



NEWINGTON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Conference Room L-101, Lower Level
131 Cedar Street, Newington, CT 06111

6:30 p.m.

A G E N D A

I. ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Regular Meeting of April 14, 2016

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

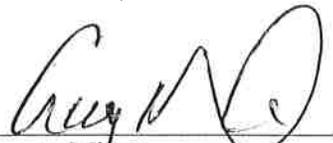
- a. Status of revision of the Town Council Resolution establishing Open Space Committee
- b. Possible CT Greenway Nomination
- c. Review of work done by previous Open Space Committee
- d. Open Space Inventory and Map
- e. Possible Designation of Former Route 291 parcels as Open Space Corridor
- f. Comprehensive Open Space Management Strategy

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURN

Submitted,



Craig Minor, AICP
Town Planner

RECEIVED & RECORDED IN
NEWINGTON LAND RECORDS

2016 MAY 10 AM 10:58

BY *Tanya D. Lane*
TOWN CLERK



TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 Cedar Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Town Planner

Tanya D. Lane
Acting Town Manager

Craig Minor, AICP
Town Planner

To: Open Space Committee
From: Town Planner Craig Minor, AICP
Date: May 9, 2016
Subject: **Agenda Items for May 12, 2016**

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Status of revision of the Town Council Resolution establishing Open Space Committee

I'll let Commissioner Anest or Budrejko give the update on this.

- b. Possible CT Greenway Nomination

The CT Greenways Council (a subset of DEEP) designates, upon request, open space areas as "CT Greenways". Towns that contain "CT Greenways" are in a better position to apply for grants to improve or maintain those open spaces. There are four "CT Greenways" in Newington (see attached excerpt from the State of CT Greenways Map, and the Newington 2020 POCD Open Space Plan) which were approved by the CT Greenways Council in 2003. I don't have those applications but I do have narrative descriptions of two of Newington's four "CT Greenways" – the Piper Brook Greenway and the Young's Farm-Rock Hole Brook Greenway. The other two CT Greenways are Old Highway and Twenty Rod Road.

Earlier this year the CT Greenways Council invited towns to nominate additional open spaces as "CT Greenways". The deadline to submit nominations was April 29, 2016. Last month the Open Space Committee asked me to put this on the agenda for additional discussion.

- c. Review of work done by previous Open Space Committee

This is a continuation of the discussion that started last month. I suggest Commissioners review their notes and/or the minutes from the April meeting to see where you left off.

- d. Open Space Inventory and Map

This is a continuation of the discussion that started last month. I suggest Commissioners review their notes and/or the minutes from the April meeting to see where you left off.

At that meeting the topic of hiking trail maps came up. See attached excerpt from this file at the Town of Newington website: <http://www.newingtonct.gov/filestorage/78/118/138/2953/20288/Book.pdf>

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e. Proposed I-291 Open Space Corridor

At the April meeting the Commission discussed the possibility of going beyond designating the land that had been acquired by the State for the failed I-291 beltway as a greenway or open space corridor, as shown of the 2020 POCD Open Space Plan. I will ask the new GIS specialist in the IT department to create a map of that area and identify the current owners of the parcels involved.

f. Comprehensive Open Space Management Strategy

This is a continuation of the discussion that started last month. I suggest Commissioners review their notes and/or the minutes from the April meeting to see where you left off.

cc:
file



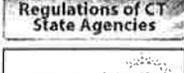
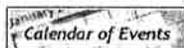
Department of ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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ENERGY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NATURAL RESOURCES OUTDOOR RECREATION PURA

Greenways

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Come Explore Connecticut's Greenways



"Greenway" means a corridor of open space that (1) may protect natural resources, preserve scenic landscapes and historical resources or offer opportunities for recreation or nonmotorized transportation, (2) may connect existing protected areas and provide access to the outdoors, (3) may be located along a defining natural feature, such as a waterway, along a man-made corridor, including an unused right-of-way, traditional trail routes or historic barge canals or (4) may be a greenspace along a highway or around a village. (CGS section 23-100)

The New England Trail, A National Scenic Trail - CT's second National Scenic Trail designation is a 200-mile trail route that has been in existence for over half a century. It travels through 39 communities in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Nominate Your Greenway for Official Designation - The Connecticut Greenways Council solicits nominations every February for official state greenway designation. **The deadline for 2016 was Friday, April 29.**

Annual Greenways Awards and Celebration - The 2016 event, held in conjunction with National Trails Day, will take place on **Friday, June 3**, in celebration of the trail systems and CT Designated Greenway, our Air Line State Park Trail, at Goodwin Conservation Center pavillion.

