

Town of Wareham

2010 – 2015 Open Space and Recreation Plan Questionnaire

The Town of Wareham is in the process of updating its 2004 Open Space and Recreation Plan. An update of the Plan is necessary to qualify for State grant programs for acquisition and protection of open space and for new recreational facilities.

Please voice your priorities by completing this important survey by **November 30, 2009** and **Drop it** off at the Library, Town Hall or **Mail to:** Open Space Committee, Town Hall, 54 Marion Road, Wareham, MA 02571. Surveys are available at the Library, Town Hall, and on the Town website at www.wareham.ma.us. The answers you provide will help to formulate the updated Open Space and Recreation Plan. Thank you for your help!

1. How important is it to you to preserve each of the following in Wareham?

Circle one number for each category.

High Medium Low

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| 1 39 | 2 13 | 3 4 | Open space for wildlife habitat |
| 1 50 | 2 4 | 3 2 | Open space for water supply protection |
| 1 46 | 2 7 | 3 2 | Open space to preserve waterways / bays / rivers / ponds |
| 1 20 | 2 23 | 3 12 | Buildings/places of historical/architectural interest |
| 1 20 | 2 21 | 3 4 | Open space for conservation and passive recreation (e.g. trails) |
| 1 9 | 2 24 | 3 18 | Land and facilities for active recreation (e.g. ball fields, basketball courts) |

2. How satisfied are you with the places in Wareham that are available for recreational use by:

Circle one number for each group.

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	No Opinion
Adults	1 2	2 23	3 19	4 9
Teenagers	1 1	2 9	3 23	4 14
8 – 12 years old	1 4	2 12	3 16	4 15
1 - 7 years old	1 3	2 9	3 14	4 20

3. Which recreation options are most important to you and your family? **Check five.**

27	Bike Paths	13	Children Playgrounds
8	Indoor Recreation Facilities	6	Swimming Pools
8	Athletic Fields / Running Tracks	10	Picnic Areas
35	Protected Conservation Areas	14	Neighborhood Parks
14	Public Boat Access / Ramps	9	Golf Courses
4	Tennis Courts	11	Town Commons Improvements
39	Walking Trails	41	Beaches
35	Wildlife Habitat / Scenic Areas	3	Basketball Courts
0	BMX Parks	0	Skateboard Parks
	Other: Dog park – 2 Marinas – 1		

4. What are your priorities for the Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan? **Check three.**

9	Acquire beaches for family recreation
41	Preserve coastal areas, salt marshes, and land along rivers
27	Acquire land in aquifer watershed to protect our water supply
15	Acquire land for creation of a bike path or rail trail
32	Preserve open space for wildlife habitat and nature trails
9	Improve ball fields, playgrounds, picnic areas, and beach facilities
33	Reduce the amount of nitrogen that flows into our waterways
11	Protect buildings/places of historical/architectural interest
	Other: Marinas and waterfront businesses; Access to water resources

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5.

Which beaches do you or your family use? Check all that apply.		What reasons discourage you from using a beach? Check all that apply.				
		Cost of Sticker	Inadequate Parking	Poorly Maintained Facilities	Unsafe Area	Unknown Location
26	Little Harbor Beach (Little Harbor Rd.)	6	2	8	2	3
3	North Water Street Beach (North Water St.)	0	2	3	3	9
28	Onset Beach (Onset Ave.)	2	8	7	2	0
4	Pinehurst Beach (Pinehurst Dr.)	0	5	2	1	8
8	Shell Point (South Ave.)	0	3	2	1	4
13	Swifts Beach and Swifts Neck (Shore Rd., Circle Dr.)	3	6	5	2	2

6.

Which fishing and boat launch areas do you or your family use? Check all that apply.		What reasons discourage you from using this area? Check all that apply.				
		Inadequate Parking	Poorly Maintained Facilities	Launch area Obstructed	Unsafe Area	Unknown Location
7	Besse Park – no launch area (Main St.)	0	4		1	0
1	Carver Road Courts – no power boats (Carver Rd.)	0	1	0	0	4
1	Ellis Playground – no power boats (North Blvd.)	0	1	0	0	2
5	Lyman Reserve – no launch area (Red Brook Rd.)	1	0		0	4
3	Oakdale Playground – no power boats (Apple St.)	0	1	0	0	2
8	Onset (East Blvd.)	3	1	0	0	0
7	Route 195 Rest Area	0	0	0	1	2
4	Swifts Neck Beach (Shore Ave.)	2	1	0	0	0
15	Tempest Knob Terrace (Oak St.)	3	0	0	1	0
8	Tremont Nail Complex – no power boats (Elm St.)	0	3	1	1	0
6	Wareham River Fishing Piers – no launch area (Narrows)	0	0		0	0
7	Whitlock's Landing – no power boats (Glen Charlie Rd.)	0	1	0	0	2

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7.

