

2019 Northfield Open Space and Recreation Survey

This survey is an effort of the Open Space Committee to assess public opinion regarding Open Space and Recreation policies of the Town of Northfield. The results from the survey will help the town update the Open Space and Recreation Plan, created in 2005 and updated in 2013, as required by the state every seven years. Answers from the survey will also guide future decisions by other town committees.

The survey takes approximately ten minutes. All answers will remain anonymous. Your feedback is needed to help prepare the new Open Space and Recreation Plan. Please fill this out and return by March 1, 2020, to the Northfield Town Hall, Attn: Open Space Committee, 69 Main St., Northfield, MA 01360, or return to the town clerk at the town hall, or take the survey online at <https://tinyurl.com/OpenSpaceSurvey>.

Thank you.

Northfield Open Space Committee

1. Please indicate which activities you engage in and whether you are able to enjoy them in Northfield and/or another town.

	Northfield	Another town
Bicycling (other than mountain biking)	◇	◇
Birdwatching	◇	◇
Boating	◇	◇
Camping	◇	◇
Cross-country skiing/Snowshoeing	◇	◇
Fishing	◇	◇
Gardening	◇	◇
Golf	◇	◇
Hiking	◇	◇
Horseback riding	◇	◇
Hunting	◇	◇
Ice skating	◇	◇
Mountain Biking	◇	◇
Picnicing	◇	◇
Rock climbing	◇	◇
Running	◇	◇
Snowmobiling	◇	◇
Swimming in natural water bodies	◇	◇
Swimming in pools	◇	◇
Team sports	◇	◇

	Northfield	Another town
Walking	◇	◇
<i>Other activities, or comments</i>		

2. Do you use any of the trails in Northfield?

If so, please indicate which ones and how often you use them.

	3 or more per year	1 or 2 per year
Alderbrook Meadows (route 63 wheelchair-accessible trail)	◇	◇
Bald Hills Trail (top of Gulf Rd)	◇	◇
Bennet Meadows	◇	◇
Brush Mountain	◇	◇
Franklin County Bikeways	◇	◇
Hobo Trail (off Old Wendell Rd)	◇	◇
King Philip's Hill	◇	◇
Mill Brook Trail	◇	◇
New England Trail (used to be M&M trail)	◇	◇
Northfield Mountain Recreation Area	◇	◇
Northfield State Forest (off Collier Cemetery)	◇	◇
Northfield State Forest (Alexander Hill Rd)	◇	◇
Northfield State Forest (above the Ridge)	◇	◇
Old Bernardston Road Extension	◇	◇
PVRS Cross Country Trail	◇	◇
Satan's Kingdom	◇	◇
Town Forest Loop Trail	◇	◇

Other trails, or comments

3. Do you support a network of trails for the following activities?

	Yes	No
ATV	◇	◇
Bicycling	◇	◇
Cross Country Skiing/Snowshoeing	◇	◇
Dogwalking	◇	◇
Hiking/Walking	◇	◇
Horseback riding	◇	◇
Mountain biking	◇	◇
Snowmobiling	◇	◇

Other activities, or comments

4. How important are the following recreational resources to you?

	very important	somewhat important	not Important
Bike trails	◇	◇	◇
Children’s play areas	◇	◇	◇
Cross Country Skiing/Snowshoeing	◇	◇	◇
Dog park	◇	◇	◇
Hiking trails	◇	◇	◇
Horseback riding trails	◇	◇	◇
Ice skating	◇	◇	◇
Neighborhood parks	◇	◇	◇
Picnic areas	◇	◇	◇
Playing fields	◇	◇	◇
Public access to natural areas	◇	◇	◇
Public access to waterbodies	◇	◇	◇
Public swimming pool	◇	◇	◇
Roller blading and skate boarding	◇	◇	◇
Soccer fields	◇	◇	◇

Other resources, or comments

5. Northfield Community Park priority list.

Please indicate how important these features of a potential Northfield Community Park are to you.

	very important	somewhat important	not Important
Hiking/cross country ski trails	◇	◇	◇
Bikeway connecting with replacement for Schell Bridge	◇	◇	◇
Land for 2 baseball and 1 softball and 2 soccer fields	◇	◇	◇
Nature play area	◇	◇	◇
Play structures	◇	◇	◇
Picnic area	◇	◇	◇
Outdoor performance stage	◇	◇	◇
Community Gardens	◇	◇	◇
Community gathering building	◇	◇	◇
Splash pad	◇	◇	◇
Access to water	◇	◇	◇
Dog park	◇	◇	◇
Skate boarding	◇	◇	◇
Tennis courts	◇	◇	◇
Bocce or shuffle board	◇	◇	◇
Other (Please specify) _____	◇	◇	◇

6. In your opinion, how important are the following open space features to Northfield?

	very important	somewhat important	not Important
Air/water quality	◇	◇	◇
Farms and farmland	◇	◇	◇
Forests	◇	◇	◇
Lower housing density	◇	◇	◇
Mountain views	◇	◇	◇

	very important	somewhat important	not Important
Public access for boating	◇	◇	◇
Public access for swimming	◇	◇	◇
Quiet	◇	◇	◇
Rural character	◇	◇	◇
Trails	◇	◇	◇

Other features, or comments

7. Which of the following actions do you support to protect/conservate resources in Northfield?

	support
Acceptance by the town of donated conservation land	◇
Acceptance by the town of donated development rights (conservation restriction)	◇
Educate residents about land protection opportunities and estate planning	◇
Educate residents and landowners about the public service costs associated with different land uses (houses, forests/agriculture, industrial)	◇
Encourage conservation by private nonprofits and land trusts	◇
Encourage conservation by state agencies	◇
Increase funding to the Community Preservation Act	◇
Town purchase of conservation land	◇
Town purchase of development rights	◇
Town support of the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Program	◇
Designate 10% of Northfield, both public and private, as “forever wild”?	◇

Other actions, or comments

8. Are there specific areas in Northfield that the town should try to own, protect access to, or otherwise protect?

- yes ◇
- no ◇

If you answered “yes”, which areas are priorities for you?

9. Which Northfield neighborhood do you live in?

East Northfield (including the Ridge)	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Mountain area	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Northfield (the farms)	<input type="checkbox"/>
West Northfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
Village Center	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Do you telecommute to work or work from home?

yes
no

11 What are the ages of the people in your household?

0-5 6-11 12-18 19-29 30-65 Over 65

12. How many years have you lived in Northfield?

Less than 5 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
5-15 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
16-30 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
31-50 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
51-75 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
More than 75 years	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. Please provide any additional comments:

14 Optional: please provide your name and email address.