

VII. OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ELEMENT

TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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7.1 Open Space and Recreation System

List of Technical Appendices*

- VII.A1.0** Outdoor Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Inventory
- VII.A2.0** Inventory of Town, State, Federal and Private Open Space and Recreation Areas
- VII.A3.0** CPAC Workshop Session

* Technical Appendices are found in a separate document.

A. Introduction

Physical fitness and personal health have become an important part of most Americans' lives today. The activities in which people engage during their leisure time to improve their physical and mental well-being are defined as recreation. The provision of public recreational activities and facilities and open spaces benefit not only individuals by providing a sense of participation and accomplishment, but also the Town by creating a sense of community.

As the community grows, the demand for additional and varied recreational opportunities increases. It is the responsibility of the Town to provide recreational opportunities for all citizens regardless of age, interest or ability. There also is a need to preserve open space for passive recreation and the preservation of environmental quality. As a result, the Town of South Kingstown recognizes the importance of providing a wide-range of recreational activities and open spaces for all ages and interests. This Element of the Comprehensive Plan presents the process by which the Town will meet this responsibility.

The Town also has adopted a Local Recreation Conservation and Open Space Plan (1990), a copy of which is available in the Planning Department. This Plan was prepared within the guidelines of the Standards for Local Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Plans (Rhode Island State Planning Council, Recreation Resources Review Committee, June 1989). It contains somewhat more detail than this Element of the Plan, but the basic policies and implementation strategies are identical. The Local Recreation Plan was prepared to conform to State guidelines for the awarding of acquisition and development grants for recreation and open space projects.

Outdoor recreation, as in other towns, is an important part of many people's leisure activities. The Town's many physical characteristics, including the oceanfront, salt ponds, lakes and streams, and playing fields which offer an array of recreational activities. In South Kingstown, the beaches are the most popular recreational facilities. Based on a telephone survey conducted by URI for the Town, 55 percent of the residents use the beaches followed by playground areas (34%), baseball fields (27%) and tennis courts (26%).

In addition to creating a vital aspect of the social life in the community, outdoor recreation also offers a means for increasing the economic base. The oceanfront alone attracts approximately 5,500 visitors per summer day and about 4,500 to 8,000 summer residents both of which contribute significantly to the Town's tourist industry (Town Recreation Department and South Kingstown Chamber of Commerce).

Tourism in the Town appears to be thriving. Based on a study by URI's Department of Resource Economics, sales among such tourist-serving industries as retail trade, services, transportation and real estate grew annually between 1977 and 1986 at an average annual growth rate of 26.4 percent. During this period, the number of tourism-related firms generated jobs at an average rate increase of 9.8 percent per year. In 1986, the Town contributed about 20 percent of Washington County's travel and tourism sales ranking it second highest in the county. Tourism has also benefitted the community through the hotel tax revenues collected from local lodging establishments.

Of those residents surveyed by URI, nearly 70 percent felt that additional recreational facilities were needed, but only half of them made specific recommendations. Construction of additional playground areas was suggested by approximately one-third (34%) of the polled residents, followed by the building of baseball fields and tennis courts.

Open Space is an integral part of planning in South Kingstown. Open space areas create the small town character that so many residents value. As pressures increase for development of the Town, especially along the coast, the importance of preserving open space areas also increases.

Open space is also a means for preserving wildlife habitat, scenic vistas and unique natural features of which South Kingstown has many noteworthy sites.

In addition, open space can be used to create buffers to lessen the impacts of development on the environment and protect such natural resources as aquifer and recharge areas and shorelines.

B. Resource Inventory

In Appendix VII.A1.0, the Town has compiled a series of inventory forms for recreation and open space sites in South Kingstown. Forms are included for all sites available for public use or of public interest and provide information regarding individual site characteristics as well. Sites available for public use include sites that are generally accessible to all users either free or by a fee charged. These types of sites might include a park, beach, or campground. Sites considered to be within the public interest generally include conservation areas either publicly or privately held which typically are inaccessible to the public but whose protection is deemed to be of community benefit. All sites are classified into one of four jurisdictions including Town, State, Federal and private.

Detailed information for inventory forms was gathered from several sources including the Town Recreation Department, Town Assessor maps and ownership records, The Rhode Island Outdoor Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Inventory (in Ocean State Outdoors, report No. 52A, State Guide Plan Element 152), selective site visits, and input from the local citizenry.

Each inventory form contains an identification number (ID#) which corresponds to a System Map located on the inside jacket of the back cover of this plan. As noted, the map provides a legend depicting ID# and a symbol representing type of jurisdiction. Note that the ID #'s are presented in numerical order, although there are occasional gaps due to omissions and changes needed to update the inventory during the review process. The map itself shows the location of each recreation and open space site.

Table 1 lists State and Federal funding sources for recreational development and acquisition of land for preservation and open space. Funds also are available from such non-profit organizations and foundations for land preservation as the Nature Conservancy, Rhode Island Foundation and Champlin Foundation.

Table 1

Funding Sources for Local Recreation and Open Space Resources

Grant /Loan	Source /Funding	Purpose	Comments
Natural Heritage Preservation Revolving Fund	DEM/loan	Acquisition of land for preservation	RI General Law 42-17.5-4 0% interest, non-competitive loan; quarterly payments over 5 year period
Roger Williams Reserve Fund	DEM/grant	Acquisition of development rights of farmland, preservation of historical sites, development and/or acquisition for parks and recreation purposes	RI General Law 42-63.1-6 Grants determined annually Maximum grant in 1988: \$120,000
1987 Open Space and Recreation Area Bond	DEM/bond	50% project reimbursement for recreational construction 75% project reimbursement for land acquisition	RI Public Law 87-425. Advertised once a year. Monies for land acquisition will be depleted by December 1990. Grants determined annually. Maximum grant in 1989: \$500,000
1989 Open Space and Recreation Capital Development Fund	DEM/grant	50% project reimbursement for recreational construction 50% project reimbursement for land acquisition	RI Public Law 89-552. Monies for land acquisition will be depleted by December 1990. Grants determined annually. Maximum grant: \$500,000 recreation, \$400,000 open space.
Shoreline Access Improvement	DEM/grant	Improvements for shoreline water access	Under 1989 Open Space and Recreational Capital Development Fund. Maximum grant in 1990: \$5,000 (grant size may increase next year)
Land and Water Conservation Fund	DEM/grant	50% project reimbursement for construction 50% project reimbursement for acquisition	Section of Federal Land & Water Conservation Act of 1964. DEM is the grantor. Grants determined annually. Maximum grant 1985-90: \$40,000
Water Quality Protection Fund	RI Water Resources Board/bond	55% or more for acquisition of land/rights or physical improvements to water supply systems. 45% non-standard water quality improvements	Based on surcharge of \$.01/100 gallons of water produced. State matches \$1/\$1 for money spent over 55% requirement
Bicycle Facilities Grant	Federal Highway Administration/grant	100% reimbursement for approved bikeway (for transportation purposes)	Federal Highway Administration is the grantor. South Kingstown and RIDOT are in the process of feasibility and preliminary design studies for a bikeway along the Narragansett Railway line.

