

9. Five -Year Action Plan

Mashpee's goals and objectives are intended to provide a long-range focus for our activities. They serve as a guide both in plotting long-term strategies and in dealing with challenges and opportunities that will surely arise but can rarely be predicted. Unforeseen development proposals or natural disasters require a rational response within an overall context that goals, objectives and plans provide. At the same time, land acquisition opportunities can arise on short notice and require a quick evaluation of costs and benefits relative to all the other possibilities pointed out in the plan and how each responds to our agreed-upon goals and objectives.

That said, we still need to schedule short-term projects, with the understanding that circumstances may change our plans and that we can not possibly achieve all of our goals and objectives in a few short years. Fiscal constraints are a major contributing factor requiring that we pare down our wish lists to more realistic levels.

The following is our attempt at picking a few of the most feasible projects for accomplishment during the next five years. It is based on the adopted goals and policies and analysis of needs, tempered by fiscal constraints and focused on six key areas:

- increasing the publicly-owned and protected land base of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge;
- completing protection of the Mashpee River corridor;
- developing the Cross-Cape Trail's Mashpee segment;
- continuing development of trail and parking facilities at Town conservation areas;
- upgrading and expanding the Town's active recreation facilities;
- continue integrating school facilities into the Town's recreation programs.

Specific currently-proposed activities during the next five years are as follows:

Year 1

- Acquisition of 1.09 acre Shields property (Map 45, Block 69) along the upper Mashpee River Corridor to enhance the protected corridor from Mashpee Pond to mouth of river. Estimated price \$170,000. Proposed funding from Conservation Commission Acquisition of Lands and Maintenance Account and state Self-Help program 52% reimbursement.

- Acquisition of 78.3 acre portion of the Camp Vinhaven property (Map 9, Block 1) adjacent to Mashpee - Wakeby Pond and within the Mashpee national Wildlife Refuge. Estimated price \$3.1 Million, funded through Community preservation Act, a Town Meeting appropriation and debt exclusion, with \$500,000 funded through a Conservation Restriction purchase by the Mass. Division of Fisheries & Wildlife.

- Acquisition of 15.24 acre Mills property (Map 23, Blocks 20, 30, 36, 51, 54, 68 and 212 and Map 30, Blocks 48, 53, 85, 91, 94, 97, 108, 111, and 143) as addition to Santuit Pond Preserve. Authorized by May 7, 2007 Special Town Meeting. \$720,000 funded jointly by Mashpee and Barnstable CPA funds.
- Protection of 28.6 acre property (Map 116, Block 75) on Great Oak Road by proposed donation from New Seabury Properties LLC to Orenda Wildlife Land Trust. This property is within the Mashpee National Wildlife refuge and adjacent to lands purchased by the Town (with state Self-Help Program assistance) and federal government from Bufflehead Bay Limited Partnership and includes all of Witch Pond, along with frontage on Fells Pond and is bisected by Abigail's Brook.
- Establishment of formal Santuit Pond Preserve trail system and signage.
- Review local wetlands bylaws to ensure that they provide for the following: protection of vernal pools outside other resource areas as well as isolated wetlands, a policy of no alteration / replication of wetlands for both public and private projects, expansion of jurisdiction beyond 100 feet were appropriate, improved enforcement authority and the ability to hire consultants to review applications at the applicant's expense.
- Develop and maintain a complete inventory and GIS map / database of all wetlands, vernal pools and lands subject to review under the Wetlands Protection Act and the Town's wetlands protection bylaw.
- Continue the Town's ongoing program to identify all vernal pools in Mashpee for certification by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program.
- Completion of Phase 1 of the Heritage Park ballfield expansion project
- Provide funding through the CPA for Phase 2 of the Heritage Park ballfield expansion project
- Renovation of the Basketball Court at Heritage Park
- Provide funding through application of CPA money to renovate two (2) Tennis Courts at the Quashnet School
- Provide funding for upgrade of lights at Mashpee High School Tennis Courts so that they may be used at night (CPA)

Year 2

- Acquisition of 15.9 acre Lillie Hammond property (Map 44, Block 1) either through CPA funding / Self-Help assistance or, if taken for taxes, transfer to Conservation Commission. In National Wildlife Refuge and adjacent to Orenda Wildlife Land Trust Makepeace Sanctuary.

