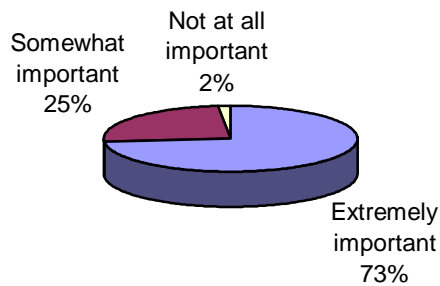


Scientific Sample of Town Residents Carver Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey Results

Response Rate: 33% (558 out of 1,715)
March 6, 2002

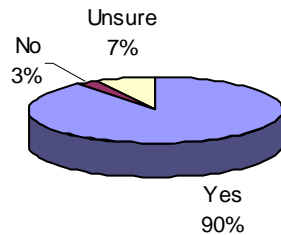
Prepared by: Buzzards Bay Project National Estuary Program

Question #1: How important is it to you to preserve the rural character of Carver?



Question #2: How important is it to you to preserve the rural character of Carver?

conservation and open space purposes



If yes, please check preferred method.

- Encourage donations of land and conservation restrictions – 22%
- Town purchases conservation & agricultural preservation restrictions – 14%
- Create historical districts – 14%
- Town purchases open space – 13%
- Designate scenic roads – 11%
- Community Preservation Act – 10%
- Private land trusts – 9%
- Land bank – 6%
- Other – 1%

Write-in comments: all of the above (2), greenbelt (1), golf course (1), end hunting in Carver (1)

Question #3: Which of the following do you feel should be protected or acquired?
(Check as many as are appropriate).

- Access to rivers, streams and ponds – 74%
- Well fields and water supply areas – 70%
- Wildlife habitat- 66%
- Areas for passive outdoor recreation (walking, picnicking, playgrounds, etc.) – 61%
- Areas of historical worth – 60%
- “Green belts” along streams, rivers and ponds – 56%
- Wetlands – 52%
- Agricultural land/farmland – 48%
- Areas for active outdoor recreation (team sports) – 48%
- Waterfront lands (i.e. on ponds & rivers) – 47%
- Areas for outdoor education (study areas, field trips, nature trails, etc.) – 54%
- Land to preserve scenic views – 41%
- Buffer zones between different land use areas – 37%

Write-in comment: No more agriculture.

Question #4: Of the choices listed in question # 3, which five do you feel are the most important to protect or acquire? Please list in order of importance, 1=most important, 5=least important (use letter).

Survey respondents rated:

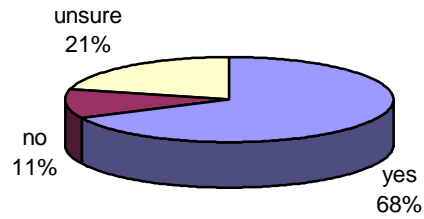
Well fields and water supply areas
Wildlife habitat
Access to rivers, streams and ponds
Wetlands
Agricultural land/farm land

As the most important to protect or acquire

Note: Responses are weighted according to importance. Raw weighted scores are located after each item.

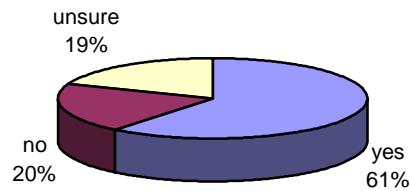
- Well fields and water supply areas (1,292)
- Wildlife habitat (964)
- Access to rivers, streams and ponds (844)
- Wetlands (600)
- Agricultural land/farmland (576)
- Areas of historical worth (550)
- Areas for passive outdoor recreation (walking, picnicking, playgrounds, etc.) (547)
- “Green belts” along streams, rivers and ponds (530)
- Areas for active outdoor recreation (team sports) (432)
- Areas for outdoor education (study areas, field trips, nature trails, etc.) (383)
- Waterfront lands (i.e. on ponds & rivers) (342)
- Land to preserve scenic views (268)
- Buffer zones between different land use areas (214)

Question #5: Do you feel town bylaws should be drafted to encourage more open space in new resid

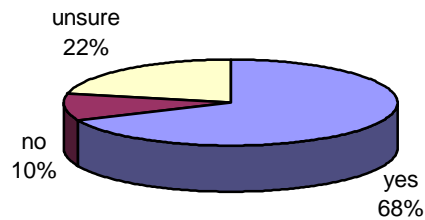


Write

Question #6: Do you feel the town should acquire more land for passive recreational purposes (walking, h



Question #7: Do you favor the creation of a protected "greenbelt" (a contiguous, undeveloped area of con



Question #8: Rank the following concerns in order of their priority for attention.

