

**Manchester-by-the-Sea
2009 Open Space and Recreation Survey
Draft #3**

The Manchester-by-the-Sea Open Space and Recreation Plan was designed to provide Town officials and residents with a framework upon which to base decisions and actions that help safeguard Manchester's important natural resources. The Town of Manchester is blessed with uncommonly beautiful natural endowments: acres of quiet woodlands, wetlands and ponds, wildflowers and shrubs, and the wildlife dependent upon them, together with miles of unspoiled seacoast featuring granite headlands, deeply indented salt marshes, fine-sanded beaches, and a picturesque harbor guarded by rockbound islands. These endowments are central to the life of townspeople and visitors alike.

How well are these natural resources being protected to assure their vital role in our health and safety? How much has been done, and what, if any, shortcomings are apparent? What steps should we take as a Town to prevent problems in the years ahead? These are the basic questions that this Open Space and Recreation Plan attempts to address.

Your input is important for developing the plan's goals. The plan begins with this survey. We ask that you take a moment to fill it out or if it is easier, you can fill the survey out on-line. **Explain how this is done. Surveys can be returned to the Conservation office or the Recreation office at Town Hall or mailed to:**

Conservation Office
Attn: Lisa Press
Manchester Town Hall
10 Central Street
Manchester, MA 01944

Still Need Definition of Recreation, Organized Athletics and Open Space
“Open Space” in this survey is defined as “Public and privately owned undeveloped lands which are important for a variety of reasons, including protection of the water supply, recreation, athletics, forestry, or simply because of their scenic qualities and their contribution to the overall character of the town.”

How long have you lived in Manchester? (Please Check One)

0-5 Years	6-10 years	10-20 years	21+ Years

How old are you? (Please Check One)

18-29 Years old	30-40 years old	41-50 Years Old	51-70 Years Old	70+ Years old

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Do you have school age children?_____ If yes, please check which schools they attend:

Pre-School	Elementary School	Middle School	High School

Are you a year round resident of Manchester?

How important is it for you to preserve Open Space in Manchester

- _____Very Important
- _____Somewhat Important
- _____Neutral
- _____Not Very Important
- _____Not at all Important
- _____No Preference

What type of Open Space would you like to see the Town of Manchester preserve?
(Check all that apply)

- _____Open Space for Organized Sports
- _____Open Space for Family Recreation
- _____Open Space for Trails and Hiking
- _____Open Space for Water Supply protection
- _____Open Space for Aesthetics and Scenic Resources
- _____Open Space for Wildlife and Habitat Protection
- _____Other_____

What actions do you prefer to preserve open space? Use 1 thru 3 to indicate preference.
#1 for most preferred method.

- _____Combination of Town and Private Funding
- _____Town Purchase of Land
- _____Private Funding Alone
- _____Community Preservation Act Funding
- _____Contribution of Land
- _____Zoning for Resource Protection

What types of Recreational or Athletic Opportunities would you like to see more of in Manchester?

- Hiking, walking, running
- Swimming
- Sailing
- Fishing
- Kayaking
- Ice Skating
- Skateboarding
- X-Country Skiing, Snowshoeing
- Horseback Riding
- Hunting
- Road Bicycling
- Mountain Biking
- Athletic Team Activities
- Informal football, baseball, soccer, kite-flying
- Organized Recreational activities (aerobics, Yoga, other)

How many times a year do you frequent the following areas:

- Powder House Hill Reservation
- Singing Beach
- Sweeney Park
- Agassiz Rock Reservation
- Wilderness Conservation Area
- White Beach
- Black Beach
- Long Hill Restricted Area
- Winthrop Field
- Tucks Point
- Masconomo Park
- Surf Park
- Saltonstall Trails
- Great Lawn
- Clark Pond and Trails
- Clara B. Winthrop Preserve
- Dexter Pond
- Eaglehead Swamp Trails

Where would you like to see linkages between existing trails? If yes, where?

How often do you or members of your household participate in the following activities in or near Manchester?

Activity	Never	Less than once a year	1-4 times a year	4-10 times a year	More than 10 times a year
Hiking, walking, running					
Swimming					
Sailing					
Fishing					
Kayaking					
Ice Skating					
Skateboarding					
X-Country Skiing, Snowshoeing					
Horseback Riding					
Hunting					
Road Bicycling					
Mountain Biking					
Athletic Team Activities					
Informal football, baseball, soccer, kite-flying					
Organized Recreational activities (aerobics, Yoga, other)					

Please check facilities that you think should be added or improved:

- Conservation Areas
- Children's Play Areas
- Family Picnic Areas
- Parks
- A Softball Field
- A Baseball Field
- A Soccer Field
- Basketball Courts
- Tennis Courts
- Bike Trails
- Hiking and Skiing Trails
- A Recreation Center Building
- A Public Swimming Pool
- Public Boating Areas
- Other

What unprotected natural, historic and/or cultural resources in Manchester would you like preserved?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Do you feel you receive adequate information about recreational opportunities in Manchester? Yes No

How do you get information about recreational opportunities in Manchester?

- Town Parks and Recreational Department brochure
- Newspapers (Cricket, Gloucester Daily Times, Cape Ann Beacon, Salem Evening News)
- Manchester-Essex Conservation Trust newsletter
- Town website

Would you be interested in helping to develop new recreational opportunities or to maintain existing facilities and trails? If so, please tell us how to contact you either by phone or e-mail.
