
Section V: Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

A. Introduction

The Town of Falmouth community has been working diligently for decades in order to preserve available land as open space. The term “open space” refers to any land that provides visual relief from manmade development; it may include land with conservation or recreation potential, including: school grounds, beaches, recreation fields, agricultural land, corridor parks and amenities such as small parks, roadway corridors or land owned by an organization dedicated to conservation. Public access and passive recreation is usually permitted, and active recreation may be allowed on certain parcels.

It is important to remember that not all open space is permanently protected from future development. Certain types of municipal land held under the ownership of the Board of Selectmen or the School Department, for example, may no longer be needed for a public use at some point in the future and declared surplus; surplus land may be sold to a private entity and developed.

Open space may be owned by the public, such as the Town of Falmouth and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; nonprofit entities, such as the Salt Pond Area Bird Sanctuaries and the 300 Committee; and private landowners. Some open space, such as Conservation Commission land, is protected in perpetuity, while other types of open space may only be protected temporarily through agricultural restrictions and limited conservation easements. It is critically important to identify land that may lose its protected status at some point and have the proper procedure in place to ensure that significant tracts are not lost to development.

Three of the most notable natural refuges in Falmouth include Beebe Woods, a 387-acre upland forest given to Falmouth in 1976 and managed by the Conservation Commission; Great Sippewissett Marsh, a private salt marsh renowned for abundant shellfish and marine resources; and Washburn Island, a state-owned preserve in Waquoit Bay, which is also a designated Area of Critical Environmental Concern. These places and many others are a legacy for the current and future residents and visitors to enjoy. The Town of Falmouth will continue to work to add new land to the inventory of permanently protected open space.

B. Definitions of Protected Land

Land is protected if it falls into one or more of the following categories:

1. State land owned by a state conservation agency, therefore covered by Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the State Constitution
2. Town land owned by, or under the jurisdiction of:
 - a. Conservation Commission
 - b. Water Department
 - c. Beach Committee

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- d. Any town department if dedicated to open/space conservation by a permanent deed restriction
 3. Private Land:
 - a. Owned by a nonprofit agency dedicated to land conservation
 - b. Protected in perpetuity by a conservation deed restriction
 - c. Protected by the Agricultural Restriction Program
 - d. Protected by a conservation restriction under the Department of Environmental Protection's Wetlands Restriction Program

Land is considered to be unprotected if it falls into one or more of the following categories:

1. Unrestricted federal land
2. Unrestricted state land
3. Town land:
 - a. Not owned by the Conservation Commission, or otherwise restricted
 - b. Tax title properties
4. Lands enrolled in the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 61, 61A, and 61B special taxation programs
5. Unrestricted privately-owned parcels

C. Privately Owned Land

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has three special taxation programs for private landowners who manage their lands as open space; Chapter 61 benefits forested land, Chapter 61A is for agricultural land, and Chapter 61B is for recreation land. Currently there are 57 parcels that total 949.96 acres enrolled in a Chapter 61 program (Figure 5-1). As the following matrix shows many of the agricultural lands also contain significant other resources, such as wildlife or plant habitat and wetlands, or they abut other open space parcels.

While the Chapter 61 lands are significant in Falmouth, they are not protected. The property owner may withdraw the land from the taxation program, and sell the area for development. The town does have the right of first refusal to purchase any disposable Chapter 61 land; however, the Board of Selectmen only have 120 days to negotiate an offer which is dependent on a Town Meeting vote. Furthermore, the Falmouth Conservation Commission is not notified at all. Many of the parcels listed in Figure 5-1 are important areas to preserve due to their size; location, either on the waterfront, or abutting other open space; and environmental sensitivity.

Figure 5-1: Chapter 61 Lands

Map Number	Location	Taxation Program	Acres	Wetlands	Estimated Habitat	Priority Habitat	Abuts Residential Open Space	Abuts Con Com Land	Abuts Town Owned Land	Abuts Bikepath	Abuts Fish & Wildlife Land	Waquoit ACEC	Sippewissett DCPC	Conservation Restriction	Abuts Conservation Restriction	Water Protection Restriction	Water Protection District	Waterfront
10 03 010 181	Boxberry Hill Rd	Ch. 61	10.83	X		X	X	X										Coonamessett Pond
16 03 008 004	Sam Turner Rd	Ch. 61	10.23		X	X		X									X	Crooked Pond
12 04 004 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	10.75			X												Wing Pond
12 04 010 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	6.95			X	X		X									Wing Pond
12 04 015 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	2.6				X											
12 04A001 000	N. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	4.7			X			X									
21 06 005 002	Thomas B. Landers	Ch. 61A	6.15				X										X	Coonamessett River
28 01 001 000	Old Barnstable Rd	Ch. 61A	10.66															Coonamessett River
28 06 026 000	Old Meeting House Rd	Ch. 61A	46.34				X	X										Coonamessett River
28 08 009 000	E. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	2.2															Coonamessett River
30 02 022 000	Waquoit Hwy	Ch. 61A	2.83	X						X	X							Moonakis River
33 21 005 005D	E. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	22.1	X			X	X										Coonamessett River
02 03 004 00A	Garnet Ave	Ch. 61A	5.16	X														
16 03 018 001	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	4		X	X											X	Crooked Pond
17 01 006B162	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	3.06	X													X	Pickrel Pond
17 01 006C163	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	2.94	X				X									X	Pickrel Pond
21 08 004 001	Sandwich Rd	Ch. 61A	0.5				X											
21 08 016 000	Old Meeting House Rd	Ch. 61A	16															
21 08 016 000B	Berry Patch Ln	Ch. 61A	5															
28 07 011 000	Crocker Rd	Ch. 61A	5.3					X										
28 08 006 000	Old Barnstable Rd	Ch. 61A	2															
33 05 025A000	Lewis St	Ch. 61A	8.27															
16 03 019 000	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	5		X	X											X	Crooked Pond