More than 75% of respondents rank:

- Protection of wells
- Loss of natural habitats
- Pollution from septic systems
- Loss of rural qualities of town

As HIGH PRIORITY items to address

Question #8 Continued:

	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Unsure</u>
Effects of siltation on the rivers, ponds and wetlands	59.9%	19.4%	20.7%
Excessive business/commercial development	50.5%	42.7%	6.8%
Lack of access to ponds	49.2%	42.7%	8.1%
Loss of agricultural land	54.1%	36.2%	9.7%
Loss of fishing/hunting areas	46.6%	46.2%	7.2%
Loss of natural habitats	79.4%	16.1%	4.5%
Loss of rural qualities of town	76.1%	19.8%	4.1%
Pollution from water craft	67.7%	26.7%	5.6%
Pollution from septic systems	77.5%	16.0%	6.5%
Pollution from agricultural sources	70.2%	22.7%	7.0%
Pollution from residential areas	67.7%	25.6%	6.7%
Pollution from road runoff	62.9%	27.7%	9.9%
Protection of wells	93.1%	5.2%	1.7%

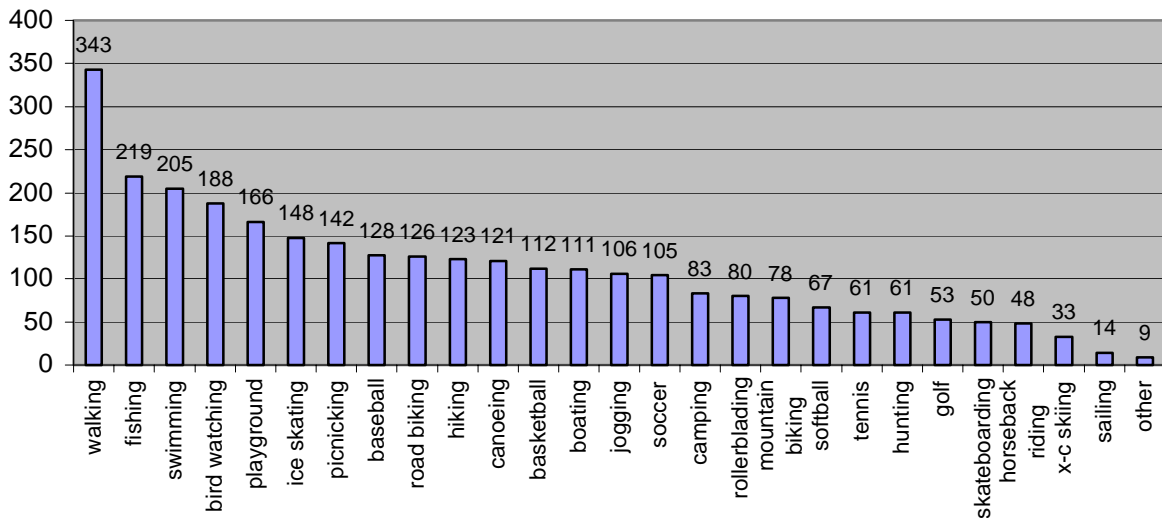
Note: The numbers in parentheses indicate the actual number of responses.

Answers written in for “Other”:

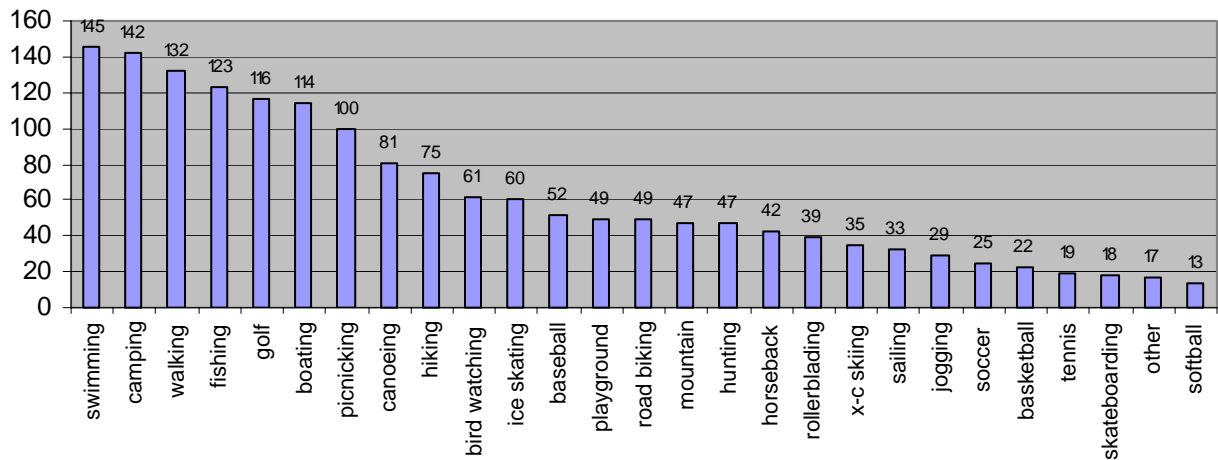
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Loss of wildlife (4) | Buffer zones between land uses (1) |
| Excessive residential development (3) | Ugly business fronts (1) |
| Stripping of land for sand/gravel (2) | Lack of tax base (1) |
| Excessive truck traffic/speeds (2) | Eliminate hunting areas (1) |
| More light industry (1) | Other potential water supplies (1) |
| More business (1) | Affect of commercial waste/landfills/ash (1) |
| Wetland protection (1) | Airport expansion (1) |

