

# Open Space and Recreation Plan

Township of Lebanon  
Hunterdon County, New Jersey  
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*In Consultation with:*  
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*The original of this document has been signed and sealed in accordance with the law.*

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## **Executive Summary**

Lebanon Township is a myriad of landscapes, from rolling farmland to steep ravines. Its composition is varied and rich, representing some of the most sensitive environmental resources in Hunterdon County. Protection of these resources for future generations and wise management of inevitable growth has been the focus of a two year planning process that the Township has undertaken, culminating in the recent adoption of a new Master Plan.

One area not addressed in the 2001 Master Plan was the Recreation and Open Space Plan Element, although it was recommended in the 2000 Reexamination Report as part of a multi-phased planning project. This document seeks to expand on the recreation and open space goals of the Township, articulating a vision for both and determining how the Township can meet, and continue to meet in the future, the active and passive recreation needs of Township residents.

This Open Space and Recreation Plan places an emphasis on determining active recreation needs and allocation of funding for the construction of additional active recreation facilities to fill those needs. Facing a deficit of fields, recreation programs will likely be forced to turn participants away within the next two years. To date, the Township has allocated no money to the construction of planned facilities for Lebanon Township Memorial Park. Construction has been based on funding raised by community and civic groups.

In addition to completing the facilities currently planned for Lebanon Township Memorial Park, the Township must seek to construct additional athletic fields to meet the immediate recreation needs of residents. The most logical course of action is to utilize land that the Township already owns, limiting capital expense to construction costs and focusing the use of public expenditures. The Township may also need to seek additional land for athletic fields within the next three years, even with the construction of planned facilities at Lebanon Township Memorial Park and the immediate construction of additional fields elsewhere.

Lebanon Township has set a priority for acquisition with a focus on passive recreation sites. This type of recreation is most compatible with the protection of the resources present in the Township and dovetails neatly with both County and State open space preservation efforts in this region. Priority areas that the Township has identified also complement ongoing initiatives at the State level and will provide valuable partnering opportunities in the future. The Township is awaiting final approval of authorized funding under a State Green Acres Planning Incentive Grant, which will allow for acquisition of parcels for passive recreation.

Existing and potential partnerships with landowners and other government agencies is the best means for the Township to achieve its goals with respect to open space preservation. The Township will seek to advance a stewardship program in conjunction with its efforts to solicit landowner participation in the ongoing Green Acres grant funding that is authorized to the Township.

The Township has utilized an open planning process to ascertain the recreation needs of the community. Recreation providers in Lebanon were consulted to determine the current and potential future needs of programs currently underway. The Planning Board, Environmental Commission, Open Space Advisory Board and Township Committee each had representatives that aided in the creation of this plan, which included the determination of acquisition priorities. These acquisition priorities meet the general goals and objectives of these boards and committees as a whole.

The Township will hold two public hearings on this master plan element, at which input will be sought from the public. These public hearings will present the findings of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, which were already presented in draft to the Planning Board at a public meeting in May. The minutes from these public hearings, one with the Planning Board and one with the Township Committee, will be attached as an addendum to the Appendix of this plan.

The Planning Board must adopt the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) as an element of the Master Plan. The Township Committee must adopt the action plan, setting forth the intent to carry out spending consistent with the OSRP. Once adopted by both bodies, the OSRP will allow the Township to utilize funding from the Planning Incentive Grant (PIG) application that has been filed with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program.

Funding from the PIG will allow the Township to meet its passive recreation needs within the next two years. The deficit of active recreation needs may require the allocation of public resources, as most funding available for active recreation facilities in the past at the State level has all but disappeared.

## Goals and Policies

The Township of Lebanon, through the statement of goals and policies, is articulating its vision of open space and recreation. It is these goals and policies that will guide the development of an open space system, recreation programs and facilities and the provision of opportunities for residents to participate in outdoor recreation, both active and passive. These goals and policies should not be seen as the only defining framework for the Township's open space and recreation programs. Needs change and therefore perspective must remain fluid. A sudden influx of development or the arrival of needs not previously identified demands that the structure of the overall program remain unrestrained. The goals and policies listed below, however, can be viewed as the general guiding principles upon which this plan is founded.

- To promote the provision of appropriate and balanced public open space and recreational facilities through public action and the development review process.
- To establish and enhance recreational lands and public open space.
- To establish linkages of public spaces through the use of greenways, greenbelts, waterways, paths and bikeways.
- To promote threatened and endangered species habitat protection through the acquisition of passive recreation resources.
- To establish as the highest priority for public acquisition, areas of unique recreational, scenic or environmental value.
- To support and partner with State and County open space programs and ongoing acquisitions for their value to the goals of the community.
- To promote cultural activities which provide recreational opportunities for a broad spectrum of residents.
- To assess and provide opportunities for active and passive recreation to meet the needs of all Township citizens.
- To devise appropriate strategies for the public and private ownership and maintenance of open space and recreation lands.

- To establish, promote and support active recreation opportunities for the children of Lebanon Township.
- To encourage the continuation and expansion of non-profit camps for their valuable contribution to the recreation and open space resources of the Township.
- To maintain rural character through the acquisition of open space.
- To protect groundwater resources, including supply and quality, through acquisition of open space, to meet the demands of the Township and as a resource to the region.

# Inventory

Although Lebanon Township itself does not own a vast inventory of recreation and open space lands, the Township contains a variety of recreational opportunities within its borders (Figure 4). A majority of these opportunities are State and County Parks geared primarily towards passive recreation activities. These facilities include Voorhees State Park, the Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area, the Point Mountain Section of the Musconetcong River Reservation, the Columbia Trail Section of the South Branch Reservation and the Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm. Together, these facilities comprise 2,030 acres or 10.3% of the Township's total parcel acreage. These properties represent almost 90% of the recreation land available to Township residents.

Table 1 lists all of the recreation facilities and open space within Lebanon Township, including municipal, county, state, non-profit, private and Board of Education lands. Many of the state and county parks are comprised of more than one parcel, but are combined in this table for convenience. A detailed block and lot listing of the individual properties for each park is located in the appendix. Each facility and its amenities are described in detail after this table.

## Table 1- Open Space System

Facility Name	Facility Type	Acreage
Valley View School	School	26.53
Woodglen School	School	19.76
Voorhees High School	School	55.49
Lebanon Township Municipal Building	Municipal Facilities	5.28
Cold Brook Preserve	Municipal Parks and Open Space	2.67
Mt. Grove Preserve	Municipal Parks and Open Space	3.04
Lebanon Township Memorial Park	Municipal Parks and Open Space	19.66
Route 31	Municipal Parks and Open Space	1.43
Rich	Municipal Parks and Open Space	17.22
Columbia Trail-South Branch Reservation	County Parks and Open Space	54.91
Point Mountain Section-Musconetcong River Reservation	County Parks and Open Space	682.10
Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm	County Parks and Open Space	307.76
Union Furnace Nature Preserve	County Parks and Open Space	0.79
Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA	State Parks and Open Space	357.10
Musconetcong River WMA	State Parks and Open Space	67.76
Spruce Run Recreation Area	State Parks and Open Space	29.51
Voorhees State Park	State Parks and Open Space	575.11
Teetertown Nature Preserve	State Parks and Open Space	32.28
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,258.40</b>

### **Valley View School – Lebanon Township Board of Education**

Valley View School is located on Califon-High Bridge Road (County Route 513) on the eastern edge of the Township bordering Califon. It is one of two elementary schools for Township children.

