution hazard because they readily absorb but do not adequately filter the effluent. Hollis soils are too shallow for use as leaching fields. (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1989). This soil complex covers most of the eastern part of Dover.

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

Most of the remainder of Town, particularly along the Charles River in the west and north (but also in the southeastern corner) consists of the Hinckley-Merrimac-Urban complex. These soils are very deep, and range from nearly level to steep. They are excessively drained and somewhat excessively drained soils formed in sandy and loamy glacial outwash overlying stratified sand and gravel, and areas of urban land. They are generally found in major stream valleys and on coastal plains. These soils are generally well suited for buildings as well as roads and streets. However, because they are well drained they can pose a water pollution hazard when

used for septic systems since they readily absorb, but do not adequately filter, the effluent. (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1989).

Landscape Characteristics

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

Water Resources

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

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

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

Several other minor streams in Dover include Otter Brook (which runs through the Medfield State Hospital property from Juniper Hill into the Charles River), Fisher Brook, and Wight Brook. The ponds in Dover include Lyman's, Channing's, Hale's, Powissett, and Noanet ponds. Noanet is the largest. Figure 6 illustrates these surface water features.

The FEMA special flood hazard areas are presented in Figure 7. As one might expect, the major flood zones are those areas along the Charles River as well as along Trout and Noanet Brooks. There is also a flood hazard area in the large wetlands area between Haven Street and Claybrook Road.

Wetlands -- Figure 6 also illustrates the wetland areas in Dover. As can be seen, the largest wetland areas are associated with Trout, Clay, Noanet, and Powisset Brooks. Other wetland areas are scattered throughout the Town.

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

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

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

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

Because of the importance of these groundwater sources to the residents of Dover and surrounding towns, both types of ground water sources are afforded special protection in Dover. Figure 8 presents the Groundwater Protection Districts 1 and 2, in which activities that threaten groundwater are regulated or prohibited.

Vegetation

As shown in Table 6 (Section III.), the most recent land use data available indicates that 5719 acres (about 58% of the town's total land area) was forestland in 1999. An additional 251 acres was non-forested wetlands, or marsh. Additionally, 797 acres were classified as agricultural.

According to the 1978 Dover Recreation Plan (which cited a Harvard University Thesis by John W. Brainerd entitled "The Vegetation of Dover, Massachusetts" as a source) more than two-

thirds of the forestland is composed of hardwoods, with the remainder a mix of hardwoods and softwoods. The predominant species are white, black and red oaks; red and sugar maples; American elm (since lost to Dutch elm disease), eastern white pine, and hemlock. Other important species include white poplar, dogwood, linden, white ash, sycamore, hickory, beech, birch, chestnut, red cedar and juniper.

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

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

Wildlife and Fisheries

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

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

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

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

capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and others. (Park and Recreation Commission and John Brown Associates, 1978; David Everett, 2003).

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

Rare and Endangered Species

The Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has identified a number of current and historic rare species and habitats that have been observed in Dover. These are listed in Table 7.

The NHESP defines two types of habitats for which it urges that special measures be taken to ensure their protection. These include *High Priority Sites of Rare Species and Exemplary Natural Communities* and *Estimated Habitats of Rare, State-listed Wetlands Wildlife*. Only one such site exists in Dover. It is just south of Noanet Pond and straddles the Dover-Westwood town line. Portions of this site qualify for both of these designations. Another such site, which also qualifies under both designations, is just across the Charles River from Dover on the Sherborn-Natick town line. A map of these sites is on file with the Conservation Commission.

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

TABLE 7

RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IN DOVER

Common Name	Status	Year Recorded
Vertebrates		
American Bittern	E	1970
Eastern Box Turtle	SC	1993
Invertebrates		
Umber Shadowdragon	SC	1968
Squawfoot	SC	2000
Plants		
Purple Milkweed	T	1920
Few-Fruited Sedge	T	1920
Pale Green Orchis	T	1907
Lion's Foot	E	1934
Grass-Leaved Ladies'-Tresses	SC	1917
Britton's Violet	T	1945
Sweetbay Magnolia	E	1998
Climbing Fern	SC	1899
Other		
Acidic Graminoid Fen		1998
Certified Vernal Pool		1999

E= Endangered T= Threatened SC= Special Concern

Source: NHESP, 2003

Wildlife Corridors

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

The ability to range over wider areas benefits both animal and plant life by providing more access to food sources, maintain a healthy gene pool within species, and spread seeds of native plants around a greater area (Fretz, 1996) -- all of which help promote biodiversity. While some

species will travel through developed areas, others (such as fox, fisher and bobcat) need the undeveloped areas in order to travel.

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

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

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

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

Scenic and Cultural Resources

Dover is fortunate to have a large number of scenic views as well as several historically significant resources. Prized views and historic points of interest and significance include the fire tower, and nearby ancient hemlock at Snow Hill, Fisher’s Saw Mill, the Valley Farm Dairy, the Baptist Church and old town center, and the railroad trestle (see Figure 9 for map showing these and other locations). The farms and pastures along Farm Street, Center Street, Dedham Street, Haven Street, Powissett Street and elsewhere are highly prized for their scenic qualities.

