

9-18-25

Upton 2025 - 2029 Action Plan

Action	Organization					Year					Funding & Support
	Con Comm	Open Space	LSC	Rec Comm	LSPC	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
Open Space Preservation											
Investigate and promote land conservation opportunities	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	CPA, LAND Grant, Donations
Permanently protect town owned open space parcels		•				•	•	•	•	•	None required, Grants
Promote establishment of town wide loop trail	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	CPA
Comment on subdivision and special permit applications	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	ConCom budget
Update open space map		•				•	•	•	•	•	None required
Partner with MLT, SVT, MA DCR, and others to conserve land	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	None required
Promote conservation of privately-owned land		•				•	•	•	•	•	None required
Update Open Space bylaw		•					•	•			None required, Planning Board
Scenic Roads Bylaw		•						•			None required
Work with Historical Commission to protect historic landscapes		•				•	•	•	•	•	None required
Support the Community Preservation Act	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	None required
Promote “Right to Garden”, Lawn Alternatives in subdivision covenants		•						•	•	•	None required, Planning Board
Preserve, organize, and digitize Open Space records		•				•	•	•	•	•	None required
Stewardship of Conservation Land and Other Open Space Parcels											
Create paid part-time stewardship position(s)	•					•	•	•	•	•	ConCom budget,
Prepare Stewardship Plan for District 9 Schoolhouse CA	•		•			•	•				LSC Budget
Update Stewardship Plan for Stefans Farm Open Space			•					•	•		LSC budget, grants
Implement updated Stefans Farm Open Space Stewardship Plan			•							•	LSC budget, grants
Prepare Stewardship Plan for Peppercorn Hill CA	•		•							•	LSC Budget
Implement Stewardship Plan for District 9 CA			•				•	•	•	•	LSC budget, grants
Implement North Upton Open Space Forest Stewardship Plan	•		•			•	•	•	•	•	LSC budget
Dog Park Feasibility Study	•							•			Dog Park Committee (?), Grants, CPA
Develop trails at Center Brook Conservation Area	•		•				•	•	•		LSC Budget, Town Planner Support
Improve trails and access at Pleasant Woods Conservation Area		•	•			•	•	•	•		LSC Budget

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Develop trails and parking area on Robertson Property			•			•	•				CPA, Conservation Fund, private funding
Improve access to Stefans Farm Open Space			•						•		CPA
Maintain community garden			•			•	•	•	•	•	LSC Budget, CG Revolving Fund
Promote pollinator habitat			•			•	•	•	•	•	LSC Budget, Sustainable Upton
Prepare and update trail maps and Hike Upton maps			•			•	•	•	•	•	None required
Publish on-line trail guide book	•	•						•			None required
Hold occasional fuelwood lottery			•			•	•	•	•	•	None required
Inspect land subject to CR's held by Upton ConCom yearly	•					•	•	•	•	•	ConCom budget
Prepare Baseline Reports for town held CRs without reports	•					•	•	•	•	•	ConCom budget, CPA?
Document impacts of climate change (long term monitoring of phenology, stream temperature, ice in/out date at Pratt Pond, etc.)	•					•	•	•	•	•	None required
Install and maintain wildlife camera(s)			•			•	•	•	•	•	ConCom budget
Environmental Education											
Participate in annual Earth Day event	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	Open Space budget
Maintain ConCom Facebook	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	None required
Sponsor or cosponsor nature walks and talks		•				•	•	•	•	•	Open Space budget; FUSF, MLT, UHS
Maintain environmental information/links on town website	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	None required
Wetland Protection											
Administer Wetland Protection Act and Town bylaw	•					•	•	•	•	•	ConCom budget
Administer Town Stormwater bylaw	•					•	•	•	•	•	
Certify vernal pools (goal = 1/year)	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	
Pond/Watershed/Water Quality Protection											
Monitor Pratt Pond and Lake Wildwood Water Quality				•		•	•	•	•	•	
Pratt and Mill Pond Management Plan				•		•	•				CPA
Lake Wildwood Management Plan				•			•	•	•	•	CPA
Implement Pratt and Mill Pond Management Plan				•			•	•	•	•	
Stream Team surveys				•							
Mill Pond stop log replacement							•				DPW
Townwide culvert/stream connectivity survey	•					•					DPW, Blackstone Collaborative, Contractor

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Culvert replacement (location TBD)								•	•		Grants, DPW
Church Street culvert erosion repair	•							•			ConCom, DPW
Administer Stormwater Bylaw	•					•	•	•	•	•	ConCom budget
Update Stormwater Bylaw	•								•		ConCom budget
Investigate/promote stormwater fee bylaw	?			•	•	•	•				
Lake Wildwood water chestnut survey and removal				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Preserve water quality through open space protection		•				•	•	•	•	•	
Kiwanis Beach stormwater culvert design and install							•	•			DPW
Belong to Blackstone River Watershed Collaborative	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Recreation											
Implement Four Parks Master Plan				•			•	•	•	•	CPA, grants, donations
Kiwanis softball field improvements and ADA compliance							•	•			Grants, CPA
Maintain existing recreation facilities				•		•	•	•	•	•	CPA, grants, RecCom Budget
Kiwanis Beach sand replenishment						•	•				DPW
Integrate open space trails into Rec Comm recreation offerings		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	RecCom budget
Trail to connect Heritage Park to Town Center (land acquisition)		•						•	•		CPA, HC, EDC
Lake Wildwood boat ramp improvement					•				•	•	CPA
Work with DCR to create accessible trails at Upton State Forest	•	•						•	•	•	CPA, FUSF
Aquatic weed control at Pratt and Taft Ponds and Lake Wildwood					•	•		•		•	DPW

Legend and abbreviations:

High Priority

Medium Priority

Lower Priority

CA - Conservation Area
 CG - Community Garden
 CPA - Community Preservation Act
 DCR - Division of Conservation and Recreation
 DPW - Department of Public Works

EDC - Economic Development Committee
FUSF - Friends of Upton State Forest
HC - Historical Commission
LSC - Land Stewardship Committee
LSPC - Lakes, Ponds, and Streams Committee
MLT - Metacomet Land Trust
MVP - Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness
SVT - Sudbury Valley Trustees
UHS - Upton Historical Society