Valley View school has limited active recreation amenities associated with it, including a tot lot, two half basketball courts and two little league/softball fields which double as

junior field hockey fields in the fall. These facilities are used for school children, but are also available to the LTAA during non-school hours during the week and on weekends.

### **Woodglen School – Lebanon Township Board of Education**

Woodglen School is the other elementary school located in the Township and is situated on Bunnvale Road (County Route 628) across from Lebanon Township Memorial Park. It has limited active recreation resources that are available to school children during the day and to other residents and the LTAA at other times. The facilities at the Woodglen School include three little league/softball fields, a baseball field, two and a half basketball courts and a tot lot.

### **Voorhees High School – North Hunterdon Regional High School Board of Education**

Voorhees High School is one of two regional high schools serving northern Hunterdon County. It is located on Califon-High Bridge Road (County Route 513) across from Voorhees State Park. Voorhees High School not only serves as an educational facility, but as an important link between Voorhees State Park on one side of Califon-High Bridge Road and Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area and the Columbia Trail on the other (see Figure 4).

Voorhees High School also has a number of active recreation facilities available to North Hunterdon students and the public, including Lebanon Township residents. These facilities consist of a football field, a track, one baseball field, one softball field, a practice field for baseball or softball, a lacrosse/soccer field, a general practice field, four tennis courts and a basketball court.

### **Lebanon Township Municipal Building – Township of Lebanon**

The Lebanon Township Municipal Building, located on Bunnvale Road, is home to the Lebanon Township Police Department and the municipal government including the tax assessor, the planning board, the municipal clerk and other offices. Aside from a skating pond at the rear of the property, there are no recreational facilities on the municipal building lot at this time. It is, however, immediately adjacent to Lebanon Township Memorial Park with direct access to the park at the rear of the building.

**Hollow Brook Preserve – Township of Lebanon**

The Township owns three properties along Hollow Brook Road that are surrounded by the Teetertown Nature Preserve. These properties are small slivers totaling less than three acres and for all intent and purposes are parts of Teetertown Nature Preserve.

**Mt. Grove Preserve – Township of Lebanon**

This Township property is located at the intersection of Mt. Grove Road and Deerpath Road. This Township is approximately three acres in size and is currently being held for conservation purposes.

**Lebanon Township Memorial Park – Township of Lebanon**

Lebanon Township Memorial Park represents the Township’s first land purchase focused on filling the need for active recreation facilities. This property was acquired in 1997 and a development plan was subsequently created. The plan includes provisions for a picnic pavilion, soccer, football and baseball fields, volleyball courts, horseshoe pits and bocce ball courts.

To date, the pavilion has been constructed along with the volleyball court, bocce ball courts and parking facilities. As funding is available, the Township will continue to develop this active recreation park according to the comprehensive plan.

**Route 31 – Township of Lebanon**

This property is less than 1.5 acres and is located along Route 31 in the southern portion of the Township. Although it is adjacent to Hagedorn, the railroad line separates them and removes any real beneficial use of the property.

**Rich – Township of Lebanon**

The Rich tract is adjacent to Lebanon Township Memorial Park and across the street from Woodglen School on Bunnvale Road. This tract remains undeveloped at this time, but is uniquely suited for construction of playing fields.

### **Columbia Trail South Branch Reservation – County of Hunterdon**

The South Branch Reservation is one of the most significant greenways in Hunterdon County, stretching almost continuously from the border of Morris County to the border of Somerset County, running along the South Branch of the Raritan River. While interrupted in places, it encompasses parts of the floodplain of the South Branch and provides a regional greenway and recreation resource.

In Lebanon Township, the Columbia Trail section is a corridor approximately 150 feet wide and 2.8 miles long running along the South Branch from the border of Califon Borough to the Lebanon Township border with High Bridge. In its northern third in the Township, the Columbia Trail is separated from the South Branch by residential lots. The southern two thirds, however, runs almost immediately adjacent to the river and is surrounded by the Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area.

The County permits a number of activities on the Columbia Trail Section of the South Branch Reservation, including mountain biking, cross country skiing, hiking, nature study, and picnicking. There is parking available at various points along the Columbia Trail as well as many scenic overlook opportunities.

### **Point Mountain Section Musconetcong River Reservation – County of Hunterdon**

The Point Mountain Section of the Musconetcong River Reservation is located in the northwestern corner of the Township along the Musconetcong River. While parts of the reservation front on the river, a majority of the land holdings here stretch up to a mile from the Musconetcong. Including State owned properties in the Reservation, there are approximately 724 acres of passive recreation land available to the public.

The County permits a number of activities at Point Mountain, including mountain biking, horseback riding, canoeing, cross country skiing, fishing, hunting (by permit), nature study and picnicking. There are a number of picnic sites, an information board and a number of scenic overlook opportunities.

### **Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm – County of Hunterdon**

Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm is located in the northeastern part of Lebanon Township on Pleasant Grove and Hollow Brook Roads. Including property owned by the Trust for Public Land, there is approximately 342 acres dedicated to both passive and active recreation activities.

Teetertown Nature Preserve has the most unique scenery in the Township. The ravine creates a haven isolated from the outside world, where the sound of running water drowns out all other ambient noise. The water races down adjacent to the Hollow Brook Road, where you can park your car and sit and listen to the babbling brook, hearing little else as you are surrounded on all sides by steep hillsides and massive boulders.

There are an abundance of activities one can take part in at Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm, including softball, mountain biking, hiking, horseback riding, cross country skiing, fishing, hunting (by permit), nature study and camping. Teetertown Preserve has an information board, restrooms, scenic overlook opportunities and parking facilities available.

### **Union Furnace Nature Preserve – County of Hunterdon**

Only a small portion of the Union Furnace Nature preserve is actually in Lebanon Township. This county park facility was the former home of the Union Furnace, a burgeoning industry of the late 1800's which met its final fate with the construction of Spruce Run Reservoir in the 1950's.

The preserve is a 95 acre property that adjoins the Spruce Run Reservoir and presents numerous passive recreation opportunities including fishing, hiking, hunting and nature study. The preserve is home to many forms of wildlife including shore birds.

### **Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA - State of New Jersey**

Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is a mass of properties owned by the State of New Jersey. These properties are situated along the South Branch of

the Raritan River and present recreation opportunities for both Township and State residents.

The primary focus of WMA's is passive recreation, with certain activities permitted. For Ken Lockwood Gorge, these include fishing, deer hunting, small game hunting, hiking and bird watching.

### **Musconetcong River WMA - State of New Jersey**

The Musconetcong River Wildlife Management Area is comprised of a number of properties owned by the State of New Jersey situated along the Musconetcong River. The State owned properties are, in some places, contiguous to the County owned Point Mountain Section of the Musconetcong River. The State's primary focus with these properties, some positioned further downstream along the Musconetcong, is to provide riparian access for fishing and boating. Other permitted activities include deer hunting, small game hunting and bird watching.

