

CANANDAIGUA OPEN SPACE, CONSERVATION AND SCENIC VIEWS MASTER PLAN

Implementation Table, as of November 7, 2019

Short Term	Long Term	Strategies and Recommended Actions	Responsible Entity	Partners	Status
Strategy 1: Encourage land stewardship by landowners.					
		<p>A. Educate landowners about the ecological, hydrologic and scenic value of the open space resources on their properties and recommend appropriate land stewardship techniques.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In partnership with SCWD and other organizations, conduct periodic educational activities. Design educational programs to help landowners manage stream corridors, steep slopes, woodlands, wetlands and other resources. ■ Meet individually with owners of significant open space resources to encourage them to plan and implement land stewardship practices. 	☂ ECB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☞ SWCD ☞ Watershed Manager ☞ NYS DEC ☞ Finger Lakes Land Trust ☞ Conservation Organizations 	Town Newsletter articles: Ongoing monthly. Tree Workshop: April 2019. "Into the Forest Workshop," October 2019
		<p>B. Inform landowners about sources of technical assistance and financial incentives to support land stewardship.</p>	☂ ECB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☞ SWCD ☞ USDA NRCS ☞ NYS DEC ☞ Finger Lakes Land Trust 	Finger Lakes Land Trust workshop.
		<p>C. Encourage landowners to enhance wildlife habitat. (See Strategy 2.)</p>	☂ ECB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☞ SWCD ☞ NYS DEC ☞ Conservation organizations 	"Into the Forest Workshop," October 2019
Strategy 2: Enhance wildlife habitat.					
		<p>A. Provide information to landowners from Finger Lakes PRISM about how to identify and control invasive vegetation.</p>	☂ ECB	☞ NYS DEC	"Into the Forest Workshop," October 2019
		<p>B. Promote participation in the Ontario County Soil & Water Conservation District's annual tree and shrub sale to encourage landowners to plant native vegetation.</p>	☂ ECB	☞ SWCD	Tree Workshop: April 2019.

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		C. Maintain a list of professional foresters and provide information about sources of technical assistance to encourage responsible management of forests.	☂ ECB	☂ NYS DEC	Tree Workshop: April 2019, partnered with Master Forest Owners Association. Bryce June presentation, October 2019.
		D. Provide information to landowners and encourage participation in the DEC's Trees for Tribs program, which can assist landowners with revegetating stream buffers.	☂ ECB	☂ NYS DEC	Provided info in Town Newsletter
		E. Provide information to landowners with suggested subdivision layouts that avoid further fragmentation of the Town's forests.	☂ ECB	☂ Planning Board	Advisory Reports to applicants in Planning Review Committee referral comments.
		F. Encourage landowners to allow legal deer hunting on their properties to reduce the overabundant deer population which is currently stressing wildlife habitats.	☂ ECB	☂ NYS DEC	Article on Environmental Strategy for Deer Hunting, Town Newsletter, November 2018. Bryce June presentation, October 2019
		G. Manage Town-owned land to enhance wildlife habitat.	☂ ECB ☂ Parks Dept.	☂ NYS DEC ☂ SWCD	
Strategy 3: Conserve open space through land use regulations.					
3.1 Maintain/ strengthen conservation provisions of land use and development regulations.					
		A. Maintain and enforce existing regulations that manage development, as part of site plan review, along steep slopes, streams, and Canandaigua Lake.	☂ ECB ☂ Planning Board ☂ CEO	☂ Zoning Board of Appeals ☂ Town Board	Steep Slopes Law, Shoreline Development Guidelines, Ridgeline Development Guidelines in effect. Reviewing restraints to Conservation Subdivisions.
		B. Review and strengthen stream corridor and lakeshore protection regulation. Consider expanding stream corridor buffer to 150' from 100' feet from streams.	☂ ECB ☂ Town Board	☂ Watershed Manager ☂ SWCD	Discussed as appropriate on Advisory Reports to applicants. ECB recommends 150-foot setbacks from streams.
		C. Adopt ridgeline and hilltop protection regulations.	☂ ECB ☂ Town Board	☂ CEO	
		D. Continue to refer to maps of open space resources (Open Space Index) during development reviews.	☂ ECB	☂ Town Board ☂ Planning Board	Open space maps available on website, referenced in Advisory Reports to applicants, OnCor GIS mapping layers.

