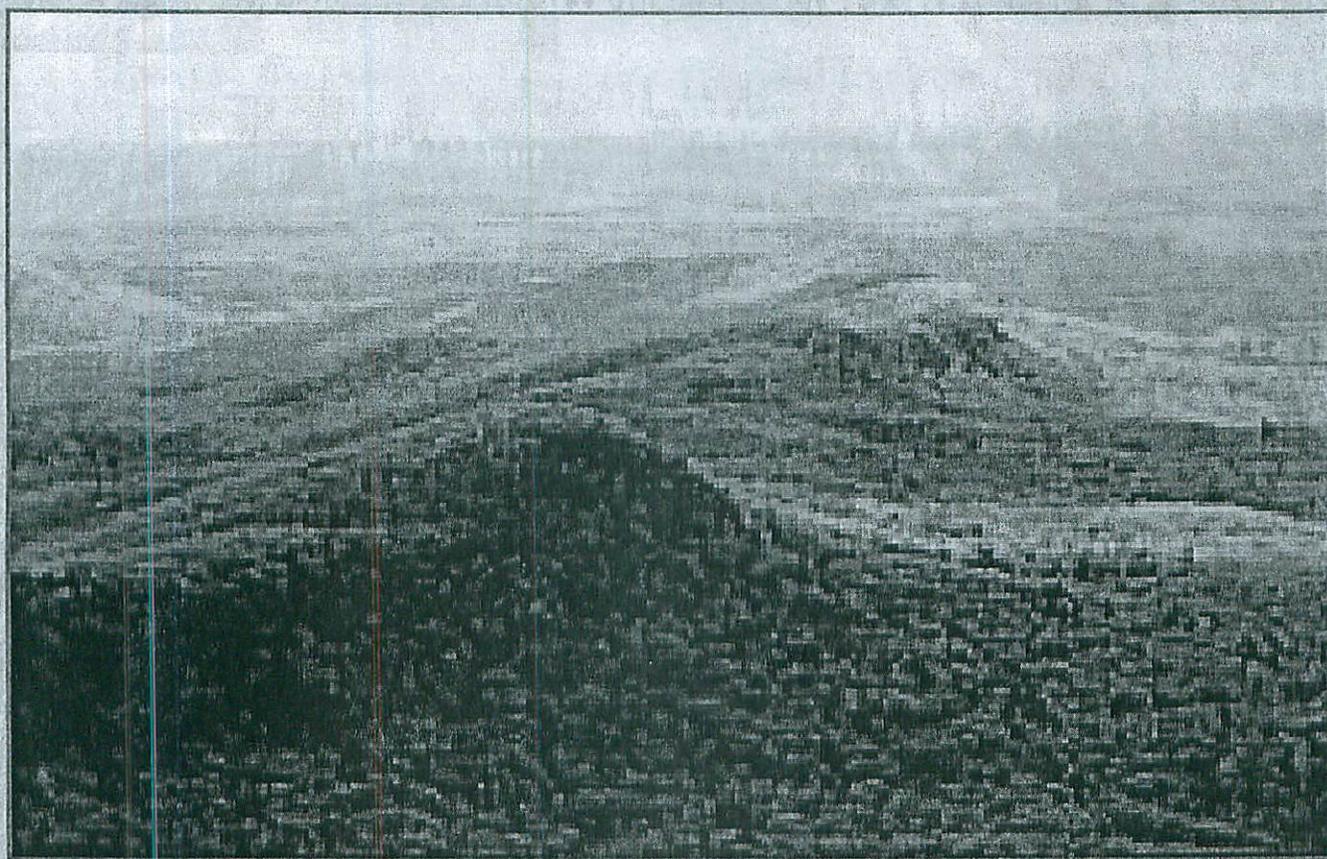


# Town of Granby Open Space and Recreation Plan

**Summer 2006**

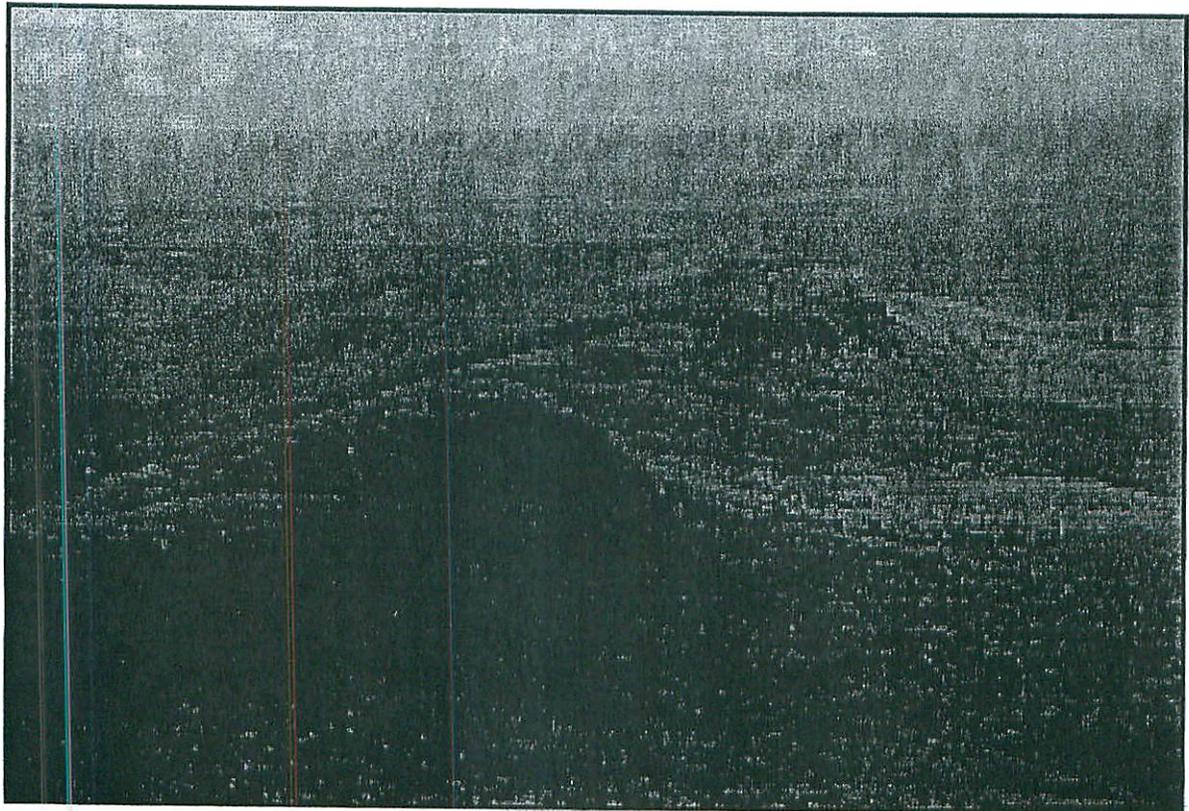


**Final Report**



# OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN

2005



## Acknowledgements

Special thanks to all the boards and individuals who went out of their way to assist in this plan. Timely completion of the Open Space & Recreation Plan would not have been possible without their information and guidance. Technical support provided by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

A special thanks to the Planning Board:

Charles (Joe) Maheu, Chair

Laura Gaj

William Porter

Kevin Brooks

Henry Clement

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## SECTION 1: PLAN SUMMARY



Town green

The Town of Granby has managed, via its location and natural constraints to dense development, to retain its New England character during the over 300 years since its incorporation. It offers respite for professionals commuting to other areas daily as well as retirees looking for quiet sustenance. Simultaneously, Granby offers recreational opportunities unparalleled in many nearby towns; hiking on the Mt. Holyoke Range, fishing in Aldridge Lake and Forge Ponds, horse riding and training in the rolling hills behind the farmlands, and baseball, soccer and basketball for the growing youth in the community. Its many farm fields offer viable agriculture into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

However, there are many issues facing the Town of Granby in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The pressures of development have increased markedly, especially in the last few years. While the current built housing inventory is fairly constant, even those sales have increased by over 13% from 1990 to 2001 (see Community Development Plan, July 2004). More significantly, land parcels sold for residential development have increased over 14% from 1990 to 2001. Granby residents and officials feel that the rural character

and unique beauty that are so much a part of Granby's history will disappear if steps are not taken to preserve open space. Therefore, the Granby Planning Board decided to update the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) in order to proactively plan for sustainable development and open space protection. These steps are also necessary in order to qualify for state funding programs for community development and open space protection. Since August 2004, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts began to recommend preparing a Commonwealth Capital application, which awards points for appropriate development methods such as promoting compact development, adopting sound water policies, and preserving natural landscapes.

Coinciding with the OSRP Update, Granby is also promoting forestry for watershed protection. Under this grant, PVPC and the Planning Board worked together to:

- complete a GIS watershed analysis of the Batchelor Brook watershed;
- added tree and planting language to the subdivision regulations;
- developed a tree maintenance manual;
- identified parcels in the watershed for conservation, restoration, and stormwater protection;
- and had an Arbor Day tree planting.

Details are included in the Appendices.

As in many other communities in western Massachusetts, Granby residents feel that it is crucial for Granby to accommodate further residential development while retaining the rural character that is valuable to residents.

The action items for open space protection and recreation are:

1. Continue to pursue a greenbelt around Batchelor Brook, Stony Brook, Ingraham Brook and Turkey Hill Brook via Conservation Restrictions and outright purchase, 50 acres a year
2. Monitor water quality at sample stations located at Forge Pond and Batchelor Brook
3. Establish reduced salt areas on a greater network of roads in Granby
4. Increase public recognition of water supply protection areas
5. Strengthen performance-based stormwater protection bylaw
6. Consider revising Aquifer Protection zoning bylaw

7. Consider Town wetland protection bylaw to expand regulatory authority
8. Obtain information concerning potential alternative water supply sources
9. Consider expansion of water and sewage disposal systems
10. Strengthen town recreation committee and programs
11. Improve public access for fishing on Forge Pond
12. Create basketball courts in DuFresne Park
13. Plant trees in Brown-Ellison Park
14. Improve maintenance of area playgrounds, equestrian facilities and ball fields
15. Consider linking town hiking and cross-country skiing trails to state park
16. Provide hiking trail near Turkey Hill Brook
17. Consider sidewalks or wider shoulders on Granby roads
18. Consider securing a trail along Old Crank Road to connect stables on Taylor Street to Dufresne Park
19. Create zoning overlay districts for agriculture
20. Encourage local farmers to pursue the possibility of selling their development rights under Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR)
21. Promote town support for farmers wishing to take advantage of the APR program
22. Use real estate transfer tax and roll-back taxes from Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B to establish a conservation fund for purchase of development rights or agricultural/conservation restrictions
23. Provide information for property owners to encourage them to maintain their land under Chapter 61A
24. Consider Town participation in the Community Forestry Program
25. Publicize existing farmstands with brochure, signage and festivals
26. Begin an Agricultural Commission
27. Improve signage and parking on existing town-owned land to increase public awareness
28. Provide additional trails for passive recreation on existing town-owned land
29. Consider brochure, festivals and signage to promote local farmstands
30. Discuss the needs of youth and the elderly for programs, facilities and infrastructure
31. Identify areas with severe limitations to development
32. Improve and add to zoning bylaws to provide maximum restrictions on development proposed for areas with severe limitations, such as steep slopes and ridgelines
33. Consider preservation of open areas in all new commercial development

34. Identify ecologically sensitive areas such as bogs, vernal pools, greenway focus areas, etc.
35. Use conservation incentives such as the Environmental Defense Safe Harbor Program to increase protection of identified sensitive areas on public and private property
36. Create a Sensitive Natural Areas Overlay District to protect water quality, wildlife habitat, and other environmental, resources
37. Adopt an Environmental Impact Analysis requirement in the zoning bylaws
38. Consider conflicts of off-road vehicles, hunters, permits and trash

## SECTION 2: INTRODUCTION

### *A: Statement of Purpose*

The intent of this OSRP is to practice sensible planning and implementation of ideas for maintaining and improving quality of life in the Town of Granby. We are a small, suburbanizing community concerned about meeting residents' needs for open space and recreation and enhancing the quality of life for nature's residents of the land, as well as the human residents who are their stewards. We are also concerned about maintaining our community's competitive eligibility for State funds and so completion of this updated OSRP is important to us as we prepare our Commonwealth Capital score and consider applying for self-help funds.

Granby prepared our first Master Plan in 1966 and our first OSRP in November of 1986. In 2001, the Open Space & Recreation Committee coordinated the efforts of the community to update the plan in accordance with State requirements to update OSRPs every five years. Due to the busy schedules of Town volunteers working on the update, it was never completed, but the updated goals are being acted upon by the Town.

Successful projects include:

- Improvement of access to Aldrich Lake and Forge Pond
- Improvement of ballfield maintenance
- Analysis of neighborhood needs
- Handicapped access to Dufresne Park
- Success of Agricultural Preservation Restrictions
- Improvement of zoning protection for land unsuitable for development
- Cluster development standards

- Sewer service into the Five Corners intersection

### *B: Planning Process and Public Participation*

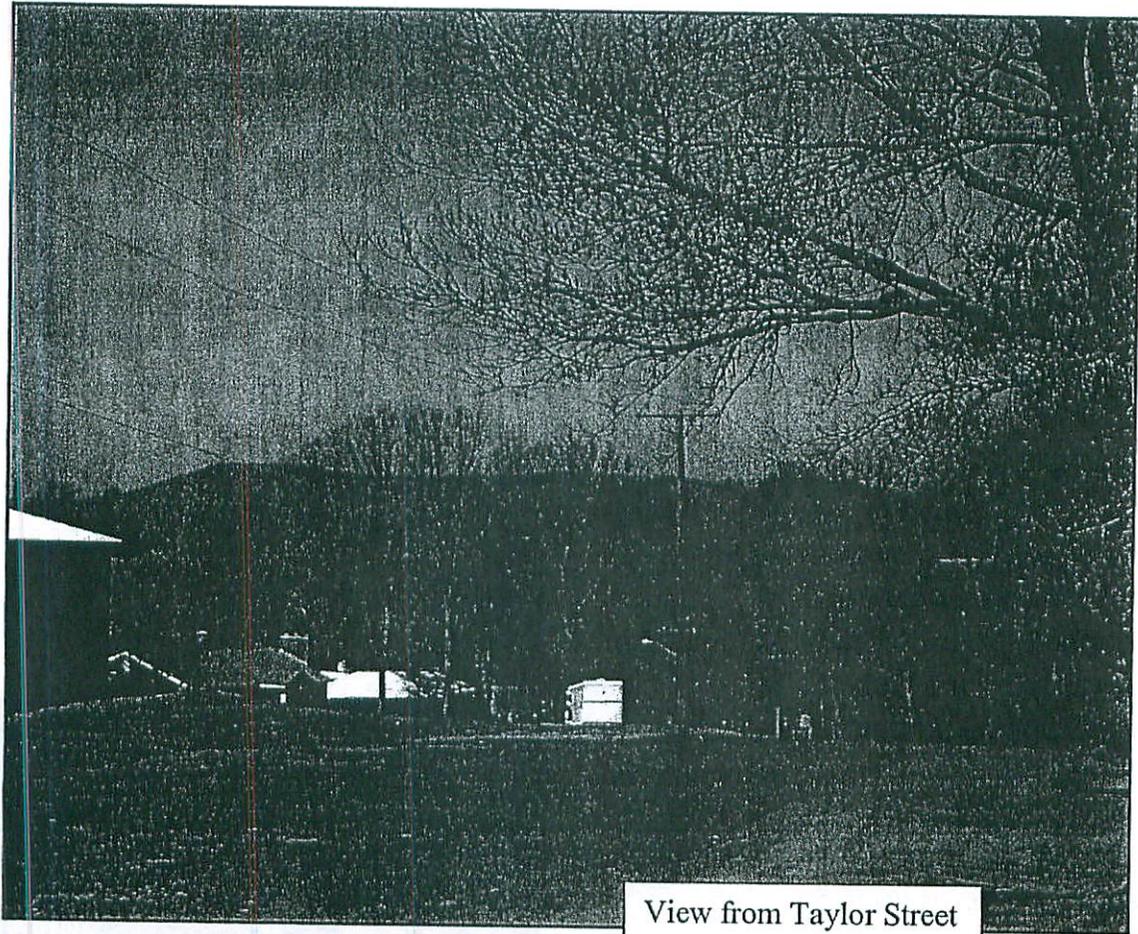
This plan is the result of numerous previous planning processes, especially the work to update the 1986 OSRP and the work on Granby' Community Development (CD) plan just completed in June 2004. The Granby Planning Board worked with PVPC on the OSRP Update from October 2004 to March 2005 including a public forum we held in April 2005 specifically on this OSRP update.

The CD plan process was driven by the results of a community-wide survey administered in March 2004. Because this survey was completed in the last ten months, we did not need to conduct a new community survey for this OSRP update. In addition to the community survey, the CD plan process also included a public forum on natural resource protection. The results of these meetings also informed the content of this plan.

In June 2003, the Granby Planning Board hired PVPC to facilitate development of Granby's Community Development Plan. This plan was also based on the results of the community survey, which was mailed to all households in Granby in March of 2004. The survey questions covered a range of topics including open space protection, economic development, housing, and transportation. Of the 2325 surveys sent, 803 (33%) were returned by the deadline date. An average return rate is from 15% to 25%, demonstrating the exceptional interest Granby residents have in Town issues, including open space and resource protection. Results are included in the Appendices.

The Granby Planning Board and staff from Pioneer Valley Planning Commission worked together to update the Granby open space and recreation parcel inventory, as well as goals and action steps to ensure the goals are met. All Granby households were then sent a postcard inviting them to a public forum at the beginning of April. The forum was held to discuss the draft goals and actions for open space and recreation and share views of unique landscapes in Granby. Over 30 people attended this forum and the draft plan was edited to reflect the addition of their viewpoints. Several residents plan to volunteer on a committee to ensure that action steps are taken in this plan.

### SECTION 3: COMMUNITY SETTING



#### *A: Regional Context*

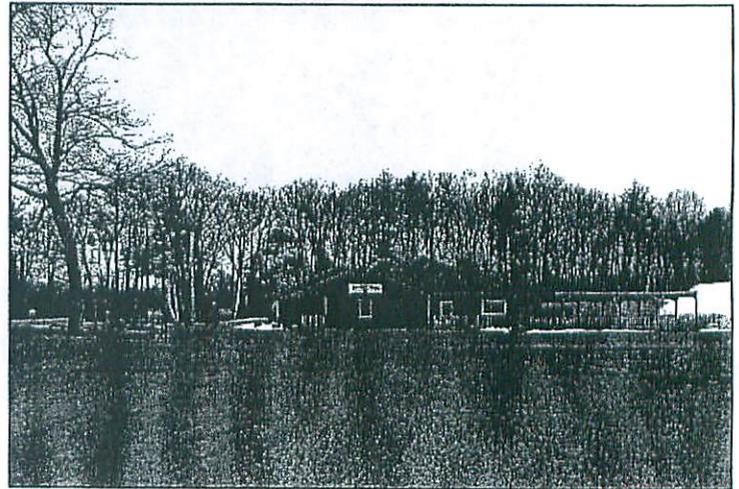
Granby is one of 43 communities in the Pioneer Valley region of western Massachusetts. It is a suburbanizing community of 6,361 people with a land area of 28.1 square miles. Granby is located in Hampshire County at the southern portion of the Connecticut River valley in Massachusetts. Belchertown borders Granby to the east, South Hadley to the west, Amherst to the north, and Ludlow and Chicopee to the south.

Granby has a traditional New England town center surrounded by historic homes, the Town Hall and the library, with fields, forests and residences spreading out from the center. This landscape has been shaped, tended and preserved by the town's

residents who have worked the land and acted as stewards of the businesses, fields, farms and forests for generations.

