

# EFFINGHAM

## Master Plan

As of January 2013 (Incomplete)





# Adoption of the Master Plan

This plan has been prepared in accordance with all applicable New Hampshire statutes.

The Planning Board of the Town of Effingham, New Hampshire, in accordance with the provisions of NH RSA 674:4 and 675:6 does hereby adopt the Effingham Master Plan of 2011, including its findings, goals and actions: rescinding and replacing all previous chapters pertaining to the same topics; further, the Planning Board does designate said Master Plan as the planning guidelines to be consulted and followed in the performance of its duties; and agrees to implement, to the best of its abilities, the recommendations and policies contained in this Plan for the coordinated and harmonious development of the Town of Effingham.

## Effingham Planning Board

---

Joanna Bull (Chair)

---

Jory Augenti

---

George Bull

---

Bill Piekut

---

Paul Potter

---

Theresa Swanick (Selectmen  
Representative)



# Acknowledgements

The Effingham Master Plan Committee acknowledges the assistance and support of the following individuals and organizations for their efforts in developing the Effingham Master Plan of 2011. We also thank all Effingham residents for participating in the Community Survey.

## Master Plan Advisory Committee, Public Forum Participants, other Contributors

Steve Zalewski (co-chair, Master Plan Advisory Committee)

Mike Cauble (co-chair, Master Plan Advisory Committee)

Jim Morris (co-chair, Master Plan Advisory Committee)

Emelyn Albert

David Bellinghri

Celine Bergeron

Lynn Boyle

David Boyle

Betty Brown

George Bull

Joanna Bull

Randy Burbank

Mike Cahalane

Kate Cauble

Elaine Chick

Pete Dinger

Timothy Eldridge

Lenny Espie

Cheryle A. Feirick

Denise Frappier

Fred Gatton

Mark Grover

David Jeffers

Donna Gruel

Michael Gruel

Shirley Hafforn

Nancy Hobden

Vic Hobden

Lisa Hopkins

Sheila Jones

Chris Kanca

Dana Kantola

Chris Lawrence

Harry Leather

Lori Lenart

Al Levesque

Cealia Levesque

Tom Loonam

James Lynch

Patrick Marks

Katie McCarthy

Mark McConkey

Ken McGovern

Pam McGovern

Deborah Meaney

Olivia Morrissette

Kamal Nath

Karen Payne

Carol Pfister

Bill Piekut

Elena Piekut

Mike Pilkovsky

Jim Pittman

Erik Potter

Paul Potter

Paul Rawlings

Jerry Rawlings

Irene Riordan

Patricia Riker

Brent Rogers

Scott Sargent

Tina Savage (UNHCE)

Wendy Scribner (UNHCE)

Linda Seaman

Scott Seamans

Rhonda Szapiel

Greg Sessler

Edith Sharp

Susan Slack

Henry Spencer

Maureen Spencer

Joan Sullivan

Theresa Swanick

Barbara Thompson

Ralph Thompson

Richard Thurston

Jeremy Tomkiewicz

Jack Williams

Susan Yakutis

## Town Boards

Board of Selectmen

Planning Board

Conservation Commission

## Consultants

Michele Craig, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension

Mike Iazard, Lakes Region Planning Commission

David Jeffers, Lakes Region Planning Commission



# List of Figures and Tables

## **Chapter 3: Land Use**

Fig 1: Effingham General Issues of “Utmost Importance” in the Next Ten Years	26
Fig 2: Methods for Guiding Future Growth and Development in Effingham	26
Fig 3: Contrasting Support for Economic Development and Housing Diversity	27
Fig 4: Effingham Population 1970 - 2030	28
Fig 5: Effingham Housing Stock	29
Fig 6: Effingham Subdivision Activity 1999 - 2009	29
Fig 7: Effingham Commercial Activity 2000 - 2009	30
Fig 8: Existing Zoning Dimensional Requirements	31
Fig 9: Effingham Zoning Map	32
Fig 10: Existing Land Use and Land Cover 2010 (table)	34
Fig 11: Future Land Use	37
Fig 12: Existing Land Use and Land Cover (map)	41

## **Chapter 4: Transportation**

Fig 1: Proportion of Roads in Effingham by Classification	47
Table 1: Historic Annual Average Daily Traffic Counts 2003 - 2010	49
Fig 2: Lifecycle of a Road	53
Table 2: Road Costs in Effingham: 2000 – 2010	55
Fig 3: Road Maintenance, Winger Road Costs and Total Road Costs in Effingham: 2000 – 2010	56
Fig 4: Annual variation of Road Maintenance Costs: Effingham	57

## **Chapter 5: Recreation and Community Resources**

Fig 1: Total Number of Fires 2003 – 2009	64
Fig 2: Motor Vehicle Stops 2003 – 2009	64

## **Chapter 8: Natural Resource Inventory**

Table 1: Effingham Land and Water Distribution	81
Table 2: Effingham Steep Slopes and Wetlands	81
Table 3: Population	82
Table 4: Effingham Geography	82
Table 5: Effingham's Changing Landscape	82
Fig 1: Ossipee Watershed	84
Table 6: Effingham Sub-watersheds	84
Fig 2: Aquifer Recharge Areas	85
Table 7: Wellhead Protection Areas	86
Fig 3: Groundwater Protection Gaps	86
Table 8: Standing Water Sources (Surface Waters, Wetlands, etc.) within Watershed	87
Table 9: Effingham Wildlife Habitat Land Cover	93
Fig 5: NH Wildlife Habitat Land Cover 2010	94
Table 10: Summary of Effingham Top-Ranked Wildlife Habitat by Ecological Condition (NH Wildlife Action Plan spatial data – Oct 2006)	101
Fig 6: 2010 Highest Ranked Wildlife Habitat	102
Fig 7: Effingham Wildlife Priority Areas	103
Table 11: Conservation Land in Effingham	10





# List of Maps

<b><u>Chapture 4: Transportation</u></b>	<b>Page</b>
Map 1: Roads in Effingham by Class	50
Map 2: Road Imporance and Traffic Volumes: Effingham	53



# Table of Contents

	Page
Adoption of the Master Plan	3
Acknowledgements	5
List of Figures and Tables	7
List of Maps	11
Table of Contents	13
Chapter 1: Introduction	15
Chapter 2: Vision	21
Chapter 3: Land Use	25
Chapter 4: Transportation	45
Chapter 5: Recreation and Community Resources	63
Chapter 6: Economic Development	71
Chapter 7: Utilities and Public Services	77
Chapter 8: Natural Resources Inventory	81
Chapter 9: Implementation – Goals and Action	113
Appendix I: Community Participation	133
Appendix II: Effingham Master Plan Survey 2010	139



# **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**



## 1.1 BACKGROUND

### 1.1.1 History and Geography

Effingham lies between the town of Freedom in the north and the town of Wakefield in the south and is one of the eastern towns in Carroll County, New Hampshire. It is bounded by the town of Ossipee in the west and the state of Maine in the east, and in the north by the Ossipee River. It lies fully within the Saco River Watershed, has its own mountain range of seven peaks, including Green Mountain, and contains 38.9 square miles of land area and 1.1 square miles of inland water area. It includes the villages of Effingham Falls, Lord's Hill, Center Effingham (Drake's Corner), Chase's Mill, Grape Corner, Pine River, and South Effingham. The Pine River State Forest, one of the last remaining pitch-pine forests in New Hampshire, is in the south.

Incorporated in 1778, Effingham was first settled by the Leavitt's of Hampton, led by Captain John Leavitt, a soldier who fought the French and Indians at Lake George. Captain Leavitt's father, Moses, was a prosperous Hampton tavern keeper. From them the settlement took the name Leavitt's Town. In 1749, the land was granted by Governor Benning Wentworth who renamed it Effingham for the Howard family, Earls of Effingham and related to the Wentworth's by marriage. North Effingham was set off in 1831 and incorporated as the town of Freedom.

Effingham was home to the first normal school in New Hampshire, established in 1830 on the second floor of the Effingham Union Academy Building, itself erected in 1819. The director of the school was James W. Bradbury who later became a Maine senator. Mr. Bradbury managed the school on the condition that it should be for the "instruction and training of teachers".

**Effingham Falls** is located in the northern part of town between Route 25 and the Ossipee River. By 1859, it had developed into a small mill town with a woolen factory, five sawmills, three gristmills, and a carriage factory. It is now home to a few small businesses, the towns Municipal Offices, and the Effingham Elementary School where large town gatherings occur, including the annual Town Meeting. The **Lord's Hill** area contains many historic buildings including New Hampshire's first normal school. **Center Effingham** boasts the Grange building, where the Preservation Society meets, and the Historical Society building. The historic Masonic Charitable Institute gave their building to the town to be used as the Town Hall. It is now home to the Effingham Public Library and the Masonic Lodge. Also located in Center Effingham is the town's main fire station. **South Effingham** borders the state of Maine and contains a portion of Province Lake. The town post office and several small businesses are located here as well.

### 1.1.2 Demographics

At the time of the first census taken in 1790, the population of the town was 154. Population change for Effingham totaled 936 over 50 years, from 341 in 1950 to 1,277 in 2000. The largest decennial percent change was 66 percent between 1970 and 1980, followed by a 58 percent increase over the next decade. As of the 2010 census, the total population was 1,465: 728 Male and 737 Female. Additional data from the Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning, the American Community Survey (ACS) 2005-2009 and the US Census Bureau are summarized in the following tables.

**Population by age group**

Under age 5	63
Age 5 to 19	254
Age 20 to 34	189
Age 35 to 54	500
Age 55 to 64	236
Age 65 and over	223
Median age	45.6

**Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over**

High school graduate or higher	89.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	23.9%

**Income, Inflation Adjusted (ACS 2005-2009)**

Per capita income	\$20,035
Median 4-person family income	\$50,282
Median household income	\$44,837

**Median earnings, full-time, year-round workers**

Male	\$32,308
Female	\$28,400

**Families below the poverty level 1.6%****Labor Force (2009)**

Civilian labor force	769
Employed	716
Unemployed	53
Unemployment rate	6.9% (an increase from 3.2% in 1999)

**Housing Supply**

2010 Total housing units	963	(from US Census)
2009 Single-family units	769	(from NH Office of Energy & Planning)
2009 Multi-family units	48	
2009 Manufactured units	135	

## 1.2 EFFINGHAM MASTER PLAN HISTORY

The Effingham Planning Board produced a Master Plan in 1981 with an update in 1998. The Master Plan was completely revised in 2003 and this plan remains in effect. In April 2009, the Effingham Planning Board convened a group of citizens (the Master Plan Advisory Committee) to begin developing another Master Plan with the assistance of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. During 2009 the group developed a WBS (work breakdown structure), identified issues important to the community through a Public Forum and several other events, devised a community survey, and issued a request for proposals for assistance in plan development. In the spring of 2010, the community survey was distributed and the results

tabulated. In May 2010, a second Public Forum was held to review the results of the survey and receive other input from the community. The Planning Board agreed to contract with the Lakes Region Planning Commission to develop the Land Use and Transportation portions of the plan. In the Fall of 2010, the committee broke into work groups to develop chapters relating to Economic Development, Recreation and Community Resources, Utilities and Public Services, Land Use, and Transportation. The Conservation Commission was asked to assist on the Natural Resources Chapter. The Conservation Commission presented their 2010 Action/Implementation Plan at that Public Forum. Based on the community input gathered from the survey and the Public Forum events, Chapters 1-8 were revised and submitted to the Planning Board.

## **13 AUTHORITY**

New Hampshire RSA 674:1(I), states: "It shall be the duty of every planning board established under RSA 673:1 to prepare and amend from time to time a master plan to guide the development of the municipality." The duties of the planning board are varied, but the only duty specifically required is the maintenance of the town's master plan. The sole purpose of the master plan is to aid the planning board in the performance of its duties. The purpose and description of master plans were changed considerably by amendments to RSA 674:2, the enabling legislation, which became effective July 14, 2002. In the introduction to the bill which revised the law on master plans it was recognized by the legislature "that growth and development are changing the look and feel of New Hampshire, against the desires of most citizens." The newly enacted legislation was designed to provide more definitive guidance in planning and managing future growth, not only within a municipality, but within the region as well. This new legislation changed both the required and recommended sections of master plans for towns in New Hampshire.

## **14 PURPOSE**

In simple terms, a master plan is a planning document that serves to guide the overall character, physical form, growth, and development of a community.

The primary purpose of a master plan is to set down, as clearly and practically as possible, the best and most appropriate future development for the community; guide the planning board in performance of its duties to achieve principles of smart growth, sound planning, and wise resource protection; establish statements of land use and development principles; and establish legal standing to implement ordinances and other measures of the planning board. The plan provides recommendations on ways to maintain or improve features of the town and enhance the unique quality of life and culture of Effingham. It provides guidance to local officials when setting public policy, and serves as the primary reference when making community decisions. A master plan articulates the vision, desires, and concerns of a community. Through the preparation of a new master plan, Effingham residents are acting to define a vision for the town and a means of achieving that vision. The shared vision is based on historical patterns of development, local and regional trends and, most importantly, input from Effingham residents and property owners on how to accommodate future growth and development, while preserving

those characteristics that make Effingham a desirable place to live.

Equally important, a master plan is needed to ensure that growth and development are orderly and predictable, to save taxpayers' money by avoiding premature development and costly sprawl, and to plan efficiently for capital improvements.

The legal significance in New Hampshire is that a master plan is required as a prerequisite for adopting a zoning ordinance, a historic district ordinance, establishing a capital improvement program, and adopting a growth management ordinance. By reference this can also be implied to include innovative land use control ordinances adopted under RSA 674:21. The master plan gives legal standing and aid to the planning board in designing and implementing ordinances and other measures. The Effingham Master Plan is a collection of information, ideas, and recommendations to help the town make decisions about future growth and development in Effingham.

## **15 GOING FORWARD**

Unlike other "master devices," a master plan has no force of law, no way to generate action, and no way to raise the resources required for its implementation. The Effingham Master Plan can only be implemented through organizations of the townspeople and through the democratic town meeting system. The true power of the document is derived from the citizens, as they will ultimately approve the staffing, funding, regulatory options, and strategies identified by this plan.

A master plan can be a powerful tool to help shape a community by giving suggested direction to appointed and elected officials. The Effingham Master Plan is a prerequisite to adopting the Capital Improvements Plan. We urge that attention be focused on the steps outlined in each chapter in order to accommodate future growth and development which is consistent with the goals and objectives expressed by the community.

*"It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan."  
~Eleanor Roosevelt*

## **CHAPTER 2: VISION**



# VISION STATEMENT FOR EFFINGHAM

## **Where will we be in 2022?**

Overall, input from the community shows that people envision that Effingham will maintain its rural character and become an economically viable, sustainable community.

**The small town, rural atmosphere is intact.** Opportunities exist for residents of all income levels to remain in the community and for future generations to meet their anticipated needs.

To accomplish this, we must:

- Protect, maintain and increase recreational areas.
- Collaborate with neighboring communities in mutually beneficial endeavors.
- Maintain and expand historic districts, preserve existing residential neighborhoods, protect the rural quality of life.
- Provide high quality municipal facilities and services to meet community needs.
- Communicate clearly and frequently with all residents to encourage broad involvement and participation in town decisions.

**New Business opportunities are plentiful, and current business is encouraged to expand.**

To accomplish this, we must:

- Establish an economic development committee to work towards making Effingham a desirable business environment, including identifying potential sites suitable for business development.
- Encourage the growth and development of small businesses through appropriate planning and facilitative regulations.
- Support existing businesses.
- Develop markets for local products within and outside of the community.
- Promote sustainable development and Best Management Practices guidelines.
- Promote and support the development of local agriculture.

**The town population continues to be good stewards of local resources.** To accomplish this, we must:

- Sustain a balance between natural resources and built environments.
- Utilize low impact development techniques and Best Management Practices in the protection of the watershed.
- Coordinate planning and policymaking by town officials with the other towns that comprise the watershed.
- Protect open spaces and preserve natural resources.

**Housing and public infrastructure** are safe, diverse, efficient, and of high quality.

To accomplish this, we must:

- Improve public infrastructure.
- Plan for housing to accommodate residents of all ages, abilities and income levels, while preventing overcrowding of land or sprawl, to encourage balanced land usage.

- Provide access to reliable and affordable telecommunication services consistent with the best available technology, linking Effingham to the global community for the benefit of residents and businesses.

January 26, 2011

## **CHAPTER 3: LAND USE**



## **3.1 LAND USE INTRODUCTION**

The Land Use Chapter of a community master plan serves to guide all other chapters and translates the community vision statements into physical terms. Its purpose is to describe the location, extent, and intensity of future land use. Managing land use and development are among the most important functions of community planning. The critical nature of the Land Use Chapter is based on the premise that understanding how the land is currently used will better ensure that future development occurs in a way that supports the town's vision, goals, and objectives.

Effingham is rich in natural resources including areas of steep slopes, extensive wetlands, and predominance of forested land which serve as diverse wildlife habitats and provide recreational opportunities. The 1981 Master Plan characterized nearly 50 percent or approximately 12,600 acres of the undeveloped land in Effingham as having development capabilities. At that time nearly 93.3 percent of the land area in Effingham was undeveloped and it was projected that the population would grow to 814 residents by the year 2000. The development pattern at that time consisted of pockets of concentrated development in the areas of: Effingham Falls, Lord's Hill, Center Effingham, and South Effingham.

This chapter will explore the significant land use and demographic changes which have occurred since the 1981 Master Plan and how these changes may impact the community looking forward 20 years. Results from the Effingham Master Plan Survey 2010 will guide the determination of goals, objectives, and recommendations for future land use.

### **3.1.1 Effingham Master Plan Survey Results**

An Effingham Master Plan Survey was distributed to residents in 2010 to gain community insight to assist in guiding the development of this master plan. The survey asked a number of questions pertinent to current and future land use decisions. There were a total of 110 survey respondents; however, not all respondents answered each question. The percentages shown in this chapter are based on the number of respondents for a particular question.

From a list of general community issues, survey respondents were asked to identify five issues they consider to be of the "utmost importance" for Effingham in the next ten years. The respondents were also given the opportunity to identify other issues that were not listed. The top five most frequent responses are displayed in Figure 1.

**Figure 1: Effingham General Issues of "Utmost Importance" in the Next Ten Years**

1	Protect property rights	59%
2	Town Tax burden	53%
3	Protecting water bodies	50%
4	Protecting drinking water	46%
5	Attracting business/cottage industries	42%

Source: Effingham Master Plan Survey 2010

These results might be summarized as the desire to reduce the tax burden by encouraging and attracting business while maintaining property rights and protecting Effingham's natural resources. The protection of water bodies (65 percent) and natural resources (61 percent) were at the top of the list of highest regional priorities based on the most frequent responses from the 107 respondents who answered this question.

The desire for business development was a common theme in other survey question responses as well (Figure 2). In particular, cottage industries or home businesses were supported, but the promotion of industrial development was not. Noteworthy was the relatively high percentage of survey respondents who were 'not sure' or had 'no opinion' about updating the towns ordinances. This indicates a need for good information and local consensus when planning tools are chosen to support the community vision, which requires ordinance changes.

**Figure 2: Methods for Guiding Future Growth and Development in Effingham**

	Yes	No	Not Sure/No Opinion
Encourage home business development*	82%	6%	13%
Encourage commercial development	59%	34%	7%
Update town ordinances	59%	13%	28%
Encourage clustered residential development	55%	34%	11%
Encourage industrial development*	27%	59%	13%
Consider reducing lot size requirements	25%	65%	10%

\* Percentages do not add to 100 percent due to rounding

Source: Effingham Master Plan Survey 2010

As displayed in Figure 3, a wide variety of economic development opportunities were viewed as "somewhat important" and "very important", while there was a contrasting lack of support for a diverse housing stock expressed through the survey responses. Less than 50 percent of survey respondents indicated support for apartments, condominiums, and low income, multi-family, workforce, and manufactured housing. In general, the types of businesses operating in the Lakes Region require a diverse housing stock to support worker wages in lower paying retail, service, and agricultural sectors. A lack of opportunity for a range of housing options at varied prices for rent and purchase may significantly limit economic development opportunities.

Other land use related needs identified in the Master Plan Survey which were supported by more than 50 percent of the respondents included:

- Hillsides and Steep Slopes Protection (75%)
- View protection (70%)
- Capital Improvements Plan and reserve (69%)
- Conservation Subdivisions (64%)
- Alternative energy tax incentives (63%)
- Additional fire ponds/dry hydrants (62%)
- Housing restrictions in the Historic District (56%)
- Building inspections (54%)

**Figure 3: Contrasting Support for Economic Development and Housing Diversity**

Supported Business Types		Supported Housing Types	
Home Business	83%	Single Family	86%
Agricultural Business	83%	Senior Housing*	58%
Cottage Industry	82%	Two Family	52%
Logging and Forestry	74%	Apartments	48%
Restaurants	66%	Condominiums	45%
Service Sector Business	64%	Low Income Housing*	42%
Retail Business	63%	Multi-Family	41%
Light Industry	62%	Workforce Housing*	30%
Office Business	61%	Manufactured Housing	29%

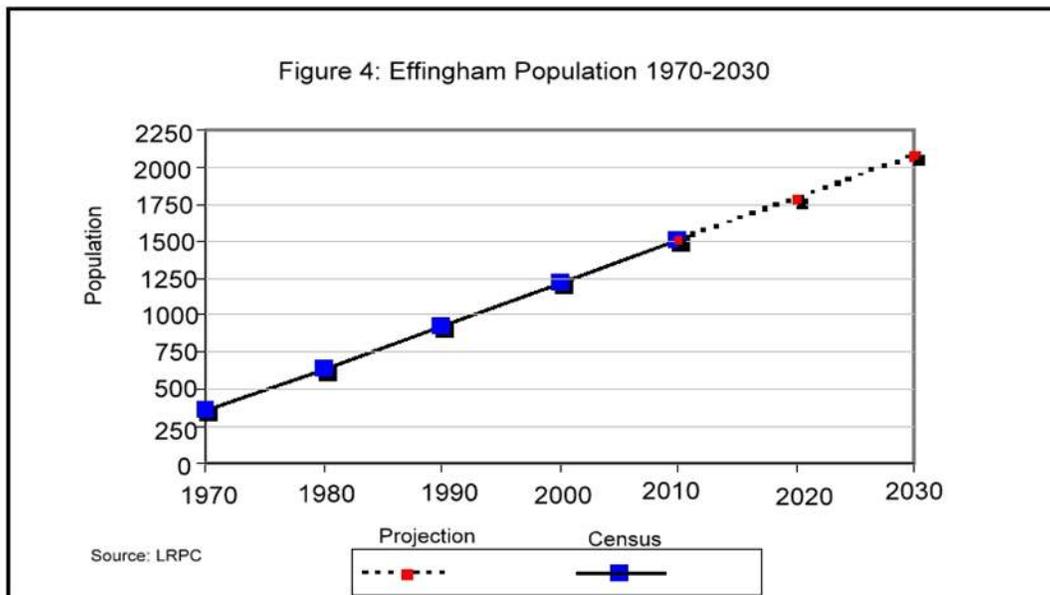
\* Respondent answered yes to need for this housing type based on yes or no question. All other percentages based on combined "somewhat important" and "very important" responses.

Source: Effingham Master Plan Survey 2010

The recommended planning tools and potential land use implications for each of these items are discussed in detail in the recommendations section of this chapter.

### 3.1.2 Recent Trends

The population of Effingham grew by 192 people (15.1%) from 1,273 in 2000, to 1,465 in 2010. This followed a period of rapid growth from 1990 to 2000, when the population in Effingham grew by 35.3 percent; an increase of 332 people. The 1980 Master Plan included three population projections for the period 1980 to 2000, each based on a different forecasting methodology (ratio of state population, least squares, and exponential) which produced 2000 population estimates ranging from 725 to 1,167. The highest projection (1,167), produced by the exponential method, was surpassed by the actual Census 2000 population of 1,273. Between 1980 and 2000 the Effingham population more than doubled, adding an average 34 new residents per year. In comparison, the ten year period between 2000 and 2010 added an average of 19 new residents annually. Figure 4 illustrates historic Census population data with a linear trend line to 2030. Using 40 years of historic data and a linear forecasting method, the Effingham population is estimated to grow by nearly 40 percent by 2030 or an average of approximately 29 new residents each year. Annual population estimates with base year 2010 data are scheduled for release by the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning starting in 2012.



According to Census data, housing stock in Effingham grew by 22 percent between 2000 and 2010. Information about the total units by housing type was not released by the time of this publication. As a result, historic residential permitting data (2000 - 2009) were used to estimate total housing units by housing type, as illustrated in Figure 5. The estimates indicate that the Effingham housing stock is comprised of approximately 81 percent single family homes, five percent multi-family residential units, and 14 percent manufactured housing. These estimates are consistent with the composition of the housing stock in 2000, when single family homes represented 78 percent of the stock. Noteworthy is that only one multi-family permit was issued in Effingham between 2000 and 2009. Within this same time period, the Lakes Region as a whole experienced a significant increase in multi-family permits issued. The height of the

decade was in 2005, when one in every four residential permits issued was for multi-family housing. In Effingham, 2005 also represented the high point of the decade, when the highest number of residential permits was issued.

**Figure 5: Effingham Housing Stock 2000 - 2010**

	Census	Building Permits Issued										Census Estimate*
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2010
Single Family	614	3	0	22	30	32	31	14	7	8	n/a	776
Multi-Family	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	n/a	49
Manufactured	130	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	n/a	138
Total	791	6	0	22	30	32	32	16	7	8		963

na - 2010 Census housing units by housing type has not been released. \*Estimates of total units by housing type are based on historic permit data and Census 2010 total housing units.

Source: *Development Activity in the Lakes Region: 2010 Annual Report*, LRPC

Residential development has slowed considerably since the mid 2000s as a result of a sluggish economy. If population projections are an indication of the need for additional housing, more units will be built in coming years.

**Figure 6: Effingham Subdivision Activity 1999 - 2009**

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
Acres												
Subdivided	71.3	22	30	0	n/a	105	324	57.3	72	0	62.6	744.2

Source: *Development Activity in the Lakes Region: Annual Report*, LRPC 2001-2011

During the period 1999-2009 approximately 750 acres of land were subdivided for residential development purposes (see Figure 6). The largest number of acres subdivided in a given year was in 2005, when 324 acres were subdivided. As indicated in Figure 7, the number of commercial permits issued from 2000 to 2009 was a total of four; with activity also taking place in 2004 and 2005. No subdivision or commercial permitting information was available from the town in 2003. Because this is so dependent on the state of the economy, future subdivision and commercial development activity is difficult to forecast. It is noteworthy that strong economic conditions, such as those experienced in 2004 and 2005, coincided with the vast majority of subdivision, commercial, and residential activity. This is supportive of the need for good long-range planning during lulls in economic activity. Local volunteer planning boards can quickly get inundated processing land development applications in heated economies, limiting available time for long-range planning.

Figure 7: Effingham Commercial Activity 2000 - 2009

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
<b>Commercial Permits Issued</b>	0	0	0	0	n/a	2	2	0	0	0	4

Source: *Development Activity in the Lakes Region: Annual Report*, LRPC 2002-2011

### 3.1.3 Land Use Objectives

The following land use objectives were derived from the 2003 Master Plan and the results of community responses to the 2010 Master Plan Survey:

- Explore ordinance and regulation revisions that support the development of cottage industries and protect scenic resources from commercial development.
- Identify and create an appropriate location for the establishment of a commercial zone in the zoning ordinance.
- Develop design guidelines for non-residential development which are consistent with community characteristics and style.
- Review and amend the zoning ordinance to promote open space / cluster development in Effingham. This may require awareness of and education for residents and developers about the benefits of this type of development.
- Conduct a view shed analysis to identify critical views for preservation which may require amendment of town regulations to ensure adequate views protection.
- Explore senior housing opportunities for both business and residential property owners.
- Enhance fire protection requirements for new development through changes to existing subdivision regulations.

## 3.2 ZONING AND EXISTING LAND USE

The town of Effingham created a zoning ordinance in 2000 for the purpose of protecting the town's rural character; site plan review regulations were adopted by the Planning Board the following year. Currently the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Effingham, NH, 2000 consists of a minimum lot size of two acres for all areas in town, with zoning district and overlay determined permissible land development guidelines. An overlay district is usually used where there is a special public interest to be served that does not coincide with the underlying zone(s). Generally, the underlying zone determines the permitted land uses, while the overlay district restricts the design, requires additional setbacks, or sets into place any other restrictions that meet the district's purpose. Figure 8 shows the varying dimensional requirements by zoning district in Effingham.

**Figure 8: Existing Zoning Dimensional Requirements**

	Rural/ Agricultural	Village District	Historic District	Province Lake District	Conservation Subdivision
Minimum Lot Size	2 Acres	2 Acres	2 Acres	2 Acres	Variable
road Frontage	200'	200'	200'	200'	75'
Water Frontage	150'	150'	150'	150'	150'
Front Setback	50'	35'	35'	30'	20'
Side Setback	30'	25'	25'	20'	20'
Rear Setback	50'	50'	50'	30'	20'
Shoreline Setback	-	-	-	50'	50'

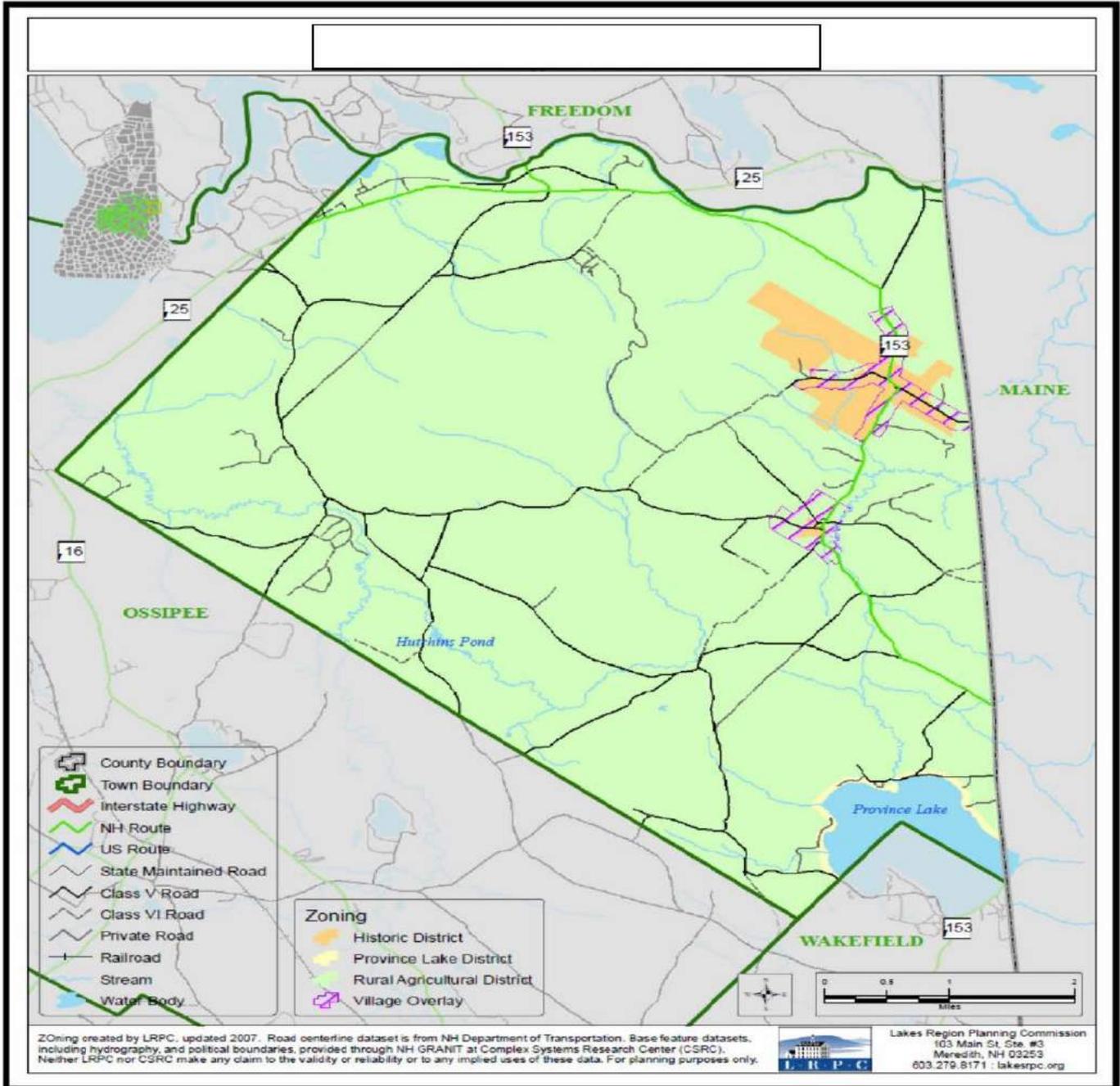
### **3.2.1 Rural Agricultural (RA)**

The Rural Agricultural Zone is the predominant zone in Effingham, consisting of approximately 24,084 acres or 94.4 percent of the land area in Effingham.

