

Maps

Appendix A
Survey and Results

Appendix B
Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report

Appendix C
Massachusetts Audubon Society Birding Inventory for
the Town of Essex

Appendix D
Natural Heritage Program Threatened Species Reports

Appendix E

Pertinent Excerpts from Wetland Buffer Zones and Beyond (Boyd, 2001)

“The land adjacent to a wetland is an interface between aquatic and terrestrial communities. It provides those species dependent on both the aquatic and terrestrial communities, essential habitat elements indirectly and directly. The adjacent upland provides a buffer zone for the wetland. This land and vegetation present is helpful through the attenuation of excess nutrients and pollutants. It aids in the reduction of sedimentation to maintain the water quality and clarity important for many species. Inputs of leaf litter and other particulate matter from vegetation on adjacent lands provides food for macro-invertebrates that in turn are food for those higher in the food chain. The adjacent upland directly provides essential habitat features to wetland wildlife such as vegetation structure and composition, upland substrate, snags and downed logs, woody debris, banks for nesting, and rocky ledges.

Reptiles have the broadest range of uses for the upland. These include nesting, feeding, overland dispersal, movement to breeding ponds, basking, cover and aestivation. Many reptiles use areas adjacent to the wetland for basking or cover...All turtle species included in this document are upland nesters and generally require a specific substrate for that purpose. Distances traveled from the wetland for nesting range from 9.8-36 ft. (3-11 m) for the musk turtle to several kilometers for the common snapping turtle. The spotted turtle travels between 42.7 and 1351.7 ft. (13-412 m) into the upland for aestivation [average distance is 584 ft. (178 m)].

Wood turtles were found to nest 328.1-656.2 ft. (100-200 m) from water (Carroll and Ehrenfeld, 1978) within areas of well-drained sandy or sandy loam. Without this critical upland habitat, reproduction is not possible. Burke and Gibbons (1995) recommended a 902.2 ft. (275 m) buffer to protect upland nesting and hibernation sites of freshwater turtle species around Carolina bays in west central South Carolina. They found that a buffer of 239.5 ft. (73 m) protects all except the distal 10% of nesting and hibernation sites.

Findlay and Houlihan (1996) demonstrated the importance of maintaining a wide wetland buffer zone for species richness. “The removal of 20% of the forest cover on lands within 3280.8 ft. (1000 m) of a wetland appears to have approximately the same impact on herptile and mammal species richness as the loss of 50% of the wetland proper (Findlay and Houlihan, 1996).” The same was true of a 2.7 ft./ac (2m/ha) increase in total paved road density for plants, birds and herptiles.”

Appendix F
Public Comments and Approval Documents

Appendix G

ADA Access Self-Evaluation

Part 1: Administrative Requirements

1. Designation of an ADA Coordinator

The Essex Building Inspector, William Sanborn, has been designated the ADA Coordinator by the Town Board of Selectmen.

2. Grievance Procedures

Grievance procedures are established and are located at the back of this appendix. They are also on file in the Board of Selectmen's Office.

3. Public Notification Requirements

All public notice requirements have been met. Documentation is provided at the back of this appendix.

4. Participation of Organization Representing the Disabled Community

The Massachusetts Office on Disability was contacted in the preparation of the open space section of the self-evaluation.

Part 2: Program Accessibility

1. Facility Inventory

Inventories of all public open space facilities in Essex are located at the back of this appendix.

2. Transition Plan

The Town of Essex faces several challenges in meeting the needs of people with disabilities, including the age of several of its recreational facilities, and the inherent difficulties in providing access to fragile natural resources without intrusive development. Therefore a transition plan is being developed to address those challenges and ensure equal opportunities for disabled access.

Part 3. Employment Practices

The Town of Essex's compliance with employment practice requirements is documented at the back of this appendix.