Question #9: Which activities do you and your family members enjoy? Check as many as are appropriate.

Note: The numbers above the bars in the graphs below indicate the actual number of responses.



Question #9 Continued:



Note: The numbers in parentheses indicate the actual number of responses.

Answers written in for “Other”:

In Carver:

- football (2)
- biking (1)
- snowshoeing (1)
- gardening (1)
- driving around (1)
- hockey (1)
- dance (1)
- dirt biking (1)

In other towns:

- bowling (2)
- hockey (2)
- public gardens (2)
- zoo (1)
- snowmobiling (1)
- snowshoeing (1)
- football (1)
- eating out (1)

- paintball (1)
- outdoor concerts (1)
- kayak (1)
- wildlife conservation (1)
- dirt biking (1)
- town pool (1)

Question #10: Of the activities listed above, which five do you or your family do the most? Please list in order of frequency, 1= activity done most often, 5= activity done least often (use letter).

Note: Responses are weighted according to preference. Raw weighted score shown after each activity.

Activities done with the MOST frequency:

- Walking – 1110
- Swimming – 551
- Fishing – 468
- Bird watching – 400

Question #10 Continued:

Activities done with MODERATE frequency:

Playground – 318	Picnicking – 227
Baseball – 286	Hiking – 221
Boating – 280	Basketball – 176
Road biking – 256	Jogging – 174
Camping – 252	Soccer – 174
Golf – 242	Canoeing – 165

Activities done with the LEAST frequency:

Softball – 118	Skateboarding – 55
Mountain biking – 116	Other - 45
Hunting – 107	Rollerblading – 42
Ice skating – 105	Sailing – 25
Horseback riding – 86	X-country skiing – 18
Tennis – 62	

Question #11: Which of the following recreational facilities do we need more of? Do any need upgrading and/or repair? Circle **M** for more, **S** for satisfactory, **U** for upgrade/repair or **D** for do not know. Please circle all that apply.

Note: The numbers in parentheses indicate the actual number of responses for each item.

More

Permanently protected open space with public access (250)
Wildlife habitat (194)
Bike paths/trails (183)
Outdoor education facilities (175)
Teen recreation center (163)
Beaches/beach access (160)
Nature/hiking/equestrian trails (152)
Picnic areas (133)

Don't know

Hunting area access (162)
Ice skating rinks (162)
Golf courses (151)
Basketball courts (151)
Boat ramps (143)
Outdoor fitness course (138)
Access to public facilities for people with disabilities (132)
Gyms (125)
Swimming pools (76)

Satisfactory

Playgrounds (212)
Soccer fields (201)
Baseball fields (194)
Softball fields (184)
Campgrounds (183)
Fishing area access (143)
Tennis courts (142)

Upgrade

Beaches/beach access (101)

**Question #11 Continued:
Answers written in for “Other”**

More

- Non-passive recreation (1)
- Sidewalks (1)
- Bowling (1)
- Grocery store (1)
- Town swimming pool (1)
- Clean beaches (1)
- Road maintenance (1)
- Maintain what we already have (1)
- ATV trails (1)

Upgrade

- Grocery store (1)