### **Spruce Run Reservoir Recreation Area – State of New Jersey**

Spruce Run Reservoir Recreation Area is a State owned water supply facility that doubles as an active and passive recreation opportunity for Township and State residents. Altogether, Spruce Run totals approximately 1,910 acres, with a small portion of that located in Lebanon Township.

Spruce Run Reservoir provides a number of recreational activities, including boating, camping, picnicking, canoeing, fishing, hiking, waterfowl hunting, swimming and bird watching.

### **Voorhees State Park – State of New Jersey**

Voorhees State Park is located on County Route 513 across from Voorhees High School, stretching south into High Bridge Borough. It is approximately 632 acres and provides a range of activities including camping, picnicking, hiking, deer hunting, small game hunting, turkey hunting, cross country skiing and bird watching. The park also

contains one little league/softball field and a lacrosse field, both of which are utilized exclusively by Voorhees High School.

**Teetertown Nature Preserve – State of New Jersey**

Teetertown Nature Preserve is located in the northern part of Lebanon Township and is managed by the Natural Lands Trust, a division of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Teetertown Nature Preserve is located in the vicinity of the County owned Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm. Natural Lands Trust properties are generally held for conservation purposes only, with passive recreation activities such as hiking and bird watching permitted. Hunting and other types of “sport” activities are generally prohibited.

Many of the parks and facilities described above contain active recreation amenities that are utilized by Township residents and athletic organizations. These facilities are listed in Table 2. Not listed in Table 2 are some of the facilities located at Voorhees High School and those located at Voorhees State Park. A majority of these facilities are not available to the LTAA and other recreation providers and therefore cannot be considered when assessing need. Those facilities that are generally available to the public, such as tennis and basketball courts, are listed.

There are currently four athletic organizations that make use of fields within Lebanon, including the Lebanon Township Athletic Association (LTAA), the Lebanon Township Junior Field Hockey Program (LTJFHP), the North Hunterdon Stars (NHS) and the North Hunterdon Little League (NHLL). In addition to the LTAA and the LTJFHP, the Voorhees High School teams utilize facilities both on and off campus.

## Table 2- Existing Active Recreation Facilities

Facility Type	Number
Baseball field	2
Softball/Little League field	5
T-ball field	2
Soccer (older children)	1
Soccer (younger children)	5
Field Hockey field	1
Basketball court	4.5
Football field	1
Track	1
Tennis court	4
Tot lot	5
Walking trail	2
Volleyball court	2
Horseshoe pit	3
Play field	1
Pavilion	2

## Needs Analysis

There are a number of standards that can be utilized to determine the recreation lands and facilities needed to continue to meet the requirements of the various programs and users in the Township. The first is the Balanced Land Use Concept, endorsed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The second is the survey method, where recreation providers, such as athletic associations, are polled on current enrollment and asked to present their outlook on potential future participation levels. The third is application of the standards contained in the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) "Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines", published in 1996.

The Balanced Land Use Concept, as outlined by the NJDEP, will be discussed and applied to the Township. The primary method utilized by the Township in its planning process, however, was the survey method. This will be the basis for assessing active recreation facility needs. Recreation providers, such as the athletic associations, have a fairly good grasp on the trends and needs that have evolved within their organizations. Looking at current enrollment and applying it to potential future population growth is the best way to ascertain additional facilities that may be required to continue to meet needs in the future. Applying a growth factor to programs will also assure that future demands due to increasing popularity can be met.

Use of national standards, such as those found in the NRPA guidelines, is difficult to employ in Lebanon Township. Applying the "one-size-fits-all approach" is especially difficult, given that the Township is largely rural, coupled with the existing nature of recreation facilities and programs. Generally speaking, the demand for active recreation programs and facilities is somewhat reduced and application of a "facility type/1,000 persons" is not beneficially applied. In addition, the validity of these population based standards has been questioned.

# Active Recreation Facility Needs Analysis

## *The Survey Method and Results*

Due to the limited number of organizations that undertake recreation activities in the Township, the survey method utilized to determine current and future trends was loosely structured. The Open Space Advisory Committee members made contact with the four organizations, explained the planning process, and solicited the necessary information. The information pertinent to the planning process included current enrollment, facilities currently utilized, and funding sources. After initial solicitation, follow up phone calls were conducted as necessary in order to gather additional information. A summary of this information is provided below, by organization.

### **Lebanon Township Athletic Association (LTAA)**

The LTAA was founded around 1980 by a group of parents, wishing to provide non-competitive, active recreation opportunities for children. LTAA is the primary organization registering participants and scheduling games for the youth of Lebanon Township, also taking in registrants from Tewksbury and Califon. All money to cover costs (maintenance, insurance and uniforms) comes from registration fees. Currently, the LTAA fields participants for soccer, baseball, tee-ball and girls softball, for children ranging in ages from 5-14. Each program is described below, including an assessment of their potential future needs.

#### *Soccer*

The LTAA soccer program currently has approximately 350 children enrolled. They begin using fields around August 18<sup>th</sup>, with the season ending around October 30<sup>th</sup>. During this period, fields are utilized 6 days a week, with the option of Sunday as an extra practice day. Currently, the soccer program utilizes fields at the Woodglen School, where they are able to line 5 small fields for younger children and 1 large field for older children.

Given heavy usage throughout the fall, fields are generally in fair to poor condition. Another factor affecting field condition is use of these field areas for other sports such as field hockey, baseball and softball. This means heavy usage at all times of year except for winter and fields have little time to recover. This perpetuates poor field conditions and creates issues of safety and liability.

The soccer program has an immediate need for 3 additional fields, one for each of the three levels of soccer that the LTAA registers participants for. Enrollment has generally remained consistent in all of the LTAA programs, including soccer. Future residential growth is anticipated, however, and enrollment could increase in the next few years. This, along with the need to reduce the constant use of fields, bolsters the need to create additional fields.

### *Baseball*

The LTAA baseball program is for youth in 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and currently has about 130 children participating. The baseball season runs from April 15<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>, with fields utilized nearly 6 days a week. The baseball program makes use of fields at Woodglen School as well as Califon Park ball fields, outside of the Township. Additionally, the older boys have formed a traveling team, using the Woodglen School field for home games and practices.

Enrollment has generally remained steady over the last few years. With residential growth on the horizon, it is likely that slight increases will need to be accommodated over the next three to five years. With use of only three fields for practice and games, both the regular and travel teams have a need for an additional field.

### *Tee-Ball*

The LTAA tee-ball program currently has about 90 children enrolled, with a season running from April 15<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>. Tee-ball registers participants from Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade. The tee-ball program makes use of fields at Valley View School and Califon School, the latter field being located outside the Township.

The tee-ball program utilizes fields at least six days a week, most times holding practice and games at Valley View School. Given the availability of only two fields, one of which is in poor condition, there exists a need to provide at least one more field and to undertake maintenance on one of the existing two.

### *Softball*

LTAA also fields participants for the girl's softball program, which currently has about 150 participants ranging from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The season runs from April 15<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>, with teams using the two softball fields at Woodglen School. The program uses fields 7 days a week, doubling up on practice nights due to a lack of fields.

The current number of fields (two) is inadequate for the current registration of the program. Taking this into consideration, along with potential future growth of the Township, there is a need for three additional fields. This would alleviate the doubling up of practice time and the constant 7 day per week use of the fields, which can contribute to deterioration and create potential liability concerns for participants.