- Transfer of 5.8 acre Map 44, Block 2 tax taking property to care and custody of Conservation Commission (located in Wildlife refuge between existing Lovell's Lane Conservation Area and Lillie Hammond property).
- Transfer of tax-taking inholdings at Santuit River Conservation Area to Conservation Commission.
- Transfer of tax-takings along Johnson Road (paper street within National Wildlife Refuge) to Conservation Commission.
- Transfer 31.3 acre Pimlico Heights cluster subdivision open space (Map 2, Blocks 140 and 170) from tax-takings to Conservation Commission.
- Transfer Map 22, Blocks 16F and 23, waterfront parcels on Santuit Pond, from tax-taking to Conservation Commission.
- Transfer Mills Property inholdings near Santuit Pond Preserve (Map 23, Blocks 5, 9, 24, 37, 42, 49, 56, 57 and 66 and Map 30, Blocks 87 and 104) from tax taking to Conservation Commission or for park use under Selectmen as part of Santuit Pond Preserve.
- Transfer 3.23 acre cluster open space parcel on Hickory Circle (Map 28, Block 14) and three open space parcels off Widsor Way (Map 29, Blocks 130, 137 and 146 totaling 8.9 acres) from tax taking to Conservation Commission as additions to adjacent Besse Bog Conservation Area.
- Transfer five parcels surrounded by Johns Pond Park Conservation Area (Map 33, Blocks 1,2 and 3 and Map 34, Blocks 2 and 3) from tax taking to Conservation Commission (in MNWR).
- Transfer tax-taking lots at Park Place Way and Noisy Hole Road (Map 36, Blocks 65, 75, 76, and 77 and Map 45, Blocks 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60 and 64) to Conservation Commission as addition to adjacent Noisy Hole Conservation Area.
- Transfer tax-taking lots at Back Road (Map 41, Blocks 36 and 51 and Map 42, Block 17) to Conservation Commission as addition to adjacent Johns Pond Park Conservation Area (in MNWR).
- Transfer Steeplechase cluster subdivision open space (Map 43, Block 22 and Map 44, Block 107) from tax taking to Conservation Commission (in MNWR).
- Transfer unbuildable 3 acre parcel on Payamps Road (Map 50, Block 31) from tax taking to Conservation Commission as addition to Johns Pond Park Conservation Area).
- Transfer tax-taking inholdings at Santuit River Conservation Area (Map 70, blocks 9, 11, 15, 17, 21, 60, 64, 68, 72, 73, 74, 76, 78, 80A, 80B, 81, 83, 87, 97, 99, 100, 101, 103, 104, 105, 106, 113, 114, 118, 120, 122, 124, 127, 128, 129, 131 and 133) to Conservation Commission.

- Transfer of 4 Ash Street lots (Map 77, Blocks 30, 31, 32 and 32A) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission and construction of 6 car parking area and trail to access existing Shoestring Bay access easement area deeded by Willowbend Country Club.
- Construction of parking / access facility for Santuit Pond Preserve at Route 130 (Map 47, Block 21).
- Extension of Cross-Cape trail from Red Brook Road through USF&WS “Bufflehead Bay” property to Great Oak Road and South Cape Beach State Park pending completion of USF&WS Refuge Management Plan.
- Development of Noisy Hole Conservation Area trail system and parking area by Conservation Corps / Land Stewards and DPW.
- Completion and formal dedication of Cross-Cape Trail segment through Lowell Holly Reservation connecting to Sandwich’s Ryder Conservation Area trail system.
- Secure consultant for site selection and design for childrens’ nature trail. Funded through \$10,000 grant to Conservation Commission, Leisure Services Department and Mashpee Conservation Corps from Willowbend Children’s Charity.
- Collaborate with Mashpee Schools and MassBike to assist in the development of bike trails through “Safe Routes to School” funding.
- Development of temporary outdoor ice skating rink at Heritage Memorial Park, Town Hall ballfield or another suitable location.
- Construction of 8-10’ wide bicycle / pedestrian path along Route 130 from Heritage Park to Pickerel Cove Road as continuation of Route 130 mixed-use path.
- Create and distribute an updated map and guide to the Town’s open space and recreation areas.
- Development and adoption by Board of Assessors of a standard policy on, and approval procedures for, property tax reductions for properties made subject to conservation restrictions.
- Develop a review and regulatory process for activities that could adversely impact critical plant and wildlife habitat areas and / or seek their designation as significant habitat areas under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act.
- Adopt a bylaw limiting land clearing and alteration of natural topography prior to development review.
- Rehabilitation of gamefield walking course at Kids Club (former Senior Center).