### **3.2.2 Village Overlay Districts (VOD)**

The Village District varies from the RA zone with lesser front and side setback requirements and additional consideration for hours of operation for differing types of businesses. The Village Overlay District encompasses 504 acres.

Figure 9: Effingham Zoning Map



### **3.2.3 Historic Districts (HD)**

The Center Effingham and Lord's Hill Historic Districts provide additional development oversight through a Historic District Commission that administers a Certificate of Approval process. No person shall alter, construct, reconstruct, repair, demolish, or change the external appearance of any building or structure, or change the use of land in the Historic Districts without a Certificate of Approval from the Commission. The Commission considers land use changes in the historic districts based in part on architecture, scale of buildings, and traffic generation. Similar to the Village District, this zone also has restrictions on hours of operation for different types of businesses. The Historic Districts are comprised of approximately 766 acres or 3 percent of the total land area in Effingham.

### **3.2.4 Province Lake District (PLD)**

The Province Lake District provides guidance for development patterns within 300 feet of the Province Lake shoreline. The district purposes include maintaining water quality, wildlife habitat, and aesthetics. The Province Lake District is comprised of 654 acres which represents 2.6 percent of the land area in Effingham.

Additional land use development oversight is established in the Effingham Zoning Ordinance, which includes: Floodplain Management Ordinance, Open Space Conservation Subdivision Ordinance, Steep Slopes and Critical Elevations Overlay, and Personal Wireless Communications Facilities Ordinance.

### **3.2.5 Existing Land Use and Land Cover**

Land uses and land cover 2010 are depicted in the Effingham Land Use/Land Cover Map (located at the end of this chapter). Existing land uses and land cover are described in greater detail in Figure 10 below.

**Figure 10: Existing Land Use and Land Cover 2010**

Land Use and Land Cover Classifications	Number of Acres	Percent of Total Land Acres
Residential	1,547.1	5.7%
Commercial, Services, and Institutional	344.5	1.3%
Transportation, Communications, and Utilities	310.4	1.2%
Gravel Pit	9.9	<1%
Outdoor Recreation	40.8	<1%
Cemetery	2.0	<1%
Agricultural Land	55.7	<1%
Transitional Land	1,373.5	5.4%
Forest land	18,476.4	72.3%
Water	832.1	3.3%
Wetlands	25,563.30	10.1%
Total Effingham Acres	25,563.30	100%

Source: Land use data based on LRPC interpretation of 2006 aerial photography and local review

### **33 FUTURE LAND USE**

The Future Land Use Map is, by design, a product that brings together most, if not all, other elements of the master plan such as natural resources, economic development, transportation, and housing. It provides a visual representation of what the community would like to have happen, but it is not a prediction. Because it affects all residents in a community it is important to include the public in this planning process.

On May 6, 2011 the Effingham Master Plan Advisory Committee hosted a public forum to gain additional insight regarding the views of Effingham residents on the draft Master Plan contents. The forum was used to discuss future land use with two groups of residents independently. Supporting historic information about housing and commercial development, population growth over time and projected into the future, and land use preferences expressed through the community survey were provided in the form of a handout, and were discussed by Lakes Region Planning Commission staff prior to residents' participation in a mapping exercise. The map exercise consisted of identifying areas in Effingham which are considered appropriate for future non-residential development. A base map with developmental constraints including steep slopes, wetlands, conservation lands, water resources, existing land use and land cover, and a zoning overlay were used to guide the participants. Each group identified and marked their group base map without interaction between groups. The two maps were compared and consolidated by LRPC into a draft Future Land Use Map staff for presentation to and consideration by the Master Plan Land Use Subcommittee. The Future Land Use Map was refined based on committee input and presented to the Planning Board with the Land Use chapter.

The results of the future land use exercise from the public forum showed much similarity between the two participant groups. Common determinants in selecting areas with future

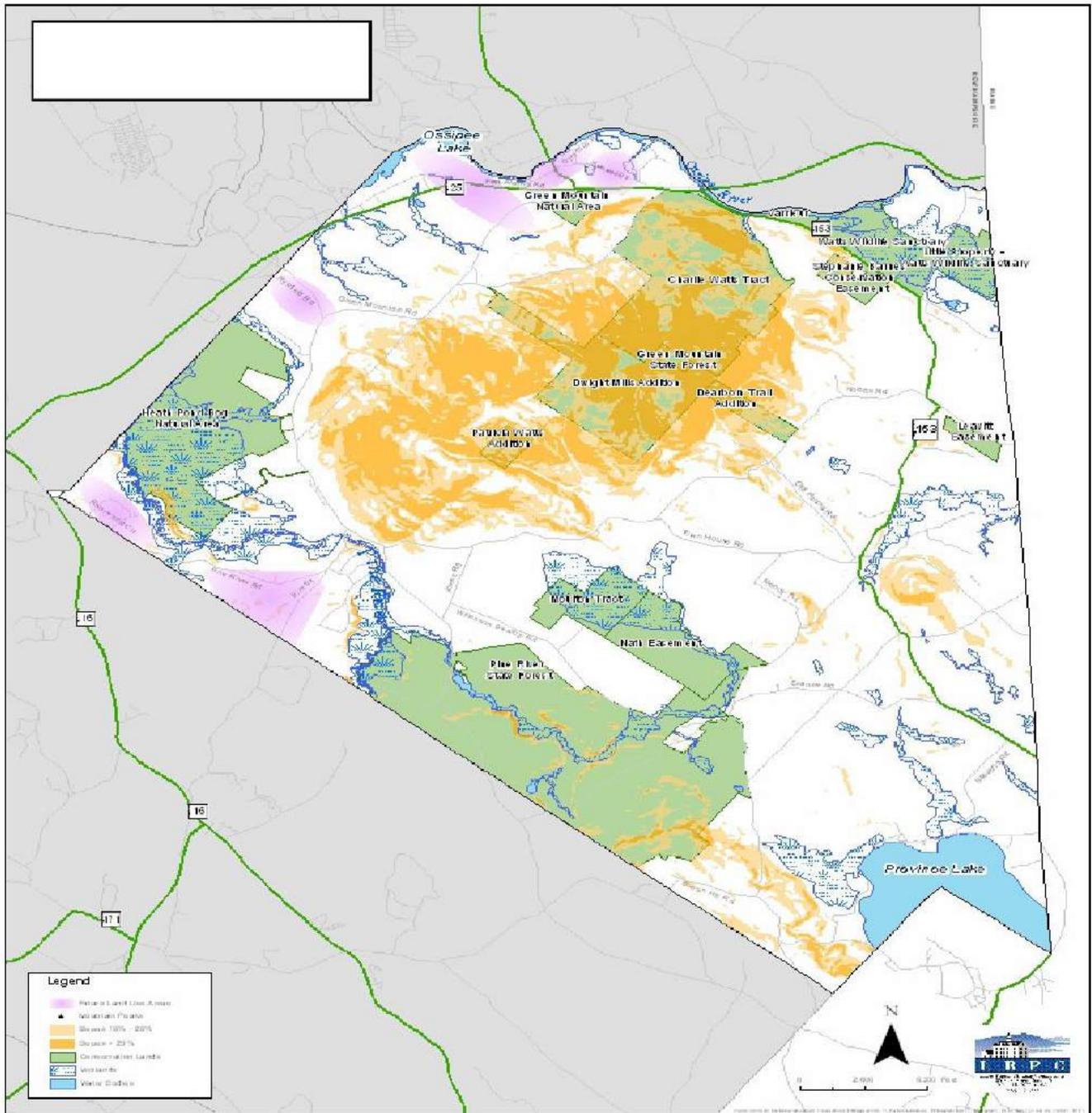
development potential were the desire to create opportunities for commercial development or mixed residential and commercial development. Participants considered proximity to existing commercial development and larger residential subdivisions or neighborhoods, highway access, and compatibility of future land uses. Both groups selected land areas to the west and north of Green Mountain. The following describes the areas identified by the two groups:

- 1) **Pine River Road** from the Ossipee/Effingham town line to beyond the PK Motel and Warehouse Storage. Currently this area is predominantly residential with a commercial business, home businesses, and interspersed transitional and forested land. The area has good access to NH Route 16.
- 2) **Pine River Road/Elm Street** from the Ossipee/Effingham town line north on Elm Street to the junction of Pine River Road then west on Pine River Road towards a wetland crossing. This area is characterized by large subdivisions with large residential lots in varying states of completion. Development is predominantly residential, with a mix of home occupations, agricultural land, and interspersed areas of steep slopes and forest. Both Elm Street and Pine River Road provide access to NH Route 16.
- 3) **Ryefield Road** from the Effingham town line southwesterly to Green Mountain Road. Significant agricultural and transitional land currently occupies the majority of the western stretch of Ryefield Road. A mix of sparse, large lot residential development, forested land, and additional farm land comprise the remaining area. Ryefield Road provides convenient access to NH Route 25.
- 4) **NH Route 25** east of Ossipee Lake Campground and Camp Marist. In addition to the commercial summer camps, NH Route 25 has a sparse mix of commercial development including a restaurant, laundry, and general store on a frontage street adjacent to NH Route 25 and a filling station with access on NH Route 25. Future development potential may be constrained by limited access to NH Route 25, which would need to be explored with the NH Department of Transportation. Currently the area identified is forested, with minimal pockets of wetlands and transitional land.
- 5) **Effingham Falls**, the cross roads from the Freedom/Effingham town line south on NH Route 153 to NH Route 25, and the dead end of Iron Works Road east to the cemetery on School Street. This is a neighborhood setting with close knit residential development, a commercial business, a river park, and forested buffer from NH Route 25. A similar development pattern exists in Freedom, across the river. A small segment of sidewalk in Effingham on NH Route 153 provides limited off-road residential connectivity. Iron Works Road may provide future connectivity to NH Route 25.
- 6) **School Street** from the cemetery east to NH Route 25. This section of Effingham is home to the elementary school, municipal offices, police

department and a commercial storage facility. In addition, residential development, forest, two prominent wetland fingers, and transitional land occupy the remaining land area. School Street provides easy access to NH Route 25 and NH Route 153. Currently a forested strip of land buffers School Street from NH Route 25.

The Future Land Use Map represents a community's visual guide for future planning. The Future Land Use Map does not share the same legal status as the town's Zoning Map. It should be considered a guide that expresses the town's vision for the future, and should be used to influence future land use decisions, but not to regulate the activities within specific areas identified. For this reason, the map contains "soft" boundary lines to delineate the areas identified, and the associated descriptions are generalizations as well.

Figure 11: Future Land Use  
Effingham, NH 2011



## **3.4 2011 MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **View Protection**

Formalize the scenic views described in the 1981 Master Plan by mapping, photographing, and applying current zoning to explore the development of protection measures that ensure that land use practices and future development are consistent with the desired views. This scenic view analysis could include other locations in town beyond the two areas described in the 1981 master plan:

- 1) The area south of High Watch Road looking northwest to the lakes and mountains;
- 2) South of Bailey Road along Province Lake looking southwest towards the lakes and mountains.

### **Additional fire ponds/dry hydrants/cisterns**

An opportunity exists for residential and commercial fire protection which addresses incremental future development through the town's site plan review and subdivision regulations. Evaluating fire protection measures as a checklist item for all site plans and subdivision applications helps ensure adequate protection is provided and can minimize or reduce the costs of municipal fire services. The regulations should be reviewed and revised as needed for the inclusion of adequate size thresholds when fire ponds, hydrants or cisterns will be required for future development. If concerns for fire protection are related to adequate protection for existing development the town should consider the services of the NH Rural Fire Protection Initiative through the area Resource Conservation and Development Council. This initiative has included competitive grant funding for town fire protection assessments and fire pond design and construction.

### **Building Inspections**

Currently the town of Effingham has a building permit application process that is administered by the Board of Selectmen through a part-time Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO). The ZEO is responsible for applying the town Zoning Ordinance for new development. State building code is applicable in Effingham, but the town has not adopted building inspection requirements. The Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Board of Selectmen should meet together to discuss local inspection needs.

## **Non-Residential Design Guidelines**

Design guidelines vary greatly in the type and breadth of topics covered. Common elements include: landscaping, parking, signs, and the appearance of buildings - façade, scale, height, roof style, etc. The purpose of design guidelines is to convey the type of commercial and multi-family development a community desires which is consistent with the characteristics that make the community an attractive place. While subjectivity and judgment are invariably part of making decisions about aesthetics, there are universal principles of good design. Once established, design guidelines can reduce the time and cost of design changes when incorporated early in the planning process and are intended to work towards a common vision for the town.

Well crafted design guidelines can promote building design that is functional, economical, attractive, and harmonious. This balances the benefits to all residents with the individual rights of a property owner to do what they wish with their land. The goal in the creation and use of this planning tool is to establish a direct link between the guideline contents and the community vision articulated in this master plan.

## **Alternative Energy Tax Incentives**

The types of alternative energy that are incentivized may have impacts on the character of the community and land use implications. For example, in order to be effective wind generation, even for residential use, typically requires towers that are well in excess of current building height restrictions. Currently the town provides alternative energy tax exemptions for the assessed value added by installing solar power and for the cost of wood boilers.

## **Cluster Subdivisions**

Currently Effingham has an Open Space Conservation Subdivision Ordinance in place that allows greater density in exchange for open space protection for a portion of the buildable land area. In the absence of support for smaller minimum lot sizes as expressed through community response to the Master Plan Survey, cluster subdivision may be a planning tool for consideration to reduce land development impacts. The majority (55 percent) of survey respondents indicated support for clustered residential housing. A difference between cluster housing and conservation subdivisions, which are often times used interchangeably, is that clusters do not necessarily require open space or preservation. The Planning Board should give careful consideration to the desired outcomes when developing this type of residential development tool. In other Lakes Region communities, these subdivision options have not been favored by developers over conventional zoning.

Cluster subdivisions can be used for the promotion of workforce housing as well. Land costs are one of the most significant development costs passed on to the consumer in new housing. To the extent that lot sizes are reduced, the over-all cost should be reduced as well.

## **Capital Improvements Plan and Reserve**

Using a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) to guide annual expenditures for public improvements is one of the best ways to implement a town's Master Plan. In conjunction with the Master Plan, the capital improvements programming process works to anticipate investments in community facilities and infrastructure which are needed to serve or shape community growth and development.

The CIP is a statement of a town's intended schedule for the construction, expansion, or replacement of public facilities and equipment that have a known life expectancy - such as municipal buildings and highway equipment. Expenditures for projects may be included in the CIP as well; examples include engineering studies, Master Plan development, land acquisition, and revaluation of property. Non-recurring projects and those projects that require bond financing can also be included.

## **Hillsides and Steep Slopes Protection**

The town currently has a Steep Slopes Ordinance and Critical Elevations Overlay.

## **Create a Commercial Zone**

This recommendation was included in the 2003 Effingham Master Plan. The recommendation appears to be consistent with the strong support for economic development expressed in the community response to the 2010 Master Plan Survey.

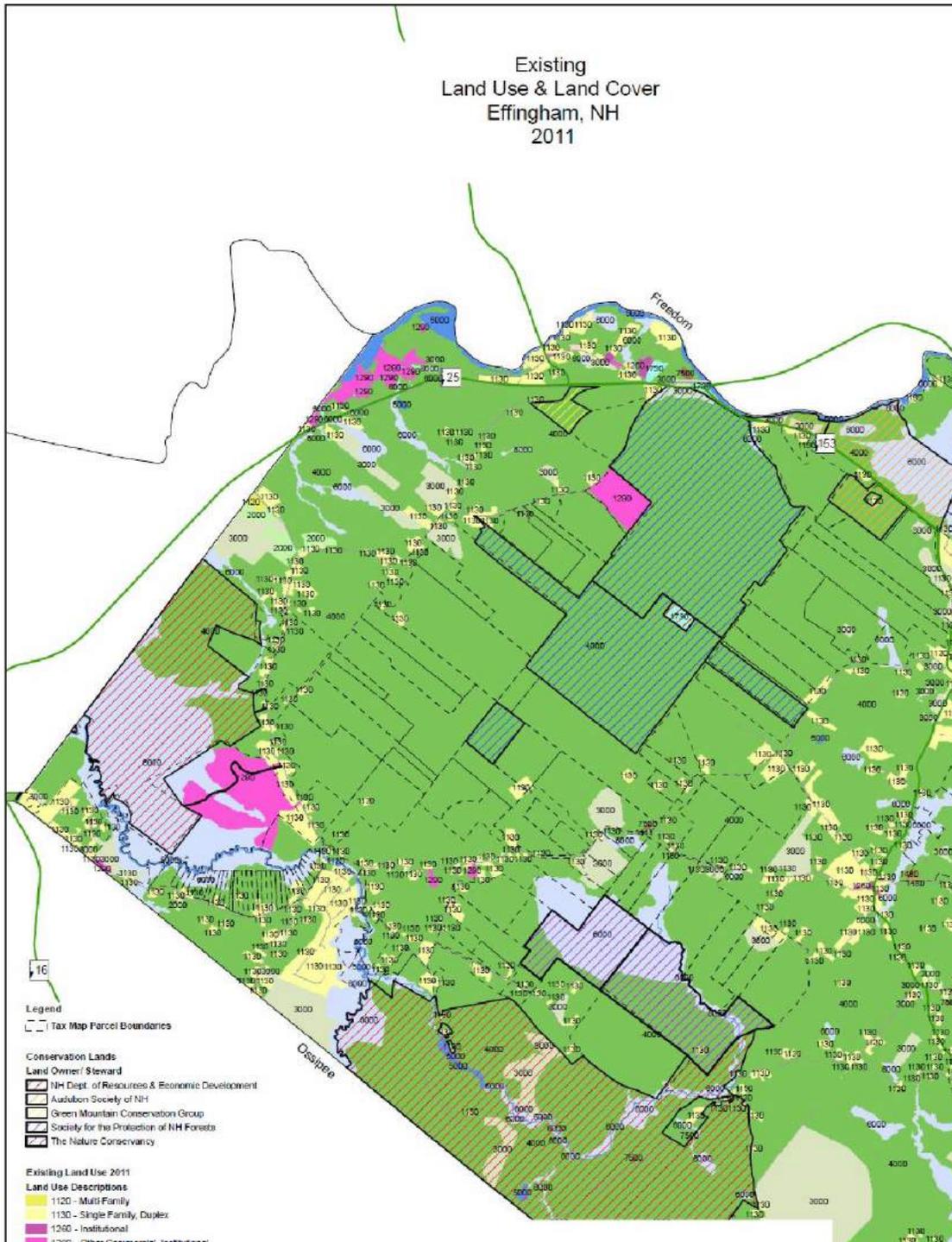
## **Zone Descriptions**

The town may wish to consider developing purpose statements for each of the zoning districts in the community. Currently, the Province Lake and Historic Districts are described by a purpose statement, but the Rural/Agricultural and Village Districts do not have the same detail in the zoning ordinance.

## **Information Dissemination**

Through the Master Plan update process a common theme developed that the town should provide an easily accessible and comprehensive outlet for Effingham land use information. The town website may provide an effective source of this information which would likely include the Zoning Ordinance, Site Plan and Subdivision Regulations, Master Plan, Planning Board minutes, agendas, meeting schedule, etc.. The role of the Zoning Enforcement Officer and appropriate forms might be posted on a web page dedicated to land use as well.

Figure 12: Existing Land Use and Land Cover





## CHAPTER 4: TRANSPORTATION



*Clockwise from upper left: surface cracking on Town House Road, Hobbs Road, shoulder work on Town House Road, and Pine River Road*



## **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

NH Route 25 runs across the northern portion of Effingham; it is a primary east-west corridor connecting Portland, ME with New Hampshire's Lakes Region as well as connectivity to the White Mountains and the I-93 corridor. Effingham's Town Offices and elementary school are located just north of NH Route 25. Along the eastern edge of town, NH Route 153 runs north and south, providing connectivity to the Mount Washington Valley to the north. NH Route 16 also provides access to Mount Washington Valley as well as the Seacoast to the south. With Green Mountain dominating the landscape, a network of local roads connects residents and visitors to goods and services. Effingham has one designated scenic road, Hobbs Road.

In Effingham the Selectmen work with local contractors to maintain and plow the town's 40 miles of roads. The Master Plan Survey pointed to several areas where respondents felt there are maintenance needs. The Survey also identified strong recreational interest in hiking and biking paths.

This chapter was developed with guidance and input from the Effingham Master Plan Transportation Committee, which had representation from the Selectboard, Planning Board, and several citizens. Input also came from participants at the May 6, 2011 Public Forum and June 14, 2011 Selectmen's meeting. The chapter explores the existing transportation network in Effingham, provides an update to past master plan recommendations, and makes some recommendations for additional improvements.

## **4.2 MODES OF TRANSPORTATION**

According to the 2000 Census, 23% of Effingham workers also lived in Effingham, 69% commuted to another NH community, and 8% commuted out of state. The primary mode of transportation in Effingham is the automobile. Of those commuting to work, nearly 80% drove alone, with 8% carpooling. The average commute was 31 minutes.

Due to the scattered pattern of housing, municipal facilities, and employment, opportunities to walk or bicycle to work or local activities are limited. Both NH Routes 25 and 153 are identified as Recommended Bicycle Routes on the New Hampshire Bicycle Map along with Town House Road and Elm Street. Numerous Class VI roads offer the potential for off-road walking and bicycling opportunities.

Effingham's changing demographics, in line with statewide trends showing a projected increase in the elderly population, will increase future demands for public transportation services, volunteer driving networks, and other alternatives to driving. Like other rural New Hampshire communities, a fully developed public transportation system complemented by a choice of private transportation providers does not exist. A Regional Coordinating Council is being developed to identify local and regional transportation needs.

Some nearby communities have well established "Caregiver" programs, with volunteer organizations that provide transportation for doctor and dentist appointments, lab tests, pharmacy pick-ups, shopping, hair appointments, and when possible extended-area trips (e.g., Manchester, Lebanon, etc) for medical appointments. Transportation is provided at no cost by volunteers in their personal vehicles, and thus the service is dependent on volunteers and donations.

During the past year, Carroll County Transit began on-demand service with their "Blue Loon" busses for riders throughout parts of Carroll County. The project anticipates the start up of three fixed service routes in the upcoming year - Route 1: North Conway to West Ossipee, Route 2: West Ossipee to Wolfeboro, and Route 3: West Ossipee to Laconia. Currently Effingham is not on a main route; however, residents indicated that they have been able to get on-demand service from the Blue Loon. Data from Carroll County Transit indicates that between February and June 27 of the year 2011 trips have been provided, with more scheduled for the upcoming months. The majority of the trips were for medical or physical therapy appointments in Wolfeboro and Conway, others were for employment or social outings.

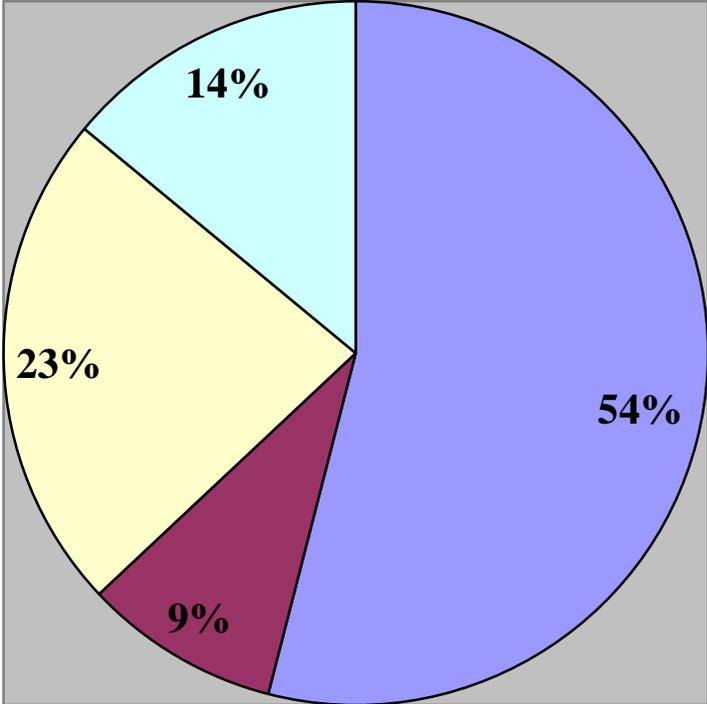
Concord Coach Lines offers coach bus service seven days each week from Berlin, NH to Boston's Logan International Airport. The route goes through West Ossipee twice each day. The coach makes scheduled stops in Tilton, Concord, and Manchester.

## **4.3 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK**

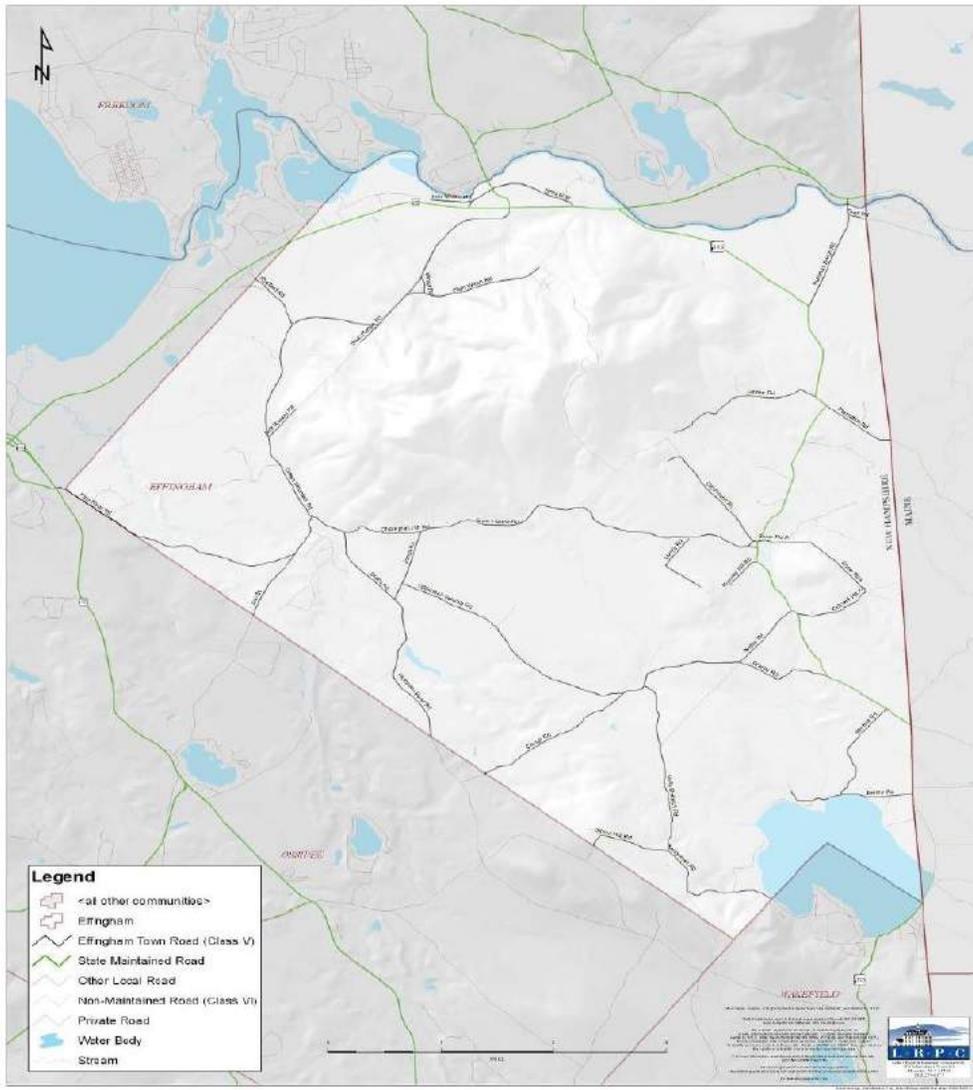
### **4.3.1 Administrative Classification of Roads**

All public roads and highways in New Hampshire are grouped into six administrative categories which relate to the governmental jurisdiction of roads. Class I, II, and III roads are owned by the state. Neither Class I – State Primary highways nor Class III – State Recreational roads exist in Effingham. State owned roads in Effingham consist solely of Class II – State Secondary highways. The last three administrative classes of roads are town roads or roads the town has the right to use: Class IV – Urban Compact roads (these only exist in the Lakes Region in Gilford, Franklin, and Laconia), Class V – Town roads owned and maintained by the town and Class VI Town roads that are unmaintained. The administrative classifications of roads in Effingham are displayed in Map 1. In addition there are a number of Class VI roads and more than forty private roads.

Figure 1: Proportion of Roads in Effingham by Classification



Map 1: Roads in Effingham by Class



### 4.3.2 Paved and Unpaved Roads

Effingham has a total of 40.1 miles of town maintained roads, split almost evenly between paved (19.8 miles) and unpaved (20.3 miles). At the Public Forum it was noted that the volume of traffic along Elm Street seemed to have increased. At other public meetings residents felt that the large proportion of unpaved roads was part of Effingham's rural/seasonal character.

### 4.3.3 Traffic Volumes

The NH Department of Transportation (NH DOT) receives data from a number of permanent traffic counters statewide. Additional traffic counts are conducted by the regional planning commissions and are seasonally adjusted by NHDOT to reflect annual average daily traffic counts (AADTs).

Table 1 displays AADT counts from several Effingham locations. Typically these counts are conducted on a three-year rotation. This illustrates an interesting traffic pattern along NH Route 25 in Effingham and the north-south flow of traffic along NH Route 153; many residents felt that NH Route 153 is a popular route for accessing the Conway area. The increasing traffic counts on Elm Street give some credence to the transportation subcommittee's characterization of Elm Street as becoming more of a commuter route and a cut-through from NH Route 16 to NH Route 153 north.