Map Number	Location	Taxation Program	Acres	Wetlands	Estimated Habitat	Priority Habitat	Abuts Habitat	Abuts Residential Open Space	Abuts Con Com Land	Abuts Town Owned Land	Abuts Bikepath	Abuts Fish & Wildlife Land	Waquoit ACEC	Sippewissett DCPC	Conservation Restriction	Abuts Conservation Restriction	Water Protection Restriction	Waterfront
17 01 006C163	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	2	X				X								X		Pickrel Pond
21 08 016 000B	Berry Patch Ln	Ch. 61A	2															
25 02 027 223	Old Homestead Rd	Ch. 61A	2	X			X		X			X						
28 08 005A000	Old Barnstable Rd	Ch. 61A	5					X										
21 08 004 001	Sandwich Rd	Ch. 61A	8				X											
02 03 004 000A	Garnet Ave	Ch. 61A	7	X														
16 03 018 001	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	3.58		X	X										X		Crooked Pond
12 04 016 000	Wing Pond	Ch. 61A	19.1	X				X										Wing Pond
12 04A001 000	N. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	0.31			X			X									
12 05 002 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	3.97	X		X		X										Dam Pond
12 05 003 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	0.15	X		X		X										Dam Pond
12 05 020 046	Gray Rocks West Rd	Ch. 61A	13.6	X		X	X	X										Dam Pond
16 03 018E002	Sam Turner Rd	Ch. 61A	1.24		X	X										X		Crooked Pond
16 03 018E003	Sam Turner Rd	Ch. 61A	4.18		X	X										X		Crooked Pond
33 21 005 005D	E. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	28.5	X			X		X									Coonamesett River
16 03 018E003	Sam Turner Rd	Ch. 61A	1		X	X										X		Crooked Pond
25 02 027 223	Old Homestead Rd	Ch. 61A	5	X			X		X			X						
15 02 012 000	W. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	4.87					X										
17 01 006C163	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	2					X								X		Pickrel Pond
02 03 004 000A	Garnet Ave	Ch. 61A	1.79	X														
12 04 003 000	Wind Rd	Ch. 61A	0.55	X		X	X											
12 04 010 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	2.1			X		X	X									Wing Pond
12 04 011 002	Wing Pond	Ch. 61A	3	X		X		X	X									

Map Number	Location	Taxation Program	Acres	Wetlands	Estimated Habitat	Priority Habitat	Abuts Residential Open Space	Abuts Con Com Land	Abuts Town Owned Land	Abuts Bikepath	Abuts Fish & Wildlife Land	Waquoit ACEC	Sippewissett DCPC	Conservation Restriction	Abuts Conservation Restriction	Water Protection Restriction	Waterfront
12 04 015 000	Wing Pond	Ch. 61A	3				X										
12 04A001 000	N. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	0.57		X				X								
12 04A002 003	N. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	0.82						X								
12 05 002 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	0.23	X	X		X										Dam Pond
12 05 003 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	1.95	X	X		X										Dam Pond
12 05 020 046	Gray Rocks West Rd	Ch. 61A	2.5	X	X	X	X										Dam Pond
15 02 004B000	N. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	4.9						X								
21 06 005 002	Thomas B. Landers	Ch. 61A	4.15	X			X								X		Coonamessett River
21 10 005 011	Rolling Acres Ln	Ch. 61A	0.51			X											
28 01 001 000	Old Barnstable Rd	Ch. 61A	9.7	X													Mill Pond
28 06 026 000	Old Meeting House Rd	Ch. 61A	27.48			X		X									Coonamessett River
30 02 018 000A	Moonakis Rd	Ch. 61A	1								X						
30 02 022 000	Waquoit Hwy	Ch. 61A	4	X						X	X						
12 04 003 000	Wind Rd	Ch. 61A	7.85	X	X	X											
12 04 004 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	5.25		X												Wing Pond
12 04 016 000	Wing Pond	Ch. 61A	0.9	X			X										Wing Pond
12 05 002 000	Wing Rd	Ch. 61A	0.75	X	X		X										Dam Pond
16 03 019 000	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	3.25		X	X									X		Crooked Pond
17 01 006B162	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	1.3	X											X		Pickerel Pond
17 01 006C163	Hatchville Rd	Ch. 61A	5.94	X				X							X		Pickerel Pond
21 08 004 001	Sandwich Rd	Ch. 61A	0.1			X											
21 08 016 000	Old Meeting House Rd	Ch. 61A	0.13														
21 08 016 000B	Berry Patch Ln	Ch. 61A	10.92														

