

# 2011 Marion Open Space and Recreation Survey Results

The Open Space and Recreation Survey results are from the tabulation of 152 surveys returned to the Open Space Acquisition Commission in the Spring of 2012. The results will be used by the Open Space Acquisition Commission to guide land purchases and to direct the focus of the new Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Surveys with similar questions were done in 1994 and 2004. To add context to the 2011 results, we have added information regarding the 1994 and 2004 survey results where appropriate.

**Methodology:** The Open Space Acquisition Commission started with a list of 3627 voters supplied by the Town Clerk's office, which was modified twice, based on past survey return rates. The first modification was to remove residents with an address of 15 Mill Street (Sippican Longterm Healthcare Center), as past Open Space Surveys sent to 15 Mill Street have caused difficulties for the staff. The second modification was to remove residents with an out of town address, other than a Post Office box in Rochester, Mattapoissett, or Wareham.

Starting with the first person on the list, and then every tenth resident, the random sample group of 345 residents was created. Of the 345 surveys sent out, 15 were returned for various reasons as undeliverable, leaving a final sample size of 330. 152 surveys were returned, giving a 46% return rate.

## Summary of Results

Marion residents walk - a lot. Of the 152 surveys returned, 128 said they walked. They want more places to walk - bike paths, sidewalks, and nature trails.

Marion residents want more permanently protected open space and they are willing to pay for it. Those wanting more open space outnumber those who don't by a margin of 6 to 1. Those willing to pay for more open space outnumber those who aren't by a margin of 4 to 1.

Residents believe pollution from runoff is the biggest problem facing Marion's marine resources.

They believe that the rate of growth is "about right."

By a wide margin, residents think open space should be required in all subdivisions, and that at least 25% of Community Preservation funds should be spent on open space.

## Recreation

**Question 1. Which activities do you and your family members enjoy? Check as many as are appropriate.**

[Tabulation Notes: Respondents were asked to indicate if they participated in the activities below in Marion and/or other towns. The total number of responses is provided for each activity in Marion and activities that take place in other towns. Activities were listed below by their respective rank of total users.]

	<b>In Marion</b>	<b>In other towns</b>
Walking (Ranked #1)	_128__	_39__
Swimming (Ranked #2)	_116__	_43__
Enjoying the view (Ranked #3)	_110__	_43__
Biking (Ranked #4)	_95__	_37__
Sunbathing (Ranked #5)	_86__	_30__
Walking in woods	_80__	_37__
Recreational sailing	_60__	_13__
Boating from mooring	_54__	_7__
Fishing	_52__	_21__
Canoeing/kayaking	_48__	_24__
Jogging	_48__	_19__
Tennis	_43__	_18__
Quahogging	_43__	_7__
Playing at schoolyard	_42__	_11__
Skating on ice rink	_41__	_15__
Golfing	_40__	_46__
Birding	_38__	_4__
Clamming	_38__	_4__
Sailboat racing	_36__	_7__
Picnicking	_35__	_14__
Boating from dock	_34__	_8__
Sailing instruction	_30__	_5__
X-country skiing	_29__	_15__
Skating on bogs	_29__	_10__
Basketball	_27__	_10__
Oystering	_24__	_2__
Boating from trailer	_22__	_4__
Baseball	_18__	_16__
Roller blading	_18__	_10__
Swimming instruction	_18__	_8__
Scalloping	_17__	_1__
Trail biking	_15__	_13__
Soccer	_9__	_11__
Sail boarding	_7__	_2__
Hunting	_6__	_5__

Response Notes: Question 1 has the same top five ranked activities as the 2004 and 1994 survey results.

**Question 2. Of the activities listed above, which ones do your family do the most? You can list up to five, using the letters used in Question 1. Please list in order of use.**

[Tabulation Notes: 5 points were awarded for #1 choice, 4 points for #2 choice, 3 points for #3 choice, 2 points for #4 choice, and 1 point for #5 choice. The points were then added together to produce a relative score for each activity. The activities are listed by rank.]

Walking (Ranked #1)	335
Swimming (Ranked #2)	233
Biking (Ranked #3)	164
Enjoying the view (Ranked # 4)	128
Recreational sailing (Ranked #5)	112
Sunbathing	95
Walking in woods	92
Golfing	88
Jogging	79
Tennis	75
Boating from mooring	74
Fishing	48
Sailboat racing	48
Birding	42
Canoeing/kayaking	38
Playing at schoolyard	33
Quahogging	32
Boating from dock	32
Basketball	31
Boating from trailer	21
Skating on ice rink	19
Soccer	17
Baseball	15
Sailing instruction	14
Hunting	13
Clamming	13
Picnicking	11
X-country skiing	9
Oystering	8
Skating on bogs	8
Scalloping	6
Roller blading	5
Trail biking	5
Sail boarding	4
Swimming instruction	3

Response Notes: Question 2 had four of the same top five ranked activities as the 2004 and 1994 survey results. (Walking, Swimming, Biking, and Enjoying the View.)

**Question 3. Which of the following recreational facilities do we need more of? Which less? Check M for more, L for less, or S for satisfactory.**

[Tabulation Notes: **The facilities are listed by rank.**]

Bike paths ( <b>Ranked #1</b> )	103 M	3 L	22 S
Sidewalks ( <b>Ranked #2</b> )	89 M	2 L	31 S
Permanently protected open space with public access ( <b>Ranked #3</b> )	80 M	4 L	38 S
Wildlife habitat ( <b>Ranked #4</b> )	67 M	2 L	46 S
Quiet seashore ( <b>Ranked #5</b> )	58 M	2 L	57 S
Picnicking areas	42 M	2 L	64 S
Endangered species habitat	40 M	6 L	55 S
Viewing areas	39 M	2 L	64 S
Bird habitat	37 M	3 L	59 S
Shellfishing area access	37 M	4 L	64 S
Swimming beaches	37 M	2 L	82 S
Tennis courts	32 M	6 L	34 S
Shellfishing areas	31 M	4 L	64 S
Boat moorings	29 M	10 L	64 S
Canoe access	25 M	3 L	71 S
Playgrounds	20 M	3 L	79 S
Soccer fields	19 M	6 L	72 S
Ice rink	17 M	2 L	72 S
Swimming instruction	16 M	2 L	74 S
Boat ramps	15 M	3 L	80 S
Baseball fields	15 M	4 L	80 S
Basketball courts	14 M	7 L	73 S
Playgrounds at schoolyard	13 M	2 L	85 S
Sail board launching areas	6 M	4 L	79 S
Golf courses	3 M	8 L	94 S