- Provide funding for upgrading of facilities at Mashpee town beaches to include restroom facilities, concessions, showers, and storage area
- Provide lights and sprinkler system at the KC Coombs School for expanded use by Mashpee Babe Ruth and Pop Warner
- Provide additional lights at Heritage Park for additional field use
- Provide additional paved parking spaces and boat launching areas at Mashpee Town landings
- Provide funding for building of soccer / multipurpose field near the South Mashpee fire department sub-station (Keeter property, Map 104, Block 2).
- Construct 10-12 car parking facility at Camp Vinhaven property, along with initial trails and property signage.

Year 3

- Town acquisition of Andrade cedar swamp (surrounded by Jehu Pond Conservation Area) using Conservation Commission's Land Acquisition and Maintenance Account and possible Self-Help grant.
- Acquire remaining private inholdings at Santuit River Conservation Area (Map 70, Blocks 13, 16, 18, 23, 65, 69, 70, 75, 80, 82, 84, 85, 89, 110, 121, 132, 136, 139, 141 and 142).
- Transfer Winslow Farms open space (Map 71, Blocks 148 and 149, Map 72, Block 97 and Map 78, Block 100) from tax-taking to the Conservation Commission.
- Transfer Sugar Pine Circle cluster subdivision open space from tax-taking to Conservation Commission.
- Transfer Holland Mills cluster subdivision open space (Map 93, Blocks 25 and 34, Map 94, Block 107 and Map 97, Block 16) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission (in MNWR).
- Transfer unbuildable 10.3 acre G. Willard Bartlett property (Map 93, Block 3) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission as addition to South Mashpee Pine Barrens Conservation Area (in MNWR).
- Transfer Great Hay Estates drainage lot (Map 94, Block 75) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission as access addition to South Mashpee Pine Barrens Conservation Area (in MNWR).
- Transfer 7.08 acre Southcape Resorts open space lot (Map 94, Block 7) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission as addition to South Mashpee Pine Barrens Conservation Area (in MNWR).

- Transfer Gia – Tracy Lane wetland lots (Map 99, Blocks 29 and 30 and Map 104, Blocks 35, 36, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71 and 72) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission (in MNWR).
- Transfer 136 Degross Road parcel (Map 103, Block 8) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission after abandoned house is demolished (key wildlife corridor in Mashpee NWR).
- Transfer unbuildable 25 Little Neck Lane marsh-front lot (Map 105, Block 18) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission.
- Transfer 9.75 acre salt marsh lot on Dutchman’s Creek / Hamblin Pond (Map 108, Block 32) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission (in MNWR).
- Transfer Seconsett Causeway marsh lots (Map 119, Blocks 14 and 15) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission.
- Transfer 407 Great Oak Road marsh front lot (map 126, Block 47) from tax-taking to Conservation Commission (in MNWR).
- Purchase 2 unbuildable lots on Payamps Road (Map 50, Blocks 27 and 32, totaling 11.3 acres) as addition to Johns Pond Park Conservation Area (in MNWR).
- Purchase of the 19 acre Edgar Tobey (Map 53, Blocks 6 & 7) properties currently surrounded on three sides by the Noisy Hole Conservation Area.
- Town or federal acquisition of 94 acre Spraggs property (Map 34, Block 1) and three adjacent lots (Map 27, Blocks 18, 19 and 20) for combination of conservation and wastewater treatment plant / treated effluent discharge area. Properties are subject to Otis ANGB avigation easement and Spraggs parcel is the largest undeveloped, otherwise unprotected parcel remaining in Mashpee and the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge.
- Aquisition of two Conaumet Highlands lots (Map 21, Blocks 33 and 39) and property corridor or trail easement from Wampanoag Rod & Gun Club, or alternate route, for completion of Cross-Cape Trail between Besse Bog Conservation Area and Lowell Holly Reservation.
- Construction of Cross-Cape trail from Route 28 north to Lowell Holly Reservation via The Trustees of Reservations’ Mashpee River Reservation, along a temporary location on Goodspeed’s Meetinghouse Road to Route 130, then connecting to the existing Cape Cod Pathways segment through the Besse Bog Conservation Area and the Wampanoag Rod & Gun club easement to Lowell Holly. An additional loop may be completed on Town and Mass.DFW land to Attaquin Park. By Conservation Corps / Land Stewards and DPW.
- Construction of Children’s Nature Trail, funded with Willowbend grant.