### **Lebanon Township Junior Field Hockey Program (LTJFHP)**

In 1999, a group of parents decided to create the LTJFHP to introduce the sport to their daughters. They set up an instructional league for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders, running from early August through mid-October. Currently, the program is funded by a \$75 registration fee, which covers the cost of a uniform, insurance, referee fees and miscellaneous items such as mailings, field lining and participation awards. Coaches and coordinators volunteer their time to the Program.

During the first year of the program, approximately eight girls registered and made one team. During the second and third years of the program (2000 and 2001), there were 32 and 36 girls registered for a total of four teams. Word of mouth has been the primary means of promoting the program, with anticipation of 40 to 48 players for the 2002 season, requiring the need for 5 to 6 teams.

The LTJFHP currently lines two fields at Valley View School for use during practice and home games. Fields are 25 yards wide by 50 yards long and are placed end to end with 10 yards of separation between them. Practices are held two to three evenings a week, with games added in September. As the number of games increases, the number of practices is reduced. The program transitions into two games per week, with one on a weeknight and the other on a Sunday afternoon. There are a total of ten games played during the season.

Given the projected enrollment for the 2002 season, the program is in need of two additional junior field hockey fields for use this season. The success of the junior program has had an impact on the number of girls participating at the middle school and high school levels. Limited availability at these levels has created the potential to field teams for a recreational league for middle/high school girls, requiring full size fields that are 60 yards wide and 100 yards long. In addition to the need for additional fields, the program also requires use of portable sanitation facilities for players during games and practices.

### **North Hunterdon Little League (NHLL)**

The North Hunterdon Little League is an independently organized baseball league for children ages 6 to 12. The league is funded by registration fees ranging from \$100 to \$160 and consists of 6 divisions including T-ball, Rookie, A, AA, AAA and Majors. NHLL utilizes a number of different fields and facilities, one of which is within Lebanon Township. Other fields are located in Clinton Town, High Bridge Borough and other communities in northern Hunterdon County.

The NHLL runs from April to June of each year, with All-Star teams potentially extending play into August. Games are scheduled Monday through Saturday with practices based on field availability. All-Star teams practice everyday from June 15<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> and are active in tournament level play. Individuals participating in All-Star play in the

Majors (10 through 12 years old) play in tournaments, which keep them active through the end of August.

T-ball and Rookie divisions are instructional; non-competitive leagues for children ages 6 and 7. The remainder of the divisions organizes competitive play for children ages 8-12. Teams are coached and managed by parent volunteers and fields are maintained by the League utilizing registration fee dollars. The NHLL is independent of Township owned and maintained recreational facilities and monies.

**North Hunterdon Stars (NHS)**

The NHS is a traveling girl’s softball team that makes use of the fields at Voorhees High School. The NHS season overlaps the school softball season, running into the summer. They make use of fields at Voorhees High School when not in use by the school team.

The addition of fields in the Township would not only benefit the LTAA softball program, but the NHS as well. It would provide more flexibility in practice and game times if the NHS were able to make use of Township facilities.

**Other Children’s Sports Activities**

Another sport popular with the youth of Lebanon Township is lacrosse. Currently, the LTAA does not have a lacrosse league organized for children. With a number of children in the Township participating in lacrosse leagues organized in adjacent municipalities and popularity increasing, creation of such a league under the LTAA may be justified in the near future. Fortunately, lacrosse is played in the spring season and fields can be shared with soccer and field hockey programs.

In addition to organized league sports that children participate in, there are other unorganized sports which are popular among Township youth. These include “recreational” sports such as BMX biking, mountain biking, roller blading, roller hockey, skateboarding and many others. It is difficult to address the facility needs of these

sports, as they are activities that many children commonly engage in intermittently. It is important, however, to recognize that any and all sporting activity, including those just mentioned, are an important part of children’s lives. League sports provide children with structure and learning opportunities while the “recreational” sports mentioned above provide children with activities to occupy their time in a constructive manner.

While the popularity of biking, roller blading, skate boarding and roller hockey have continued to grow in the United States, many communities outlaw these activities in public places. This often occurs without providing alternative locations for children to undertake them. Parents in many communities, such as Readington and High Bridge, have recognized the importance of these sports in their children’s lives and urged the creation of facilities where they can be undertaken. Municipalities are creating roller hockey courts and skateboard parks while designating areas where children can go to skate and bike without conflicting with public safety.

**Adult Sports Leagues**

In addition to the children’s sports programs that are organized within the Township, there are adults that participate in recreational sports which utilize various Township facilities. It is therefore important to accommodate the needs of these users and programs as well.

The recreational sports that most adults participate in within the Township are loosely structured and are not necessarily organized into leagues. They are primarily organized by the participants and utilize facilities not utilized by the children’s leagues. Sports played by adults in Lebanon Township include softball, volleyball, basketball and bocce ball. Other activities engaged in by adults utilizing Township facilities include walking, running, hiking, biking, frisbee, golf and track and field.

While adult participants are not major consumers of recreational facilities within Lebanon Township, it is important to note adults’ use of these facilities. The potential exists in the future for adult leagues to be organized, taking recreational facility use and

need to a higher level than that which currently exists. With little information available on the potential creation of leagues and participation levels, it is difficult to anticipate these needs.

Currently, there are no known conflicts between adult users and the facilities they require and those that are utilized by the children’s recreational leagues. The nature of the sports undertaken by adults and those undertaken by children differ in scale and intensity and often adult facilities are not suitable for children and vice versa. It is likely that if adult leagues were to be organized that additional facilities would be required to accommodate them.

Lebanon Township, through the Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL), has a responsibility to provide recreation opportunities for its residents, both active and passive. Recreation should be provided in appropriate locations, with sufficient space to meet the needs of those that actively participate in recreation programs or may make use of recreation facilities. The Township has focused on the above agencies and groups as a means to determine the active recreation needs that it must fulfill.

Table 3 lists the needs of each of the respective sports that are organized by various agencies in the Township. These numbers represent the current needs that each program has identified. Future enrollment projections will be discussed later in this plan.

**Table 3 - Required Active Recreation Facilities**

Facility Type	Number
Baseball field	2
Softball/Little League field	4
T-ball field	1
Soccer (older children)	3
Soccer (younger children)	1
Field Hockey field	1
Junior Field Hockey field	2

Lebanon Township has a number of facilities that are proposed to be constructed in Lebanon Township Memorial Park. The construction of these facilities, however, has been subject to the availability of funds. Table 4 lists the facilities that are proposed for the park.

**Table 4 - Proposed Recreation Facilities – Lebanon Township Memorial Park**

Proposed Facility Type	Number
Softball/Little League field	1
Soccer field	1
Baseball field	1
Football field	1
Tennis court	3
Tot lot	1
Shuffleboard	3
Bocce ball court	2

Through the survey method, the Township has ascertained that there is an imminent need for additional recreation facilities. These needed facilities are in addition to those that are planned for Lebanon Township Memorial Park. Facilities constructed or to be constructed at the park have, to date, been limited by availability of funds. Given the proposed facilities for Lebanon Township Memorial Park, the number of necessary active recreation facilities can be reduced. Table 5 indicates required active recreation facilities, assuming that those planned for Lebanon Township Memorial Park are constructed. Table 5 can then be viewed as the Township’s current active recreation needs assuming the Memorial Park facilities are built.