The Nature Conservancy provides such numerous services as grants for land acquisition, conservation easements and advisory and management assistance. The Town is in the process (1991) of coordinating a land acquisition project with the Nature Conservancy for land at Factory Pond.

The Champlin Foundation makes grants for capital needs which include: purchase of equipment, construction, renovations, purchases of real property and reduction of mortgage indebtedness. The Foundation's highest priority is open space, conservation, parks, and the environment. A nominal amount is available for historic preservation. In 1989, grants ranged from \$720 to \$2 million and the average range was \$15,000 to \$50,000.

The Rhode Island Foundation provides grants for projects which "improve living conditions and the moral, mental, and physical well-being of the inhabitants of Rhode Island." Grants are awarded in the areas of the environment, social services, historic preservation and education. Initial grants rarely exceed \$30,000 and are typically less.

1. Site (space) Standards

For the purposes of this plan, the Town has utilized the classification system shown on Table 2. This system is based upon National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards as well as Town adopted standards. The Town variations from NRPA standards include a new "playground" component (site type), the inclusion of other vacant or open lands in the "conservation" component, and a more detailed breakdown of "special use" sites.

2. Site Inventory

Appendix VII.A3.0 provides a tabular breakdown of the inventory sheets contained in Appendix VII.A1.0. Site types (components), acreages, and map system ID numbers are listed as well. Note that the "Recreational Acreage" category listed on each inventory sheet includes all active recreation space and all passive areas (i.e. conservation or undeveloped portions of sites). It does not include areas of sites devoted to buildings or parking facilities. Also note that several sites fall into more than one category or component. For example, under "Town" sites, Weeden Farm, ID #018, contains acreage in the special use, beach and conservation (farm) categories. Finally, note under "State" sites that several parcels are not owned fee simple but are encumbered by development rights or easements. All recreation, open space and conservation areas are illustrated on Map 7.1 Open Space and Recreation System.

3. Site Summary

Table 3 provides a summary of all recreation and open space parcels by site type, while a separate summary of Town owned open space and recreation parcels is presented in Table 4. Note that about eighty-four (84) percent of the lands in Table 2 and more than seventy-three (73) percent of the lands in Table 3 are devoted to conservation or open space. Less than eight (8) percent of all acreage, regardless of jurisdiction, is owned by the Town.

4. Facility Standards

A necessary and important component of many sites includes various facilities such as baseball fields, basketball courts, and tennis courts. The facility standards presented in Table 5 have been adopted by the Town. These standards have been based upon recommendations of NRPA with a few local variations included as well. Variations from NRPA standards include a minor deviation in activity classification for basketball, a higher service standard for baseball (1 per 4,000 population as opposed to NRPA's 1 per 5,000), a much higher service standard for soccer (1 per 2,000 instead of 1 per 10,000), and a higher standard for softball (1 per 3,000 instead of 1 per 5,000). In addition, there are other facilities for which the Town has no adopted standards (trails, swimming pools, ice hockey, volleyball, and other sports).

5. Facility Inventory

Each inventory sheet in Technical Appendix VII.A1.0 identifies the number, jurisdiction, type, and condition of each facility. These features are summarized in Table 6.

6. Open Space and Recreational Resources of Community Interest

In addition to the areas inventoried in this element, there are several areas within South Kingstown which fall under one of the following three categories:

- a) public/private land and water resources representing important potential for providing outdoor recreation opportunities;
- b) unique natural areas and open space of special value requiring protection, and;
- c) open space which supports community conservation and development objectives.

Several of these areas have been identified as Town priorities for preservation, management or increased development/access in the Town's 1990 Local Recreation, Conservation and Open Space Plan. Additionally, some of these areas, such as the coastal ponds, have been the subject of intense studies by the State of Rhode Island DEM and CRMC, as well as by other private consultants under contract to the Town of South Kingstown and/or the State of Rhode Island.

In South Kingstown, there are areas which fall into one or more of the above categories. Many areas are in the coastal pond region or are identified by the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program as areas containing rare species and/or ecologically significant natural communities. According to the Natural Heritage Program (1989), "approximately 15 percent of the plant, animal and community occurrences tracked by the Heritage Program, and nearly 20 percent of the State's most significant sites" are located in South Kingstown. A third important category of unique natural/open space areas requiring protection is aquifer recharge areas.

For a discussion of the following areas, refer to the Natural Resources Element:

1. Coastal Ponds
2. Factory Pond
3. Narrow River
4. Natural Heritage Sites
5. Aquifers and Recharge Zones

Table 2
Town Space Standards for Open Space and Recreation Areas

Component	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres/1,000 Population	Desirable Site Characteristics
A. Local/Close-to-Home Space:					
Mini-Park	Specialized Facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens.	Less than 1/4 mile radius	1 acre or less	0.25 to 0.5A	Within neighborhoods and in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouse development or housing for the elderly.
Playground	Primarily for children aged 5-12. Includes an apparatus area for older children and generally a field area for games and informal play, a passive area for older children and an area for court games. Smaller than a neighborhood park but containing similar facilities.	1/4 to 1/2 mile	2 to 10 acres	0.5 to 1.5A	Suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood population - geographically centered with safe walking and bike access. May be developed as a school park facility.
Neighborhood Park	Area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus area, skating, picnicking, wading pools, etc.	1/4 to 1/2 mile radius to serve a population up to 5,000 (a neighborhood)	15+ acres	1.0 to 2.0A	Suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood population - geographically centered with safe walking and bike access. May be developed as a school park facility.
Community Park	Area of diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes, large swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation such as walking, viewing, sitting picnicking. May be any combination of the above depending upon site suitability and community need.	Several neighborhoods. 1 to 2 mile radius	25+ acres	5.0 to 8.0A	May include natural features such as water bodies and areas suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood served.
Developed Park Lands for Active Recreation (means there should be 6.25 to 10.5 acres of active recreation sites per 1,000 population on a Town-wide basis)				6.25 to 10.5 A	

Component	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres/1,000 Population	Desirable Site Characteristics
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B. Space That May be Local or Regional and is Unique to Each Community:

Linear Park	Area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel such as hiking, biking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, canoeing and pleasure driving. May include active play areas. (NOTE: any included for any of the above components may occur in the "linear park").	No applicable standard	Sufficient width to protect the resource and provide maximum use	Variable	Built or natural corridors such as utility rights-of-way, bluff lines, vegetation patterns and roads that link other components of the recreation system or community facilities such as school, libraries, commercial areas and other park areas.
Conservation	Protection and management of the natural/cultural environment with recreation use as a secondary objective. Includes Open Space and undeveloped lands not elsewhere classified.	No applicable standard	Sufficient to protect the resource	Variable	Variable depending on the resource being protected
Special Use	Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities such as golf courses, nature centers, marinas, zoos, conservatories, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, gun ranges, downhill ski areas or areas that preserve, maintain and interpret buildings, sites and objects of archeological significance. Also plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards or parkways.	No applicable standard	Variable depending on desired size	Variable	Within communities

The following Special Use sub-categories have been identified by the Town:

Beach	Waterfront area supporting activities such as sun-bathing and swimming.	No applicable standard	Variable depending on desired size	Variable	Within communities
Salt Water/ Fresh Water Access	Areas providing other physical or visual access to the water. Includes fishing areas, boat access, scenic overlooks, access strips, etc.	No applicable standard	Variable depending on desired size	Variable	Within communities

Other Special Use sub-categories have been identified with no applicable Town standards:
Campgrounds, Golf, Marinas, Historic, Skeet Ranges and Gardens

Source: Town Recreation Commission

Table 3
Summary of Existing Town, State, Federal and,
Private Open Space and Recreation Areas
1990

Site Types	Acreage	Percent of Total Recreation and Open Space Acreage (Minus Conservation)
A. All Sites (Minus Conservation)		
Mini-Park	5.60	0.51
Playground	48.30	4.43
Neighborhood Park	6.84	0.63
Community Park	72.90*	6.69
Beach	47.00	4.31
Saltwater Access	2.52	0.23
Freshwater Access	25.23	2.32
Campgrounds	632.90	58.08
Golf	194.00	17.80
Marinas	1.30	0.12
Historic	5.50	0.50
Skeet Range	2.00	0.18
Gardens	.70	0.06
URI (Athletic Fields)	45.00**	4.13
TOTAL OF A.	1,089.79	100.00
B. Conservation	5,718.42	83.75
TOTAL OF A. AND B.	6,808.21	

* Includes 30 acres from URI

** Note that there are actually 75 acres of athletic fields at URI but that 30 acres were counted as Town Community Park.

Source: Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

Table 4
Summary of Existing Town
Open Space and Recreation Areas
1990

<u>Site Type</u>	<u>and Open Space Acreage</u>	<u>Percent of Town Recreation (Minus Conservation)</u>
A. All Sites (Minus Conservation)		
Mini-Park	5.10	3.80
Playground	24.50	18.27
Neighborhood Park	6.84	5.10
Community Park	72.90*	54.35
Beach	19.20	14.32
Saltwater Access	2.28	1.70
Freshwater Access	2.60	1.94
Gardens	<u>.70</u>	<u>0.52</u>
TOTAL OF A.		100.00
		<u>Percent of Total of A. and B.</u>
B. Conservation	374.57	73.63
TOTAL OF A. AND B.	508.69	

* Includes 30 acres from URI

Source: Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

Table 5
Town Standards for Facilities

Activity/ Facility	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Orientation	No. of Units Per Population	Service Radius
Badminton	1620 sq. ft.	Singles – 17' x 44'; doubles – 20' x 44' with 5' unobstructed area on all sides	Long axis north-south	1 per 5,000	¼ - ½ mile
Basketball 1. Student 2. Adult	5,040-7,280 sq. ft. 5,600-7,980 sq. ft.	50' x 84' 50' x 94' with 5' unobstructed space on all sides	Long axis north-south	1 per 5,000 indoor 1 per 2,000 outdoor	¼ - ½ mile
Tennis	2 cts. 120' X 108' 4 cts. 120' x 204'	36' x 78' 12' clearance on both sides; 21' clearance on both ends	Long axis north-south	1 court per 2,000	¼ - ½ mile
Volleyball	Minimum of 4,000 sq. ft.	30' x 60'; minimum 6' clearance on all sides	Long axis north-south	1 court per 5,000	¼ - ½ mile
Baseball					
1. Official	3.0 - 3.85 A minimum	Baselines - 90' pitching distance - 60 ½'; foul lines - min. 320'; center field - 400'+	Locate home plate to pitcher throwing across sun and batter not facing it. Line from home plate through pitcher's mound runs east-northeast.	1 per 4,000; lighted - 1 per 30,000	¼ - ½ mile
2. Little League	1.2 A minimum	Baselines – 60'; pitching distance - 46'; foul lines - 200'; center field - 200'-250'			
Soccer	1.7 to 2.1 A	195' to 255' x 330' to 360' with a 10' minimum clearance on all sides	Fall season - long axis northwest to southeast. For longer periods, north to south	1 per 2,000	1 - 2 miles
Softball	1.5 to 2.0 A	Baselines - 65' pitching distance - 46' minimum, 40' - women; fast pitch field radius from plate - 225' between foul lines; slow pitch - 275' (men), 250' (women)	Same as baseball	1 per 3,000 (if also used for youth baseball)	¼ - ½ mile
Multiple Recreation Court (basketball, volleyball, tennis)	9,840 sq. ft.	120' x 80'	Long axis of courts with primary use in north/south	1 per 1,000	1 - 2 miles

Source: Town Recreation Commission

Table 6
Facilities Inventory, Condition* and Summary
 (letters indicate condition: E-Excellent, G-Good, F- Fair, P-Poor)

Name of Parcel	Jurisdiction	Basketball Student	Basketball Adult	Tennis	Baseball Official	Baseball Little League	Soccer	Softball	Multi-Purpose Field	Other
Old Mountain Field	Recreation Dept.		1-F	2-P	1-E		1-G	1-E		
So. Kingstown Jr. High	School Dept.				1-F		1-F			1-E (Football)
Village Green	Recreation Dept.			2-G						2-F (Bocci)
Town Farm	Recreation Dept.					1-G				
Tuckertown	Recreation Dept.		1-E			2-E	2-E			
Abbie Perry	Recreation Dept.	1-F								
Brousseau Memorial	Recreation Dept.			2-G		1-G				
Saugatucket Park	Recreation Dept.	1-F							1-F	
Treaty Rock	Recreation Dept.		1-G							
Fagan Playground	Recreation Dept.		1-F							
Kingston R.R. Station	State	1-F								
YMCA	Private					1-P	1-P			
South County Hospital	Private	1-G				1-G				
URI**	State			2-F			4-G	1-G		
Potter Memorial	Private		1-G						2-F	
Matunuck Comty. House	Private									2-F (Vacant)
Worden Pond Campgrnd.	Private								2-F	
Hazard Elementary	School Dept.						2-F			
Marina Park	Recreation Dept.									1-F (Vacant)
TOTALS		4	5	8	2	6	11	2	5	6

Condition Definition:

- Excellent in outstanding condition due to regular maintenance, recent or new installation. No or only the slightest cosmetic defects.
- Good in fine working order with only a few, relatively limited problems such as minor turf divots, small cracks on surface of tennis or basketball courts, etc.
- Fair in working or adequate repair but needs attention such as more extensive turf care, rim (basketball) or new (tennis or basketball) repair, backstop (baseball/softball) repair, etc.
- Poor barely functions or unusable due to extensive drainage problems, missing apparatus, etc

** Includes only those facilities available to the Town.

Source: Town Recreation Department.

C. Needs Analysis

This section includes a review and summary of the condition of existing sites and facilities; the current maintenance program and future needs; changes in participation rates of and demands on Town Recreation Department Programs; available existing lands for active recreation; space or site type needs based upon minimum NRPA/Town standards; facility needs based upon minimum NRPA/Town standards; and other identified space or site needs with variable standards (beach or aquifer protection needs).

In developing this section of the plan, the Town used, to the extent possible, accepted standards and quantitative data. Where such standards or data were incomplete or unavailable, the Town used the findings of the Planning Board, Recreation Commission, Recreation Department, Planning Department, and the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee.

