

8.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Southampton residents cherish the scenic landscape all around them and want to maintain the rural character of their community and the quality of life it affords them. Most integral to Southampton's character are the protection and management of forests, protection of water quality, active agriculture, and healthy, diverse and contiguous wildlife habitats. Residents seek to continue and expand the many forms of outdoor recreation found in Southampton including trails for walking, hiking, biking, snowmobiling and horseback riding areas open to the public.

Goal 1: Identify and preserve important parcels for ecological, recreational, cultural and historical value to create a town-wide green network.

Objective: Increase capacity for management of town-owned open space lands and promote public use of existing open space network.

Objective: Connect open space resources to enhance community livability and wildlife habitat, and to encourage walking and biking.

Objective: Protect and enhance the scenic vistas through the town.

Goal 2: Protect Southampton's remaining agricultural lands, promote local farming, and create opportunities for residents to become involved in local agriculture.

Goal 3: Protect Southampton's water resources.

Objective: Continue to protect Southampton's public water supply and the Barnes Aquifer for generations to come and assure that all infrastructure is up to date and in good repair.

Goal 4: Promote land use policies that protect the town's natural lands and rural community character.

Objective: Balance residential development with the protection of the town's natural, scenic and historic resources.

Objective: Establish land use and development policies that respond to infrastructure capacity.