Many scenic views are visible along the many bridle trails in Town, which are protected and encouraged through the Planning Board's Subdivision Rules and Regulations. These regulations require trail connections wherever possible. These efforts are supplemented by the efforts of

generous residents and private equestrian organizations. Property owners have a long history of maintaining the bridle paths on their land. The Valley Landowners Association was organized in 1932, with the purpose of keeping trails and wood roads in Dover, Sherborn, Medfield and Millis open and brushed out for riders (Vara, 1976). Wardner Farm, located on the Dover Medfield town line, and the site of headquarters for the Norfolk Hunt provides open space areas for its riders and beautiful views for passersby. Landholdings of The Trustees of Reservations and Dover Land Conservation Trust are also crucial to trail connections throughout the town.

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

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

Two organizations, the Dover Historical Commission (a Town commission) and the Dover Historical and Natural History Society, are at the forefront of historic preservation efforts in town. The Dover Historical Commission has researched and developed an extensive reference document addressing over 150 historic structures in town (Master Plan, 1998). At Spring Town Meeting, 1995, the Commission sponsored a successful Warrant article to provide for a demolition review bylaw. The bylaw will help to preserve historic homes and other structures in town. This bylaw was amended in 2002 to extend the period for demolition delay from six months to one year and to include all structures built prior to 1932 (formerly 1899).

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

Some of the most significant older houses in Town are listed on the next page.

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

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

Environmental Problems

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

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

Another environmental problem is the existence of invasive plants in the Algonquin Gas Pipeline right-of-way. This problem was revealed by the Conservation Commission at the November 2, 1996, public meeting. It is a situation requiring continued monitoring.

A third issue is runoff. The application of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers on lawns, gardens, fields, etc., as well as the application of road salt on icy roads, result in contaminated water running off the lands and roads into wetlands and streams, or draining into the ground posing a threat to both surface and ground waters. While all these substances have legitimate uses, they can also be misapplied. People often unknowingly use improper amounts or apply them at the wrong times, resulting in both diminished effectiveness of the product and contaminated runoff. The use of road salt must be monitored.

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

V. INVENTORY OF LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION INTEREST

Introduction

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

This section inventories existing open space and recreation lands in four categories. These include protected open space and conservation lands; recreation areas and facilities; Chapter 61, 61A and 61B lands; and other lands of conservation or recreation interest. Figure 10 illustrates existing lands of conservation and recreation interest.

Protected Open Space and Conservation Lands

The major conservation areas in Dover are presented in Table 8. This list was derived primarily from the Dover Assessor's records.

As shown in the table, Dover has approximately 3,016 acres of protected open space owned in fee by governmental agencies and private, non-profit groups whose mission is primarily the acquisition and holding of conservation lands. This represents over 30 percent of the Town's area of 15.31 square miles (9876 acres). The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) control the largest portion of this (952 acres), followed by Hale Reservation, Inc. (626 acres), the Dover Conservation Commission (414 acres), the Dover Land Conservation Trust (over 347 acres), the State of Massachusetts (about 294 acres) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (92.75 acres). The Town of Dover owns an additional 289 acres.

Besides the in fee ownership of lands listed above, 454 acres (4.6% of the Town's land area) are protected from future development by conservation restrictions. With a conservation restriction, some or all of the development rights that are inherent to a parcel of land are separated from the ownership of the land itself and held by a governmental entity or an organization dedicated to protection of open space. For example, if a farmer were to place a conservation restriction on his farm, he would still own the land, he could continue to farm it, and he could prohibit public access. He would not, however, be able to subdivide and develop it. The terms of conservation restrictions may differ. In some cases, they may allow one additional house for a family member. In other cases, no additional development at all could occur. Conservation restrictions may be donated and result in a tax deduction on the owner's income taxes, and possibly a real estate tax reduction due to the reduced value of the remaining ownership rights to the property. Such land may also be bought and sold, but the conservation restriction remains with the land in perpetuity.

ADDENDUM

The following two paragraphs are to be inserted into the text of The Open Space and Recreation Plan on page V-I, between the second paragraph under Protected Open Space and Conservation Lands, starting" As shown in the table, -" and the third paragraph.

With regard to permanent protection (in perpetuity) of the lands listed above, the properties owned by the TTOR and the Dover Land Conservation Trust are protected from a change in use by the charters and mission statements of the two organizations. The land owned by the Dover Conservation Commission and the Department of Conservation and Recreation of the State of Massachusetts are protected under Article 97 of the Article of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Land owned in fee by the Town of Dover and currently classified as open space can be used for other purposes upon a vote of the Town Meeting. The land owned by the Dover-8herborn Regional School can be used for any purpose that the Regional School Committee deems appropriate. Hale Reservation enjoys no protection from development. Land purchased by the Army Corps of Engineers for the Natural Valley Storage Program was purchased with the intent of providing protection to wetlands in the Upper Charles River Basin. It therefore would appear to have a high level of protection.

With regard to the Conservation Restrictions, described in the following paragraph, the protections afforded to in fee properties owned by the Conservation Commission and the State of Massachusetts by the prOvisions of Article 97 are extended to restrictions held by the two Land Trusts, as well as to restrictions held by the Conservation Commission and the Army Corps of Engineers.