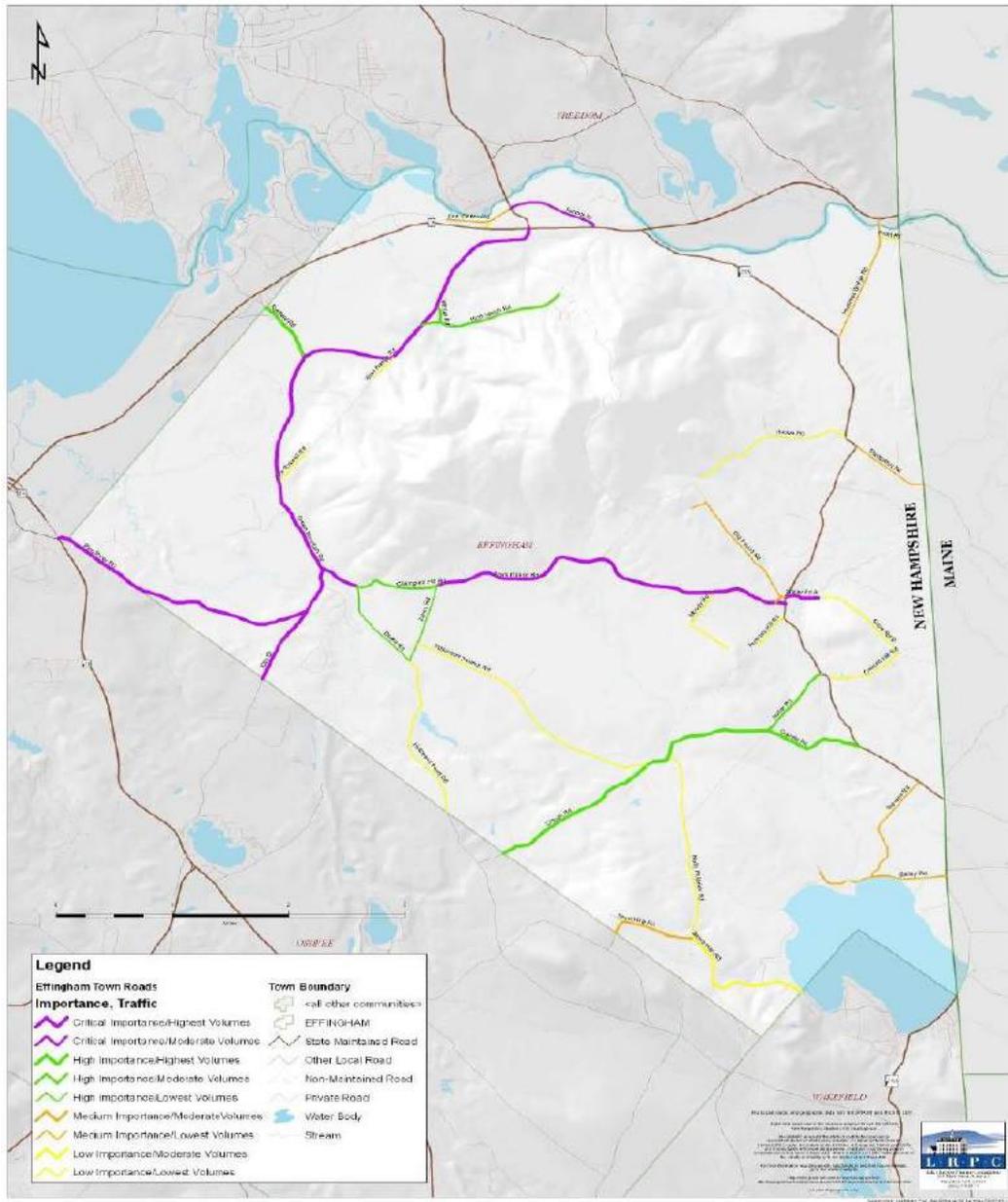
Table 1: Historic Annual Average Daily Traffic Counts 2003 - 2010

Location/Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
NH 25 at Ossipee town line	5,200	*	*	4,300	*	4,300	*	*
NH 25 over Ossipee River at Freedom town line	*	*	2,700	*	*	2,900	*	*
NH 153 over Ossipee River at Freedom town line	3,300	*	*	2,800	*	*	3,400	*
NH 153 south at NH 25	630	*	630	*	*	680	*	*
NH 153 south of Hobbs Road	670	*	*	670	*	*	600	*
NH 153 south River (between Nutter and Colcord Roads)	770	*	*	790	*	*	660	*
Elm Street over the Pine River	1,000	*	*	1,400	*	*	1,200	*
Snow Road over the South River	70	*	*	70	*	*	70	*
Bailey Road over the South River	*	*	90	*	*	80	*	*

As part of the Road Surface Management System inventory the Transportation Subcommittee gave relative scores for traffic volume to each segment of town road (Map 2). Using this, the Subcommittee and the residents at the Public Forum discussed present and anticipated travel patterns along Effingham's roads. Several current patterns of connectivity were identified:

- The southern section of Green Mountain Road to NH Route 16 via Elm Street and Pine River Road and to NH Route 25 via Ryefield Road.
- Town House Road to NH Route 16 via Champion Hill Road and Elm Street and Pine River Road.
- From NH Route 153 to NH Route 16 via Granite Road and Clough Road.
- On a seasonal basis from NH Route 153 to NH Route 16 via Bonnyman Road and Simon Hill Road.
- Many people felt that Elm Street and Green Mountain Road are becoming a cut through from NH Route 16 to NH Route 153 heading north to Conway.

Map 2: Road Importance and Traffic Volumes: Effingham



### 4.3.4 Scenic Roads

Hobbs Road is Effingham's one designated Scenic Road. The town uses the requirements outlined in RSA 231:157 when managing this designated road. These requirements include Planning Board approval prior to roadway repairs, maintenance, reconstruction or paving that

necessitates cutting, damage, or removal of trees (15" inch circumference or greater) or removal or destruction of stone walls. While these standards apply to the state, municipality, and utility companies, land owners are not affected.

### **4.3.5 Bridges and Culverts**

All of the bridges in Effingham are of concern to the committee, especially the ones on Granite, Drake, and Stevens Roads. The state bridge built in 1924 over the South River on NH Route 153 near Nutter Road, is in "poor" condition and is on NH DOT's Red List of State Bridges, slated for rehabilitation in 2013. The three town-owned bridges on the NH DOT's Red List of Municipal Bridges are the bridges on Stevens Road and on Drake Road over Wilkinson Brook (both built in 1930) and the bridge on Granite Road over the South River built in 1920 and rebuilt in 1950.

As part of the Natural Resources Inventory, the Conservation Commission inventoried all of the culverts in town. This can serve as a starting point for an inventory for transportation maintenance. Effingham's 2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan noted that, "The committee identified several areas where flooding poses a threat to the town; most impacts are on roads, although one area could impact several homes. Drake, Jones, and Hutchins Pond Road, the northern portion of Green Mountain Road, as well as portions of High Watch Road (the only avenue to Lakeview [NeuroRehab Center]) regularly suffer from washout and erosion, requiring repeated repairs. This is due to a combination of inadequate drainage and runoff from adjacent properties, especially logging operations. Flooding can restrict access to residences along Symmes Road (private) and Snow Road."

### **4.3.6 Road Conditions**

One of the questions on the Master Plan Survey asked whether NH Route 153 should be rebuilt. There was strong support for doing this. As this road is a state route, the town would need to work with NH DOT to identify the most critical needs and find ways of getting this work done.

The Lakes Region Planning Commission evaluated the road surface of all town roads in June 2010. The data collected, along with road importance and traffic information provided by the Transportation Subcommittee, was modeled using a program called Road Surface Management Systems (RSMS). Based on a snapshot of the town road network, RSMS compares and prioritizes road improvements. The results provide supporting information for a local road improvements program. When updated on a 2-3 year basis, RSMS provides future road improvement budgeting information and a way to track and re-prioritize road improvements over time.

The UNH Technology Transfer manual instructs, "*Road costs increase dramatically if delayed beyond a certain point.*" Figure 2 illustrates the relationship between pavement service life, pavement condition and rehabilitation costs. After the first 75% of a pavement's service life, the performance level drops from excellent to fair - a 40% drop in quality. In other words, after 10-12 years, the pavement is still in satisfactory condition and, to the untrained eye, it looks good. Significantly however, within only the next two years, pavement quality degrades dramatically an additional 40%, dropping to very poor performance level. Translated into economic terms,

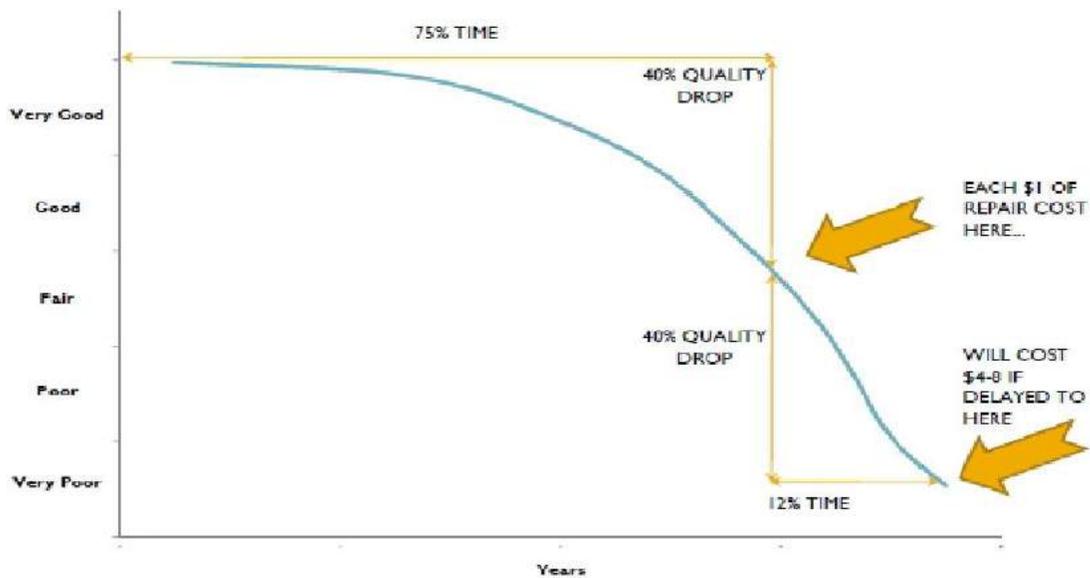
pavement that would cost \$1 to renovate at 75% of its life will cost \$5 to \$8 to renovate at 87% of its life. The lesson here is that allowing pavement condition to deteriorate from fair to very poor increases repair costs by five times what it would have cost to preventatively maintain road conditions.

Repair of fair pavement condition requires only preventive maintenance, such as an overlay. If the town neglects to maintain pavement until the 16-year mark, the pavement requires reconstruction, which is much more expensive. Therefore, the primary goal of any pavement management system is to keep the good streets in good shape.

It is wise for municipalities to rehabilitate roads in very poor condition with special funds and to plan for expenditure of normal funds for routine and preventive maintenance. Many communities plan for special rehabilitation funds through a Capital Improvements Plan.

Figure 2

## Lifecycle of a Road



Source: UNH Technology Transfer Center.

Additionally, it was noted by the Transportation Subcommittee that the standards to which Effingham's roads were constructed have been inconsistent, leading to variations in the road subsurface. Roads with inadequate foundations will require more frequent surface maintenance and ultimately will need to be reconstructed.

### **4.3.7 Challenges**

A number of challenges were raised during Transportation Subcommittee meetings as well as at the Public Forum. These included:

- the age, quality, and maintenance of NH Route 153,
- the light at the intersection of Green Mountain Road and NH Route 25,
- bridge maintenance,
- the fact that there is no regular transit system serving the town,
- the inconsistent use of road names in published resources,
- the need for proactive planning, to mitigate dangerous intersections such as between Drake and Jones Roads, and
- the desire to make efficient use of the town's resources - for example alternating paved and unpaved road sections require frequent switching of maintenance equipment along the same road.

The overarching concern was for comprehensive road maintenance planning to provide a long-term cost-effective road work schedule to ensure and sustain a safe and reliable road network. When there is not a comprehensive road development and maintenance plan and a town does not have a Road Agent, as in Effingham, a good deal of institutional knowledge can be lost whenever there is transition on the Board of Selectmen.

## **4.4 TOWN ROAD STANDARDS**

It is recommended that the Board of Selectmen establish guidelines for the construction of town roads. By having and enforcing road standards, a community ensures that roads which are constructed or undergoing reconstruction are built to meet or exceed certain engineering thresholds. This ensures a consistent foundation for the roadbed and leads to fewer maintenance issues. Typically town road standards address road dimensions, arrangement of streets and intersections, base materials, surface materials, drainage, as well as inspection and testing practices.

Effingham has incorporated road standards into its subdivision regulations. Not only does this provide the town with written guidelines for the construction of new town roads and rebuilding of existing town roads but it also enables the Planning Board to hold anyone planning to build a road as part of a subdivision to these standards. Should the town be asked to adopt a road, it could be more confident that those built to town road standards would lead to fewer maintenance issues and costs.

## 45 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

As noted above (Section 4.3.6) road surfaces require maintenance. Whether it is the regular grading of gravel roads, periodic patching and filling of asphalt, upgrading of drainage, or the entire rebuilding of road segments, this work needs to be carried out on an on-going basis. The town invests a great deal of taxpayer money in the development of roads; it should protect its investment with appropriate maintenance. It is much more cost effective to address road surface concerns while the road is in 'good' condition as opposed to allowing it to drop into 'poor' condition.

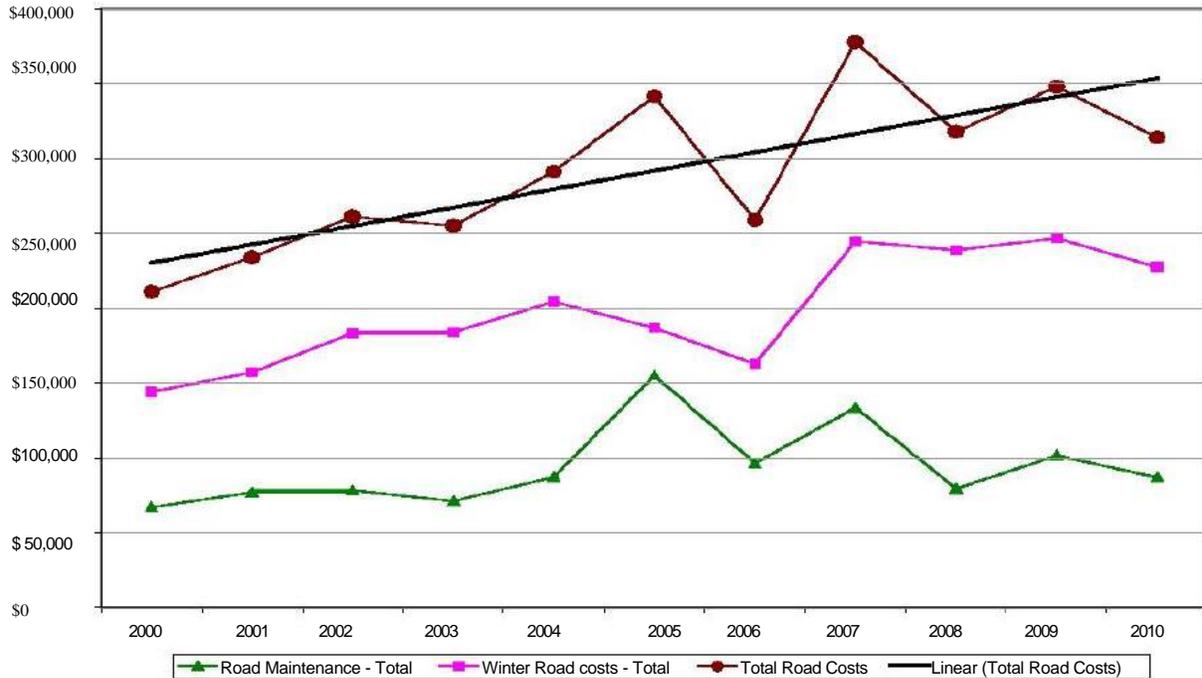
A Transportation Improvement Plan is a tool for budgeting the costs of road work so that the work gets done in a timely fashion, so that costs can be balanced out over time, and so that the anticipated work can be known to all well in advance. Additionally, the town may wish to think about a Roads Management Plan as a comprehensive assessment and long term maintenance schedule for the entire road system.

Data provided by the Selectmen show two categories of town road expenses - Road Maintenance and Winter Road work (Table 2). Over the last ten years, Winter Road work has consumed 65 to 70% of the total roads budget (Figure 3). A major factor driving the Winter Road work is the severity of the winter weather; the past four years have been substantially more expensive than previous years.

Table 2: Road Costs in Effingham: 2000 - 2010.

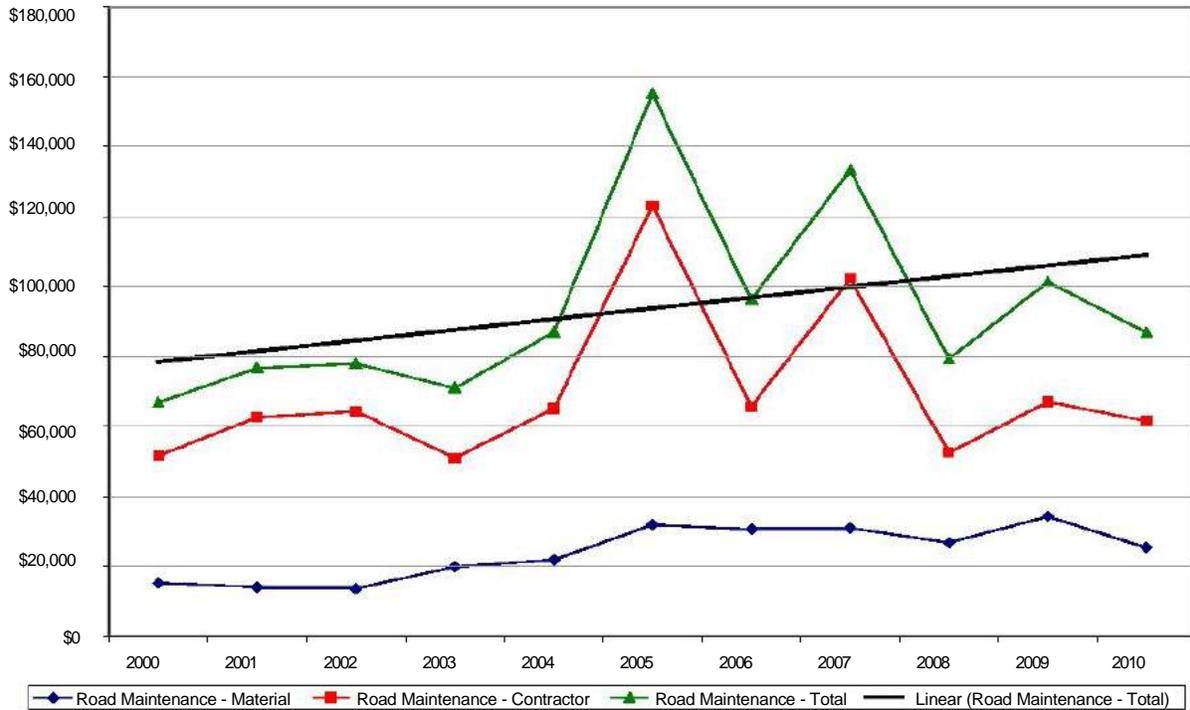
<b>Effingham Road Work</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Road Maintenance Material	15,255	14,091	13,687	19,907	21,860	31,887	30,568	31,005	26,809	34,276	25,317
Road Maintenance Contractor	51,620	62,635	64,245	51,050	65,067	123,111	65,680	102,238	52,471	67,007	61,505
<b>Road Maintenance Total</b>	<b>66,875</b>	<b>76,726</b>	<b>77,932</b>	<b>70,957</b>	<b>86,927</b>	<b>154,998</b>	<b>96,248</b>	<b>133,243</b>	<b>79,280</b>	<b>101,283</b>	<b>86,822</b>
Winter Road costs Material	36,174	40,226	42,358	42,633	56,546	68,412	30,990	55,800	61,674	71,381	53,457
Winter Road costs Delivery	4,172	12,890	9,810	10,305	11,330	8,705	8,595	3,437	10,482	7,725	0
Winter Road costs Contractor	103,665	103,997	131,000	131,000	136,335	109,500	125,000	185,250	166,500	167,500	173,833
<b>Winter road costs Total</b>	<b>144,011</b>	<b>157,113</b>	<b>183,168</b>	<b>183,938</b>	<b>204,211</b>	<b>186,617</b>	<b>164,585</b>	<b>244,487</b>	<b>238,656</b>	<b>246,606</b>	<b>227,290</b>

Figure 3: Road Maintenance, Winter Road Costs, and Total Road Costs in Effingham: 2000 - 2010



The road maintenance expenses associated with the surface maintenance of Effingham's roads have been generally increasing over the past decade but the exact amount can vary by as much as 40% from year to year based on individual projects (Figure 4). The historical expenditure data indicates that in 2005 and 2007 there were "storm damage" projects, which likely contributed to the spikes in costs. While the cost of materials has risen over the past decade, materials have consistently been between 24 - 33% of the Road Maintenance expenses.

Figure 4: Annual variation of Road Maintenance Costs: Effingham



## 4.6 2003 MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The Transportation Subcommittee reviewed the transportation goals of the 2003 Master Plan (re-produced below). They determined that the goals and most of the objectives are still valid, but they felt that many of the strategies should either be eliminated or revised.

**Goal 1: Provide a safe and efficient transportation system in Effingham.**

**Objective 1:** To continuously evaluate the transportation network to identify required maintenance and improvements.

*Strategy 1:* The Board of Selectmen should form a task force of knowledgeable people to review and assess all the roads in-depth to make comprehensive short term and long term recommendations for development of a Roads Management Plan to be updated annually.

*Strategy 2:* One aspect of a comprehensive Roads Management Plan, create and update annually a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), integrating the State Road Inventory Data, Road Surface Management System (RSMS) Data, and gravel road analysis.

Strategy 3: Have the Board of Selectmen regularly monitor the best strategies and costs/benefits of appointing a Clerk of the Works or creating a Public Works Department to supervise the evaluation and maintenance of town lands, buildings, and roads.

Strategy 4: The town should consider consulting an engineering firm to review and monitor large road reconstruction projects, including review of proposals and periodic site visits.

Strategy 5: Town Officials should be encouraged to attend learning opportunities regarding maintenance and evaluation of town road conditions, such as those offered by the University of New Hampshire Technology Transfer Center.

Strategy 6: To ensure that Effingham's concerns regarding NH Routes 25 and 153 are represented in as many regional discussions as possible. Such discussions could include the Lakes Region Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), regular correspondence with the District III Engineer, and any other regional meetings regarding maintenance and traffic patterns along state routes in the area. These discussions might lead to identification of avenues for improving the condition and safety of NH Routes 25 and 153.

**Objective 2:** Review and follow recommendations from the Effingham Hazard Mitigation Plan that are applicable to this chapter of the Master Plan.

Strategy 1: Develop a program of scheduled culvert maintenance and repair reducing the likelihood of flooding during periods of heavy rain

Strategy 2: Replace and enlarge culverts along portions of Drake, Green Mountain, High Watch, Jones, Snow, and Symmes Roads to improve drainage reducing flooding, as well as the washouts and icy winter-time conditions associated with poorly drained roads.

Strategy 3: To reduce flooding and erosion on town roads during a heavy rain, the Planning Board should require logging operations to obtain a driveway permit

**Objective 3:** To implement required maintenance and improvements.

Strategy 1: Ensure the Roads Management Plan, TIP and Hazard Mitigations Plan are each implemented on an annual basis.

Strategy 2: Develop a Capital Improvements Program for the Town of Effingham.

Strategy 3: Explore state and federal funding options, such as bridge repair funding through the State Aid Bridge program.

**Goal 2: Ensure that environmental resources are considered in all transportation efforts.**

**Objective 1:** To promote good environmental practice and erosion control in all transportation efforts.

Strategy 1: Develop a snow removal and chemical application management plan for Effingham.

Strategy 2: Develop an erosion control and drainage improvement program to be integrated with Effingham's Transportation Improvement Program as well as its Capital Improvements Program.

Strategy 3: Encourage the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) in all transportation efforts.

**Goal 3: Ensure that cultural, historic, and scenic resources are considered in all transportation efforts.**

**Objective 1:** To integrate Effingham's scenic resources in all new transportation improvements and projects.

Strategy 1: Explore potential roads for designation as Scenic Road as per RSA 231:157-158.

**Objective 2:** To recognize the importance of access to the Town Hall in future transportation efforts.

Strategy 1: Integrate the Town Hall and village needs in all transportation efforts.

Strategy 2: Promote the Town Hall as a center of activity in Town and the need to provide access to it year-round.

## **4.7 2011 MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

**See implementation chapter**



## **CHAPTER 5: RECREATION AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

**[insert photograph here]**



## **5.1 EFFINGHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Effingham is part of the Governor Wentworth Regional School District (GWRSD). High school and Middle School students are bussed to the Kingswood Regional High School and Middle School in Wolfeboro. Students in kindergarten through sixth grade are housed in a relatively new school building in Effingham.

The Effingham Elementary School, while owned by GWRSD, provides a gathering place for the community. Effingham's annual Town Meeting as well as police department training sessions and safety sessions are held at the school. The Ossipee Park and Recreation Department hosts basketball, volleyball, and adult activities in which residents of Effingham participate, at the school. The space has been used for town variety shows, celebrations (Celebrate Effingham), and fund raisers (Fire Department, Friends of the Effingham Library). The fee for use, if any, varies depending on the nature of use (profit or non-profit), the time of use and the need for custodial services and/or kitchen staff. Outside of school hours the school grounds are open to the public, including a one-mile nature trail with exercise stations, a butterfly garden, and a playground. The school building also serves as the town's primary emergency shelter.

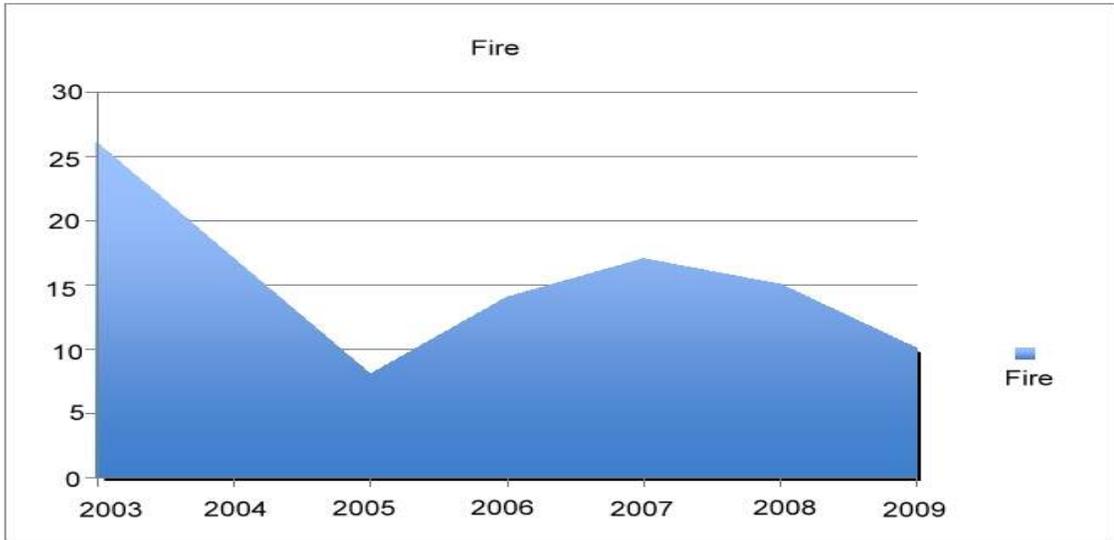
## **5.2 EFFINGHAM FIRE AND RESCUE**

The Town of Effingham Fire and Rescue is comprised of a Chief and a staff consists of volunteers who respond to emergency calls. The department is equipped with an engine, a 2003 pumper/tanker, a 1971 forestry truck, a 1999 utility vehicle and a 2005 ambulance, which has the ability to transport the sick and injured to the hospital. Effingham also contracts with a commercial ambulance service which acts as the primary transport ambulance. All apparatus and equipment, along with maintenance of same; continuous training of the membership and well established mutual aid agreements are the duties and responsibilities of the Officers of the Effingham Fire and Rescue.

The main fire station is located on 1102 Province Lake Road, and houses the fire and rescue equipment. The building lacks shower facilities. A second, smaller, fire station is also located at 596 Province Lake Road, and it is used mainly for storage of the forestry truck, an antique fire truck and seasonal equipment. This building has no water, toilet or shower facilities.

Figure 1 below shows the total number of fires from 2003 through 2009. Mutual aid calls increased into the hundreds in both 2007 and 2008, then returned to the normal level set in the 1970's. Medical calls increased into the 200 range with a spike to 320 in 2008, then dipped to 268 in 2009.

Figure 1: Total Number of Fires 2003 - 2009



The funding for these activities is the responsibility of the community at large. To plan for future departmental needs, the town is currently saving money in a capital reserve account to offset the large purchase prices of new fire apparatus/equipment and/or rescue vehicles/equipment.

## 53 EFFINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Effingham has two full time police officers, a Chief whose duties also include those of Dog Officer, and a Sergeant. Both officers are housed in the modular unit at the rear of the Municipal Office Building. Additionally there is one part time officer.

Figure 2: Motor Vehicle Stops 2003 - 2009



Police activity is divided into two categories: **general calls for service** and **crime response**. **General calls for service** peaked to 305 in 2008 and then rose to 419 in 2009. **Crime reported** ranged from 74 in 2004 and reached a high of 116 in 2009. The Carroll County Sheriff's Department and the NH State Police assist with coverage in these areas.

## **5.4 EFFINGHAM MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING**

Effingham's Municipal Office Building (MOB) is at 68 School Street and houses the Select Board and the Town Clerk/Tax Collector since 2004, when these offices/functions moved permanently from the historic Town Hall. The modular unit behind the Municipal Office Building provides space for the Police Department, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, the Supervisors of the Check List, as well as storage and meeting space for the various town boards.

The meeting room in the MOB is used weekly for a series of regularly scheduled meetings, *e.g.*, the Select Board, the Planning Board, the Budget Committee, the Conservation Commission and the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Town, local and national elections are held in this area with a handicapped access booth as well as several stations providing chairs. Various community groups and organizations use the MOB meeting room by reservation.

The Master Plan Survey responses indicated that the Police Department and the Select Board, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Offices were sufficient and need no upgrade at this time. However, there was some concern expressed with respect to the long term use of the modular unit. (Please refer to the goals and actions pertinent to the modular unit.)

## **5.5 RECREATION**

As mentioned in the Effingham School section there is a one-mile exercise route with a variety of stations, a full playground, games, teams and a variety of recreational offerings are coordinated with the Ossipee Park and Recreation Department. The town pays Ossipee annually to participate in these programs. While this has been a long-standing and amicable arrangement, there is some concern that it may not be able to continue indefinitely. The county recreation directors and associations meet three times a year to plan and organize activities.

Water access to the Ossipee River is available at the boat launch off Province Lake Road and there are several ponds available for water sports/travel/bird watching. Also off Province Lake Road there is a marked Audubon trail, which is maintained by the Audubon Society. Hiking trails are interspersed in the Green Mountain area.

It should be noted that Effingham has no dedicated access to beachfront on any lake in the area. The Master Plan Survey respondents rated this as a high priority.

## **5.6 EFFINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### **5.6.1 Early History**

Early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there were several private efforts to establish libraries in Effingham. According to Lawrence Hall ("Tales of Effingham," by Lawrence P. Hall, 1988, Freedom, NH), "...inhabitants of Effingham on Lord's Hill pooled their resources and started a library. Books could be borrowed and were to be returned the first Monday in September, December, March and June. In the 1860s a library was kept in the home of Josiah Dearborn."