1. Existing Site and Facility Condition

According to the Recreation Director, the overall condition of public recreation sites and facilities can be characterized as adequate to good. Table 7 provides ratings of the condition of different categories of Town recreational facilities. As shown on the table, sixteen of the thirty Town facilities overall are in good to excellent condition.

Table 7
Summary of Condition of Town Facilities*
1992

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Condition Poor</u>	<u>Total</u>
Basketball (student)			2		2
Basketball (adult)	1	1	2		4
Tennis	6	4			10
Baseball (official)	1		1		2
Baseball (Little League)	2	2			4
Soccer	2	1	3		6
Softball	1				1
Multi-Purpose Field			1		1
Other	1		3		4
Totals	14	8	12		34

* Includes only Town owned facilities.

Source: Town Recreation Department

2. Maintenance

Responsibility for maintenance of recreation sites and facilities is shared between the Recreation and the Public Works Departments. Recreation performs the broadest scope of tasks related to the maintenance and upkeep of the Town's varied inventory of active and

passive recreational facilities. These tasks include turf maintenance including fertilization, aeration, disease and pest control and irrigation as well as mowing at selected sites. Other duties include athletic field preparation, facilities repair, trash and litter pick-up, and care of special plantings. The Public Works Department has primary responsibility for mowing at most recreational sites.

In response to the expanded maintenance demands presented by additional Town park and recreational facilities, a new position of Parks & Grounds Superintendent has been approved for the 1992-1993 fiscal year. This position will provide improved management and coordination of grounds and maintenance functions.

Maintenance of private open space in subdivisions owned in common or by a Homeowners, Association shall be the responsibility of the homeowners. The Town recognizes the importance of such private open spaces, but will not assume any of the responsibility for maintenance.

3. Community Changes

There are four significant areas of community change observed during the last ten to fifteen years. These changes include: total population increase; the distribution of population in different parts of the community; seasonal fluctuations in population; and participation rate increase in Town Recreation Department programs. All changes have a direct effect on recreation and open space needs.

- a. Total Population Increases - As discussed on the Land Use Element, the Town has grown at a rate of 20.7 percent in each of the last two decades. The consequences of such a rate of growth as well as the total population increases in terms of absolute numbers are very significant for recreation planning purposes. Refer to the Land Use Element for a more complete discussion.
- b. Distribution of Population - An examination of population distribution in the Town and recent building permit data is presented in the Land Use Element. It is seen that population growth was concentrated in the Coastal Pond area since 1975, but the Wakefield/Lower South Road area became the primary growth area since about the mid-1980's.
- a. Seasonal Fluctuations - As a coastal community, South Kingstown increasingly is aware of its desirability, especially during summer months. With each coming season, more summer and would-be summer residents, beach-goers, and visitors descend upon the community. As the number of people increases, the demand for quality recreation areas and open spaces rises as well. While the Town had limited data on seasonal population fluctuation, the consensus of those queried (Recreation Department, local citizenry, Chamber of Commerce) was that there is a dramatic increase each year and that the numbers are growing. Perhaps this occurrence was best described by the State planners (State Guide Plan, 1986 amended 1988, 1990):

Our fascination with the shore, and collective desire to live, work, and play near it, seems destined to destroy the very values which attract us. The problem, simply stated, if not simply resolved, is that a growing number of people are competing to gain access to and enjoy a decreasing amount of publicly accessible shoreline. They occupy themselves with a myriad of activities swimming, fishing and shell-fishing, sightseeing, boating, and strolling. They create traffic jams and in the process aggravate themselves and others. They compete for the increasingly limited opportunities available to them, sometimes with good humor, sometimes not. Their numbers increase yearly and we should anticipate that they will continue to do so long into the future, as our increasingly affluent and leisure-oriented population continues to grow.

The Recreation Director offered a general estimate of summer time population based upon his knowledge and observation (for example, he noted a significant increase in inquiries during summer months concerning beach use and recreation programs for all age groups). He estimated an average of about 5,500 non-residents per season day visit South Kingstown. The majority of these visitors head for the beaches (including State, Town, and private facilities). This estimate seems reasonable when compared with the 1985 State projection of 16,000 persons per season day at the four state-operated beaches (State Guide Plan, 1986 amended 1988, 1990). It must be remembered that peak day rates are considerably higher for both. In addition, the Recreation Department estimated an influx of about 4,500 summer residents (net increase, accounting for those who may leave for the summer such as students), the majority of which occupy cottages, trailers, or campgrounds in the shoreline areas of Green Hill, Matunuck, Snug Harbor, and Middlebridge (note that in 1986 the South Kingstown Chamber of Commerce estimated the summer population increase as high as 8,000). The Recreation Director maintains that due to the influx of summer time "day-trippers" (who are beginning to use town parks after beach hours) and summer residents, there is an increased seasonal demand on Town parks and facilities.

Other indicators of seasonal population changes include data on seasonal housing units and the tourist industry. In 1990, the U.S. Census reported that the Town had 1,994 seasonal housing units, which represented 22 percent of the total housing stock. Another measure of seasonal population change is reflected in Table 8 which documents a growing tourist industry in Town.

- d. Participation Rates - An increase in population has brought an increased need for recreation programs. Table 9 shows the significant changes that have occurred.

In addition to increased participation, other factors contributing to a growing demand for space are-lack of facilities, lack of practice times, and schedule conflicts. A description of problems and issues facing some of the various programs is summarized as follows:

Table 8
Tourism - Related Sales, Wages, Number of Firms and
Employees in South Kingstown, 1977 and 1986

	1977	1986	Percent Change-1977 to 1986
Sales (in thousands)	\$ 13,541	\$ 45,753	NA*
Wages (in thousands)	2,777	\$ 9,485	NA*
Number of Firms	100	149	49
Number of Employees	559	1,053	88

Note that percentage change is not shown (not applicable) due to the effects of inflation which would yield an artificially high number.

Source: "Tourism Profile of South Kingstown" (1986), by Tim Tyrrell, Department of Resource Economics, University of Rhode Island (produced for the RI Department of Economic Development).

Table 9
Town Recreation Department Program*
Number of Participants, 1980, 1985 and 1990

Activity/League	No. of South Kingstown Resident Participants**			Percent Change 1980-90
	1980	1985	1990	
Adult Softball	600	600	600	
Girls' Softball	0	175	205	205
Adult Soccer	0	50	130	130
Youth Soccer	250	350	700	180
Little League Baseball	192	250	400	108
Babe Ruth Baseball (junior, ages 7-13; senior, ages 13+)	0	70	70	70
Fall Baseball (ages 12-14)	0	0	105	105
American Legion Baseball (college age)	13	10	8	(-38)
Pop Warner Football	70	75	85	21
Pop Warner Cheerleaders	45	35	45	
Adult Tennis	100	100	70	(-30)
Youth Basketball (ages 6-14, indoors)	0	0	300	300
Men's Basketball (indoors)	70	60	discontinue	
Men's Over 35 Basketball (indoors)	35	35	35	
Youth Swimming (indoors at URI)	500	500	500	
Aerobics (indoors)	600	750	1,500	150
Volleyball (indoors)	1,200	1,200	1,000	(-17)

(There are several other programs but data is unavailable.)