TABLE 8

DOVER CONSERVATION LANDS
In-Fee Ownership

Name	Area (acres)	Zoning	Owner/Mgmt
THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS (TTOR)			
Reservations			
Noanet Woodlands	657.01	R2/C	TTOR
Peters Reservation	89.37	R2	TTOR
Chase Woodlands	85.18	R2	TTOR
Working Farm (no public access)			
Powissett Farm	106.62	R2	TTOR
Other Holdings			
Pond Street	6.70	R1	TTOR
Off Francis Street	6.65	O	TTOR
Off Pleasant Street	.40	R1	TTOR
TOTAL	**951.93**		
HALE RESERVATION, INC. (HRI)			
Hale Reservation	**626.04**	O	HRI
DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION			
Valley Farm Land	13.09	O	ConCom
Haven	25.61	R1	ConCom
Rice Land	59.31	O	ConCom
Channing Land	45.25	O	ConCom
Snow Hill	56.98	O	ConCom
Charles River	46.00	O	ConCom
Walpole Street	33.00	O	ConCom
Wylde Land	68.50	O	ConCom
Ferguson Land	43.49	O	ConCom
Other	23.60		ConCom
TOTAL	**414.83**		

Continued on next page

TABLE 8

DOVER CONSERVATION LANDS
In-Fee Ownership(Continued)

Name	Area (acres)	Zoning	Owner/Mgmt
DOVER LAND CONSERVATION TRUST (DLCT)			
Snow Hill	112.23	R2	DLCT
Bartlett Pines	21.20	R1/C	DLCT
Springdale Field	23.20	R2/C	DLCT
Gregg Property	41.52	R1	DLCT
Sanger Property	41.76	R2	DLCT
Russell Property	27.65	R2	DLCT
Donnelly Property	19.49	R2	DLCT
Other	60.55		DLCT
TOTAL	**347.60**		DLCT
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (ACOE)			
TOTAL	**92.75**	R1/C	ACOE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS			
Elm Bank 1	182.10	O	MDC
Charles River Reservation (State Forest)	111.72	O	DEM
TOTAL	**293.82**		
OTHER TOWN OF DOVER LAND			
Bridge Street	6.92	R2	Town
Snow Hill	29.28	O	Town
Church Street Well Site	9.20	R1/C	Town
Larrabee Estate	66.84		
Off Powissett	40.42	O	Town
Off Strawberry Hill	26.42	O	Town
Ponzi Land	31.58		Town
Valley Farm	78.70		Town
TOTAL	**289.36**		
TOTAL IN FEE	**3016.33 acres**		

[1] 40+ acres leased to Massachusetts Horticultural Society

TABLE 8

DOVER CONSERVATION LANDS (Continued)
Conservation Restrictions

Name	Area (acres)	Zoning	Owner/Mgmt
CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS			
The Trustees of Reservations			
Channing	110.30		TTOR
Cabot	14.67		TTOR
Law	22.80		TTOR
Blake	25.00		TTOR
Brixton	7.72		TTOR
Peabody	40.40		TTOR
Ladd	8.20		TTOR
Chase	10.43		TTOR
TOTAL	**239.52**		
Dover Land Conservation Trust			
Charles Jackson	5.00		DLCT
Mary Jackson	4.26		DLCT
Clowes	7.37		DLCT
Healer	16.59		DLCT
Elizabeth Jackson	4.15		DLCT
Faulkner	28.00		DLCT
Prout	5.45		DLCT
Hallowell	17.64		DLCT
TOTAL	**88.46**		
Conservation Commission			
Nightingale	13.70		ConCom
Brook Run	8.10		ConCom
Bean	12.00 ±		ConCom
TOTAL	**33.80±**		
U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers			
Total easements on private, unprotected land [2]	**92.35**		ACOE
TOTAL RESTRICTIONS	**454.13±**		

[2] U.S. ACOE has an additional 86.12 acres of easements on Town and DLCT land.
Source: Dover Assessor's Office, Conservation Commission and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

As shown in Table 8, the largest holder of conservation restrictions in Dover is The Trustees of Reservations, with over 239 acres. Other entities holding conservation restrictions include the Dover Land Conservation Trust, the Conservation Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Among the most significant open space parcels in Dover are Hale Reservation and Noanet Woodlands. Hale Reservation, totaling about 1200 acres in Dover and Westwood, is managed by Hale Reservation, Inc., a private, non-profit organization with headquarters in Westwood. Noanet Woodlands (657 acres) is owned by The Trustees of Reservations. Its eastern border, for the most part, is contiguous with the western border of Hale Reservation. Management of the two organizations collaborate in developing rules for the use of trails, and hiking, biking, and horseback riding are allowed on the well-marked trail systems of both reservations. This results in a de facto reservation of more than 1800 acres.

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

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

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

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

Bartlett Pines (owned by DLCT), accessed off of Claybrook Road, is a beautiful property that juts into the Troutbrook Marsh. A seasonal stream is spanned by a primitive bridge and leads to a path around the property. There are wonderful views of the marsh. Wildlife abounds, from deer and muskrat to geese and ducks.

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

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

Recreation Areas and Facilities

Table 9 lists the major active and passive (non-conservation) recreation areas and facilities. It should be noted that figures may be overstated somewhat since school buildings occupy a significant percentage of "recreation" space. Elm Bank is the site of the Massachusetts Horticultural Center (182 acres, of which a small portion is used for active recreation.) The private Charles River School has recreation space as well.

Chapter 61, 61A and 61B Lands

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

Table 10 lists the Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B properties in Dover in 2003. The largest category is Chapter 61A (agricultural) lands.