Founded in 1768, Granby was once a part of neighboring South Hadley and still draws a small portion of public water from its neighbor. The town was originally a large agricultural community, with a substantial amount of acreage in dairy farming. A large section of the Mt. Holyoke mountain range lies in Granby, adding to its unique character; the remainder lies in South Hadley, Amherst, and Hadley. Today, while Granby maintains much of its traditional rural character, it is growing and gradually becoming a suburb of the neighboring cities of Chicopee, Holyoke, and Springfield. The University of Massachusetts in Amherst to the north and the business community of Springfield to the south draw the majority of commuters from Granby.

Granby is a suburbanizing rural town of 6,132 on the outskirts of the Holyoke metropolitan area in west central Massachusetts. It is about 15 miles north of Springfield, 46 miles west of Worcester and 85 miles west of Boston. Settled around 1727, the town is dominated in the north by the Holyoke range of hills. Settlers developed farms and some limited industries, which made up the town's economic foundation. They grew grains, turnips, pumpkins and hops, and small distilleries were open by 1812 using the surplus grain produced.



Sou

Dairy farming, making buttons and palm leaf hats followed these in economic importance in the 19th century. One fascinating town landmark is a well-known milk bottle that houses a dairy bar. Granby retains its original meetinghouse green, a fine neoclassical library and a good stock of Greek revival houses (community profile from [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov), the official website of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts).

Granby has a fair amount of economic development, including automotive repair shops and used car lots and dealerships, restaurants, hair stylists, home-based building contractors, and landscape suppliers and design specialists. Many of the businesses in Granby are located on Route 202. The town does not have a Chamber of Commerce or a

town website and future business plans might include opportunities to establish both these important business resources. Commercial parcels make up only 2.3% and industrial parcels less than 1% of the total land-use parcels.

### Summary of Key Economic Development Trends

- The number of employers in Granby increased by 12.5% from 104 to 117 during the period 1996 to 2000.
- The number of employees increased from 761 to 887 during this same time period, a 16.6% increase compared to an 8% increase for the region.
- The average weekly wage increased 4.7% from \$482.93 to \$505.75 in 2000, compared to a 4.9% increase in the region. However, the wage rate in 1996 and again in 2000 was lower than the regional average of \$608.12.
- Granby's services sector is projected to increase 130% by the year 2008.
- Between 1991 and 2001, census data indicated two commercial parcels and one industrial parcel were lost either to other uses or disuse. Single-family residential parcels increased during this period and now represent 90% of all parcels in Granby.
- Granby's work force population changed over the period 1990 to 2000. The largest residential cohort increase was the ages between 40 and 54. During this period children between the ages of 5 to 19 also increased indicating that the total number of families with school age children grew. Conversely, residents between the ages of 20 and 34 decreased substantially.
- In 1990, the mean travel time to work was 21.1 minutes. By 2000, the travel time to work had decreased to 20.6 minutes. This is in contrast with the trend being experienced by the region where mean travel times to work increased by almost 50%.
- 89% of Granby residents completed high school, while the rest of the region had a completion rate of 82%.
- Approximately 40% of Granby's households are considered to be middle-income households with incomes between \$43,977 and \$81,440 annually.
- According to PVPC's Quabbin Subregional Housing plan, a total of 8,963 acres (75%) are potentially unconstrained to development.
- Since 1983, the unemployment rates in Granby have generally mirrored those of the entire state.

## *B: History of the community*

Granby developed as an offshoot of South Hadley in the 1670's. As the population of South Hadley grew, people moved to the outskirts of town. Eventually, a need for a second meetinghouse in the area arose and there was much disputing as to where the meeting house should be located. The residents in the outskirts, in what is now Granby, wanted the meetinghouse closer to them, whereas other residents wanted it closer to the center of South Hadley. The courts declared that the new meetinghouse would be built near the center of South Hadley. The residents in the outskirts chose to create their own town and, thus, their own meetinghouse, in what is now Granby. This new meetinghouse was built on the corner of West Street and Amherst Street where there is now a stone with a plaque commemorating it.

Granby, the town "south of the mountain", became incorporated as a town on June 11, 1768 with a population of approximately 475 residents. Granby was named by the Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony for the Marquis de Granby of England, a hero in the Seven Years War.

Granby has undergone many changes since its inception. While it basically started as a suburb, Granby evolved into thriving New England village in its own right. Thanks to the efforts of residents past and current, many of the original homes still remain. The Historical Society has made an effort to preserve many of the historical buildings in town. The Granby Historical District is located in the center of town, and contains the Town Hall, the Town Common, the Public Library, two churches and many colonial era homes. The district provides a unique historical and cultural value to the town as preservation of these historical buildings enhances the rural aesthetics of the town center.

Granby's population has three categories; the descendants of the founders, longtime residents who are not descendants but have made their mark on the town, and newcomers that either work at nearby Westover Air Reserve Base or at other professional sites, and all make their home in the thus-far quiet, bedroom community of Granby.

A historical site that remained in Granby for many years was the Aldrich water wheel. The water wheel was built before electrical power was established, so two turbines inside the mill provided the power for its operation. Farmers used to come

from miles around, taking the daylong journey to have their corn, oats, barley and rye ground. Mr. Aldrich later had a new wheel built to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> year of his grandfather's settlement of the property. The water wheel remained as the largest over-shot water wheel in the U.S. It often attracted many visitors and teachers with school children to admire the history that occurred here.

Although the water wheel has long since been removed from the mill, the mill itself remains a historical structure. The beauty and nostalgia of this mill is an integral part of Granby history.

To summarize, Granby developed from a suburb to a rural community and back into a suburb in the past 236 years. As recently as 1986, when Granby created our first OSRP, the people who prepared the plan described Granby as a small rural community. In the last eight years, suburbanization has taken hold. It is Granby's proximity to employment opportunities in nearby cities combined with the decline in new agricultural ventures that seems to be driving the suburbanization process. Planners believe that the current population growth trend has slowed because of the down-sizing of Westover Air Force Base to a Reserve facility, construction constraints on new homes because of lack of sewers, and lack of businesses within town boundaries.

### *C. Population Characteristics*

It is important to know the characteristics of Granby's population in order to plan effectively for the Town's open space and recreation needs. Different sub-sets of the population have different recreational needs and are likely to value open space differently. From 1990 to 2000 Granby's population increased by a remarkable 10%, from 5,565 to 6,132. From 2000 to 2003 the increase continued apace with a total of 4%, giving Granby a current population of 6,361. This growth rate ranks Granby as the fourth fastest growing community in the Pioneer Valley. This is further illustrated in the table below.

|                         | 1980    | 1990    | 2000    |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>Pioneer Valley</b>   | 581,831 | 602,878 | 608,479 |
| <b>Percent Increase</b> |         | 3.6%    | .9%     |
| <b>Granby</b>           | 5,380   | 5,565   | 6,132   |
| <b>Percent Increase</b> |         | 3.4%    | 10.2%   |

While Granby's total population has increased, it has also increased in the age groups of the oldest and youngest residents. In 1990, 26% of the population was under 18, in 2000, this rose to 28%. Comparatively, in 1990, 10.7% of the population was over the age of 65, and in 2000 this percentage increased to 11.6%. A population breakdown is included in the table below.

|   | <i>1990<br/>Actual</i> | <i>2000<br/>Actual</i> | <i>2005<br/>Projection</i> | <i>2010<br/>Projection</i> | <i>2000-2005<br/>% Change</i> | <i>2000-2010<br/>% Change</i> |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Under 5                                       | 360                    | 345                    | 387                        | 383                        | 12.2%                         | 11.0%                         |
| 5 to 9  | 385                    | 468                    | 441                        | 384                        | (5.8%)                        | (17.9%)                       |
| 10 to 14                                      | 395                    | 444                    | 517                        | 490                        | 16.4%                         | 10.4%                         |
| 15 to 19                                      | 371                    | 436                    | 395                        | 459                        | (9.4%)                        | 5.3%                          |
| 20 to 24                                      | 333                    | 300                    | 336                        | 338                        | 12.0%                         | 12.7%                         |
| 25 to 29                                      | 429                    | 287                    | 281                        | 326                        | (2.1%)                        | 13.6%                         |
| 30 to 34                                      | 538                    | 443                    | 389                        | 356                        | (12.2%)                       | (19.6%)                       |
| 35 to 39                                      | 523                    | 558                    | 448                        | 406                        | (19.7%)                       | (27.2%)                       |
| 40 to 44                                      | 457                    | 589                    | 637                        | 512                        | 8.1%                          | (13.1%)                       |
| 45 to 49                                      | 331                    | 541                    | 606                        | 617                        | 12.0%                         | 14.0%                         |
| 50 to 54                                      | 288                    | 452                    | 574                        | 599                        | 27.0%                         | 32.5%                         |
| 55 to 59                                      | 275                    | 316                    | 409                        | 520                        | 29.4%                         | 64.6%                         |
| 60 to 64                                      | 283                    | 237                    | 307                        | 420                        | 29.5%                         | 77.2%                         |
| 65 to 69                                      | 215                    | 230                    | 246                        | 285                        | 7.0%                          | 23.9%                         |
| 70 to 74                                      | 175                    | 200                    | 247                        | 227                        | 23.5%                         | 13.5%                         |
| 75 to 79                                      | 112                    | 136                    | 185                        | 206                        | 36.0%                         | 51.5%                         |
| 80 to 84                                      | 57                     | 87                     | 93                         | 105                        | 6.9%                          | 20.7%                         |
| 85 and over                                   | 38                     | 63                     | 47                         | 60                         | (25.4%)                       | (4.8%)                        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>5,565</b>           | <b>6,132</b>           | <b>6,545</b>               | <b>6,693</b>               | <b>6.7%</b>                   | <b>9.1%</b>                   |
| Available to Participate in the Labor Force * | N/A                    | 4,159                  | 4,382                      | 4,553                      | 5.4%                          | 9.5%                          |
| Likely to Participate in the Labor Force **   | N/A                    | 3,446                  | 3,152                      | 3,275                      | (8.5%)                        | (4.9%)                        |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; MISER Population Projections

\* Available to participate in the labor force is the population from 15 to 64 years old.

\*\* Likely to participate in the labor force is an estimate based on labor force participation rates in 2000.

In general, the people who live in Granby are representative of the people who live in small towns throughout the Pioneer Valley. They are predominantly white, educated families (99% in 2000), who are relatively well-off with an average household size in 2000 of 2.80. Granby residents have a median household income of \$54,293 and only 1% of the population is living below the poverty level. The percentage of household earning over \$75,000 increased from 224 in 1989 to 657 in 1999—this high income wage bracket represents one-third of the households in Granby. However, the

average weekly wage in 2000 was \$505.75, which is below the Pioneer Valley region average of \$608.12. The vast majority of Granby residents complete high school (89.2%, and just about one-fourth complete college (23%). Most inhabitants are employed in professional, management, or office occupations. Many inhabitants of Granby are employed outside Hampshire County, and the average drive to work is just over 20 minutes. Employment opportunities exist in the urbanized centers of Chicopee, Holyoke, and Springfield, as well as the college communities of Amherst and South Hadley, and many residents commute to these areas.

Granby is a low density community when compared against other communities in the Pioneer Valley. It has an average of one-third person per acre, compared with the region's highest density community Springfield, which has slightly more than one person per acre and the region's lowest density community, Tolland, which has only 1/5 of a person per acre.

**Pioneer Valley communities sorted by population density**

| <b>Community</b>    | <b>Total Acres 1999</b> | <b>Population 2000</b> | <b>Persons/ Acre</b> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Springfield         | 21,173                  | 152,082                | 7.1827               |
| Chicopee            | 15,286                  | 54,653                 | 3.5754               |
| Holyoke             | 14,584                  | 39,838                 | 2.7317               |
| Longmeadow          | 6,148                   | 15,633                 | 2.5427               |
| West Springfield    | 11,197                  | 27,899                 | 2.4917               |
| Amherst             | 17,764                  | 34,874                 | 1.9632               |
| Easthampton         | 8,706                   | 15,994                 | 1.8371               |
| Agawam              | 15,616                  | 28,144                 | 1.8022               |
| East Longmeadow     | 8,321                   | 14,100                 | 1.6944               |
| South Hadley        | 11,816                  | 17,196                 | 1.4553               |
| Westfield           | 30,294                  | 40,072                 | 1.3228               |
| Northampton         | 22,848                  | 28,978                 | 1.2683               |
| Ludlow              | 18,133                  | 21,209                 | 1.1696               |
| <b>High Density</b> |                         |                        |                      |
|                     |                         |                        | 1.0000               |
| <b>Low Density</b>  |                         |                        |                      |
| Wilbraham           | 14,244                  | 13,473                 | 0.9459               |
| Palmer              | 20,485                  | 12,497                 | 0.6100               |
| Southwick           | 20,254                  | 8,835                  | 0.4362               |
| Hampden             | 12,601                  | 5,171                  | 0.4104               |
| Ware                | 25,586                  | 9,707                  | 0.3794               |
| Belchertown         | 35,401                  | 12,968                 | 0.3663               |

|              |        |       |        |
|--------------|--------|-------|--------|
| Granby       | 17,982 | 6,132 | 0.3410 |
| Hadley       | 15,791 | 4,793 | 0.3035 |
| Hatfield     | 10,766 | 3,249 | 0.3018 |
| Monson       | 28,637 | 8,359 | 0.2919 |
| Southampton  | 18,523 | 5,387 | 0.2908 |
| Holland      | 8,373  | 2,407 | 0.2875 |
| Wales        | 10,229 | 1,737 | 0.1698 |
| Brimfield    | 22,582 | 3,339 | 0.1479 |
| Williamsburg | 16,424 | 2,427 | 0.1478 |
| Russell      | 11,457 | 1,657 | 0.1446 |
| Huntington   | 17,159 | 2,174 | 0.1267 |
| Westhampton  | 17,477 | 1,468 | 0.0840 |
| Pelham       | 16,960 | 1,403 | 0.0827 |
| Goshen       | 11,350 | 921   | 0.0811 |
| Montgomery   | 9,628  | 654   | 0.0679 |
| Cummington   | 14,763 | 978   | 0.0662 |
| Worthington  | 20,560 | 1,270 | 0.0618 |
| Chesterfield | 20,003 | 1,201 | 0.0600 |
| Granville    | 27,562 | 1,521 | 0.0552 |
| Chester      | 23,768 | 1,308 | 0.0550 |
| Plainfield   | 13,622 | 589   | 0.0432 |
| Blandford    | 34,241 | 1,214 | 0.0355 |
| Middlefield  | 15,459 | 542   | 0.0351 |
| Tolland      | 20,985 | 426   | 0.0203 |

#### *D. Growth and Development Patterns*

The Town of Granby has been able to maintain a quiet, rural character since its incorporation. Most development consists of single family homes; the remainder of land in Granby is hilly and forested, with many open fields in agricultural use. Its distance from the Connecticut River, lack of good roads until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and lack of reliable water power prevented any major industrial development. Industry consisted of small mills and home-based businesses, a pattern which continues today.

Granby has several distinctive geographic areas reflecting the town's history, agricultural trends, and localized development. This, however, did not compensate for the fact that Granby had no reliable water courses that would have encouraged industrial development. The town also missed the great 19<sup>th</sup> century development vehicle - the railroads. As a result, it never developed as an industrial town and has retained its small town character throughout most of its history.

Granby is a typical example of the semi-rural New England towns that are scattered throughout Western Massachusetts. The town center is located near the geographic center of town, with historic residential buildings surrounding the town common. The Common historically served as a "communal" land area, with activities such as livestock grazing in colonial times to more modern events such as small fairs and arts & crafts exhibits. Larger events such as the celebration of Granby's Charter Days in June are now held one mile away from the town common at Dufresne's Recreation Area.

Numerous roads radiate from the town common area through town to service the more remote rural sections. These farms roads have given way to paved streets that still serve to link agricultural areas to the town center. A great deal of the land that was previously in agriculture has been developed and now single family homes and subdivisions dot the landscape. A few farms still remain, but their fate is uncertain in the light of present high land values and development pressure. The loss of remaining agricultural land would produce a negative impact upon the character of the town.

Some areas of town may remain less populated due to soil limitations for development. These areas are mostly wooded and will remain that way for years to come if they are adequately protected. As older pasture and abandoned fields give way

to young timber growth, even more land are could become reforested providing these areas are protected from development.

The character of the town is attracting potential homeowners away from urban and highly developed areas. Ironically, the open space that gives Granby its unique character also attracts people that change that character with increased development. It is important for Granby to realize this potential demand and to plan accordingly to preserve its open space.

#### ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS OF DEVELOPMENT

The world's ecosystems are increasingly threatened by human development. Ecological impact assessment (EcIA) is used to predict and evaluate the impacts of development on ecosystems and their components, thereby providing the information needed to ensure that ecological issues are given full and proper consideration in development planning. Environmental impact assessment (EIA) has emerged as a key to sustainable development by integrating social, economic and environmental issues in many countries. EcIA has a major part to play as a component of EIA but also has other potential applications in environmental planning and management. The Town of Granby should consider building environmental impact assessment into their subdivision regulations so that the ecological impacts of all future development are considered prior to approval.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

##### a) Transportation Systems

Granby is a small town bi-sected by state road 202. There are a total of 67.5 miles of road in the town, approximately half (32.4) of which are classified as local roads. The town also maintains 56.7 miles of road, according to the 2003 Regional Transportation Plan. The area in which Granby is located is known as the crossroads of New England because of its excellent transportation facilities. The Massachusetts Turnpike connects the region to Boston, and to Albany, N.Y. Interstate 91 provides direct access to Hartford, Connecticut and Brattleboro, Vermont via Route 202. Route 202, also known as State Street, passes through the center of town connecting Belchertown on the east and South Hadley on the west. The majority of commercial development is scattered along Route 202, with the heaviest concentration at "Five Corners", the intersection of Amherst Street, Pleasant Street, and Route 202. This business district is conveniently

located and most traffic flows through this area of town, but it does create some congestion at peak hours. Route 116 provides access to Amherst in the north as it passes over the "Notch" or the low point in the Holyoke Range between Mt. Norwottock and Bare Mt. Amtrak passenger rail service is available in neighboring Amherst. Granby is a member of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) that provides fixed route service between Holyoke, South Hadley, and Granby. The PVTA also offers paratransit services to the elderly and disabled through the Council on Aging. Sidewalks are also now required in new subdivisions and exist along West Street to the schools.

b) Water Supply Systems

Granby does not have its own public water supply system. Over 90% of the population is served by individual on-site wells. Six percent of the population is served by private community water systems. Two percent of the population is served by Bachelor Knolls, Inc., a private water company. South Hadley Fire District #1 serves the remaining 2% of Granby's population.

The South Hadley Fire District #1, which draws water from the Quabbin Reservoir, provides some water to the southeastern section of the town. A sixteen-inch water main flows along New Ludlow Road and East Street. Eight-inch mains are located in Route 202 and West Street along the western town line. This supply provides water to about 250 residents in this area, which is near the Granby landfill.

c) Sewer Service

The majority of Granby residents use on-site septic systems to meet the needs of individual homes. A limited number of residents, however, have what is known as a "community septic system". This system was originally discussed in 1980 as the town recognized a need for an updated septic system for residents in the area of Smith Avenue, Leo Drive, and Kellogg Street. The land on which the homes were built was no longer suitable for traditional septic systems. The new community system encompasses residents of Smith Avenue, Leo Drive, Kellogg Street and portions of West Street. All effluent drains into a sewer line that runs through or alongside the above streets, crosses through West Street Cemetery, and then reaches a common leach field on Crescent Street.

The community is better served with this septic system, however, not all participants were pleased with the mandatory participation. Some residents did have properly working systems and others had just updated them. Therefore, the financial burden became of primary concern for the residents. Fortunately there was some financial assistance from both the town and the state (via the Hayes Act which had funding for local sewer projects).