Content last updated May 4, 2016

[Printable Version](#)

CT Greenways Council Accepting Nominations

Submit greenways to be designated by the state

Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the Connecticut Greenways Council today announced that they are now soliciting nominations for official state greenway designations.

Greenways are an integral part of any community, offering recreational opportunities, providing alternate transportation options, helping to preserve the environment, and supporting economic development. Greenways can make a community a more attractive place to live by connecting living spaces with the environment, and they preserve history and cultivate town pride.

"Since 2001, Connecticut has celebrated greenways, those special trails and waterways that protect natural resources, and preserve scenic landscapes while connecting communities and neighborhoods to the outdoors," said DEEP Commissioner Robert Klee. "Working together with the Connecticut Greenways Council, DEEP strives to create new opportunities for outdoor recreation and non-motorized transportation."

An official designation by the Greenways Council recognizes a greenway as an open space that not only meets the definition of a greenway, but also enhances the community and is supported by local government initiatives. Designated greenways, both for recreation and resource protection, will be listed in a subsequent revision of the State Plan of Conservation and Development and may receive increased consideration for a variety of grants. There are currently 75 designated greenways in Connecticut.

The Greenways Council will evaluate all nominated greenways for consistency with designation criteria. Those selected for designation will be announced by the Greenways Council in conjunction with their National Trails Day event in June.

The deadline for submission of nominations is **April 29, 2016**.

The nomination form is available as a word document or a PDF. The preferred method for submission of completed nomination forms is by e-mail to Laurie.Giannotti@ct.gov, and digital photos and maps are preferred (digital photos of hard copy maps are acceptable). Nominations may also be submitted on CD or other electronic storage device and can be mailed to Laurie.Giannotti, CT DEEP, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127.

For more information please visit <http://www.ct.gov/deep/greenways>.

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

Criteria for the Designation of Connecticut Greenways

In 1995 the Connecticut General Assembly acted upon the recommendations of the Governor's Greenways Committee and passed Public Act 95-335, which institutionalized Connecticut's greenways program. A highlight of this legislation was the establishment of the Connecticut Greenways Council. One of the Council's duties is the development of criteria for the designation of greenways around the state.

The Public Act defines greenway as a "corridor of open space" that:

1. may protect natural resources, preserve scenic landscapes and historical resources or offer opportunities for recreation or non-motorized transportation;
2. may connect existing protected areas and provide access to the outdoors;
3. may be located along a defining natural feature, such as a waterway, along a man-made corridor, including an unused right of way, traditional trail routes or historic barge canals;
or
4. may be a green space along a highway or around a village.

In order to meet the criteria for official designation as a greenway, open spaces and/or pathways must fit at least one aspect of this definition. The critical element, however, is connectivity. While a loop trail in a public park may fit many recreational and open space needs, if it offers no opportunities for connecting to a greater system it does not qualify as a greenway. Conversely, a short segment of open space along a ridgeline or waterway may be deemed part of a greenway if future plans include its linkage to a larger system.

The process of greenway designation will require not only the involvement of the Greenways Council. It will also mean that there is a commitment on the local level to a project's long-term success as well. Officially designated recreational greenways will receive special signs to post at trailheads and road crossings; those that serve a resource protection function may also post these signs where appropriate. All of the designated greenways will be forwarded to the Office of Policy and Management for inclusion in future revisions of the State Plan of Conservation and Development, and will also be incorporated into any greenway plans developed by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Greenways can be much more than linear open spaces. They can be the links from city to country, from village to village, from state to state. They can reconnect people to their communities, to rivers, fields, and hillsides, enhancing the sense of place that helps define the quality of life in Connecticut. It has been said that greenways connect the places we live with the places we love. It is the hope of the Connecticut Greenways Council that the designation process will help in the development, enhancement, and preservation of those places.