Other Lands of Conservation and/or Recreation Interest

Table 11 lists other privately owned lands that provide scenic views, agricultural uses, wildlife habitat, or otherwise contribute to the character of Dover. It should be noted that it is not intended that the areas of Town and properties listed in Table 11 are more important than other areas of Town or other properties. Rather, it is simply a non-exclusive list that indicates that these areas have several large parcels within them that have the potential to preserve Dover's character if many of them remain in their present state. This can be accomplished through the individual initiative of the landowners; the acquisition or donation of easements, conservation restrictions, or in fee title; limited development projects (e.g. creating and selling one or more building lots from a large parcel in order to finance the preservation of the remainder); or some combination thereof.

TABLE 9

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE RECREATION FACILITIES

# On Map	Name	Acres	Management	Zone	Facilities
TOWN OWNED					
1	Caryl Park	82.00	PRC	O	Fields, 2 Little League fields, soccer field, softball field, 4 tennis courts, playground, basketball court
2	Caryl School	3.05	PRC	O	Gymnasium, playground, outdoor basketball court
3	Regional High School	41.60	School	I	2 baseball fields, 2 softball fields, 2 soccer fields, football field, 4 tennis courts, track and field area, indoor and outdoor basketball court
4	Chickering School	44.00	PRC		2 soccer fields, baseball field, playground
5	Channing Park	6.14	PRC		Pond for hockey, skating, fishing
6	Town Common	5.72	PRC	O	Paths, benches
7	West End	2.80	PRC	O	Paths
8	Bickford-Ballou Park	2.28	PRC	O	Boat launch into Charles River
9	Lower Town Hall	—	COA	O	Meeting space
OTHER					
10	Charles River School	10.99	Private	O/R1	Pool, tennis courts, playground, gymnasium, fields
11	Elm Bank	182.00	State	O	Trails, Mass. Horticultural Society headquarters & gardens, soccer fields (used by towns other than Dover)

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

Sources: Assessors Office, Park and Recreation Commission

TABLE 10

CHAPTER 61, 61A AND 61B PROPERTIES IN DOVER

Map	Parcel#	Acreage	Street/(Owner)
CHAPTER 61			
2	7-27	2.11	Dedham (Cabot)
	7-27A	1.29	
	7-28	18.20	
	7-29B	1.26	
Sub-total		**22.86**	
3	10-13	**50.60**	Farm (Fisher)
4	10-38	11.55	Farm (Guild)
	10-39	.11	
	10-40	.80	
Sub-total		**12.46**	
5	11-123	**10.00**	Centre (Stone)
6	15-22	**30.70**	Farm (Richardson)
7	16-30	**22.80**	Farm (Sargent)
8	16-31	**17.50**	Farm (Pierce)
TOTAL (61)		**166.97**	
CHAPTER 61A			
10	7-10	**5.52**	Dedham (Loebelenz)
11	7-26	**37.20**	Strawberry Hill (Blake)
12	8-11	**7.14**	Dedham (Brodie, P.)
13	8-12C	1.45	Dedham (Brodie, A.)
	8-12D	2.30	
	8-12E	2.29	
Sub-total		**6.04**	

TABLE 10

CHAPTER 61, 61A, AND 61B PROPERTIES IN DOVER (Continued)

Map	Parcel#	Acreage	Street/(Owner)
14	10-34	4.19	Farm (Lesser)
	10-36	95.29	
	16-51	18.50	
Sub-total		**117.98**	
	11-49	**24.00**	
15	13-8	**42.02**	Strawberry Hill (Cabot)
16	15-12D	10.65	Smith (Bright)
	15-13	55.35	
	15-13A	23.70	
	15-14A	7.10	
Sub-total		**96.80**	
17	15-14	**12.00**	
18	18-151	4.54	Powissett (Truesdale)
	18-152	3.95	
	18-153	4.40	
Sub-total		**12.89**	
19	19-11	38.38	Powissett (TTOR)
	19-12	2.00	
Sub-total		**40.38**	
TOTAL (61A)		**401.97**	
CHAPTER 61B			
20	5-145	7.34	Cranberry (Mahoney)
	5-145A	1.16	
Sub-total		**8.50**	
23	13-09	38.42	Strawberry Hill (Thornhill)

Continued on next page

TABLE 10

CHAPTER 61, 61A, AND 61B PROPERTIES IN DOVER (Continued)

Map	Parcel#	Acreage	Street/(Owner)
24	15-08	2.86	Bridge (Porter)
	15-08A	4.11	
	15-08B	10.26	
	15-08C	3.29	
Sub-total		**20.52**	
25	17-34A	2.20	Centre (Glidden)
	17-34B	6.95	
	17-34C	6.60	
Sub-total		**15.75**	
26	21-51	32.10	Centre (Wardner Farm Trust)
	21-55	8.00	
Sub-total		**40.10**	
TOTAL (61B)		**123.29**	
SUMMARY:			
Chapter 61		166.97	
Chapter 61A		401.97	
Chapter 61B		123.29	
TOTAL		**692.23 Acres**	

Source: Dover Assessor's Office, 2003

TABLE 11

ADDITIONAL LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND/OR RECREATION INTEREST