The growth of the town has forced us to look at current and future problems that may arise within the community concerning septic disposal. The control and management of septic waste is certainly an issue that needs optimal attention. This community septic is one of the examples regarding the way that Granby has chosen to deal with this issue.

Data contained in the Soil Survey of Hampshire County Table indicates that the most of Granby has severe soil limitations for septic tank sewage disposal. The severity of soil constraints usually excludes use of septic tanks in areas of high-density housing. Some areas may be able to support lower density housing in spite of sever limitations. Deep Hardpan, shallow hardpan, depth to bedrock, slope, and wetness all contribute to reducing the area available for development if traditional septic sewage tank disposal systems are employed.

Soil limitations for commercial and industrial sites with on-site sewage disposal are similar to those with septic tank disposal. Sites with soils occurring on slopes of 3% or less have slight limitations if other soil characteristics are acceptable. The numbers of these sites are limited and therefore, if development occurs with on-site sewage disposal, it must be located on those few sites in town that can support it.

Substantial areas of the town will require sewer and water extension if they are to be developed in the future. Installation of public water and sewage systems is extremely expensive. Any new subdivisions or commercial and industrial development should be sited in areas of the town that will minimize the cost of installing public water and sewage disposal systems.

## ZONING

The Town of Granby presently has ten zoning districts. (See zoning map in Appendices). They are as follows:

RS: Single Family Residential District

RM: Residential Multi-Unit District  
GB: General Business District  
GB-2: General Business District 2 (limited uses)  
I: Industrial District  
I2: Industrial District 2 (Landfill, recycling, solid waste)  
MD: Municipal District  
FP: Floodplain District  
WSP: Water Supply Protection District  
AP: Agricultural Preservation

In the RS District, which is 95.8% of Granby, uses are generally restricted to single-family housing and low density agricultural or forestry uses. Open Space (cluster) communities are also permitted under a Special Permit. Regular lot sizes are a minimum of 40,000 square feet with a road frontage of 150 feet. Estate lots require a minimum 80,000 square feet with a frontage of 40 feet; they are essentially flag lots, with required lot widths of 150 feet and an access strip to an approved road. Maximum lot coverage is 25%.

The RM District allows the same uses as RS, with the addition of multi-family housing with a Special Permit. Lot dimensions and maximum lot coverage are the same. Only two areas in Granby are zoned RM and comprise just .3% of Granby total area.

The GB District, which comprises 1.8% of the town, does not allow single family residences, but does allow multi-family and Open Space communities with a Special Permit. Zoning also allows general business and office uses with Site Plan Approval. Minimum lot size and frontage are also 40,000 square feet and 150 feet respectively. Maximum lot coverage is 30% and open space requirement is 40%.

The Industrial Districts, which also comprise 1.8% of the town, do not allow any residential uses, but only general industrial and manufacturing uses. Lot requirements are a minimum of 40,000 square feet and 200 feet of frontage.

The Municipal District comprises .4% of the town and restricts buildings to only municipal and institutional uses. Minimum lot size is 40,000 square feet and frontage is 150 feet.

The Agricultural Preservation, Floodplain, and Water Supply Protection Districts are overlay districts that are designated according to wetland and floodplain requirements and agricultural boundaries on file with the Town Clerk. No new dwellings or improvements over 50% are permitted in the Floodway; only low density conservation, agriculture, or forestry uses. The Water Supply Protection District covers all prime aquifer recharge areas or future water supply areas. Minimum lot sizes in this district are 60,000 square feet rather than 40,000, and uses potentially hazardous to the water supply are prohibited. Although residential uses are permitted in the Agricultural Protection District, at least 50% of any conveyed land must be kept in agricultural use and there must be a buffer between agricultural and residential uses.

Granby has had three approved subdivision in recent years. The first was on Deer Brook Drive and included 20 units. In the year 2000 a subdivision was approved on Maximilian Drive with 22 units approved; it is 75% built. Monson Estates subdivision consists of 13 units and was approved in 2003.

In 2001, PVPC did a buildout analysis for the Town of Granby. These analyses were required for all communities in the Commonwealth in order to see what effect total development of the community would have. The buildout map is included in this OSRP. According to the data related to available land, zoning requirements, and natural constraints, Granby has a considerable amount of available land for development. The effects can be seen in the table below:

**Summary Build-Out Statistics  
Impact of Additional Development**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Developable Land Area (Acres)  | 11,993    |
| Additional Residential Units   | 8,590     |
| Additional Residents   | 22,934    |
| Additional Commercial/Industrial Floor Area (Square Feet)  | 6,831,530 |
| Additional Water Use (Gallons per Day)   | 2,222,884 |
| Additional Residential Solid Waste (tons)  | 11,765.30 |
| Additional Students  | 4,003     |
| Additional Miles of Roadway  | 146.41    |
| Assumptions:   |           |
| 1) Additional Students figure is based on an average of 2.66 persons per household and .466 students per household |           |

2) Additional Road Miles calculated for residential development only, based on frontage of 150 feet. Overall impacts on the transportation network in Granby should reflect the number of trips generated, level of service at key intersections, and other critical methods of measurement.

3) Future water use figures are estimated based on 75 gallons per person per day for residential use, and 75 gallons per 1000 square feet of commercial/industrial use.

Disclaimer: this is simply model data that does not take into account soil constraints and road frontage, for example, but it does illustrate the significant amount of developable land available in Granby. Coupled with a limited current inventory of homes and the steady population growth, this is a warning indicator of future development impact.

## SECTION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS



Aldrich Lake

### *A. Geology, Soils and Topography*

The bedrock beneath Granby is part of the eroded core of an ancient chain of mountains that is approximately 400-500 million years old and extends from Long Island Sound through Western Massachusetts and Vermont into Quebec. Like almost all of New England, in the recent geologic past Granby was covered by great ice sheets thousands of feet thick. The ice sheets melted about 12,000 years ago and left extensive surface deposits that cover most of the land and dominate the New England landscape. The two basic types of deposit in Granby are lodgement till and stratified drift. Lodgement till formed when glaciers overrode and compressed the earth. It is an unsorted mixture of sand, clay, pebbles and boulders, no more than three feet thick. Stratified drift refers to the deposits of sand and gravel that formed during the final days of the Ice Age. The melting ice sheets gave rise to torrential streams that had the

power to carry a large load of sand and gravel formerly trapped in ice. When the velocity of the stream diminished, as when entering a lake of flat area, its load would settle and form deposits of sand and gravel.

The steep slopes of the Holyoke Range form the northern boundary of the Town of Granby. These picturesque hills extend over a mile into town and then gradually become less dramatic as the land levels off into the central plain. The central plain area is generally flat, broken up occasionally by small hills and uplifted areas. Numerous brooks and streams flow through the area connecting some large wetlands.

Aldrich Lake, in the western area of town, is located at the foot of the hills extending south of the Holyoke Range. The lake is bordered on the north and south by slopes exceeding 15%. The dramatic change in landscape from steep slope to water body adds to its scenic beauty.

The area east of the center of Granby, between Taylor and Kendall Streets, is composed of a number of small hills. Steep slopes form the eastern side of these hills. Facing Hills, in the southeastern section of town, form the town boundary on the Ludlow and Belchertown side. The land here is hilly but not as extreme as the hills south of the Holyoke Range. However, Turkey Brook Ridge nearby exists on a fault line.

Numerous areas of steep slope (greater than 15%) are scattered throughout town. The majority of steep slopes are located along the Holyoke Range extending south into town. Other steep areas are located on the northern side of Cold Hill, east of Porter Street, around the Turkey Hill area, south of Kendall Street, and spread out through the area west of the center of town. These areas have severe soil constraints for additional development and any housing located in areas of steep slope should be thinly distributed to avoid potential sewage or septic problems.

The natural limitations of particular soil types restrict the kind of recreational activity that may be carried out on that site and not adversely affect the environment. Soil characteristics such as slope, wetness, and soil surface texture determine the limitations for particular uses; for example, an area with a moderately steep slope is totally unsuitable for a ball field but may be acceptable for hiking trails or limited horseback riding. Also, the installation of sanitary systems for areas of active recreational use may be prohibited by the soil characteristics of the area.

The Town of Granby is comprised of four major soil associations; the Narragansett-Holyoke association, the Gloucester-Montauk-Paxton association, the Hinckley-Merrimac-Windsor association, and the Amostown-Scitico-Boxford association. Each of these associations has restrictions and is suitable to particular land uses.

A number of factors are involved in determining the suitability of a site for a particular activity. These may include ground and surface water hydrology, current land use patterns, slope, aspect, and soil characteristics. Although technology may allow development of sites that are less than completely acceptable, the soil characteristics of an area may in essence prohibit a particular kind of land use. For example, it is not feasible to farm an area with low soil permeability and which may remain flooded during much of the growing season. It would be economically unfeasible to attempt to farm this area and the site may be more aptly suited to another land use.

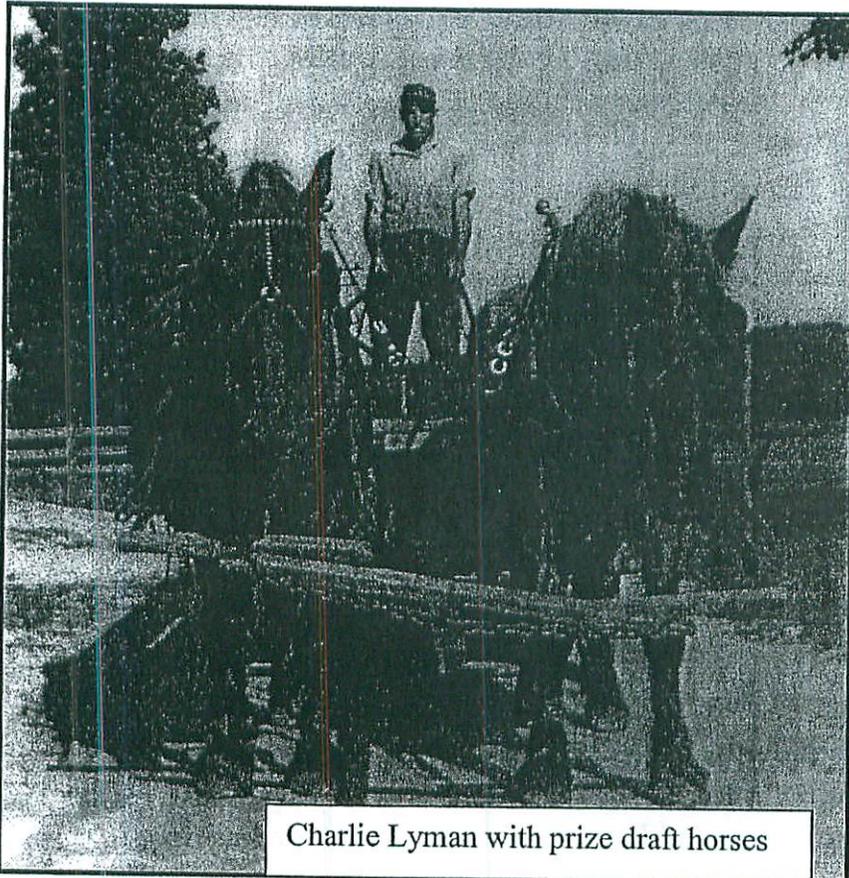
Prime farmland has been defined and assessed by the United States Department of Agriculture and the Soil Conservation Service as "land best suited to producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oil seed crops". Prime farmland produces the greatest produce yields with the least amount of economical, physical, and chemical input. In addition to requiring the least amount of input, farming these areas produces the smallest amount of damage to the environment. A number of additional factors are used in determining prime farmland, including the following: water must be available from natural precipitation or irrigation, the temperature of the area must be acceptable for farming during the growing season, slope must not exceed 8%, and the soils must be permeable but not flooded during the growing season.

The two main soil associations that are considered to be acceptable for classification under prime farmland are the Amostown-Scitico-Boxford association, and the Hadley-Winooski-Limeric association. Both of these soil classes are deep, nearly level or gently sloping, moderately well drained and occur in areas of outwash or lacustrine sediments, in alluvial areas or on flood plains.

The Town of Granby has a moderate amount of prime farmland. There are some large tracts of prime farmland located in the southwest sections of town and in the northwest extending through the central part of town toward the Belchertown border. There is also a large percentage of land area that is not classified as prime farmland but

is considered to be of state and local importance to farming. These areas occur around prime farmland, in the central area of town to the Belchertown border. These areas may not be as economically productive as prime farmland but should be considered for protection.

### *B. Landscape Character*



Charlie Lyman with prize draft horses

Granby's industry was based in part on the horse trade, and its landscape has contributed to its growth. Large volumes of horses that were used primarily for agriculture and the distribution of products were sold through the Meadowcroft Farm in Granby during the 1930's.

These horses were purchased by the railcar load and delivered to Holyoke and Belchertown. From there the horses were hand walked or driven down the major roadways

to Granby. Farmers from throughout the Connecticut River Valley relied on the consistent source of horse power that was provided by the Hatch Family at Meadowcroft Farm.

The excise tax that was placed on the value of horses still exists today. Granby is one of the only remaining towns in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that taxes horses. Five dollars per every thousand dollars of value is collected by the town annually.

Today Granby boasts one of the highest ratios of horses to people in the Commonwealth. It is documented that over 330 horses are kept in the town. The highest concentration of these are located on Taylor Street corridor which lies at the town's center. Two hundred and five horses reside on this street.

There are several Heritage Priority areas in Granby, as documented by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife. These areas are valuable in ecological terms, and are important to the conservation of a variety of species. Completing conservation protection of any remaining unprotected land in these areas, with buffering areas included, would enhance the viability of these special areas. The most significant area in town is the ridgeline along the Holyoke Range that includes Mt Norwottock. Although much of that portion of Granby is state property, it is also important to protect the species and natural communities in adjacent lands and down-slope areas. The ridge top supports natural communities that are uncommon statewide; for example, Circumneutral Rocky Summits and Hickory-Hop Hornbeam communities. The area also includes multiple occurrences of rare plants and animals, and down-slope to the south are 146 potential, but not certified vernal pools. The rest of Granby has quality agricultural land and rolling hills.

### *C. Water Resources*

There are two major drainage basins in Granby, divided by a line that runs irregularly from east to west. East of the center of town the line is south of Rt. 202. Three brooks enter Forge Pond with Batchelor Brook providing the most flow. Batchelor Brook enters Granby from Belchertown, and flows into Forge Pond. The two other brooks are Forge Pond Brook and Lampson Brook. Lampson Brook contributes the flow from the Belchertown Wastewater Treatment plant, causing environmental issues in Forge Pond and Aldridge Lake. From Forge Pond, Batchelor Brook flows westward along the northern edges of the central plain, being fed by Ingraham Brook. Batchelor Brook then flows into Aldrich Lake, and continues to South Hadley, through which it connects to the Connecticut River near Brunelle's Marina. Turkey Hill Brook also flows north into Batchelor Brook, draining the hilly southeast area of town.

Most of the southern half of town drains through Stony Brook and Muddy brook, which join across the town line in Ludlow. Stony Brook then curves

northwesterly, crosses the southwest corner of Granby under Rt. 202, and enters South Hadley.

There are two major bodies of water in Granby. Forge Pond, surrounded by extensive wetland areas, is located in the eastern section of town along the Belchertown line. Aldrich Pond lies in the rolling hills the south of the Mt. Holyoke Range and is bisected by Amherst Road.

These brooks and streams, and the contiguous swampy areas, form the natural storm drainage system of the town. They are the means by which excess stormwater is carried off the land to the larger streams and rivers. As development covers more of the open land with buildings and hard surfacing, the volumes of storm runoff are increased at the same time absorptive land areas are decreased. The absorption capacity of spongy wetlands slows down the runoff and decreases the degree of stream and river flooding. There do not appear to be "any areas of substantial flooding that cause hazards, or that require protection through flood plain zoning controls." (Natural Resource Inventory of 1970)

The Town of Granby has been proactive in controlling stormwater by enacting a Floodway District/Wetland Protection By-Law to: "protect areas subject to seasonal flooding, water table and aquifer recharge areas, preserve present and potential water supplies, and to insure the continuation of the natural flow pattern of the water courses within town in order to protect persons and property against the hazards of flood inundation." All land designated as Zone A-A30 on flood insurance maps is included in the District.

The establishment of the Floodway district enabled Granby to maintain tighter control over activities occurring in the designated areas. The Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (MGL Ch. 131) has a limited amount of control over impacts that may occur on small wetlands as a result of development or alteration of the environment. Granby has taken a step in the right direction to further preserve and protect these fragile areas. It should be noted that vernal pools are not currently protected under MGL Ch. 131 unless certified through the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP) of Mass. Fisheries and Wildlife.

#### *D. Vegetation*

Forest cover is by far the most prominent land use in Granby. More than 11,000 acres of forest exist in the community, with 399 acres under limited protection from development through participation in the Chapter 61 program. The predominant hardwood species on the south facing slopes of the Holyoke Range are Black Oak, White Oak, Chestnut Oak, and Shagbark Hickory. Large stands of White Pine may also be found in lower elevations, as well as Hemlocks in the valleys where moisture is greater. Wet areas may also support stands of Toothed Aspen, Quaking Aspen, Red Maple, Elm and White Ash. Striped Maple and Beech may be found on the east side of Harris Mountain. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management manages the majority of the forested areas along the Holyoke Range. These areas are important from an aesthetic point of view as well as providing extensive wildlife habitat. It seems likely that these lands will continue to be managed by the state and will remain in forest. Selective cutting and stand improvement practices should be employed to ensure the continued health of these stands.

According to NHESP, there are currently no certified vernal pools in Granby; however, 146 potential vernal pools are dispersed throughout the town. Vernal pools are unique wildlife habitats best known for the amphibians and invertebrate animals that use them to breed. Vernal pools, also known as ephemeral pools, autumnal pools, and temporary woodland ponds, typically fill with water in the autumn or winter due to rising ground water and rainfall and remain ponded through the spring and into summer. Some vernal pools are protected in Massachusetts under the Wetlands Protection Act regulations, as well as several other federal and state regulations, and local bylaws.

The NHESP serves the important role of officially "certifying" vernal pools that are documented by citizens. Finding vernal pools is the first step for protection. The Massachusetts Aerial Photo Survey of Potential Vernal Pools has been produced by the NHESP to help locate likely vernal pools across the state.

The following table illustrates information from the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program concerning the latest sightings of threatened or rare species of vegetation and species of special concern. The table indicates whether a species is endangered, rare or threatened and shows the most recent observation.

### Threatened or rare species of vegetation

| Scientific Name                  | Common Name                 | State Rank | Most recent observation |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Aplectrum hyemale</i>         | Putty-Root                  | E          | 2001                    |
| <i>Arabis missouriensis</i>      | Green Rock-Cress            | T          | 1999                    |
| <i>Asclepias verticillata</i>    | Linear-Leaved Milkweed      | T          | 1994                    |
| <i>Calystegia spithamea</i>      | Low Bindweed                | E          | 1875                    |
| <i>Cardamine longii</i>          | Long's Bitter-Cress         | E          | 1925                    |
| <i>Carex lupuliformis</i>        | False Hop Sedge             | E          | 2001                    |
| <i>Claytonia virginica</i>       | Narrow-Leaved Spring Beauty | E          | 1932                    |
| <i>Clematis occidentalis</i>     | Purple Clematis             | SC         | 1881                    |
| <i>Liatriis borealis</i>         | New England Blazing Star    | SC         | 1994                    |
| <i>Lygodium palmatum</i>         | Climbing Fern               | SC         |                         |
| <i>Morus rubra</i>               | Red Mulberry                | E          | 1876                    |
| <i>Oxalis violacea</i>           | Violet Wood-Sorrel          | E          | 1991                    |
| <i>Poa languida</i>              | Drooping Speargrass         | E          | 2000                    |
| <i>Ranunculus pennsylvanicus</i> | Bristly Buttercup           | T          | 1925                    |
| <i>Rumex verticillatus</i>       | Swamp Dock                  | T          | 1977                    |
| <i>Scleria triglomerata</i>      | Tall Nut-Sedge              | E          |                         |
| <i>Sphenopholis nitida</i>       | Shining Wedgegrass          | T          | 2001                    |
| <i>Verbena simplex</i>           | Narrow-Leaved Vervain       | E          | 2000                    |

## *E. Fisheries and Wildlife*

Granby supports a number of wildlife populations that are either currently hunted or may become game species in the future. The stocking of pheasant has slowed greatly and they have not successfully established a native population. Turkey stocking programs that began in the 1960's resulted in a turkey population that was not truly wild. Their habitat consists of hills, woods, and agricultural fringes but they are generally found in wooded areas. Turkey travel over the Holyoke Range, and flocks exist in outlying areas of town. A smaller population of game birds, and other mammals such as cottontails and opossum may be attributed to the success of the coyote in Massachusetts in recent years. The native red fox population has also diminished, in part because of competition from the coyote, and reduction of habitat.