**Response Notes: Question 3 has the same top five ranked recreational activities as the 2004 and 1994 survey results.**

**Question 4. Of the facilities listed above in Question 3, which five are in greatest need of improvement or expansion? Please list highest need first.**

**Question 5. Of the facilities listed above in Question 3, which five least need improvement? Please list the lowest need first.**

[Tabulation Notes for Questions 4 & 5. Answers for Question 4 and Question 5 were added together to produce a score that would indicate perceived need. Answers for Question #4 were awarded 5 points for #1 choice, 4 points for #2 choice, 3 points for #3 choice, etc. Answers to Question #5 were awarded -5 points for #1 choice, -4 points for #2 choice, -3 points for #3 choice, etc. The facilities were then arranged by their rank.]

Bike paths (Ranked #1)	309
Sidewalks (Ranked #2)	256
Permanently protected open space with public access (Ranked #3)	126
Wildlife habitat (Ranked #4)	100
Shellfishing area access (Ranked #5)	45
Quiet seashore	40
Shellfishing areas	22
Swimming beaches	21
Viewing areas	18
Picnicking areas	-2
Bird habitat	-4
Boat moorings	-4
Basketball courts	-5
Swimming instruction	-6
Canoe access	-7
Endangered species habitat	-11
Boat ramps	-13
Soccer fields	-18
Ice rink	-29
Tennis courts	-35
Baseball fields	-39
Playgrounds	-56
Sail board launching areas	-70
Playgrounds at schoolyard	-82
Golf courses	-265

Response Notes: Questions 4 & 5 had four of the same top five facilities as the 2004 and 1994 survey results. (Bike paths, Sidewalks, Permanently Protected Open Space, & Wildlife Habitat.) The fifth ranked item, Shellfishing Area Access, ranked #8 in 2004 and only #16 in 1994.

**Question 6. Of the existing recreational programs and facilities in Marion, which of the following need upgrading?**

[Tabulation Notes: Answers were awarded +1 for Yes, -1 for a No, then added together. The facilities and programs were listed by their respective rank.]

Washburn Park Athletic Fields (Ranked #1)	+27
Point Road Playground (Ranked #2)	+26
Tennis Courts behind Town Hall (Ranked #3)	+25
Point Road Basketball Courts (Ranked #4)	+23
Beach at River Road (Ranked #5)	+13
Tennis Courts at Point Road Playground	+10
Washburn Park Skating Pond	+8
Tennis Courts behind Sippican School	+7
Baseball Field behind Sippican School	+3
Beach at Oakdale Avenue	0
Planting Island Causeway Beach	0
Sippican School Basketball Courts	-9
Sippican School Athletic Fields	-13
Wings Cove Boat Ramp	-14
Sailing Instruction	-14
Swimming Instruction	-15
Beach at Island Wharf	-16
Holmes Woods	-17
Sail Board Launch Area on Planting Island Causeway	-19
Baseball Field behind Town Hall	-21
Sail Board Launch Area at Silvershell Beach	-25
Basketball Court at Silvershell	-40
Band Shell	-43
Sippican School Playground	-63

Response Notes: Question 6 had three of the same top five facilities as the 2004 and 1994 survey results. (Washburn Park Athletic Fields, Point Road Playground, & Tennis Courts behind Town Hall in 2004, and Washburn Park Athletic Fields, Point Road Playground and Point Road Basketball Courts in 1994.)

**Question 7. Please indicate, using the letters above, which of the above facilities are in greatest need of expansion or repair. Please list in order of importance.**

[Tabulation Notes: 5 points were awarded for #1 choice, 3 points for #2 choice, and 1 point for #3 choice, then added together. The facilities were listed by their respective rank.]

Washburn Park Athletic Fields (Ranked #1)	99
Planting Island Causeway Beach (Ranked #2)	82
Tennis Courts behind Town Hall (Ranked #3)	77
Point Road Basketball Courts (Ranked #4)	67
Point Road Playground (Ranked #5)	63
Washburn Park Skating Pond	60
Wings Cove Boat Ramp	34
Beach at River Road	31
Swimming Instruction	30
Sippican School Athletic Fields	29
Beach at Island Wharf	29
Sailing Instruction	27
Band Shell	24
Tennis Courts behind Sippican School	24
Holmes Woods	17
Sail Board Launch Area on Planting Island Causeway	16
Sail Board Launch Area at Silvershell Beach	16
Tennis Courts at Point Road Playground	16
Beach at Oakdale Avenue	11
Basketball Court at Silvershell	11
Baseball Field behind Sippican School	10
Baseball Field behind Town Hall	8
Sippican School Basketball Courts	5
Sippican School Playground	3

**Response Notes:** Question 7 had three of the same top five facilities as the 2004 and 1994 survey results (Planting Island Causeway Beach, Tennis Courts behind Town Hall, and Point Road Playground). The Washburn Park Athletic Fields ranked #12 and #19 (tie) in 2004 and 1994 respectively, and the Point Road Basketball Courts ranked #19 in the 1994 survey.

**Question 8. The following services and facilities should be located in Marion:**

[Tabulation Notes: Residents were asked to rate their agreement with the need for the following statements on a scale of 5 to 1, with 5 indicating “Strongly Agree”, and 1 indicating “Strongly Disagree.” The average of all scores is given in bold. We have also provided the results from the 2004 survey, which is given in red, and the results of the 1994 survey, which is given in green. Where there was no corresponding question in 1994, not applicable (n/a) is inserted.]

	Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011			2004			1994
Town to Town Bicycle Paths	4.3			3.8			4.3
Nature & Hiking Trails	4.1			4.0			4.1
Sidewalk system in Town	4.0			3.7			n/a
Teenage Center	3.2			3.4			3.5
Horse-riding Trails	2.7			2.7			2.9
Year-round Swimming Pool	2.7			3.1			3.3
Roller Skating Rink	2.1			2.4			2.3

Response Notes: The Bicycle Path response has generated the strongest support of any facility since the first survey on the issue, the 1974 Master Plan Survey. Support was reaffirmed by the the League of Women Voters 1986 Marion Survey, the 1989 Open Space Survey, and all subsequent surveys.

**Question 9. Which of the facilities listed in Question 8 should be given the highest priority? Please list in order of importance.**

[Tabulation Notes: 5 points were awarded for #1 choice, 3 points for #2 choice, and 1 point for #3 choice, then added together. The activities are listed by rank.]

Town to Town Bicycle Paths (Ranked #1)	417
Sidewalk system in Town (Ranked #2)	291
Nature & Hiking Trails (Ranked #3)	202
Teenage Center	82
Year-round Swimming Pool	67
Horse-riding Trails	9
Roller Skating Rink	1

Response Notes: These results repeat the 2004 survey results.

**Question 10. For which of the facilities listed in Question 8 would you pay a user fee?**

[Tabulation Notes: 5 points were awarded for #1 choice, 3 points for #2 choice, and 1 point for #3 choice, then added together. The activities are listed by rank.]

Year-round Swimming Pool (Ranked #1)	238
Teenage Center (Ranked #2)	109
Roller Skating Rink (Ranked #3)	107
Town to Town Bicycle Paths	47
Nature & Hiking Trails	30
Horse-riding Trails	14
Sidewalk system in Town	3

Response Notes: The top three choices for user fees, Year-round Swimming Pool, Teen Center, and Roller Skating Rink, have not changed since the random surveys were first started in 1994.

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**Question 11. Which of the facilities in Question 8 would you be most willing to support through your local taxes?**

[Tabulation Notes: Notes: 5 points were awarded for #1 choice, 3 points for #2 choice, and 1 point for #3 choice, then added together. The activities are listed by rank.]

Town to Town Bicycle Paths (Ranked #1)	330
Sidewalk system in Town (Ranked #2)	237
Nature & Hiking Trails (Ranked #3)	116
Teenage Center	83
Year-round Swimming Pool	71
Roller Skating Rink	11
Horse-riding Trails	2

Response Notes: Bike paths and sidewalks have had the most consistent support in the past three surveys.

## Environmental Issues

**Question 12. A big problem facing the future of Marion's marine resources and harbor management is:**

[Tabulation Notes: Residents were asked to rate their agreement with the following statements, starting with the statement above, on a scale of 5 to 1, with 5 indicating “Strongly Agree” and 1 indicating “Strongly Disagree.” The average of all scores is given in bold. We have also provided the results from the 2004 survey, which is given in red, and the results of the 1994 survey, which is given in green.]

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
	<b>2011</b>			<b>2004</b>			<b>1994</b>
Pollution from runoff	<b>4.2</b>			3.8			3.9
Pollution from septic	<b>4.0</b>			3.9			3.8
Pollution from lawn care products	<b>3.9</b>			3.6			3.3
Pollution from boats	<b>3.8</b>			3.8			4.0
Pollution from the town sewage plant	<b>3.4</b>			3.4			3.5
Pollution from geese	<b>3.4</b>			3.4			3.3
Lack of access	<b>3.1</b>			3.2			3.0
Overfishing of shellfish beds	<b>3.0</b>			3.1			3.4
Too many moorings	<b>3.1</b>			3.3			3.6
Too many moorings	<b>3.1</b>			3.3			3.6
Too many mooring areas	<b>3.0</b>			2.9			3.1
Too many docks	<b>2.6</b>			2.7			2.6

**Response Notes:** The biggest difference from past surveys on this question is an increased concern regarding pollution from storm water runoff.

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**Question 13. Of the possible problems facing the future of Marion's marine resources and harbor management, from the list above, please list the letters of what you believe to be the three biggest problems in order of importance, with #1 being the most important.**

[Tabulation Notes: 5 points were awarded for #1 choice, 3 points for #2 choice, and 1 point for #3 choice, then added together. The issues were listed by rank.]

Pollution from runoff (Ranked #1)	256
Pollution from boats (Ranked #2)	187
Pollution from septic (Ranked #3)	161
Pollution from lawn care products (Ranked #4)	141
Pollution from the town sewage plant (Ranked #5)	89
Pollution from geese	87
Overfishing of shellfish beds	33
Too many moorings	28
Lack of access	20
Too many mooring areas	17
Too many docks	5

Response Notes: The results demonstrate a growing awareness of the pollution that can be caused by storm water runoff. Pollution from runoff, now ranked #1, was ranked #3 in both the 2004 and 1994 surveys. Pollution from lawn care products, now ranked #4, was ranked #7 in 1994.

**Question 14. How would you improve any of the above?**

[Tabulation Notes: The essay question responses have not yet been tabulated.]

**Question 15. Marion should set aside funds to identify and preserve environmentally sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands, woodlands, marine habitats and natural open spaces)**

[Tabulation Notes: Residents were asked to rate their agreement with Question 15 on a scale of 5 to 1, with 5 indicating “Strongly Agree” and 1 indicating “Strongly Disagree.” The average of all scores is given in bold. We have also provided the results from the 2004 survey, which is given in red, and the results of the 1994 survey, which is given in green.]