Descriptive Name	Street	Acres	Map/Lot#	Comments
RIVERFRONT AREA				
1. St. Stephen's Priory	Glen	78.50	9-131	Future plans unknown. On Charles River near Chase Woodlands. Previous easement attempt not successful.
2. Bright Property	Smith	106.50	15-12, 13, 13A, 14A, 14B	Large, scenic, agricultural.
3. Porter	Smith	20.49	15-08, 08A, 08B, 08C	Chapter 61B.
4. Murray	Claybrook	13.50	3-05	Forms bend in river, across from DLCT land.
5. Blodgett	Claybrook	45.29	6-36, 37, 41	Straddles Clay Brook.
6. Powers	Centre	12.00	6-44	Horse farm.
7. Lisbon	Cross	9.51	6-45	Scenic views.
8. Bailey	Cross	7.90	6-45A	Scenic views.
9. Burgin	Dedham	10.65	7-12	Scenic views.
10. Lobkowitz	Dedham	10.22	7-12B, 13	Scenic views.
11. Cabot	Dedham	16.89	8-02	Scenic views.
12. Mandell	Dedham	9.0	8-04	Scenic views.
STRAWBERRY HILL ST./DEDHAM ST./WILSONDALE ST. AREA				
13. Adams	Dedham	40.79	7-31, 32	Scenic views.
14. Cabot	Dedham	28.92	7-27, 28, 30	Scenic views.
15. Blake	Strawberry	44.3	7-26	Scenic meadow, abuts TTOR.
16. Cooper	Wilsondale	19.26	7-22, 22A	Scenic views.
17. Guiod	Dedham	11.49	7-15	Scenic views.
18. Bisson	Wilsondale	41.25	8-08, 08C, 08D, 08E	Scenic views, pond, brook.
19. Shepherd	Wilsondale	16.72	8-17	Scenic views.
20. Cunningham	Wilsondale	15.53	8-23	Scenic views, abuts pond.
21. Kennedy	Wilsondale	23.91	8-25	Large pond & brook.
22. Pach	Wilsondale	8.85	8-26	Scenic views, abuts pond.
23. Gregory	Wilsondale	13.38	8-14, 15	Scenic views, abuts Powissett Brook.
24. Mitton	Dedham	10.06	8-09, 10	Abuts Powissett Brook.
25. Jannsen	Strwbry Hill	28.63	13-03	Scenic view, 2 ponds & brook.

Continued on next page

TABLE 11

ADDITIONAL LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND/OR RECREATION INTEREST (Continued)

Descriptive Name	Street	Acres	Map/Lot#	Comments
26. Law	Wilsondale	22.8	13-20	Scenic views.
27. Stafford	Strwbry Hill	14.28	13-16,16A	Scenic views.
28. Adams	Strwbry Hill	16.5	13-18	Scenic views, abuts Hale.
29. Minot	Strwbry Hill	30.50	13-17	Scenic views, abuts Hale.
30. Crittenden	Strwbry Hill	60.00	13-12, 15	Abuts Town land, has pond.
31. Thornhill	Strwbry Hill	44.49	13-09, 09A	Abuts Town land & Hale.
32. Cabot	Strwbry Hill	49.02	13-08	Abuts Noanet Woodlands.
PEGAN HILL/FARM ST. AREA (Note: TTOR has 28.8 acres in Natick abutting Dover town line.)				
33. Thompson	Pegan Lane	21.51	10-19	Scenic views, country vistas.
34. Fisher	Farm	56.13	10-13	Woodlands.
35. Vinios	Farm	68.37	10-10, 12, 9-142	Horse farm, great vistas.
36. Briggs	Farm	11.65	10-09	Uplands, great vistas.
37. Prout	Farm	23.88	9-141, 141A, 10-07	CR on 5.45 acres, woods, wildlife.
38. Sheldon	Farm	15.94	10-49	Fields, open vistas.
39. Guild	Farm	29.54	10-38, 39	Vistas, brook.
40. Boylan	Farm	20.10	10-33	Horse farm, vistas.
41. Fidgeon	Farm	59.96	10-54	Horses, wildlife, wooded.
42. Sargent	Farm	25.80	16-30	Pond, abuts Chase Woodlands.
43. Pierce	Farm	20.00	16-31	Abuts Chase Woodlands.
44. Lynch	Farm	22.60	15-34	Abuts Chase Woodlands.
45. Mace	Farm	15.17	15-29, 29A	Abuts Chase Woodlands.
46. Thayer	Farm	6.00	15-15	Corner of Smith St.
47. Richardson	Farm	36.16	15-22	Chapter 61A, farm.
48. Medfield State Hospital	Junction	45.80	20-01	State plans unknown. Adjacent to conservation land.
49. Gardiner, M.	Junction	16.08	20-02	Abuts State Hospital land.
50. Gardiner, F.	Junction	11.34	20-03	Abuts St. Hospital & Regional School land.
51. Gobbi	Junction	14.95	20-05, 10, 11	Abuts Regional School, gateway to Dover

Continued on next page

TABLE 11

ADDITIONAL LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND/OR RECREATION INTEREST (Continued)

