

SECTION 8

GOALS & OBJECTIVES



A. 2020 OSRP Goals and Objectives

As previously stated in Section 6, the goal of the plan is to protect, preserve, and enhance the resources that provide the high-quality living and working environment valued by Northborough residents.

The goals and objectives listed herein were developed based on the survey and additional resident input received during committee meetings. Key priorities, which developed during the process, were the preservation of open space and protection of natural resources. The following list is a consolidation of the many issues and ideas discussed throughout the planning process.

Goal 1: Preserve open space for the town's overall benefit.

Objectives

1-A Acquire through fee acquisition or conservation restriction additional open space permanently protected by the Town, State or non-profits, particularly for parcels that provide key linkages among open spaces, mitigate hazards and/or contribute to the diversity of wildlife habitat.

1-B Develop a schedule and process to regularly review land use changes, and identify and prioritize areas for protection and acquisition based on conservation values assessment.

Goal 2: Improve accessibility to parks, open space and recreational facilities.

Objectives

2-A Evaluate existing accessibility challenges and opportunities.

2-B Improve accessibility when upgrading facilities.

2-C Create inclusionary experiences or facilities for specific ADA groups.

Goal: a desired condition of well-being

Objective: an overarching intent, focused on addressing the identified goal

Action: a defined step to fulfill the objective

Goal 3:

Improve, expand, and manage properties for active and passive open space opportunities.

Objectives

3-A Add more active recreational facilities outside of school grounds to meet increasing teen and adult recreation needs.

3-B Expand connections between existing open spaces and community resources. This can include parking, walking/biking routes, sidewalks and trail connections.

3-C Where possible, incorporate passive recreation opportunities into active recreation facilities.

Goal 4: Improve community awareness of and commitment to open space resources.

Objectives

4-A Centralize information on open space resources to increase awareness and engage the public in using the open space and recreation resources.

4-B Support placemaking by communicating the location, history, significance, and current conditions of Northborough's environmental, historical and cultural resources and historical landscapes.

4-C Educate the public on conservation measures.

Goal 5: Maintain, manage, and restore existing open spaces and recreational facilities.

Objectives

5-A Develop land management plans for existing open space and recreational facilities.

5-B Implement identified maintenance priorities.

SECTION 9

7 YEAR ACTION PLAN



A. Seven Year Action Plan Overview

The following Seven Year Action Plan was developed utilizing the information obtained from the resident survey, members of the committee, and other stakeholders. The action plan establishes a year by year timetable for the goals and objectives described in Section 8: Goals and Objectives (above) and the plan can be enhanced to meet the needs and desires of the residents over time. Many require nothing more than providing information to the public while others will require the expenditure of considerable amounts of money to accomplish them. It is the desire of this committee to see as many of these action items implemented over the next seven years as is physically and financially possible.

For the purposes of this action plan, each action step is given a priority of High, Medium, Low or Ongoing. Priority High items should occur 0 to 2 years, priority Medium items 0 to 4 years, and priority Low items 0 to 7 years from the date of the plan.

In addition, each action item is delegated to a responsible entity with potential collaborators and likely resources. The responsible parties and collaborators may include one or more of the following:

BOS	Northborough Board of Selectmen
Cem Com	Northborough Cemetery Commission
CMRPC	Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission
Con Com	Northborough Conservation Commission
CPC	Northborough Community Preservation Committee
DAR	Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
DCR	Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
DFW	Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

DPW	Northborough Department of Public Works
GIS	Northborough Geographic Information Systems Department
GWAC	Northborough Groundwater Advisory Committee
HC	Northborough Historic Commission
LT	Land Trusts
NEFF	New England Forest Foundation
NTC	Northborough Trails Committee
OSC	Northborough Open Space Committee
PB	Northborough Planning Board
PD	Northborough Planning Department
PRC	Northborough Parks and Recreation Commission
Rec Dept.	Northborough Recreation Department
SUASCO	Sudbury Assabet Concord River Watershed Council
SVT	Sudbury Valley Trustees
TA	Northborough Town Administration
ZBA	Northborough Zoning Board of Appeal

Goal #1: Preserve open space for the town’s overall benefit.

Objective: Acquire through fee acquisition or conservation restriction additional open space permanently protected by the Town, State or non-profits, particularly for parcels that provide key linkages among open spaces, mitigate hazards and/or contribute to the diversity of wildlife habitat.