The Effingham Public Library was established in 1893 in the reading room of the Charitable Masonic Institute. Hall's account continues, "In the town meeting of March, 1893, it was voted to have a town library and \$30.00 was raised to start it. The state library had offered to help if some conditions were met and this offer was accepted....A board of trustees was set up, consisting of twelve members: John L. Demeritt, R.M. Fulton, John M. Drake, James M. Leavitt, John P. Glidden, James M. Champion, J.N. Marston, O.J. Avery, Josephus L. Drake, Cyrus P. Keay, Charles L. Miles, and Francisco Barker.... What was ... the recitation room of the Charitable Masonic Institute was papered and painted, fitted with shelves, and adapted for the library." An 1896 Trustees' report showed that there were 761 titles available. The building itself later became the Town Hall and housed the town offices.

### **5.6.2 Growth of the Library**

In 2004, the town offices and associated personnel were relocated from their space in the historic Town Hall building to the original elementary school. As a result of the relocation, the library was able to expand from its single room at the Town Hall, and it presently occupies the entire first floor of that building. The Masons retain complete access to the second floor.

Since 2004, the library has made substantial progress in its goal of serving the community. Library holdings have increased from 2,500 in 2004/2005 to in excess of 10,000 in 2010. Two new laptops and three desk top computers currently provide public access to the Internet at no charge and a wireless network provides Internet access to library patrons who wish to use their own laptops on-site. Other equipment now available includes a copier/printer and a digital camera. The library also provides downloads of audio books and access to a number of research databases. A recent project, the Effingham History Project, is a collaborative effort between the Effingham Public Library and the Effingham Historical Society to create a searchable database of Effingham's photographic and textual artifacts.

EPL's mission statement is "to provide a center for the community that promotes education, leisure and creative pursuits by providing a means to access information and resources." Family membership passes to regional museums are available at no charge to library patrons, there is a training program for volunteers and a number of seasonal activities for children, including a Summer Reading Program. Air conditioners and comfortable tables and chairs provide reading space for patrons and accommodate community gatherings such as Writer's Night.

Key to the success of the library's mission continue to be the efforts the many volunteers who have donated time and resources to raise funds and improve services. A Children's Room devoted to children and their activities was made possible by the Friends of Effingham Library (FEL) through a \$10,000 grant from the Kingsolver Foundation. Numerous reference and non-fiction titles have been added to the collection, thanks to a generous \$5,000 grant from FEL; a new circulation and reception area crafted by Jack Williams was provided from the FEL Annual Appeal funds. FEL has also supported continuing education for library employees.

With respect to building repairs, maintenance and renovation, the roof and tower have been repaired and painted; the foundation has been improved and secured and the entire exterior of the building has been painted. Electrical work has begun and the unusable heating units have been removed. Library appropriate shelving was purchased and installed in the reception area. Dozens of community volunteers moved the collection into the new stacks and the back room was re-configured as the community meeting room.

Future plans call for draft resistant flooring, weatherization and ADA compliant bathrooms. The library also needs to complete and implement a technology plan. On an ongoing basis, EPL will continue to upgrade its space, increase its holdings and expand family and educational programs to benefit the community.

## **5.7 SALT SHED**

The Salt Shed is located on Storage Road off Rte 25. Originally purchased from NH DOT it sits on a gravel foundation. It measures 36 feet by 36 feet with an attachment measuring 31 feet by 21 feet. There is neither a door nor are there any security measures in place to prevent tampering. Given the present condition of the salt shed, it would be important to improve the state of the building and install reasonable security features.

## **5.8 Transfer Station**

The Subcommittee addressed the issue of recycling at the Transfer Station, noting the improvements since 2003. We hope that we can continue adding to the list of recyclables.

## **5.9 2011 MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

**See implementation Chapter**



# **CHAPTER 6: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**



## 6.1 BACKGROUND

Economic development is crucial for Effingham's economic viability. In December 2010, the tax rate in Effingham was the third highest in Carroll County -- \$16.05, compared to a county average of \$11.05. This is due not to an excessive budget but to a low property valuation. About half of the land in town has been placed in current use, which reduces the assessed valuation and limits available revenue for town services. One solution to this problem is to develop businesses.

Economic development efforts have traditionally focused on three kinds of goals: retaining the existing business base, helping the existing business base to grow and increasing the business base by attracting new businesses. Strategies that can be used to support these goals (listed below) include:

- improving the business climate by reducing costs and regulatory burdens,
- improving the town infrastructure (roads, utility access, telecommunications, etc.),
- launching a marketing effort to promote Effingham as a desirable location for business,
- offering incentives for businesses to stay or locate in Effingham,
- creating industrial or office parks in Effingham,
- initiating or taking advantage of existing state and federal programs in entrepreneurship and small business development,
- initiating or taking advantage of existing state and federal job training programs to provide the required skilled labor,
- building business networks through established organizations (*e.g.*, Rotary Club, Elks, Chamber of Commerce and the like) and through using social media, and
- a website dedicated to providing current information about doing business in Effingham.

Economic development in Effingham needs to take place in the context of two realities. First, most economic development activities do not take place at the town level but instead take place at a regional level. Effingham currently does not have the expertise or the financial resources to launch its own economic development program, so Effingham needs to coordinate with the resources available at the regional level.

Second, Effingham will appeal to a relatively narrow range of businesses. Effingham does have access to highway systems through NH Route 16 and NH Route 25, providing access to southern New Hampshire and Portland, Maine. It has a small population and limited labor pool. Much of the land is in current use, is classified as wetlands or is otherwise not available for new development. Some types of businesses that might be interested in Effingham include:

- Natural resource-based enterprises that depend on access to our forests and farm land,
- Service enterprises,
- Knowledge-based businesses that are location neutral,
- Tourism operations, and
- Small manufacturing requiring access to road networks

## 6.2 EXISTING BUSINESS BASE IN EFFINGHAM

There is relatively little information on the existing business base in Effingham and one of the tasks of the proposed Economic Development Committee (see *Section 6.4*) is to gather this data. At the Community Forum held in August 2009, a short list of current businesses was compiled.

Most of the businesses on the list were small and home-based. A few of the larger businesses are: Lakeview NeuroRehabilitation Center PK Motel, English's Campground, Camp Marist, Boyle's Family Market, and a portion of Province Lake Golf Club. Lakeview NeuroRehabilitation Center is the largest business and employer in Effingham. It is an 88-bed facility providing care for individuals challenged with varying levels of physical, neurological, cognitive and behavioral impairments. It is part of the Lakeview System which has facilities in New Hampshire, Wisconsin and New York.

## 6.3 RESPONSES FROM THE PUBLIC SURVEY

The Effingham Master Plan Public Survey asked a number of questions related to economic development. Respondents were asked to identify five general issues that were of utmost importance over the next ten years and were offered sixteen options. Attracting Business/Cottage Industries ranked fifth, with 42% of respondents selecting it. When asked to rank the importance of various issues relating to economic development, the following responses were received:

Category	Very important or somewhat important
High speed Internet	90%
Home Business	83%
Agriculture	83%
Cottage Industry	82%
Logging and Forestry	74%
Restaurants	66%
Retail Business	64%
Service Sector	64%
Light Industry	62%
Office Business Development	61%
Industrial Development	36%

Recently, Effingham established an Agriculture Commission to encourage the growth of farming as a business in the community. There is also an ongoing effort to improve the availability of high-speed Internet services to the community. The balance of these issues raised by Public Survey respondents can be addressed within the context of an economic development strategy.

## **6.4                    2011 MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

**See Implementation Chapter**



## **CHAPTER 7: UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES**



## **7.1 BACKGROUND**

The Utilities and Public Services Subcommittee reviewed input from responses to the town-wide Master Plan Public Survey and the two Public Forums and information contained in the 2003 Master Plan. Below please find the direction which the citizens of Effingham wish to pursue in the upcoming years.

## **7.2 TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

The highest priority for 90% of the survey respondents was the need for broadband internet access. Interestingly, this was from an age spread where 61% of the respondents are between 51 and 70. The second most popular issue, improved cell phone service, was supported by 79% of the respondents. Just seven years ago, there was no mention of Internet Access or cell phone service as a Town priority, but there is now widespread agreement that these services are important.

These services would support economic development – small businesses, medium-size businesses, home businesses – and provide a platform for connectivity with regional initiatives. This would be of tremendous value to our town as a whole. At present, some areas in Effingham are not served by either broadband internet or cell phone coverage.

Our Subcommittee also reviewed available technologies that might also serve our citizens, but are not present here at this time. We noted that Fairpoint Communication's DSL service has expanded here, that we do not have FIOS (fiber optic), that there is limited 3G network capacity and no 4G network capacity. The committee felt that beginning work on acquiring 4G service would improve cell phone service and broadband internet access at the same time. Furthermore, not all households have access to Time Warner Cable.

## **7.3 UTILITIES**

There is no town-wide water service. Presently, one private development has a water service. Most households have private wells. The town has implemented a groundwater protection ordinance.

Three-phase power is currently only available along the discontinued section of Route 25, which starts at the Ossipee town line and runs through to the junction of Route 153 and Iron Works Road. Three-phase power is necessary for large electric machinery, of which is there is not much demand in town at this time, except to support the power requirements for the current and expanding needs of the transfer station

Improving both cell phone service and broadband internet access throughout town is important to our citizens and will require a dialogue about how best to provide that service using the cell tower ordinance of 2001. Given the need for improvement, this issue should be addressed as an educational and economic development priority for the town.

With respect to existing electric service, the committee felt that improvements could be explored such that an outage in one part of town might not affect the entire town. An example might include tapping the lines on NH Route 25 instead of the present one supply line around Green Mountain.

The desire to improve both cell phone service and high speed internet access throughout town is important to our citizens and will require a dialogue about how best to provide that service using the cell tower ordinance of 2001. Given the high percentage of people wanting improvement to these services we have an opportunity to be proactive.

Effective Spring 2011, the Town has created the Technology Development Committee to begin work to improve the Internet Access and Cell Phone service.

## **7.4 2011 MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

**See Implementation Chapter**

## CHAPTER 8: NATURAL RESOURCES



Photo: Kamal Nath



## 8.1. Introduction

Effingham Conservation Commission (ECC) assembled a Natural Resources Inventory in 2007. At its simplest, a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) is an identification, description and compilation of a given Town's Natural Resources based on maps and scientific data. Chapter 8 of this Master Plan is based on the 2007 NRI. The entire NRI is available in the appendix of this document.

The primary focus of the Natural Resources chapter is to identify the natural resources in the town of Effingham, recognize the role these resources play in giving the Town its character and decide what strategies would best maintain this character (see Section 8.9 titled Natural Resource Goals). All of the community's resources are interconnected and any change to one can have a significant impact on the others. As the population increases, demands on many of these resources will increase, possibly to the point of threatening the quality and quantity of the resource. The goal of this Natural Resources Inventory is to help develop a balance between development and resource protection within Effingham that will guide future sustainable development of the community.

Below is a summary of a few features of the natural resources in Effingham.

**Table 1: Effingham Land and Water Distribution**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Total Town Area	25,555.9 (39.9 sq. mi.)
Total Land Area	24,827.0
Total Water Area	728.9
Total Hydric Area	6,461.3
Total NWI Area	4,094.8

Acreages for land area, water, hydric soils and National Wetland Inventory (NWI) wetlands provided by *NH GRANIT* (<http://www.granit.sr.unh.edu>).

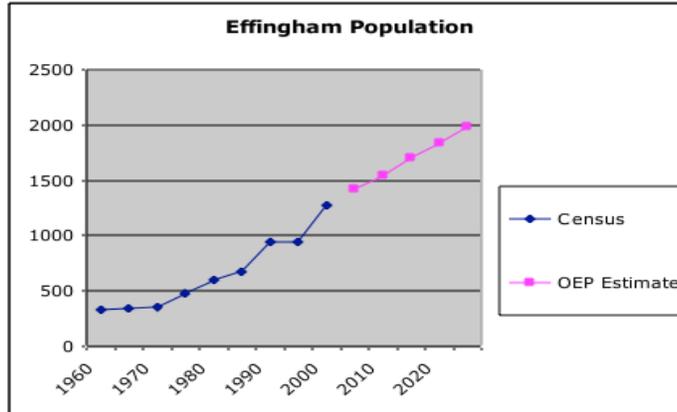
**Table 2: Effingham Steep Slopes and Wetlands**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Total Land Area	24,827.0
Area with Slope of 15-25%	3,019.0
Area with Slope of 25%+	2,325.0
Steep Slope as % of Total Land	21.5%
Total Wetlands Area	5,700.0
Wetlands as % of Total Land	22.3%

(Sources: Ossipee Watershed Coalition – *Natural Resources Planning Guidebook 2007, Effingham Wetlands Inventory Project – 2005-07*)

**Table 3: Population**

2010 Census	1,465
Population Growth (1995-2010)	51.4%
Density (persons/square mile)	36.7
OEP Estimated Population	1,980
Estimated Growth (2005-2025)	38.9%



Source: *Population Estimates*, State Data Center Library, NH Office of Energy and Planning, September 2006; *2005 Household Estimates for NH Cities and Towns*, NH Office of Energy & Planning, September 2006; *Historical OEP Estimate Data*, State Data Center Library, NH Office of Energy & Planning

**Table 4: Effingham Geography**

Total Size	39.93 square miles
Land Area	24,878.0 acres
Surface Waters	724.0 acres
Shoreline of Great Ponds	3.16 miles
Protected Land	6,619.0 acres (26%)
Current Use	11,028.0 acres (41%)
Forested Land	20,868.0 acres (84%)
Tree Farms (10)	1,863.0 acres
Water Supply Land	5,488.0 acres
Area of EPA High Value Wetlands	1,044.0 acres
Number of Rare Species & Natural Communities	5.0

Source: *New Hampshire's Changing Landscape 2005 Update*, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire's Forests; *2006 Report of Land in Current Use*, NH Department of Revenue Administration; *Tree Farms in New Hampshire*, NH Tree Farm Program, August 2000; *Shoreland Waterbody Results*, OneStop Data Retrieval, NH

**Table 5: Effingham's Changing Landscape**

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>% of Town</u>
Land Value per Acre (2003)	\$1,424.00	
Important Forest Soils	16,424.0	66.2%
Protected Important Forest Soils	2,462.0	

Prime Agricultural Soil	195.0	0.8%
Protected Prime Agricultural Soils	67.8	
Prime White Pine Soil	4,437.0	17.9%
Protected White Pine Soils	1,245.0	
NWI Acres	4,095.0	16.5%
Protected NWI Acres (2004)	1,151.0	
High Yield Aquifer	3,756.0	
Wellhead Protection Area	4,503.0	
% Protected Total Water Supply		23.5%
Population Served by Community Water Supplies		520 people

Source: *New Hampshire's Changing Landscape 2005 Update*, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire's Forests

## **8.2 WATER RESOURCES**

### **8.2.1 Watersheds**

Effingham is one of the six-focus towns in the Ossipee Watershed drainage area. The Saco River Basin covers a 1,700 square mile area that includes 63 municipalities in New Hampshire and Maine. The Saco River starts in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, is joined in Cornish, Maine by the Ossipee River and ends at Saco Bay on the Maine coast.

The Ossipee Watershed (Figure 1) is included within the Saco River Basin and comprises about 379 square miles in area, located in Carroll and Grafton Counties in New Hampshire and York County in Maine. It contains 82 lakes and ponds and, at its widest point, the watershed extends approximately 29 miles east and west and 23 miles north and south. Waters from the Ossipee Watershed flow into the Saco River via the Ossipee River. The watershed's drainage area encompasses portions of 14 towns in New Hampshire (and is especially focused on six of them) and one town in Maine. The mountains of the Sandwich Range to the northwest, the Ossipee Mountains to the south and the sandy pine barren lands of the Ossipee-Freedom-Effingham plains to the east bound it. Elevations range from 375 feet at the Maine-New Hampshire border in Effingham to 4,060 feet on Mount Passaconway in Waterville.

**Figure 1** Ossipee Watershed



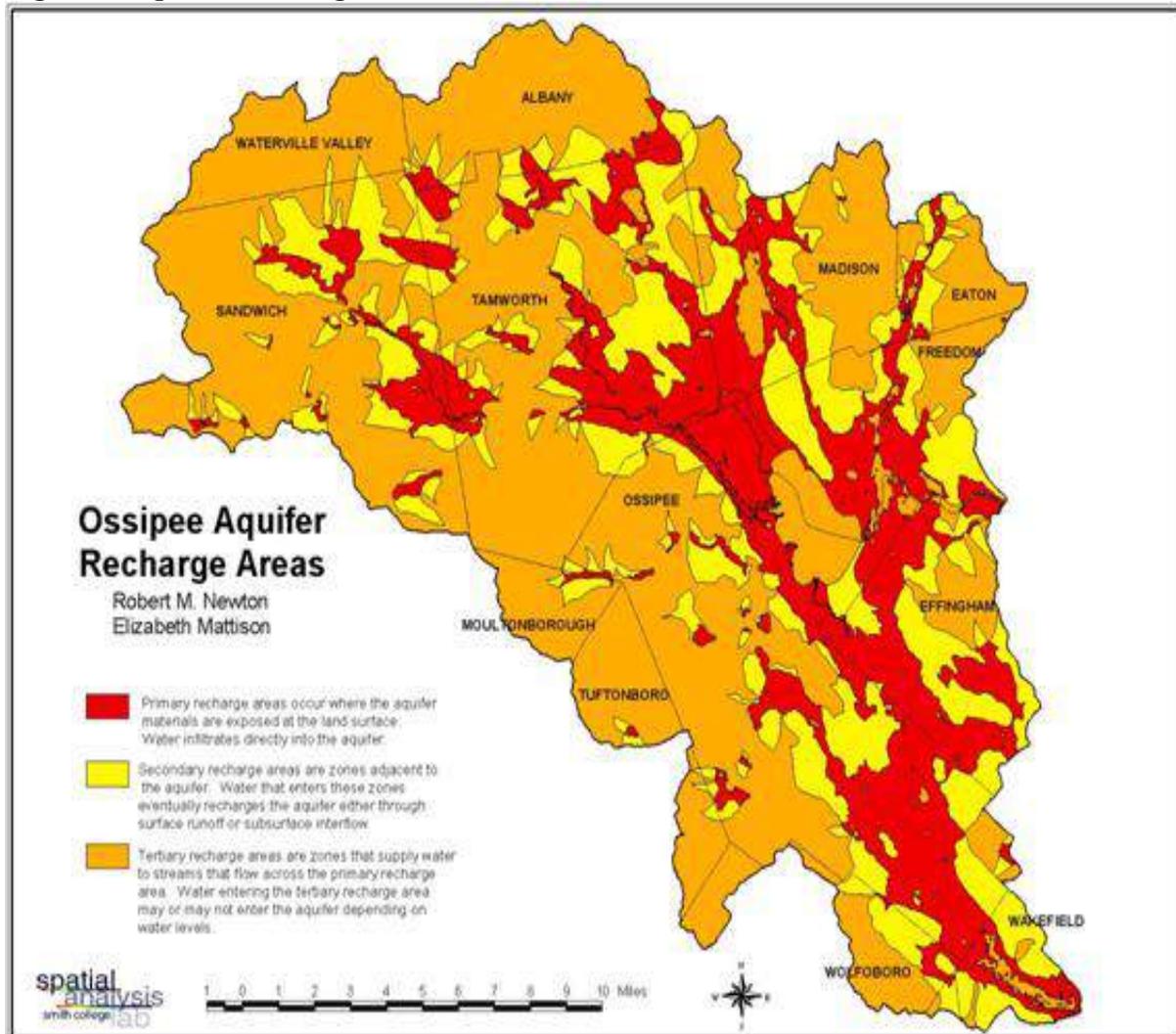
The Ossipee Watershed is comprised of 13 distinct drainage subsystems or sub-watersheds. Table 3 below indicates six of these 13 sub-watersheds located in the town of Effingham. About 14.7 % of Effingham overlays a high yield aquifer consisting of water supply land.

**Table 6: Effingham Sub-watersheds**

<u>Sub-watershed</u>	<u>Town(s)</u>
Broad/Leavitt Bay Watershed	Effingham, Freedom, Ossipee
Dan Hole Pond Watershed	Effingham, Ossipee
Lovell River Watershed	Effingham, Freedom, Ossipee
Maine State Line Watershed	Effingham, Freedom
Pine River Watershed	Effingham, Ossipee
South River Watershed	Effingham

A stratified drift aquifer consists of highly porous subsurface sand and gravel soil deposited by melting glaciers that covers 15% of the state. Aquifers of this type are referred to as high yield aquifers because they recharge rapidly. They are connected to water supply lands with highly permeable soils that readily absorb precipitation and allow it to percolate rapidly (at more than 2,000 feet per day) down to the subsurface water table and on to fill the aquifer. Water Supply Lands or aquifer recharge areas, shown in Figure 2 with red and yellow, are surface land areas connected with the groundwater by highly porous soil or rock layers.

**Figure 2 Aquifer Recharge Areas**



Aquifers formed from melt-water stream deposits are sensitive to developmental land use changes. Paving and building construction create impermeable surfaces that reduce groundwater recharge. Septic tanks, leaky petroleum tanks, chemical spills, and applications of fertilizer, road salt, pesticides and herbicides can all severely affect groundwater quality. The geomorphic processes that created the aquifer also created a landscape that has physical characteristics conducive to development. The flat slopes and very well drained soils of melt-water stream deposits are much sought after attributes for land developers.

Approximately 47 percent of the watershed is level to nearly level land (< 3 percent slope) and of that, almost half is occupied by the aquifer. If you add in secondary recharge areas, this increases to almost 70 percent. This creates a conflict between the need to protect the aquifer and the desire to increase economic development.

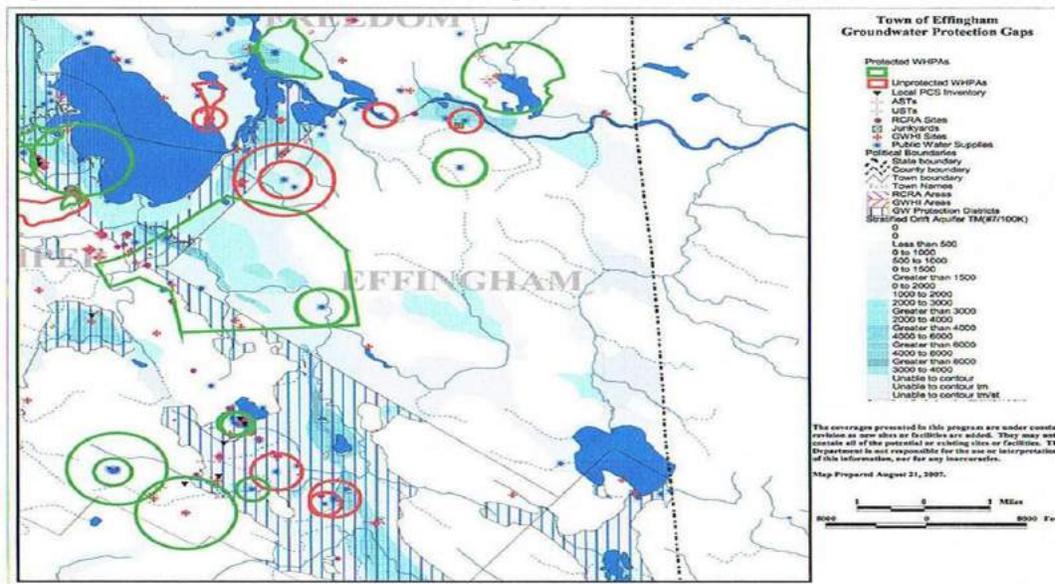
## 8.2.2 Drinking Water Resources

The majority of residents and businesses in the town of Effingham, in line with the Ossipee Watershed in general, use wells to get their drinking water from groundwater resources. Of the approximately 27,000 acres of high yield aquifer (i.e., best suited for well placement) that exist within the Ossipee Watershed, roughly 5,557 acres, or about 20%, is currently protected (lying beneath conservation lands).

**Table 7: Wellhead Protection Areas**

Wellhead Protection Area	4,503.3
Protected WHPA	1,091.2
% Protected WHPA	24.2
Coincident High Yield Aquifer & WHPA	2,609.0
Protected Coincident Aquifer & WHPA	893.2
% Protected Aquifer & WHPA	34.2

**Figure 3 Groundwater Protection Gaps**



(Source: Paul Susca, Supervisor, Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau; *NHDES – 2007*)

A wellhead protection area (WHPA) refers to a circular area of land centered over a well and drawn at a radius related to the well's capacity. The assumption that the WHPA is circular has to be made if resources are not available to do a rigorous aquifer analysis via pumping tests. In reality, unless the aquifer is homogeneous and isotropic (which seldom if ever occurs in nature), the WHPA will not be perfectly circular.

There are five WHPAs in the town of Effingham for a groundwater source. For community and non-transient systems, the WHPA is the area from which water is expected to flow to the well under extreme dry conditions. For transient systems, the WHPA is the area within 500 ft of the well. As seen in the map (Figure 3), there are two medium size protected WHPAs in Effingham. However, two small and the largest WHPA, consisting of two wellheads in Effingham, remain unprotected. This largest wellhead covers the groundwater in the adjacent town of Ossipee.

The watershed in Effingham has exemplary woodlands. The dry pine woodlands of the watershed include an unusual mixed pine - red oak woodland natural community that has three of the four native pines found in the state (red, white, and pitch) growing together. Pine River State Forest in Effingham and Ossipee is home to a large occurrence of the mixed pine - red oak woodland community.

The dry pine woodlands of the Ossipee Watershed are tightly aligned with the highest value recharge areas of the Ossipee aquifer. In many places, these woodlands overlay primary recharge areas with transmissivity values ranging from 6,000 – 8,000 square feet per day. The occurrences of dry pine woodlands in the watershed have also been identified in the Wildlife Action Plan as areas of “highest quality habitat in New Hampshire” and therefore sites of statewide conservation importance.

### 8.2.3 Wetlands

**Wetlands Definition:** Wetlands include those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted to life in saturated soil conditions.

In 2005-2007, the Effingham Conservation Commission was granted a NH Mooseplate grant to inventory the wetlands of Effingham and create a baseline study of the Town’s wetlands.

Effingham’s water bodies and wetlands are some of the town’s highest valued resources. Surface waters, including adjacent riparian areas (i.e. bank region surrounding or lining a water body) and associated wetlands, are some of the region's most productive and diverse ecological systems, serving as critical feeding, spawning and brood rearing habitat for many wildlife species. The following is a summary of the riparian areas of the Town.

**Table 8: Standing Water Sources (Surface Waters, Wetlands, etc) within Watershed**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Surface Waters	678.0
Shoreline – Great Ponds (>10 acres)	3.16
EPA High Value Wetlands	1044.0

Named lakes and ponds within the Ossipee Watershed include Berry Bay (partial), Chalk Pond, Hutchins Pond, Leavitt Bay (partial), and Province Lake (partial). Named moving water systems (rivers and streams) within the Ossipee Watershed include Flanders Brook, Hodgdon Brook, Leavitt Brook, Marstin Brook, Phillips Brook, Pine River, Red Brook (#2), Wilkinson Brook, Peavy (aka Hayes Daniel) Brook, South River, Stevens Brook, Taylor Brook, and Ossipee River.

All wetlands have functions that serve the surrounding ecosystem. All of these functions also contribute to the well-being of humans; therefore, they are highly valued by the society. The following list of functions and values represents the most commonly recognized benefits associated with wetlands.

**Wildlife Habitat** – Wetlands and their adjacent upland habitat offer more food, shelter, and reproduction options for wildlife than any other land-based ecosystem.

**Groundwater Recharge/Discharge** – Wetlands serve as places where water recharges to underlying aquifers as well as places where water discharges onto surrounding landscape.

**Sediment and Toxicant Removal and Attenuation** – Wetlands act as sediment traps, and the high amount of biological activity serves to break down nutrients and pollutants into harmless forms.

**Floodwater Storage and Dissipation of Erosive Forces** – The rapid uptake and gradual release of floodwaters saves society billions of dollars over time. Bordering vegetated wetlands along streams, rivers, pond shores and lake shores play an important role in protecting the integrity of shorelines.

**Production Export** – Hydric soils, if carefully managed, yield more food and fiber than any other agricultural soil. Forested swamps have been shown to sequester high amounts of carbon.

**Education / Scientific Research** – The high concentration of microhabitats and the ecosystem processes that regulate them make wetlands prime subjects of biological study.

**Visual & Aesthetic Resources** – Often under-rated, the visual qualities of wetlands offer a welcome break amidst a landscape that is fragmented by development.

## 8.3 SOILS

Soil is the portion of the surface of the earth that supports plants, animals and humans. There are more than 1,000 different soils in the Northeast, with 21 of them represented in Effingham. Soils information is an intricate part of a natural resource analysis because it provides a wealth of data concerning the capability of land uses. Soils differ from one another in their physical, chemical and biological properties. Soil properties, which affect the capacity to support development,

include depth permeability, wetness, slope, susceptibility to erosion, flood hazard, stoniness, among others.

Based on the General Soil Map of the Soil Survey of Carroll County, New Hampshire, published in 1977, the predominant soil associations in Effingham are as follows:

**Colton-Adams association:** Nearly level to very steep, excessively drained gravelly and sandy soils; on terraces, kames and eskers.

- Colton soils are excessively drained. They formed in gravel and sand deposits. Adams soils are excessively drained. They formed in thick sand deposits. Among the minor soils are scattered spots of moderately well drained Croghan and Duane soils. Both of these soils are in shallow depressions and have a seasonal high water table.
- The main limitation of soils of this association for community development is the potential pollution hazard to ground water from subsurface sewage disposal systems. Doughtiness and low natural fertility are the main limitations for farming. The soils in about one-third of the area are steep enough to have an additional moderate to severe hazard of erosion. Colton soils contain gravel and, in some places, cobbles that interfere with cultivation or landscaping operations.
- Most of this association is wooded, but some is in idle fields or pasture. Many communities are built at least partly on soils of this association.

**Hinckley-Windsor-Deerfield association:** Nearly level to very steep, excessively drained and moderately well drained gravelly and sandy soils; on terraces, kames and eskers.

- Hinckley soils are excessively drained. They formed in gravel and sand deposits.
- Windsor soils are excessively drained. They formed in thick sand deposits.
- Deerfield soils are moderately well drained. They formed in sand deposits. These soils are in shallow depressions where the water table rises to near the surface during the wet season.

Among the minor soils are scattered spots of **Gloucester and Naumburg soils**.

- The main limitation of soils of this association for community development is the potential pollution hazard to ground water from subsurface sewage disposal systems. Doughtiness and low natural fertility are the main limitations for farming. The soils in about one-third of the area are steep enough to have an additional moderate to severe hazard of erosion.
- Most of this association is wooded, but some is in idle fields or pasture. Many communities are built at least partly on soils of this association.

**Greenwood-Chocorua-Naumburg association:** Nearly level, very poorly drained organic soils and somewhat poorly drained sandy soils; along broad drainage ways and in depressions.

- Greenwood and Chocorua soils are very poorly drained. They formed in mucky peat deposits that vary in thickness. Chocorua soils are 16 to 51 inches thick over sand or gravel, and Greenwood soils are more than 51 inches thick. These soils are in depressions where the water table is at or near the surface most of the time.
- Naumburg soils are somewhat poorly drained. They formed in thick sand deposits. These soils are on slightly elevated positions adjacent to the wetter organic bogs on terraces and lake plains.
- The main limitation of soils in this association for most uses is the long duration high water table. The poor stability and shear strength of organic material is an added limitation of the organic soils.
- This association is in woods and open bogs. The excessive wetness and lack of adequate drainage outlets favor development for wetland wildlife habitat. Where areas are filled for roads, the organic material must be removed to reduce subsidence and improve stability.

