

The results of the survey indicate:

- Survey respondents identified their highest priority is to preserve the open spaces that protect our water supply and to preserve wildlife habitat, which is closely followed by the desire to preserve waterways, bays, rivers, and ponds.
- There is general satisfaction with recreation facilities for adults but an overwhelming dissatisfaction with the facilities available to teenagers and children ages 1 – 12 years old.
- The most important types of recreation options are beaches, walking trails and protected conservation areas, and bike paths (Wareham does not currently have any bike paths).
- The least requested types of recreation options are BMX parks and skateboard parks but there were several write-ins for the creation of a dog park.
- When asked to choose priorities for the Wareham Open Space and Recreation Plan, most respondents ranked preserving coastal areas, salt marshes, and land along rivers first, followed by reducing the amount of nitrogen that flows into our waterways, which was almost tied with the desire to preserve open space for wildlife habitat and nature trails.

It is clear from these responses that protecting our water supply and other natural water resources is very important to the residents of Wareham. It is also evident that we need to focus on improving the playgrounds and recreational facilities for the youngest citizens of the Town.

The survey showed that the two most popular beaches are Little Harbor Beach and Onset Beach. Many indicated that there is a lack of parking at most of the Town's beaches and that there is need for facilities to be improved.

Lopes Playground ranked as the most popular recreational area, but 32% of survey respondents indicated that many of the playgrounds and recreational facilities such as athletic fields and tennis courts are in need of repair.

The surveys have a recurring theme with over 20% of the respondents indicating that they did not know about all of the recreational areas available in Town, did not know where they were located, and would very much like to have information on all Town beaches, playgrounds, recreational facilities, and conservation areas.

The results of the Open Space and Recreation Plan Questionnaire are the basis for several of the Goals and Objectives described in this Plan.