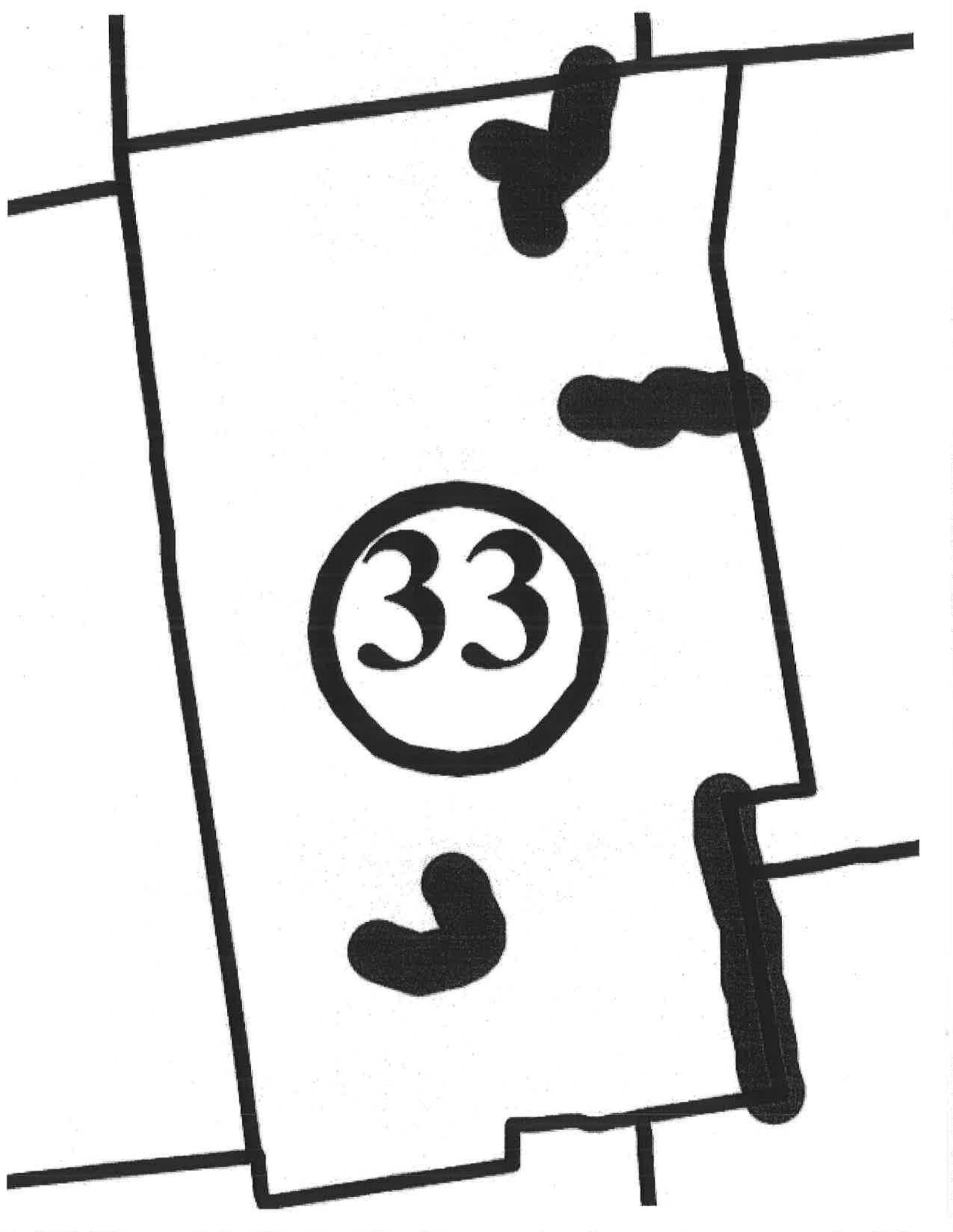
The following are the suggested criteria for the designation of greenways in Connecticut. The Greenways Council and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection may designate such areas as they deem fit these criteria. Municipalities, non-profits, or other sponsoring agencies may submit projects to the Greenways Council for designation.