**Paxton-Woodbridge-Ridgebury association:** Nearly level to moderately steep, well drained, moderately well drained, poorly drained and somewhat poorly drained loamy soils that have a pan layer; on uplands.

- Paxton soils are gently sloping to moderately steep and well drained. They formed in loamy glacial till. These soils have a loamy pan layer at a depth of 16 to 36 inches. They are commonly in the convex upper positions on the landscape. Stones are common on and below the surface.
- Woodbridge soils are gently sloping and moderately well drained. They formed in loamy glacial till and have a pan layer at a depth of 18 to 36 inches. These soils are on the lower concave slopes. Stones are common on the surface.
- Ridgebury soils are nearly level to gently sloping, poorly drained, and somewhat poorly drained. They formed in loamy glacial till and have a pan layer at a depth of 10 to 25 inches. These soils are in depressions and drainage ways.
- The major limitations of soils in this association for most farm and non-farm uses are a seasonal high water table, the pan layer and stoniness. If cleared of protective cover, most soils of this association have a moderate to severe hazard of erosion.

**Millis-Scituate-Ridgeury association:** Nearly level to moderately steep, well drained and moderately well drained soils that have a sandy pan layer, and poorly drained and somewhat poorly drained soils that have a loamy pan layer; on uplands.

- Millis soils are gently sloping to moderately steep and well drained. They formed in loamy glacial till and have a sandy pan layer of 18 to 36 inches. These soils are in convex upper landscape positions.
- Scituate soils are gently sloping to sloping and moderately well drained. They formed in loamy glacial till and have a sandy pan layer at a depth of 18 to 30 inches. These soils are in a concave intermediate landscape positions between well-drained Millis soils and poorly drained Ridgebury soils.
- Ridgebury soils are nearly level to gently sloping, poorly drained, and somewhat poorly drained. They formed in glacial till and have a loamy pan layer at a depth of 10 to 25 inches. These soils are in the low depressions and drainage-ways on uplands.
- The major limitations of soils of this association affecting most farm and non-farm uses are a seasonal high water table, the pan layer and stoniness. Cleared areas are susceptible to erosion.

**Hollis-Gloucester-Charlton association:** Gently sloping to very steep, somewhat excessively drained to well-drained to well-drained loamy and sandy soils that are shallow to deep over bedrock; on uplands and mountains.

- Hollis soils are gently sloping to very steep and somewhat excessively drained. They formed in loamy glacial till less than 20 inches thick over bedrock.
- Gloucester soils are gently sloping to very steep and somewhat excessively drained. They formed in stony glacial till. These soils are on hills and mountainsides below high ridges.
- Charlton soils are gently sloping to moderately steep and well drained. They formed in loamy glacial till. These soils are on the smoother landforms and in deep soil areas closely associated with the Hollis soils.
- The main limitations of soils of this association for most farm and non-farm uses are shallowness to bedrock, rockiness, steepness of slope and stoniness. Most of this association is wooded, but a few small tracts are in pasture or are idle.

(Source: *Soil Survey of Carroll County, New Hampshire*, USDA-Soil Conservation Service and Forest Service & NH Agricultural Experiment Station, 1977)

## 8.4 TOPOGRAPHY

Topography describes surface features of the land in terms of shape, relief and relative positions of natural features. Topography is usually expressed as elevation (height above mean sea level) and slope (change in vertical distance over horizontal distance). Topography affects several

natural processes, such as climate, drainage, erosion, wind patterns and vegetative growth, in turn affecting human activities.

Effingham's topography is a mixture of various terrain features. Effingham has extensive steep slopes in the area of the Green Mountain range and in several smaller areas about Town. The mountain area varies in elevation from approximately five hundred (500) feet to eighteen hundred and eighty-four (1884) feet at the summit of Green Mountain.

Effingham has extensive wetland areas, contiguous to rivers, streams and ponds in Town. Other wetland areas also exist in Town that are not contiguous to water bodies. The wetland areas are at elevations roughly between four hundred (400) and five hundred (500) feet.

The remainder of the Town is generally rolling topography, with some flatter arable areas.

## **8.5 SLOPE**

Slope is the amount of rise or fall in feet for a given horizontal distance and is expressed in percent. A 6% slope means that for a 100-foot horizontal distance the average rise or fall in height is six (6) feet. The slope of the land can have a great effect on development, and percent slope can greatly influence the economic and physical feasibility of development. The steeper the slope, the more it will cost for septic systems, driveways, foundations, etc. Additionally, as the slope increases so does the potential for an increase in erosion, storm-water runoff, and nutrient movement. Poor soil conditions combined with steep slopes can present significant development constraints.

Effingham's mountain areas have slopes mostly of 15-35%. The rolling areas have slopes of 8-15%. Slopes in and around the remaining areas including wetlands are from 0-8%.

## **8.6 WILDLIFE AND HABITATS**

Wildlife is considered a significant natural resource within the town, a resource dependent upon the land base for habitat. Individual species rely upon many different and specific habitat types for their survival, but the most critical habitats are water resources, including wetlands, riparian habitats, and large blocks of connected undeveloped habitat blocks and the connectivity corridors between those blocks. Effingham has an abundance of all three critical habitats and planning and development for the town should reflect the value of protecting those habitats. Because habitat is so important to wildlife, the Effingham habitats which support its abundant and varied wildlife are covered extensively in this section.

The majority of Effingham is upland habitat of the Hemlock-Hardwood-Pine Forest type. Thus, the five most common habitat types in Effingham are the following:

Hemlock-Hardwood-Pine-ex--Pine River-Green Mountain and surrounding areas

Peatlands-ex.--Wilkinson Swamp and Heath Pond Bog  
 Floodplain Forests-ex.--along the Ossipee and Pine Rivers  
 Wet Meadow/Shrub Wetlands-ex.--along the South River and north Province Lake  
 Pine Barrens-ex.--along Rt. 25 and southern Pine River

Additional habitat types occurring in Effingham include the following:

Northern Hardwood-Conifer forest-ex.--atop higher elevations of Green Mountain  
 Lowland Spruce-fir forest-ex. -- mid-range areas of Green Mountain  
 Grasslands-ex.--areas along Rt. 153 and Simon Hill Road  
 Shrublands-ex.--Wilkinson Swamp and northern area of South River  
 Vernal Pools-ex.--along Pine and Ossipee Rivers

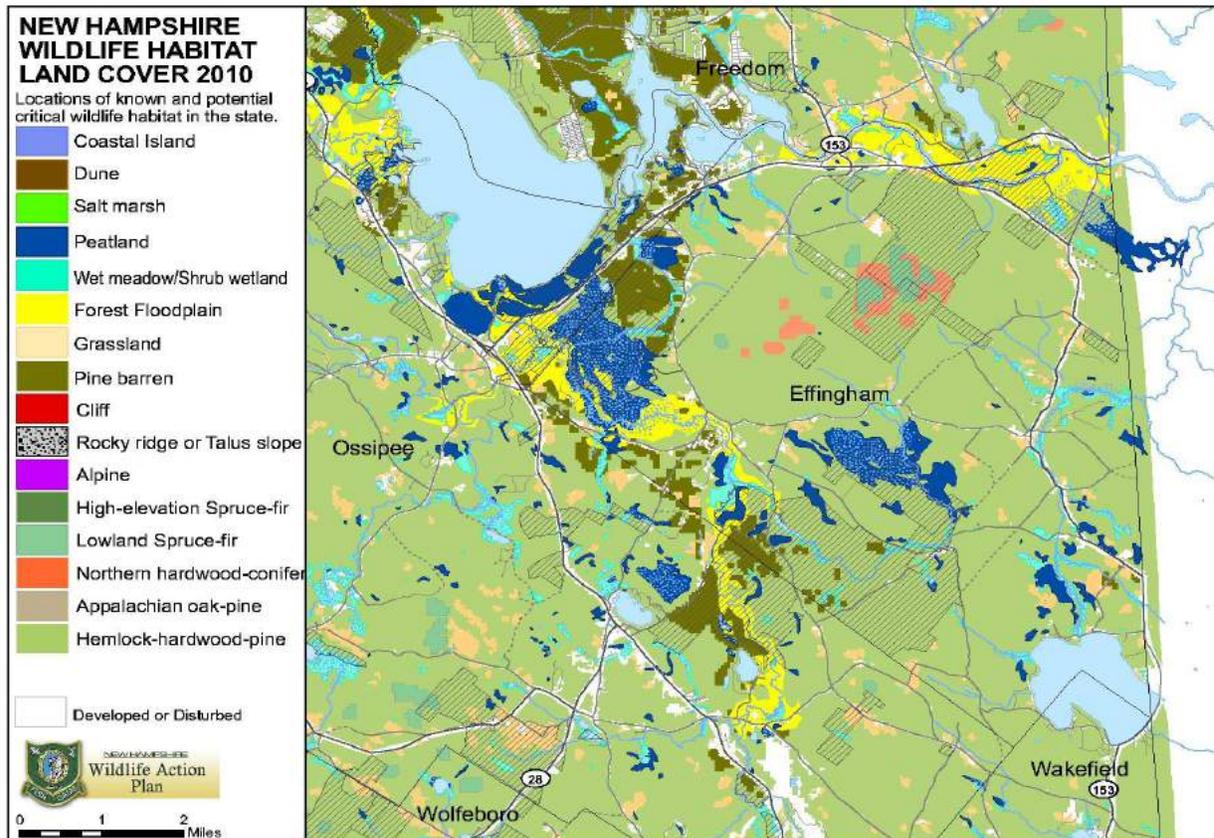
**Table 9: Effingham Wildlife Habitat Land Cover**

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Hemlock-Hardwood-Pine	20,876	79.6
Peat Lands	1,850	7.1
Forest Floodplain	1,700	6.5
Wet Meadow/Shrub Wetland	680	2.6
Pine Barrens	588	2.2
Northern Hardwood-Conifer	288	1.1
Lowland Spruce-Fir	169	0.6
Grasslands	87	0.3
Cliffs	0	0
Rocky Ridges & Talus Slopes	0	0
High Elevation Spruce-Fir	0	0

Source: Wildlife Habitat Land Cover, *Wildlife Action Plan*, NH Fish & Game Department, October 2005)

Additional habitat information can be found in Figure 5, on the following page.

**Figure 4: NH Wildlife Habitat Land Cover 2010**



Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data, New Hampshire Fish and Game (NHFG) biologists developed models of habitat for Figure 4. It was not possible to go everywhere in the state to see which habitats were where. It is possible to predict where habitats would be, based on known information. This known information included soils, elevation, climate, landforms, and broad vegetative classes. Based on this data, NHFG predicted the type of vegetation that would grow at that particular location. Additionally, NH Natural Heritage Bureau supplied natural community's data. The NH Land Cover data, which shows locations of various categories of developed and undeveloped land, was also used as well as the National Wetlands Inventory data for wetlands.

## 8.7.1 HABITATS

### 8.7.1.1 HEMLOCK-HARDWOOD-PINE FOREST

Effingham is primarily a Hemlock-Hardwood-Pine forest habitat. Colcord Hill, Green Mountain, Rumney Hill, and town lands on Hobbs Road are examples of this habitat. Hemlock- Hardwood-Pine forests provide habitat for wildlife.

Some common wildlife in this habitat include the following: Whitetail deer, Moose, Coyote, Fox, Turkey, Black bear, Ruffed grouse, Great horned owl, Wood snake, Garter snake, and Barred owl.

Hemlock-Hardwood-Pine forests also provide great recreation opportunities, including:

Hunting	Fishing	Hiking
Bird watching	Snowmobiling	Snowshoeing

Most of Effingham's Hemlock-Hardwood-Pine forests are privately owned. Some are managed for timber.

**Hemlock-Hardwood-Pine forest habitat is important** because the forests offer a wide variety of trees and food sources for all animals. In addition, these areas offer cover, perching and nesting sites for birds.

### 8.7.1.2 PEATLANDS

Peatlands are wetland ecosystems that contain peat – a spongy organic material formed by partially decayed wetland plants. The water in many peatlands is highly acidic and lacking nutrients, creating distinct growing conditions for Sphagnum moss, leatherleaf and bog laurel. Sedge grass and shrubs dominate less acidic peatlands.

Types of peatlands are:

- Bogs, which receive very little surface water and are among the most acidic peatlands.
- Fens, which are associated with moving water either along a river, lake or with a stream that flows into or out of the peatland.
- Peat swamps, which are peatlands dominated by trees.

Effingham is fortunate to have a number of peatlands, some are quite large. Effingham peatlands are found primarily in the Heath Pond Bog, Upper Pine River, Wilkinson Swamp, Upper Province Lake, and Ossipee River Habitats.

The following critical wildlife species are found statewide in peatlands: Hoary comma, Blanding's turtle, Mink frog, Eastern towhee, Spruce grouse, Ribbon snake, Rusty blackbird, Ringed boghaunter, Palm warbler, and Spotted turtle.

**Peatlands are important** because they add significantly to wildlife diversity. At least 550 different plants are found in New Hampshire peatlands. These areas also provide habitats for endangered plants, and animals.

### 8.7.1.3 FLOODPLAIN FOREST

Floodplain Forests occur near rivers, temporary wetlands, meadows, and dense shrub thickets. The periodic flooding that is characteristic of this habitat deposits nutrient-rich sand and silt for trees and plants to support wildlife. Effingham's Floodplain Forests can be found in the following areas: the Ossipee and Pine Rivers, and in and around the Heath Pond Bog.

Plant types in this habitat include the following:

Red maples	Sugar maples	Balsam fir
Black ash	Sycamore	River birch
Ironwood	Cottonwood	Black cherry oxbow
Shrub thickets	Wildflowers	Ferns

Wildlife species found in Floodplain Forests include Baltimore oriole, Otter, Belted kingfisher, Red billed woodpecker, Blue-gray gnatcatcher, Yellow throated vireo and Green heron.

**Floodplain Forest habitat is important** because it creates rich insect and amphibian breeding areas. These insects and amphibians become prey for birds.

### 8.7.1.4 WET MEADOW/SHRUB WETLANDS

Wet Meadow/Shrub wetlands habitats encompass a variety of wetland types, each with different vegetation, and have one thing in common: the soils in each are wet most of the year.

Types of marsh and shrub wetlands are:

- Wet meadows, which are filled with sedges and grasses. Wet meadows may not be flooded all year, but are wet for long periods in spring and summer.
- Marshes, which contain plants that grow out of the water, but their roots are wet, such as cattails, pickerelweed, and water lilies.
- Shrub wetlands, which are thickets of shrubs and young trees growing out of wet soils.

These areas often flood in the spring.

Wet Meadow/Shrub wetlands are found primarily along the Pine, South, and Ossipee Rivers as well as the north and eastern side of Province Lake in Effingham.

Wildlife species include a wide variety of turtles, snakes, ducks, rabbits, and birds.

**Wet Meadow/Shrub wetlands are important** because they are rich habitats providing a number of critical ecosystem functions such as flood control, pollutant filtration, erosion control and wildlife habitat. Marshes are important breeding areas for fish, waterfowl, and amphibian breeding. Shrub wetlands may seem inhospitable to people, but their dense thickets provide reliable cover from predators for many species.

### **8.7.1.5 PINE BARRENS**

Pine barrens are rare, fire-dependent natural communities supporting unique plants and creatures. Technically known as pitch pine – scrub oak woodlands, pine barrens are one of New Hampshire’s rarest natural communities. Formerly covering more land area in the state, they have been reduced by forestry that favored commercial species like white pine. Large tracts were found in the Ossipee River watershed, which includes Effingham. Examples of pine barrens are west of the Pine River and in surrounding areas of the Heath Pond Bog area.

Pine barrens are characterized by a high percentage of pitch pine and some red pine as the dominant large tree species. Beneath these trees grow smaller scrub oaks and low-growing shrubs such as blueberries. Grassy openings may feature blue lupine and other herbaceous plants. Pine barren plants have adapted to resist fire so periodic burning clears away other types and maintains the balance in the ecosystem.

More than 50 rare plant and animal species rely on pine barrens. These include the Whip-poor-will, Eastern towhee and Karner Blue butterfly, as well as many lesser-known species of moths.

**Pine barrens are important** because they frequently are located on top of stratified drift aquifers like the Ossipee Aquifer that underlies much of Effingham. Thriving natural communities provide the best filtration for water percolating in to recharge vital drinking water supplies. Vegetative cover and lack of development provide a defense for pure water supplies in this habitat.

### **8.7.1.6 NORTHERN HARDWOOD-CONIFER FORESTS**

Typically found on well-drained fertile slopes with elevation between 1500 and 2500 feet, northern hardwood-conifer forests contain sugar maple, American beech, and yellow birch as

the dominant species of trees. Striped maple, witch hazel, and hobblebush shrubs are typical in the understory with wild sarsaparilla, starflower, and blue-bead lily on the forest floor. The best examples of northern hardwood-conifer forests have stands of large trees in the canopy, young trees in the understory, many standing dead trees, and abundant dead or decaying trees on the ground. Large cavity trees, pockets of wetlands, seeps and interspersed patches of conifers make some areas of northern hardwood-conifer forest especially rich for wildlife.

This habitat is found in Effingham only at the higher elevations of Green Mountain.

Examples of wildlife species in this habitat are the Wood thrush, Bobcat, Black bear, Flying squirrel, grey fox, Mink frog, Pileated woodpecker, Ribbon snake, and Blue spotted salamander.

**Northern Hardwood-Conifer Forests are important** because many of these forests remain unfragmented by development and roads, making them an important ecological refuge for plants and animals. These forests provide habitat for hundreds of species of wildlife, including forty-two mammals and seventy-three birds.

### **8.7.1.7 LOWLAND SPRUCE-FIR FORESTS**

Lowland Spruce-Fir Forest habitat usually occurs in elevations between 1000 and 2500 feet on poor soils such as rocky ridges. Red spruce and balsam fir are the dominant trees, often mixed with yellow and paper birch. Hobblebush, bunchberry, and blueberry are found on the forest floor. The lowland forests are less stressed by the cold and dry conditions of higher elevations, and support larger trees creating a more diverse community of plants and animals.

Examples of this habitat are limited to small mid-range areas of Green Mountain.

Lowland spruce-fir forests are habitat to the American marten, Hoary bat, Cooper's hawk, Black bear, Northern bog lemming, Bald eagle, and the Black backed woodpecker.

**Lowland Spruce-Fir Forest is important** because New Hampshire lies at the southern edge of the range of spruce-fir forests in North America. As a result, this habitat supports over fifty wildlife species that do not occur together in most other parts of the eastern U.S.

### **8.7.1.8 GRASSLANDS**

Grasslands habitats are commonly agricultural fields such as hayfields, pastures, and fallow fields. Here vegetation consists of a mixture of grass species, sedges and wildflowers. More than seventy species of wildlife use open areas of fields and wildflowers to meet their needs for food, cover and breeding. Today, humans maintain most grasslands in Effingham. If left alone, these habitats will grow back with shrubs and small trees, reverting eventually to forest.

Grassland examples are found primarily at old farms where the landowners still maintain their fields by mowing. Examples are found along Town House Road, Simon Hill Road and Rt. 153.

Wildlife species found in grasslands are Eastern meadowlark, Bobolink, Whip-poor-will, White tail deer, Wood turtles, Northern leopard frog, Smooth green snake and Eastern hognose snake.

**Grasslands are important** to a wide variety of species that require open spaces and grassland nesting birds. Smaller than five acre grasslands are still important for many species as foraging areas for nesting birds in nearby larger fields or for migrating birds passing through this area.

### **8.7.1.9 SHRUBLANDS**

Shrublands habitats are usually temporary, existing on the land for a relatively short period of time. If an open field is left un-mowed, for just a few years, shrubs and young trees will start to grow, shading out grasses and wildflowers. Within twenty-five to thirty years, the area that was once a field will become a young forest.

Whether the shrubland habitat develops because of human activity or is naturally occurring, shrublands are in patches throughout Effingham. Naturally occurring examples are in Wilkinson Swamp and along South River as it crosses Snow Road.

Shrublands are a vital habitat to the American woodcock, Eastern towhee, Bobcat, Moose, Eastern box turtle, Golden-winged warbler, Ruffed grouse, and New England cottontail.

**Shrublands are important** because of the dense growth which provides good cover for wildlife. The shrubs and young trees provide an abundance of fruits and berries, eaten by many birds and animals.

### **8.7.1.10 VERNAL POOLS**

Vernal pools are wetlands with a seasonal cycle of flooding and drying. Some vernal pools flood in the spring with water from melting snow, rain or high groundwater and then typically dry out by summer's end. Other pools follow a similar pattern, but fill with rain in the autumn, hold water all winter and spring, and then dry out by late summer. The annual drying cycle of vernal pools play a key role in determining what wildlife species uses which pools as habitat. Vernal pools can exist almost anywhere-in forests, fields, shrub swamps, marshes, or in gravel pits. They can be smaller than one-tenth acre or larger than two acres. Some sunnier pools may contain sphagnum moss, sedges, ferns and shrubs such as high-bush blueberry or

buttonbush. Red maple and eastern hemlock commonly grow on the edges of these pools. Dry vernal pools can often be identified by the presence of dark, matted leaves within a depression in the ground. Examples of vernal pools can be found along the Pine and Ossipee Rivers.

**Vernal pools are important** because they provide key breeding habitat for amphibians. In the spring, these amphibians migrate from nearby woodlands to vernal pools where they breed and deposit their eggs. Once hatched, tadpoles and larvae develop quickly into young frogs and salamanders. Other species such as fairy shrimp, turtles, Spring peepers, Damsel & Dragonflies also use this type of habitat.

### **8.7.1.11 WILDLIFE SPECIES**

The New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan (WAP), which was mandated and funded by the federal government, identifies statewide strategies for identifying, restoring and maintaining critical habitats and populations of wildlife species of conservation and management concern. This watershed is home to a third of the state's wildlife species of conservation concern.

Please refer to

[http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/Wildlife\\_Plan/WAP\\_pieces/WAP\\_Chapter\\_2.pdf](http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/Wildlife_Plan/WAP_pieces/WAP_Chapter_2.pdf) for a listing.

In addition, a list of species, by town, is available from NH Natural Heritage Inventory at <http://www.dred.state.nh.us/divisions/forestandlands/bureaus/naturalheritage/listsforms.htm>.

In 2007, the Effingham Conservation Commission received a New Hampshire Mooseplate Grant to inventory the wildlife in Effingham with the Wildlife Action Plan. This data collected by Dr. Rick Van de Pol, of Ecosystem Management Consultants, provided Effingham with a baseline of wildlife information.

Dr. Van de Pol used information from the 2005-2007 Effingham Wetland Inventory & Protection Project to update habitat maps, plot known occurrences of rare wildlife species, and locate the best wetland wildlife habitat in town. Selected field excursions into previously unvisited upland habitat areas, as well as a careful review of aerial photography were used to provide an initial estimate of the best upland habitat areas in Effingham. A total of 3141 acres of wetlands and 12,043 acres of uplands were initially identified as the best habitat areas.

Below are the threatened wildlife observed by Dr. Rick Van de Pol during the 2007-2009 Wildlife Action Plan Implementation Project in Effingham.

- **Mammals:**  
Bobcat
- **Birds:**  
Great Blue Heron, Eastern Towhee, Ruffed Grouse, Bald eagle, Purple Finch, Rusty Blackbird, Purple Finch, Canada Warbler, Palm warbler, Common nighthawk, American

black duck, Common loon, Whip-poor-will, American bittern, Cooper’s hawk, American woodcock

- **Fishes:**  
Brook trout, Burbot, Bridle shiner
- **Turtles:**  
Spotted turtle, Blanding’s turtle
- **Amphibians:**  
Blue-spotted salamander
- **Odonates (Dragonflies):**  
Martha’s pennant, White corporal, Ski-tailed emerald, Maine snaketail, Brook snaketail
- **Lepidoptera (Moths):**  
Xylotype capax, Nepythia pellucidaria, Zale sp.1

For a complete list of non-threatened wildlife in Effingham, please refer to the species listings in the 2007-2009 Wildlife Action Plan Implementation Project.

### 8.7.1.12 WILDLIFE AND HABITAT CONSERVATION

The protection of critical and endangered wildlife is an important purpose of conservation in Effingham. This should be pursued through conservation planning and management and achieved through voluntary land conservation. Effingham’s large unfragmented tracts of land are important for the wildlife species which make their home in Effingham. Preservation of these tracts, where possible, and the connection of contiguous conservation parcels which allow wildlife to roam through continuous forest cover are important. In addition, the wetlands areas that comprise approximately 25% of Effingham are especially important as wildlife habitat.

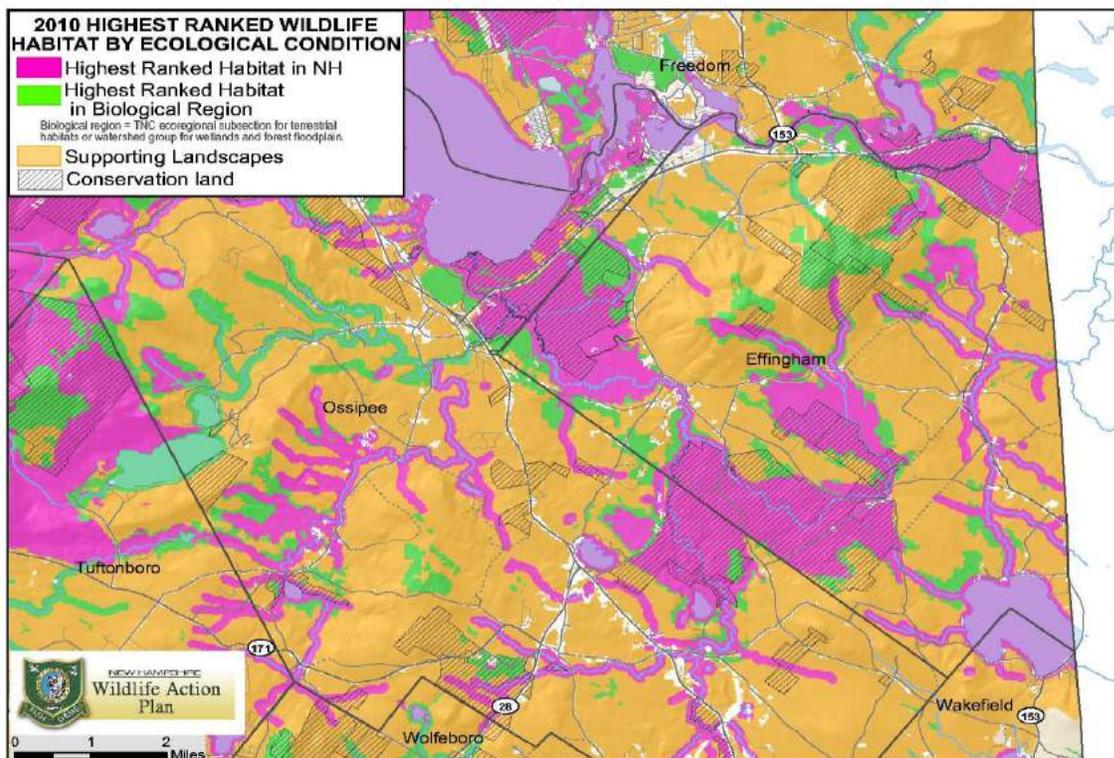
Wildlife habitat conservation actions provide many societal benefits, such as clean air and water, species diversity, sustainable economic growth, protection of flood retention areas and preserving the rural character of New Hampshire. The Ossipee Watershed encompasses some of the highest ranked wildlife habitat by condition in the State of New Hampshire, but falls below the statewide town-average for percent in conservation. Table 10 provides this information.

**Table 10: Summary of Effingham Top-Ranked Wildlife Habitat by Ecological Condition (NH Wildlife Action Plan spatial data – October 2006)**

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Conserved</u>	
		<u>Acres</u>	<u>%</u>
Effingham – Total Area	25,556		
Effingham – Total Land Area	24,827		
Tier 1 (Highest Ranked Wildlife Habitat in NH-30.5%)	7,788	2,668	34.3
Tier 2 (Highest Ranked in Biological Region)	768	372	48.4
Tier 3 (Supporting Landscape)	14,878	2,143	14.4

Figure 5 shows Effingham highest ranked habitat map. Effingham is most fortunate to have several areas of highest ranked habitat in NH and highest ranked habitat by biological condition. As seen in Table 10, above, a good percentage of these habitats are under conservation.

**Figure 5: 2010 Highest Ranked Wildlife Habitat**



*New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan. October 2005. NH Fish and Game Department, in cooperation with conservation partners. [http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/wildlife\\_plan.htm](http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/wildlife_plan.htm)*

The Natural Resources Inventory, which was prepared by the Effingham Conservation Commission, should be used as a basis for identifying and protecting critical and endangered wildlife species and the habitat that supports them. Five areas in Effingham have been recognized and are considered priority conservation areas, as seen in Figure 6. These areas are where critical and endangered wildlife are most likely to be found. The following priority conservation areas include several habitat types.

**Area A-Heath Pond Bog area** – peatland, pine barren, floodplain forest, hemlock-hardwood-pine, and grassland habitats

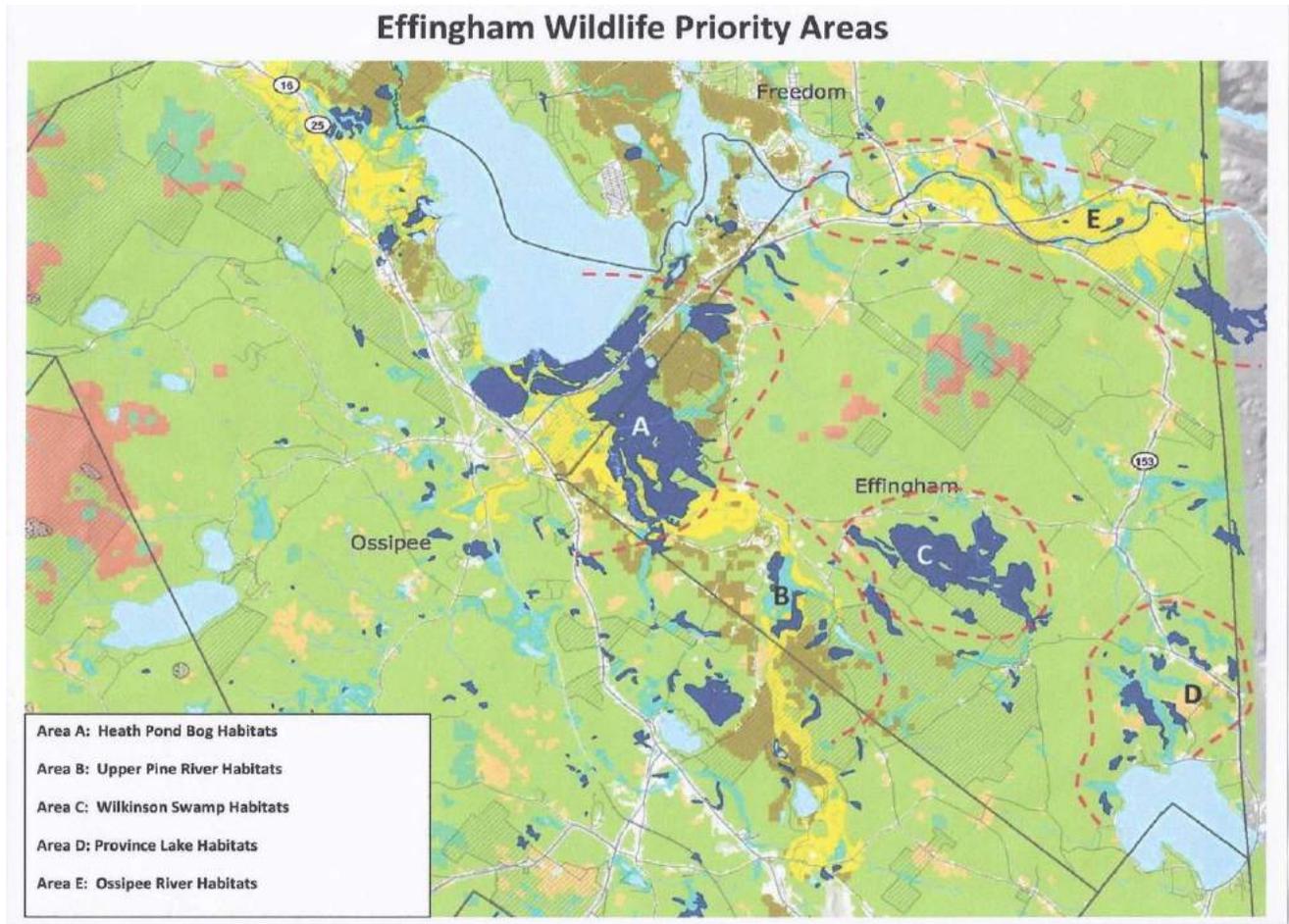
**Area B-Upper Pine River area** --floodplain forest, peatland, pine barren, marsh and shrub wetland, hemlock-hardwood-pine, and grassland habitats

**Area C-Wilkinson Swamp area** – peatland, hemlock-hardwood-pine, wet meadow/shrub wetland, and grassland habitat

**Area D-Province Lake area** – peatland, hemlock-hardwood-pine, wet meadow/shrub wetland, pine barren, and grassland habitats

**Area E-Ossipee River area** – floodplain forest, peatland, wet meadow/shrub wetland, grassland, and hemlock-hardwood-pine habitats.