Descriptive Name	Street	Acres	Map/Lot#	Comments
CENTRE STREET AREA				
52. Wylde	Centre	76.50	17-05, 05A, 10, 10A	Most in Chapter 61. Pond, brook.
53. Stone	Centre	13.68	11-123	Brook, pond.
54. Fullerton	Centre	10.00	17-40	Pond.
55. Dabney	Centre	18.93	21-54	Scenic views.
56. Wardner	Centre	50.57	21-51, 55	32 acres in Ch. 61B, links to Wardner land in Medfield.
57. Walker	Centre	10.54	17-11	Scenic views, pond, brook.
58. Harvey	Centre	7.04	17-31	Abuts DLCT land.
59. Cabot	Centre	10.54	11-141	Scenic views.
60. Glidden, S.	Centre	15.75	17-34A, 34B, 34C	Wooded.
PINE STREET AREA				
61. Glidden, M.	Pine	30.80	17-55	Scenic views.
62. Dover Church	Pine	7.00	17-61	Abuts DLCT land.
63. Otis	Pine	9.05	18-05	Pond, brook.
64. Stives	Pine	6.52	18-07	Brook, abuts pond.
WALPOLE/HARTFORD STREET AREA				
65. Knight	Walpole	13.00	18-127	Potential link between Rocky Woods and Noanet Woods.
66. Kirby	Hartford	19.40	23-90	Abuts Rocky Woods.
OTHER				
67. Bean Property	Main/Haven	6.96	5-160	Farmed by cooperative.
68. Heinlein	Main	10.80	5-193	Scenic views.
69. Connors	Chestnut	1.00	8-03	
70. Snyder	Springdale	27.20	11-149	Well protection, scenic views.

Continued on next page

TABLE 11

ADDITIONAL LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND/OR RECREATION INTEREST (Continued)

Descriptive Name	Street	Acres	Map/Lot#	Comments
71. Lamb	Claybrook	16.70	4-05; 2-71	Chapter 61 (part).
72. Healer	Farm	30.20	11-44	Well protection.
73. Bagg	Farm	5.78	11-43	Well protection.
74. Heinlein	Claybrook	6.35	2-68, 69, 70	
75. Morss	Pegan/Main	33.92	4-30, 31, 37, 38	
76. Thorndike	Main	29.57	4-32	
77. Powers	Springdale	36.30	11-48	Abuts DLCT, trails, views.

Source: Compiled from Assessor's Records and citizen input.

VI. COMMUNITY GOALS

The following are the open space and recreation goals of the Town of Dover. Section II, Introduction, explains the process used to develop these Goals. More general community goals are enumerated in the Town's Master Plan and are incorporated herein by reference.

OPEN SPACE

1. **Preserve and Protect the Water Supply, Wildlife Habitat, Agricultural Uses, Scenic Views, and Historic Sites.**

2. **Acquire Additional Lands for Conservation and Recreation.**

3. **Increase Public Awareness of Open Space and Conservation Resources.**

4. **Link Open Space and Recreation Sites to Each Other and to Residential Areas.**

5. **Manage Limited Resources to Maintain and Improve Forest Land, the Charles River, Ponds, Streams, and Open Lands.**

6. **Determine the Status of Dev elopment Restrictions on Town-Owned Conservation Lands.**

RECREATION

1. **Provide Recreation Programs to Meet the Diverse Needs and Interests of all Dover Residents.**

2. **Develop and/or Improve Both Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Areas to Provide a Wide Range of Year-Round Activities.**

VII. NEEDS ANALYSIS

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

Summary of Resource Protection Needs

The major resource protection needs are as follows:

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

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

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

Dover apparently lost 51 acres of wetlands between 1980 and 1985. Some of this may be attributable to different interpretations of the aerial photographs on which the figures are based. Nevertheless, both the state Wetlands Protection Act and the local wetlands bylaw should continue to be enforced strictly to protect wetlands as well as surface waters with which they are associated. Fertilizer, pesticide, and salt use should be discouraged near wetlands, surface waters or aquifers.

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

Summary of Community Needs

The following are the primary community "needs" relating to conservation and recreation; that is, the items at the top of the wish list:

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

Dover is part of the MDC Region of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), entitled Massachusetts Oudoors 2000!, which was updated in 2000. To a certain extent, Dover's needs reflect the needs of the Region. The SCORP continues to emphasize development and expansion of water-based recreation facilities, development and expansion of trail corridors, and provision of recreational day care programs.

A recreation survey conducted in Dover and Sherborn in 1996 revealed strong interest in creating bike paths, which has been interpreted to include multi-use recreation paths that would also be available for hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, etc.

Dover already has a significant trail system. There is a significant need to review deeds and other documents to verify public trail easements that do exist and to map and document them to ensure continued availability for public use.

Summary of Educational Initiatives for the Open Space Committee

1. Review growth management mechanisms in light of increased development, and attempt to assess their impacts.
2. Consider limited development.
3. Educate both potential users of open space and large landowners as to the benefits of open space, its proper use and the mechanisms for its preservation.
4. Monitor the effect of changing wastewater treatment technologies on future land use

Growth management mechanisms need to change over time to respond to changing circumstances, new information, new technologies, etc. The Open Space Committee will collaborate with Town committees in assessing the impacts of local land use regulations.

Two types of educational efforts are needed. One would dispense information about the recreational opportunities available in Town to encourage their use. The other effort should be geared toward large landowners to increase their knowledge of options for the disposition of their land that may be beneficial to the Town as well as to the land owner.

The increasing pace of development is changing the use of land. Also posing the potential for major impacts on Dover is the future use of the Medfield State Hospital site. While the existing buildings are in Medfield, they are just over the town line from Dover, and the grounds of the Hospital extend into Dover. Thus Dover has a major stake in the

future of this facility. The Regional School Committee is currently purchasing the small portion of the hospital grounds in Dover adjacent to the schools.

Finally, soil limitations have had the effect of limiting development in Dover and other towns without a sewer system. Evolving treatment technologies may facilitate development in areas where it previously was not possible or likely. Such technological changes should be monitored.