- Expansion of multi-use path on Route 130 to continue on from Pickerel Cove Road to the Sandwich Town line.
- Secure feasibility study regarding use of Town Landfill cap area located on Ashers Path for additional recreation use.
- Establish carry-in boat access and parking area on Pickerel Cove (Mashpee – Wakeby Pond) on Camp Vinhaven property.
- Working with Mass. Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, re-establish natural wetlands in former cranberry bogs along Santuit River in Santuit Pond Preserve.

Year 4

- Town acquisition of the 7.4 acre Johnson property (Map 36, Blocks 33 and 34) for conservation to link adjacent Town and Water District properties. The Cross-Cape Trail would then be moved from its temporary location on Goodspeed's Meetinghouse Road to a new footpath across the parcels and the Als Property / Noisy Hole Conservation Area.
- Acquisition of 23.6 acre Jordan property (Map 51, Block 6) as addition to Quashnet Woodlands (in MNWR).
- Acquisition of 8.7 acre Wilbur property (Map 92, Block 2) by Town of Mashpee, state, Falmouth Rod & Gun Club and/or USF&WS to complete protection of that portion of the National Wildlife Refuge.
- Possible set-aside of conservation lands at Quashnet River, Trout Pond and / or South Mashpee Pine Barrens as part of Mashpee Commons project permitting, transfer of development rights or purchases (Map 68, Blocks 5 and 6, Map 73, Blocks 6 and 12, parts of Map 74, Block 16, Map 75, Block 1, part of Map 75, Block 10, Map 99, Blocks 34, 35, 36 and 37 and Map 104, Block 102).
- Development of temporary National Wildlife Refuge visitors center by USF&WS and / or Friends of the Mashpee NWR.
- Development of Santuit Pond Conservation Area parking and trail system by Conservation Corps and DPW.
- Development of Childs River Conservation Area parking and trail system by Conservation Corps and DPW.
- Develop Mashpee Leisure Services summer day camp facilities at Camp Vinhaven, adjacent to carry-in boat access, including potential swimming facilities on Pickerel Cove.
- Update Mashpee River Woodlands and Johns Pond park Management Plans.

Year 5 or beyond

- Acquisition of 24.6 acre Baker property (Map 16, Block 4) on Santuit Pond.
- Acquisition of 13.8 acre Lilian Oakley Heirs property (Map 35, Block 17) by Orenda Wildlife Land Trust and/or Town as addition to Makepeace Sanctuary or Lovell's Lane Conservation Area (in MNWR).
- Acquisition of undeveloped portion of 18.2 acre "owners unknown" parcel (Map 51, Block 4) on Great Hay Road as addition to Quashnet Woodlands (in MNWR).
- Acquisition of 1.34 acre Atsalis parcel (Map 44, Block 85) in upper Mashpee River corridor.
- Acquisition of 3.1 acre Turchin LLC parcel on Route 151 (Map 73, Block 5 – in MNWR).
- Acquisition of 24.5 acre Route 151 / Old Barnstable Road parcels (Map 66, Block 107 and Map 73, Blocks 30, 31, 46 and 47) for open space or active recreation facility use if proposed assisted living facility is not developed.
- Acquisition by Town or Orenda Wildlife Land Trust, through purchase or donation, of landlocked 4.48 acre Ashumet Corporation property (Map 41, Block 78) (in MNWR).
- Potential acquisition of portions of partially-developed Mashpee River parcels (Map 44, Block 44 and Map 45, Block 50).
- Town or federal acquisition of the 4.5 acre Louis Santos marsh (Map 115, Block 4) located off Amy Brown Road adjacent to the Jehu Pond Conservation Area.
- Development of Sachems Field Conservation Area parking and trails.
- Development of Alper Grant Conservation Area trails and parking facility.
- Construction of multi-use path along Great Neck Road North between Lowell Road and Old Barnstable Road (alternate route via Lowell Road to Coombs School driveway) and widening / upgrade of sidewalk between Route 130 and Lowell Road.
- Extension of Great Neck Road South bike path to Red Brook Road.
- Extension of Route 151 bike path from Old Barnstable Road to James Circle.
- Develop plan for feasibility of additional recreation facilities to include an indoor swimming pool, fitness center, ice rink, and field house.