Criteria for the Designation of Greenways in Connecticut

In order to be considered for official greenway designation, a project must meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. The corridor connects existing open space, trail segments, historical/cultural assets; provides alternative transportation opportunity; may be of varying lengths, but connects neighborhoods to schools, town centers, parks and recreation areas, transportation centers, or open spaces.
2. If the greenway is a municipal project, it must be included in local plan of Conservation and Development (or in the next revision thereof), and must be endorsed by the local government through a municipal resolution or compact;
3. If the greenway is a regional project, It must be included in plans of relevant Regional Planning Agency, or Council of Governments, with endorsements by the affected municipalities; or, an Inter-municipal compact may be developed between towns;
4. If the greenway is a non-governmental project, it must be sponsored by organization with proven record of land use protection/recreational use, or with proven resources needed for project success; licensing, easements, or other agreements for use of state, municipal, or private land must be on file; It must be endorsed by the local government through a municipal resolution or compact;
5. The segment submitted for designation may be a key link in an emerging greenway, either for conservation or recreation purposes;
6. Once designated, such greenway shall be reflected in the State Plan of Conservation and Development as revised by the Office of Policy and Management and in any state-wide greenway plan developed by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.
7. Greenway designation may be revised by The Greenways Council should the designated use change.

Content last updated November 17, 2014



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Open Space Plan

Newington, CT

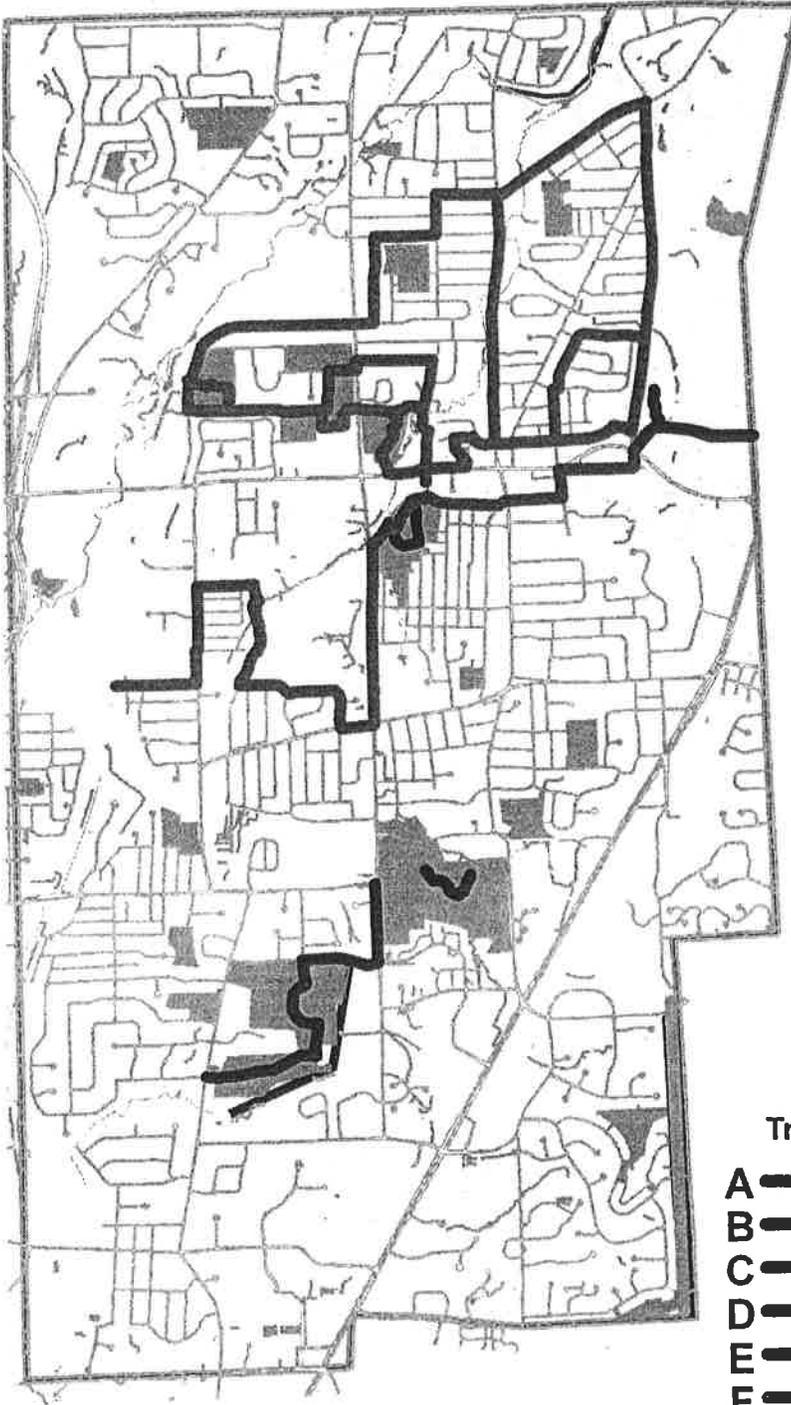


Legend

- Possible Open Space Corridor
- Dedicated Open Space
- Managed Open Space
- Community Facility / Institutional



Town of Newington, Ct Trails Guide



www.newingtonct.gov/parksandrec

Trails

- A** — Bike path
- B** — Cedar Mountain Ridgeline Preserve Greenway
- C** — High School - Mill Brook - Town Hall Greenway
- D** — Indian Hill - Town Ctr - Cedar Mt Greenway
- E** — Rock Hole - Webster Brook Greenway
- F** — Twenty Rod Road Greenway
- G** — Churchill Park Trail
- H** — Mill Pond Trail



Action Communities for Health, Innovation and Environmental change



Newington
Parks & Recreation
