









	OBJECTIVE	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE BOARD/ GROUP	START DATE
	A1. Appoint a standing Open Space Advisory Committee that would have the responsibility of implementing the 2006 Whately Open Space and Recreation Plan.	Upon receiving state approval of this Open Space & Recreation Plan, appoint a standing Open Space Advisory Committee.	Select Board	2006
	A2. Prioritize areas in Whately that contain significant natural, agricultural, and cultural resources, and/or opportunities for recreation so that town officials and residents can act in a timely manner to protect these areas when parcels of land are offered for sale, offered for donation to the town, or come out of the Chapter 61 program.	Develop lists of criteria for evaluating and prioritizing the natural, cultural, agricultural, and recreational resources of a parcel of land.	Open Space Advisory Committee, Agricultural Committee, Whately Land Preservation, and Recreation Committee	2006
		Using the lists of evaluation and prioritization criteria developed above, and the GIS maps in the Whately Open Space and Recreation Plan (2006), identify areas of conservation interest in town that would be considered to be priority areas with important natural, cultural, agricultural, and/or recreational value.	Open Space Advisory Committee, Agricultural Committee, Whately Land Preservation, and Recreation Committee	2006
		Develop a protocol for how the town would consider using its right-of-first-refusal (or assigning the right to a conservation land trust or conservation agency) regarding Chapter lands that are put up for sale for development.	Open Space Advisory Committee, Implementation Committee, Agricultural Committee, and Select Board	2006
	A4. Be responsive to the needs of farm and forest landowners and other agricultural businesses in town. Consider ways that the town might support agricultural operations as they would other commercial or industrial businesses in town. Actively encourage agricultural protection and continued use of farms to sustain agriculture as a viable component of Whately's social and economic base.	Invest municipal funds in support of local Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) applications. Explore ways to commit, on an annual basis, municipal funds to the town's Agricultural Preservation Fund for this purpose.	Agricultural Commission, Finance Committee. Select Board and Open Space Advisory Committee	2006
		Consider removing excise taxes on farm animals. Consider providing additional municipal tax relief (beyond Chapter 61A) to farmers in exchange for short-term land protection agreements.	Agricultural Commission, Select Board, Open Space Advisory Committee, Board of Assessors	2006
		Encourage farmland owners to participate in the Massachusetts Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program.	Agricultural Commission	2006
		Review town bylaws and regulations to determine what changes or additional measures may be needed to support town agricultural operations.	Agricultural Commission, Board of Health, Planning Board.	2007
		Publish guide of town farm stands, pick-your-own and retail farm operations.	Agricultural Commission	2007
	A5. Continue advocating for the adoption of the Community Preservation Act (CPA). Communities that adopt the CPA can impose a small property tax surcharge which sets aside funds to address local needs related to open space protection, affordable housing, and historic preservation. Local CPA funds are matched by the Commonwealth through the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund.	Develop timetable for bringing the CPA to a town vote.	Implementation Committee; Open Space Advisory Committee	2007
	A6. Explore revisions to Whately's zoning bylaw that would result in greater protection of valued natural, agricultural, scenic, and cultural resources and would help to ensure any land development provides benefits that reflect the town's natural resource conservation goals.	Encourage the use of the town's Open Space/Cluster Developments Bylaw in appropriate areas of town. Review the bylaw to ensure that there are no disincentives for developers to use this option. Open Space/Cluster Developments can minimize the loss of prime farmland and help to maintain open space.	Planning Board and Open Space Advisory Committee	2006
		Adopt a Ridge Protection Bylaw that would help to protect the slopes and ridgelines of the West Whately hills from poorly planned development.	Planning Board	2006
		Consider amending the town's Site Plan Review regulations to include incentives to developers who adopt period architectural elements in their renovations and new construction projects. Consider creating an Agricultural Overlay District that might require site plan review, cluster development and buffers between new homes and commercial operations and existing agricultural operations within the district.	Planning Board	2007
	A7. Support the efforts of the Whately Historical Commission to designate additional scenic roads and to establish additional historic districts in Town.	Consider adopting a Scenic Roadways Bylaw to mitigate the impact of Approval-Not-Required (ANR) development.	Historical Commission and Planning Board	2007
		Continue the process of identifying significant scenic corridors or viewsheds and then develop a process for prioritizing these areas for protection. For example, parcels that provide linkages between various protected parcels around the Town might receive higher priority for protection than others.	Historical Commission, Open Space Advisory Committee	2007
	A8. Raise public awareness about estate planning and taxes and the property tax implications of different types of development as compared to protected open space, farmland, and forested land.	Collaborate with the Franklin Land Trust, American Farmland Trust, Whately Land Preservation and other non-profit organizations to educate landowners about land protection opportunities and estate planning.	Open Space Advisory Committee, Agricultural Commission	2007
		Consider conducting a Cost of Community Services (COCS) analysis for Whately to evaluate the property tax implications of residential, commercial, and industrial development; preserved open space; farmland; and forested land.	Select Board	2007
		If a COCS is done, then collaborate with Whately Land Preservation and the Franklin Land Trust to convene a series of Public Forums, articles in the local newspaper, and town-wide mailings to present the results of the Cost of Community Services analysis and other relevant information about the property tax implications of various types of land uses.	Open Space Advisory Committee, Agricultural Commission, Board of Assessors, Finance Committee, Select Board	2008
	A9. Work to prevent and clean-up road-side dumping and littering	Encourage neighborhood and community-oriented volunteer groups and Girl Scout and Boy Scout groups to assist the town in the clean-up of litter along roadways. Sponsor a "Roadside Cleanup" day with a barbeque or other gathering held at the conclusion of the clean-up to celebrate success and community spirit.	Open Space Advisory Committee, Whately Grange, Select Board, Whately Highway Department, Whately Elementary School PTO, Recreation Committee	2007