The occurrence of other wildlife species in Granby is similar to other Connecticut River towns. Populations of mink, muskrat, and fisher are present, particularly on lowlands, wetlands, and near water. The beaver population has increased substantially due to new trapping regulations banning leg-hold traps. Opossums are a relatively new animal to the area, but are becoming established and extending their range northward. Raccoons are extremely adaptable and are common in Granby. Gray and red squirrels and chipmunks are also found frequently in town. The deer population is very healthy, and tends to frequent areas bordering agricultural land and open areas, retreating to the cover of the woods in the daytime. Forestry practices can affect their habitat to a significant extent.

Certain species of hawks and owls can be found in Granby, and the majority of these species are currently protected. Eagles can occasionally be spotted over the Holyoke Range because of the proximity to Quabbin and the Connecticut River. The success of the eagle restoration project at Quabbin Reservoir has encouraged the development of similar programs, and the Holyoke Range would provide a fine site for such efforts. It should be stressed that potential nesting grounds must be protected from human interference. They are relatively fragile areas and should be planned for accordingly.

Most of the eastern and northern sections of Granby are currently restricted for hunting. Deer, raccoon and rabbit hunting still occurs to a limited extent in the Turkey Hill and Facing Hills areas but the recent sharp increase in homebuilding in that section of town has limited the hunting access even further. The *Chicopee Rod & Gun Club*,

Chicopee Sportsman's Club, and Granby Bow & Gun Club control several hundred acres of land in the western and northwestern sections of town. These areas provide limited hunting and shooting opportunities.

Fishing opportunities in Granby are limited because the majority of the brooks and streams are small, and many are surrounded by private property. The ponds and lakes were formed with man-made dams, which make it impossible for anadromous fish to reach these areas for breeding purposes. Therefore the ponds and lakes are shallow and hold warm water species such as small-mouth bass, pickerel, and sunfish. The following areas provide restricted fishing: Forge Pond, Batchelor Brook, Aldrich Lake, and Stony brook.

Open space provides additional habitat for wildlife populations currently found in Granby. The establishment of buffer zones in and around agricultural lands encourages wildlife to occupy these areas. The presence of healthy wildlife populations enhances open space values, both aesthetically and from a recreational point of view. The protection of valuable wildlife habitat should always be considered in open space and recreational planning.

#### RARE & ENDANGERED SPECIES

Information from the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program in the 1986 Open Space & Recreation report indicated that Granby supported five rare or endangered plant and animal species. In 2001, an updated list of animals is included in the table below. The table indicates whether a species is endangered, rare or threatened and shows the most recent observation.

| Taxonomic Group | Scientific Name                 | Common Name             | State Rank | Most Recent Obs |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Fish            | <i>Notropis bifrenatus</i>      | Bridle Shiner           | SC         | 1939            |
| Amphibian       | <i>Ambystoma jeffersonianum</i> | Jefferson Salamander    | SC         | 1991            |
| Amphibian       | <i>Ambystoma laterale</i>       | Blue-Spotted Salamander | SC         | 2000            |
| Reptile         | <i>Clemmys guttata</i>          | Spotted Turtle          | SC         | 1997            |

|         |                              |                               |    |      |
|---------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----|------|
| Reptile | <i>Clemmys insculpta</i>     | Wood Turtle                   | SC | 1996 |
| Reptile | <i>Terrapene carolina</i>    | Eastern Box Turtle            | SC | 1987 |
| Bird    | <i>Ammodramus savannarum</i> | Grasshopper Sparrow           | T  | 1974 |
| Bird    | <i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i> | American Bittern              | E  | 1970 |
| Bird    | <i>Cistothorus platensis</i> | Sedge Wren                    | E  | 1928 |
| Bird    | <i>Tyto alba</i>             | Barn Owl                      | SC | 1956 |
| Mussel  | <i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>  | Triangle Floater              | SC | 1997 |
| Mussel  | <i>Strophitus undulatus</i>  | Creeper                       | SC | 1997 |
| Beetle  | <i>Desmocerus palliatus</i>  | Elderberry Long-Horned Beetle | SC | 1994 |

There are 4,420 acres of NHESP BioMap Core Habitat in Granby. With funding made available by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, the Natural Heritage Program developed the BioMap to identify the areas most in need of protection in order to protect the native biodiversity of the Commonwealth. BioMap focuses primarily on state-listed rare species and exemplary natural communities but also includes the full breadth of the State's biological diversity. The goal of the BioMap is to promote strategic land protection by producing a map showing areas that, if protected, would provide suitable habitat over the long term for the maximum number of Massachusetts terrestrial and wetland plant and animal species and natural communities.

#### *F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments*

The most dramatic physical feature in Granby is the Holyoke Range and the hills extending to the south plain. Old existing dirt roads and trails provide extensive opportunities for hiking and mountain biking in the warmer months, and cross-country skiing and snowmobiling when there is sufficient snow. Snowmobile and off-road vehicular use are popular sports, but opportunities are limited where privately owned land is involved. There are also vehicular limitations on state or town-owned property. The south side of the Holyoke Range provides opportunities for bird watching and

wildlife management. The encouraging success of the eagle project in Quabbin leads to hopes that one day they may nest on the Holyoke Mountain Range.

Aldrich Lake, in the western area of town, is located at the foot of the hills extending south of the Mt. Holyoke Range. The lake is bordered on the north and south by slopes exceeding 15%. The dramatic change in landscape from steep slope to water body enhances the scenic beauty of this area.

The numerous wetland areas scattered through town have great value for wildlife management and groundwater protection. These wetlands are valuable wildlife habitat, and add to the aesthetic value of the town.

Additional unique resources are Forge Pond and Batchelor Brook, which are scenic and popular recreational areas. Turkey Hill provides views and trails for hiking, and several roads and off-road areas provide trails for the significant equestrian population in Granby.

#### *G. Environmental Challenges*

Highly elevated levels of sodium chloride have been found in wells along State Street due to road salt application, indicating a need for reduced salt applications. Future concerns entail the contamination issues and the development of a public water supply system. There is a possibility for intermunicipal connections links between Granby and South Hadley in the future.

Additionally, the Granby landfill is in the process of either requiring expansion or closure. The landfill currently has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for discharge of pollutants into waterways, but abutters and neighboring communities have expressed concerns about the landfill, including its height and encroachment into wetland areas.

Granby residents and committee members have expressed concern with the issues facing many growing towns, those of increasing air, noise and light pollution. The Granby Planning Board has the opportunity to increase regulation of light and noise pollution with zoning, as well as to protect water supplies with stormwater bylaws.

## SECTION 5: INVENTORY OF LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATIONAL INTEREST



### A. Benefits of Preserving Open Space

Open space is a general term that refers to the status of land ranging from conservation land, recreation lands, agricultural lands and parks, as well as the broader definition of any lands of conservation interest which are yet undeveloped. Protected lands are public or semi-public parcels that are permanently committed for conservation purposes. Unprotected lands can be municipal (and not committed for conservation purposes) and private land (all land enrolled in Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B and other private lands which, due to low intensity use, add to the quality of open space in Granby).

The following is an inventory of public and private lands that are important to Granby due to their current open space and/or recreational use. Though continued open space or recreational use is not guaranteed on those private sites identified, these parcels are important to the Town. Undeveloped private lands provide scenic qualities

enhance the community's rural character, and contribute in protecting Granby's natural resources.

### B. Private Parcels

The table below shows the top owners of protected and Chapter 61 lands. Granby has significant parcels under protection for agriculture, as well as recreational lands for hunting and land held in trust for wildlife protection.

The **Chicopee Sportsmen's Club** has been serving the interests of outdoor sportsmen since it was established in 1938. With over 500 acres of woodlands, the Chicopee Sportsmen's club is an all outdoors club with plenty of room for outdoor activities.

Summer outings are held at the large Pavilion and outdoor picnic area. Overnight camping is permitted with outdoor fireplaces, and miles of trails are available for hiking, mountain biking, ATVs, Cross country skiing, or snowmobiling.

Four outdoor shooting ranges with overhead roofs are available for all types of shooting enthusiasts. Archery and pistol safety courses are offered each year and many shooting events are also held, some open to the public, including archery, black powder, high power rifle, pistol, and Turkey shoots. Trout are stocked in a pond onsite, and the club grounds are open to the hunting of Deer, Turkey, Rabbit, etc. Pheasants are stocked for hunting in the fall.

The **Fairview Fish and Game Association** shares land on Carver Street with the state and therefore has access to over 3,000 acres. They offer outdoor rifle and pistol ranges. Turkey shoots run every Sunday from September to April. The trap field is open every Sunday at 10 a.m. They have a pond in front of their clubhouse stocked with bass and trout.

The **Granby Bow & Gun Club** has 260 acres on Chicopee Street and provides indoor and outdoor archery and rifle ranges. Several private sportsmen's organizations have events or training at this facility throughout the year.

The **Kestrel Trust** is a non-profit conservation organization which serves Amherst and abutting towns. Since 1970, the Trust has played a leading role in open space, farmland and trail projects in the Amherst area. In cooperation with town conservation commissions, The Kestrel Trust:

- Helps to acquire, preserve and manage wildlife habitat areas, noteworthy natural features, water resource areas, parklands and informal outdoor recreation sites;
- Assists in improvements of these sites for public use;
- Aids in public environmental education;
- Supports conservation studies of the region.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Private ownership Chapter Lands           | 2,501.3 |
| Department of Conservation and Recreation | 1,485.0 |
| Town of Granby                            | 1,030.0 |
| Chicopee Sportsman's                      | 384.0   |
| Fairview Fish & Game                      | 296.5   |
| Granby Bow & Gun Club                     | 260.2   |
| Private Chapter Land                      | 107.7   |
| U.S.                                      | 100.1   |
| Inholding                                 | 52.9    |
| Department of Fish and Wildlife           | 52.4    |
| Private Chapter Land                      | 43.2    |
| Private Chapter Land                      | 38.9    |
| Private Chapter Land                      | 23.9    |
| Private Chapter Land                      | 23.6    |
| Kestrel Trust                             | 16.2    |
| U.S. Government                           | 14.6    |
| MT Holyoke College                        | 15.4    |
| Kestrel Trust                             | 13.8    |
| Private Chapter Land                      | 10.2    |

### *C. Public and Nonprofit Parcels*

#### TOWN PARKS

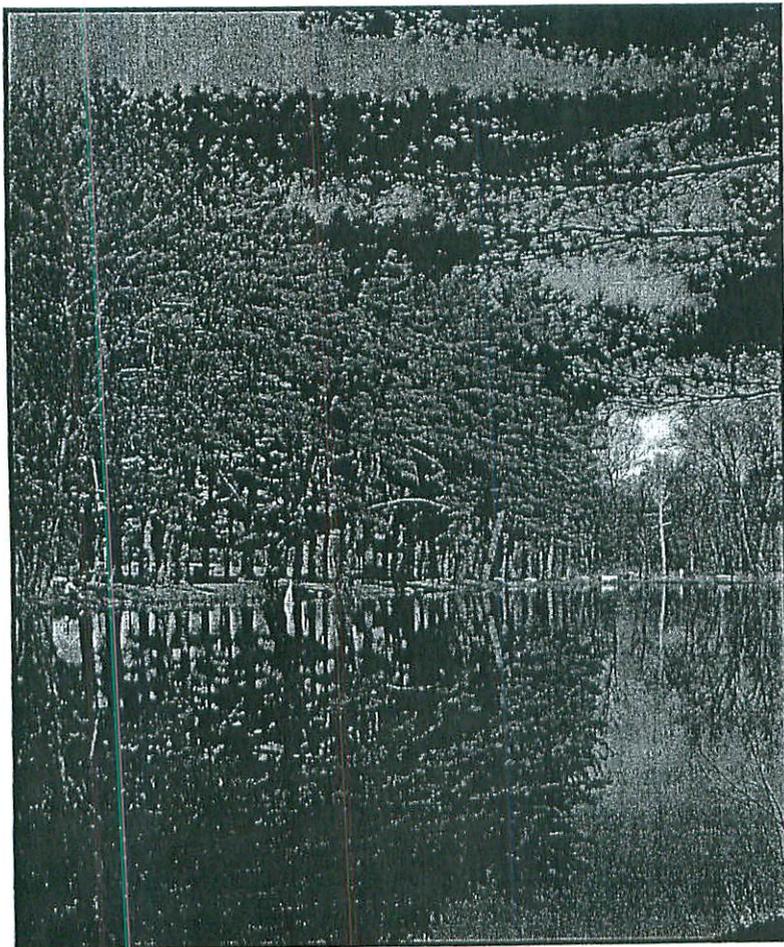
##### Dufresne's Park

In years past, Granby residents enjoyed the luxury of having enough open fields and meadows that there was never a problem finding a place to fly a kite or host an informal football game. As recreation became more organized and branched out into teams with formal leagues, it became necessary to adopt standards that would be accepted by other towns. The need for these baseball diamonds and soccer fields, as

well as a youth summer program, helped identify a need for an elected Recreation Commission that would oversee a small budget for the benefit of town residents.

The 1986 Open Space and Recreation Plan 1986 was prepared in response to a request by the of Environmental Management that all towns in the Commonwealth applying for funds for the Federal Land & Water Commission for acquisition of open space needed to have a current plan on file with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. When the farm of Max Dufresne was offered to the Town of Granby for the sum of \$100,000 for 206 acres of prime farmland in the center of town off Route 202, the town was able to purchase the land with matching funds from the Federal Land and Water Commission. That brought the Town's cost to \$50,000 or \$250 per acre.

Now many Granby residents enjoy Dufresne's Park. Its amenities include a pond where residents can fish and skate, although the water is not acceptable for swimming. There are small pavilions over picnic tables where families can enjoy a



barbeque. Three baseball/softball fields on either side of the pond contribute to the open feeling of the park. There is a pavilion accessible from the Kendall Street side, many marked hiking trails for people and horses, a horse arena with two rings, and a large playground.

Accessible from the Taylor Street entrance is a horse corral where horse shows and weather permitting, sleigh rides are held. A large, modern playground was built in 2004. Three 60-foot baseball diamonds are used frequently in the spring by youth leagues,

and young soccer players hone their skills on the soccer fields. There are rest rooms accessible to the handicapped near the pavilion, which is also accessible. There is handicapped parking and paved walkways to the pavilion and gazebo, and unpaved paths to the dam to promote accessible fishing.

#### Brown-Ellison Park

Located on Carver Street near the Granby and Ludlow line, this park was once owned by the Air Force. In World War II, a large radio tower and beacon was erected so that the huge B-52's would be able to approach the northeast landing strip at Westover Air Force Base correctly. After the B-52's were no longer needed at Westover, the tower was taken down and the area fell into disrepair. In 1974, the Town requested and was deeded the "surplus property" of 12.16 acres. The park was dedicated by the Granby Board of Selectmen in the memory of Kenneth Brown and Richard Ellison, two Granby residents who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

The entire property is surrounded by fencing, which provides the homes around the park with security and privacy. The park has a baseball diamond, two soccer fields, storage building, and volleyball courts, but there is room for improvement. There are curb cuts but no sidewalks, and areas are flat and could be accessible to a wheelchair.

#### Cooley Field

A now unused, but regularly mowed 33-acre field sits at the end of Burnett Street by the Granby-South Hadley line, acquired by the town in the late 1960's. The property borders on Batchelor Brook, and now the property comes under the jurisdiction of the Granby Conservation Commission. Insects from the brook made the area difficult to use. It is no longer used for active recreation, but at one time had swings, slides and a baseball diamond. It has no facilities for the handicapped.

#### Aldrich Field

Although not a proper "park", this 11.5-acre parcel was donated to the Town of Granby by Elbert Aldrich in 1967. A 60-foot baseball diamond and a storage shed are located in the back of the field. There is a small playground with swings and a slide. This area was the proposed site for the 2001 Granby Town Complex. There are no sidewalks and this field would be difficult to access with a wheelchair.

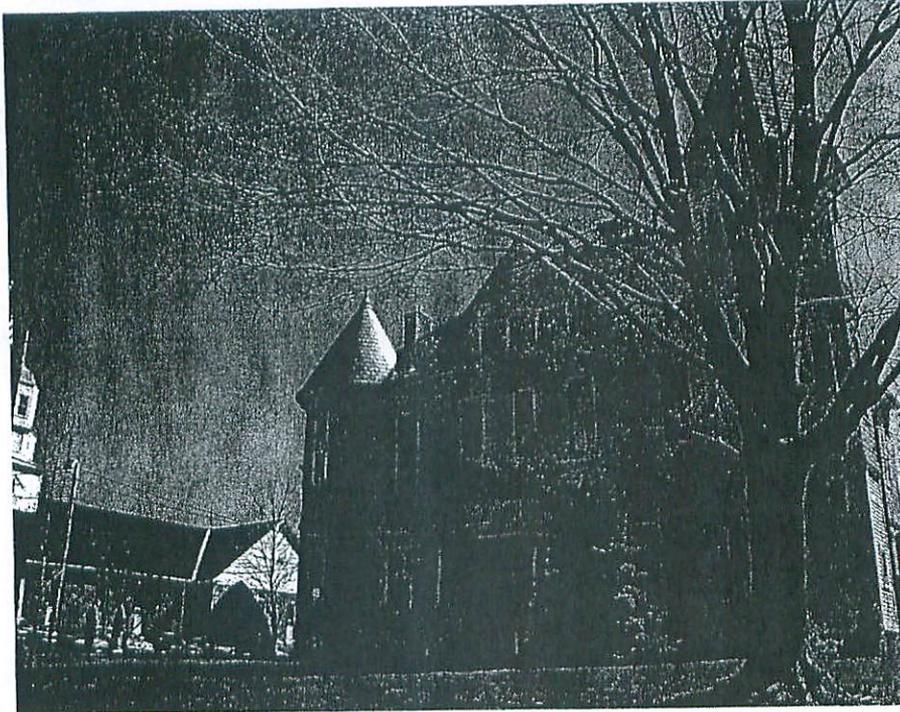
Granby High School and East Meadow School has five basketball courts, one of these indoors, two baseball fields, two softball fields, four tennis courts in various states of

maintenance, and two soccer fields. All school facilities are accessible for a wheelchair and there is handicapped parking available.

Aldridge Lake is used for fishing and canoeing. There is dirt parking on the side of the road to access the lake, but a steep slope down to the water. There is no paved area for handicapped access.

Forge Pond has over two acres available for fishing. There is accessibility near the dam and spillway at the old mill site. It is possible to launch a canoe there as well. There is no accessible parking or paving.