Action: Acquire through fee acquisition or conservation restriction additional open space permanently protected by the Town, State or non-profits, particularly for parcels that provide key linkages among open spaces, mitigate hazards and/or contribute to the diversity of wildlife habitat. .	Action: Engage in periodic outreach to landowners of large parcels (>10 acres) about opportunities to preserve open space.	Action: Identify suitable town owned property that can be committed to open space.
COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>
PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC, SVT	RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC, Con Com	RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC, Con Com
COLLABORATORS PD, DPW	COLLABORATORS LT, NEFF, PD, DAR, DCR	COLLABORATORS LT, NEFF, PD, DAR, DCR

Objective: Develop a schedule and process to regularly review land use changes, and identify and prioritize areas for protection and acquisition based on conservation values assessment.

Action: Inventory and assess conservation lands.	Action: Target large tracts of prime farmland soils for protection as agricultural and open space.	Action: Strategically conserve abutting parcels with high conservation value.
COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>
PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC, Con Com, Rec Dept., NTC	RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC	RESPONSIBLE PARTY GIS, Con Com, CPC
COLLABORATORS GIS, PD, DPW	COLLABORATORS Con Com, GIS	COLLABORATORS LT, NEFF, PD, DAR, DCR, BOS, TA

Goal #2: Improve accessibility to parks, open space and recreational facilities.

Objective: Evaluate existing accessibility challenges and opportunities.

Action: Apply for funding and/or develop a local dedicated funding source to complete ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Update.

COST

PRIORITY

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

COLLABORATORS

Action: Complete ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Update.

COST

PRIORITY

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

COLLABORATORS

Objective: Improve accessibility when upgrading facilities.

Action: Inventory existing recreational facilities to document accessible conditions

COST

PRIORITY

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

COLLABORATORS

Action: Create accessible passive and active recreation opportunities that meet ADA standards.

COST

PRIORITY

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

COLLABORATORS

Objective: Create inclusionary experiences or facilities for specific ADA groups.

Action: Identify the needs of current residents with disabilities.

COST

PRIORITY

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

COLLABORATORS
Volunteers, OSC, PRC

Action: Explore funding opportunities.

COST

PRIORITY

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

COLLABORATORS
OSC, PRC, CPC

Action: Build facilities to meet resident-specific needs.

COST

PRIORITY

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

COLLABORATORS
DPW, PD, PRC

Goal #3: Improve and expand properties for active and passive open space opportunities.

Objective: Add more active recreational facilities outside of school grounds to meet increasing teen and adult recreation needs.		
<p>Action: Evaluate the Boundary Street property as a possible location for the expansion of facilities.</p>	<p>Action: Develop municipal pickleball courts and other alternative facilities.</p>	<p>Action: Identify locations for new neighborhood parks and/or enhance existing parks with desired amenities such as a dog park.</p>
<p>COST</p> <p>\$ \$\$ \$\$\$</p> <div></div>	<p>COST</p> <p>\$ \$\$ \$\$\$</p> <div></div>	<p>COST</p> <p>\$ \$\$ \$\$\$</p> <div></div>
<p>PRIORITY</p> <p>Low High</p> <div></div>	<p>PRIORITY</p> <p>Low High</p> <div></div>	<p>PRIORITY</p> <p>Low High</p> <div></div>
<p>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</p> <p>Rec Dept., PRC</p>	<p>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</p> <p>Rec Dept., PRC</p>	<p>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</p> <p>OSC, PRC</p>
<p>COLLABORATORS</p> <p>PD, Con Com</p>	<p>COLLABORATORS</p> <p>PD, DPW, CPC</p>	<p>COLLABORATORS</p> <p>Volunteers, Con Com, Rec Dept., PD</p>
Objective: Expand connections between existing open spaces and community resources. This can include parking, walking/biking routes, sidewalks and trail connections.		
<p>Action: Incorporate “Complete Streets” concepts – including sidewalks and bike lanes” as streets are improved.</p>	<p>Action: Seek to add more parking areas.</p>	<p>Action: Seek opportunities for greenway connections and/or identify opportunities to repurpose old infrastructure for trails development (such as the old trolley line).</p>
<p>COST</p> <p>\$ \$\$ \$\$\$</p> <div></div>	<p>COST</p> <p>\$ \$\$ \$\$\$</p> <div></div>	<p>COST</p> <p>\$ \$\$ \$\$\$</p> <div></div>
<p>PRIORITY</p> <p>Low High</p> <div></div>	<p>PRIORITY</p> <p>Low High</p> <div></div>	<p>PRIORITY</p> <p>Low High</p> <div></div>
<p>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</p> <p>DPW</p>	<p>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</p> <p>OSC, DPW</p>	<p>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</p> <p>OSC, Con Com</p>
<p>COLLABORATORS</p> <p>OSC, PD</p>	<p>COLLABORATORS</p> <p>PD, DCR</p>	<p>COLLABORATORS</p> <p>PD, DAR, DCR, BOS, TA</p>

Goal #4: Improve community awareness of and commitment to open space resources.