- Re-establish archery range / playfield at Camp Vinhaven.
- Potential acquisition of all or portions of critical pondshore habitat at south end of Ashumet Pond (Map 57, Blocks 1, 2 and 42), partially developed parcels totaling 16.5 acres.
- Potential acquisition of partially-developed 41 acre Mashpee Pond-front property adjacent to Lowell Holly Reservation (Map 21, Block 9) should the property become available.
- Potential acquisition of four Egan family lots on Mashpee Pond (Map 27, Blocks 161, 162, 163 and 164) totaling 7.97 acres in the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge.
- Potential acquisition of Mill Pond frontage properties (Map 27, Blocks 43 and 44), totaling 2.13 acres, for protection of Mashpee River and Pond habitat, as well as associated upland BioMap Core Habitat.
- Potential acquisition of 2.5 acre Mills cranberry bog (Map 35, Block 31) for protection of the Mashpee River and associated BioMap Core Habitat.
- Potential acquisition of a portion of the 3.7 acre Lewis property (Map 36, Block 4) and the 1.97 acre Pocknett property (Map 36, Block 20) for protection of, and access to, the Mashpee River and associated upland BioMap Core Habitat.
- Potential acquisition of all or portions of 7.9 acre Cape Cod Farm & Forge and 4.1 acre Moniz properties (Map 44, Blocks 7 and 11) for protection of, and access to, Washburn Pond, for agricultural preservation and for protection of designated BioMap Core Habitat.
- Potential acquisition of portion of Mills property east of Mashpee River (part of Map 36, Block 26) for protection of, and access to, the river and associated BioMap core habitat
- Potential acquisition of western portions of Map 52, Blocks 3 and 61 (off Great Neck Road North) for protection and enhancement of Quashnet Woodlands (In Mashpee NWR).
- Potential acquisition of portions of parcels at south end of Johns Pond, Squirrel Pond & upper Childs River (Map 71, Blocks 52 and 55, Map 72, Block 118 and Map 79, Blocks 71 and 72) to protect pond and stream habitat.
- Potential acquisition of Hamblin Pond and upper Great River salt marshes in Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge (Map 108, Block 9 and portions of Blocks 4, 5, 23 and 24, portions of Map 109, Blocks 1, 2, 3, 4 and 28, Map 114, Block 24, 25, 26, 27A and 28A and Map 115, Block 10).
- Potential acquisition of 0.9 acre island in Hamblin Pond (Map 114, Block 4B) as part of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge.

- Potential acquisition of portion of 1.6 acre parcel on Dutchman's Creek at Red Brook Road (Map 109, Block 8) for protection of Creek and access to Dutchman's Creek Conservation Area (in Mashpee NWR).
- Potential acquisition of 1.02 acre parcel on Great Oak Road (Map 116, Block 84) to complete protection of "Bufflehead Bay" section of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge.
- Potential acquisition of all or portions of parcels on Hamblin Pond in Mashpee NWR adjacent to Bayview Road Town Landing and island owned by USF&WS (Map 119, Blocks 53, 54 and 57) for protection of pond and marshes and improved public access at the landing.
- Potential acquisition of marsh lot on Hamblin Pond (Map 114, Block 16) and adjacent small parcel (Map 114, Block 11) at Monomoscoy Road West and Overland Road to enhance existing Town shellfish access on Map 114, Block 12.
- Potential acquisition of parcels on Timber Landing and River Roads (primarily unbuildable Sandalwood subdivision lots) to protect and enhance Mashpee River Woodlands (Map 82, Blocks 3, 13A, 13B, 94 and 95 and Map 89, Blocks 75 and 77).
- Potential acquisition of 1.6 acre "owners unknown" parcel (Map 66, Block 5) and 5.3 acre Quashnet Valley Country Club open space parcels (Map 66, Blocks 81 and 117) on Quashnet River to enhance protection of river.