## SECTION 6: COMMUNITY VISION



### *A. Description of Process*

Granby residents and officials have always been committed to caring for our community's character and environmental attributes. The town prepared our first Master Plan in 1966 and our first OSRP in November of 1986. In 2001, we worked with the University of Massachusetts to update the OSRP once more, but the draft was not submitted to the Commonwealth for approval. However, in June 2003, Granby began the process of preparing a Community Development Plan with PVPC as the consultant. From June 2003 until June 2004, Granby citizens were invited to participate in several open meetings related to open space protection, housing issues, economic development, and transportation issues. All households in Granby were also sent a community survey with questions relating to all these issues. Over 33% of Granby households responded to the survey. The responses to the survey and public meetings guided the Planning Board in their articulation of the community's overall goals.

Granby followed a particular process to articulate the town vision for the OSRP. The Planning Board decided not to form a separate Open Space Committee, but rather, the Planning Board served as the Open Space Committee. The Town and PVPC reviewed existing OSRPS and the previous versions of the Granby OSRP. The data provided by the recently completed CD plan and updates from the survey provided for

the CD plan further articulated the vision process, as well as the public meeting included in the OSRP Update process. All households in Granby were invited to the public meeting, which resulted in good attendance and interaction. Residents unable to attend that evening met with PVPC staff at other times to discuss the action steps and include important goals and objectives.

*B. Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals*

The overall vision of the Granby OSRP addresses:

- Increased development pressure combined with the current limitation in providing public water supply and sewage disposal systems;
- adverse environmental impacts resulting from unregulated growth
- increased traffic congestion and hazards
- loss of agricultural land
- maintenance of rural character
- adequate recreational opportunities for town residents;
- and protection of ground and surface water resources

Granby is in need of guidance for long-term goals of open space protection in order to preserve and enhance the quality of life that attracted residents to this community.

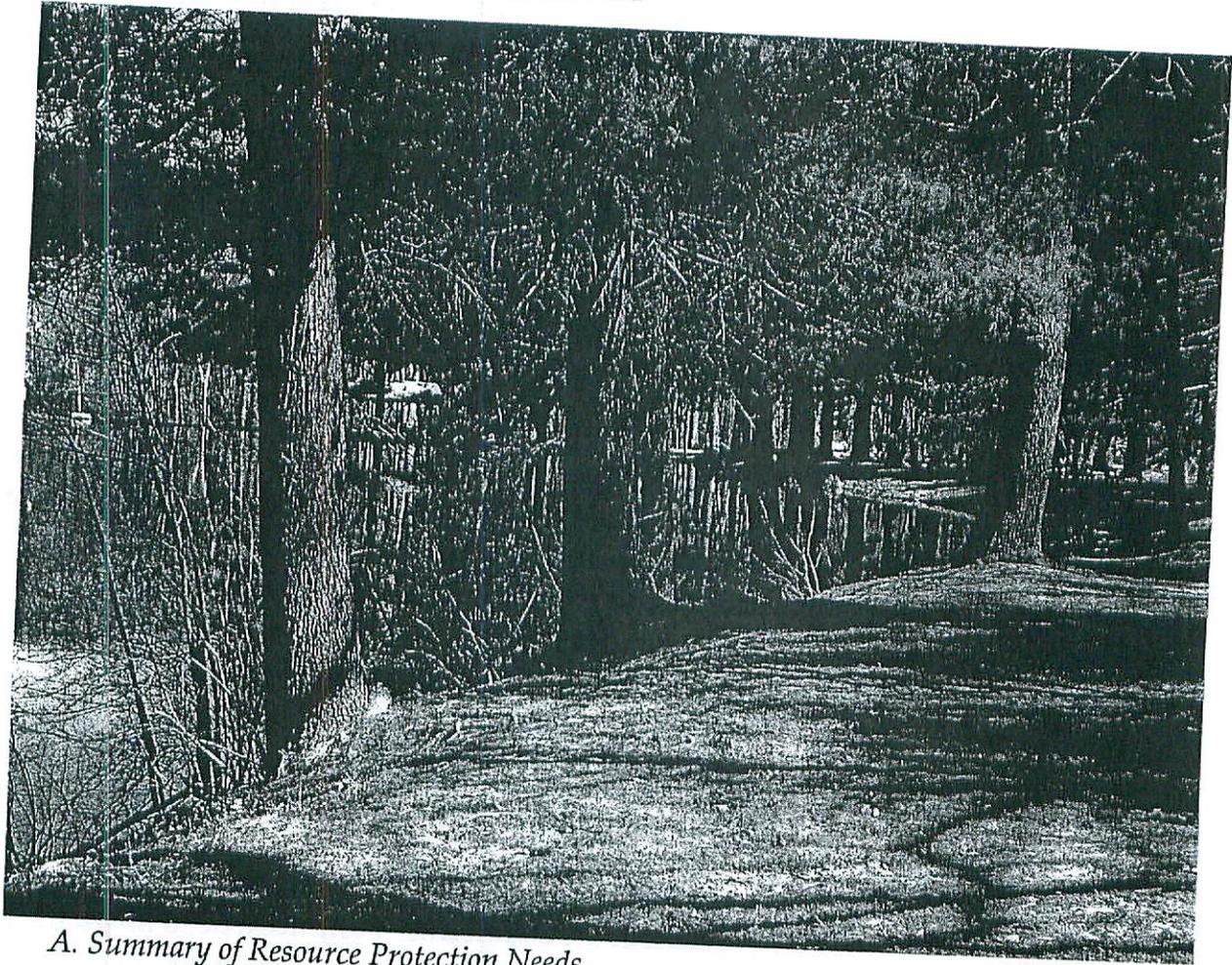
As the fourth fastest-growing community in the Pioneer Valley region, Granby faces greater than average development pressure. We are an attractive community in which to live, appealing to people who work in larger cities and choose to reside in rural areas. As development pressure on neighboring communities reaches a maximum, more families will look toward Granby to fulfill their housing needs. Residents had stated emphatically in the written portion of the Open Space Survey of 2004 that they did not want Granby to develop rapidly "like Belchertown or South Hadley".

The 1986 OSRP served as an excellent model for this OSRP. Granby hopes that this updated plan will serve as well to guide future growth, development and resource preservation in Granby. Growth cannot be halted, but it can be directed towards those areas that are best able to support it. Preservation of important resources adds to the overall value of a community as well as builds a healthy environmental base. The intelligent incorporation of agricultural land, forested land, wetlands, open spaces and

development into a community can be achieved through proper planning and management.

According to the responses to the survey, residents most value the small town atmosphere of Granby and think it is a good place to live and raise children. Residents consider Granby's environmental attributes a major contribution to its character and would like to see them protected. Residents are especially interested in supporting bicycling, riding and walking trails, protection of the Holyoke Range, and community parks with recreation facilities. Residents also strongly favor municipal infrastructure that can be a source of pride for the town and the addition of youth and elder programs and facilities.

## SECTION 7: ANALYSIS OF NEEDS



### *A. Summary of Resource Protection Needs*

According to the available data for the necessary habitat needs of wildlife, there is a need to protect unique environments such as potential vernal pools and habitat identified by PVPC and the Commonwealth. Residents have also supported protecting the ridgeline and hillside areas of town, as well as the habitat around Granby's water resources. The 1986 OSRP recommended establishing greenbelts along Batchelor Brook. Coordination of efforts along Batchelor Brook between Granby and Belchertown would enable both communities to benefit from the conservation and preservation practices. Granby residents and the Planning Board are interested in expanding greenbelt protection to the other waterways in town.

There is opportunity to provide connections from the area along the Mt. Holyoke Range to more populated areas, with trails for people and corridors for wildlife. The

Mt. Holyoke Range is identified as a focus area in the PVPC Regional Greenways map, considered a priority area for state agencies, land trusts, and the conservation community both in Granby and in neighboring communities.

Town leaders are also working to protect forest resources, so important for watershed protection. A watershed protection plan and map is being developed concurrently with this OSRP and these are included in the Appendices. Parcels identified on the map are most critical for conservation, restoration, and stormwater protection.

### *B. Summary of Community's Needs*

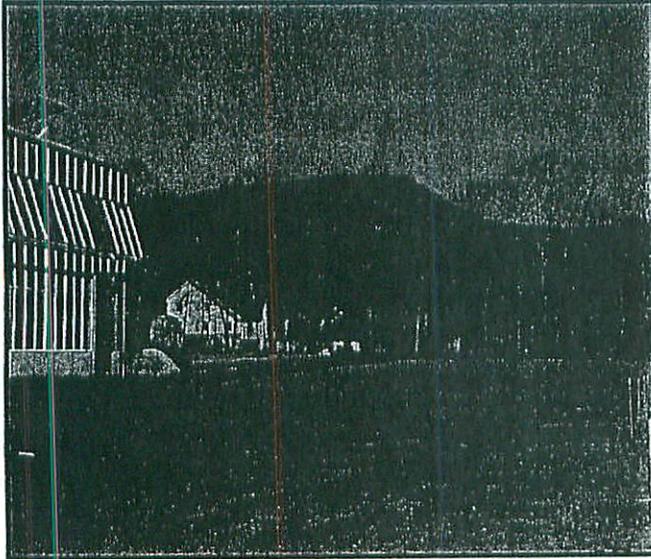
As stated previously, Granby residents feel that there should be more programs and facilities geared toward youth and the elderly. Young people, teens and parents desire programs and facilities that are conducive to active recreational activities and older residents prefer more passive activities like walking. All Granby residents have indicated an interest in more walking and bicycling trails. The Granby Regional Horse Council needs more trails and access to them. According to the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), residents of the Connecticut Valley engage in fishing (39.7%), golfing, picnicking, and playground activities to a lesser extent. Connecticut Valley residents most often participate in sightseeing tours (54.9%), walking (44.5%), swimming (52.7%), and hiking (41.9%).

This information and responses from the community indicates a need for walking, hiking and equestrian trails, swimming accessibility, and access to sightseeing for local residents. According to the community survey, residents were most interested in improving parks and recreational opportunities (72.1%), protecting natural resources and environmental quality (94.6%), having recreational resources (67.7%), bicycling/walking paths (64.8%), and sports fields (43.8%).

### *C. Management Needs, Potential Change of Use*

No plan is complete without addressing management needs, staffing needs, and conflicts of use. With limited staff to address open space and recreation needs, Granby officials are working with other committees and residents where appropriate and sharing the burden of management when possible. The Planning Board will be soliciting assistance in implementing the action steps from community members who have expressed an interest during the planning process.

## SECTION 8: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



In late 2004, the Granby Planning Board reviewed the goals and objectives from the draft update plan of 2001. We also reviewed the strategies that we prioritized during the Community Development planning process in order to plan the timeframe for the high priority goals. These follow:

1. **Protect ground and surface water resources in order to maintain water quality, preserve wetland areas, provide wildlife habitat and passive recreational opportunities, and minimize potential adverse environmental effects on these areas resulting from development encroachment.**
  - a) Continue to pursue greenbelts around Batchelor Brook, Stony Brook, Turkey Hill Brook and Ingraham Brook via Conservation Restrictions and outright purchase, at the rate of 50 acres a year
  - b) Monitor water quality at sample stations located at Forge Pond and Batchelor Brook
  - c) Establish reduced salt areas on a greater network of roads in Granby
  - d) Increase public recognition of the water supply protection areas
  - e) Strengthen performance-based stormwater protection bylaw
2. **Assure that there is an adequate supply of quality drinking water for all Granby residents in the future.**
  - a) Consider revising Aquifer Protection zoning bylaw
  - b) Consider Town wetland protection bylaw to expand regulatory authority
  - c) Obtain information concerning potential alternative water supply sources
  - d) Consider expansion of water and sewage disposal systems
3. **Provide adequate recreational opportunities to meet the needs of all Granby residents**
  - a) Strengthen the town's recreation committee and programs

- b) Improve public access for fishing on Forge Pond
  - c) Create basketball courts in DuFresne Park
  - d) Plant trees in Brown-Ellison Park
  - e) Improve maintenance of area playgrounds, ball fields, and equ facilities
  - f) Consider securing a trail along Old Crank Road to connect sta Taylor Street to DuFresne Park
  - g) Provide hiking trail near Turkey Hill Brook
  - h) Consider sidewalks or wider shoulders on Granby roads
- 4. Ensure the continuation of agricultural uses to maintain community character, preserve economic base, and protect valuable resources**
- a) Create zoning overlay districts for agriculture
  - b) Encourage local farmers to pursue the possibility of selling their development rights under Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR)
  - c) Promote town support for farmers wishing to take advantage of the APR program
  - d) Use real estate transfer tax and roll-back taxes from Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B to establish a conservation fund for purchase of development rights or agricultural/conservation restrictions
  - e) Provide information for property owners to encourage them to maintain their land under Chapter 61A
  - f) Consider Town participation in the Community Forestry Program
  - g) Publicize existing farmstands with brochure and signage
  - h) Begin an Agricultural Commission
- 5. Maintain and acquire Town-owned lands to provide maximum accessibility and utilization**
- a) Improve signage on existing town-owned land to increase public awareness
  - b) Improve parking areas on town-owned land for accessibility
  - c) Provide additional trails for passive recreation on existing town-owned land
  - d) Discuss the needs of youth and the elderly for programs, facilities and infrastructure
- 6. Ensure that future development is sited so that minimal adverse environmental and aesthetic impacts occur and the character of Granby is maintained.**

- a) Identify areas with severe limitations to development
- b) Improve zoning bylaws to provide maximum restrictions on development proposed for areas with severe limitations, such as Mt. Holyoke Range
- c) Consider preservation of open areas in all new commercial development

**7. Protect sensitive natural areas**

- a) Identify ecologically sensitive areas such as bogs, vernal pools, greenway focus areas, etc.
- b) Use conservation incentives such as the Environmental Defense Safe Harbor Program to increase protection of identified sensitive areas on public and private property
- c) Create a Sensitive Natural Areas Overlay District to protect water quality, wildlife habitat, and other environmental resources
- d) Adopt an Environmental Impact Analysis requirement in the zoning bylaws
- e) Consider conflict of off-road vehicles, hunters, permits and trash

**8. Implement goals and action steps with newly-formed Open Space and Recreation Committee**

## SECTION 9: FIVE YEAR ACTION PLAN



| <b>Action</b>   | <b>Responsible Agency/Committee</b>      | <b>Timeframe</b> | <b>Possible Funding Source</b>  |
|---|--|------------------|---|
| Continue to pursue a greenbelt around Batchelor Brook, Stony Brook, Ingraham Brook and Turkey Hill Brook via Conservation Restrictions and outright purchase, 50 acres a year | Planning Board & Conservation Commission | Ongoing          | DCR Self Help funds<br>Local Land Trusts<br>Pass the Community Preservation Act (CPA)<br>Local giving                       |
| Monitor water quality at sample stations located at Forge Pond and Batchelor Brook  | Conservation Commission                  | Ongoing          | Smart Growth Technical Assistance grants-EOEA<br>DEP quality water monitoring<br>Community groups/volunteers<br>Stream Team |
| Establish reduced salt areas on a greater network of roads in Granby  | Planning Board & DPW                     | 2005             | Local Action  |
| Increase public recognition of water  | Select Board, Planning                   | ongoing          | Clean Water Action<br>Mass Environmental Trust  |

|   |   |           |  |
|---|---|-----------|--|
| supply protection areas   | Board, Open Space and Recreation Committee                                |           |  |
| Strengthen performance-based stormwater protection bylaw  | Planning Board  | 2005-2006 | Smart Growth Technical Assistance grants-EOEA        |
| Consider revising Aquifer Protection zoning bylaw   | Planning Board  | 2006      | Smart Growth Technical Assistance grants-EOEA        |
| Consider Town wetland protection bylaw to expand regulatory authority                               | Planning Board  | 2007      | Smart Growth Technical Assistance grants-EOEA        |
| Obtain information concerning potential alternative water supply sources                            | Planning Board, Conservation Commission                                   | Ongoing   | Town Action  |
| Consider expansion of water and sewage disposal systems   | Select Board, Planning Board  | Ongoing   | Town Action  |
| Strengthen town recreation committee and programs   | Recreation Commission, Open Space and Recreation Committee                | ongoing   | Self Help funds-DCR                                  |
| Improve public access for fishing on Forge Pond   | Planning Board, Open Space and Recreation Committee                       | 2006      | Town Action  |
| Create basketball courts in DuFresne Park   | Select Board, Planning Board, Open Space and Recreation Committee         | 2006      | DCR-Self Help funds<br>Town Action<br>Local Giving   |
| Plant trees in Brown-Ellison Park   | Planning Board, Open Space and Recreation Committee                       | 2005      | Local Action<br>DCR-Urban Forestry                   |
| Improve maintenance of area playgrounds, ball fields, and equestrian facilities                     | Select Board, Planning Board, DPW, Boy/Girl Scouts, Recreation Commission | ongoing   | DCR-Self Help<br>Local Action                        |
| Consider linking town hiking and cross-country skiing trails to state park                          | Planning Board, Kestrel Trust, Open Space and Recreation Committee        | ongoing   | Local Action<br>DCR-Greenways Funds<br>DCR-Self Help |
| Provide hiking trail near Turkey Hill Brook   | Planning Board, Open Space and Recreation Committee                       | 2005      | DCR-Greenways<br>Americorps<br>Local Funds           |
| Consider sidewalks or wider shoulders on Granby roads   | Select Board, Planning Board  | ongoing   | MassHighway via PVPC                                 |
| Consider securing a trail along Old Crank Road to connect stables on Taylor Street to DuFresne Park | Select Board, Planning Board  | 2006      | DCR-Greenways funds<br>DCR-Self Help                 |

|  |  |           |  |
|--|--|-----------|--|
|  |  |           | Local land trusts<br>Town action                         |
| Create zoning overlay districts for agriculture  | Planning Board   | 2006-2007 | EOEA-Smart Growth<br>Technical Assistance                |
| Encourage local farmers to pursue the possibility of selling their development rights under Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR)  | Planning Board,<br>Conservation<br>Commission  | Ongoing   | Town Action  |
| Promote town support for farmers wishing to take advantage of the APR program  | Select Board, Planning<br>Board, Conservation<br>Commission                              | Ongoing   | Town Action<br>EOEA Smart Growth<br>Technical Assistance |
| Use real estate transfer tax and roll-back taxes from Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B to establish a conservation fund for purchase of development rights or agricultural/conservation restrictions | Planning Board,<br>Conservation<br>Commission  | Ongoing   | Town Action  |
| Provide information for property owners to encourage them to maintain their land under Chapter 61A   | Planning Board,<br>Conservation<br>Commission, Open<br>Space and Recreation<br>Committee | Ongoing   | Town Action  |
| Consider Town participation in the Community Forestry Program  | Planning Board   | 2006      | Town Action  |
| Publicize existing farmstands with brochure, signage and festivals   | Planning Board, Open<br>Space and Recreation<br>Committee                                | 2006      | Town Action<br>EOEA-Smart Growth<br>Technical Assistance |
| Begin an Agricultural Commission   | Select Board,<br>Agricultural<br>Commission  | 2005      | EOEA-Smart Growth<br>Technical Assistance                |
| Improve signage on existing town-owned land to increase public awareness   | Select Board, Planning<br>Board, Open Space<br>and Recreation<br>Committee               | Ongoing   | Local Action   |
| Improve parking on town-owned lands to improve accessibility   | Select Board, Planning<br>Board  | 2006      | MassHighway<br>DEP                                       |
| Provide additional trails for passive recreation on existing town-owned land   | Planning Board,<br>Conservation<br>Commission, Open<br>Space and Recreation<br>Committee | 2008      | DCR-Greenways<br>DCR-Self Help                           |
| Discuss the needs of youth and the elderly for programs, facilities and  | Recreation<br>Commission, Council  | Ongoing   | Town Action  |

|   |  |         |   |
|---|--|---------|---|
| infrastructure  | on Aging   |         |   |
| Identify areas with severe limitations to development   | Planning Board, Conservation Commission  | Ongoing | Town Action<br>UMASS or Conway School student internships/projects                            |
| Improve and add to zoning bylaws to provide maximum restrictions on development proposed for areas with severe limitations.   | Planning Board   | Ongoing | EOEA-Smart Growth Technical Assistance  |
| Consider preservation of open areas in all new commercial development   | Planning Board   | 2007    | EOEA-Smart Growth Technical Assistance  |
| Identify ecologically sensitive areas such as bogs, vernal pools, greenway focus areas, etc.  | Planning Board, Conservation Commission  | Ongoing | EOEA-Smart Growth Technical Assistance  |
| Use conservation incentives such as the Environmental Defense Safe Harbor Program to increase protection of identified sensitive areas on public and private property | Planning Board, Conservation Commission  | 2005    | Town Action   |
| Create a Sensitive Natural Areas Overlay District to protect water quality, wildlife habitat, and other environmental resources                                       | Planning Board, Conservation Commission  | 2006    | EOEA-Smart Growth Technical Assistance  |
| Adopt an Environmental Impact Analysis requirement in the zoning bylaws   | Planning Board   | 2006    | EOEA-Smart Growth Technical Assistance  |
| Consider conflicts of off-road vehicles, hunters, permits and trash   | Select Board, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Open Space and Recreation Committee | 2006    | Town Action   |
| Implement goals and action steps with newly-formed Open Space and Recreation Committee  | Open Space and Recreation Committee  | ongoing | EOEA-Smart Growth Technical Assistance<br>DCR-Self Help<br>And all other sources listed above |

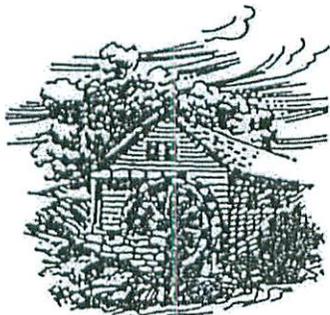
**SECTION 10: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE  
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN UPDATE FOR GRANBY

The Granby Planning Board and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission are sponsoring a public meeting for the Open Space and Recreation Plan Update at 7:15 PM on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> (postponed from February 28<sup>th</sup>) at the East Meadow School in Granby. The goals of the public meeting are to present the plan's progress to date, present information on forestry for watershed health, to map unique scenic resources in the Town of Granby and to discuss the plan's proposed goals and action steps.