**Figure 6**



(Sources: *Rare Plants, Rare Animals, and Exemplary Natural Communities in New Hampshire Towns*. NH Natural Heritage Bureau. 2007;[http://www.dred.state.nh.us/divisions/forestandlands/bureaus/naturalheritage/documents/web\\_towns\\_001.pdf](http://www.dred.state.nh.us/divisions/forestandlands/bureaus/naturalheritage/documents/web_towns_001.pdf) *New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan*. October 2005. NH Fish and Game Department, in cooperation with conservation partners. [http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/wildlife\\_plan.htm](http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/wildlife_plan.htm))

### **8.7.1.13 CONSERVATION TYPES**

**Voluntary conservation easements** are legally binding agreements between a landowner and a conservation easement, which limits use of the land in perpetuity. The landowner retains ownership of the land.

Under **Fee Acquisition**, the landowner sells or donates full ownership of their land to a conservation organization.

Other objects with more limited legal protection for the land include **Deed Restrictions and Covenants**.

## **8.8 SCENIC RESOURCES**

It has often been said that Effingham is a small town with a mountain in the middle. Green Mountain stands at 1884 feet with five tops (see figure 4). It also has several hiking trails that lead to the fire tower at the summit. The South River, which starts at an outflow from Province Lake, runs north to the Ossipee River. Fishing is a popular pastime. The Larry Leavitt Preserve, on NH State Route 153, offers benches and a bird watching platform. Other bird watching opportunities can be found at the Audubon Watts Sanctuary, Pine River State Forest and Wilkinson Swamp.

Scenic resources can be found by simply taking a bicycle or vehicle ride around Effingham. Many views of Green Mountain are available as well as scenic open fields, centuries old homes, barns, and stone walls created by early residents of Effingham.

Seasonal sports, such as snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, are enjoyed in the winter.

Nature is all around us in Effingham.

**Table 11: Conservation Land in Effingham**

Conservation Lands in Effingham						
Name	Tax Map			Location	Primary Protection Agency	
	Map #	Lot #	Acres			
Watts Wildlife Sanctuary	404	18	263.00	Huntress Bridge Road	Audubon Soc of NH	
Little Property - Watts Wildlife Sanct.	404	20	133.00	Huntress Bridge Road	Audubon Soc of NH	
Stephanie Barnes Cons. Easement	404	5	86.14	330 Province Lake Road	Audubon Soc of NH	
NRCS WRP Seabury	404	22	44.00	8 Huntress Bridge Road	USDA, Nat Res Conserv Serv	
Wilkinson Brook Preserve	412	20	49.77	Town House Road	Nature Conservancy	
Moulton Tract	412	40	64.21	Wilkinson Swamp Rd	Nature Conservancy	
Moulton Tract	412	48	137.35	Off Forest View Drive	Nature Conservancy	
Charlie Watts Tract	202	1	1034.93	Province Lake Road	Soc Protection NH Forests	
Dwight Mills Addition	405	11	83.73	Highwatch Road	Soc Protection NH Forests	
Dwight Mills Addition	405	12	594.50	Highwatch Road	Soc Protection NH Forests	
Patricia Watts Addition	409	10	61.00	Off Town House Road	Soc Protection NH Forests	
Dearborn Trail Addition	410	57	84.00	Hobbs Road	Soc Protection NH Forests	
196 Huntress Bridge Road	403	9	9.00	196 Huntress Bridge Rd	Green Mtn Conserv Group	
Varrieur	404	17	24.00	Province Lake Road	Audubon Soc of NH	
Green Mountain Natural Area	201	1	41.09	Green Mountain Road	Green Mtn Conserv Group	
Nath Easement	412	58	309.00	Off Granite Road	Nature Conservancy	
Leavitt Easement	203	30	59.00	Plantation Road	Green Mtn Conserv Group	
Green Mountain State Forest	405	1	17.00	Green Mountain	NH Dept of Res&EconDev	
Heath Pond Bog Natural Area	408	20	503.00	Off Rte 25	NH Dept of Res&EconDev	
Heath Pond Bog Natural Area	407	46	145.00	Off Rte 26	NH Dept of Res&EconDev	
Pine River State Forest	413	15	345.00	Hutchins Pond Road	NH Dept of Res&EconDev	
Pine River State Forest	416	32	1014.00	Wilkinson Swamp Rd	NH Dept of Res&EconDev	
Pine River State Forest	416	21	720.00	Wilkinson Swamp Rd	NH Dept of Res&EconDev	
Town of Effingham Property	106	12	1.06	Lake Shore Drive	Town of Effingham (ECC)	
Town of Effingham Property	106	14	0.21	Lake Shore Drive	Town of Effingham (ECC)	
Town of Effingham Property	202	24	0.46	Province Lake Road	Town of Effingham (ECC)	
Town of Effingham Property	202	25	0.36	Province Lake Road	Town of Effingham (ECC)	
Town of Effingham Property	410	75	14.50	Province Lake Rd (LLP)	Town of Effingham (ECC)	
Town of Effingham Property	410	77	0.34	Off Province Lake Rd	Town of Effingham (ECC)	
Town of Effingham Property	412	16	45.00	Off Town House Road	Town of Effingham (ECC)	
Town of Effingham Property	412	21	54.00	Off Town House Road	Town of Effingham (ECC)	
Town of Effingham Property	413	19	10.30	Off Drake Road	Town of Effingham (ECC)	

## **8.9 NATURAL RESOURCES GOALS**

Natural resources goals should consider the percentage of land remaining in Effingham that remains economically viable for residential and commercial use when proposing new or increased land use regulations.

### **8.9.1 CONTIGUOUS OPEN SPACE**

1. Pursue land protection opportunities that create corridors of contiguous open space between currently protected lands.
2. Promote the preservation of frontage where large blocks of open space and wildlife corridors cross roadways.
3. Pursue conservation easements, or other forms of protection, on lands adjacent to permanently protected parcels to preserve contiguous corridors of undeveloped land.
4. Partner with other conservation based organizations (The Nature Conservancy, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, New Hampshire Audubon, Green Mountain Conservation Group), working in Effingham and the region to increase funds, reach a wider audience, prioritize parcels for protection, and pursue land protection efforts to the benefit of the community and the region.
5. Consider bond money for conservation purchases, when and where appropriate.

### **8.9.2 MOUNTAINS**

1. Highlight health, safety and environmental concerns and related impact on town financial resources when steep slope and high elevation development is proposed.
2. Explore a ridgeline development ordinance to limit the impact of developments at higher elevations.
3. Identify viewshed areas of high value and encourage open space or conservation subdivision in those areas.
4. Review and update site plan regulations to ensure that the steep slope development regulations are reinforced to reduce the impact on steep slopes.
5. Review and update the regulations relative to erosion and sediment control to ensure these follow the most current “best management practices” (BMPs).
6. Review and update the regulations relative to earth excavation regulations to ensure they protect natural resources more effectively.

### **8.9.3 RURAL AREAS**

1. Base lot sizes in the rural areas of town on land capability, existing natural resources, and the distinct character of the district.
2. Review the existing conservation subdivision ordinance.

3. Pursue protection of the limited agricultural land in town
4. Continue making Effingham's land use regulations "farm friendly."

#### **8.9.4 WILDLIFE AND HABITAT RESOURCES**

1. Promote the use of BMPs in all logging operations.
2. Identify and consider forest and habitat zones which contain valuable resources.
3. Consider efforts to secure conservation easements on undeveloped land with significant natural resources and on town lands that are environmentally sensitive.
4. Encourage landowners to develop stewardship plans.
5. Preserve corridors between habitats and protected open space, particularly along waterways to help wildlife find access to food, shelter, water, and breeding areas without conflict with human activities.
6. Develop a course of action following the New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan (WAP) and specific findings in Effingham. Coordinate efforts in Effingham with statewide strategies for identifying, restoring and maintaining critical habitats and populations of wildlife species of concern.
7. Use the community-owned resource of town forest as a great educational asset to demonstrate long-term stewardship and management. The town's active land management and work with professional foresters can play an important role in demystifying the process and outcome of responsible management. Town-owned forests could also be managed for recreation.
8. Provide opportunities for the public to learn about and view local wildlife.

#### **8.9.5 WETLANDS AND SURFACE WATERS**

1. Support regulations to protect vernal pools and update wetland ordinance.
2. Pursue easements for buffers along South River, Pine River, Ossipee River and Province Lake shore areas in Effingham.
3. Protect riparian corridors, shorelines, and wetlands from incompatible development that could degrade water quality. (<http://www.des.state.nh.us/sp.htm>). Include consideration of culvert design as wildlife corridors.
4. Identify and evaluate potential sources of contamination to surface waters and the aquifer. Routinely monitor water bodies in Effingham through such agencies as Green Mountain Conservation Group and provide remedial mechanism if any problem is identified.
5. Improve the quality of storm water being discharged into surface waters through treatment, or storm water detention. Divert any water flow into vegetated areas. Use drains, swales and water bars.
6. Review impervious surface limits in the site plan review regulations, and encourage the use of pervious surfaces for areas like overflow parking lots to help manage non-point pollution and storm water drainage.
7. Apply BMPs for the maintenance of dirt roads, and for areas adjacent to all roadways.

8. Consider road salt use and implement BMPs for salt storage, road maintenance, and snow dumping to prevent impacts of road salt on surface waters.
9. Promote BMPs regarding the management of vegetation around the lake shoreline.

## **8.9.6 DRINKING WATER RESOURCES**

1. Promote Low Impact Development (LID) techniques in the site plan review process, which promote infiltration on permeable surfaces.
2. Use BMPs to reduce non-point pollutants from industrial, commercial and residential developments. This includes the proper handling and storage of substances to prevent harmful pollutants from entering surface and groundwater. Conduct BMP surveys regularly at facilities that use more than household quantities of regulated substances.
3. Initiate source water protection programs within public water supply areas.
4. Plan ahead and prepare for an emergency well closing, as well as future water supply needs for the town.

## **8.10 REFERENCES**

Additional reading materials for this chapter may be found in the Appendix to the Master Plan. Those reading materials include the following:

**Natural Resources Inventory  
2007-2009 Wildlife Action Plan Implementation Project for Effingham  
2005-2007 Wetland Inventory and Protection Project for Effingham**

## **8.11 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Effingham Conservation Commission gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, agencies, and organizations:

**UNH Cooperative Extension  
Green Mountain Conservation Group  
NH Audubon Society  
NH Department of Transportation  
NH Fish & Game Department  
NH Department of Resources & Economic Development  
NH Natural Heritage Bureau  
Society for the Protection of NH Forests  
The Nature Conservancy**

We, the ECC, want to recognize certain individuals for their support, guidance, and feedback: Kamal Nath, former chair of ECC and principal writer of the Natural Resource Inventory; Amanda Stone, Malin Clyde and Wendy Scribner of the UNH Cooperative Extension, for their invaluable assistance with the “Taking Action For Wildlife” program; Rick Van de Pol, Ecosystem Management Consultants, author of the New Hampshire Mooseplate grants for Effingham’s Wetland Survey and Wildlife Action Plan; Mike Cauble and Jim Morris, Co-Chairs of the Effingham Master Plan Advisory Committee.



# **CHAPTER 9: IMPLEMENTATION GOALS AND ACTIONS**



Land Use

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
Explore ordinance and regulation revisions that support the development of cottage industries and protect scenic resources from commercial development.	Identify and create an appropriate location for the establishment of a commercial zone in the zoning ordinance	2	Economic Development Committee (EDC)	2013
	Develop design guidelines for non-residential development which are consistent with community characteristics and style	3	Planning Board	2014
Promote open space/cluster development in Effingham	Review and amend the zoning ordinance.	1	Planning Board	2013

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
	Conduct programs to educate and increase awareness of residents and developers about the benefits of this type of developments.	2	Planning Board	2012
Improve current ordinances and regulations.	Conduct a viewshed analysis to identify critical views for preservation.	3	Planning Board	2013
	Explore senior housing opportunities.	2	Planning Board	2014
	Enhance fire protection requirements for new development through changes to existing subdivision regulations	1	Planning Board	2013

## Effingham Master Plan

### GOALS AND ACTIONS

#### Transportation

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
:				
Develop and update a comprehensive Transportation Plan	Develop an annual Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)	1	Selectmen	2013
	Develop a set of road standards	1	Selectmen	2013
	Perform an annual review of roads and bridges	1	Selectmen	Ongoing
	Obtain input for a Capital Improvement Plan	2	Planning Board	Ongoing

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
:				
Ensure that environmental issues are considered in transportation planning and projects	As part of the TIP, develop an erosion control and drainage program	1	Selectmen	Ongoing
	Develop a snow removal and chemical application program as part of the TIP	2	Selectmen	Ongoing
	Ensure scenic resources are considered in transportation issues	2	Selectmen	Ongoing
Develop a system to TIP and CIP	Coordinate with Budget Committee for needed funding	1	Selectmen	2013
	Work with State and Regional bodies to communicate Effingham's concerns re: NH Routes 25 and 153	2	Selectmen	Ongoing

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
:				
	Continue exploring opportunities for bridge repair through State Aid Bridge programs	1	Selectmen	Ongoing
To consider other issues	Work with regional agencies to develop a public transportation system	1	Selectmen	Ongoing
	Consider alternatives for performing public works functions (road repair, mowing, plowing, etc.)	2	Selectmen	2013
	Review policies for class V and VI roads	2	Selectmen	2013

## Effingham Master Plan Vision and Goals

### GOALS AND ACTIONS

#### Recreation and Community Resources

	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
Goal 1: Develop a formal recreation program to serve Effingham residents	Appoint a recreation committee	1	Select Board (SB)	2012/2013
	Inventory recreational facilities, both public and private.	2	SB/Recreation committee	2013
	Partner with the Effingham Elementary School for after- hour's activities.	3	Principal/School Physical Ed Teacher/Recreation committee	2012

	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
	Explore mergers with neighboring towns.	4	Abutting towns' recreation directors/Effingham recreation committee	2012
	Map-out access to water bodies and forests, including trails and trailheads	5	Conservation committee	2012
	Create a community calendar	6	SB/ recreation committee/Effingham residents	Ongoing
	Consider employing a part-time recreation director.	7	SB/recreation committee	March 2012
	Maintain and expand existing trails and access points	8	Selectmen, Recreation Committee, Conservation Committee	2013
	Explore an additional area for a playground facility	3	Selectmen, Recreation Committee, Conservation Committee	2013
LIBRARY	Since the 2003 MP Effingham Library now has access to the entire first floor of the "Town Hall". The majority of the 2003 objectives have been met.			

	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
	The current major project is the purchase of appropriate shelving. Once shelving is purchased and in place the collection will be housed in the reception area, leaving the second room (currently the stacks) to be used as the community meeting room/media center.			
Goal 1: Complete the refurbishment of the library.	Seek funding for purpose-built, adjustable library shelving.	1	Library staff/trustees	2011 (Complete)
	Request a grant from the Friends of the Effingham Library (FEL).	2	Library staff/Trustees/FEL	2011 (Complete)
	Continue the history project with the Historical Society.	3	Historical society/Library staff/Effingham citizens	Ongoing
Goal 2: Complete and implement a technology plan.	Identify media needs including electronic books and soft ware.	1	Library staff/Trustees/Effingham residents	Ongoing
	Determine cost.	2	Library staff/Trustees	2012

	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
	Request adequate town funding.	3	Library staff/Trustees	Ongoing
	Apply for grant funds.	4	Staff/Trustees/FEL	2011/2012
HISTORIC DISTRICT Goal 1: Protect and preserve historic districts. <i>(There will be an entire chapter on historic district and cultural events)</i>	Inventory historic properties.	1	Historical society	2012
	Identify potential areas for historic designation.	2	Historical Society Effingham citizens	Ongoing
FIRE DEPARTMENT Goal 1: Bring main fire station up to code.	Assess needed repairs/renovations of the main Fire Station to meet code specifications	1	SB/Fire Chief	2012
	Determine costs	2	SB	2012

	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
	Identify time frame	3	SB	2012
	Attain appropriate funding	4	SB/Town Meeting	March 2013
	Implement necessary repairs	5	SB	2013
Goal 2: Explore the feasibility to construct a Public Safety Building, housing Fire, Police and a community center.	Identify location	1	SB/Planning board (PB)/Fire/Police	2012/2013
	Extrapolate design, layout and interior requirements	4	SB/PB/Fire/Police	2012/2013
	Determine costs	5	SB/PB	2013
	Form a resident volunteer planning committee	2	SB	2012/2013

	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
	Confer with the SB/PB	3	Fire/Police	2012
	Present plan at Town Meeting	6	SB	March 2014
Goal: 3 Provide energy efficient work space for all town employees	Examine the feasibility of energy efficiency means for the Municipal Office Building.	1	SB/Staff	2011
	Compare and contrast a variety of available methods	2	SB	2011
	Institute a Capital Improvement Fund/Plan	3	SB/PB/Town Meeting	2013
	Determine physical condition of the current modular for repairs or upgrades.	5	SB	2012
	Explore connecting a walkway between the modular and the office building	6	SB	2013
	Seek funding	4	SB/Staff	2011 Ongoing

	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
	Apply for grant funds	4	SB/Staff	2011 Ongoing
	Employ contractors	7		2015
	Implement necessary repairs	7	SB/Contractors	2015
	Improve space and archival storage of town records.	6	Staff	2013

Goal 8 Rehabilitate existing salt shed	Determine repairs necessary to provide structural support	1	Selectboard	2012
	Identify security measures necessary to protect property	2	Selectboard	2012
Goal 9 Explore constructing a second salt shed	Propose location	3	Selectboard	2013

## Effingham Master Plan

### GOALS AND ACTIONS

#### Economic Development

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
:				
Develop a positive environment for the support of current business and development of new business	Establish an Economic Development Committee (EDC)	2	Selectmen	2013
	Encourage the development of an Effingham Business Association	2	Economic Development Committee	2014
	Identify a person to be a point of contact to anyone interested in expanding a current business or moving	3	EDC/Selectmen	2014

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
:				
	into Effingham			
	Obtain services of a consultant with economic development experience to develop an economic development program for Effingham	3	Selectmen/Town Meeting	2014
	Develop a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to address capital needs of Effingham including need resulting from commercial development	1	Planning Board/Selectmen/Town Meeting	2014
	Develop an economic development section on the town web site	3	EDC	2013
Support and retain existing businesses in Effingham	Develop a directory of existing businesses in Effingham	2	EDC/Point of contact for economic development	ASAP

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
:				
	Research funding and other assistance to help business	1	Point of contact for economic development	2014
	Survey current businesses to determine their needs	3	Point of contact for economic development	2013
	Review and amend zoning and site plan ordinances to distinguish between home occupation, small business agriculture and large commercial business	2	EDC/Planning Board	2013
Encourage the development of new business in Effingham	Conduct an assessment of potential locations for business development	2	EDC	2013
	Review and amend zoning and site plan review ordinances to encourage commercial development while protecting the rural nature of Effingham	1	EDC Planning Board	2013

## Effingham Master Plan

### GOALS AND ACTIONS

#### Utilities and Public Services

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
:				
Provide the Technology Infrastructure for Small and Home Businesses	Define needs with information from the Economic Development Committee	2	EDC and Technology Development Committee	2013
Improve electric feeds for better reliability in severe weather	Meet with PSNH representative regarding possible improvements. (Example: use feed off NH Route 25)	3	Selectmen/Planning Board or designees	2013
Explore a town-wide expansion of modern wireless technologies with an eye toward 4G capabilities	Provide the location for the installation of a cell tower on the south side of Green Mountain	4	Selectmen/Planning Board or designees	2013

GOALS	ACTIONS	Priority	Responsibility	Timing
:				
	Begin the dialogue with Time-Warner Cable, Verizon and others about providing 4G services in a rural Community	1	Selectmen/Planning Board or designees	2013



# **APPENDIX I**

## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

[



# COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

During the early spring of 2009 the Effingham Planning Board directed that the Effingham Master Plan 2003 be updated. The Master Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC) was formed and Mike Cauble and Steve Zelewski became co-chairs. The committee was aided by Michele Gagnon (Craig) from the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Program.

Twenty-seven people attended the first meeting of the MPAC. At that and subsequent meetings, Goals and Objectives were discussed, along with which sections of the RSA should be covered. It became an important objective to include as many of our citizens as possible in all phases of developing the Master Plan. To that end, two subcommittees were formed. The Public Forum Subcommittee was headed by Lori Lenart and the Public Survey Subcommittee was headed by Jim Morris.

The Forum Committee created a photo contest so children could select and photograph their favorite places in town. This contest helped give visibility to the process of creating a Master Plan. Further to that end, the Forum Subcommittee set up a booth at the 2009 Celebrate Effingham Day, and encouraged citizens to "vote" on issues of importance in Effingham's future development.

In August, 2009 the Forum Committee planned and executed a Public Forum at which the results of the Celebrate Effingham Day "vote" were presented. Participants then broke into small groups, built around the results of the "vote", to discuss and provide input on the various topics which had been identified. This gathering was well attended and provided the Master Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC) with valuable information and direction.

The Survey Committee spent the winter of 2009/2010 examining surveys from other towns in the state and then debating the merits of adding any of several hundred questions to its own survey. The net result, which included issues raised at the August 2009 Public Forum, was completed and sent to the Planning Board for review. A lively debate resulted in a comprehensive survey which was distributed to the citizens of Effingham. The MPAC provided two ways for citizens to respond. The survey was placed online via the Cooperative Extension at UNH, and notice that the survey was available in hard copy at both the Town Hall and the Effingham Public Library was advertised publicly.

There were 110 responses to the survey, which MPAC felt was a very good representation considering the town's population. A Public Meeting was held to review the survey results and receive input from the attendees. Following that Meeting, a presentation was made to the Effingham Planning Board and it was decided that two of the chapters would be contracted out to the Lakes Region Planning Commission and the other chapters would be written by volunteer residents. The survey responses were then distributed to each group responsible for preparing the Master Plan chapters.

Draft chapters were produced and presented for review and comment at a Public Forum which was held in May, 2011. Every chapter was presented to the Forum by the group which had

drafted it, including representatives from the Lakes Region Planning Commission and the Effingham Conservation Commission. Public attendance and participation were good, and comments were taken back to the drafting groups and incorporated into their respective chapters. Thus, every chapter of the Master Plan benefitted from the input and guidance of the citizens of Effingham.

As of this date (October 2011) roughly half of the expected chapters have been written and are herein presented to the Planning Committee for their deliberation. The next two steps are public comment on the written chapters and the beginning of the writing of the remaining chapters.

Respectfully submitted by  
Jim Morris, Co-Chair MPAC

**[on this page could be a group of  
photos from the Forum events]**



# **APPENDIX II**

## **EFFINGHAM MASTER PLAN SURVEY 2010**

### **Summary Report**

## SUMMARY REPORT WITH BAR CHARTS EFFINGHAM MASTER PLAN SURVEY 2010

Effingham Master Plan Survey  
2010

Start Date: 3/23/2010  
End Date: 9/30/2010  
Maximum number of  
respondents: 500  
Total Respondents Completed:  
110  
Partial Completes: 3

### Demographics

a) Please check one of the following options that best describes your residence status in Effingham.

• **Select one of the following**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Year-round resident	74		66%
Seasonal/occasional resident	18		16%
Own property in Effingham but do not live here	20		18%
<b>Total Responses: 112</b>			

b) Please check one of the following options that best describes your age.

• **Select one of the following**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
18-30	2		2%
31-50	32		29%
51-70	68		61%
Over 70	9		8%

**Total Responses: 111**



**General Issues**

**a) Please check only five of the general issues that you consider of utmost importance in Effingham over the next 10 years.**

**• Select only five**

(Each Respondent could choose **ANY** of the following options:)

<b>Response</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of Total Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Promote Affordable Housing	13		12%
Protecting Property Rights	62		55%
Attracting Business/Cottage Industries	47		42%
Support Educational Opportunities	24		21%
New Or Upgrade Town Facilities	8		7%
Create Park & Recreation Facility	14		12%
Protecting Drinking Water	51		46%
Preserving/Conserving Forests	46		41%
Protecting Historical Sites/Properties	26		23%
Protecting Open Space	47		42%
Protecting Water Bodies	56		50%
Encourage Regional Cooperation	12		11%
Improving Roads	37		33%
Town Tax Burden	59		53%
Provide Regional Transportation	8		7%
Improving Communication Infrastructure	25		22%
Other (please specify)	12		11%

**Total Responses: 112** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

**• Other (please specify)**

- provide cell phone support
- plowing private roads
- Protect/Encourage Small-Scale Agriculture
- non conforming lots need better laws to allow maintenance and upgrades to properties without costing and taking months to approve
- Protecting Agricultural Interests
- Improve state RSA RE. rural towns
- promoting agriculture
- Create Town park
- Taxes too too high on summer residences with water front
- town needs to be way more taxpayer friendly. Very poor attitude to taxpayers. need more info from town via taxbill mail etc.
- Reducing individual tax burden/property taxes

**1) Land Use**

**a) Please indicate if you support the following methods for guiding future growth and development in Effingham:**

**• Encourage Clustered Residential Subdivisions**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	60		55%
No	37		34%
Not Sure	8		7%
No Opinion	4		4%

**Total Responses: 109** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

**• Encourage Commercial Development**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	65		59%
No	38		34%
Not Sure	7		6%
No Opinion	1		1%

**Total Responses: 111** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

**• Encourage Industrial Development**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	29		27%
No	63		59%
Not Sure	12		11%
No Opinion	2		2%

**Total Responses: 106** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

**• Consider Reducing Lot Size Requirements**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	28		25%
No	71		65%
Not Sure	8		7%
No Opinion	3		3%

**Total Responses: 110** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

**• Update the Town Ordinances**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

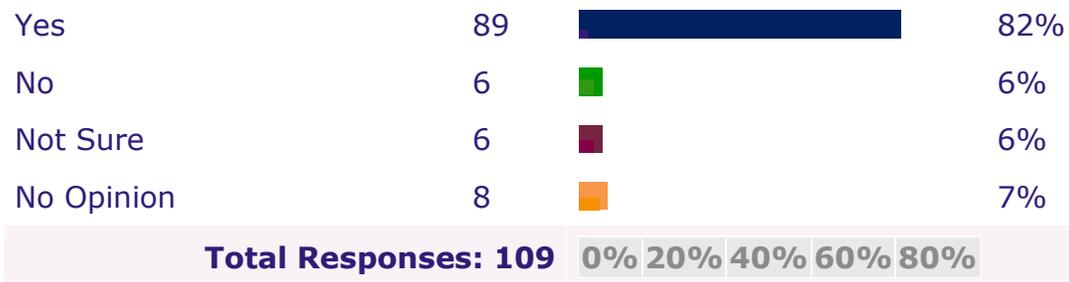
Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	64		59%
No	14		13%
Not Sure	19		17%
No Opinion	12		11%

**Total Responses: 109** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

**• Encourage Home Business Development**

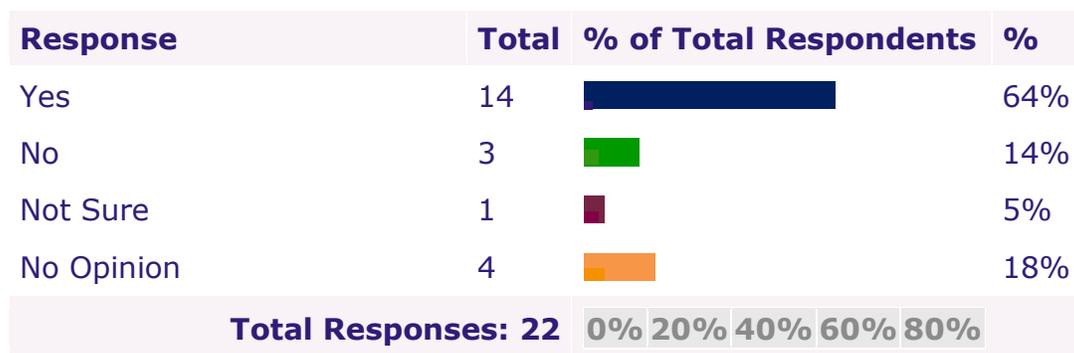
(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
----------	-------	------------------------	---



• **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



• **If other, please describe:**

- Establish reasonable land use regulations relative to Home Business Development
- update steep slope ordinances
- Encouraging commercial & business development depends on its compatibility with the land use, water and other such factors.
- working with countywide organizations
- Encourage Mixed Use Development
- allow non conforming lots around lake to upgrade properties without major hassles from Town Zoning officer
- reduce lot size in village districts and increase lot size in forest blocks
- Encourage limited, responsible Commercial Development. A balanced zoning plan would be paramount
- Encouraging proper agricultural development and related businesses
- pass/enforce code regarding junk/trash on house/land lots
- Green Cottage Industries
- allow residents to start small business
- allow residents to start small business
- less laws & rules. Home business's. and RTE 25 would be about the only good place for commercial & Industrial development
- Many people moved to Effingham to get away from large growth and Commercial business and Industry. Lets stay small.

## 2) Transportation

### a) Do you want the following?

- **Improvements To Route 153**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	76		70%
No	19		18%
No Opinion	13		12%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

- **Reconstruct Roads**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	48		45%
No	41		39%
No Opinion	17		16%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

- **A Park & Ride Facility**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	36		35%
No	45		44%
No Opinion	22		21%
<b>Total Responses: 103</b>		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

- **Pave The Current Dirt Roads**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	33		31%
No	62		57%
No Opinion	13		12%

**Total Responses: 108** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Consider A Regional Public Transport System**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	48		45%
No	43		41%
No Opinion	15		14%

**Total Responses: 106** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Partner With Agencies To Have A Bike Path**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	69		63%
No	25		23%
No Opinion	16		15%

**Total Responses: 110** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	6		60%
No	2		20%
No Opinion	2		20%

**Total Responses: 10** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **If other, please describe:**

- Pave Rt 171 to 153
- place where people can gather socially other than library
- Begin to address the roads around the perimeter of the lake that are being undermined by the erosion caused by the high water since the dam was installed.
- Selected Road Bumps to control speed
- roads should be kept safe
- roads should be kept safe

- Only if cost is less than cost for automobile
- again less is better. Let the developers pay for it. Worst depression in my life time & yet you are still spending taxpayer money to fix roads that can wait. PEOPLE ARE HURTING!!!