* Outdoor activities unless otherwise noted

** Note that in addition to the numbers reported above, some residents from the Town of Narragansett participate in Youth Soccer (50 in 1985; 200 in 1990), Babe Ruth Baseball (32 in 1985; 32 in 1990), American Legion Baseball (12 in 1980; 15 in 1985; 12 in 1990), Pop Warner Football (34 in 1980; 50 in 1985; 40 in 1990) and Cheerleading (46 in 1980; 40 in 1985; 30 in 1990).

Source: Town Recreation Department

- Adult Softball - There is no opportunity for the league to grow as waiting lists are maintained each year for both men and women. Old Mountain Field is used each day from 8:30 a.m. to about 10:00 p.m. by the high school and the adults. High school physical education classes and the high school interscholastic team use the field during the day. Adults use the field in the evenings (6:00 to about 10:00 or 11:00 p.m.). The field has been used on Saturdays and Sundays for as many as six games per day. Practices at Old Mountain Field are limited to one hour per team per week. Team reservations are made by calling the Recreation Department. The phone rings constantly for about an hour until all available weekend time slots are filled. The season runs from mid April to late September or early October. There are post season leagues or special tournaments. Because of the number of teams playing, some teams often have gaps in their playing schedule of 15 days or more.
- Girls Softball - The Girls Softball League can schedule games only when the Little League is not using the fields. For the first part of their season, the League plays afternoon games (which may prevent many parents from participating). The remainder of the season is completed after the Little League has finished its season. Practices are usually not held on the playing fields because of the tight schedules maintained by the League and the Little League.
- Little League - Once the season starts, there is very little practice time available on the fields because the fields are for scheduled games.
-
- Adult Soccer - The adult soccer league is restricted to playing on Sunday mornings, the only time available due to the demands of youth soccer.
- Youth Soccer - Soccer fields are used each Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to about 5:00 p.m. and Sundays from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The real challenge is to find some practice space during the week. At Tuckertown Park, which has two soccer fields, it is not unusual to see up to five teams practicing in the park on any available turf. School grounds, the University, and even private property are used for practices.
- Prout High School - The local parochial school uses one of the softball/little league fields for interscholastic practices and games.
- High School Education and Athletics - Due to limited space around the High School, the High School uses Old Mountain Field for the following:
 - Tennis courts (the Recreation Department and School Department will be jointly replacing the two courts with four courts); physical education classes; intramural; and team practices. The latter is very limited because of the condition of the courts and the limitation of only having two courts in one place.
 - Softball - See above
 - Baseball - The High School shares the only municipal baseball field in town with the Junior High, and Babe Ruth Baseball. The American Legion and Senior teams use the field on occasion but due to the other user groups usually have to go to another town to play.

- Soccer - The high school girls and boys soccer teams share the field with field, hockey for practices and games. This is the outfield for the baseball field.
 - Field Hockey - See soccer above
 - Physical education classes - In addition to the above, the schools use this park for canoeing, Project Adventure, etc.
- Fall Baseball - In the Fall of 1990, a new youth league (ages 12 to 14) begins, although no Town fields are available because of other uses. The season lasts from August to November. The League did manage to secure the University baseball field for three dates. However, because of the expanded numbers of youth wishing to play, there needs to be about three fields for them to get their games in on Saturday.
 - Pop Warner Football - This league has participants from two towns. The only place available in South Kingstown is at Old Mountain Field on a parcel referred to as the football practice field. It is about half the size of a regular field and up to sixty children practice on the field nightly.
 - Basketball - The Town does not have the facilities to run an outdoor basketball league for more than one game at a time. The existing courts are dispersed throughout Town.

4. Space Needs (for active recreation)

To determine the existing level of need (1990), existing spaces (site types) must be matched against the current population. Adopted Town standards for such spaces were also reviewed. Table 10 shows the current status of existing need by presenting the range of acres needed to serve every 1,000 persons. All sites accessible on a Town-wide basis are included in Table 8 regardless of jurisdiction.

In order to determine future needs (1995), it is necessary to consider the potential conversion of existing passive inventory sites to more intensive and/or active use. According to the Recreation Department, the majority of Town properties are not suitable for more active development either due to the presence of wetlands or commitment to other vital needs such as trails, conservation, or other important less active needs. Nonetheless, the Recreation Department identified five (5) open space sites, or portions of sites, now classified as conservation with potential for conversion (Table 11). By including these sites with potential for conversion, future (1995) acreage needs can be identified as seen in Table 12. However, it should be noted that the actual use of these sites is subject to Town Council Master Park Plan approval.

5. Facility Needs (for active recreation)

To establish facility needs for 1990 and 1995, it is necessary to apply Town standards to existing and potential inventory in light of current and anticipated population changes. These needs are expressed in Tables 13, 14, and 15, respectively.

Table 10
Existing Active Recreation Acreage Needs, 1990
 (Based on Town standards and 1990 population of 25,269)

Component	Acres/1,000	Existing Acreage	Population Now	1990 Acreage
	Population		Served	Needs
Mini-Park	0.25 (low)	5.60	22,400	0.72 (low)
	0.50 (high)		11,200	7.03 (high)
Playground	0.50	48.30	96,600	0.00
	1.50	48.30	32,200	0.00
Neighborhood Park	1.00	6.84	6,840	18.43
	2.00	6.84	3,420	43.70
Community Park	5.00	72.90*	14,580	53.45
	8.00	72.90*	9,113	129.25
Town-wide"	6.25	133.64	21,382	24.29
	10.50	133.64	12,728	131.68

* includes 30 acres from URI

** This component represents standards and needs on an overall total Town basis and is not an average of each component. It should be viewed as a general guide. Individual component requirements (acreage needs) need to be met irrespective of this Town-wide component.

Source: Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

Table 11
Existing Town Sites Available for
Conversion to Active Use

<u>ID #</u>	<u>Name of Parcel</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Potential Component</u>
030	O'Brien Property	35.00	Community Park
016	Green Hill Site	20.00	Neighborhood Park*
017	West Kingston Site	13.23	Community Park**
019	Marina Park	5.14	Special Use***
014	Abbie Perry Park	<u>1.50</u>	Playground
TOTAL		74.87	

* As a result of the Town bond approval in April, 1990 this site will be purchased by the Town. Its potential component classification could change to "community park" but the provision of facilities is undetermined at this time.

** As a result of the Town bond approval in April, 1990 this site will be purchased by the Town. This site may serve as a "community park" if it includes lighted facilities but the provision of facilities is undetermined at this time.

*** Marina Park could potentially serve as a "Special Use" site due to its coastal location, potential boating opportunities and scenic view.

