

# Sustainable Northampton:

Focus on...  Open Space & Recreation



## Goals

Maximize use of the city's open space and recreation areas

Expand open space and recreation areas

Preserve natural and cultural resources and the environment

Provide open space connections between public spaces

Maximize use of the city's open space and recreation areas

<i>how our budgets are supporting this goal</i>	
FY 2011	FY 2012
Lilly Library shares an open lawn with the Florence Civic Center which was flooded this winter to create a public ice skating rink.	
Recreation and DPW maintain and schedule use of the recreation areas. Over 3,700 games and practices each year. Work together to creatively use existing spaces for multiple sports fields during different seasons.	
SVAHS' land provides active recreational activities on its athletic fields and passive recreation on other school owned land in the city.	
Board of Health, with planning dept, shapes development of open space and recreation areas to ensure that all members of the community have easy access to them, improving opportunities for healthy living for all.	

<i>how our budgets are supporting this goal</i>	
FY 2011	FY 2012
Planning and Recreation worked with community groups to preserve 180 acres of Bean and Allard properties for conservation, open space, recreation, and agriculture.	Recreation will develop the largest expansion of recreational fields in years at the Bean / Allard property in Florence.
Treasurer coordinates with Planning Department to convert "owner unknown" real estate parcels to open space.	

Expand open space and recreation areas

Preserve natural and cultural resources and the environment

<i>how our budgets are supporting this goal</i>	
FY 2011	FY 2012
	<p>Planning will develop Open Space, Recreation, and Multi-Use Trail Plan, developed with more community participation and adoption than any similar plan in the Commonwealth: create clearly articulated and community supported open space, recreation, and natural and cultural resource protection goals; and implement those goals through fund raising, creation of two endowments, grant writing, creative acquisition approach, community and institutional partnerships, and other efforts.</p>

Fire Services provide off road rescue and wildfire suppression in open spaces.

<i>how our budgets are supporting this goal</i>	
FY 2011	FY 2012
<p>Coordinated largest private sector farmland and greenway acquisition's in city's history.</p>	

SVAHS maintains its open space and greenways: approximately 90 acres on the main campus, 182 acres at the VA Woodlot, and 280 acres near the former state hospital grounds.

Provide open space connections between public spaces