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004		1994	
	3.8		4.1		4.1	

Response Notes: 63 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 14% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

**Questions 16-19 \*Note:** The statements in Questions 16-19 were preceded by the following statement: “Conservation Commission regulations should be strengthened to include the following:”

[Tabulation Notes: Residents were asked to rate their agreement the statements in Questions 16 - 19 on a scale of 5 to1, with 5 indicating “Strongly Agree” and 1 indicating “Strongly Disagree.” The average of all scores is given in bold. We have also provided the results from the 2004 survey, which is given in red, and the results of the 1994 survey, which is given in green. ]

**Question 16. Expanded protection for wetlands**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
2011			<b>2004</b>		<b>1994</b>	
<b>3.6</b>			3.8		3.7	

Response Notes: 53 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 18% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

**Question 17. Restriction of house density for future building in the floodplain zone.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
2011			<b>2004</b>		<b>1994</b>	
<b>4.0</b>			4.1		4.2	

Response Notes: 69 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 8% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

**Question 18. Prohibition of future building in the velocity zone.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
2011			<b>2004</b>		<b>1994</b>	
<b>3.6</b>			4.0		4.0	

Response Notes: 54 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 18% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

**Question 19. Prohibition of future building in the floodplain zone.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
2011			<b>2004</b>		<b>1994</b>	
<b>3.6</b>			3.9		3.9	

Response Notes: 57 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 21% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

## **Planning**

[Tabulation Notes for Questions 20-27: Residents were asked to rate their agreement with the statements in Questions 20-27 on a scale of 5 to 1, with 5 indicating “Strongly Agree” and 1 indicating “Strongly Disagree.” The average of all scores is given in bold. We have also provided the results from the 2004 survey, which is given in red, and the results of the 1994 survey, which is given in green. Where there was no corresponding question in 1994, not applicable (n/a) is inserted.]

**Question 20. The Town should allow future residential development in some areas of Marion to take place on smaller lots if, in exchange, developers would be required to preserve large amounts of open land.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004		1994	
	<b>3.3</b>		3.5		3.6	

Response Notes: 50 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 27% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 21. Open space should be required in all future development. Marion currently allows "cluster zoning" by special permit. This allows the same number of houses in a given area as regular zoning, but placed closer together leaving permanent open land.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004		1994	
	<b>4.0</b>		4.3		4.3	

Response Notes: 70 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 14% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 22. Marion should provide incentives to promote cluster zoning development.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004		1994	
	<b>3.1</b>		3.3		3.4	

Response Notes: 37 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while 30% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 23. Marion should provide incentives to promote endangered species protection when cluster development is proposed.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004			1994
	3.5		3.7			n/a

Response Notes: 50 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 21% indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 24. Marion should form a “historic district” to protect the village area.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004			1994
	3.3		3.4			n/a

Response Notes: 46 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while 28 % indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 25. Parking areas are needed for commercial development. Parking areas should not be visible from the street.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004			1994
	3.0		3.1			n/a

Response Notes: Only 30 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while 34 % indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 26. Marion should restrict the conversion of smaller houses to larger houses in order to maintain a mix of housing types.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004			1994
	2.8		2.7			n/a

Response Notes: Only 37 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while 40 % indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 27. Expansion of the town sewer areas may cause additional growth. However, expansion of the sewer areas may solve existing environmental problems. In spite of growth concerns, sewer should be expanded to solve existing environmental problems.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	2011		2004			1994
	3.9		4.0			n/a

Response Notes: 68 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 10 % indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

**Question 28. In your opinion, has Marion's rate of growth been: (circle one)**

[Tabulation Notes: The average of all scores is given in bold. We have also provided the results from the 2004 survey, which is given in red, and the results of the 1994 survey, which is given in green.]

1. much too slow			
2. somewhat too slow	2011	2004	1994
3. about right	3.2	3.5	3.3
4. somewhat too fast			
5. much too fast			

**Question 29. Thinking about the Town's land use regulations (zoning ordinances, site plan reviews, etc.) would you say that: (circle one).**

[Tabulation Notes: The raw score for each choice is given at the end of the statement. The 2011 average of statements 1-3 is given in bold at the end of the sequence, with the 2004 average in red and the 1994 average in green.]

1. They are too restrictive in saying what a land owner can and cannot do with his/her land: **38**
2. They strike a good balance between the need for regulation and property owners' rights: **64**
3. They are too lenient and do not provide enough protection for the public: **12**
4. I have no opinion: **29**

2011	2004	1994
1.8	2.4	2.1

Response Notes: This response has changed over the last several years. Right now respondents are leaning somewhat toward Marion's land use regulations as being “too restrictive.”

**Question 30. In the spaces below, please list the three most important issues facing Marion. Please be as specific as possible.**

[Tabulation Notes: The essay question responses have not yet been tabulated.]

## **Finances**

[Tabulation Notes for Questions 31-33: Residents were asked to rate their agreement with the statements in Questions 31-33 on a scale of 5 to 1, with 5 indicating “Strongly Agree,” and 1 indicating “Strongly Disagree.” The average of all scores is given in bold. We have also provided the results from the 2004 survey, which is given in red, and the results of the 1994 survey, which is given in green.]

**Question 31. Land should be taxed at a lower rate if it has perpetual open space protection on the deed.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	<b>2011</b>		<b>2004</b>			<b>1994</b>
	<b>3.8</b>		<b>3.8</b>			<b>4.0</b>

Response Notes: 61 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while only 14 % indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 32. I would pay more for town water if the extra cost was used to protect the town wells through land purchases.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	<b>2011</b>		<b>2004</b>			<b>1994</b>
	<b>2.5</b>		<b>3.1</b>			<b>3.1</b>

Response Notes: Only 27 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while 50 % indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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**Question 33. Expensive houses pay more taxes for the same amount of services. Marion should encourage the conversion of smaller houses to larger, more expensive houses to help with the tax burden.**

Strongly Agree	5	4	3	2	1	Strongly Disagree
	<b>2011</b>		<b>2004</b>			<b>1994</b>
	<b>2.2</b>		<b>2.4</b>			<b>n/a</b>

Response Notes: Only 12 % of the responses indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Agree” (circled a 5 or 4), while 46 % indicated “Strongly or Somewhat Disagree” (circled a 1 or 2).