Granby residents are strongly encouraged to attend and share their thoughts. Light refreshments will be provided. Workshop activities are planned to be interactive and engaging in order to encourage maximum participation. This is an important opportunity for residents to actively participate in defining and directing the future of open space and recreation in Granby.

For more information, contact the Planning Board in Granby or Sabine Prather at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 413/781-6045 or [sprather@pvpc.org](mailto:sprather@pvpc.org).



# TOWN OF GRANBY

MASSACHUSETTS 01033

May 31, 2005

Open Space Committee  
Town of Granby  
250 State Street  
Granby, MA 01033

Dear Members of the Open Space Committee,

The Granby Recreation Commission has approved and supports your Open Space Plan of the Town of Granby's as presented and explained to us. We thank you for all the hard work that has gone into compiling the update on these plans..

Sincerely,  
Recreation Commission

  
Trudy Tufcotte

  
Cathy Leonard

  
Thomas Malone



# TOWN OF GRANBY

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
250 STATE STREET  
GRANBY, MA 01033  
(413) 467-7177  
FAX (413) 467-2080

June 6, 2005

Open Space Committee  
Town of Granby  
250 State Street  
Granby, MA 01033

Dear Members of the Open Space Committee,

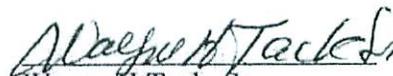
The Board of Selectmen is happy to inform you of our approval and support of the Town of Granby's Open Space Plan as presented and explained to us. We thank you for all the work that has gone into compiling the update on this document. We further understand that this is a fluid plan that will continue to be reviewed and revised as we move forward.

Thank you again on behalf of the Town for your efforts in this important work.

Sincerely,  
Granby Board of Selectmen

  
Bryan F Hauschild

  
Patrick J Curran

  
Wayne H Tack, Sr.



# TOWN OF GRANBY

PLANNING BOARD  
250 STATE STREET  
GRANBY, MA 01033  
(413) 467-7177  
FAX (413) 467-2080

August 7, 2006

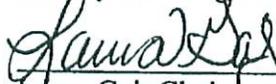
Open Space Committee  
Town of Granby  
250 State Street  
Granby, MA 01033

Dear Members of the Open Space Committee,

The Granby Planning Board is happy to inform you of our approval and support of the Town of Granby's Open Space Plan as presented and explained to us. We thank you for all the work that has gone into compiling the update on this document. We further understand that this is a fluid plan that will continue to be reviewed and revised as we move forward.

Thank you again on behalf of the Town for your efforts in this important work.

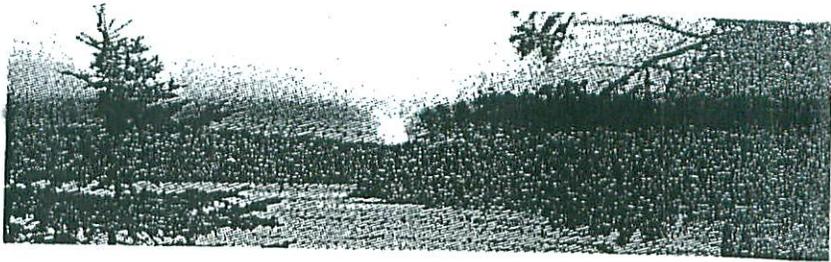
Sincerely,  
Granby Planning Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Gaj, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Maheu, Vice Chairman

# Town of Granby Conservation Commission

Granby, Massachusetts 01033



June 13, 2006

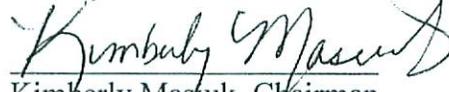
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Thank you again on behalf of the Town for your efforts in this important work.

Sincerely,  
Granby Conservation Commission

  
Kimberly Masluk, Chairman

  
Jeffrey Skelskie, Vice Chairman



PIONEER  
VALLEY  
PLANNING  
COMMISSION

Timothy W. Brennan, Executive Director

26 Central Street-Suite 34, West Springfield

Massachusetts 01089-2787

Tel.: (413) 781-6045

Fax: (413) 732-2593

[www.pvpc.org](http://www.pvpc.org)

January 20, 2006

Ms, Melissa Cryan  
Urban Self-Help Coordinator  
DCR-EOEA  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114-2524

Reference: Granby Open Space and Recreation Plan, 2005.

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission has reviewed the above-referenced plan, and finds it to be consistent with regional goals and objectives.

The Commission is pleased to see Granby placing a priority on preserving its town character through protecting and enhancing its water resources, agricultural heritage, unique natural areas and wildlife habitat while providing greater variety of recreational opportunities. Their coordinated approach of acquisition, maintenance, collaboration, and education, along with an aggressive program to improve levels of protection, will go far towards realizing the Plan's overall goals.

As the fourth fastest-growing community in the Pioneer Valley region, the need to preserve and expand the community's natural and cultural assets along with providing recreational opportunities becomes increasingly important. Their understanding of these issues will prove useful as Granby initiates strategies to preserve, protect, and expand its open spaces. In keeping with this approach, we encourage Granby to continue efforts to manage its ground and surface water resources, foster well-planned and sustainable use of its landscape, and improve recreational access to both "range and river greenways" through a number of state and regional initiatives.

We congratulate the town in this endeavor and support its efforts in planning for the protection of their natural resources and the provision of recreational opportunities to the entire community.

Sincerely,

  
Timothy W. Brennan  
Executive Director

TWB/SMH

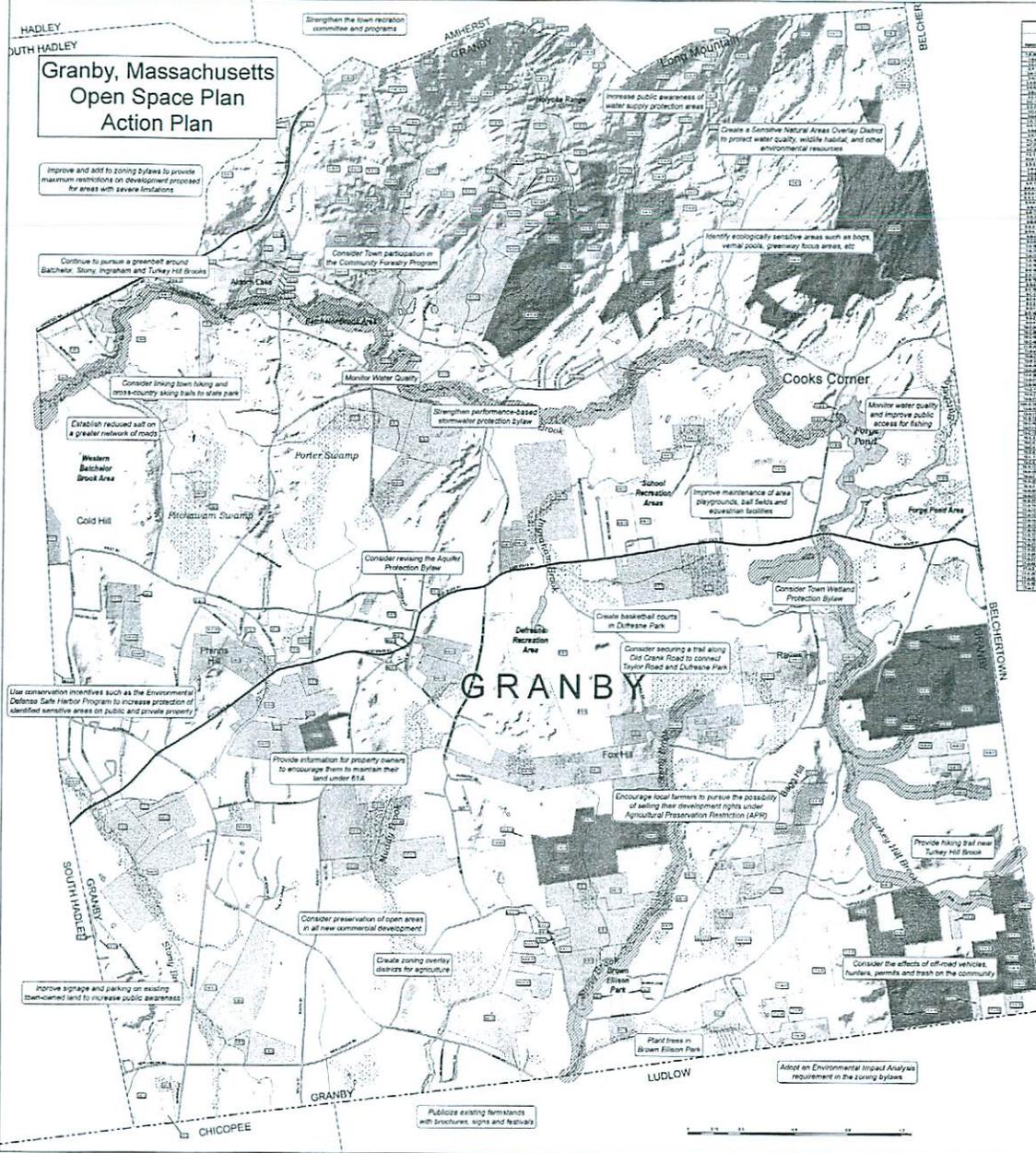
cc: Cindy Watson, PVPC Commissioner

## SECTION 11: REFERENCES

1. The Open Space Planner's Workbook, online at [www.state.ma.us/envir](http://www.state.ma.us/envir)
2. Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), online at [www.state.ma.us/envir](http://www.state.ma.us/envir)
3. MA Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Law Enforcement, online at [www.state.ma.us/dfele](http://www.state.ma.us/dfele)
4. Old Houses, Granby MA; Women's Club, 1955
5. Images of America: Granby, Granby Writing Circle, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, SC 2002

APPENDICES & MAPS

# Granby, Massachusetts Open Space Plan Action Plan



Improve and add to zoning bylaws to provide maximum restrictions on development proposed for areas with severe limitations

Continue to pursue a greenbelt around Batchelor, Stony Ingham and Turkey Hill Brooks

Consider strong town hiking and cross-country along trails to state park

Establish reduced salt on a greater network of roads

Western Batchelor Brook Area

Cold Hill

Porter Swamp

Altoona Swamp

Pharo's Hill

Use conservation incentives such as the Environmental Defense Safe Harbor Program to increase protection of identified sensitive areas on public and private property

Provide information for property owners to encourage them to maintain their land under E.P.A.

Consider preservation of open areas in all new commercial development

Create zoning overlay districts for agriculture

Improve signage and parking on existing farmland to increase public awareness

Publicize existing farmsteads with brochures, signs and festivals

Plant trees in Brown Ellison Park

Adopt an Environmental Impact Analysis requirement in the zoning bylaws

Strengthen the town recreation committee and programs

AMHERST GRANBY

Long Mountain

Hyde Park

Increase public awareness of water supply protection areas

Consider Town participation in the Community Forestry Program

AMHERST GRANBY

Identify ecologically sensitive areas such as bogs, wetland ponds, greenway focus areas, etc.

Monitor Water Quality

Strengthen performance-based stormwater protection bylaw

AMHERST GRANBY

Strengthen performance-based stormwater protection bylaw

AMHERST GRANBY

Consider revising the Aquifer Protection Bylaw

AMHERST GRANBY

Consider revising the Aquifer Protection Bylaw

AMHERST GRANBY

Chapter 81A, 81B, and 81C Land

| Serial | Area | Acres | Category | Priority | Notes |
|--------|------|-------|----------|----------|-------|
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| 90     |      |       |          |          |       |

Executive Order #18  
Commonwealth Development Project

### Granby, Massachusetts Future Landuse Suitability

Suitability Analysis

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Existing Protected Land                                     | Suitable for active farming       |
| Existing Disturbed Land                                     | Suitable for generic use          |
| Suitable for residential development                        | Challenging Sensitive Areas       |
| Suitable for compact development                            | Challenging Active Agricultural   |
| Suitable for Industrial or Commercial (Depending on zoning) | Challenging Commercial/Industrial |
| Suitable for low density                                    | Future Industrial Park            |
| Proposed Affordable Housing                                 | Proposed or Pending Open Space    |

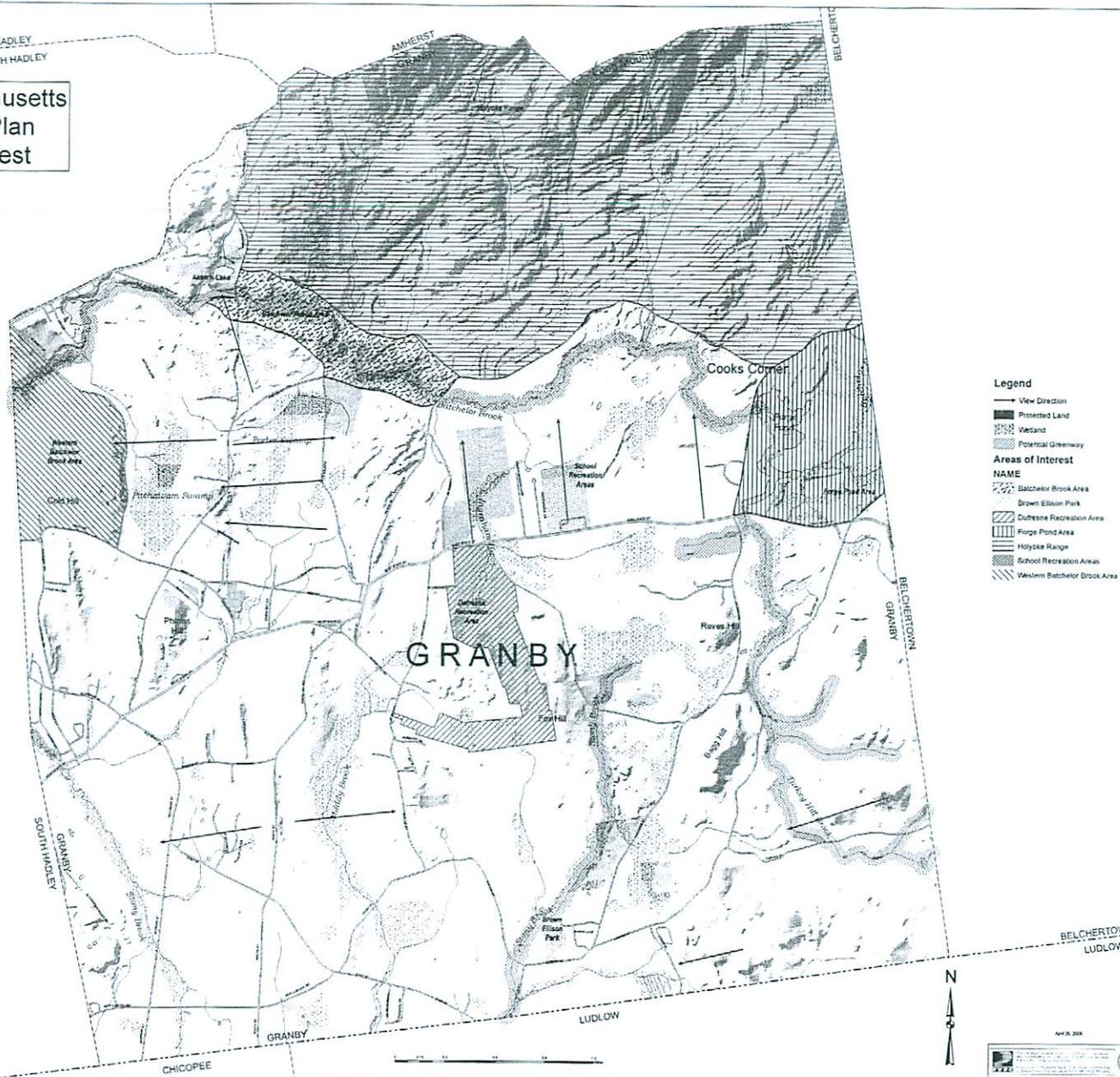
May 11, 2004



Map Information: Prepared by the GRANBY SELECT TOWN BOARD & COMMISSIONERS. Includes logos for MASS GIS and other local organizations.

| Map Symbols & Legend |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Symbol               | Description   |
|                      | Existing Protected Land                                     |
|                      | Existing Disturbed Land                                     |
|                      | Suitable for residential development                        |
|                      | Suitable for compact development                            |
|                      | Suitable for Industrial or Commercial (Depending on zoning) |
|                      | Suitable for low density                                    |
|                      | Proposed Affordable Housing                                 |
|                      | Proposed or Pending Open Space                              |
|                      | Future Industrial Park                                      |
|                      | Suitable for active farming                                 |
|                      | Suitable for generic use                                    |
|                      | Challenging Sensitive Areas                                 |
|                      | Challenging Active Agricultural                             |
|                      | Challenging Commercial/Industrial                           |

Granby, Massachusetts  
Open Space Plan  
Points of Interest





Executive Order 418  
Community Development Project

### Granby, Massachusetts Natural Environment

- Water Body
- Wetland
- Forest
- Open Space
- Agriculture
- Pasture
- Field
- Road
- Rail
- Utility
- Building
- Other

General Land Office (GLO) data is derived from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). The data is provided as a service to the public and is not intended to be used for any other purpose. The data is provided as a service to the public and is not intended to be used for any other purpose. The data is provided as a service to the public and is not intended to be used for any other purpose.