Raw Scores for Question #11

	More	Satisfactory	Upgrade/Repair	Don't know
a. baseball fields	47	194	50	112
b. basketball courts	76	132	47	151
c. beaches/beach access	160	116	101	72
d. bike paths/trails	183	88	44	105
e. boat ramps	68	128	44	143
f. campgrounds	65	183	29	111
g. fishing area access	113	143	28	114
h. golf courses	90	113	32	151
i. gyms	94	120	23	125
j. hunting area access	49	129	23	162
k. ice skating rinks	112	73	17	162
l. nature/hiking/equestrian trails	152	91	35	91
m. outdoor education facilities	175	76	27	121
n. outdoor fitness course	117	82	18	138
o. perm. protected open space w/ public access	250	57	28	67
p. picnic areas	133	120	32	74
q. playgrounds	65	212	21	62
r. soccer fields	34	201	21	108
s. softball fields	33	184	27	114
t. swimming pools	56	36	13	76
u. teen/recreation center	163	66	27	128
v. tennis courts	57	142	33	120
w. wildlife habitat	194	79	24	86
x. access to facilities for people with disabilities	127	86	31	132
y. other	14	5	2	18

Question #12: Of the facilities listed in question #11, which five need attention most? Please list in order of importance, 1=most important, 5=least important (use letter).

Survey respondents feel the following need the most attention:

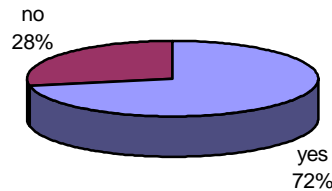
Permanently protected open space with public access
Wildlife habitat
Teen recreation center
Nature/hiking/equestrian trails
Bike paths/trails

Question #12 Continued:

Note: Responses are weighted. Raw weighted scores are shown in parentheses.

permanently protected open space w/public access (675)	gyms (161)
wildlife habitat (572)	ice skating rinks (134)
teen/recreation center (420)	playgrounds (129)
nature/hiking/equestrian trails (399)	campgrounds (104)
bike paths/trails (388)	hunting area access (94)
outdoor education facilities (346)	outdoor fitness course (92)
access to public facilities for people with disabilities (289)	baseball fields (89)
beaches/beach access (287)	softball fields (87)
fishing area access (264)	swimming pools (85)
tennis courts (237)	basketball courts (67)
picnic areas (219)	soccer fields (66)
golf courses (174)	other (46)
boat ramps (161)	

Question #13: Do you plan to visit Standish State Forest?



Note: The actual number of responses for each item below.

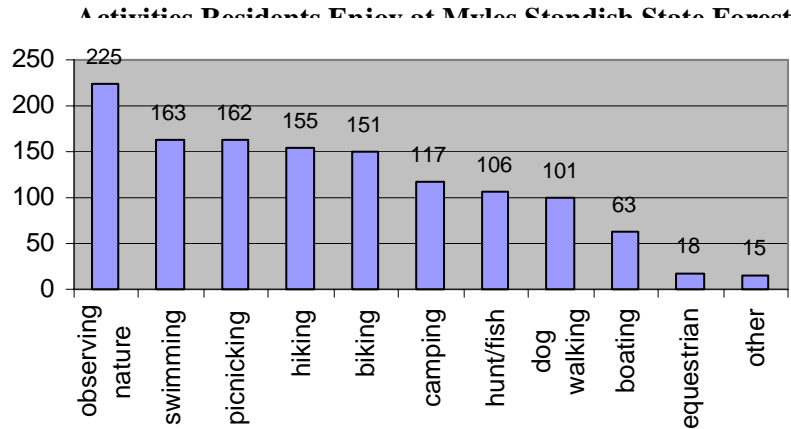
If no, why not?

No interest/have other activities (21)	Too expensive (2)
Don't feel safe there (8)	New to town (2)
Too busy (6)	Too many people (1)
Get lost there, no information available (5)	Forgot about it (1)
Too old (4)	Live on a pond (1)
Too far, nothing there (4)	Children too young (1)
Camp out of state (3)	Drinking by campers (1)
Bridge is out (2)	Too close (1)
Prefer ocean (2)	Uncomfortable w/ inmates doing clean-ups (1)
Not an attractive area (2)	Harassed by park rangers about parking (1)
Only drive through (2)	Too many rules (1)
Have own woods, land, etc. (2)	Thought it was in Plymouth (1)
Never taken the opportunity (2)	

Question #13 Continued:

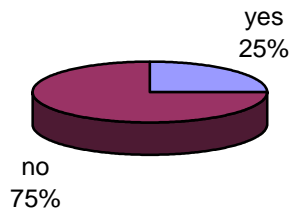
If yes, which activities do you participate in? Please check all that apply.

Note: The actual number of responses is shown in parentheses after each activity.



Write-in answers for “Other”: canoeing (2), x-country skiing (1), snowmobiling (1), non-passive recreation (1), walking (1), to relax (1), picking berries (1), work (1), motorcycling (1), driving through (1), bird watching (1), ATV riding (1), kayaking (1), fishing (1).

Question #14: Does your family use ponds?