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Response Notes to Questions 15 -33: The results for Questions 15 through 33 indicate a slightly more conservative approach to land use control than past surveys. This should not be unexpected, as respondents also indicate that the current rate of growth is less of a problem than in past years.

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Note: **Introduction given in the survey for Question 34:** “Right now, about 80% of Marion is undeveloped. Half of this, or 40% of the town, is permanently protected from development. This undeveloped land not only helps maintain the “look and feel” of Marion, but also helps maintain the water quality in Marion’s harbors and coves.”

**Question 34. What percent of Marion should be permanently protected from development?** (Note: An answer of 40% means you think we should have no additional open space; an answer of 80% means you think that all remaining open land should be protected from development. Our last survey results indicated a middle ground.)

Tabulation Notes: The average of all scores is given in bold. We have also provided the results from the 2004 survey, which is given in red, and the results of the 1994 survey, which is given in green.

	2011	2004	1994
	<b>60%</b>	65%	24%

Response Notes: Of the 152 returned surveys, 140 responded to this question. 84% of those wanted more open space, while 13% did not. (For 3% of the respondents, we couldn’t figure out their answer.) In 1994, the question was phrased differently, (“Right now, about 8% of Marion is in permanent open space protection. For comparison, Nantucket has set a goal of setting aside 33% of the town for open space protection. What should be Marion’s goal?”), which can explain the dramatically different results of the 1994 survey results from the from 2004 and 2011 surveys.

Note: **Introduction given in the survey for Question 35.** “ With every tax bill, 2% goes to the Community Preservation Fund for the protection of open space, creation of affordable housing, and rehabilitation of historic resources.”

**Question 35. Of the total collected, how much do you think should be designated for open space?**

[Tabulation Notes: The raw score for each choice is given at the end of the statement.]

All of it	17
75% of the total	29
50% of the total	28
25 % of the total	30
None of it	9
No opinion	13
It depends	21

Response Notes: 147 of the 152 returned surveys responded in some way to this question. 14% said “it depends” and 9% expressed no opinion. Only 6% felt Open Space should get no Community Preservation Funds (compare with the 13% who don’t want any more open space as expressed in Question 34). 12% felt that 100% of Community Preservation Funds should go towards open space purchases (the legal limit is 80%). 31% of the respondents felt that at least 75% should go towards

open space purchases, 50% agree that number should be at least 50%, and 71% agree that 25% of Community Preservation Funds should be used on open space purchases.

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## **Characteristics of Respondent**

### **Question 36. Present location in Marion:**

[Tabulation Notes: The raw score for each choice is given. The 2004 results are given in red.]

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2004</b>
Marion Village	<b>32</b>	28
North Marion	<b>25</b>	25
East Marion	<b>51</b>	62
Route 6 Area	<b>15</b>	25
Converse Rd. & West	<b>23</b>	33

Response Notes: The 1994 results for this question were not tabulated.

### **Question 37. Are you registered to vote in Marion? Yes No**

Response Notes: This is a question we use as a quality control check, as the survey is only sent to registered voters.

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### **Question 38. In the last five years, how many Annual Town Meetings have you attended?**

[Tabulation Notes: Average given in bold for 2011 and red for 2004. The 1994 results for this question were not tabulated.]

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2004</b>
	<b>1.9</b>	2.0

Response Notes: Of the 144 respondents for this question, 59, or 41% do not attend town meetings, while 24% have attended at least four meetings.

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**Question 39. In the last five years, how many times have you voted in the town elections?**

[Tabulation Notes: The average of the responses is given in bold for 2011 and red for 2004. The 1994 results for this question were not tabulated.]

2011	2004
3.8	4.0

Response Notes: Of the 143 respondents for this question, 17, or only 12% did not vote in town elections, while 76% voted in at least four elections.

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**Question 40. How many children do you have under the age of 18?**

[Tabulation Notes: The average of the responses is given in bold for 2011 and red for 2004. The 1994 results for this question were not tabulated.]

2011	2004
0.5	0.6

Response Notes: Of the 147 respondents for this question, 107, or 73% do not have children in the household.

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**Question 41. Your age:**

[Tabulation Notes: Response in bold given for each group. There was no tabulation of this questions for the 2004 or 1994 surveys.]

18 - 34	4
35 - 49	32
50 - 64	52
65 - 74	35
75 - 84	17
86+	3
Did not answer:	9

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**Question 42. Number of years in Marion.**

[Tabulation Notes: The average is given in bold for 2011 and red for 2004. The 1994 results for this question were not tabulated.]

2011	2004
25	22

Response Notes: The answers ranged from 1 to 76 years.

**Question 43. How many miles do you travel to work each day?**

[Tabulation Notes: The average miles for those driving to work is given in bold for 2011 and red for 2004. The 1994 results for this question were not tabulated.]

<b>2011</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>20.3</b>	18

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end of survey

# 2011 Marion Open Space and Recreation Survey Results

## Essay Sections & Written Comments

The 2011 Open Space and Recreation Survey results are from the tabulation of 152 surveys returned to the Open Space Acquisition Commission in the Spring of 2012. Of the 152 returned surveys, 110 had added comments in spaces provided throughout the survey pages. We have provided a list of those comments below.

Essay answers provided We have attempted to limit edits to spelling and placing full wording when abbreviations were used. In an effort to condense the size of the document, some comments were combined when they were made by more than one resident; as the document was otherwise too repetitive. When the comments were combined a notation on the number of similar comments is made in the text.

The comments by Marion residents provided here are best viewed in the context of the complete 2011 Marion Open Space and Recreation Survey Results. The tabulated survey results can be viewed on the Town of Marion website, [www.marionma.gov](http://www.marionma.gov), or by requesting a paper copy from the Commission at 2 Spring Street, Marion, MA 02738.

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### Page 1 Comments:

#### Sidewalks (5 comments):

- I'm very disappointed with the upkeep of the sidewalks along Point Road and Route 6. The overgrowth prevents users to bike safely and/or walk safely.
- More Bike trails along busy Roads (i.e. Delano/Point Rd.)
- We need bike/walking paths on Converse and Point Roads.
- Sidewalks need repair.
- Streets desperately need to be fixed to make biking and driving less dangerous and annoying.