Source: Town Recreation Department

Table 12
Future Active Recreation Acreage Needs, 1995
 (Based on Town standards and 1995 population of 27,690)

<u>Component</u>	<u>Acres/1,000</u> <u>Population</u>	<u>Potential</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Population to</u> <u>be Served</u>	<u>1995 Acreage</u> <u>Needs*</u>	<u>No. of Components</u> <u>Needed, 1995**</u>
Mini-Park	0.25 (low)	5.60	22,400	1.32 (low)	3 (low)
	0.50 (high)	5.60	11,200	8.25 (high)	17 (high)
Playground	0.50	44.80***	89,600	0.00	0
	1.50	44.80	29,867	0.00	0
Neighborhood Park	1.00	26.84	26,840	0.85	0
	2.00	26.84	13,420	28.54	2
Community Park	5.00	121.13****	24,226	17.32	1
	8.00	121.13	15,141	100.39	4
Town-Wide	6.25	198.37	31,739	0.00	
	10.50	198.37	18,892	92.38	

* Includes 1990 needs

** Based on the "Desirable Size" category of Table 3.1

*** Assumes the loss of 5.0 acres at the South County Hospital site to be used for additional parking.

**** Includes 30 acres from URI

***** This component represents standards and needs on an overall, total Town basis and is not an average of each component. It should be viewed as a general guide. Individual component requirements (acreage needs) need to be met irrespective of this Town-wide component.

Source: Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

Table 13
Existing Active Facility Needs, 1990
(Based on Town standards and 1990 population of 25,269)

<u>Facility</u>	<u>No. of Units</u> <u>Per Population</u>	<u>No. of Existing</u> <u>Facilities*</u>	<u>Population</u> <u>Now Served</u>	<u>No. Needed 1990</u>
Basketball Courts	1 per 2,000	9	18,000	4
Tennis Courts	1 per 2,000	8	16,000	5
Baseball Fields	1 per 4,000	8	32,000	0
Soccer Fields	1 per 2,000	11	22,000	2
Softball Fields	1 per 3,000	2	6,000	7

* Includes all facilities available to the Town regardless of jurisdiction

Source: Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

Table 14
Potential New Active Facilities* (to be added by 1995)

<u>Name of Parcel</u>	<u>Basketball</u>	<u>Tennis</u>	<u>Baseball Fields</u>		<u>Soccer</u>	<u>Softball</u>
	<u>Courts</u>	<u>Courts</u>			<u>Fields</u>	<u>Fields</u>
		<u>Official Little League</u>				
Old Mountain Field		2				
O'Brien Property	1	2			2	3
Green Hill Site	1	2	1	1	3	
West Kingston Site	2					2
TOTAL	4	6	1	1	5	5

* Except for Old Mountain Field, actual facilities are subject to Town Council Master Park Plan approval and may change. Note that for planning purposes, the maximum potential development of these sites is indicated. Also see Table 6.3.

Source: Town Recreation Department
Louis Berger Associates, Inc.

Table 15
Future Active Recreation Facility Needs, 1995
(Based on Town standards and 1995 population of 27,690)

<u>Facility</u>	<u>No. of Units per</u> <u>Population</u>	<u>No. of Potential</u> <u>Facilities*</u>	<u>Population to be</u> <u>Served</u>	<u>No. Needed</u> <u>1995**</u>
Basketball Courts	1 per 2,000	13	26,000	1
Tennis Courts	1 per 2,000	14	28,000	0
Baseball Fields	1 per 4,000	10	40,000	0
Soccer Fields	1 per 2,000	16	32,000	0
Softball Fields	1 per 3,000	7	21,000	3

* Includes all facilities available to the Town regardless of jurisdiction, but note that actual facilities added after 1990 are subject to change.

** Includes 1990 needs

Source: Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

6. Other Needs (with variable or no adopted Town standards)

The Town has other recreation and open space needs that are more difficult to measure. To facilitate an identification of these types of needs, the Town relied upon information provided by the Town Recreation Department, Town Recreation Commission, the local citizenry, and to a lesser degree, a phone survey conducted by URI students in April 1990. The results are as follows:

- a. Beach, Salt and Fresh Water Access - The Town identified the need to increase access to coastal and inland waters as an important concern. More access would permit increasing numbers of people to enjoy their favorite activities, swimming and sun-bathing. Access also would allow for other very popular pursuits such as boating, fishing, walking, wind-surfing, water-skiing, and other water-related sports. Several issues were noted, including: the growing number of access problems due to limited parking; installation of fences and signs barring public use; the closure of Moonstone Beach; and the ever-growing number of people using or attempting to use facilities. While increased access is necessary, effective management is essential to prevent over-use and destruction of valuable natural resources. For example, motorized boating may need to be limited or in some cases prohibited in certain areas. (For more discussion of the issue, see the Town Harbor Management Plan, 1992.)
- b. Aquifer and Recharge Area Protection - The Town contains four (4) critical aquifer areas. Portions of these sites overlap with Natural Heritage Program lands. Protection of these areas would preserve both water supply and wildlife and rare plant habitats. The Town readily acknowledges that aquifer and recharge area protection must be a top priority and has adopted a Groundwater Protection Overlay District (1991) (see Natural Resources Element).
- c. Greenway System - The Town identified the establishment of a greenway system throughout South Kingstown as a high priority. Greenways or open space buffers would provide protection of critical natural resources. They also could provide an open space network which ties together corridors of private and public lands providing access to recreation and open space sites. Such a system might include restricted or limited access conservation areas or a series of trails, bicycle paths, rights-of-way, and scenic roads which could provide a linkage or continuous greenway of Town parks and open spaces.
- d. Special Use Activities - A number of specialized use activities or spaces were identified as lacking in the Town. Some of these include hiking and nature trails, bike paths, cross-country ski trails, sliding (sledding) hills, and a linear park. A few ideal locations were identified for some of the activities as well. Limited access nature trails for supervised nature study could potentially be suitable around the Kettle Ponds (although much of this area is held privately) and existing hiking trails at Tri-Pond Park will be improved and expanded as part of the Master Plan for the Park. Hiking trails could also potentially serve as cross-country ski trails in winter. A bike path generally linking Wakefield with URI (employment centers) was cited as a desirable feature. This facility would offer an alternative transportation mode for workers as well as providing recreational opportunity.

Sliding hills were deemed best located and constructed in existing or probable future community parks to serve the Town at large. Finally, a linear park along the Saugatucket River linking the salt pond area in Upper Pond with Wakefield (adjacent to Main Street businesses), was underscored as a potential worthwhile resource.

- e. Town Regulation Changes - The current subdivision regulations require either a dedication of land to be set aside for open space or a payment in lieu of dedication. The Town identified three problems; (1) the regulations fail to encourage the linkage of open space lands in subdivisions; (2) lands dedicated may not be usable as recreation space; and, (3) purchase of open space may be delayed due to the time needed to accumulate sufficient funds.
- f. Indoor Recreation - Although State guidelines do not require an emphasis on indoor recreation needs in this element (addressed in the Services and Facilities element), the Town feels that there is a growing need for indoor facilities. At least one large-scale multi-purpose center should be, constructed, with space for hockey, jogging, basketball, soccer, volleyball, tennis, swimming, senior activities, child and teen activities, or other features. To defray some of the costs, construction of such a facility may be a good opportunity for a regional planning effort.
- g. Handicapped Access - The Town stressed the importance of providing handicapped access to recreation and open space sites.