Question #15: Do you or your family members ever use the following beaches? If no, please indicate why.

	Yes	No	Reasons for not using beach
a.) Sampsons Pond	48%	52%	Lack of parking – 46% Unaware of beach – 38% Condition of beach – 16%
b.) John’s Pond	30%	70%	Lack of parking – 37% Condition of beach – 35% Unaware of beach – 28%

Question #15 Continued:

	Yes	No	Reasons for not using beach
c.) Private Beach	18%	82%	Condition of beach – 71% Unaware of beach – 25% Lack of parking – 4%

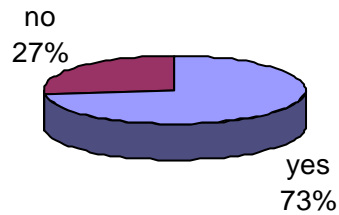
Write-in comments – “Reasons for not using beaches”:

Poor water quality – in general (65), Sampsons (13), Johns (18)	Don't swim (1)
Have pool (4)	Live on a pond (1)
Prefer ocean (3)	Not young (1)
Ponds too small (2)	Out-of-towners (1)
Too crowded (2)	No bathrooms (1)
Child got sick from bacteria (1)	No need to (1)
Needs monitoring (1)	Location (1)

Question #16:

jogging, etc.?

use path for walking, biking,



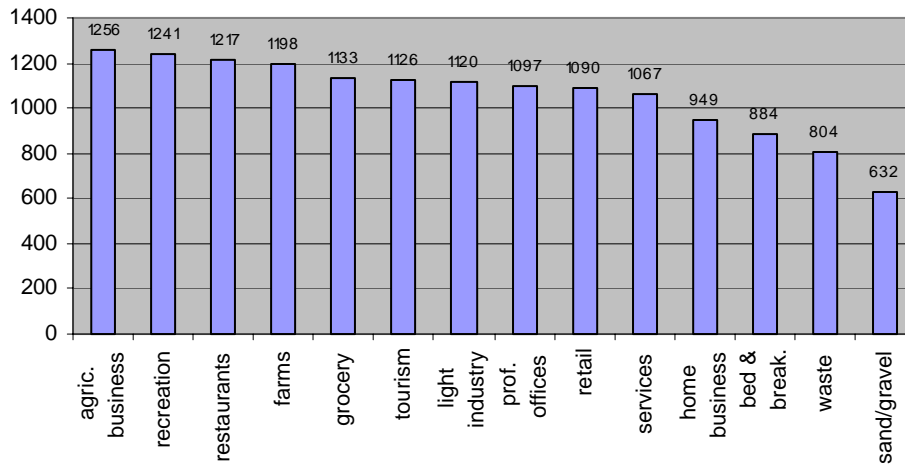
Write-in comment: does not need to be paved (3), unsafe (1), depends on taxes (1), how about a sidewalk to start (1)

Question #17: How accessible and useful do you feel open spaces and recreational facilities in Carver are to those in the community with disabilities? (Example: difficulty walking, seeing, hearing, etc.)

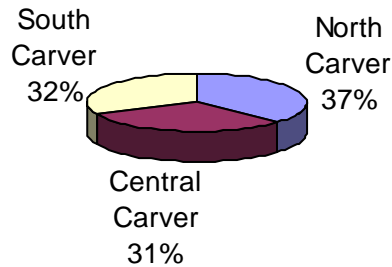
- Somewhat accessible and somewhat useful – 42%
- Don't know what people with disabilities need – 34%
- Not accessible and not useful – 14%
- Very accessible and very useful – 10%

Question #18: What kinds of businesses do you think are important to encourage in Carver?
 (Circle one number for each kind. 1 = extremely important, 2 = very important, 3 = somewhat important, 4 = not at all important).

Note: Responses are weighted according to importance. Raw weighted scores are located above the bars in the graph below.



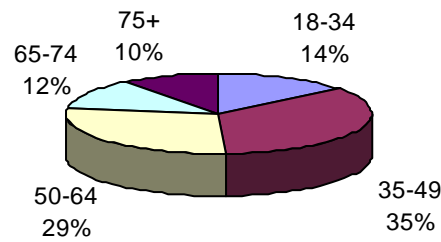
Question #19: Which of the following most closely describes the area in which you live?



Question #20: How many children do you have under age 18?

- None – 61%
- One – 16%
- Two – 16%
- Three – 5%
- Four or more – 2%

Question #21: What is your age group?



Question #22: What one feature do you like most about living in Carver?