Map Number	Location	Taxation Program	Acres	Wetlands	Estimated Habitat	Priority Habitat	Abuts Residential Open Space	Abuts Con Com Land	Abuts Town Owned Land	Abuts Bikepath	Abuts Fish & Wildlife Land	Waquoit ACEC	Sippewissett DCPC	Conservation Restriction	Abuts Conservation Restriction	Water Protection Restriction	Waterfront
25 02 027 223	Old Homestead Rd	Ch. 61A	6.23	X		X			X			X					
28 07 011 000	Crocker Rd	Ch. 61A	1.08					X									
28 08 005A000	Old Barnstable Rd	Ch. 61A	1.67					X									
28 08 006 000	Old Barnstable Rd	Ch. 61A	2.4														
30 02 018 000A	Moonakis Rd	Ch. 61A	2.27								X						
33 21 005 005D	E. Falmouth Hwy	Ch. 61A	5.6	X		X		X									Coonamessett River
21 05 012 000	Thomas B. Landers	Ch. 61B	14.87	X			X									X	
21 05 013 000	Thomas B. Landers	Ch. 61B	32.1													X	Round Pond
22 02 039A000	Thomas B. Landers	Ch. 61B	2.99													X	
22 03 001C003A	Pinecrest Beach Dr	Ch. 61B	2.16													X	
40A17 001 000	Yacht Club Rd	Ch. 61B	1.68		X	X							X				Vineyard Sound
40A17 002 000	Yacht Club Rd	Ch. 61B	2.05	X	X	X											Vineyard Sound
40A17 003 000	Yacht Club Rd	Ch. 61B	2.27		X	X											Vineyard Sound
35 01 007 000	Palmer Ave	Ch. 61B	5.68	X													
20 06 065 000	Carriage Shop Rd	Ch. 61B	13.42					X						X	X		
20 06 066 000	Carriage Shop Rd	Ch. 61B	10.24	X			X							X	X		
09 01 004 011	Club Valley Dr	Ch. 61B	63.98													X	
10 03 001 163	Theater Dr	Ch. 61B	44.03			X										X	Coonamessett Pond
10 04 007 035	Boxberry Hill Rd	Ch. 61B	41.49		X	X										X	
11 01 029 001B	Falmouth Woods Rd	Ch. 61B	115.29	X		X								X			
17 01 028 039	Theater Dr	Ch. 61B	48.65													X	Coonamessett Pond
17 01 031 037	Boxberry Hill Rd	Ch. 61B	7.3			X										X	
49 03 025 000	Quissett Ave	Ch. 61B	45.26														
49 03 025B000	Quissett Ave	Ch. 61B	60.01														
50 02 002 002	Quissett Ave	Ch. 61B	305.53														

While Chapter 61 land is an important piece of Falmouth’s open space, there are many other privately owned parcels of land in town that are significant and worthy of public protection. Beginning in 1985, and continuing today, The 300 Committee, the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission have worked together to develop and refine a land ranking tool to help decision makers prioritize land purchases. With the help of residents, land has been identified for 21 years, and high-ranking land is acquired whenever possible. Each parcel identified is given a numeric score based on the following 14 criteria:

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|
| water supply recharge | flood plain | agricultural land |
| linkage to greenbelts | urban green space | beachfront |
| wildlife habitat | development potential | wetlands |
| scenic value | neighborhood preference | buildings present |
| potential for active or organized recreation | | |

These scores are tools for evaluating and ranking parcels but are not the sole determining factor. Evaluation by the land acquisition committee utilizes six major criteria: high natural habitat value, linkage to other open space, high community value, whether there is a lack of areal open space, land management needs, and overall value.