D. Goals, Policies and Implementation

1. Consistency with State Guide Plan

Consistency with the state Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act (Ch. 45-22.2) of the General Laws of Rhode Island goals is a required component of a local comprehensive plan. The following state goals relate to this Element:

- 1. To promote orderly growth and development that recognizes the natural characteristics of the land, its suitability for use and the availability of existing and proposed public and/or private services and facilities.
- 4. To promote the protection of the natural, historic and cultural resources of each municipality and the state.
- 5. To promote the preservation of the open space and recreational resources of each municipality and the state.
- 6. To encourage the use of innovative development regulations and techniques that promote the development of land suitable for development while protecting our natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources and achieving a balanced pattern of land use.

2. Goals

OVERALL GOAL OF THE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ELEMENT

To encourage the provision of recreational services and facilities and the preservation of open spaces and natural habitats in order to enhance the physical and mental well-being of the Town's citizens.

Policy 1.1 - The Town will make every effort to acquire land for expanding active and passive recreational services based upon the current needs assessment. Recreational services should meet the diverse needs of all citizens and to provide individual and team sports, music, art and culture, and seasonal recreation. While certain areas may be developed primarily for active or passive recreational uses, the Town will continue to view its parks as multiple-use areas designed to provide open space areas and active recreation fields.

Policy 1.2 - The Town will make every effort to ensure access to all important public natural and cultural resources for all citizens and will protect all current and historic rights-of-way which assure this access.

Policy 1.3 - The Town will prohibit motor vehicular access to all beach areas of South Kingstown under its jurisdiction in order to protect their use for pedestrian recreation, to preserve the open-space character of the shorefront, and to protect the fragile ecology of the dunes.

Implementation

- The Town shall seek to purchase and/or to develop lands to provide active and passive spaces and facilities, access to fresh and saltwater, and protection of environmentally sensitive lands. The most current projects will be included in the Capital Improvement Program.

Responsible Party: Town Council, Town Manager's Office, Planning Department, Recreation Commission

- The Town shall pursue available grant funding through such State and Federal sources as the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM), the Rhode Island Water Resources Board, and the Federal Highway Administration.

Responsible Party: Town Manager's Office, Planning Department

- The Town shall actively coordinate land acquisition and development with such private, non-profit organizations as the R.I. Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, and the South Kingstown and Narrow River Land trusts as well as with Public agencies which actively are pursuing similar goals. The Town will encourage development or protection of community spaces on private, State and Federal properties which will enhance leisure experiences for local and non-local residents without detracting from the primary goals of the organizations.

Responsible Party: Town Manager's Office, Planning Department

- The Town shall place controls or other obstacles to motor vehicular traffic along the accessways of ocean beaches which are under Town control.

Responsible Party: Department of Public Works

- The Town shall encourage open access to ocean beaches within the Town by all citizens and will discourage private enclaves and the erection and/or replacement of fences and barriers.

Responsible Party: Planning Department, Town Manager's Office

- The Town shall continue to press the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to find ways to provide public access and enjoyment of Moonstone Beach, in accordance with provisions of the State Constitution, and to ensure equal protection for the natural habitat.

Responsible Party: Town Manager's Office

Policy 1.4 - The Town will make every effort to create a system of greenways, and wherever possible, enhance the open space characteristics of existing greenways. In many ways, greenways will follow natural geologic or geographic features. For example, potential greenways have been identified in the following areas:

- Saugatucket River - Marina Park - Upper Salt Pond.
- Matunuck Hills kettle pond/moraine area.
- Chipuxet River corridor (Hundred Acre Pond - Thirty Acre Pond - Great Swamp - Worden Pond).
- Queens River corridor.
- Narrow River watershed in coordination with similar greenway areas in Narragansett and North Kingstown.
- South Shore Area as identified in the South Shore Management Plan.

Implementation

- The Town shall assure that identified greenways will be protected from the adverse effects of future growth and development through zoning regulation and land use policies.

Responsible Party: Planning Board, Planning Department

- In order to determine which areas and parcels are to be protected, the Town will conduct a feasibility study of a greenway system in the Town. It will also establish an advisory committee on greenways, to be composed of citizens, staff and Town agencies to identify and prioritize parcels for greenway development.

Responsible Party: Town Council, Planning Department

Policy 1.5 - The Town supports the development of a system of footpaths and/or bicycle paths to provide for passive recreation needs (walking) as well as to provide for transportation functions (bicycle) within the Town.

Policy 1.6 - The Town endorses the extension of the bicycle paths planned along the Narragansett Railroad Right-of-Way to provide access to schools within the Town, the University of Rhode Island, the Neighborhood Guild, Old Mountain Field, the YMCA and the Government Center.

Implementation

- The Town shall encourage the development of a system of footpaths and bicycle paths. This pathway system will be integrated into the transportation policies of the Town (see Circulation Element) as well as its recreation policies. The Town shall make an effort to ensure that the design/construction of such facilities will enable them to be used by bicyclists, pedestrians and cross-country skiers wherever possible. Consequently, this park system will provide year-round recreation opportunities as well as serving as an alternate to the automobile as a mode of transportation.

Responsible Party: Town Council, Planning Department, Planning Board

- In 1991, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) completed feasibility and preliminary design studies for conversion of the abandoned Narragansett Pier Railroad Right-of-Way (ROW) into a bike path. The Town endorses this project. In general, the Town will work with RIDOT to encourage bicycle paths wherever feasible on all new and/or expanded State highways.

Responsible Party: Town Manager's Office, Planning Department

- Appropriate revisions to the Town's Subdivision Regulations will be made to include footpaths and bicycle paths in new subdivisions wherever feasible.

Responsible Party: Planning Department, Planning Board

Policy 1.7 - The Town will use existing vacant and/or underutilized Town-owned lands to meet recreation and open space needs.

- The Town shall develop a Master Plan for Marina Park in order to maintain open, green space and determine how to best utilize the site. It will provide public recreational and scenic areas to the waterfront and adjacent publicly-owned lands.

Responsible Party: Town Manager's Office in conjunction with the Waterfront Advisory Committee

- The Town shall develop a Master Plan for the O'Brien property.
- The Town shall develop a Master Plan for the South Shore Park property.

Policy 1.8 - The Town will provide an active maintenance and rehabilitation program and schedule to maintain and to upgrade existing sites and facilities to ensure safe and high quality experience.

Policy 1.9 - The Town will use school properties to provide recreation space within the limits of safety, maintenance, security and contractual issues.

Implementation

- The School and Recreation departments shall coordinate activities, especially related to construction of new school facilities, so that they may be designed to maximize land utilization and municipal financial resources for maximum recreational benefit to the community.

Responsible Party: Recreation Department, School Department

Policy 1.10 - The Town will coordinate recreational activities with the Harbor Master and Waterfront Advisory Commission and to ensure that the recommendations of the Harbor Management Plan (1992) are implemented.

Policy 1.11 - The Town believes that public awareness is a key factor in implementing many of the policies and planning techniques outlined in these policies. Consequently, the Town will make an effort to sponsor public workshops or seminars to help inform its citizenry and thereby build consensus on implementation actions.

Implementation

- The Town Council will appoint, where appropriate, special committees from neighborhood groups or special user groups to assist in the preparation of development plans for proposed park and recreation facilities.