#### Bikepath (2 Comments):

- Please support & make the bike path happen, we need a safe place to bicycle and walk.
- The bike path is the single most important open space and recreation concern in Marion today, all effort should be on this item.

#### Cost of Open Space Survey (2 comments):

- Do not spend town money on surveys like this.
- Who is paying for this survey?

#### Other Page 1 Comments:

- Oyster farms as proposed impinge on peace and serenity / sailing and navigation.
- Cleaning/detritus is (can't make out).
- Need a dog park.
- Bury the poles along Route 6 and on Delano
- In many countries the farm land has available and useable trails for walking. This allowed use of private land adds to open space use and enjoyment, ocean access, etc.
- How about a community sailing instruction program for non BYC kids?
- Boat ramp at Town Wharf needs a steeper angle & more depth.
- It's very difficult to object to a neighbor (with whom you will have to live) who applies for a zoning variance. Zoning Boards need to protect

## Other Page 1 Comments: (cont.)

Zoning Bylaws, not facilitate getting around them.

- Racks need with canoe access

**Question 11: “Which of the facilities in Question 8 (Town to Town bicycle paths, Horse-riding trails, Nature and hiking trails, Roller skating rink, Sidewalk system in Town, Teenage Center, & Year-round swimming pool) would you be most willing to pay for with taxes?”**

- **E (sidewalk system) – we already pay taxes for this!**

**Question 14: How would you improve any of the following? (Pollution from runoff, Pollution from boats, Pollution from septic, Pollution from lawn care products, Pollution from the town sewage plant, Pollution from geese, Overfishing of shellfish beds, Too many moorings, Lack of access, Too many mooring areas, Too many docks)**

## **Pollution from Lawn Care Products: (26 Comments)**

- We have not lived here long enough but green lawn fetishes are apparent with the building of private wells to offset water conservation laws.
- Limit nitrogen lawn care.
- Discourage use of lawn fertilizers.
- Offer discounts on natural lawn fertilizers to encourage homeowners and golf courses.
- Encourage more organic lawn care products – monthly newsletter to all touting the health benefits of such.
- Education about Pesticides and herbicides.
- Tabor’s new athletic fields are an unknown; irregardless of Tabor’s letter which conveyed very little information.
- Ban pesticides on lawns.

- Discussion of use of lawn products—perhaps timing and types of products used?
- I’m not sure the town can control lawn chemicals used by private citizens.
- Lawn education.
- Strict lawn care guidelines for homes that are situated on the waterfront or along waterways that run into the harbor.
- Work on service providers to use/recommend alternative products.
- Kittansett & Little Marion should meet with the Conservation Commission to review chemicals used in grounds maintenance.
- Use organic fertilizers.
- Use Pearl’s Premium grass seed for lawns.
- Promote green lawns using natural substances for weeds and growth protection.
- Ban lawn care products on waterfront properties.
- Restrict/Ban use of chem lawn in runoff areas.
- Restrict use of lawn care products on properties close to the water.
- Increase buffer zones between lawns/landscaped areas and waterways.
- Install more artificial turf in place of grass.
- Limit the use of fertilizers.
- Restriction on lawn care products.
- Enforce water restrictions when in place.

## **Pollution from Septic: (14 Comments)**

- More septic inspections. (4)
- Expand town water & sewer. (3)
- Town sewer for everyone. (2)
- Septic Systems
- Annual inspection and bi-annual pumping of septic system required.
- Start dealing with harbor pollution and stop denying it.
- Try to eliminate septic tanks or make more efficient.
- Continue to expand sewer system especially close to shore.

### **Research Needed: (9 Comments)**

- What relevance is this question to laymen? This is a question for research not uninformed opinion!
- Research & committees, etc. on how to improve.
- Expert consultation to determine action plan.
- Research solutions.
- Study the pollution and truly identify the sources.
- Determine if sewer plant is causing pollution take appropriate action.
- Do a study of where pollution is coming from.
- Study and recommend ways to mitigate fertilizer runoff and impact.
- Develop comprehensive plan to deal with pollution of the bay from nitrogen pollution.
- Find & make available test kits to allow people to monitor personal impact.

### **Pollution from Boats: (9 Comments)**

- A fee for boaters who don't use septic pumping.
- Monitor harbor i.e. boats.
- Have free pump stations in each harbor on Buzzards Bay.
- Require boats to have holding tanks.
- Fines, monitoring of boat discharges by Harbormaster.
- Restrict any possible dumping of Marion sewage in the bay.
- Increase fines for boats releasing hazardous materials.
- Fines on boaters who pollute our water.
- Harbormaster and crew should patrol harbor & look for slicks /oil leaks & impose hefty fines for leakage to deter future leaks /spills.

### **Education & Outreach Needed (7 Comments):**

- Education of the public especially on nitrogen from lawn care & septic.

- Education – Coalition for Buzzards Bay could help with this.
- More public awareness of the fact fertilizers end up in Buzzards Bay.
- Alert the public of the problem.
- Educate townspeople in how they contribute to harbor pollution.
- Educate people on issues.
- Educating the users/community about the impact of current practices.

### **Pollution from Geese (5 Comments)**

- Kill the geese.
- Get one of those foam coyotes.
- Shoot geese.
- Reduce resident geese numbers by more lenient hunting regulations or by culling.
- Geese? Really?

### **Lack of Access: (5 Comments)**

- More boat launch or public access to Aucoot.
- Public access in Aucoot Cove.
- Boat ramp in outer harbor (from sheltered area).
- Set aside land for beach access and walking parks etc. when and where possible.
- Make dock owners provide passage around or over them for compliance with the law of free access for fishing and fowling according to the colonial acts of 1641 to 1644.

### **Too many mooring areas: (5 Comments)**

- Keep larger anchoring area for visiting boats.
- Encourage the use of sailboats and rowboats vs. power boats.
- Mooring grid in harbor ought to be regrided, many boats are too close together.
- Power boats on moorings.
- Manage moorings as has been done,
- keep space for sailing, shellfishing, swimming.