Top 5 things people like MOST about living in Carver
1.) Rural character, small town feel, scenic atmosphere, open space (ponds, bogs, wildlife)
2.) Peaceful, friendly, quiet, safe neighborhoods, good neighbors, low crime rate
3.) Central location of town, close to work, Boston/Cape, highways
4.) Low population
5.) Good quality of schools

Note: The numbers in parentheses indicate the actual number of responses to each item.

Rural character, small town feel, scenic atmosphere, open space (ponds, bogs, wildlife) (245)

Peaceful, friendly, quiet, safe neighborhoods, good neighbors, low crime rate (90)

Central location of town, close to work, Boston/Cape, highways (35)

Low population (18)

Good quality of schools (11)

Lack of red lights, lack of traffic (10)

The rural atmosphere it ONCE had (8)

Privacy (6)

I was born here, my family lives here, my friends are here, it's my home (5)

Good emergency help, helpful police and fire departments (4)

Beautiful country roads, Savery Ave. (3)

Good road conditions, excellent snow removal in winter (2)

Being able to walk on cart paths in the woods, walking around bogs (2)

Edaville Railroad (2)

Historical/agricultural aspects of town (2)

Great town to raise children in (1)

Beautiful Shurtleff Park (1)

Owning my own home (1)

Nice town all around (1)

South Meadow Village (1)

Living in the State Forest (1)

Question #22 Continued:

- Mobil home living (1)
- Large lot size (1)
- Amusing small town politics (1)
- Strong sports activity (1)
- Access to hunting and fishing areas (1)
- Town government (1)
- Value of home (1)
- I do not like living here anymore (1)

Question #23: In the spaces below, please list the three most important open space and recreation issues facing Carver. Please be as specific as possible.

Top 10 town issues identified by survey respondents: <i>(In order of importance)</i>	
1.)	Too much residential development
2.)	Creation of walking, hiking, biking, equestrian, roller-blading trails
3.)	Protection of well fields, water supply, groundwater
4.)	Protection of open space and limiting development
5.)	Protection of wildlife habitat and the landscape
6.)	Creation of a teen recreation center, places for teens to go after school, YMCA
7.)	Create public access to forests, fishing/hunting/boating areas, rivers/streams/ponds
8.)	Maintaining and upgrading existing recreational fields, playgrounds, parks, etc
9.)	Maintaining the town's rural character
10.)	Too much commercial development

Note: The numbers in parentheses indicate the actual number of responses to each item.

Environmental

- Protect open space, limit development (38)
- Protection of well fields, water supply, groundwater (39)
- Protection of wildlife habitat/landscape (36)
- Create public access to forests, fishing/hunting/boating areas, rivers/streams/ponds (26)
- Maintaining the town's rural character (21)
- Protection of wetlands (14)
- Clean up ponds, protect from pollution (11)
- Greenbelts along streams, rivers, ponds (6)
- Preserve more big trees and trees along roads (5)
- Classes to provide environmental education for adults and children (4)
- Lack of funds to protect open space/high cost of open space (4)
- Rubbish around forests, ponds, public areas, sides of roads (4)
- Use more conservation restrictions to protect land (2)
- Terraced wooded areas becoming prairie-like (1)
- Preserve scenic beauty (1)

Question #23 Continued:

Environmental Continued

- Town should buy land for open space whenever possible (1)
- Using cluster developments to pack in houses and sell unbuildable wetlands (1)
- There should be nitrogen loading restrictions for golf courses, farms, and lawns (1)
- Creation of a land trust for Carver (1)
- Encourage land donation (1)
- Don't use taxpayer money to buy open space (1)
- Need a land bank (1)
- Research and development for pollution control for fresh water (1)
- Clean air act and recycling effort (1)
- Managing wildlife areas to be used for passive recreation (1)
- Should not allow motorized bikes in Myles Standish (1)

Cranberry/Agriculture Related

- Loss of cranberry bog uplands to development (17)
- Stopping the Makepeace development project (16)
- Protecting bog lands from being developed, work with growers (12)
- Excessive sand/gravel mining (8)
- Loss of agricultural businesses and farms in town, help old farms and encourage new ones (8)
- Extend State Forest to include as much of Makepeace lands as possible (1)
- Encourage existing farms to diversify so they can continue to exist (1)
- Creation of bogs that aren't needed is taking away from open space (1)
- Finding an appropriate use for bogs during the cranberry market down turn (1)