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**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE INVENTORY
VACANT NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES EVALUATION**

No.	Parcel Owner	Size Acre	Zone District	Potential Environmental Limits	Potential Environmental Limits	Neighborhood Significance	2020 POCD Strategies	Abuts Existing Open Space	2005 Appraisal \$
23	Koczera	68	I	wetlands 100year flood area	Piper Brook		yes	Yes-Tcwn	365,000
31	Mongillo (1)	30	I	25% wetlands		Fennwood Apts.	yes	Yes-Tcwn Yes-Balf Park	850,640
33	Marcp	28	CD	40% Steep Slopes	Cedar Mountain		yes	1,304,300	
19	Marco Realty	25	PD	100% Wetlands	Wetlands	Occhialini Ct.	yes	yes- easement	7,110
24	Newington 2007 LLC	21	I	10% Wetlands		Alumni Rd.	no	no	1,226,200
2	Callahan	17	B-BT	70% Wetlands and Steep Slopes		Cedarwood La.	yes	no	320,190
4	Hartford Hospital (1)	12	PL	NONE		Town Center	no	no	26,762,060
1	Balf Co.	12	I	30% Wetlands		Hartford Ave.	no	no	487,900
26	Newington 2007 LLC	11.8	I	Wetlands 100year flood area	Piper Brook	Alumni Rd.	yes	no	25,900
32	Tartaglia (1)	9	CD	100% Wetlands		Kimberly La.	yes	Yes-Town	6,761,300
3	Hartford Hospital (1)	7.5	PL	100% Steep Slope	Cedar Mountain		yes	no	26,762,060
30	Catamount LLC	7	I	45% Wetlands		Fenn Rd.	no	Yes-Town	353,200
28	NBP LLC (1)	7	I	Wetlands 100year flood area	Piper Brook	Piper Brook Condo	no	no	9,276,300
22	CCSU	7		100% Wetlands 100year flood area	Piper Brook		yes	Yes-Tcwn	-----
10	Libretto	5.7	PD	100% Wetlands		Deming St.	Yes-buffer	no	88,400

16	McBride Properties	5.5	PD	30% Wetland		None	no	no	264,900
29	NBP LLC	5	I	wetlands 100year flood area	Piper Brook		yes	no	18,200
20	Laller	3.6	I	30% Wetlands		None	no	no	191,700
21	Marchion	3.2	I	65% 100 year flood hazard area	Webster Brook		yes	no	244,400
25	NBP LLC	3	I	NONE		None	no	no	300,000
15	50 Rockwell LLC (1)	3	PD	NONE		None	no	no	2,632,900
17	Tighe	2.9	PD	20% Wetlands	Church St.		yes	yes- private	30,800
14	Innate Investments	2.6	PD	NONE	Louis St.		no	no	212,800
8	Kitts Lane (1)	4.6	B-BT	40% Steep Slopes	Settlers Knoll		Yes-buffer	yes- easement	305,800
7	Garofalo	2.2	B-BT	NONE	None		no	no	645,570
12	Urban Trust	2.1	PD	20% Wetlands	Cobblestone		no	Yes-Town	159,700
27	American Radio Relay (1)	2	B	NONE	Starr Ave.		no	no	4,227,000
13	New Britain Roofing Co.	1.7	B-BT	50% Steep Slopes	Cedarwood La.		Yes-buffer	no	190,100
11	R. Williams	1.5	PD	NONE	Cobblestone		Yes-buffer	no	162,570
18	Merlino	1.2	PD	20% Wetlands	Church St.		Yes-buffer	no	16,800
6	Casella	1	B-BT	30% Steep Slopes	Cedarwood La.		Yes-buffer	no	242,200
5	Keeney Co. (1)	1	B-TC	NONE	None		no	no	2,891,500
(1) = Includes Improvements: Buildings									