### 3) Community Facilities

#### a) Please rate the following town facilities and services:

##### Facilities & Services

###### • Animal Control

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	6		5%
Good	17		15%
Adequate	28		25%
Poor	11		10%
No Opinion	49		44%
<b>Total Responses: 111</b>			

##### Facilities & Services

###### • Code Enforcement

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	10		9%
Good	20		18%
Adequate	19		17%
Poor	23		21%
No Opinion	37		34%
<b>Total Responses: 109</b>			

##### Facilities & Services

###### • Fire/Ambulance/Rescue

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	13		12%

Good	26		23%
Adequate	33		30%
Poor	16		14%
No Opinion	23		21%
<b>Total Responses: 111</b>			

### Facilities & Services

#### • Library

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	32		29%
Good	41		37%
Adequate	21		19%
Poor	3		3%
No Opinion	15		13%
<b>Total Responses: 112</b>			

### Facilities & Services

#### • Police

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	19		17%
Good	37		33%
Adequate	30		27%
Poor	4		4%
No Opinion	21		19%
<b>Total Responses: 111</b>			

### Facilities & Services

#### • Recreational Areas/Facilities

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	1		1%
Good	8		7%
Adequate	37		33%
Poor	34		31%
No Opinion	31		28%
<b>Total Responses: 111</b>			

### Facilities & Services

#### • Recreational Programs for Youths/Seniors

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	1		1%
Good	3		3%
Adequate	18		16%
Poor	44		40%
No Opinion	45		41%
<b>Total Responses: 111</b>			

### Facilities & Services

#### • Road Maintenance

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	3		3%
Good	19		17%
Adequate	60		54%
Poor	23		21%
No Opinion	7		6%
<b>Total Responses: 112</b>			

### Facilities & Services

#### • Tax Assessment

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	2		2%
Good	23		21%
Adequate	50		45%
Poor	25		23%
No Opinion	11		10%
<b>Total Responses: 111</b>			

**Facilities & Services**

• **Transfer Station/Recycling**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	25		22%
Good	53		47%
Adequate	19		17%
Poor	0		0%
No Opinion	15		13%
<b>Total Responses: 112</b>			

**Facilities & Services**

• **Town Offices**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Excellent	21		19%
Good	56		50%
Adequate	23		21%
Poor	6		5%
No Opinion	5		5%
<b>Total Responses: 111</b>			

**b) Would you be in favor of the following community facilities?**

• **Athletic Fields**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	46		43%
No	36		34%
No Opinion	25		23%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

- **Community center/Recreation center**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	54		49%
No	30		27%
No Opinion	26		24%
<b>Total Responses: 110</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

- **New Fire Station**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	24		22%
No	61		56%
No Opinion	23		21%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

- **New Salt Shed**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	30		28%
No	43		40%
No Opinion	34		32%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

- **Town Garage**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	18		17%
No	55		52%
No Opinion	33		31%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>			

• **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	4		27%
No	3		20%
No Opinion	8		53%
<b>Total Responses: 15</b>			

• **If other, please describe:**

- Provide community swimming access at lakes or rivers
- hiking trails & 4 wheel trails
- skate board park
- Again we are a very small town we do not need more facilities. Stop spending so much
- New fire station on east side of green Mtn
- Downsize. Reduce spending.

**4) Economic Development**

**a) Please indicate the level of importance of the following items that the town should encourage:**

• **High Speed Internet**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	65		59%
Somewhat Important	34		31%
Not Very Important	6		5%
Not at all Important	4		4%
No Opinion	2		2%

**Total Responses: 111** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Light Industry**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	34		32%
Somewhat Important	31		30%
Not Very Important	23		22%
Not at all Important	10		10%
No Opinion	7		7%

**Total Responses: 105** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Cottage Industry**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	56		52%
Somewhat Important	32		30%
Not Very Important	14		13%
Not at all Important	2		2%
No Opinion	4		4%

**Total Responses: 108** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Office Business development**

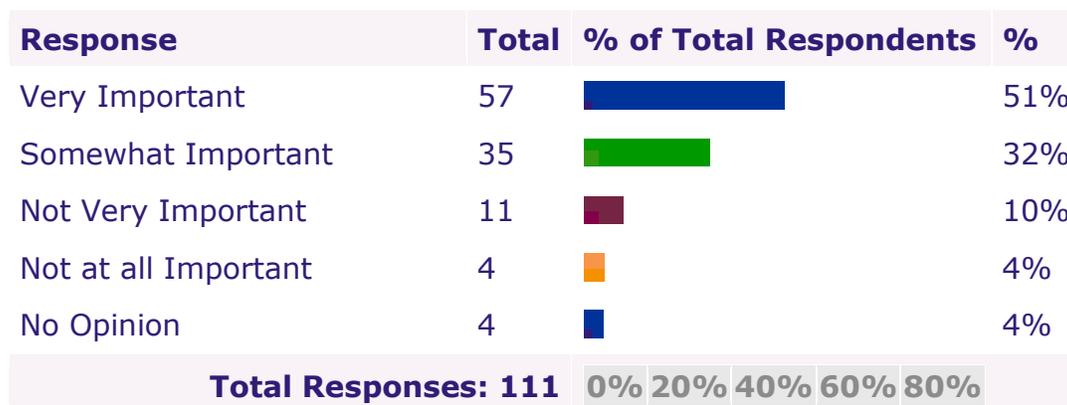
(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	31		29%
Somewhat Important	35		32%
Not Very Important	28		26%
Not at all Important	10		9%
No Opinion	4		4%

**Total Responses: 108** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

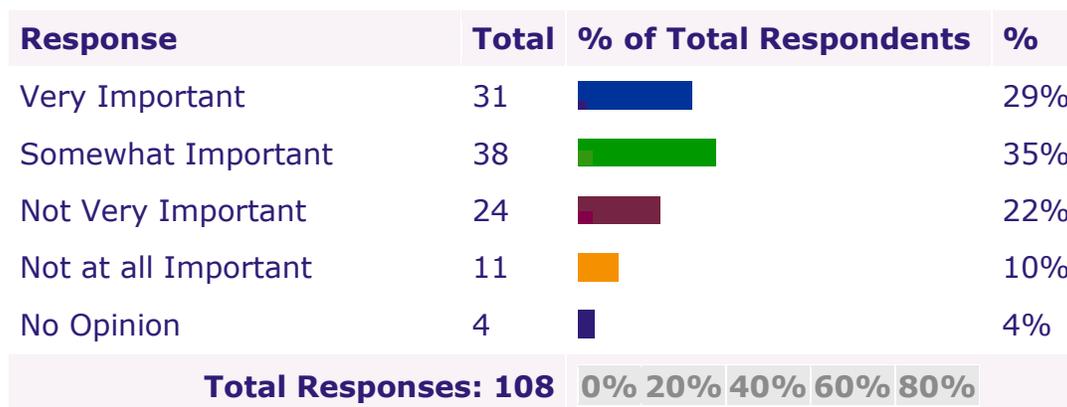
- **Home Business**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



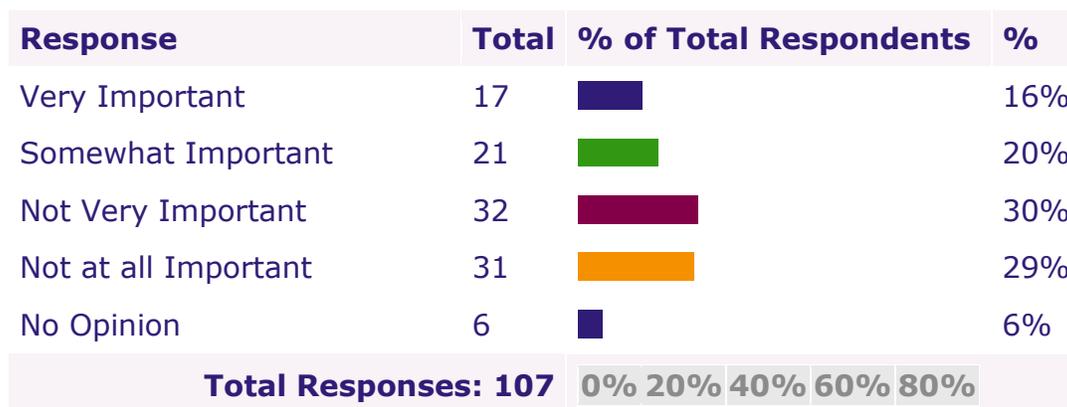
- **Retail business development**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



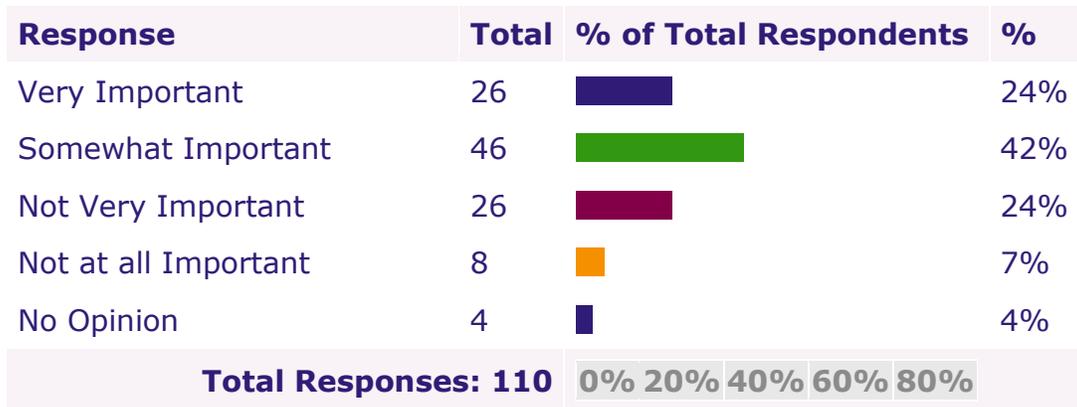
- **Industrial Development**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



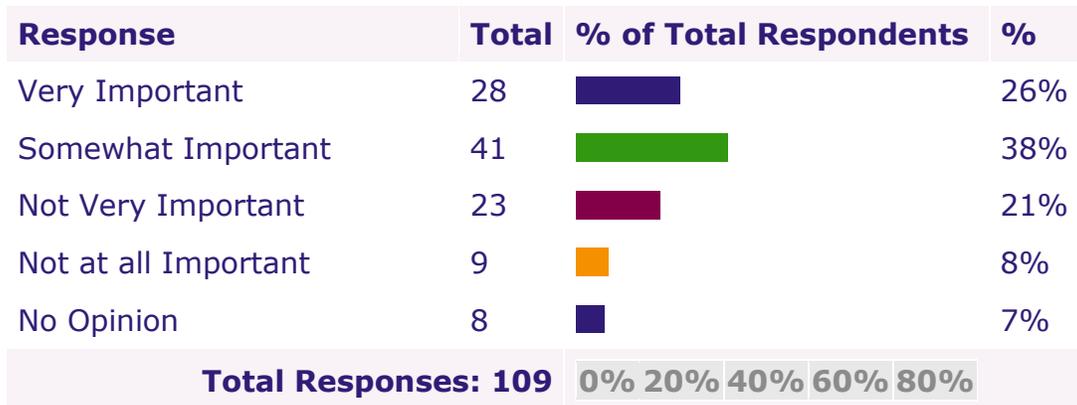
- **Restaurants**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



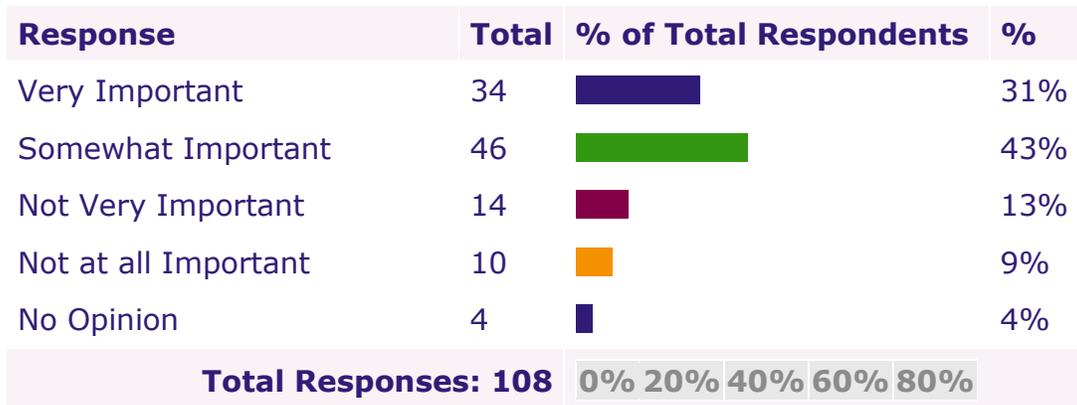
• **Service Sector Business**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



• **Logging & Forestry**

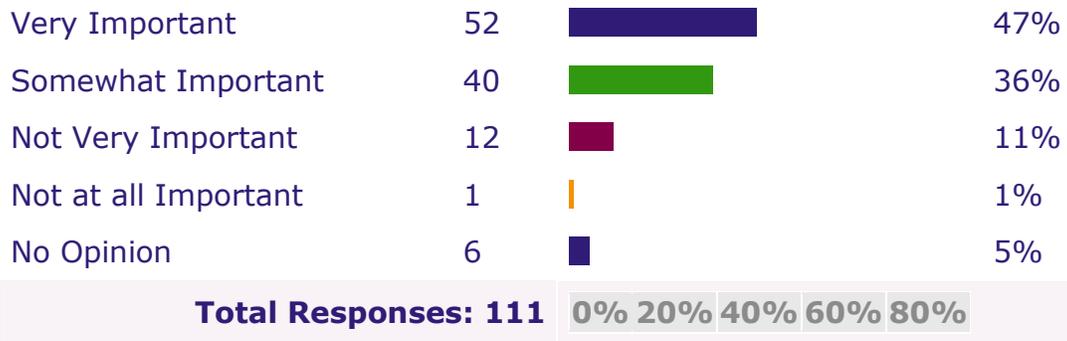
(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



• **Agricultural Businesses**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
----------	-------	------------------------	---



**b) Where in town would you suggest locating the following?**

**• Light Commercial Buildings**

- route 25
- along rtes 25 & 153
- Along 25/153
- 153 or 25
- Route 25
- along rt 25 and 153
- Route 25
- near 25 & 16
- on 153
- Rte 153
- nowhere
- Where they can be constructed in good taste
- none
- Anywhere
- Rural Agricultural
- Rte 16
- None
- Rt. 25
- Route 153
- Route 153
- Route 25 & in walking distance of Effingham Falls
- rt153
- 153
- not over the aquifer
- Rte 25 Across from Community Sports Fields
- route 153 area
- Along major roads, Rt 16 etc
- 153 or 25
- Anywhere
- Route 25

- 25 and 153
- Rt 25 Ryefield Rd
- Rte. 153/25
- rte 25
- non residential areas
- Routes 25 & 153
- Route 25
- School Street & Province Lake Rd.
- Pine River Rd, Rt 25
- where you are" shovel ready"
- out of site of town roads ( adequate buffers
- No preference
- throughout town
- throughout town
- along rte 16
- Routes 25 & 153
- Hwy 25
- Green Mt. Road Rt 153 & 25
- along 153 and 25
- All on Route 153
- Rt 25
- Rt 25 or Rt 153
- Rt 25
- any available space
- Off Rt 25
- None
- NO where
- along 153 & 25
- RTE 25
- rte 25
- Freedom
- rt 25.ryefield road
- No appropriate locations in Effingham
- Rt 153/Rt 25 corridor
- rt 25
- Route 25

- **Heavy Commercial Buildings**

- route 25
- along rte 25
- no where
- not good for town
- Route 25
- ossipee
- not
- no opinion
- Rte 25
- "
- Off Major Roadways
- none
- Rt. 25
- Rte 25
- Rte 25 & Rte 16
- None
- Rt. 25
- nowhere
- Route 25
- Nowhere
- rt 153
- none
- no where
- Not in Favor, will prompt us to sell
- Route 25 area
- None
- 25
- Anywhere
- no where
- none
- absolutely nowhere
- Rte. 25
- rte 25
- non residential areas
- Routes 25 & 153
- None
- Nowhere
- Pine River Rd
- where you are "shovel ready"
- none
- No preference

- ?
- Route 25 & 153
- Hwy 25
- Rt 25
- Rt 25
- Rt 25 or Rt 153
- No
- no place
- None
- None
- No where
- RTE 25
- across the border
- Ossipee
- rt 25
- No appropriate locations in Effingham
- Rt 153/Rt 25 corridor
- rt 25
- Route 25

- **Industrial Buildings**

- route 25
- along rte 25
- Right in the middle of Province Lake Golf Club...seriously, heavy industry probably doesn't fit in this town
- not good for town
- Route 25
- rte 25
- Route 25
- not
- no opinion
- Rte 25
- "
- Off Major Roadways
- none
- Rt. 25
- Rte25 and Rte 153
- Rte 25
- None
- Rt.25
- nowhere
- Route 25

- Route 25
- none
- no where
- Not in Favor, will prompt us to sell
- no-where
- Along major roads, Rt 16 etc
- ossipee
- Anywhere
- no where
- 25 and 153
- Rte. 25
- rte 25
- non residential areas
- None
- Nowhere
- Pine River Rd
- where you are "shovel ready"
- none
- No preference
- nowhere
- Hwy 25
- Rt 25
- Rt 25
- None
- No
- no place
- None
- None
- No where
- RTE 25
- across the border
- Ossipee
- rt 25
- No appropriate locations in Effingham
- Rt 153/Rt 25 corridor
- rt 25
- Route 25

**• Name one type of retail business, industry or service that does not exist in Effingham that you wish were available:**

- Retail/Grocery Supercenter

- food store
- a market for local produce and crafts on weekends during tourist season
- restaurants
- Large box store
- grocery or recreational facility
- cell phone tower
- gas station centrally located
- none
- Movie Theater
- none
- fabrics and crafts
- fabrics and crafts
- convenience/lunch store south part
- grocery store
- None
- bed and breakfast
- I go to Ossipee for everything I need, and I like it that way.
- coffee shop
- Farmers Market/Natural Foods Store
- Major grocery chain
- restaurant
- Clean, Affordable Family Restaurant
- Grocery, dept store.
- Food store
- Any
- there really isn't any except for Boyle's
- restaurant
- High speed internet
- Bakery
- Restaurant
- restaurant
- general store
- general store
- Grocery Store
- MARKET BASKET,SPA WITH POOL,MOVIE THEATER,BOWLING
- Market Basket Grocery
- General Store
- Grocery Store
- Supermarket, public transportation
- Small grocery store
- ?
- None
- Variety Store

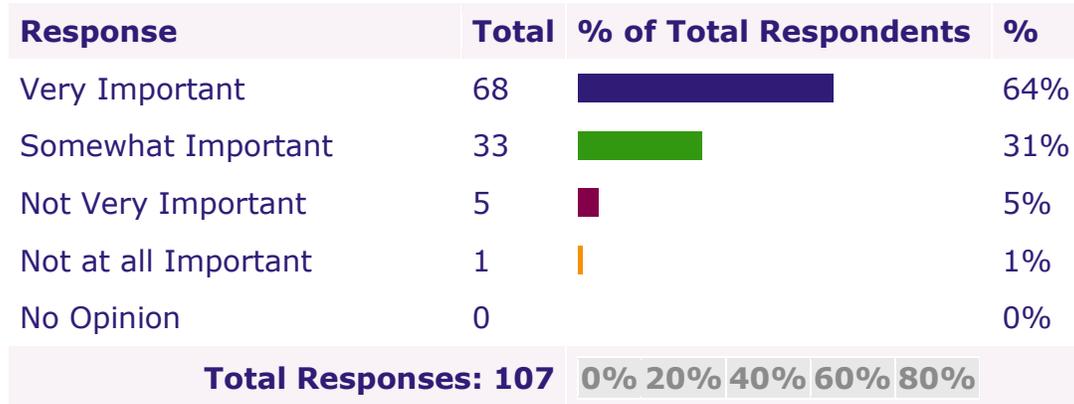
- Anything that does not use town service and lowers taxes
- No suggestion
- Super Walmart/Sams
- There is very little in Effingham and that is just fine! It's why we moved here!

## 5) Natural Resources

a) Please indicate the level of importance of the following:

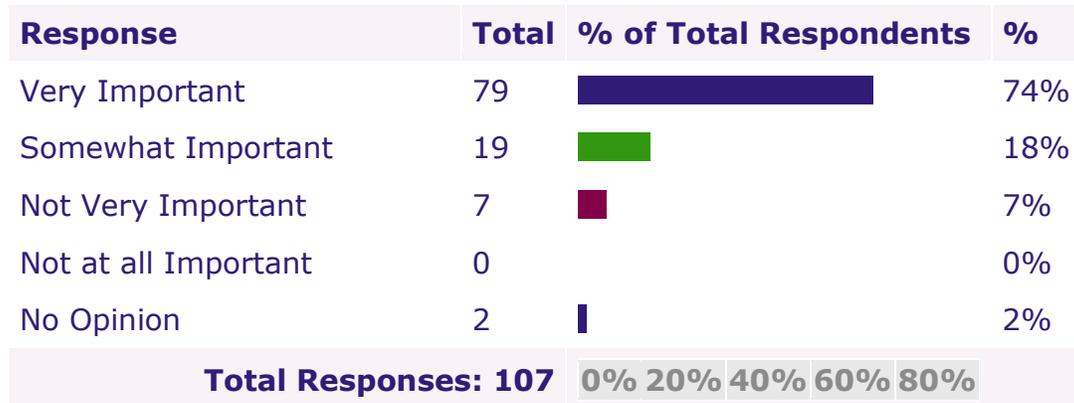
### • Agricultural Land Protection

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



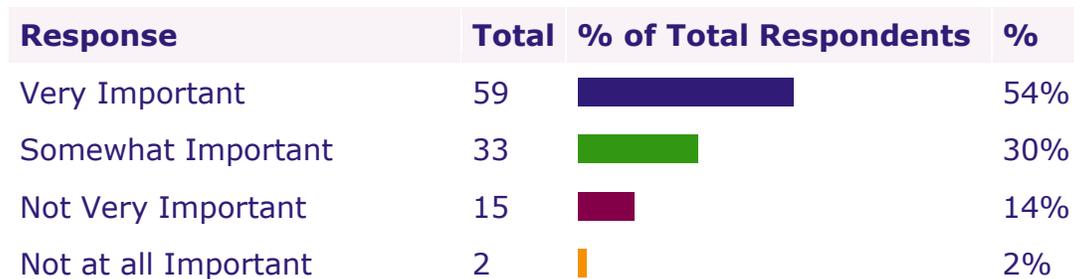
### • Aquifer Protection

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



### • Public Access to Water Bodies

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



No Opinion 0 0%



• **Ridge Line Protection**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	48		44%
Somewhat Important	24		22%
Not Very Important	14		13%
Not at all Important	10		9%
No Opinion	12		11%



• **Commercial Water Extraction Restriction**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	58		54%
Somewhat Important	19		18%
Not Very Important	14		13%
Not at all Important	4		4%
No Opinion	13		12%



• **Exemplary Wetlands Protection**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	59		54%
Somewhat Important	25		23%
Not Very Important	17		16%
Not at all Important	1		1%
No Opinion	7		6%

**Total Responses: 109** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Conservation Easements**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	50		47%
Somewhat Important	29		27%
Not Very Important	16		15%
Not at all Important	3		3%
No Opinion	9		8%

**Total Responses: 107** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **View Protection**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	47		44%
Somewhat Important	28		26%
Not Very Important	19		18%
Not at all Important	12		11%
No Opinion	1		1%

**Total Responses: 107** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Hillsides and Steep Slopes Protection**

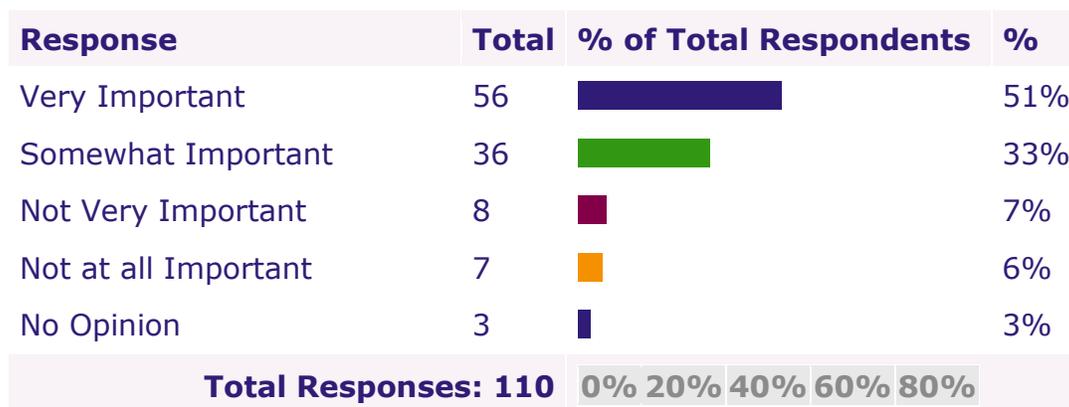
(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	56		51%
Somewhat Important	26		24%
Not Very Important	16		15%
Not at all Important	7		6%
No Opinion	5		5%

**Total Responses: 110** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

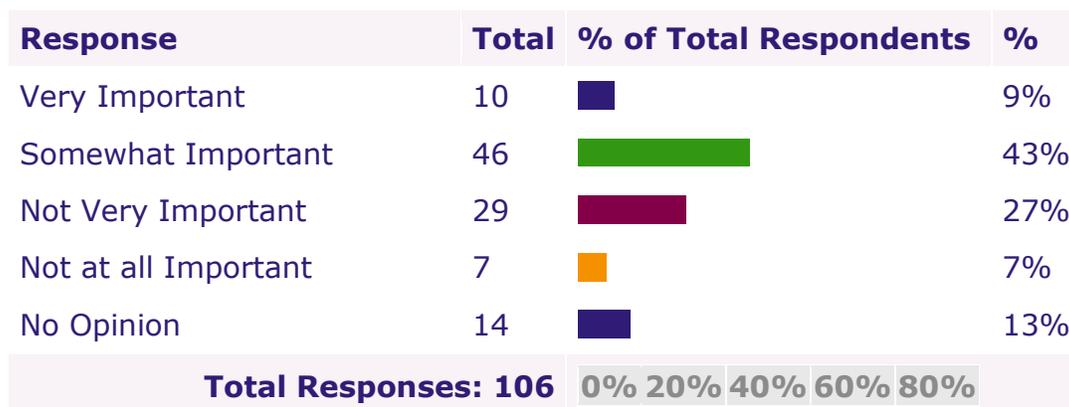
• **Light Pollution Prevention**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



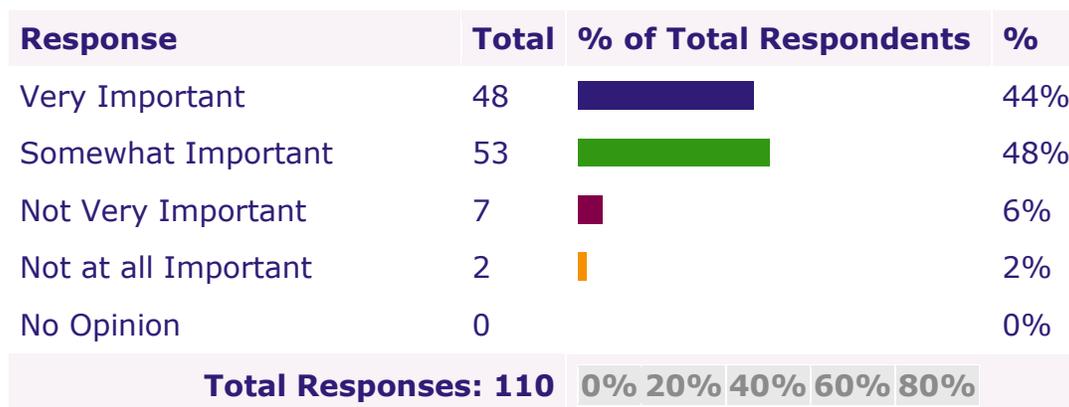
• **Sand and Gravel Site Access**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



• **Access to Public Land; Trails**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



• **Protect Surface Water; ponds, streams**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	71		65%
Somewhat Important	32		29%
Not Very Important	5		5%
Not at all Important	2		2%
No Opinion	0		0%
<b>Total Responses: 110</b>			

• **Wildlife Corridor and Habitat Protection**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	62		57%
Somewhat Important	32		29%
Not Very Important	12		11%
Not at all Important	2		2%
No Opinion	1		1%
<b>Total Responses: 109</b>			

• **Watershed Protection**

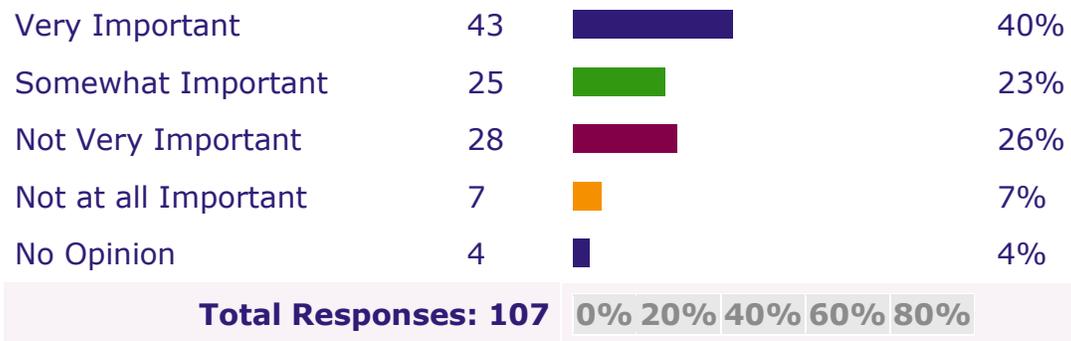
(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	71		65%
Somewhat Important	26		24%
Not Very Important	6		5%
Not at all Important	2		2%
No Opinion	5		5%
<b>Total Responses: 110</b>			

• **Purchase Town Conservation Land**

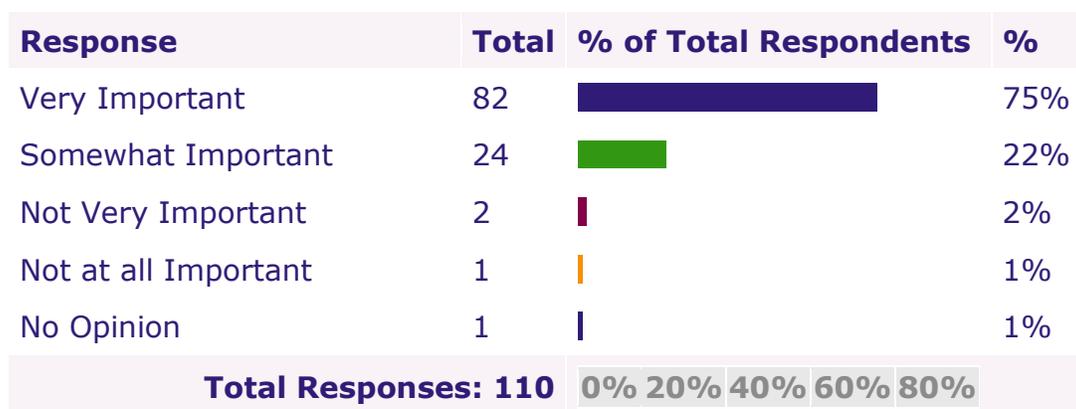
(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
----------	-------	------------------------	---



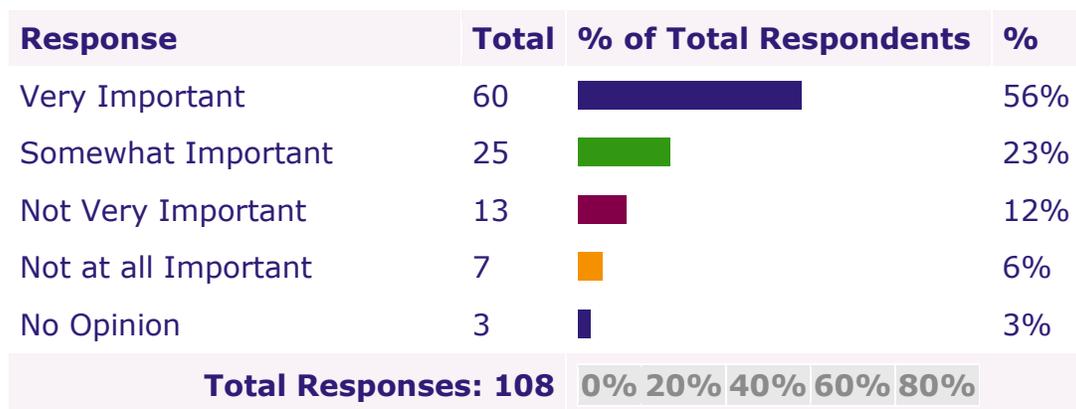
• **Protect the Drinking Water Supply**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



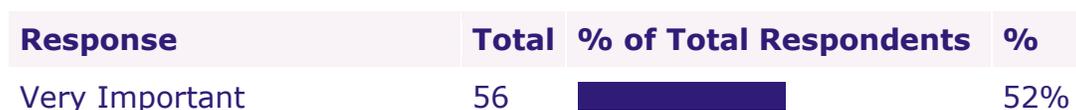
• **Protect Green Mountain**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



• **Protect Endangered Wildlife**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



Somewhat Important	34		32%
Not Very Important	11		10%
Not at all Important	3		3%
No Opinion	3		3%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

• **Continue Best Management Practices For Culverts**  
 (Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	52		48%
Somewhat Important	37		34%
Not Very Important	7		6%
Not at all Important	2		2%
No Opinion	10		9%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>			

• **Other**  
 (Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	9		64%
Somewhat Important	1		7%
Not Very Important	0		0%
Not at all Important	0		0%
No Opinion	4		29%
<b>Total Responses: 14</b>			

- **If other, please describe:**
- don't over regulate my land
- historic preservation
- Protect Dark Skies, Minimize Impermeable Surfaces
- Reduce taxes
- limit development to area not on aquifer
- Buying land for conservation is often the result of poor planning before

encroachment or overdevelopment becomes a problem. Please look around the country at other small towns which have sacrificed natural resources for the sake of progress or commercialization. Effingham is very special, plan well and you will have a sustainable economy without destroying this rare jewel.