VIII. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following goals and objectives are based on previous planning efforts, updated to reflect new challenges and comments received from residents and Town boards and commissions. Substantively, they are essentially the same as those in the 1997 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

OPEN SPACE

GOAL 1: PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE WATER SUPPLY, WILDLIFE HABITAT, AGRICULTURAL USES, SCENIC VIEWS, AND HISTORIC SITES

Objectives:

- Manage growth to protect resources.
- Preserve and protect water supplies.
- Protect migratory paths and flyway corridors for wildlife.
- Protect specific wildlife habitat.
- Encourage preservation of agricultural uses.
- Preserve scenic views and scenic roads.
- Protect historic sites.

GOAL 2: ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL LANDS FOR CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Objectives:

- Anticipate future land use requirements and develop a proactive system to meet land needs.
- Acquire, through fee simple purchase, easements, conservation restrictions, purchase of development rights, donations, or other means, lands through which protection advances one or more of these goals and objectives.

GOAL 3: INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION RESOURCES

Objectives:

- Educate residents about the value of open space and the demands placed on the Town budget by development.
- Promote passive recreation uses of open space.

GOAL 4: LINK OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION SITES TO EACH OTHER AND TO RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Objectives:

- Provide trails or paths for non-motorized recreational activities.
- Protect and clearly mark existing trails, easements and trail linkages, and create new trails where feasible and appropriate.

GOAL 5: MANAGE LIMITED RESOURCES TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE FOREST LAND, THE CHARLES RIVER, PONDS, STREAMS, AND OPEN LANDS

Objectives:

- Coordinate financial and volunteer resources.
- Determine management needs.
- Promote biodiversity.

GOAL 6: DETERMINE THE STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT RESTRICTIONS ON TOWN-OWNED CONSERVATION LANDS

Objectives:

- Determine if Town-owned conservation lands qualify as " park land'' and hence require vote of the State legislature to be used for other purposes.
- For any lands that do not qualify as ''park land,'' determine by title search if there are any other restrictions in the deed.
- For any lands that remain unprotected, consider granting a restriction to a third party to protect those lands from conversion to other uses.

RECREATION

GOAL 1: PROVIDE RECREATION PROGRAMS TO MEET THE DIVERSE NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF ALL DOVER RESIDENTS

Objectives:

- Develop and/or improve recreation programs for children and adults of all age groups.
- Develop programs for the handicapped.

GOAL 2: DEVELOP AND/OR IMPROVE BOTH INDOOR AND OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS TO PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF YEAR-ROUND ACTIVITIES

Objectives:

- Upgrade and maintain public fields and parks.
- Ensure universal access to recreation areas.
- Develop indoor and outdoor facilities.
- Diversify recreational opportunities available to residents.

IX. FIVE YEAR ACTION PLAN

The following charts summarize the key recommended actions the Town of Dover should undertake to address its open space and recreation needs over the next five years. The charts also identify the recommended lead agency and supporting agencies for each recommendation, recommend a schedule for accomplishing each action (most are ongoing), and identify mechanisms that might be used to implement recommendations as appropriate.

Recommendations are not listed in order of priority.

DOVER OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN 2003 UPDATE
FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

OPEN SPACE GOALS

Goal 1 - Preserve and Protect Water Supply, Wildlife Habitat, Agricultural Uses, Scenic Views, and Historic Sites

YEAR	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	MECHANISMS
Ongoing	1. Enforce Groundwater Protection Districts.	Selectmen/Town Engineer	Conservation Commission, Planning Board, DEP	Groundwater Protection Districts
Ongoing	2. Acquire additional lands in Groundwater Protection District 1.	Open Space Committee	Selectmen	Bonding, Grants, Donations, Land Bank, Conservation restrictions, Open Space Bond Act
Ongoing	3. Identify and protect vernal pools.	Conservation Commission	Planning Board, DEP	Educational efforts
Ongoing	4. Discourage use of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and other contaminants, particularly in Groundwater Protection District 1, and near surface water bodies (including along railroad).	Town Engineer, Recycling Committee, Highway Department	Open Space Committee, Park and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Conservation District	Prepare and distribute educational materials, Conduct workshops.
Ongoing	5. Encourage reduced use of road salt.	Selectmen, Highway Department, Board of Health	Finance Committee on Roads, Open Space Committee, Police Department	Develop a Town policy that addresses such issues as safety, protecting water supplies and vegetation, and cost of materials.
Ongoing	6. Strictly enforce local septic system regulations.	Board of Health		Education, enforcement
Ongoing	7. Identify and map existing agricultural uses and lands suitable for new agricultural uses. Promote new uses.	Open Space Committee GIS Coordinator	UMass Extension Service, Mass. Farm Bureau	Inventory, Establish farm liaison
Ongoing	8. Review/revise growth management strategies.	Planning Board, Long-Range Planning Committee	Selectmen	Bylaw review

Ongoing	9. Expand GIS by adding information on wells and septic systems, wildlife corridors, existing and potential agricultural lands, vernal pools, and other data.	GIS Coordinator	Planning Board, Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Board of Health	Appropriation
Ongoing	10. Work with Medfield, Sherborn and Commonwealth agencies to help establish future uses for Medfield State Hospital land; Explore increased use of State Forest adjacent to Medfield State Hospital.	Medfield State Hospital Reuse Committee, Open Space Committee, Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee	Selectmen, Planning Board, Park and Recreation Commission	Participation in ongoing planning efforts
Ongoing	11. Identify and prioritize historic sites for preservation.	Dover Historical Comm.	Open Space Committee, Selectmen	Inventory/survey
Ongoing	12. Complete the program to identify and remove underground storage tanks.	Fire Department	Selectmen, Board of Health	Continued monitoring.