**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE INVENTORY
VACANT RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES EVALUATION**

No.	Parcel Owner	Size Acre	Zone District	Potential Environmental Limits	Townwide Significance	Neighborhood Significance	2020 POCD Strategies	Abuts Existing Open Space?	2005 Appraisal \$
3	Balf Company	73	R-20	45% Steep slopes	Cedar Mtn.		yes	yes - Balf Park	\$643,960
1	Cedar Hill Cemetary	53	R-12	65% Steep slopes	Cedar Mtn.		yes	yes - MDC	242,100
11	Haltner	25	R-20	20% Watercourse		Culver-Apple Hill	yes	yes - Town	307,020
13	Corbin Russwin	24	R-12	100% Wetlands			yes	no	348,670
20	Eddy	15.8	R-20	60% Wetlands		Edwards-Winslow	yes	yes - Town	325,930
9	CT DOT	14	R-20	60% Steep Slopes		Waverly Dr.	no	yes - Town	-----
24	Schatz (2)	14	R-12	30% Wetlands		Rear properties	yes	no	375,900
15	Kitts Lane Assoc.	13	R-12	100% Wetlands		Bridle Path	yes	no	3,000
2	Balf Company	12.5	R-12	80% Steep Slopes	Cedar Mtn.		yes	no	100,100
10	Peckham	12	R-20	None		Barn Hill	no	yes - easement	363,080
29	Jackson (2)	10	R-12	20% Wetlands		Rear properties		no	274,300
27	Stoddard	7.5	R-20	None				no	91,600
21	Gorski	5	R-20	55% Steep Slopes		Tremont St.	yes - buffer	no	710
22	Lalco	5	R-12	85% Steep slopes		Boulevard	yes - buffer	no	17,000
19	Adam Assoc.	4.6	R-20	100% Wetlands		Occhialini Court		no	6,520
6	BT 2008 LLC (1)	4.5	R-12	50% Steep slopes		Harold Drive	yes - buffer	yes - summit	863,600
12	Seelza (2)	4.5	R-20	Steep slopes		Rockledge-Kowal	no	no	285,000
25	Webb (1)	4	R-12	50% Wetlands		Rear properties	no	no	286,430

26	Ross (1)	4	R-12	33% Wetlands		Rear properties	no	no	267,240
28	Marchi	4	R-12	25% Wetlands		Carriage Hill Dr.	no	no	154,040
14	Merlino	3.5	R-20	15% Wetlands		Church St.	no	no	285,000
8	Wood (1)	3	R-20	20% Steep slopes		Settlers Knoll	no	yes- easement	270,000
16	Allaire	2.8	R-12	100% Wetlands	Wetlands	Orchard Ave.	yes - buffer	yes	28,900
17	Aieta	2.7	R-12	50% Steep slopes		Church St.	no	no	61,850
18	Prestia (1)	2.4	R-12	75% Wetlands	Wetlands	Orchard Ave.	yes - buffer	yes	240,510
23	CCSU	2.2	R-7	100%Wetlands	Wetlands		yes - buffer	yes-Town	-----
4	Roberge	2	R-20	75% Steep slopes	Cedar Mtn.		yes - buffer	no	86,410
7	Cianci (1)	2	R-20	60% Steep slopes		Ledgecrest Dr.		no	255,000
5	Leckowicz	1.5	R-20	80% Steep slopes	Cedar Mtn.		yes	no	7,580
(1) = Includes Improvements: Buildings									
(2) = Multi-Rear Abutting Properties owners									