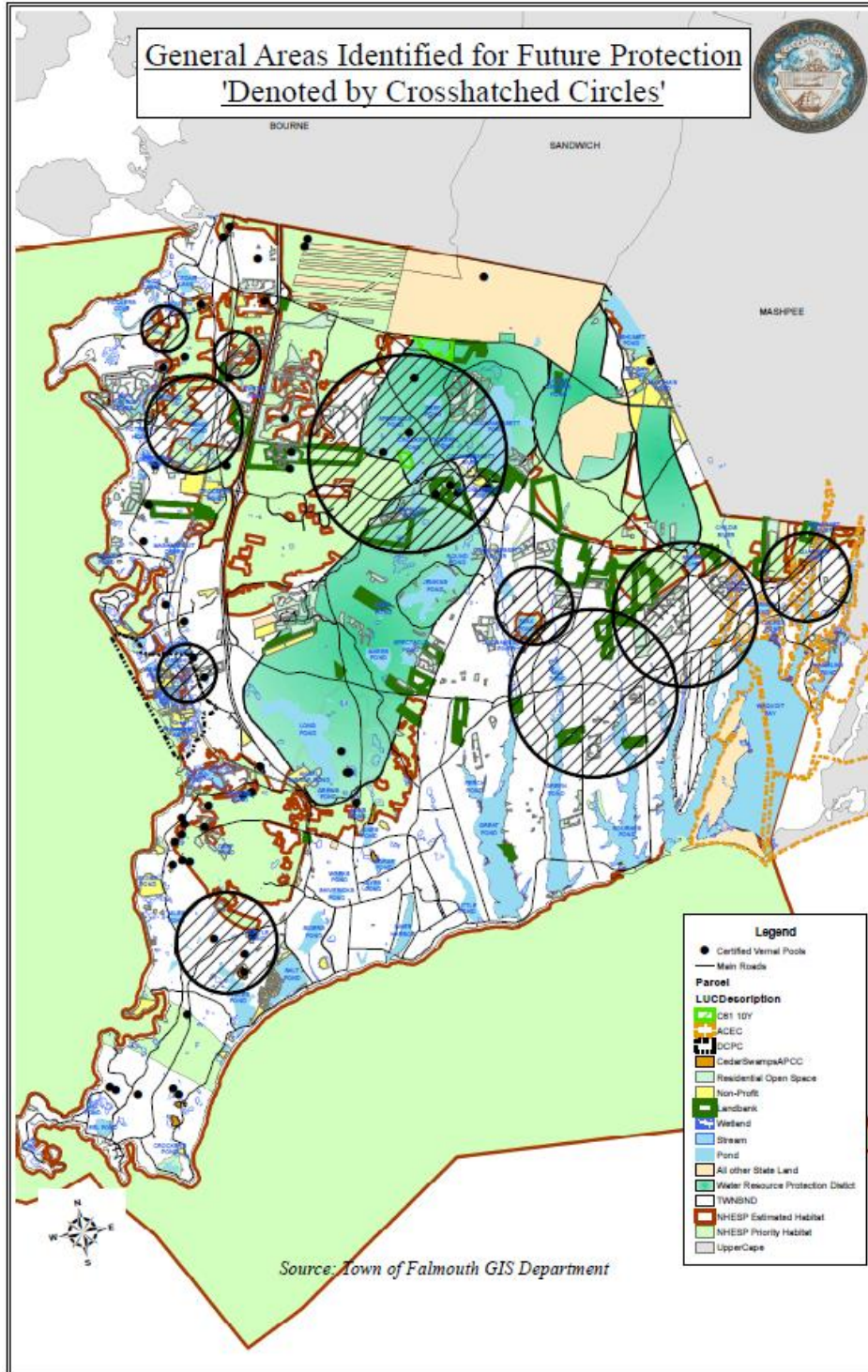
Hundreds of parcels were ranked on the “Preliminary Assessments” list in 1985. Since then the town and The 300 Committee have worked to consolidate and refine the list as abutting land is protected or developed. As within any real estate transaction, the potential purchaser can only react to the supply of the land on the market at any one time. Since that is the market reality, there may be highly ranked parcels that will never be available for purchase, and the town will have to decide to use limited resources for land that may be less desirable, but available immediately. Overall, the people of the Town of Falmouth have regularly acted to preserve land as the opportunity arises. Currently there are some very significant privately owned parcels throughout all areas of Falmouth that the town is actively negotiating to purchase. The areas outlined in red on Map 5-1 generally encompass some of the parcels that are of interest for future preservation.

In addition to the Chapter 61 lands, there are significant parcels around Crooked Pond in Hatchville both for watershed protection for the Crooked Pond well and to protect a large area that contains a number of rare and endangered plant and animal species. Falmouth is also working to protect land at the headwaters of many of the salt-water estuaries in East Falmouth, along with the riparian corridors that feed into the ponds.

The private, institutional land holdings in the Village of Woods Hole also contribute to the amount of unprotected open space in town. The educational groups with large campuses include the Marine Biological Laboratory, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and SEA Education Center. These areas have been added to Map 5-1 “General Areas Identified for Future Protection “as a non-crossed hatched circle, to denote this area as a revision to the 2009 plan.

Woods Hole and Quissett also have a number of large private estates that contain acres of undeveloped land. While the institutions and estates are not available for purchase, the residents of Falmouth do enjoy the space and views they provide.