Objective: Centralize information on open space resources to increase awareness and engage the public in using the open space and recreation resources.		
Action: Designate one responsible party to make up to date information available to the public online.	Action: Launch a communication campaign with help from student clubs to provide information about rec resources in Town, including engaging students in Northborough Trails Committee activities.	Action: Engage the schools to utilize Town open space and recreational facilities for learning.
COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>
PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY Con Com	RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC	RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC, NTC, PRC
COLLABORATORS OSC, PRC, Rec Dept.	COLLABORATORS NTC, PRC, Volunteers	COLLABORATORS Schools
Objective: Support placemaking by communicating the location, history, significance, and current conditions of Northborough's environmental, historical and cultural resources and historical landscapes.		
Action: Provide consistent way-finding signage for open space and recreation facilities.	Action: Provide signage and information about Open Space and Recreation facilities and initiatives at frequented local spots (i.e. library, ARHS).	
COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	
PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	
RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC, Con Com, NTC, HC, PRC	RESPONSIBLE PARTY OSC, Con Com, NTC, HC, PRC	
COLLABORATORS Rec Dept., DPW, DCR	COLLABORATORS Rec Dept., DPW, DCR, Schools, Various Town Depts.	
Objective: Educate the public on conservation measures.		
Action: Hold public sessions to discuss work being conducted by the town to advance open space priorities.	Action: Support interdepartmental and inter-committee collaboration on conservation goals.	Action: Hold monthly or bi-monthly conservation coffees to engage the public on conservation topics.
COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>	COST \$ \$\$ \$\$\$ <div></div>
PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>	PRIORITY Low High <div></div>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY ConComm	RESPONSIBLE PARTY ConComm	RESPONSIBLE PARTY ConComm
COLLABORATORS Various Town Boards and Depts.	COLLABORATORS Various Town Boards and Depts.	COLLABORATORS OSC, NTC, PRC

Goal #5: Maintain, manage, and restore existing open spaces and recreational facilities

Objective: Develop land management plans for existing open space and recreational facilities.

Action: Inventory existing open space and recreational facilities to document conditions.

COST

\$ \$\$ \$\$\$



PRIORITY

Low High



RESPONSIBLE PARTY

PRC

COLLABORATORS

OSC, Rec Dept., DPW, NTC

Action: Identify and explore control options for invasive species when they threaten sensitive species or habitats.

COST

\$ \$\$ \$\$\$



PRIORITY

Low High



RESPONSIBLE PARTY

Con Com

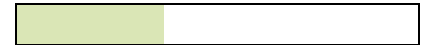
COLLABORATORS

OSC, NTC, SVT, NEFF, Volunteers

Action: Prioritize maintenance tasks and identify funding sources.

COST

\$ \$\$ \$\$\$



PRIORITY

Low High



RESPONSIBLE PARTY

PRC

COLLABORATORS

Rec Dept., DPW, OSC, NTC

Objective: Implement identified maintenance priorities.

Action: Seek outside resources (contractors) for completion of maintenance.

COST

\$ \$\$ \$\$\$



PRIORITY

Low High

Action: Apply for funding and/or develop a local dedicated funding source for maintenance of recreation facilities.

COST

\$ \$\$ \$\$\$



PRIORITY

Low High

Action: Develop and maintain a database of various maintenance projects that could serve as volunteer opportunities under staff supervision.

COST

\$ \$\$ \$\$\$



PRIORITY

Low High

<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
<div><div>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</div><div>Rec Dept.</div></div>	<div><div>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</div><div>Rec Dept.</div></div>	<div><div>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</div><div>Con Com</div></div>
<div><div>COLLABORATORS</div><div>TA, OSC, PRC, NTC, Con Com</div></div>	<div><div>COLLABORATORS</div><div>TA, OSC, PRC, NTC, Con Com</div></div>	<div><div>COLLABORATORS</div><div>OSC, PRC, NTC, Rec Dept.</div></div>