## Table 5 - Required Active Recreation Facilities

Facility Type	Number
Baseball field	1
Softball/Little League field	3
T-ball field	1
Soccer (older children)	1
Soccer (younger children)	1
Field Hockey field	1
Junior Field Hockey field	2

A number of fields that are utilized by Township recreation providers are in poor condition, reducing assurance of the safety of children using them and increasing the liability of the programs they are enrolled in. Poor field condition can generally be attributed to constant use from spring to fall and overcrowding of facilities, with fields in use for practice and play six to seven days a week.

Residential growth through the horizon year of the plan (2008) will impact the needs of recreation programs within the Township. Future residential growth is anticipated, although no “large scale” projects are seen in the near future. Many of the development applications that have been reviewed by the planning board in past years have been small minor and major subdivisions between 2 and 18 lots. A recent application submitted to the planning board had 39 proposed lots; an application of extraordinary size for Lebanon composed of a conglomeration of individual parcels. In order to better assess the impact of future growth, analysis of population trends is necessary.

For the period of 1990 to 2000, there were 316 building permits issued for single family construction (not to include additions and renovations), according to the New Jersey State Data Center. Population growth for the same period, according to the 2000 Census, was 137 persons. These two figures present conflicting information in that 316 building permits would likely mean population growth of over 880 people at the Census

given 2.79 persons per household. The important portion of the Township's population to focus on, however, is in the 5-14 year age group.

The 2000 Census indicated the number of persons per household was 2.79. Applying this figure to the 316 building permits issued yields growth of 881 people, or a rate of 88 people per year. Applying generalized figures from the 2000 Census, it can be argued that 15% of those people were children aged 5-14, the age ranges of children that participate in Township athletic programs. This would mean that roughly 13 children age 5-14 were added to the Township each year from 1990-2000 for a total of 130, a relatively small number.

Review of 1990 Census figures for the Township indicates that there were 747 children age 5-14. The 2000 Census indicates a total of 873 children ages 5-14, representing an addition of 126 children. Comparing this to the above, it would appear that the 2000 Census is on target for these age groups, with discrepancy in total population (1990-5,679 vs. 2000-5,816) likely represented by non-reporting in other age groups or demographic changes.

The population figures from the 2000 Census for the focus age group of 5-14 are deemed acceptable for use in assessing potential future growth in the Township's athletic programs. It is likely, based on the above analysis, that the discrepancy in the total population figure is explained by non-response in other cohorts. The 2000 Census represents the official statement of population and is therefore the best source to utilize in demographic analysis.

The LTAA has approximately 810 children that participate in all of its respective sports, with the LTJFHP fielding 40 to 48 children this year. Many children can be multi-sport athletes, participating in two sports that occur in different seasons, such as soccer and baseball or softball and field hockey. In order to assess potential growth in these programs due to residential growth, two assumptions have been made. The first assumption is that current participation levels are a given percentage of the current population, relying on the 2000 Census for current Township population in the focus age

groups. Table 6, below, shows rates of participation based on information attained from the LTAA and the LTJFHP and application of a total population aged 5-14 of 903, by sex, extrapolated from the 2000 Census for the year 2002.

**Table 6 - Program Participation Rates by Sport**

Sport	# Children	%
Soccer (boys and girls)	350	38.8
Baseball (boys)	130	27.7
Softball (girls)	150	34.6
T-ball (boys and girls)	90	10.0
Field Hockey (girls)	40	9.2

The second assumption made is that participation level percentages will increase as programs become more popular. A reasonable percentage increase of 1% per year is applied to each of the program sports, in order to assure that additional children can be accommodated due to both increased program popularity and increased residential growth. In Table 7, this 1% is applied to a six year period of time in order to determine overall potential growth in each of the respective programs.

**Table 7 - Anticipated Registration by Sport**

Year	Girls Age 5-14	Boys Age 5-14	Soccer (boys and girls)	Baseball (boys)	Softball (girls)	T-ball (boys and girls)	Field Hockey (girls)
2002	433	470	350(38.8%)	130(27.7%)	150(34.6%)	90(10%)	40(9.2%)
2003	439	479	365(39.8%)	137(28.7%)	156(35.6%)	101(11%)	45(10.2%)
2004	445	488	380(40.8%)	145(29.7%)	163(36.6%)	112(12%)	50(11.2%)
2005	451	497	396(41.8%)	153(30.7%)	170(37.6%)	123(13%)	55(12.2%)
2006	457	506	412(42.8%)	160(31.7%)	176(38.6%)	135(14%)	60(13.2%)
2007	463	515	428(43.8%)	168(32.7%)	183(39.6%)	147(15%)	66(14.2%)
2008	469	524	445(44.8%)	177(33.7%)	190(40.6%)	159(16%)	71(15.2%)

Given the above projections of enrollment by sport, it will be necessary for the Township to provide recreation facilities in addition to those listed in Table 5, which will serve immediate needs. In order to adequately address active recreation needs projected through 2008, the additional facilities shown in Table 8 will be required.

**Table 8 - Additional Projected Required Recreation Facilities through 2008**

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Baseball field	1
Softball/Little League field	2
T-Ball field	1
Soccer (younger children)	1
Junior Field Hockey field	1

It is reasonable to assume, given the nature of the Township and recent changes in land use policy, that residential growth will remain the same as that in the last decade. Table 9 can be viewed as the minimum number of facilities that the Township will have to provide by 2008 in order to meet total recreation demands of recreation programs operating within the Township.

**Table 9 - Total Required Recreation Facilities through 2008**

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Baseball field	2
Softball/Little League field	5
T-Ball field	2
Soccer (older children)	1
Soccer (younger children)	2
Field Hockey Field	1
Junior Field Hockey field	3

## NJDEP Balanced Land Use Concept

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection endorses a theory known as the "Balanced Land Use Concept", which simply states that 3% of a municipality's developed or developable land should be set aside for recreational use within the community. Land deemed developable is exclusive of slopes greater than 12%, wetlands, federal, state and county lands along with other environmentally sensitive land that is not suitable for development.

In order to apply the "Balanced Land Use Concept" (BLUC) to Lebanon Township, a variety of data sources were consulted and analyzed using a Geographic Information System (GIS). Data sources utilized for this analysis included the NJDEP 1995 Land Use/Land Cover information, a United States Geological Survey Digital Elevation Model and the Open Space and Recreation Inventory. GIS analysis was undertaken to provide information for input into the BLUC, the results of which are found in Table 10.

**Table 10 - Balanced Land Use Concept**

Item	Area in Acres
Developable land in Township <sup>1</sup>	15,241.15
Steep Slopes (greater than 12%) in developable areas <sup>2</sup> (subtract)	- 3,462.12
Developable land within County, State and Municipal Parks(subtract)	- 2,277.02
Developed land <sup>3</sup> (add)	+ 3,366.16
<b>Total Developed and Developable</b>	<b>12,868.17</b>
<b>3% of Total Developed and Developable</b>	<b>386.05</b>

<sup>1</sup> NJDEP 1995 Land Use/Land Cover: agriculture, forest and barren land categories

<sup>2</sup> USGS DEM approximation of slopes greater than 12%

<sup>3</sup> NJDEP 1995 Land Use/Land Cover: urban category

The BLUC recommends that Lebanon Township have 386.05 acres of land set aside for recreation purposes, to include both active and passive recreation lands. Currently, the Township owns approximately 90.31 acres which could be applied toward this figure, leaving a deficit of 295.74 acres.