Map 5-1 General Areas Identified for Future Protection



D. Public and Nonprofit Land

Town Land

As of the April 2014 Town Meeting, the Town of Falmouth owns 693 parcels of land totaling 4,859.25 acres (Figure 5-2 in Appendix A). This is an increase of 27.96 acres since the release of the 2009 Open Space Plan. Furthermore, 2663.83 acres of the town owned land is permanently protected open space. The vast majority of the protected land is under the control of the Falmouth Conservation Commission, however, the Selectmen, Beach Committee and Waterways Committee also have jurisdiction over a number of protected parcels. Significant parcels that are protected include: Beebe Woods, the Coonamessett Reservation, Spectacle Pond Reservation, the Hayway Road tract, Collins Woodlot, Kettleholes, Sea Farms, and the Teaticket Trotting Park. All town-owned conservation land is open to the public and provides opportunity for passive recreation such as walking, cross-country skiing, and nature study. In addition to providing recreational opportunities, these parcels help protect groundwater



*Along Menaubant Beach
Source: The 300 Committee*

resources, and also form a linked system for wildlife.

Maintenance of town-owned land is the responsibility of the town department or committee with jurisdiction over the land. Jurisdiction is established by: town meeting vote, a deed restriction, or by the Board of Selectmen. The Conservation Commission manages most town-owned conservation

land, and the 300 Committee's Stewardship Program maintains some

of those parcels. The program enlists volunteer stewards who adopt a parcel of conservation land and coordinate land management, species identification, regular clean-ups, and trail maintenance or clearing efforts. More than 50 stewards have adopted over 2,000 acres, and additional volunteers are recruited for fall and spring cleanups. The stewards are coordinated by The 300 Committee and work under the direction of the Conservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources. The Town of Falmouth also commissioned a consulting study in the late 1990s that resulted in tailored management plans for thirteen significant town-owned parcels. The recommendations included in those plans are being implemented as time and funds permit.

Federal and State-Owned Land

The United States Government owns 46.5 acres (Figure 5-3 in Appendix B). The majority of the land is within the railroad right of way that serves Camp Edwards on the Massachusetts Military Reserve. None of the federal land is considered permanently protected.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts owns approximately 2,404 acres of land in Falmouth, with 2,303 acres protected in perpetuity (Figure 5-4 in Appendix C). The protected parcels include the 1,700-acre Frances A. Crane Wildlife Management Area; Washburn Island State Park (309 acres); the state forest located off Fire Tower Road (16 acres); the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (22 acres); and more than 30 acres along the Quashnet River in Waquoit.

Conservation Restrictions and Land Trust Property

There are slightly less than 400 acres of private property voluntarily encumbered by Conservation Restrictions (Figure 5-5 in Appendix D).

There are 386.22 acres owned by private conservation trusts, including: The Massachusetts Audubon Society, the Salt Pond Area Bird Sanctuaries, and The 300 Committee (Figure 5-6 in Appendix E). Large tracts of protected trust lands include the Salt Pond Reservation (40 acres); 45 acres in the Great Sippewissett Marsh; the Harvey Moraine off Brick Kiln Road (10 acres); and the Ashumet Holly Reservation with 45 acres in Hatchville.

The following table and Map 5-2 (also find an enlarged map at the end of the appendix section) provide a summary of public and privately owned land in Falmouth:

Figure 5-7: Summary of Open Space and Recreation Land

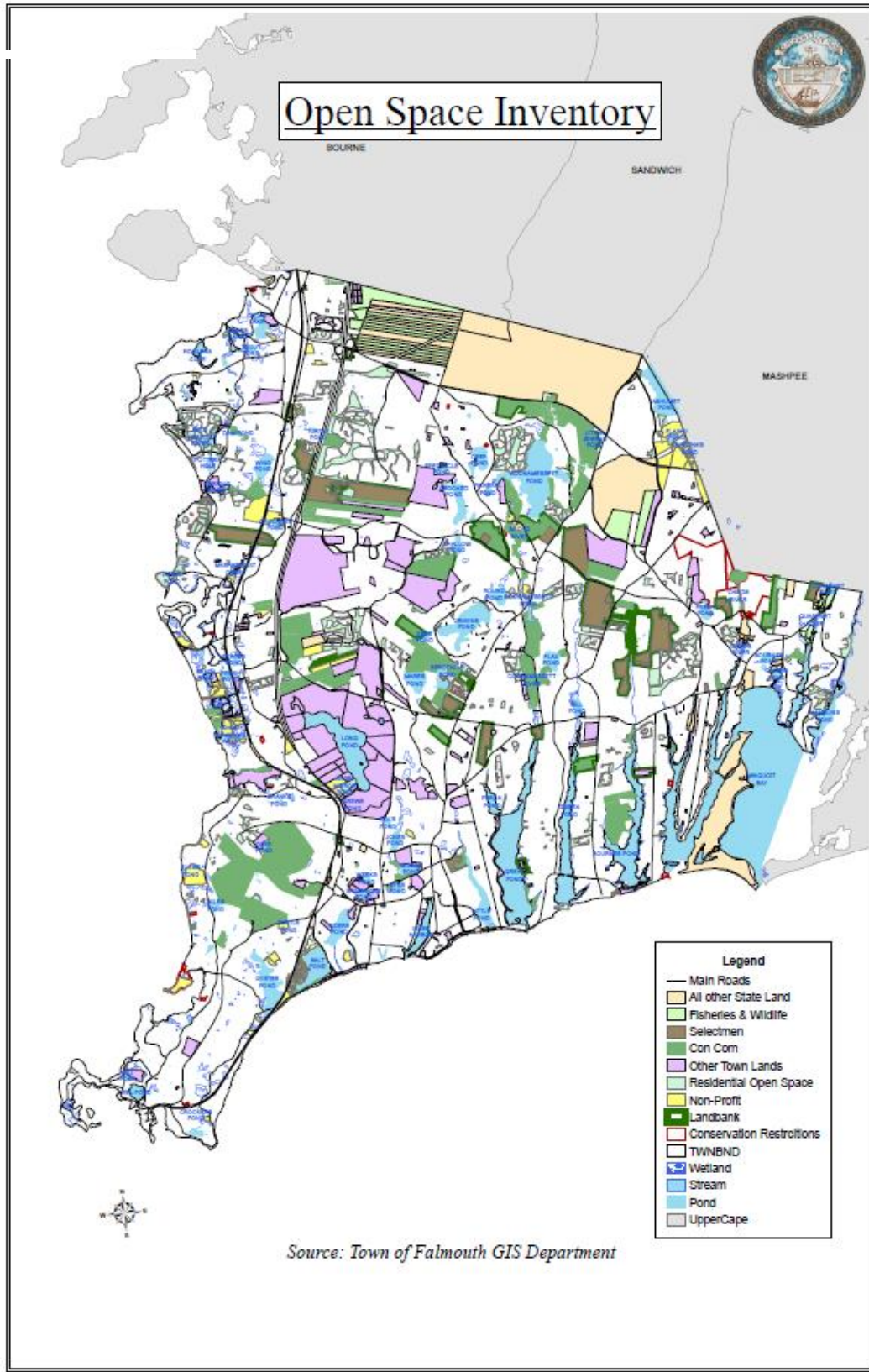
Ownership	Acres	Acres Protected in Perpetuity
Federal	46.5	0
State	2403.99	2302.92
Town	4838.12	2663.83
<i>Total of Public Land</i>	<i>7288.61</i>	<i>4957.07</i>
MA Audubon Society	37.96	37.96
Salt Pond Area Bird Sanctuaries	201.39	201.39
The 300 Committee	167.7	167.7
<i>Total of Private Land</i>	<i>407.05</i>	<i>407.05</i>
<i>Conservation Restrictions</i>	<i>486.01</i>	<i>486.01</i>
Total	8165.19	5833.65

According to the information provided by The Commonwealth Capital Program, there are 28,134 acres of land that are not under water in Falmouth. Therefore, 20.7% of Falmouth's dry land area is permanently protected open space.

In addition to the permanently protected land, there are nearly 650 acres in the Long Pond watershed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Works that are temporarily protected. This land was acquired to protect the water quality of Long Pond, the town's principle water supply, but there is no permanent deed restriction on the future use of the land. However, there is a comprehensive forest management plan that encompasses the town forest and other town-owned parcels in the watershed.

The remaining town-owned land is unprotected and is used for various municipal purposes including active recreation, schools, police and fire stations, the capped landfill and wastewater treatment plant. There are numerous parcels that were acquired through tax foreclosure or donation, as well as land for infrastructure such as drainage easements and sewer pump stations.

Map 5-2 Open Space Inventory



E. Recreation Land and Facilities

Public Recreation Lands and Facilities

Falmouth owns nearly 450 acres of land that is designated for active recreation (Figure 5-8). This land includes school athletic fields, town parks, and the Gus Canty Recreation Center and Guv Fuller Field complex. The recreational facilities are open year round and experience heavy use by residents and visitors. Most of the facilities are managed by the Parks and School Grounds Division, or the Recreation Department.

The public schools provide the most land for active recreation, including: playgrounds, tennis courts, all-purpose courts, soccer fields, basketball courts, and little league and Babe Ruth diamonds available for organized youth sports including Little League, Babe Ruth League baseball, as well as youth soccer and football programs. Goodwill Park, an 85-acre town park, provides extensive hiking trails, a playground and a fresh water beach. The Gus Canty Recreation Center provides indoor and outdoor space and is adjacent to the Guv Fuller Field, which is home to Falmouth High School Football and the Falmouth Commodores of the Cape Cod Baseball League. The town's newest facility is a large field complex on Sandwich Road with a regulation-sized soccer field, baseball diamond, and basketball court. Finally, the town is studying the feasibility of relocating the Senior Center to a more appropriate building, as the programing has outgrown the current facility.