Zoning/Planning

- Too much residential development (63)
- Too much commercial development (20)
- Town needs more business/light industry to keep taxes down (15)
- Need town water and sewer (8)
- Balancing protection of open space while providing for future growth - finding the right mix (7)
- Preservation of historical features and buildings (7)
- Need better town planning/need to avoid sprawl (7)
- No more building around ponds (6)
- Increase minimum lot size (6)
- Need sidewalks for walking (6)
- Too many empty storefronts, vacant buildings – revitalize existing businesses first (5)
- Route 44 expansion (5)
- Encouraging environmentally friendly businesses (3)
- Leave Meadow Street undeveloped (2)
- Traffic congestion (2)
- Encourage cluster zoning (2)
- Maintain 1.5-acre minimum lot size (2)
- Need high tech businesses and professional offices (2)
- Need to preserve the interior of town (2)
- No subsidized or affordable housing (2)
- Enact separate residential, business, and industrial zones (2)
- Need a large retailer such as Home Depot or Wal-Mart (2)
- The “no win” situation of having cranberry bogs so important to our tax base (1)

Question #23 Continued:

Zoning/Planning Continued

- Land use (1)
- Lack of affordable housing (1)
- Don't encourage cluster zoning (1)
- Keep agricultural land zoned as such (1)
- Keep roads narrow (1)
- Protect neighborhoods from industrial infringement (i.e. sand and gravel) (1)
- Enforcement of buffer zones (1)
- Attract high-income families to Carver (1)
- Be discriminating in commercial development along Rte. 58 (1)
- Town needs a building moratorium (1)

Recreation

- Creation of walking, hiking, biking, equestrian, roller-blading trails (40)
- Teen recreation center, places for teens to go after school, YMCA, etc. (34)
- Maintaining and upgrading existing recreational fields, playgrounds, parks (23)
- More fields for baseball, softball, soccer, football (14)
- More passive areas such as parks, picnic areas, playgrounds, places for families to go (13)
- Recreational areas for children, such as skate parks, rollerblading, bike riding (7)
- Creation of trails and areas to ride ATVs, dirt bikes, snowmobiles (7)
- Stop or limit jet skis and powerboats on Carver ponds (6)
- Providing adequate multi-purpose and outdoor recreation for all ages and abilities (6)
- Create a golf course (5)
- No more playgrounds and recreational areas – too many already (4)
- More access for fishing (4)
- More access for hunting (3)
- Carver needs a public or private gym (3)
- Enlarge beach/swimming areas (3)
- Encourage participation and attendance at recreational events (2)
- More facilities for senior citizens (2)
- More parking spaces near beaches (2)
- Improve Shurtleff Park – too dark and dismal, needs more picnic areas (2)
- The high cost of building and maintaining fields and courts (2)
- Need boat ramps (2)
- Local beaches should be for residents only (1)
- Better use of Sampson's Pond (1)
- Lack of restrooms at recreational fields (1)
- ATVs and dirt bikes riding on private land without permission (1)
- Need an ice rink and to develop a hockey program (1)
- Need more recreational facilities in South Carver (1)
- Lack of winter recreational areas, esp. for children (1)
- Bowling (1)
- Build tennis courts (1)
- Posting of woodlands to prohibit hunting and fishing (1)
- More basketball courts (1)
- Need a summer basketball program (1)
- Carver needs a Park Department (1)
- Need more entertainment in Carver (1)
- More recreational areas (1)

Question #23 Continued:

Recreation Continued

- Recreational areas are available but undeveloped (1)
- Deciding where to create new recreational areas (1)
- More soccer fields for adult teams (1)
- Funding recreational activities (1)
- Need better beach at John's Pond (1)
- Open up fields for activities other than baseball, football, soccer, etc. (1)
- Encourage music performances at Shurtleff Park (1)
- Athletic programs for children (1)
- More centralized recreation areas (1)
- Lack of recreational facilities (1)

General Issues

- No dumps, landfills, or treatment plants (18)
- Restaurants that are open at night, more restaurants, family-style restaurants (5)
- Rising taxes (5)
- Excessive traffic from existing entertainment (Edaville, King Richard's Faire) (2)
- Out-of-towners and "newbies" trying to change the town to what they left (1)
- Changes by volunteer monies (1)
- Lack of participation at town meetings (1)
- Road kill needs to be picked up (1)
- New grocery store (1)
- Carver Commons (1)
- Maintenance and appearance of public areas (1)
- Make corner of West Street more inviting (1)
- Handicap access (1)
- More information to the public, like this survey (1)
- Keep loud vehicles out of the State Forest (1)
- Expansion of Atwood House (1)
- Speeding traffic (1)
- Access to transportation (1)
- Need a bank that has another branch (1)

Comments:

Carver needs more businesses and commercial development, but I think it's critical to establish the right businesses and combination of protected open land.

We moved here from Plymouth three years ago because Carver was small and had lots of open space.