Application of the BLUC in Lebanon Township is difficult, due in large part to its low population density and limited budget. With 5,816 persons on a total of 20,257 acres, Lebanon's population density is only 183 persons per square mile. Comparatively, Lebanon Township has the sixth lowest population density in Hunterdon County and the sixty-sixth lowest in New Jersey. The most densely populated place in New Jersey is Guttenburg Town in Hudson County, with 56,012 persons per square mile. The least densely populated is Walpack Township in Sussex County, with 1.7 persons per square mile.

Lebanon Township is mostly residential in nature, with very few commercial and industrial businesses paying taxes. This imbalance creates a limited budget, where services must be scrutinized and costs are weighed against benefits. Not to say that providing recreation does not have benefit, but many of the higher priority items are those that more directly affect the health, safety and welfare of Township citizens.

With a substantial open space purchase, however, the Township could remedy its recreational land deficit identified by the BLUC. There are a number of large parcels on the Township's acquisition priorities map that with public access, could provide adequate passive recreation facilities. Additional active recreation facilities will also be required to serve the needs of the population through the year 2008, the life of this plan.

### ***Passive Recreation Needs Analysis***

The Balanced Land Use Concept (BLUC) is a fairly good target for the minimum amount of open space that a municipality should set aside for recreation purposes. As indicated before, the Township has a deficit of 296 acres under the BLUC. With ongoing programs at higher levels of government and the Township poised to initiate spending on the Planning Incentive Grant already submitted to the State, it is anticipated that this need will be filled within the next two years.

With the number of acres contained in County and State Parks within the Township, it is difficult to express a deficit of passive recreation lands. There is, however, a deficit of Township owned passive recreation land. Given the active recreation needs that have been expressed through this Plan, the Township will need to consider retaining a portion of one or more purchases as a set aside for future active recreation amenities such as playing fields. Given the projected shortage of such fields, each purchase should be assessed for the potential for construction of fields to benefit Township recreation programs organized by the LTAA and other recreation providers.

## Resource Assessment

A crucial part of the Open Space and Recreation Plan for Lebanon Township is the identification of lands that have potential to provide recreation opportunities. The first part of this assessment will be to identify lands with potential to provide active recreation opportunities, as there is an immediate need to fill. The second part of the assessment will outline the Township's needs with respect to resource conservation and passive recreation sites.

The Township currently owns property adjacent to Lebanon Township Memorial Park, known as the Rich tract, Block 29, Lot 28. There is an identified need to construct active recreation facilities, consisting of various field types, in order to fulfill the immediate needs of recreation programs for the Lebanon Township Athletic Association and the Lebanon Township Junior Field Hockey Program. The Rich tract is uniquely suited to the construction of athletic fields, primarily due to its flat terrain and central location within the Township. It is unlikely that a more suitable piece of property with the same attributes will be found and purchased.

The Township may have to site a postal facility in the future and wishing to limit capital expenditure of funds for land acquisition with respect to the project, sees the Rich tract as the ideal site. At just over 17 acres, a postal facility and athletic fields can be constructed on the same property, making ideal complimentary uses with shared parking and access facilities.

With three acres excepted out of the total for a postal facility, the Rich tract could accommodate fields that would meet the immediate active recreation needs of the Township's athletic programs, listed in Table 5. This would include one baseball field, three little league/softball fields, a t-ball field, two junior field hockey fields, a soccer field and a junior soccer field. A conceptual field arrangement is depicted in Figure One in the Appendix.

There are additional active recreation needs identified in Table 8 that must be met through the construction of additional facilities. Since this need is projected for the future, it is reasonable for the Township to accommodate these within the next two to four years. Fulfilling these needs will mean the purchase of additional property for the construction of athletic fields. Given the facilities that could be constructed on the Rich tract, a parcel of similar size would accommodate the additional required facilities. This purchase could be accomplished in tandem with a passive recreation lands purchase, saving twenty or so acres for athletic field construction. In any event, the parcel or portion of a parcel should be centrally located in the Township, reasonably free of environmental constraints and agricultural in nature.

The Township should also approach the County Parks Department and Board of Chosen Freeholders as well as NJDEP in order to seek opportunities for construction of fields on other public lands. With a number of parcels already held by public entities, there are portions of existing parks that could accommodate active recreation facilities. The most likely County Park that could accommodate facilities is Teetertown Preserve/Mountain Farm.

With the current drought and ongoing issues of future water supply on the forefront of everyone's minds, a number of initiatives are underway to support the continued protection of existing water supplies. Protection has taken the form of land preservation programs, with a number of agencies partnering to protect headwaters. Lebanon Township is uniquely positioned in this respect, as all of the Township's tributary streams are headwaters.

The NJDEP will provide money in the future for acquisition of lands within water supply watersheds. The Spruce Run Reservoir watershed is limited in size and located in a largely rural area. This will allow NJDEP to purchase a reasonable amount of the remaining undeveloped land in the watershed, assuring water supply quality and

quantity. This dovetails with the Township's goals of preserving land for benefit to the environment.

Working with the NJWSA and other State and County agencies, the Township has identified lands that are suitable for preservation, mainly as passive recreation and open space lands. Land of this type is compatible with the goals of this plan, as well as the goals of water supply and natural resource protection. The Township has gone through the process of identifying lands that they would prefer to see protected based on a number of principles including presence of critical environmental resources, development potential related to recreation facilities, linkage to existing open space parcels and residential development potential. These properties are identified in Figure 4, titled "Open Space System Map and Preservation Priorities".

Additional information recently released by the NJDEP has also provided justification for preservation initiatives, particularly in Lebanon Township. The New Jersey Landscape Project, initiated in 1993, was the beginning of a move to a landscape level approach for endangered species protection. With suburbanization and development occurring in all areas of the State, an increasing amount of habitat that could potentially support threatened and endangered species was being lost daily. This habitat includes the Township's acres of contiguous forest and high quality waters that drain into the Spruce Run Reservoir, the Musconetcong River and the South Branch of the Raritan River.

In order to address habitat loss, NJDEP's Endangered and Non-Game Species Program (ENSP) needed to grasp the extent and suitability of remaining resources in the State. To accomplish this, they partnered with the Center for Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis (CRSSA) at Cook College, Rutgers University. Utilizing Land Sat Thematic Mapper satellite imagery, CRSSA mapped land cover for the entire State of New Jersey, broken down into 20 different habitat/land cover types. After generalized cover types were classified, detailed methodologies were developed to address the

habitat suitability issues for each focus category, including beach/dunes, emergent landscapes, forested wetlands, forested areas and grasslands.

After reclassifying data based on standards developed for each category, the habitat data was intersected or combined with the Natural Heritage Program’s Biological Conservation Database (BCD). This database is a Geographic Information System (GIS) coverage that provides information on the sighting of threatened and endangered species, based on the field work of ENSP scientists and sightings reported by members of the public. It is the most comprehensive data available in digital form on the location of threatened and endangered species.