- Enforce Shoreline Protection Act
- How can all that was listed not be important? If one would care about a couple of items one would care about all
- Protect Open Space
- we need to balance residents needs with environmental needs
- we need to balance residents needs with environmental needs
- Must be controlled to prevent overuse and damage/pollution to water and property
- Commercial Water extraction should be avoided at all costs!

## 6) Natural Hazards

### a) Should the town invest in the following?

- **Emergency Communication Measures**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	70		64%
No	28		26%
No Opinion	11		10%
<b>Total Responses: 109</b>			

- **Flood Control Measures**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	42		39%
No	47		44%
No Opinion	19		18%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>			

- **Forest Fire Prevention**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	83		78%
No	19		18%

No Opinion 5  5%

**Total Responses: 107** 

• **General Disaster Preparation/Recovery**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	73		67%
No	27		25%
No Opinion	9		8%

**Total Responses: 109** 

• **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	1		11%
No	4		44%
No Opinion	4		44%

**Total Responses: 9** 

• **If other, please describe:**

- library
- in-town/community response network/group
- forest fire prevention is important
- again stop spending. we have what we need for now. You can never be prepared for disasters. just read the news and see that

**7) Recreation**

**a) Please check the level of importance to the following items:**

• **Athletic Fields & Playgrounds**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	16		15%
Somewhat Important	52		48%
Not Very Important	24		22%

Not at all Important	12		11%
No Opinion	4		4%

**Total Responses: 108** 

• **Nature trails & Trailheads**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	40		37%
Somewhat Important	46		43%
Not Very Important	15		14%
Not at all Important	6		6%
No Opinion	1		1%

**Total Responses: 108** 

• **Park & Recreation Facility**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	18		17%
Somewhat Important	47		44%
Not Very Important	28		26%
Not at all Important	10		9%
No Opinion	5		5%

**Total Responses: 108** 

• **Public Events & Social Gatherings**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	24		22%
Somewhat Important	46		43%
Not Very Important	27		25%
Not at all Important	9		8%

No Opinion 2 | 2%



• **Public Waterfronts**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	36		33%
Somewhat Important	44		41%
Not Very Important	18		17%
Not at all Important	8		7%
No Opinion	2		2%



• **Public Scenic View Access**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	28		26%
Somewhat Important	39		36%
Not Very Important	26		24%
Not at all Important	14		13%
No Opinion	0		0%



• **Snowmobile Trails**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	15		14%
Somewhat Important	28		26%
Not Very Important	37		35%
Not at all Important	22		21%
No Opinion	5		5%

**Total Responses: 107** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **ATV Trails**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	11		10%
Somewhat Important	18		17%
Not Very Important	28		26%
Not at all Important	47		44%
No Opinion	4		4%

**Total Responses: 108** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	4		50%
Somewhat Important	0		0%
Not Very Important	0		0%
Not at all Important	1		12%
No Opinion	3		38%

**Total Responses: 8** 0% 20% 40% 60% 80%

• **If other, please describe:**

- Playground is available at school already
- public outdoor facilities must be well supervised and maintained
- non-motorized bike paths
- Well planned use of public land can support recreational activities including Snowmobiles, Biking and ATV trails. This has been demonstrated in other pristine areas in the Northeast, Midwest and West. Rails to Trails, etc. - Annual permits to support and maintain
- cross country skiing trails
- NO ATV TRAILS
- totally against ATVs. Very destructive.
- There are several in town now
- anything that brings in money from visitors

- Current rate of property taxes, the number vacant homes and homes for sale, indicate that this would not be a fiscally responsible use of our tax dollars.

## 8) Utility & Public Service

### a) Should the town of Effingham encourage in the following:

- **Improved Cell Phone Reception**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	85		79%
No	17		16%
No Opinion	6		6%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

- **Additional Fire Ponds/Dry Hydrants**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	66		62%
No	17		16%
No Opinion	24		22%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

- **Expanded High Speed Internet**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	87		81%
No	14		13%
No Opinion	7		6%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>		0% 20% 40% 60% 80%	

- **Expanded Recycling**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	72		67%
No	26		24%

No Opinion 10  9%

**Total Responses: 108** 

• **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	2		33%
No	1		17%
No Opinion	3		50%
<b>Total Responses: 6</b>			

• **If other, please describe:**

- Is cell coverage deficient today? If yes, promote limited footprint measures for towers so that they must blend with the landscape and not offend the landscape. Once this genie is let out of the bottle, it will be nearly impossible to control. In other parts of the country, landowners and business owners are selling land use rights to Cell providers for towers because their are not effective guidelines to manage this expansion.
- Fund Conservation
- enforce recycling better. Too many ovens, appliances, & tires dropped off for a town this size. We should limit it to so many per household per year. Like 1 appl, 4 tires, etc.

**9) Cultural & Historic Resources**

**a) Please rate the following:**

• **Town Acquisition of Historic sites/structures**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly in Favor	22		21%
Somewhat in Favor	49		46%
Somewhat Opposed	16		15%
Strongly Opposed	15		14%
No Opinion	5		5%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

- **Expand Historic Districts**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly in Favor	17		16%
Somewhat in Favor	34		32%
Somewhat Opposed	24		23%
Strongly Opposed	13		12%
No Opinion	17		16%
<b>Total Responses: 105</b>			

- **Improve Historic Signage**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly in Favor	30		28%
Somewhat in Favor	43		40%
Somewhat Opposed	14		13%
Strongly Opposed	6		6%
No Opinion	14		13%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

- **Preservation of Historic Structures**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly in Favor	42		40%
Somewhat in Favor	50		47%
Somewhat Opposed	6		6%
Strongly Opposed	5		5%
No Opinion	3		3%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>			

- **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly in Favor	1		17%
Somewhat in Favor	0		0%
Somewhat Opposed	0		0%
Strongly Opposed	0		0%
No Opinion	5		83%
<b>Total Responses: 6</b>			

• **If other, please describe:**

- rip it down, start new!
- Preserve Agricultural status
- encourage taxpayers with tax breaks to do it. Again stop taxpayer spending

**10) Regional Concerns**

a) Below is a list of items that could require regional rather than one town's attention. Please check the 4 options that are most important to you.

(Each Respondent could choose **ANY** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Regional Development	44		41%
Regional Traffic	33		31%
Pollution	42		39%
Public Transportation	32		30%
Public Safety	34		32%
Natural Resources	65		61%
Solid Waste Disposal	26		24%
Water Bodies	70		65%
Air Quality	27		25%
Hazardous Waste Program	40		37%
Other (please specify)	3		3%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

- **Other (please specify)**

- Public health, public education
- reduce light pollution
- Should be held twice a year - hazardous waste program

## 11) Community Designs

a) Please check the level of importance that the town should give to the following future building projects:

- **Fire Station**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	17		16%
Somewhat Important	35		32%
Not Very Important	26		24%
Not at all Important	18		17%
No Opinion	12		11%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>			

- **Municipal Offices**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	9		8%
Somewhat Important	28		26%
Not Very Important	38		36%
Not at all Important	20		19%
No Opinion	11		10%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>			

- **Library**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	25		24%
Somewhat Important	36		34%
Not Very Important	21		20%

Not at all Important	15		14%
No Opinion	9		8%

**Total Responses: 106** 

• **Police Station**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	14		13%
Somewhat Important	45		42%
Not Very Important	22		20%
Not at all Important	15		14%
No Opinion	12		11%

**Total Responses: 108** 

• **Salt Shed**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	14		13%
Somewhat Important	25		23%
Not Very Important	26		24%
Not at all Important	21		20%
No Opinion	21		20%

**Total Responses: 107** 

• **Transfer Station**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	19		18%
Somewhat Important	39		36%
Not Very Important	24		22%
Not at all Important	13		12%

No Opinion	13		12%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>			

• **Recycling Facility**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	27		25%
Somewhat Important	39		36%
Not Very Important	22		20%
Not at all Important	10		9%
No Opinion	10		9%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>			

• **Hazardous Waste Facility**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	16		15%
Somewhat Important	39		36%
Not Very Important	24		22%
Not at all Important	14		13%
No Opinion	14		13%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

**b) For each item, please check one option:**

• **Fire Station**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Renovate	42		41%
Replace	11		11%
No Action	50		49%
<b>Total Responses: 103</b>			

• **Municipal Office**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Renovate	41		40%
Replace	4		4%
No Action	58		56%
<b>Total Responses: 103</b>			

• **Library (Old Town Hall)**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Renovate	55		53%
Replace	7		7%
No Action	42		40%
<b>Total Responses: 104</b>			

• **Police Station**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Renovate	28		28%
Replace	24		24%
No Action	49		49%
<b>Total Responses: 101</b>			

• **Salt Shed**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Renovate	28		28%
Replace	13		13%
No Action	60		59%
<b>Total Responses: 101</b>			

- **Transfer Station**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Renovate	33		33%
Replace	4		4%
No Action	64		63%
<b>Total Responses: 101</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

## 12) Housing

a) Please rank the importance of the following types of housing in Effingham over the next ten years:

- **Single-family**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	61		58%
Somewhat Important	30		28%
Not Very Important	5		5%
Not at all Important	3		3%
No Opinion	7		7%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

- **Two-family (duplex)**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	20		19%
Somewhat Important	35		33%
Not Very Important	23		22%
Not at all Important	21		20%
No Opinion	7		7%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

- **Multi-family (2+ units)**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	18		17%
Somewhat Important	26		24%
Not Very Important	27		25%
Not at all Important	28		26%
No Opinion	8		7%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

• **Apartments**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	20		19%
Somewhat Important	31		29%
Not Very Important	26		24%
Not at all Important	25		23%
No Opinion	5		5%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

• **Condominiums/Townhouses**

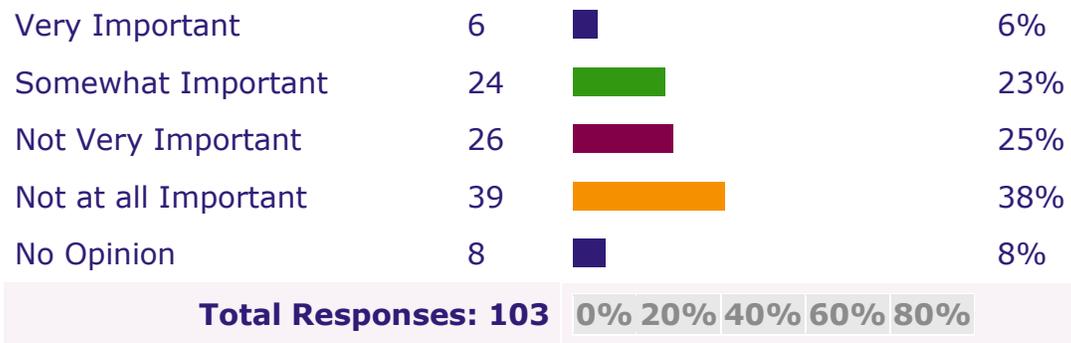
(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	16		15%
Somewhat Important	32		30%
Not Very Important	28		27%
Not at all Important	25		24%
No Opinion	4		4%
<b>Total Responses: 105</b>			

• **Manufactured Housing(Mobile Homes)**

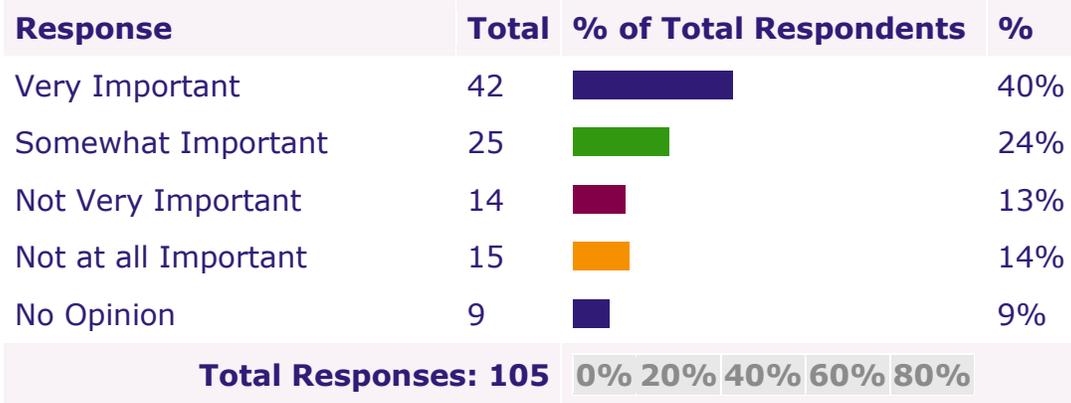
(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
----------	-------	------------------------	---



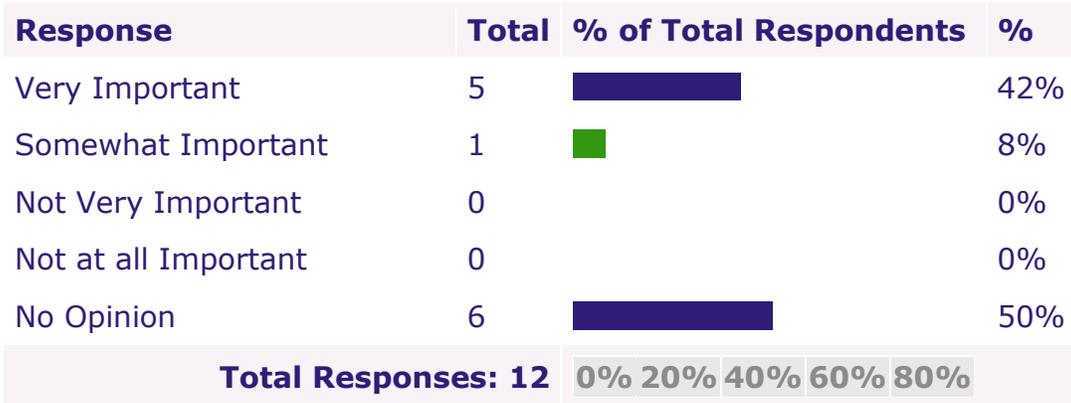
• **Conservation Subdivision (homes on small lots land left as protected open space)**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



• **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)



- **If other, please describe:**
- Give some town owned land to Habitat for Humanity to build on
- Allow for the possibility of co-housing
- This question is ambiguous. "Important to support" or "Important to discourage"

I would discourage the development of multi-family and condominiums anywhere except the north side of Green Mountain on Route 25.

- apartments will just cost taxpayers more then they being in on taxes.
- Eliminate trailer clusters that are forming around town
- A great many existing homes are vacant or for sale, This does not indicate a need to expand housing!

**b) Please indicate your preference in the following housing based questions for the town of Effingham by checking yes, no, or no opinion:**

**• Need for Workforce Housing**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	32		30%
No	58		55%
No Opinion	16		15%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

**• Need for Senior Housing**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	63		58%
No	32		30%
No Opinion	13		12%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

**• Need for Low-Income Housing**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	45		42%
No	47		44%
No Opinion	14		13%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

**• Housing restrictions in Historic District**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	59		56%
No	28		26%
No Opinion	19		18%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

• **Need for Building Inspections**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	58		54%
No	37		35%
No Opinion	12		11%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

• **Favor Seasonal Campgrounds**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	45		43%
No	42		40%
No Opinion	18		17%
<b>Total Responses: 105</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

• **Favor Housing Developments**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	29		27%
No	63		59%
No Opinion	14		13%
<b>Total Responses: 106</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

• **Do you believe the Town lands are properly zoned?  
If not, what needs changing?**

- yes
- yes
- zoning is pretty general - mostly one type
- More commercial zoning
- expand opportunity though expanded special exceptions
- yes
- yes
- yes
- yes
- Yes
- lots incorrectly deemed as wetland
- yes
- Yes.
- yes - properly zoned
- the lake needs help with loosening the laws to allow property owners to maintain their highly taxed property
- favor conservation subdivision
- If Housing developments are truly deemed important to support a growing population, a conservation approach would be favorable to limit the impact to open space. This does require very specific zoning ordinances and planning with a long range plan. In this case, a ten year plan is in my opinion too short. consider a 15 - 20 year plan.
- yes
- Yes
- No
- is there an on-line zoning map?
- Realistic reqs. Not ones that tend to try to make owners bring their property up to current regulations.
- establish flood elevation levels
- Yes
- It is too strictly, micromanaged.
- yes
- No
- too much zoning poorly enforced
- yes
- Pretty good as is.
- do not know
- Overly Zoned, needs more diverse tax-base
- yes
- No, zoning for residential business and zoning for light commercial
- Commercial zones established - do not mix commercial with private homes
- Yes
- Yes

- Yes
- yes
- I need more background on this.
- no opinion
- Get rid of the Green Mountain Hunting range. Unsafe!

• **Other, please describe:**

- Regulate the amount of clutter that residents are allowed to have/sell/display in front of there homes
- Zoning regulations are too strict
- Be more realistic about some of the zoning requests.
- Make zoning less strict
- Conservation subdivisions

**13) Town Services**

**a) Should the town pursue/expand the following services:**

• **Full-Time Code Enforcement Officer**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly Agree	13		12%
Somewhat Agree	30		28%
Somewhat Disagree	24		22%
Strongly Disagree	30		28%
No Opinion	11		10%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>			

• **Licenses And Fees For Zoning Permits**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly Agree	18		17%
Somewhat Agree	35		33%
Somewhat Disagree	16		15%
Strongly Disagree	25		23%
No Opinion	13		12%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

• **Full-Time Town Administrator**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly Agree	10		9%
Somewhat Agree	21		19%
Somewhat Disagree	25		23%
Strongly Disagree	40		37%
No Opinion	12		11%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>			

• **Capital Improvement Plan & Reserve**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly Agree	29		28%
Somewhat Agree	43		41%
Somewhat Disagree	10		10%
Strongly Disagree	11		10%
No Opinion	12		11%
<b>Total Responses: 105</b>			

• **Pay-As-You-Throw Trash Pick-Up Service**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly Agree	12		11%
Somewhat Agree	13		12%
Somewhat Disagree	26		24%
Strongly Disagree	45		42%
No Opinion	11		10%
<b>Total Responses: 107</b>			

• **Accept Private Roads As Public Roads**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly Agree	19		18%
Somewhat Agree	14		13%
Somewhat Disagree	17		16%
Strongly Disagree	44		41%
No Opinion	14		13%
<b>Total Responses: 108</b>			

- **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Strongly Agree	3		30%
Somewhat Agree	0		0%
Somewhat Disagree	1		10%
Strongly Disagree	1		10%
No Opinion	5		50%
<b>Total Responses: 10</b>			

- **If other, please describe:**

- conservation of capital assets
- Town plowing on private roads for fee
- LOWER TAXES
- Stop spending

#### **14) Energy**

**a) Please rank the level of importance for the following energy related items that you believe should be supported by the town of Effingham:**

- **Wind Farms**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	44		41%
Somewhat Important	39		36%
Not Very Important	13		12%

Not at all Important	12		11%
No Opinion	0		0%

**Total Responses: 108** 

• **Solar Energy**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	63		59%
Somewhat Important	30		28%
Not Very Important	8		7%
Not at all Important	5		5%
No Opinion	1		1%

**Total Responses: 107** 

• **Geothermal Energy**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	44		42%
Somewhat Important	32		31%
Not Very Important	12		12%
Not at all Important	9		9%
No Opinion	7		7%

**Total Responses: 104** 

• **Tax Incentives for Energy Conservation Upgrades**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	68		63%
Somewhat Important	28		26%
Not Very Important	2		2%
Not at all Important	7		6%

No Opinion 3  3%

**Total Responses: 108** 

• **Other**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Very Important	6		60%
Somewhat Important	0		0%
Not Very Important	0		0%
Not at all Important	0		0%
No Opinion	4		40%

**Total Responses: 10** 

• **If other, please describe:**

- Include in town renovations as well
- winds are too inconsistent for effective wind farms and would ruin landscape.
- Wind if non-blade (vertical, semi-enclosed)
- conservation of older homes, barns
- There are Federal tax incentives offered for investments in sustainable energy improvements. Provide sound advice or exposure to educational links for this purpose. If unknown, please, ask for help.
- Heating Town buildings with waste oil
- While I support wind farms, I would not want to see a large tract of land denuded to put in a wind farm.
- Education
- Hydro
- Location important - raptors bird migration routes, etc., must be considered

**Conclusion**

**a) If you were to identify one vision for Effingham, what would it be?**

---

- Maintain it friendly nature with good schools, transparent government, and protected natural resources.
- A better balance of residences and businesses to relieve some of the tax burden, and create a stronger sense of community.
- increase the tax base to reduce property taxes on individuals
- Think Provence, France.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provence#Extent\\_and\\_geography](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provence#Extent_and_geography)

- A rural haven with a strong historic character recognized by the state and national governments.
- I would like to see decisions that would make Effingham a great place to live with nearby recreation opportunities and commute to other areas better set up for commerce/industry. We would rather have a dirt road than a factory nearby.
- An affordable place to live and WORK. Less people live here now than when it was founded. Zero opportunity.
- Increase business opportunities and Establish cluster housing with access to pharmacies/groceries
- Maintain rural character, but with good regional access to shopping and commercial services.
- Small rural town welcoming to sustainable, "green" agricultural and home based businesses. Support of public gathering areas for recreation, social, and cultural/intellectual development. Fostering a physical and cultural environment of dignity and respect for all creatures from the smallest element through the frailest and strongest human.
- Measured growth supporting clean, light commercial development such as technology.
- Affordable housing, especially for seniors
- Preserving our natural resources and open spaces. Keeping our beautiful night sky free from light pollution. Preserving habitats for our wild animal co-inhabitants.
- Incorporate reasonable land use regulations into the Zoning Ordinance which will protect the rural character of the town - in other words - keep your unsightly junk out of sight!
- moving into the future with a strong plan to do right by the residents of Effingham. With energy conservation, recycling and growth without losing the nature aspect of this beautiful town.
- moving into the future with a strong plan to do right by the residents of Effingham. With energy conservation, recycling and growth without losing the nature aspect of this beautiful town.
- Less Whining more doing
- No Comment as I only visit once in a great while.
- family orientated
- Effingham to maintain its rural character.
- Only the tax rate has changed in decades.
- We do need businesses into Effingham to ease the tax burden on the private sector, but with control.
- a town where historic architecture is well preserved, open space is valued, and a small town attitude and personality are cherished.
- To stay the way it is.
- Most important I think would be to find a way to ease the tax burden on tax paying home owners so we can afford to stay in the town of Effingham.
- a more integrated community with more people working cooperatively for the betterment of the town - more board involvement and more people running for

elected positions.

- To promote the sustainable relocation of Effingham's and the region's economy while protecting rural character and natural resources.
- To re-evaluate the tax burden placed upon the waterfront community, it is way over our neighboring towns tax base (wakefield) The restrictions along with a high tax are causing a decay in the housing along the water.
- Rural community supported with local agriculture, village districts that were more densely populated and thriving and open forest blocks of managed timber
- I like the way Effingham is, that's why I bought land there and plan to live there soon. Please don't change a thing.
- rural character
- Plan wisely for expansion as it will occur but do not sell off the character and beauty of this incredible natural resource for the sake of progress or riches. Effingham touches the soul and is a respite from a fast paced and often selfish world. Year round residents are true pioneers and should be commended for their perseverance and strength of character.
- Keep as rural as possible
- Rural beauty
- Keep it rural/agriculture.
- MORE BUSINESSES !!!!
- Effingham should be a place where people can enjoy their life and pursue their own objectives on their own property without being micromanaged by the town.
- A small quaint historic corner of New Hampshire that remains unspoiled by over development and greed.
- Keeping the town character as it was in the 50's and 60's Less regulation with micro management in mind.
- To keep the small town feel and not become another over taxed massachusetts town.
- Clean up the towns reputation of being a trash pit. This is the most important statement I have made as it is effecting housing at all levels.
- Develop community based senior housing that encourages cluster development of homes that add to the tax base. The creation of a business park and tax incentives within an existing corridor that has 3 phase power.
- Retain rural and historic character.
- Save the unfragmented open space
- to encourage and invite some businesses
- To grow while still maintaining the rural, small town character it has.
- maintain the LIVE FREE OR DIE spirit
- Creations of 1 bedroom attached rental units for currently single family homes..requisit eptic etc...
- A community where people can pursue their business, hobby or interest without being micro managed by the town,
- maintain historic features, conserve land, forest, water resources, cluster development

- I would like to see Effingham become a town that my children would like to live in and raise their children and so on. It seems that so many of our youth are going off to college, military, jobs, etc. and not returning. A recreation facility, better transportation and more employment options would be a great start!
  - **MORE BUSINESSES, LOWER TAXES**
  - Village atmosphere with lots of cottage industry.
  - Protect natural resources while addressing needs of citizens - towards a rural, not suburban lifestyle.
  - Small rural town with mix of light commercial and industrial or cottage industries. With industrial development set so as to be invisible to passersby.
  - retain its small town identity while using modern facilities
  - Attract young families
  - Get a cell tower on Green Mtn
  - Nothing. I love it just the way it is
  - To stay pretty much the same. Maintain quality of life. Keep thing simple.
  - a "town center" so to speak
  - To remain a small rural community where services are few and neighbors help you out.
  - Preserve open space, discourage all development.
  - Reduce the effort to grow. Reduce property taxes. Keep the four ladies in the town office. Keep the transfer station as is. Every other position and all other expenses should be reviewed for downsizing or elimination.
  - no opinion
  - Green community
- **More business and reduced taxes.**
- 

**b) Do you wish to see the town of Effingham maintain its rural character?**

• **Select one of the following**

(Each Respondent could choose only **ONE** of the following options:)

Response	Total	% of Total Respondents	%
Yes	44		42%
No	10		10%
If yes, write your definition of rural character.	51		49%
<b>Total Responses: 105</b>		<b>0% 20% 40% 60% 80%</b>	

- **If yes, write your definition of rural character.**

- open lands, no large developments
- off the beaten path
- as it is now
- Family owned farms, stores, and homes
- No or little commercial and industrial development
- development that is mindful of open space
- Low population density, forested, limited commercial development, but with good communication and transportation services.
- Small New Hampshire character respectful of its flora, fauna, and human inhabitants. Supportive of the conservation and protection of its environment. Nurturing the next generation to develop opportunities for itself to live in harmony with dignity and respect for all.
- no heavy industry, factories, malls etc.
- agricultural fields, quiet country roads, few street lights.
- Open fields, mostly wooded with some housing and business development
- as above
- Junk storage not visible from roadway
- beauty of nature
- beauty of nature
- To me rural means clusters of mixed use buildings next to generous open spaces. Light industry and retail operations - a small business district to be included. No strip malls or big box stores.
- Freedom to have a junk car or two and be left alone by the neighbors
- not densely populated, containing working farms and cottage industry
- boonies
- To limit the growth of housing and business.
- Remain as pristine as possible with easier travel and telecommunications access
- mountain, swamp and
- No industry, low traffic, no large chain store buildings, peace and quiet, large lots, wildlife, water, air and land protection, no development of Green Mountain, better control of hunters out-of-season.
- farms, open spaces, places to hike, etc
- Plenty of open space, clean air and water, dark skies, strong sense of community and reciprocity, slow pace of life, agriculture, self-reliance, politeness, small and reasonable dwellings, localized economy, powered by renewable resources.
- I like it the way it is
- No heavy Industry
- Yes, But we need JOBS in this town. Keep the Businesses back from the road and put some tree in front of them.
- Rural character is the variety and diversity created when people are allowed to live as they wish, without being micromanaged by suburban/urban rules and

regulations.

- The agricultural history of the town with small self sustaining farms and related products such as maple syrup, beverages, cider etc etc. along with animal husbandry and supporting local businesses
- open space, wildlife habitat, unobtrusive or agricultural/silvicultural businesses
- low population, wildlife, undeveloped spaces
- More farm land reopened/reclaimed.
- We're on Province Lake several weeks a year, and happy with its' present character, but realize some changes may be needed by residents.
- As Is!
- Preserve historic aspects, limit development
- least human encroachment evident
- well planned, well designed growth for the future
- Farm based community
- open space or forest, agriculture, low development
- See a).
- Basic services, but acceptance that some inconvenience results from not having all services at hand; low impact, self directed recreation
- Open space, lakes, water, trees, mountains
- Tight knit community
- Country life, a town not a big city.
- clean, undeveloped area, views, natural resources, agriculture, architectural charm, curb appeal
- Few people, little business, no industry.
- Many people look for the Quaint small town like Effingham. Once a community grows into a Wakefield or an Ossipee, you can never go back!
- The way that it is. Only with less people!