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		E. Provide ongoing education and training to code enforcement staff regarding natural resource and open space protection.	☔ CEO ☔ ECB	☔ NYS DOS ☔ Town Board ☔ Watershed Council ☔ SWCD	ECB could partner with Ontario County to provide training to County CEOs. Training on OnCor Planning Board Exploratory App.
		F. Amend subdivision regulations to require the Planning Board to consider impacts of fragmentation.	☔ Town Board ☔ Planning Board	☔ ECB	Ordinance Committee.
3.2 Update and maintain the Town's Open Space Index and Natural Resource Inventory.					
		A. Adopt the inventory of conservation resources in this Plan as the Open Space Index for the Town.	☔ Town Board	☔ ECB	Done. TB adopted as part of Master Plan adoption in 2018.
		B. Develop a tool that creates a simple report from the Parcel Rating Spreadsheet for the ECB that summarizes the types of open space in each parcel.	☔ Town staff/ intern	☔ ECB	Ratings spreadsheet under review by NRI Team and Labella Associates.
		C. Work with Ontario County to update the land cover mapping at regular intervals.	☔ ECB	☔ ECB ☔ Town Board ☔ Ontario County	Working with NRI Team and Labella Associates on this.
		D. Continue to consider ECB and Ag Advisory Committee input into Town decisions regarding development and other Town actions.	☔ Planning Board ☔ Town Board ☔ ZBA	☔ ECB ☔ AAC	Projects are referred to ECB and AAC when impact is possible to farmland or natural resources.
Strategy 4: Acquire land and/or conservation easements for land with exceptional conservation value.					
4.1 Acquire land outright for open space conservation.					
		A. Formalize criteria for acquisition of open space lands by the Town.	☔ ECB	☔ Town Board	ECB recommends that CIC reconvene the Conservation Easement Committee.
		B. Acquire "first refusal" rights from current landowners for high quality open space lands.	☔ ECB	☔ Town Board	
		C. Utilize a variety of funding mechanisms to support the acquisition of open space. (See 4.4)	☔ ECB	☔ Town Board	
4.2 Encourage and accept donations of conservation easements.					

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		A. Provide information to landowners about the process and benefits of donating conservation easements/ development rights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ ECB ☛ Planning Board ☛ AAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Finger Lakes Land Trust ☛ Town Board ☛ Conservation organizations ☛ Town Assessor 	Current long-standing process in place to encourage participation in PDRs.
		B. Encourage landowners to donate conservation easements to a land trust.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ ECB ☛ Planning Board ☛ AAC 	☛ Finger Lakes Land Trust	Topic for Fall 2019 Workshop.
		C. Encourage owners of exceptional open space lands that do not meet criteria for protection by a land trust to donate conservation easements to the Town.	☛ Town Board	☛ ECB	
		D. Work with the NYS Legislature to authorize additional property tax incentives for open space conservation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ ECB ☛ Town Board 	☛ Finger Lakes Land Trust	
4.3 Obtain land or conservation easements as a condition of development approval.					
		A. Continue to require conservation easements as condition of development approval of conservation subdivisions.	☛ Planning Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ ECB ☛ Town Board 	
		B. Work with developers to delineate lands with exceptional open space value in site plans and subdivision plats for protection through a permanent conservation easement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Planning Board ☛ ECB 	☛ Town Board	Recommend to Ordinance Committee to have a process of identifying conserved land in a Conservation Subdivision.
		C. Ensure that the conservation easement ensures ongoing land stewardship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ ECB ☛ Planning Board 	☛ Town Board	Finger Lakes Land Trust has offered to assist with this.
		D. Partner with a qualified conservation organization to monitor donated easements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ ECB ☛ Town Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Finger Lakes Land Trust ☛ Ducks Unlimited ☛ SWCD 	
		E. Create a development rights “bank” through transfer of development rights.	☛ Town Board	☛ ECB	TDR process is being developed,
4.4 Replenish and maintain the Town’s Open Space Capital Reserve Fund.					

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		A. Commit to an annual appropriation for open space and conservation, to be used for acquisition as well as administration and inspection of donated easements.	☂ Town Board	☂ ECB	Policy currently exists to allow TB to appropriate unexpended funds to Open Space Reserve Fund annually
		B. Encourage and accept cash donations toward open space conservation. Provide information about the potential tax benefits of such donations.	☂ Town Board	☂ ECB	
		C. Issue bonds to fund the acquisition of open space.	☂ Town Board	☂ ECB	
		D. Explore and establish innovative funding sources. Work with the NYS Legislature to authorize a real estate transfer tax, development fees earmarked for open space conservation and other funding mechanisms.	☂ Town Board	☂ ECB	
Strategy 5: Increase understanding among government officials and the general public about the benefits of open space.					
		A. Create, maintain and strengthen partnerships with organizations, agencies, businesses and municipalities.	☂ ECB ☂ AAC ☂ Town Staff	☂ Town Board	ECB works with DEC, FLLT, Soil and Water Conservation District, Watershed Assn.
		B. Conduct periodic workshops and other educational events and programs to celebrate the Town's open space.	☂ ECB ☂ Parks & Rec. Depts	☂ SWCD ☂ Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association ☂ NYS DEC	Tree Workshop held in April 2019. Into the Woods Fall 2019 workshop held.