Hiking Trails

Hiking trails are available for public use at most town, state and privately owned conservation lands. Trail maps are available from the Conservation Commission or 300 Committee for some of these areas, including: Beebe Woods, Spectacle Pond Reservation, Hayway Road Conservation Area, Peterson Farm and the Moraine Trail. Hiking is available on the state-owned land at the Crane Wildlife Management Area and Washburn Island (only accessible by boat). There is limited parking at some trailheads and overnight camping is not allowed on town conservation lands, however primitive campsites are available on Washburn Island.

Bikeways

The town of Falmouth has completed an 11-mile Class I bike path in an abandoned railroad right of way. The Shining Sea Bikeway now runs from Woods Hole to North Falmouth and was completed in the fall of 2009. There are also approximately 24 miles of Class III bike routes on roads throughout town. The routes are marked with signs and connect many points of interest, beaches, conservation, and recreation areas. The Bikeways Committee is currently working with the Cape Cod Commission to develop a comprehensive plan for the expansion of the town's bike network.

Figure 5-8: Public Recreation Areas*

Facility	Location	*Zoning	Size	Owner	Manager	Condition	Funds	Protection	Use	Expanded Recreation Potential
Nye Park	County Road	PU	7.88	Town	DPW	Good	Gift	None	Picnic, tennis, playground, softball	
North Falmouth School	Old Main Road	PU	30.8	Town	School	Good		None	Softball, playground	Additional playground
Swift Park	West Falmouth Highway	RB	4.8	Town	DPW	Good	Gift	None	Active recreation, ball field, tennis	
Allietta Field	Rt-151	B2	7	ConCom	ConCom	Good	Omnibus Bond	Perpetuity	Softball fields	
Falmouth High School	Gifford Street	AGAA	97	Town	School	Good		None	Playing fields, tennis, basketball court, track	
Sandwich Road Athletic Fields	888 Sandwich Road	AGAA	14.2	Town	Selectmen	Good	Debt Exclusion	None	Playing fields	Additional practice fields
Fonseca Park	Alexander Booker Road	AGA	1.56	Town	DPW	Good	Gift	None	Active recreation, ball field	
East Falmouth School	Davisville Road	PU	18.3	Town	School	Good		None	Tennis, playground, ball fields	
Little League Fields	Gifford Street	AGB	6.94	Town	Selectmen	Good		None	Ball fields	Batting cages
Trotting Park Fields	Gifford Street	AGB	26.0	Town	Selectmen	Good	Debt Exclusion	Perpetuity	Ball fields, skateboard park, jogging path	Bike path extension

* All of the properties listed in the table are ideal for recreation and are open, and accessible to the public

*see Map 3-6 for zoning details

Teaticket School	Maravista Avenue	PU	16.6	Town	School	Good		None	Active recreation, playground	
School Administration	Teaticket Highway	AGB	6.68	Town	School	Good		None	Active recreation, softball	
Morse Pond School/ Senior Center	Jones Rd	PU	32	Town	School/ Selectmen	Good/ Fair		None	Playground, fields, trails	
Goodwill Park	Palmer Avenue & Gifford Street	PU	86.4	Town	DPW	Good		None	Playground, park, beach, hiking	Expand playground and beach facilities
Lawrence School	Lakeview Avenue	PU	13.5	Town	School	Poor		None	Playground, tennis, fields, track	
Mullen Hall School	Katharine Lee Bates	PU	6.59	Town	School	Good		None	Playground, active recreation	
Gus Canty Rec Center	Main Street	PU	13.4	Town	Rec. Dept	Good		None	Recreation building; Guv Fuller fields	
Hotel Park & Falmouth Heights Water Park	Grand Avenue	RC/PU	6.35	Town	DPW/ Beach	Good	Tax Taking	None	Active recreation	
Central Park	Central Park Avenue	PU	4.24	Town	DPW	Good		None	Softball, soccer, basketball court	
Shining Sea Bikeway	North Falmouth to Woods Hole	Various	21.7	EOT	Selectmen	Good	Lease from the Commonwealth	None	Bike path	
Marina Park	Scranton Avenue	M/ PU	8.16	Town	DPW	Good		None	Band shell	Carousel
Woods Hole Playground	Spring Street	PU	11.6	Town	DPW	Poor		None	Playground, ball fields, tennis	

Source: Town of Falmouth GIS Department

Beaches

Falmouth owns 9 ocean front beaches on Vineyard Sound and Buzzard’s Bay and 1 fresh water beach in Goodwill Park. With nearly a half-million users, the beaches are a major recreational asset for residents and visitors. All the public beaches have designated handicapped parking spaces and beach staff can arrange for a beach wheelchair to be made available at any public beach for a disabled user. Figure 5-9 provides more detailed information on Falmouth’s beaches.