The threat of Makepeace's disastrous development plan! Not only will this plan destroy the rural nature of Carver, but it will also turn the town into a yuppie bedroom community like Boston. It was development plans like these that my family fled when we moved to Carver. I hate to see this town go the same path as Plymouth and Kingston.

Whatever we plan to do, let's not cause any increase to our tax burden as homeowners!

Most important to me is my space I pay taxes on to get authorities to enforce the law of the land and bring action upon the ATV and dirt bikers that disturb the peace of others by tearing up and down and through the property without permission of the owner.

It seems as though every piece of land is being developed since the cranberry industry has crashed and it will eventually ruin our small town.

Thank God for Edaville Railroad. If it weren't for them who would want to come to Carver? Also, let's try to improve the condition of Super Sports. It's dumpy and chaotic.

We have enough open space. Just stop building.

Too many people around means fewer good skinny-dipping spots.

My concern is if all the residential building is allowed, where is the septic going to go, given all the wetlands in the area?

I am concerned about excess nitrogen and other chemical entering the water supply from golf courses, farms, residential lawns, and green areas in park and playgrounds. Lawns near rivers and ponds should be nitrogen restricted.

I would like to see a community building so we could have dances, parties for kids of all ages. There is nothing for kids to do in Carver.

I am a city person who recently moved here. Not having lived here long enough I don't have any idea what these questions are about. I will say that I think there is too much money spent on play areas for kids. Very few kids are seen using them. Such as waste of time and money.

The town MUST manage what space is left. If not it will become nothing more than a place to live, not exist.

We must be careful of over development and the strain on schools, police, fire, etc. So more land put to these uses would help while maintaining the rural character of the town. We do not need strip malls of stores in place of older properties. We could create more unity in the center of town with sidewalks, gardens, and special stores.

I think Carver needs a "center" – it is spread out all over. We need a taxi service, a Laundromat. We already have ball fields, playgrounds, a new library and schools. Those people who want to develop will – No one will stop them if they have the mind to do it. There are always ways around the laws with enough money.

I'm probably not the best person to poll as I live in a beautiful community, "South Meadow Village". I know it's impossible to spend and keep the tax rate down. On the other hand I like the quiet country town of Carver and wouldn't like to see too much business, houses, etc. come to the area. Good Luck!

People keep cutting massive trees in order to build and for business reasons. That affects open space and wildlife. That's why we're having problems with wildlife – raccoons, coyotes, foxes. We're destroying their natural habitats. They have nowhere to go and end up in people's yards, eating their gardens, and getting into trash.

It's quiet in Carver compared to some towns – that's the way we want to keep it. Recreation areas are great for people with kids – the new playground is awesome! The new library is awesome! We don't want a lot of business coming, just to bring thousands of people! Which means more building. Leave Carver quiet – the way it is.

We need protection of equestrian issues. Space needs to be open for riding. There are too many dirt bikers abusing open space which closes it to horse owners and hikers/nature lovers. You need to get animal officers that actually understand what a horse is! They allow dogs to attack and run free on horse owner's property. They give the irresponsible owners too many breaks!

The town schools do not utilize the open space we have, which is a shame. Most residents, including myself, are not even familiar with many of them. The town does not do the upkeep necessary in cleaning and checking the safety of the existing public swimming areas.

With our growth over the past 20 years we have failed to keep pace by providing outdoor activities for all. For example, down the Cape they have long trails for walkers, bike riding, rollerblading. ALL ages can enjoy and get the benefit of. We have a lovely town; let's all enjoy it.

Unfortunately, The Route 44 extension has already drastically changed Carver for me and my family. The number of trucks on my road currently is very disturbing. The new off-ramps will be interesting to see traffic flow on my road!

It is important not to sell out to condo-like project housing. It brings a multi-problem to town that will be endless and a hardship to homeowners.

This town is going to hell in a hand basket. It's like any other town now. Overdeveloped – McDonalds?!?!?! We now have a liquor store next to an “educational toy store”. Great job Carver.

All business should be encouraged! We could use the bigger tax base. Maybe they could help fund open space too. Something has to balance out the berries! Just because they are encouraged doesn't mean they'll show up and take over.

Business and commercial growth – stop and slow please. Let's take a lesson from Duxbury, not Marshfield, Hanover, Kingston – they've sold out.

I would like to see a Wal-Mart put here. South Carver has very little stores. Also a meat deli would be nice. People use Dave's Store for deli purposes. A clean deli would be useful.

Obviously the Makepeace issue is of concern. If Makepeace is allowed, will the other cranberry growers follow? Are the water issues being addressed as they should?