The combination of these two data sets resulted in the data that is depicted in Figures 2 and 3. The Landscapes Program data provides users with scientifically sound, peer reviewed information on the location of critical habitat based on the conservation status of the species that are present. Habitats are ranked on a scale of 1 to 5, based on the following criteria:

**Table 11 - NJ Landscape Program Ranking System**

Rank	Indication
1	Suitable habitat, no special concern, threatened or endangered species sighted
2	Habitat patch with species of special concern present
3	Habitat patch with State threatened species present
4	Habitat patch with State endangered species present
5	Habitat patch with Federal threatened or endangered species present

Lebanon Township is rich in habitat that is suitable to support populations of threatened and endangered species. Four of the five Landscape Project categories are represented in the Township including forested wetland, emergent, forest and grassland

habitat. Most of these habitat types have documented presence of State threatened and endangered species as well as federally listed threatened and endangered species.

There are two primary areas of important habitat with the presence of federally listed threatened and endangered species in Lebanon. The first is in the central portion of the Township, stretching from the northern border with Washington Township in Morris County to Dewey Lane. Forested wetland and grassland habitat with the presence of federally listed threatened and endangered species stretch along the Spruce Run Creek and form the backbone of the lands that drain to the Spruce Run Reservoir. The second area with federally listed species is grassland habitat in the northeastern corner of the Township, running along the western side of County Route 513 from Sliker Road to the border of the Lebanon with Washington Township. This area is known as Lower Valley and is primarily farmland in hay production, land often uniquely suited to nesting and migrating birds, depending on times of harvest.

In addition to habitat with federally listed threatened and endangered species, there is an abundance of habitat in Lebanon with state threatened and endangered species documented. Much of the forest land in the Township, which is reasonably contiguous, is home to state threatened and endangered species. These forested lands coincide with a number of properties already preserved, ensuring their protection and availability as a resource into the future. There is also grassland habitat in the Township with the documented presence of state threatened and endangered species, including areas along the South Branch of the Raritan River in the eastern part of the Township, areas along the Musconetcong River in the western part of the Township and areas in the vicinity of Spruce Run Creek.

The Landscape Program data was intended to aid municipalities, County and State governments, conservation agencies and citizens in determining the extent of critical habitat within their respective jurisdictions and communities. After identifying critical habitat, a variety of means can be employed to protect it, including the following:

- Prioritizing open space acquisitions based on the presence of habitat for threatened and endangered species
- Adopting regulations aimed at protecting critical habitat
- Adopting management policies for open space that are consistent with protection of critical habitat
- Permitting flexibility in development techniques that can accommodate the protection of critical habitat
- Promoting land stewardship practices that are consistent with the protection of critical habitat

Lebanon Township has chosen to utilize the New Jersey Landscape Project data to further define priorities for preservation, in keeping with the goals and policies of this plan. Figures 2 and 3 show the Township's preservation priorities with the Landscape Project data overlain, indicating that many priorities that the Township has identified coincide with the presence of a variety of habitat types with both federal and state listed threatened and endangered species.

All the properties identified in Figure 4 represent opportunities to support a variety of conservation objectives, as outlined above. These include the protection of water supply watershed areas, the protection of habitat suitable for threatened and endangered species and the protection of scenic areas. The preservation of these lands will simultaneously provide opportunities for abundant passive recreation and the creation of a network of linked open space and recreation.

## Action Plan

In order to carry out the objectives of this Open Space and Recreation Plan, a number of actions must be carried out by the Township and its officials. There is an immediate need for active recreation facilities that must be addressed for recreation programs to successfully continue. There is also a need to acquire lands to construct additional athletic fields by the year 2006, above and beyond those that can be constructed on the Rich tract. Additionally, a deficit of 296 acres of recreational land is apparent through application of the NJDEP Balanced Land Use Concept. To this end, the following actions should be undertaken:

1. Many of the active recreation facilities that are proposed for Lebanon Township Memorial Park remain unrealized. To date, no public monies have been expended to move the construction of these athletic fields from the planning phase into reality. The Township Committee could begin to appropriate funds for the construction of fields in order to meet the needs of the recreation providers in Lebanon.
2. The Rich tract, adjacent to Lebanon Township Memorial Park, is an ideal site for the construction of additional athletic fields. The Township will undertake detailed study of the site, determining costs associated with construction of the athletic fields conceptually depicted in Figure 1.
3. The Township will contact both the County and State and seek use of lands in existing park facilities for the potential construction of athletic fields. A potential opportunity has been identified in Teetertown Preserve/Mountain Farm.
4. The Township will continue to solicit landowner interest in participating in the Green Acres grant pursued by the Township. Letters have already gone out to most of the landowners with property depicted in Figure 4, with only two responses of no interest. The remainder of the landowners who responded indicated a willingness to consider or a willingness to participate in the Township's initiative to preserve land.

5. The Township will continue to partner with the County, State and New Jersey Water Supply Authority in preserving land. Fiscal resources available at these levels of government far outweigh those available to the Township. Partnering with these agencies and advancing the goals of this plan will assist in leveraging funds from these agencies, as the goals of this plan are closely aligned with their goals.
6. The Township will study the feasibility of hosting and assessing fees for field use. These fees could be used for field maintenance and construction of additional fields.
7. The Township will advance a stewardship and education program in conjunction with its preservation efforts. Even if landowners decide not to participate in the ongoing preservation program, they will be left with information that is critical to overall resource protection.

### ***Implementation Approaches and Resources***

A coordinated open space and recreation effort should integrate environmental protection strategies as core elements of the preservation effort. The Township will utilize this approach, as outlined in this plan. The programs and approaches outlined below represent a menu of implementation strategies which the Township will research in order to determine their merit and application in Lebanon's continued efforts.

#### *a. Open Space Tax*

Lebanon Township has an adopted Open Space Tax which generates two cents per one hundred dollars of assessed value. These revenues can be used to fund the acquisition of land for open space preservation and recreational purposes. The Open Space Tax generated \$115,000 in 2001 and will generate approximately \$138,000 in 2002, based on recent reevaluation of properties within the Township. In addition to increased revenue generated from the reevaluation, there is a question on the ballot in

November to increase the Open Space Tax to four cents per one hundred dollars of assessed value.

b. *New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program*

In 1999 the State Legislature passed the Garden State Preservation Trust Fund, securing funding for a state-wide open space plan for New Jersey. In order to provide support to local governments who have adopted an open space tax and prepared an Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), the Green Acres Program developed the Planning Incentive Grant (PIG). This program provides 50% matching grants to local governments for the acquisition of land for recreation and conservation purposes. To be eligible for funding, local governments must have a Green Acres approved OSRP, and either an open space tax, or an approved alternative funding source which is stable and sufficient, such as an annual tax levy.

The Township has an active program that is funded by a Green Acres PIG grant. They have made an initial round of solicitations to land owners in an effort to identify properties that could potentially be preserved. Lebanon will continue in this effort and negotiate with any willing landowner whose property meets the identified needs of this plan.

c. *Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund*

In 1999, the voters of Hunterdon County approved the creation of an open space tax in the amount of 3 cents per \$100 of assessed value. In 2001, the tax generated \$4,206,883.63 to be used by the County for various activities related to open space preservation.