Figure 5-9: Falmouth Beaches

*Menauhant Beach
Source: Falmouth GIS Department*

Beach	Sanitary Facilities	Bath House	Handicapped Accessible
Menauhant East Falmouth	Portable	Outdoor shower	Ramp/walkway
Old Silver North Falmouth	Yes	Yes	Ramp/walkway
Surf Drive Falmouth Village	Yes	Yes	Ramp/walkway
Falmouth Heights Falmouth Village	Portable	Outdoor shower	No
Chapoquoit West Falmouth	Portable	Outdoor shower	Ramp/walkway
Megansett North Falmouth	Portable	No	Yes
Stoney Beach Woods Hole	Portable	No	Yes
Wood Neck Sippewissett	Portable	No	Yes
Bristol Falmouth Village	Portable	No	Yes
Grew’s Pond Falmouth Village	Portable	No	No

Source: Falmouth Beach Committee

Town Landings

The town maintains 24 landings for public access to numerous fresh and salt-water locations (Figure 5-10).

Figure 5-10: Town Landings

Size	Name	Location	*Zoning	Jurisdiction
.01	Ashumet Pond	Sandwich Rd.	PU	Sate
.05	Deep Pond	Turner Rd.	AGA	Con Com
.84	Coonamessett Pond	Off Hatchville Rd.	AGA	Con Com
.07	Jenkins Pond	Deepwood Dr.	RC	Con Com
.08	Mares Pond	Harriette Rd.	AGA	Waterways
.1	Child's River	White's Landing Rd.	PU	Con Com
.14	Waquoit Bay	Town Landing Rd.	RA	Waterways
.31	Green Pond	Menauhant Rd.	RB	Waterways
.05	Great Pond	Great Bay St.	RB	Waterways
	Falmouth Harbor	Scranton Ave.	PU	Waterways
.01	Falmouth Harbor	Robbins Rd.	PU	Waterways
.03	Falmouth Harbor	Clinton Ave. East	PU	Waterways
.02	Little Harbor	Little Harbor Rd.	PU	Waterways
.01	Eel Pond	Water St.	PU	Waterways
.08	Eel Pond	North St.	RC	Waterways
.32	Great Harbor	Albatross St.	PU	Waterways
.08	Great Harbor	Bar Neck Rd.	RC	Waterways
.16	Buzzards Bay	Gardiner Rd.	RC	Waterways
.08	Quissett Harbor	Quissett Harbor Rd.	RA	Waterways
.15	Grews Pond	Pumping Station Rd.	PU	DPW
.03	West Falmouth Harbor	Old Dock Rd.	RB	Waterways
.5	West Falmouth Harbor	Cordwood Landing	RB	Waterways
.32	Megansett Harbor	County Rd.	RA	Waterways
.25	Wild Harbor	Grove St.	RB	Waterways

Source: Falmouth GIS Department

*see Map 3-6 for Zoning details

Private Recreation Facilities

Private recreational facilities include: tennis clubs with a total of 16 courts; a new, state-of-the-art ice rink with public skating, figure skating, and hockey leagues; a campground; health and fitness clubs; gun ranges and hunting clubs; and the Falmouth Curling Clubs. In addition to these members-only, or fee-based clubs, a number of neighborhood associations maintain recreational facilities. The 300 Committee has acquired and constructed a private park on Teaticket Highway to provide additional open space and recreational opportunities to a very densely developed neighborhood. Finally, The Friends of Falmouth's Dogs have constructed a popular dog park on a piece of town-owned land on Brick Kiln Road.

Golf Courses

The Falmouth Town Meeting voted to acquire a municipal golf course on April 13, 2004. The Falmouth Country Club consists of approximately 177.14 acres in the vicinity of Old Barnstable Road. In addition to the municipally owned course, there are six additional courses in the town. All but one is open to the public for a fee. It is likely that within the next five years, the Woodbriar course on Gifford Street will be reduced in size, or will cease operation as a golf course as the owners are exploring development options.

Hiking Trails

Significant privately-owned hiking trails, open to the public, include: The Knob at Quissett Harbor, Salt Pond Reservation, Bourne Farm, Ashumet Holly Reservation, and Great Sippewissett Marsh.

Swimming Pools

Falmouth does not own a municipal swimming pool; however, the Recreation Department and the Board of Selectmen have been investigating possible locations for a pool and have completed a feasibility study to ascertain the cost of construction, operation and maintenance. There are three privately owned pools that are available for a fee; including the Seacrest Resort in North Falmouth, the Shoreway Acres Motel in Falmouth Village, and Atria at Woodbriar on Jones Road.