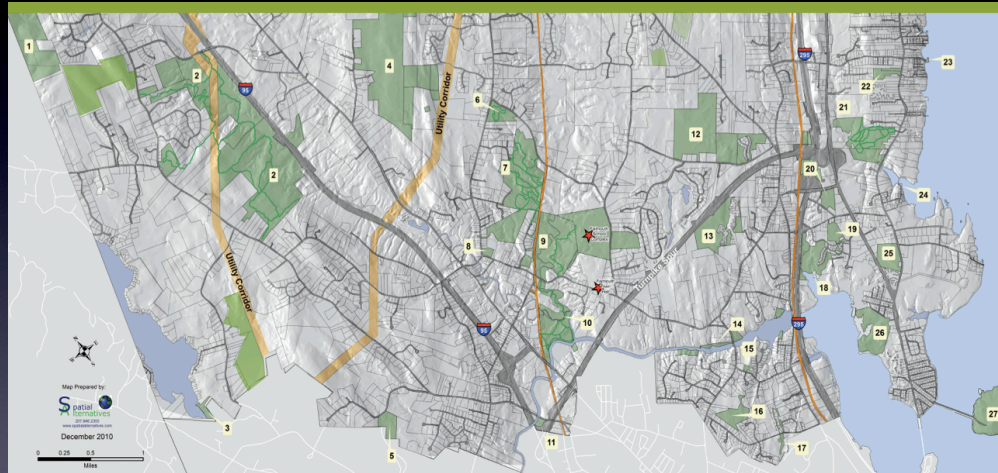


An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. The scene is dominated by lush green fields and dense clusters of trees. Several buildings, including houses and larger structures, are scattered throughout the area. A winding road or path is visible, cutting through the fields. In the upper portion of the image, there are some larger, more industrial-looking buildings and what appears to be a parking lot or a large open area. The overall impression is of a well-maintained, green rural community.

THE GREENING OF FALMOUTH

Falmouth Conservation Commission
January 2006

Falmouth Open Space Properties



Goal V:

**To actively manage open space
to benefit the community.**

Recreation



Wildlife



Education



Water Quality



Research



Forestry



Land Management Team Forestry Recommendations



Intent

- Healthy forests
 - Diverse habitat, representing all successional stages
-
- Safety
 - Energy sustainability
 - Revenue to the town in lieu of property taxes

Why?

The purpose of this activity is to increase the diversity of our town forests, both to insure their long term health and to improve wildlife habitat.

It is not driven by the goal of generating income from the sale of wood.

Three Broad Categories of Forest Management

- * Properties to be left alone, to grow and change as nature dictates.
- * Properties to be actively managed for forestry.
- * Properties where some harvesting will be done to ensure public safety.

Group I: Properties to be left to natural processes:

Property	Acres
Deer Ridge	19
East Branch Conservation Area	56
Falmouth Land Trust Property	1,100
Falmouth Nature Preserve	83
Hardy Road	18
Hadlock Community Forest	92
Longwoods Road	27
River Point Conservation Area	41
Subdivision conservation land	229
Suckfish Brook Conservation Area	57
Total =	1,722
% of all conservation land =	58%

Group II: Properties to be actively managed:

Property	Acres	Projected Harvest Date		
		<10 yrs	10-20 yrs	>20 yrs
Community Park, north end	15	X		
Blackstrap Hill Community Forest	234	X		
Hadlock Community Forest	200	X		
North Falmouth Community Forest	242			X
Suckfish Brook Cons. Area (north end)	39		X	
Woods Road Community Forest	165	X	X	X
Total =	895			
% of all conservation land =	30%			

Group II: Properties on Which Harvesting May Occur for Safety Reasons:

Property	Acres	Now	As Needed
Pine Grove	29	X	
Underwood Park	8		X
Community Park (south end)	120		X
Walton Park	5		X
Town Forest	22		X
Total =	184		
% of all conservation land =	6%		

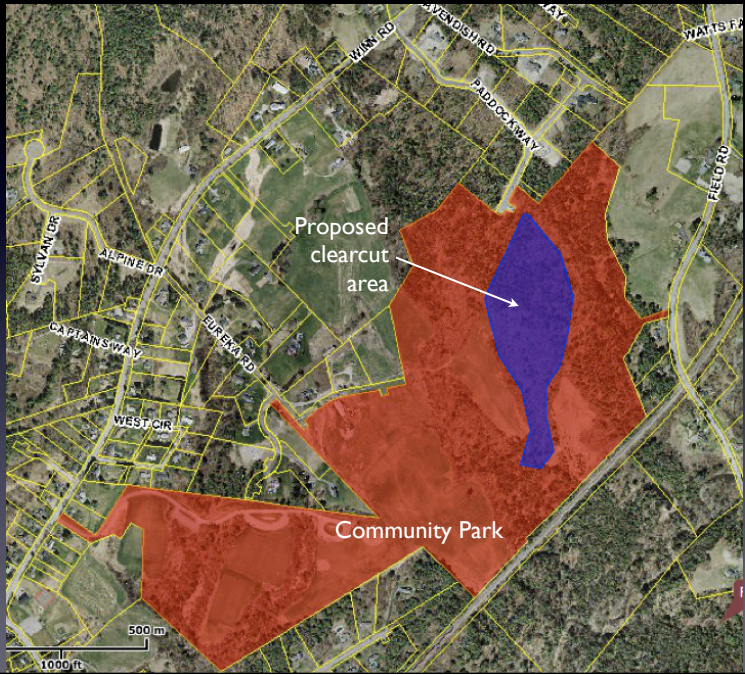
Proposal #1: Pine Grove Cleanup



Proposal #2: Community Park (N) Cottontail Habitat Creation



- Clearcut existing scraggly pine stand and invasive understory.
- Allow to grow back to early successional stage forest.
- Control invasives as they grow back.
- Depends on access via Paddock Way.





Scraggly pine stand

Speciman White
Pine Tree



Honeysuckle
Understory

Proposal #3: Blackstrap Timber Harvest

- Conduct a “worst first” commercial harvest in the northwest corner of the property (60-70 acres).



- Restore New England cottontail habitat along the edge of the hayfield and west of the river by clear cutting these areas.



- Will only happen if we have a cold winter.

Harvest Area as a % of Conservation Land

Property	Area	Harvest Area	%
Community Park	160	15	9%
Pine Grove	30	13	43%
Blackstrap Hill	234	65	28%
Total Conservation Property	2,972	93	1%

Revenue Estimates

Property	Acres	\$/ac.	Total
Community Park	15	\$150	\$2,250
Pine Grove	13	\$150	\$1,950
Blackstrap Hill	65	\$200	\$13,000
			\$17,200

**The town incurs no costs
as a result of this activity.**