



TOWN OF BRIMFIELD

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OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN (OSRP) COMMITTEE

2014 Annual Report

Office Hours: by Appointment

Meeting Dates: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:00 PM, unless otherwise posted

Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee Introduction

The Open Space and Recreation Committee works with the community to target and preserve lands and ecosystems within Brimfield for public benefit. These areas provide a healthy environment for wildlife and plants and areas for passive or active recreational use by the public. Areas of high natural, scenic and/or recreational value are priorities for the Committee. In order to assure the protection of valued land, we assist in the creation of trails for passive recreation, community gardens, playing fields, beaches and playgrounds.

In the next year the Committee will be holding informational sessions and community workshops to interested town residents, will be conducting a public survey of Brimfield residents to identify their open space and recreational needs, and will be holding a community forum to review the survey results and develop concise community wide goals consistent with protecting Brimfield's unique resources and accomplishable within the next seven years. The Committee also plans to provide opportunities for the public to appreciate and enjoy Brimfield's preserved natural areas, parks, playgrounds and fields, farms and water resources through a limited number of public field trips anticipated for the upcoming fall.

The Mission of the Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee

The main mission of the Town of Brimfield Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Committee is to preserve, maintain and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Brimfield by developing and maintaining an Open Space and Recreation Plan. The current plan (2004) has expired, and the committee is in the process of updating the expired plan.

The updated plan will describe the town's natural resources, provide an inventory of open space and recreational facilities, set community goals and provide an action plan for the next 7 years. The plan will also identify and recommend open space acquisitions and identify other creative strategies to preserve open space based on public input and in consideration of Town government policies and action and the future Town's Master Plan.

Members of the OSRP Committee

The OSRP Committee is made up of Brimfield residents that share a passion for protecting open space and recreational areas of the town. Committee members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen for the duration of the plans update. The following OSRP Committee Members served in 2013: Ms. Angela Panaccione (Chair), Ms. Michele Restino (Vice-Chair), Ms. Virginia Irvine (Secretary), Mr. Michael DeFalco and Ms. Carol Platenik. Other participants include concerned citizens and representatives of key town entities (including the Conservation Commission, Trails Committee, Recreation Committee, Planning Board, Board of Selectmen and Historical Commission). There are currently several open vacancies on the committee and all interested residents should send a letter of request to the Board of Selectmen.