Scale: 1 inch = 1 mile

MASS GIS  
Massachusetts Geographic Information System

MASS GIS  
Massachusetts Geographic Information System

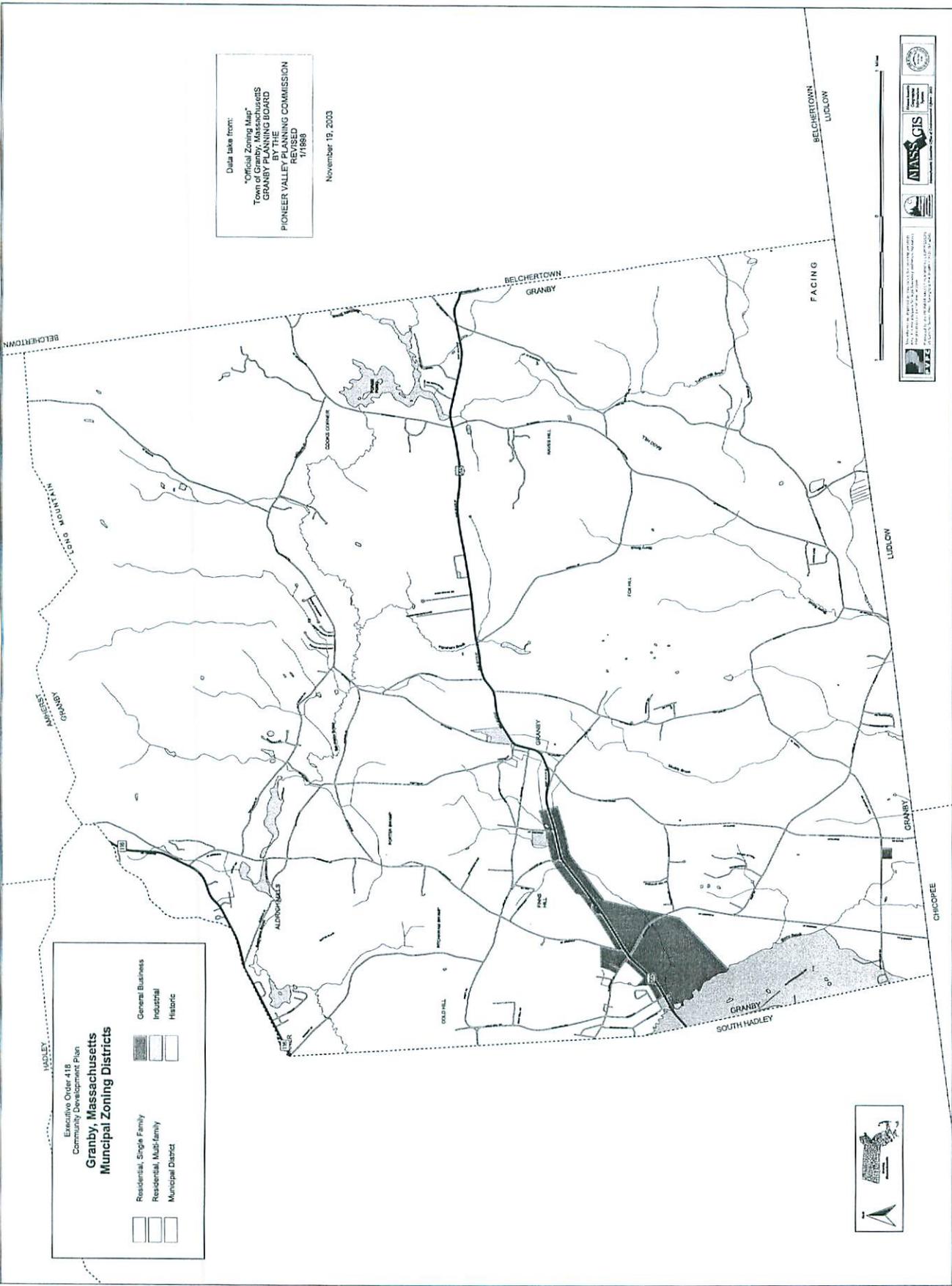


Executive Order 418  
Community Development Plan  
**Granby, Massachusetts  
Municipal Zoning Districts**

- Residential, Single Family
- Residential, Multi-family
- Municipal District
- General Business
- Industrial
- Historic

Data taken from:  
"Official Zoning Map"  
Town of Granby, Massachusetts  
GRANBY PLANNING BOARD  
PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION  
REVISED  
1/1888

November 19, 2003



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION  
URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANTS PROGRAM  
FINAL REPORT

June 2005

PROJECT: FOREST STEWARDSHIP FOR WATERSHED HEALTH  
LOCATION: GRANBY, MA

### **Work Plan Introduction**

The Town of Granby contracted with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) to complete the update of their Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). The purpose of this grant was to expand the scope of Granby's OSRP to include a section on the value and contribution of Granby's trees to the health of the Connecticut River watershed. Located in the northern half of Granby, the Batchelor Brook watershed is a sub-basin to the Connecticut River watershed, and provides drinking water to the adjacent town of South Hadley. In addition, three major water bodies within the Batchelor Brook sub-basin are considered impaired by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Although a mostly forested community (62%), Granby has experienced an increase of development in recent years, particularly subdivision and residential development. There is continued concern in the community that this increase of development will drastically reduce the canopy cover and further degrade the water quality. Therefore, by focusing on the protection of the water supply and on reducing pollution to water bodies, the value and usefulness of the OSRP will grow.

### **Task One: GIS Assessment**

PVPC completed a watershed analysis for the Batchelor Brook watershed in Granby using a GIS overlay process developed by the University of Massachusetts Amherst in cooperation with the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). This assessment tool uses commonly available GIS data to help communities identify key areas of protection for watershed health.

The watershed analysis identified over 5,000 acres of naturalized land in the sub-basin that is a priority for conservation to improve water quality. In addition, the analysis identified 635-acres of developed land for forest restoration and 648-acres for stormwater management in order to mitigate negative effects on water quality in the Batchelor Brook sub-basin.

The planning board received a final copy of the GIS watershed analysis map in early December and intends to use the map in future development decisions within the Batchelor Brook Watershed. The map was printed in a large scale format and adhered to a presentation board, which is now stored in the Planning Board meeting room. The map also helped identify several properties in Granby that would benefit from a restoration planting in the future. These

properties included a Sand and Gravel pit that has gone out of business and needs to plant trees to prevent soil erosion.

### **Task Two: Forestry-Protection Regulatory Tool Development**

The Planning Board held a meeting on January 4, 2005 to hear public comment on proposed Tree and Planting language to be added to the existing subdivision regulations. The regulation was developed based on existing Tree Protection bylaws in four Massachusetts communities: Reading, Holland, Westfield, and Westborough.

The purpose of the proposed subdivision regulation is to protect the critical identified forested areas in Granby from deforestation in order to prevent erosion, control stormwater drainage, and protect Granby's rural character. The regulation has three main provisions. The first provision addresses construction strategies for tree preservation, and requires the development of a Tree Preservation Plan for all future subdivision plans. The second provision requires subdividers to plant broad-leaved deciduous trees along all streets, and provides regulations on how the trees will be planted to prevent loss of new trees. Finally, the proposed subdivision regulation has conditions on tree replacement.

This regulation went through several revisions and was passed and adopted by the Planning Board on April 4, 2005.

### **Task Three: Education Campaign and Outreach**

Initially, the public education campaign and outreach for this grant was to accompany the development of regulatory tools for forestry protection and watershed health in Granby. Since the planning board chose to develop a subdivision regulation that can be passed by the planning board rather than a zoning bylaw that needs to be passed at Town Meeting, the education campaign shifted slightly. The town was interested in developing brochures and manuals that are targeted at town officials, developers, and homeowners on recommended tree planting techniques and maintenance.

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission with assistance from the Granby Planning Board developed a Tree Maintenance Manual based on the manual developed by the Town of Lexington, MA. The manual provides information on proper planting techniques and maintenance of trees, a preferred planting list, and a copy of the Tree and Planting subdivision regulation. The town will make this manual available to town officials to educate them on urban forestry and tree protection. In addition, the manual would be given to all developers when they submit a preliminary subdivision plan. The manual will also be available for download from the PVPC website.

The town will provide to homeowners existing brochures on tree planting and maintenance developed by Northeast Utilities and paid for by customers of Western Massachusetts Electric

Company and Connecticut Light and Power Company. Northeast Utilities provided the Town with 30 copies of the brochure. These brochures will be made available to homeowners in Granby Town Hall.

Finally, a public workshop was held in April to obtain feedback from the public on the final draft of the OSRP. A PowerPoint presentation on urban forestry was developed and presented at this workshop to educate the citizens of Granby on urban forestry and watershed health in their community. In addition, a section on Urban Forestry has been added to the updated OSRP.

#### **Task Four: Community Planting Project**

There were several planting projects scheduled in Granby as part of this urban forestry grant. First, the Planning Board received 35 free trees from the Town of Hadley to plant at two locations: the Brown-Ellison Recreation Park and the West Street Cemetery. These trees were planted by the Department of Public Works in spring 2005.

An Arbor Day planting day was also planned in Granby in April 2005. Arbor Day curriculum materials were provided to the Planning Board by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. A member of the Granby Planning Board then worked with the local elementary schools to participate in Arbor Day events. Events were held at the West Street Elementary School (Grades K-3) and East Meadow Elementary School (Grades 4-6).

Two fifth grade classes participated in a tree planting event on Arbor Day at the East Meadow Elementary School. Students wrote poems and made cards about Arbor Day. While the some students assisted in the planting of an oak tree, an Arbor Day poem was read by the rest of the class. Also, after the tree planting on Arbor Day, students watered the newly planted tree daily to ensure its survival. As a result, the tree is thriving at its new location at the East Meadow Elementary School.

The Planning Board was able to purchase at cost 135 seedlings from Class Grass, a local nursery in Granby. Four to five seedlings were delivered to each elementary school class to be handed out to students and planted at home. Every student in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes who participated in the Arbor Day planting event also received a seedling to bring home.

Finally, the Planning Board has also identified two potential parcels for restoration, based on the information provided by the watershed GIS analysis developed in Task One. The two parcels are former sand and gravel pits that are required to restore the parcels to prevent soil erosion. The Town will work with the landowners of these parcels on restoration through tree planting within the next year.

# **ADA SELF-EVALUATION REPORT**

## **July 2006**

The following three sections are required for all ADA Self- Evaluation reports, as part of a community's first Open Space and Recreation Plan or subsequent updates.

Part 1: Administrative Requirements

1. Designation of an ADA Coordinator
2. Complaint Form
3. Public Employment letter Notice

Part 2: Program Accessibility :

Transition Plans & Facility Inventories

1. Dufresnes Recreational Area
  - a. Transition Plan
  - b. Facility Inventory
2. Brooks Fields
  - a. Transition Plan
  - b. Facility Inventory
3. Brown-Ellison Park
  - a. Transition Plan
  - b. Facility Inventory
4. Aldrich Field
  - a. Transition Plan
  - b. Facility Inventory
5. Forge Pond Fishing Area School Street
  - a. Transition Plan
  - b. Facility Inventory

\*\*Note that the Conservation Commission has many wood parcels that are not in the evaluation because they are not readily accessible from any road or are completely surrounded by other properties

Part 3: Employment Practices

Support Letter – Patrick Curran  
Equal Opportunity Employer Example  
Personnel Policy (not available)

## Dufresnes Recreational Area

Location: East State Street Entrances on Taylor and Kendall Streets

Acres: >200

Owner: Conservation Commission

Protection: Permanent

This is a prize facility for the Town of Granby. It is evident that a great number of residents use this facility and benefit from its variety of activities. There are two off-street parking areas for this facility. Off Kendall St. there is a large parking lot with a picnic pavilion, complete with kitchen and bathroom facilities. There are also several small pavilions surrounding a large multi-use field, all equipped with tables, outdoor grills, and trash cans. On the west side of the field there is a large stocked fishing pond and a new playscape for children.

### Transition Plan:

- Parking lot is in decent condition. Gravel is hard packed and suitable. Handicapped parking signs are installed but there are no clear lines to mark the width of the spaces.
- Install handicapped accessible sink knobs and door knobs for easy use.
- There is a great opportunity for a Handicapped accessible fishing dock at the west end of the Kendall St parking lot.
- Picnic tables need to be adjacent to hard-packed trails and should include wheel chair accessible tables
- Install railing near pond on walkways to provide stability

- 
- I. Parking/Entrance
    - A. Parking – two lots
      - >200 spaces, two designated handicapped
      - Gravel lot well packed, small holes in areas.
    - B. Path of Travel
      - Dirt, moderately hard-packed
    - C. Entrance
      - Paved
    - D. Ramps- N/A
  - II. Indoor Facilities-
    - A. Stairs
    - B. Doors – doors are designed to be open while pavilion is in use
    - C. Floors – cement flooring is level and safe
    - D. Telephones – n/a
    - E. Switches, Controls, Signs – the signs in around the pavilion have received vandalism, but are appropriately placed for access
  - III. Restrooms/Shower Rooms

- A. Restrooms
  - i. The restrooms are located in the pavilion
  - ii. Door – there is inadequate space for wheelchairs to enter
  - iii. The handles on the doors and sinks are not handicapped accessible
  - iv. There is one large stall with appropriate handles in each rest room
- B. Shower Rooms- available not ADA compliant
- IV. Trails
  - Semi-packed surface, marked. The trail are primarily wooded, dirt, hilly; would not recommend them as accessible
- V. Picnic Areas
  - A. Tables/Benches
    - none accessible
    - No table meets minimum knee depth requirements
  - B. Path of Travel
    - Semi-hard packed surface, suitable for wheelchair in most areas
  - C. Trash Barrels
    - Present, yet no accessible path to them
  - D. Shelter- coverage provide by accessible wooden structures
  - E. Water Fountains- there is an artesian well located on a packed path
- VI. Play Lots
  - Excellent condition – brand new play equipment.
- VII. Swimming- there is a pond for fishing but swimming is not allowed
- VIII. Game Areas
  - There are several large multi-purpose fields
- IX. Boat Docks- N/A
- X. Fishing Facilities- there is a pond in the center of the property that can be accessed by a path, there are no railings or formal dock areas
- XI. Programming- the town rents the pavilion for private parties through the year. There is also a summer camp program thought town volunteers for school children.
- XII. Services/ Technical Assistance- Unknown

## Brooks Fields

Location: East and West sides of Burnett Street

Acre: 31

Owner: Conservation Commission

Protection: Permanent

This is a small mowed field that is currently maintained by the highway department.

Transition Plan:

- This facility has no formal programs or usage.
- 

### XIII. Parking/Entrance

#### A. Parking

- No designated parking, offers on-street parking on residential streets adjacent to park
- No handicap spaces

#### B. Path of Travel

- grass/dirt

#### C. Entrance

- No appropriate signage for the disabled

#### D. Ramps- N/A

### XIV. Indoor Facilities- N/A

### XV. Restrooms/Shower Rooms- N/A

### XVI. Trails- N/A

### XVII. Picnic AreasN/A

### XVIII. Play Lots N/A

### XIX. Swimming- N/A

### XX. Game Areas N/A

### XXI. Boat Docks- N/A

### XXII. Fishing Facilities- N/A

### XXIII. Programming- N/A

### XXIV. Services/ Technical Assistance- Unknown

## **Brown-Ellison Park**

Location: Carver St

Acre: 12

Owner: Conservation Commission

Protection: Permanent

This is a popular area used primarily for soccer and other organized sports games. There a large track that is also used often by neighbors for exercise. There are portable bathrooms, benches, and trash cans.

### Transition Plan:

- Designate handicap parking
- Provide railings on the uneven paths
- Provide a handicapped accessible portable restroom
- Provide seating or accessible paved or hard packed areas for spectators

---

#### XXV. Parking/Entrance

##### A. Parking

- Very large off-street parking lot
- None designated for handicap usage

##### B. Path of Travel

- Several hard packed paths

##### C. Entrance

- Wide space

##### D. Ramps- N/A

#### XXVI. Indoor Facilities- N/A

#### XXVII. Restrooms/Shower Rooms

##### A. Restrooms

- One portable bathroom not large enough for a wheelchair

##### B. Shower Rooms- N/A

#### XXVIII. Trails-

- ##### A. Hard packed and accessible easily from the parking area

#### XXIX. Picnic Areas

##### A. Tables/Benches

- Several benches – none located near hard packed surfaces

##### B. Path of Travel

- Hard packed dirt and gravel

##### C. Trash Barrels

- i. ok

##### D. Shelter

- N/A
- E. Water Fountains
  - N/A
- XXX. Play Lots- N/A
- XXXI. Swimming- N/A
- XXXII. Game Areas- N/A
- XXXIII. Boat Docks N/A
- XXXIV. Fishing Facilities N/A
- XXXV. Programming
  - Soccer leagues and other organized sports available
- XXXVI. Services/ Technical Assistance- Unknown

## **Aldrich Field**

Location: Corner of East St. and North St.

Acre: 11

Owner: Town of Granby

Protection: None

This is small park with grassy areas and baseball fields. There is parking available off street at the senior center which shares the property. The park has no paved walkways. This area is not regularly used by the public.

Transition Plan:

- Identify appropriate parking, assign handicapped spaces

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### XXXVII. Parking/Entrance

#### A. Parking

- No designated parking, offers off-street parking No handicap spaces

#### B. Path of Travel

- grass/dirt

#### C. Entrance

- No appropriate signage for the disabled

#### D. Ramps- N/A

### XXXVIII. Indoor Facilities- N/A

#### A. Stairs

#### B. Doors

#### C. Floors

#### D. Telephones

#### E. Switches, Controls, Signs

### XXXIX. Restrooms/Shower Rooms- N/A

### XL. Trails- N/A

### XLI. Picnic Areas N/A

### XLII. Play Lots N/A

### XLIII. Swimming- N/A

### XLIV. Game Areas N/A

### XLV. Boat Docks- N/A

### XLVI. Fishing Facilities- N/A

### XLVII. Programming- N/A

### XLVIII. Services/ Technical Assistance- Unknown

## Forge Pond Fishing Area School Street

Location: School Street

Acre: 1.9

Owner: Conservation Commission

Protection: Permanent

This area is used by local residents for fishing. There is very limited access due to a gate that is often locked. This area has no official programming and has no official parking lot. This area has the greatest potential for recreation development in the town of Granby.

### Transition Plan:

- Create a parking area that is safe and not behind a locked fence.
  - Install railing along hard pack ground that leads to the water
  - Build a fishing dock for wheelchair access to pond
- 

#### XLIX. Parking/Entrance

##### A. Parking

- On street parking only

##### B. Path of Travel

- Hard-packed/grass and dirt

##### C. Entrance

- Not Accessible at all times there is a gate that is sometimes locked. No signage

##### D. Ramps

- None:

#### L. Indoor Facilities- N/A

#### LI. Restrooms/Shower Rooms N/A

##### A. Restrooms

##### B. Shower Rooms

#### LII. Trails

- No official trail but all the ground is hard packed.

#### LIII. Picnic Areas- N/A

#### LIV. Play Lots – N/A

#### LV. Swimming- N/A

##### A. Not recommended

- Game Areas N/A

#### LVI. Boat Docks-there are no official areas to launch boats however some small boats and canoes are used on the pond

#### LVII. Fishing Facilities- there is not official dock area for fishing, residents fish off the side of the pond from the grassy banks.

#### LVIII. Programming- none

#### LIX. Services/ Technical Assistance- Unknown



- B. the person or persons to whom you submitted the complaint, if known and that person's or persons' telephone number(s)

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- C. each agency's response to your complaint.