Which of these recreational areas do you or your family use? Please indicate which activities you enjoy at each facility. Activities with a gray box are not available at that location.							What reasons discourage you from using this recreational area?				
Check all that apply.							Check all that apply.				
Recreational Area / Location	P l a y g r o u n d	B a s k e t b a l l	B a s e b a l l	S o c c e r	T e n n i s	P i c n i c k i n g	Inadequate Parking or Other Facilities	Poorly Maintained Facilities	Inadequate Lighting	Unsafe Area	Unknown Location
Arruda Playground (Marion Rd.)	2					0	0	0	0	0	5
Besse Park (Main St.)						7	1	4	0	1	0
Brown Memorial Playground (Union Ave.)	1	1			1	1	0	0	0	1	4
Carver Road Courts (Carver Rd.)					1		0	0	0	0	5
East Wareham Playground (Knowles Ave.)	4	1					1	3	0	0	1
Ellis Playground (North Blvd.)	3	0				2	0	2	0	0	1
High School Tennis Courts (Viking Dr.)					0		0	0	0	0	0
Indian Mound Playground (Shawnee Dr.)	1		0			0	0	0	0	0	5
Lopes Playground (Onset Ave.)	13	5	4	2		4	1	2	0	2	0
Oakdale Playground (Apple St.)	2	0	1	0		1	0	2	0	0	2
Route 195 Rest Area						1	1	0	0	1	1
Shangri-la Playground (Peaceful Lane)	3	1	0			0	0	1	0	1	2
Swifts Neck Beach Playground (Circle Dr.)	5	1		1		1	1	3	1	1	1
Sylvester Gardens Playground (Marion Rd.)	0	0				0	0	0	0	0	4
West Wareham Playground (Main St.)	5					0	1	0	0	0	2
Westfield (Cataumet Way)		0	3	0			0	0	0	0	3
Weweantic Playground (Hathaway St.)	0	0		1		0	0	1	0	0	3

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8.

Which of these natural areas do you or your family use for walks, wildlife viewing, relaxing...? Check all that apply.		What reasons discourage you from using this natural area? Check all that apply.				
		Inadequate Parking	Poorly Maintained Facilities	Inadequate Trails	Unsafe Area	Unknown Location
6	Agawam Bryant Farm (Sandwich Rd., Minot Ave.)	2	0	1	1	3
10	Agawam River Pine Barrens (Agawam Rd.)	1	0	1	0	5
5	Barker Conservation Area (Stockton Short Cut)	0	0	0	0	2
5	Crooked River Wildlands Trust (Crooked River Rd.)	2	0	1	0	5
1	Eldridge and Brown (Shady Lane)	1	0	1	0	7
8	Fearing Hill Conservation Area (Fearing Hill Rd.)	2	0	3	0	5
12	Great Neck Road Conservation Area (Great Neck Rd.)	1	0	0	0	4
1	HLM Bay Point (Broad St.)	0	0	1	0	6
6	Indian Neck Land Conservation Area (Towhee Rd.)	1	0	1	0	5
4	Marks Cove (Shady Lane)	2	0	0	1	4
12	Mass. Audubon Conservation Area (Burgess Point Rd.)	3	0	2	0	2
4	Murphy Freedom Cranberry (Indian Neck Rd.)	1	0	0	0	4
3	Phillip Weld Forest (Bourne's Point Rd.)	1	0	1	0	5
11	Lyman Reserve (Red Brook Rd.)	1	0	0	1	5
5	Tweedy and Barnes (Blackmore Pond Rd.)	2	0	1	0	5
4	William Minot Forest (Minot Ave., Stillman Dr., Indian Neck Rd., Crooked River Rd.)	3	0	2	0	1

Comments for question 5: What beaches do you or your family use?

– Do not use beaches much in the summer.

Comments for question 6: Which fishing and boat launch areas do you or your family use?

– Do not know the names of most of the fishing and boat launch areas we go to and several that we go to aren't listed.

– Besse Park – watch the river and fisher people.

Comments for question 7: Which recreational areas do you or your family use?

– The baseball fields on Charge Pond road are not listed

Comments for question 8: Which natural areas do you or you family use?

– I don't know of any of these and would like a little packet describing each one and its exact location, like a map. Maybe I should take the initiative and see if such a packet is available at Town Hall. I always say to my boyfriend / fiancée (who is a native) "Wareham sucks" but seeing the above list maybe I need to rethink this.

– Maybe my fault, but I don't recognize (by name anyway) any of the area listed in Question 8 will check some out though.

– I would love to see all the natural areas listed above but was unaware of most of them. Sign (road and directional arrows) and / or a link to info on the town page would be useful.

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9. Please provide any additional comments or concerns.

– Wareham's waterfront is underutilized! Facilities for boaters are lacking. Build a town owned marina at Tempest Knob – Widows Cove – Onset Pier. Boating will bring business to Wareham.

– I will start to use available parks, beaches in the near future.

– Lopes playground and Oakdale playground are not fit for baseball. Should focus on facilities for youngsters, teens, children such as ballfields, basketball courts, swimming pools.

– I feel that we need to do all that is possible to protect open space in Wareham for the benefit of future generations. When the economy improves developers will gobble it up and when it's gone there isn't any more.

– Even though I don't actively use all of the properties listed in this form, I take great pride and comfort knowing that they are available to the citizens of Wareham and its visitors. Many of the properties could use improvements and maintenance. I know that this is expensive but a real good program to recruit and organize supporters and volunteers can accomplish a lot. There are grants and other programs available. What we need is someone to search them out and administer them.

– Recreational areas and beaches used are strongly related to where I live, I go to those places I can walk to. I had no idea about many conservation areas. Even if I never to there better signage would let us know that out tax money is being used for land protection. Maybe include into about why that land was protected (water supply, habitat, ...)

– Thank you to the Open Space Committee for renewed momentum in completing the Open Space Plan for the Town. So important! Self Help Grants and other State funding are critical to saving out diverse habitats and protection the aquifer and wetlands; without a certified plan the Town misses out on these funding sources which are so valuable for preserving our natural and cultural resources.

– Questionnaire favors land for recreation and public use. Should put more options for conservation choices.

-- We have a large amount of playgrounds in Wareham however most are unsafe or in disrepair. Onset Ave Playground is very unsafe. There is constant broken glass and graffiti. That street also has a serious organized drug trade problem. I use Carver's playgrounds.