### **More Enforcement: (5 Comments)**

- Upgrade and enforce existing rules and regulations.
- Enforcement of Coast Guard requirements.
- Monitor for offenders.
- Fine or otherwise penalize offenders.
- Strict enforcement of waterway protection laws.

### **Pollution from Storm Runoff: (4 Comments)**

- Down at our dock by the groin, a huge pipe drains out into the harbor. (location not specified).
- Upgrade storm sewers system close to shore.
- Educate the public.
- Implement best management practices for storm water on roadways and town owned properties.
- Catch basin for road runoff.

### **Too Many Moorings: (4 Comments)**

- Moratorium on moorings.
- Restrict boats and moorings in Marion harbor.
- Reduce the number of moorings.
- Fewer moorings in Sippican Harbor.

### **Lagoon –Nitrogen Issues: (4 Comments)**

- Line the lagoons.
- Nitrogen pollution.
- Reduce nitrogen inflow into bay.
- Restriction on nitrogen.

### **Management of Shellfish Resources: (2 Comments)**

- Charge enough for aquaculture permits in anticipation of more extensive management issues: % of profit making venture should accrue to the town.
- Some previously restricted shellfish areas have been opened up for commercial use. This may bring the Town more money but is shortsighted. Some areas should not be for commercial use.

### **Too many docks: No Comments**

### **Other comments on Question 14:**

- How about a fund to help those of us who will not be able to afford the new FEMA flood insurance rates!
- Do nothing.
- It all costs money to fix. I won't pay a penny more in property tax for any of it. Live in your means.
- Let nature take its course.
- Do nothing.
- Control/limit the installation of synthetic surfaces in the flood zone.
- Please include (man made) all local lakes, ponds, freshwater rivers, streams, brooks, into a Federal tax code for the ACOE.

### **Survey Question #19 Residents were asked to state their level of agreement with the following: "Prohibition of future building in the floodplain zone"**

- If people are willing to spend the extra to meet the zoning and carry insurance it is their free choice.
- Just make sure built properly.

### **Survey Question #21 Residents were asked to state their level of agreement with the following: "Open Space should be required in all future developments."**

- Poor question, can't answer.

### **Survey Question #23 Residents were asked to state their level of agreement with the following: "Marion should provide incentives to promote cluster zoning development."**

- I disapprove of cluster development no matter what the incentives are.

**Survey Question #24 Residents were asked to state their level of agreement with the following: “Marion should form a “historic district” to protect the village area.”**

- 5 (meaning “strongly agree” – ed. note) but not an overlay district which is too large and would gut the town center.

**Survey Question #29 Residents were asked to rate Marion's rate of growth: (4 Comments)**

- Many appeals before the Zoning Board give people living close to the water license to build and extend into what should be protected areas.
- They are not applied consistently.
- Town boards are too inbred – positions occupied primarily by long term “townies” that have prejudicial interests in town and apply guidelines unevenly and often unreasonably.
- Influenced by an outspoken minority.

**Survey Question #30 Residents were asked to list the three most important issues facing Marion.**

**Planning: (56 Comments)**

- Growth. (10)
- Preservation of village center. (5)
- Preservation of town character. (3)
- Strip development on Route 6.
- No waterfront dining.
- Development along Route 6.
- Eyesores: Route 6 & Spring Street.
- No new construction.
- Preservation of small town feel.
- Intelligent managed growth.
- Restrict development.
- Restrictions in flood zones (needed).
- Commercialization.
- Housing structures of excessive size for the neighborhood.
- Don't want any large housing development.

- Keep malls and strip malls out.
- Protect General Store.
- Too much commercial development.
- Urban sprawl.
- Building codes to protect the ambiance of the town.
- Right to develop your property.
- Flood map rezoning.
- Development is extremely hampered yet the development and beautification along Route 6 particularly at Front Street should be a priority.
- Encourage business that is town appropriate.
- There is nothing wrong with modernizing and adding to a nice commercial district if in fact we could really use some new development - just not for Dunkin Donuts type operations if we are going to be restrictive, let's do it right.
- 2015 Plan \_ Let's get it Going!
- Keep the character of the town – not just the village.
- Development of the Route 6 Spring Street area.
- Do not like clusters of homes.
- Lost small town charm.
- Cluster zoning looks ugly.
- Allow reasonable growth.
- Intelligent growth.
- Potential for over regulation.
- Support for local business.
- Zoning (ie) Joanne Drive: housing density.
- The Rt6/ Spring Street intersection: The derelict buildings at the intersection of Route 6 and Spring Street are both ugly and potentially dangerous. The old Sweet Shoppe is a potential fire trap. Why can't this be improved by private ownership? If not, why can't we buy it as “open space?” in a beautiful place like Marion how can this eyesore be allowed?
- Commercial development on Route 6.
- Stop future fast food restaurants on Route 6 by purchasing any commercial properties which are available.
- Planning.

## **Planning: (con't)**

- New development near the Wave.
- Encouraging more businesses to town (good).

## **Taxes & Financial: (35 Comments)**

- Taxes. (5)
- Price of water & sewer (2)
- Helping the lower income residents to stay in this beautiful town.
- Small tax base.
- Attract small business to generate revenue & decrease residential taxes.
- Balance our budget.
- Taxes, restructure town tax system.
- Controlling town debt.
- Keeping Marion affordable for the elderly so that they may continue to live here while making it affordable for young people to do the same.
- Infrastructure costs.
- Town pensions.
- No increase in taxes.
- Insufficient tax base.
- Continuing tax increases that force the elderly to leave their homes.
- Better financial management-budget and spending.
- Better control over public works spending.
- High water bills.
- Water rates are too high.
- Quality & price of water.
- Mounting debt.
- Budgetary deficit/financial deficit.
- Benefits to employees.
- School funding.
- Water availability and cost.
- Capital Spending-too much!
- Cost of living.
- Expand the tax base.
- Increase property tax for new buildings.
- Should Marion implement a hiring freeze or have layoffs? Yes!