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Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## **FIRE/EMS CHIEF**

The Town of Granby (population of approximately 6,200) is seeking qualified candidates to fill the appointed, non-civil service position of Fire/EMS Chief. This position will report to the Board of Selectmen. The candidate should have experience in labor relations and contract administration, leading effectively in a union environment, knowledge of budget preparation and control, supervision techniques, command principals, effective communication skills, fire code enforcement, administration and strong skills in EMS delivery. Requirements: An A.S. degree in fire science or related field; training in fire schools or related educational settings may be substituted for degree, minimum of five years experience in fire service including two years experience as an officer and a minimum certification as an Emergency Medical Technician. Applicants with a higher EMS certification will be given preference. The candidate should possess the ability, temperament and commitment to be fair, reasonable and equitable and establishing positive relationships between management, labor representatives and employees. Starting base salary up to \$51,407, depending on qualifications and experience. Additional stipends: education up to \$7,711; EMT/Paramedic up to \$7,711; certifications up to \$1,500. Applications, job description and information are available at Board of Selectmen Office, Town of Granby, 250 State Street, Granby, MA 01033. Phone: (413) 467-7177. Application period open until filled.

MINORITIES, WOMEN AND OTHERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY. EOE

| Town   | Taxonomic Group | Scientific Name          | Common Name                   | State Rank | Federal Rank | Most Recent Observation |
|--------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| GRANBY | Amphibian       | Ambystoma jeffersonianum | Jefferson Salamander          | SC         |              | 1991                    |
| GRANBY | Amphibian       | Ambystoma laterale       | Blue-spotted Salamander       | SC         |              | 2000                    |
| GRANBY | Amphibian       | Ambystoma opacum         | Marbled Salamander            | T          |              | 1999                    |
| GRANBY | Beetle          | Desmocerus palliatus     | Elderberry Long-horned Beetle | SC         |              | 1994                    |
| GRANBY | Bird            | Ammodramus savannarum    | Grasshopper Sparrow           | T          | (PS)         | 1974                    |
| GRANBY | Bird            | Botaurus lentiginosus    | American Bittern              | E          |              | 1970                    |
| GRANBY | Bird            | Cistothorus platensis    | Sedge Wren                    | E          |              | 1928                    |
| GRANBY | Bird            | Tyto alba                | Barn Owl                      | SC         |              | 1956                    |
| GRANBY | Butterfly/Moth  | Euchlaena madusaria      | Sandplain Euchlaena           | SC         |              | 2001                    |
| GRANBY | Fish            | Notropis bifrenatus      | Bridle Shiner                 | SC         |              | 1939                    |
| GRANBY | Mussel          | Alasmidonta undulata     | Triangle Floater              | SC         |              | 1997                    |
| GRANBY | Mussel          | Strophitus undulatus     | Creeper                       | SC         |              | 1997                    |
| GRANBY | Reptile         | Clemmys guttata          | Spotted Turtle                | SC         |              | 1997                    |
| GRANBY | Reptile         | Clemmys insculpta        | Wood Turtle                   | SC         |              | 1996                    |
| GRANBY | Reptile         | Terrapene carolina       | Eastern Box Turtle            | SC         |              | 1999                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Agrimonia pubescens      | Hairy Agrimony                | T          |              | 2004                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Aplectrum hyemale        | Putty-root                    | E          |              | 2004                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Arabis missouriensis     | Green Rock-cress              | T          |              | 1999                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Asclepias verticillata   | Linear-leaved Milkweed        | T          |              | 1994                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Calystegia spithamea     | Low Bindweed                  | E          |              | 1875                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Cardamine longii         | Long's Bitter-cress           | E          |              | 1925                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Carex lupuliformis       | False Hop-sedge               | E          |              | 2001                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Claytonia virginica      | Narrow-leaved Spring Beauty   | E          |              | 1932                    |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant  | Clematis occidentalis    | Purple Clematis               | SC         |              | 2001                    |

|        |                |  |                             |    |  |          |
|--------|----------------|--|-----------------------------|----|--|----------|
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Desmodium cuspidatum</i>                          | Large-bracted Tick-trefoil  | T  |  | 2003     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Liatris scariosa</i> var.<br><i>novae-angliae</i> | New England Blazing<br>Star | SC |  | 1994     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Liparis lilifolia</i>                             | Lily-leaf Twayblade         | T  |  | 1952     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Lygodium palmatum</i>                             | Climbing Fern               | SC |  | historic |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Morus rubra</i>                                   | Red Mulberry                | E  |  | 2001     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Oxalis violacea</i>                               | Violet Wood-sorrel          | E  |  | 2002     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Poa languida</i>                                  | Drooping Speargrass         | E  |  | 2004     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Ranunculus</i><br><i>pensylvanicus</i>            | Bristly Buttercup           | T  |  | 1925     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Rumex verticillatus</i>                           | Swamp Dock                  | T  |  | 1977     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Scleria triglomerata</i>                          | Tall Nut-sedge              | E  |  | historic |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Solidago macrophylla</i>                          | Large-leaved Goldenrod      | T  |  | 1942     |
| GRANBY | Vascular Plant | <i>Verbena simplex</i>                               | Narrow-leaved Vervain       | E  |  | 2004     |

|    | A   | B             | C               | D             | E               | F             | G               | H                         | I                         |
|----|---|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2  | Granby Land Use 1971 to 1999                |               |                 |               |                 |               |                 |                           |                           |
| 3  |   |               |                 |               |                 |               |                 |                           |                           |
| 4  | Land Use                                    | Acres<br>1971 | Percent<br>1971 | Acres<br>1985 | Percent<br>1985 | Acres<br>1999 | Percent<br>1999 | Change<br>1971 to<br>1985 | Change<br>1971 to<br>1999 |
| 5  | Cropland                                    | 2,539         | 14.1%           | 2,443         | 13.6%           | 2069          | 11.5%           | -3.8%                     | -18.5%                    |
| 6  | Pasture                                     | 442           | 2.5%            | 425           | 2.4%            | 409           | 2.3%            | -3.8%                     | -7.5%                     |
| 7  | Forest                                      | 11,779        | 65.5%           | 11,457        | 63.7%           | 11,231        | 62.5%           | -2.7%                     | -4.7%                     |
| 8  | Wetland                                     | 409           | 2.3%            | 409           | 2.3%            | 426           | 2.4%            | 0.0%                      | 4.2%                      |
| 9  | Mining                                      | 41            | 0.2%            | 74            | 0.4%            | 66            | 0.4%            | 80.5%                     | 61.0%                     |
| 10 | Open Land                                   | 535           | 3.0%            | 507           | 2.8%            | 513           | 2.9%            | -5.2%                     | -4.1%                     |
| 11 | Participation Recreation                    | 78            | 0.4%            | 107           | 0.6%            | 107           | 0.6%            | 37.2%                     | 37.2%                     |
| 12 | Spectator Recreation                        |               | 0.0%            | 0             | 0.0%            |               | 0.0%            | n/a                       | n/a                       |
| 13 | Water Recreation                            | 2             | 0.0%            | 0             | 0.0%            |               | 0.0%            | -100.0%                   | -100.0%                   |
| 14 | Multi Family Residential                    | 12            | 0.1%            | 19            | 0.1%            | 19            | 0.1%            | 58.3%                     | 58.3%                     |
| 15 | Residential < 1/4 ace lots                  | 30            | 0.2%            | 24            | 0.1%            | 24            | 0.1%            | -20.0%                    | -20.0%                    |
| 16 | Residential (1/4 to 1/2<br>acre lots)       | 637           | 3.5%            | 664           | 3.7%            | 748           | 4.2%            | 4.2%                      | 17.4%                     |
| 17 | Residential (> 1/2 acre<br>lots)            | 860           | 4.8%            | 1,130         | 6.3%            | 1698          | 9.4%            | 31.4%                     | 97.4%                     |
| 18 | Commercial                                  | 97            | 0.5%            | 103           | 0.6%            | 118           | 0.7%            | 6.2%                      | 21.6%                     |
| 19 | Industrial                                  | 0             | 0.0%            | 4             | 0.0%            | 14            | 0.1%            | n/a                       | n/a                       |
| 20 | Urban Open Land                             | 256           | 1.4%            | 335           | 1.9%            | 228           | 1.3%            | 30.9%                     | -10.9%                    |
| 21 | Transportation                              | 4             | 0.0%            | 5             | 0.0%            | 5             | 0.0%            | 25.0%                     | 25.0%                     |
| 22 | Waste Disposal                              | 51            | 0.3%            | 64            | 0.4%            | 48            | 0.3%            | 25.5%                     | -5.9%                     |
| 23 | Water                                       | 147           | 0.8%            | 153           | 0.9%            | 151           | 0.8%            | 4.1%                      | 2.7%                      |
| 24 | Woody Perrenial                             | 61            | 0.3%            | 56            | 0.3%            | 104           | 0.6%            | -8.2%                     | 70.5%                     |
| 25 |   |               |                 |               |                 |               |                 |                           |                           |
| 26 |   |               |                 |               |                 |               |                 |                           |                           |
| 27 |   |               |                 |               |                 |               |                 |                           |                           |
| 28 | Based on MassGIS land Use data 1971 to 1999 |               |                 |               |                 |               |                 |                           |                           |

# Granby Survey Frequency Responses

5/17/2004

## Question 1 - What goals would Granby focus on in the next ten years?

|   | Very<br>important | Important | Not<br>Important | No Opinion |
|---|-------------------|-----------|------------------|------------|
| Improve or expand municipal services              | 20.8%             | 40.2%     | 27.0%            | 4.7%       |
| Maintain a low municipal tax rate for residents   | 53.7%             | 39.8%     | 5.3%             | 1.2%       |
| Preserve character of the Town                    | 48.8%             | 34.5%     | 8.8%             | 2.6%       |
| Promote job growth & increase tax base            | 48.8%             | 34.5%     | 8.8%             | 2.6%       |
| Promote residential development                   | 21.3%             | 32.3%     | 33.1%            | 3.2%       |
| Improve parks & recreational opportunities        | 23.9%             | 48.2%     | 25.4%            | 2.5%       |
| Protect natural resources & environmental quality | 57.8%             | 36.8%     | 4.0%             | 1.4%       |
| Preserve historic areas, sites & buildings        | 33.7%             | 39.9%     | 16.6%            | 2.8%       |
| Provide a variety of housing                      | 6.0%              | 18.6%     | 62.8%            | 4.8%       |
| Improve the quality & design of new development   | 16.1%             | 34.8%     | 32.0%            | 8.8%       |
| Other   | 63.0%             | 5.0%      | 8.4%             | 23.5%      |

## Question 2 - How important to you are the following community features?

|   | Very<br>important | Important | Not<br>Important | No Opinion |
|---|-------------------|-----------|------------------|------------|
| Small town atmosphere                       | 64.0%             | 28.9%     | 6.4%             | 0.6%       |
| Open spaces                                 | 59.1%             | 29.0%     | 6.0%             | 0.7%       |
| Business tax base (commercial & industrial) | 22.1%             | 36.7%     | 26.5%            | 4.1%       |
| Forests                                     | 46.8%             | 37.1%     | 7.0%             | 2.5%       |
| Farms                                       | 47.1%             | 38.0%     | 7.0%             | 2.3%       |
| The Town center                             | 37.1%             | 43.5%     | 11.9%            | 2.6%       |
| Historic buildings                          | 33.3%             | 40.2%     | 17.2%            | 3.2%       |
| Residential neighborhoods                   | 26.7%             | 48.7%     | 16.3%            | 2.3%       |

|   |       |       |       |      |
|---|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Neighbors and friends                           | 41.6% | 45.7% | 9.6%  | 3.1% |
| Schools   | 57.8% | 28.6% | 6.6%  | 2.2% |
| Proximity to shopping areas                     | 10.1% | 31.9% | 55.7% | 2.3% |
| Convenient access to the Massachusetts Turnpike | 6.9%  | 23.9% | 59.7% | 3.8% |
| Recreational opportunities                      | 19.8% | 47.9% | 28.5% | 3.7% |

**Question 3 - How has the character of Granby changed during your residence in Town?**

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Changed for better | 22.0% |
| Changed for worse  | 30.2% |
| No change          | 45.2% |

**Question 4 - How long have you lived in Granby?**

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 10 yrs. Or more       | 72.0% |
| Between 5 and 10 yrs. | 13.5% |
| Less than 5 yrs.      | 14.1% |

**Question 5 - What is the PRIMARY reason that you live in Granby?**

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| Affordable housing | 9.4% |
| Close to job       | 5.4% |

Other 9.7%

Proximity to family 11.3%

Small town atmosphere 59.7%

**Question 6 - In which area of Town do you live?**

Belchertown line 11.9%

Dufresne Park 21.0%

Five Corners 25.5%

Ludlow line 14.4%

Rt. 116 12.5%

South Hadley line 12.3%

**Question 7 - How do you become informed about Town issues?**

Talking to other people 67.3%

Attending/watching public meetings 33.0%

Newspapers 72.3%

Cable access (channel 15) 35.2%

**Question 8 - In general, how would you rate Granby as a place to live?**

Adequate Good No opinion No good

18.8% 79.3% 1.0% 0.4%

**Question 9 - What should the Town pursue in new economic development**

Higher tax base 23.0%

Increased job opportunities 25.1%

Increased shopping 22.6%

Expansion for local companies 49.1%

Other 13.5%

**Question 10 - What is the effect of new residential development on Granby's Town finances?**

Improves Town finances 24.3%

Increases costs to Town 51.2%

No effect 3.5%

No opinion 16.4%

**Question 11 - What new economic opportunities should the Town support?**

Home based business 51.0%

Small in-town shop 63.0%

Tourism 16.7%

Technology-based industry 24.9%

Shopping plazas or malls 11.9%

Tax-exempt development  
(religious, educational) 11.4%

Warehousing/distribution 11.7%

Artisan & craftsman  
businesses 47.8%

Large department stores  
(Walmart, Home Depot) 8.2%

Restaurants 47.2%

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Light industrial (non-polluting, light assembly)                          | 46.0% |
| Heavy industrial (manufacturing)  | 3.4%  |
| Trucking/railroad freight terminal  | 1.2%  |
| Specialized agriculture (nuseries, farm stands, organic vegetables, etc.) | 70.5% |
| Compact clusters of shops and services                                    | 32.4% |
| Other   | 4.1%  |

**Question 12 - What housing opportunities should be available in Granby?**

|                                  |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Congregate care                  | 23.5% |
| Assisted living                  | 46.0% |
| Homes for "empty nesters"        | 34.5% |
| In town housing                  | 20.4% |
| Accessory or "in-law" apartments | 29.5% |
| "Starter" homes                  | 32.4% |
| Upper income "estate" homes      | 34.9% |
| Apartments                       | 10.4% |
| Townhouses                       | 19.9% |
| Other                            | 8.9%  |

**Question 13 - Which of the following do you consider to be a traffic "trouble spot" in Granby?**

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Five Corners            | 43.3% |
| Rt. 202 & School Street | 21.6% |
| Amherst & West Streets  | 21.6% |

Town center 12.8%

Lyman St. & Rt. 202 9.7%

Carver & Chicopee Streets 8.9%

Brook & West Streets 30.6%

**Question 14 - Which routes do you use to commute to work?**

Rt. 202 48.4%

Pleasant Street 16.6%

School Street 6.6%

Chicopee/Carver Streets 11.0%

Rt. 116 17.3%

Amherst Street 19.1%

New Ludlow Road 23.5%

East Street 18.9%

Do not commute to work 19.6%

**Question 15 - What types of retail shops or business services do you think are most needed in Granby?**

Large department store 7.3%

Supermarket 23.9%

Family restaurant 49.4%

Banquet facility 6.3%

Hotel 3.2%

Fast food restaurant 18.8%

Medical/Dental services 29.2%

Car repair 9.4%

Video/DVD rental 24.5%

Legal/Accounting 8.7%

Equipment repair 11.7%

Clothing & shoes 11.1%

Hardware/Home improvement 17.7%

Construction services 5.9%

Gifts 16.6%

Other 12.2%

**Question 16 - Would you use and /or favor development of a large, multi-use, community park with areas and facilities for recreational activities, community events, band concerts, ball games, etc.?**

Yes 32.4%

Yes, but only if outside financial resources were used to acquire and build the park. 35.6%

No 21.7%

No Opinion 7.8%

**Question 17 - Would you support the construction of bicycle/walking paths in Granby?**

|  | Yes   | No    | No opinion |
|--|-------|-------|------------|
|  | 64.8% | 24.8% | 8.8%       |

**Question 18 - Would you support the the development of the following in Granby?**

|              | Yes   | No    | No opinion |
|--------------|-------|-------|------------|
| Sewers       | 55.6% | 27.4% | 12.8%      |
| Sportsfields | 43.8% | 27.6% | 15.1%      |
| Golf Courses | 30.1% | 43.5% | 12.6%      |

**Question 19 - Do you currently have access to the internet at home or work?**

Yes No

78.2% 20.4%

**Question 20 - Would you support new zoning regulations to protect Granby's ridgelines and hillsides (Mt. Holyoke Range) from the adverse environmental and aesthetic impacts of development?**

Yes No No opinion

78.4% 8.2% 11.0%

**Question 21 - Rate the adequacy of the following community services and facilities in Granby?**

|                         | Very good | Good  | Adequate | Needs Improvement | No Opinion |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Road maintenance        | 18.3%     | 39.1% | 23.8%    | 15.5%             | 0.3%       |
| Sidewalks               | 1.8%      | 6.3%  | 16.3%    | 34.0%             | 30.8%      |
| Streetlights            | 4.3%      | 16.1% | 33.9%    | 27.3%             | 9.8%       |
| Police protection       | 29.2%     | 38.6% | 22.1%    | 4.5%              | 1.9%       |
| Speed/Traffic control   | 14.4%     | 32.7% | 27.0%    | 17.3%             | 1.6%       |
| Health services         | 2.9%      | 12.9% | 22.3%    | 19.8%             | 30.2%      |
| Snow removal            | 29.6%     | 38.4% | 19.4%    | 7.5%              | 0.6%       |
| Bus service             | 3.8%      | 10.3% | 17.9%    | 19.6%             | 40.0%      |
| Senior center           | 7.3%      | 16.6% | 15.8%    | 12.2%             | 42.1%      |
| Youth activities        | 3.8%      | 15.1% | 17.0%    | 26.4%             | 29.9%      |
| Recreational programs   | 3.1%      | 14.2% | 21.1%    | 27.4%             | 26.0%      |
| Recreational facilities | 3.2%      | 10.7% | 22.1%    | 34.0%             | 20.4%      |
| Community meeting space | 2.9%      | 12.3% | 31.2%    | 34.2%             | 19.5%      |
| Town government         | 3.4%      | 20.7% | 26.8%    | 35.5%             | 6.7%       |
| Handicap access         | 2.6%      | 7.5%  | 31.2%    | 34.2%             | 19.5%      |

**Question 22 - The following lists a variety of housing issues. Please indicate how you feel about each issue.**

|   | In favor | Oppose | No Opinion |
|---|----------|--------|------------|
| Development of elderly housing  | 43.1%    | 37.4%  | 19.5%      |
| Lead paint removal assistance program to meet State mandates                        | 43.1%    | 37.4%  | 19.5%      |
| Financial assistance to help comply with the State's Title 5 septic system mandates | 66.7%    | 17.6%  | 15.7%      |
| Development of programs that support first-time home buyers                         | 39.4%    | 27.7%  | 29.2%      |
| housing for low income and moderate income families                                 | 20.1%    | 19.5%  | 57.2%      |
| Grants for rehabilitation of low and moderate income housing                        | 31.8%    | 19.4%  | 44.4%      |

**IF YOU CARE ABOUT OPEN SPACE IN GRANBY...**

Come and check out the Open Space and Recreation  
Plan Update.



See a presentation about Open Space  
Plans and forestry for watershed  
health.

Help map Granby's unique landscapes.  
Discuss the draft goals and objectives  
of Granby's Open Space Plan.

**Monday, April 4, 7:15 PM at East Meadow School**