Responsible Party: Town Council, Planning Department, Recreation Department

Policy 1.12 - The Town will continue its policy that all new subdivisions should contribute to recreation needs for its future residents, in the form of land dedication, direct payments or service cost recovery fees, or some combination of these, as determined by the Planning Board with recommendation from the Recreation Commission at the time of subdivision review. Such matters as usability, location, access and maintenance will be addressed when reviewing land dedication proposals.

Implementation

- The Town will amend its Subdivision Regulations, as necessary, to provide for open space in residential developments in conformity with the standards of this Plan.

Responsible Party: Planning Department, Planning Board

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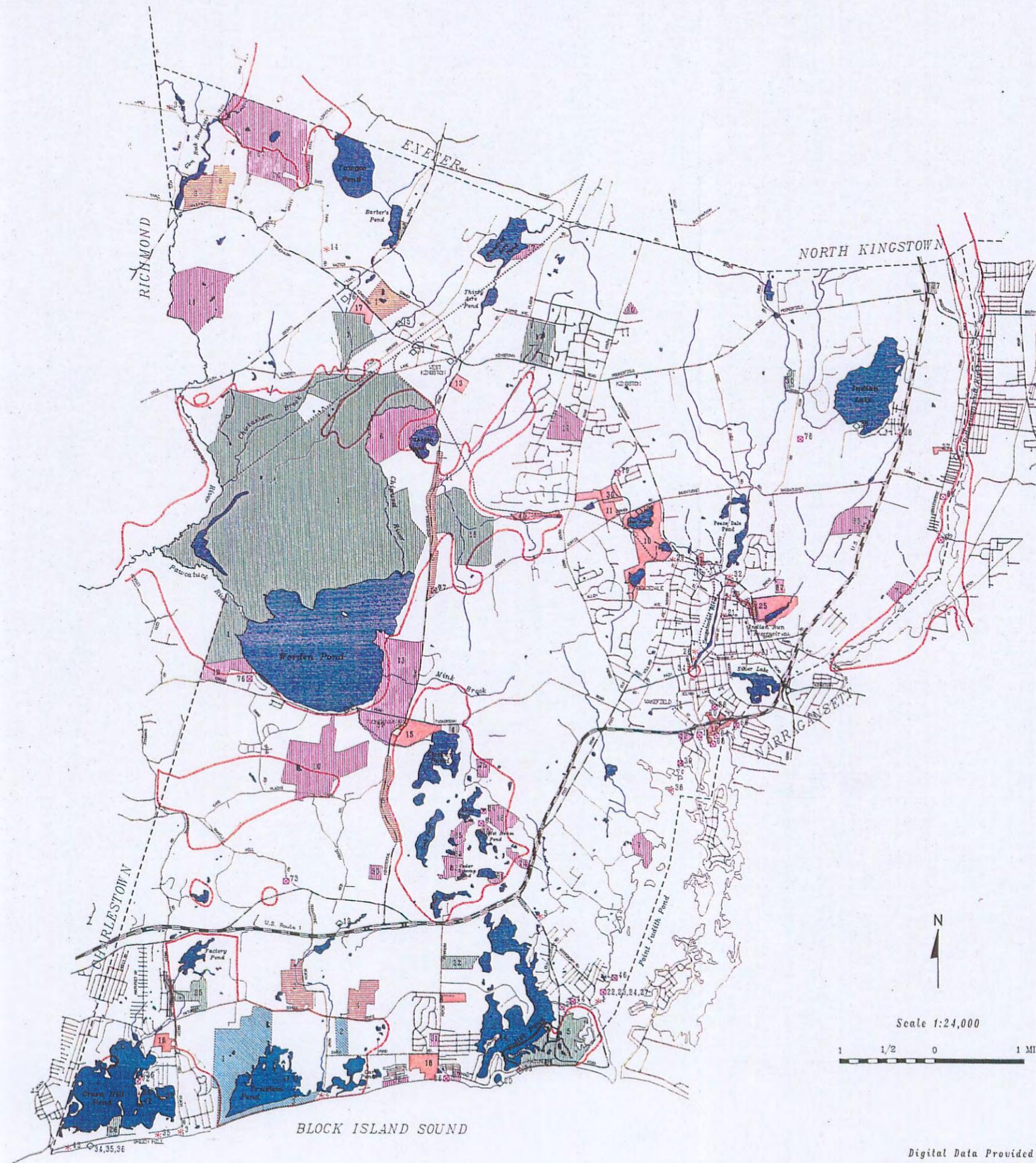
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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
 PREPARED FOR THE
 TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI.

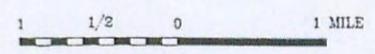
OPEN SPACE AND
 RECREATION SYSTEM

LEGEND

Jurisdiction	ID#	Existing Site Name
FEDERAL	001	Trout Pond Wildlife
	002	Proving Farmstead/Julia
	003	Corse Pond/Recreation Beach
	004	Pellegrin/Cave Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
STATE	001	Great Swamp Management Area
	002	Wardens Pond Access
	003	Tucker Pond Access
	004	Narragansett Management Area
	005	Ann Pond Access
	006	Wardens Pond
	007	Chickadee River Area
	008	Chickadee Brook
	009	Wardens Pond Access
	010	U.S. 1 Kingdon Camp
	011	U.S. 1 Camp
	012	Patterson's Pasture
	013	Great Swamp Area
	014	East Narragansett State Beach
	015	South State Management Area
	016	Green Hill Beach
	017	Roscoe Robinson State Beach
	018	Wardens Pond Access
	019	Narragansett River Fishing Area
	020	Kingdon Station
021	Wardens Pond	
022	South Ave Right-of-Way	
023	Station Ave Right-of-Way	
024	Wardens Pond Right-of-Way	
025	Daybreak Ave Right-of-Way	
LOCAL	001	Colwell Farm
	002	15th-Chester/Ford
	003	Carroll Farm
	004	Wardens Pond
	005	Wardens Pond Area D.O.T.
	006	Carroll-Carter Farm
	007	Sussex Right-of-Way
	008	Green Hill Right-of-Way
	009	Wardens Pond
	010	Wardens Pond
PRIVATE	001	Brantford Memorial Park
	002	Wardens Pond Elementary School
	003	Wardens Pond Elementary School
	004	Trill Pond Park
	005	St. Kingdon Jr. High & Co. Road
	006	Elementary School
	007	West Kingdon School
	008	Abbie Perry Park
	009	Tucker Pond Recreation Area
	010	Green Hill Site
	011	West Kingdon Site
	012	Wardens Pond Beach (and term)
	013	Wardens Pond
	014	Wardens Pond Playground (and term)
	015	Hazard Elementary School
	016	Wardens Pond
	017	Wardens Pond
	018	Wardens Pond
	019	Wardens Pond
	020	Wardens Pond
	021	Wardens Pond
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	031	Wardens Pond
	032	Wardens Pond
	033	Wardens Pond
	034	Wardens Pond
	035	Wardens Pond
	036	Wardens Pond
	037	Wardens Pond
	038	Wardens Pond
	039	Wardens Pond
	040	Wardens Pond



Scale 1:24,000



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N Areas of Rare Species and Critical Environments
 (RIDEM, Natural Heritage Program)

Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.
 Date: 1991

Map
7.1