- Should we approve 99% of all articles at town meeting like we do now? No.

## **Transportation: (34 Comments)**

- Horrible condition of streets and roads. (11)
- Lack of sidewalks. (7)
- Completion of Bike Path from Fairhaven to Wareham. (5)
- Transportation.
- No public transportation.
- Cleaning Route 6 sidewalks.
- Speed limits enforced.
- Sidewalks maintained- no bike paths available
- County Road asphalt.
- Sidewalk safety on Route 6.
- Sidewalks in bad condition and force children and handicap to use the street.
- Walking /Bike trails.
- Better control traffic – speeding on Route 6 and coming off of 195 ramps.
- Bike paths on Converse Road and Point Road: kids are in danger on these roads.

## **Environment: (18 Comments)**

- Polluting of harbor. (5)
- Pollution. (2)
- Overfishing of shellfish beds.
- Too many moorings.
- Protection for wetlands.
- Nitrogen pollution of Buzzards Bay.
- Protection of our environment.
- Chemical fertilizers.
- Mandatory recycling.
- Preserving the waterways.
- Threat of rising water and more frequent and severe storms as a result of global warming.
- Environmental issues.
- Wetlands/harbor protections.

## **(16 Comments)**

- Consistent application of regulations.
- A “big picture” perspective, not just NIMBY.

### **Government: (cont.)**

- No supervision of DPW.
- Zoning enforcement.
- Harbor management.
- Town fathers need to monitor committees.
- Fair taxing for all.
- Out of town residents getting and keeping beach passes.
- Ineffective government and administration.
- Too few people participate /know anything town government/how things get done.
- Inconsistent application of law by town boards and committees.
- Poor leadership.
- Poor Planning Board
- Conflicts of interest on Town boards.
- Decision making that takes place is often on individual disparate items and does not think about the big picture or what is good for the whole town.
- Volunteers to serve on boards and committees.

### **Water & Sewer: (14 Comments)**

- Sewer expansion. (3)
- Wells should be allowed in the house for water use.
- Water.
- Make sure town has source of clean water. Water pipe aging.
- Long term drinking water availability and quality.
- Water and sewer rates.
- Ridiculous Enterprise accounting for water costs.
- Town sewer for all homes (needed).
- Sump pumps hooked up to town sewer.
- Sewage treatment.
- Sewer expansion too slow.

### **Tabor: (13 Comments)**

- Tabor should pay taxes. (3)
- Tabor not following the rules/laws.(2)

- Tabor exempt from taxes and paying for water usage.
- Keeping 90' light towers from becoming a reality.
- Make Tabor pay taxes on residential property they own.
- Please have a plan B for Tabor Academy grounds in case the school goes insolvent.
- The waste of taxpayer's money to wage war on Tabor over the field.
- 7 acres of astroturf with drainage into the harbor.
- Stop Tabor from buying any more private land in Marion, we need the tax revenue.
- Tabor school takes up an enormous amount of premium tax-generating land. If we are not going to earn taxes on it, it should be available for public use.

### **Demographics: (10 Comments)**

- Population growth. (3)
- Aging population. (2)
- Maintain low population. (2)
- Population growth/expansion.
- Need for elderly housing.
- Diversity of population.

### **Open Space: (10 Comments)**

- Preservation of open space. (7)
- More woodland areas are nice but not necessarily needed as open space -waterfront areas are.
- Protecting wildlife habitat.
- Public open space , parks, etc. (needed).

### **Affordable Housing: (7 Comments)**

- Affordable housing. (5)
- Inadequate planned growth, i.e. affordable housing.
- House affordability to young families.

### **Recreation: (4 Comments)**

- Recreational programs are extremely weak and poorly publicized for a town of this size.
- Point Road playground.
- Diverse recreation.
- Since we are older, we don't use many of the town facilities. We need to get our kids and young families outside & places for them to enjoy!

### **40B: (4 Comments)**

- Restrict 40B. (2)
- Impact on all town services if 40B /affordable housing units are built.
- 40B Construction projects.

### **Attitude: (2 Comments)**

- Snobs.
- It is 2 towns – Village and the rest.

### **Other Issues Listed:**

- The town needs to access to the waterfront where public can walk along harbor.
- Public restrooms in village.
- Boat ramp.
- Above ground wires.
- Doubling poles & new poles.
- Federally subsidized area to treat pond/lake water.
- Federal Regulations and funding.
- Make use of what we have rather than building more (make better use of public buildings).
- Generational opportunities.
- No retirement community with progressive care.
- More police & fire.
- I hope my taxes did not pay for this worthless survey.
- Educate and encourage everyone to work in the town.
- Town Hall restoration.

### **Survey Question #31 Residents were asked to state their level of agreement with the following: "Land should be taxed at a lower rate if it has perpetual open space protection on the deed."**

- Bay View Road and Shawandasse (Road) buildings devalue neighbors and town charisma.

### **Survey Question #32 Residents were asked to state their level of agreement with the following: "I would pay more for town water if the extra cost was used to protect the town wells through land purchases."**

- 5 ("strongly agree") The Town should do this anyway.

### **Survey Question #35 Residents were asked what percent of Community Preservation Acts funds should be spent on open space.**

- CPC money should be used for bike path.
- Very few natural open spaces are used very extensively. Some money should be allocated to create and maintain hiking trails.

### **Comments added to the last page of the Survey:**

- More attention needs to be paid to the style and appropriateness of building to lot size, location, topography etc.
- Washburn Park facilities are a disgrace.
- Shortage of elderly housing (both income restricted and market rate).
- Need a senior center.
- Need a youth center.
- Maintain our town.
- Growing too fast.
- Keep the small town feel.
- Need sidewalks repaired and need them widened and maintained along Route 6, and lots of overgrowth and buildup of sand near Marion Garage & Town management facilities.

- I do not pay real estate taxes here so I do not think my answers should be counted.