Goal 2 - Acquire Additional Lands for Conservation, Recreation and other Municipal Needs

YEAR	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	MECHANISMS
2004	1. Finalize criteria by which to evaluate land parcels.	Open Space Committee	Conservation Commission, Selectmen, Park and Recreation Commission, Planning Board	Establish land parcel criteria guidelines
Ongoing	2. Prioritize Chapter 61, 61A and 61B lands to facilitate Town decisions on right of first refusal upon change of use.	Open Space Committee	Selectmen, Park and Recreation Commission, Assessors, Planning Board, Conservation Commission	Maintain list (update as needed)
Ongoing	3. Acquire important lands in order of priority, subject to availability.	Selectmen, Open Space Committee	Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission	Bonding, easements, conservation restrictions, donations, appropriations

Goal 3 - Increase Public Awareness of Open Space and Conservation Resources and Issues

YEAR	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	MECHANISM
Ongoing	1. Promote discussion of open space and conservation issues and educate residents regarding mechanisms used to preserve open space.	Open Space Committee	Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Assessors	Newspaper articles, cable television, public forums, appropriations as needed.

Goal 4 - Link Open Space and Recreation Sites

YEAR	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	MECHANISMS
Ongoing	1. Identify and acquire lands that provide links between open space and recreation sites.	Open Space Committee	Planning Board, Selectmen Conservation Commission	Bonding, easements, conservation restrictions, donations
Ongoing	2. Protect wildlife corridors.	Open Space Committee	Conservation Commission, Planning Board	Maintain database of wildlife corridors and flyways using local inventory and State data. Incorporate protective measures in development plans.
Ongoing	3. Identify existing trails and recommend future connections.	Open Space Committee	Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Planning Board	Appropriations
Ongoing	4. Expand access to open space through additional acquisitions and by providing parking, trails, signage, and handicapped accessibility.	Open Space Committee, Conservation Commission, Park and Recreation Commission	Planning Board, Selectmen, Highway Department	Appropriations

Goal 5 - Manage Limited Resources to Maintain and Improve Forest Land, the Charles River, Ponds, Streams and Open Lands

YEAR	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	MECHANISM(S)
Ongoing	1. Finalize Open Space Management Plan.	Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee	Park and Recreation Commission, Selectmen, Highway Department	Open Space Management Plan
Ongoing	2. Coordinate efforts/share information among public and non-profit landowners.	Open Space Committee	Selectmen, TTOR, DLCT, Hale Reservation, Medfield State Hospital	Regular meetings, common list of contact persons
2004	3. Establish Trails Committee.	Open Space Committee	Selectmen, TTOR, DLCT, Hale Reservation, Medfield State Hospital	Trails Committee meetings, monitoring and maintaining trails

Goal 6 – Determine the Status of Development Restrictions on Town-owned Lands

YEAR	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	MECHANISM(S)
Ongoing	1. Determine status of town-owned land as "park land" and determine need for vote of State legislature for other uses.	Open Space Committee	Selectmen, Park and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission	Research
Ongoing	2. For non-"park land," determine whether other deed restrictions exist.	Open Space Committee	Selectmen, Park and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission	Research
2004	3. Consider granting third party restrictions to protect lands from conversions to other uses.	Selectmen, Open Space Committee	Park and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission	Public meetings, Town Meeting/Town action

RECREATION GOALS

Goal 1 - Provide Recreation Programs To Meet the Diverse Needs and Interests of All Dover Residents

YEAR	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	MECHANISMS
Ongoing	1. Pursue establishment of recreation paths and a community center.	Park and Recreation Commission	Selectmen	Park and Rec. meetings, appropriations
Ongoing	2. Develop and/or improve recreation programs for children and adults of all age groups.	Park and Recreation Commission	Selectmen, School Committees	Park and Rec. meetings, appropriations as needed
Ongoing	3. Develop programs for the handicapped.	Park and Recreation Commission	Selectmen, Council on Aging	Park and Rec. meetings, appropriations
Ongoing	4. Incorporate Council on Aging needs in planning recreation facilities and programs.	Council on Aging	Park and Recreation Commission	COA/Park and Rec. meetings

Goal 2 - Develop and/or Improve Both Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Areas to Provide a Wide Range of Year-Round Activities

YEAR	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	MECHANISMS
Ongoing	1. Develop and/or improve facilities to serve children and adults of all age groups.	Park and Recreation Commission	Selectmen, School Committee	Surveys/public input
Ongoing	2. Ensure accessibility to recreation facilities.	Park and Recreation Commission	Selectmen, School Committee	ADA standards
Ongoing	3. Acquire riverfront land for waterfront recreational uses.	Park and Recreation Commission	Selectmen	Bonding, easements, conservation restrictions, donations, appropriations
Ongoing	4. Develop waterfront activities (swimming, boating, fishing) on the Charles River.	Park and Recreation Commission	Selectmen	Park and Rec. meetings, public input, appropriations

Ongoing	5. Explore potential for recreation paths.	Park and Recreation Commission, Open Space Committee	Selectmen, Planning Board, Highway Department	Park and Rec. meetings, appropriations as needed