There is a provision in the Open Space Trust Fund program which provides municipalities with the opportunity to recapture 10% of what its taxpayers contribute. For 2001, Lebanon Township taxpayers contributed \$174,973.48, making the Township eligible to recapture \$17,497.35. The money can be utilized on a yearly basis (for eligible projects) or can be rolled over and banked for a period up to five years. If not utilized within the 5 years, the money is then reallocated for County purposes.

*d. The Environmental Infrastructure Trust Financing Program*

This program provides low interest loans to municipalities, counties and authorities for clean water-related activities, including land acquisition when watershed management and water quality benefits are provided. With funding from both NJDEP and the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust, the program utilizes a Federal Priority System developed each year by NJDEP. Loans are made for 20-year terms at a blended interest rate (DEP - 0%, Infrastructure Trust - market interest or below).

*e. National Recreational Trails Program*

NJDEP provides financial assistance for developing and maintaining trails and trail facilities for non-motorized, motorized and multi-use purposes. The maximum grant award is \$25,000, and projects are funded on an 80% federal share and 20% matching share basis.

*f. Conservation Easements*

Recreational land, both passive and active, can be made more accessible with access provided through conservation easements. Conservation easements typically encompass some desirable environmental resource,

such as a stream, floodplain or steep slope area, and provide a measure of protection against development to that resource. Limited access permitted through conservation easements is a means to make certain lands more accessible to the public.

Access given through conservation easements can invade the privacy of the landowner who has dedicated the conservation easement. Access should be sought only in areas where the privacy and interests of the landowner can be insured and where potential trespass can be limited. Additionally, access through conservation easements should promote the creation of linked open space corridors, to create a network of open space that can be accessed by means other than automobile.

*g. Partnering with Other Agencies*

There are a number of agencies in Hunterdon County that are active in land preservation initiatives. The two most prominent are the County itself and the State of New Jersey. Both agencies have large parks and other land holdings in the Township and will likely continue to purchase land for both passive and active recreation facilities. The Township can work in concert with these two agencies in order to promote the preservation of key environmental resources identified in this plan and the Master Plan.

The New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJWSA) is another agency active in land preservation efforts, working through NJDEP. Its programs specifically focus on the preservation of land adjacent to streams which feed water supply reservoirs, as most of the streams in the Township do. This provides a unique opportunity to partner with NJWSA to share resources and encourage the preservation of key tracts that meet the needs of both agencies.

Non-profit and watershed groups have also become active participants in land preservation. These groups can often provide leveraging funds to municipalities or other agencies and are critical to the overall process. There are few preservation deals made which don't involve at least one non-profit or watershed group whose project support was critical.

## **System Map**

The Open Space System Map is depicted in Figure 4. This map includes existing open space lands at the municipal, county and state level and also depicts the Township's priorities for preservation. This map is a fluid representation of acquisition priorities and may change over the span of this plan to account for changing sentiment.

## **Public Participation and Planning Consistency**

The process utilized by Lebanon Township to complete this plan involved input from a variety of sources including the Open Space Advisory Committee (consisting of members of the Township Committee, Environmental Commission and the Planning Board), the Planning Board itself and the public. The Open Space Advisory Committee met on a number of occasions to review information, discuss recreation needs and to review the action plan. The Planning Board reviewed and discussed the Open Space Plan at two meetings, which were open to the public; one meeting included a detailed presentation of the draft Plan, complete with findings and an action plan. Public discussion centered on findings with respect to recreation needs and application of the NJDEP Balanced Land Use Concept.

Public involvement in this Open Space and Recreation Plan extended to citizens responsible for the management of recreation programs within the Township, who were consulted to best determine recreation needs. In a township where many volunteers and citizens are often involved in a number of different functions and activities, this was seen as the most efficient means to obtain the information necessary to determine the future of various programs.

The Township will also hold the required two public meetings for the Open Space and Recreation Plan, giving other citizens not involved in the planning process opportunity to review this document and offer comment and input. Summaries of these two meetings will be attached to the Appendix to detail public sentiment on the Plan.

The Township, in developing this Open Space and Recreation Plan, has strived to achieve consistency with the Conservation and Land Use Plan elements of the master plan. The Conservation Element has identified many of the critical resources that are present in the Township and called for their preservation through a variety of means,

wherever possible. The passive recreation acquisition, proposed in this plan to be carried out through the Township Planning Incentive Grant from Green Acres, will advance the goals of the Conservation Element of the Master Plan in an effective manner. It is the intent that this document will become the Recreation Plan Element of the Master Plan.

### **ADDENDUM-Public Hearing Meeting Notes**

Two public hearings were held on the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). One was in conjunction with a regular meeting of the Lebanon Township Planning Board on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2002. The second was held at a regular meeting of the Lebanon Township Committee on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2002. Members of the public attended both meetings where comments were presented, as noted below.

#### November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2002- Public Hearing at Planning Board Meeting

A summary of the OSRP was presented to the Planning Board and members of the public in a presentation lasting approximately 25 minutes. The presentation outlined the requirements of the OSRP, as outlined in NJDEP Green Acres documentation, along with the purpose of the plan. The following paragraphs are excerpted from the Planning Board minutes from November 5, 2002.

*Chairman MacQueen announced that the board would now proceed with the next hearing on the Open Space and Recreation Plan Element.*

*Planner Kyle noted that a good portion of this plan the board has already seen and reviewed. The creation of this plan, the basis is two-fold, first it states the intention of the municipality regarding Open Space Preservation. It also makes the Township eligible for matching grant funds through the Green Acres Program. When you have an adopted plan and an Open Space Tax you are eligible for 50% matching funds and we also want to let people know what our intentions are in respect to Open Space Preservation.*

*Green Acres has some requirements of the Open Space Plan; the main focus is determining needs and the resources assessment action plan. The Township has an Ad-Hoc Open Space Advisory Committee who has been working on this and have met a few times. Regarding our inventory, we have around 2300 acres of preserved lands, some of which are schools, municipal park facilities. The majority of this land is County and State parks. 90% of the open lands fall under either County or State category. Some of our goals are to promote the balance of open space and recreation facilities. To establish linkages of public spaces through the use of greenways, greenbelts, waterways, paths and bikeways. To support and partner with State and County open space programs and ongoing acquisitions for their value to the goals of the community, to assess and provide opportunities for active and passive recreation to meet the needs of all Township residents, to establish, promote and support active recreation opportunities for the children of Lebanon Township, maintain rural character through the acquisition of open space, to protect*

groundwater resources, including supply and quality through acquisition of open space, to meet the demands of the Township.

In reviewing the charts, Table I shows a list of lands that include, schools, county & state parks, preserves and municipal complex which total 2,258.40 acres. Table II lists the existing active recreation facilities in the Township. In the Needs Analysis, there are a number of standards that can be utilized to determine the recreation lands and facilities needed to continue to meet the requirements of the programs in the Township. The first is the Balance Land Use Concept, this is endorsed by the NJDEP, second is the survey method, where recreation providers are polled on current enrollment and are asked to project their outlook on future participation levels. The third is application of the standards contained in the National recreation and Park Association, which includes: Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway guidelines. Planner Kyle reviewed the recreation facilities that are available in the Township and the projections for the future. This was covered in Tables 2 through Table 9.

Table 10 covered Balanced Land Use Concept. The total of developable lands in the Township is 15,241.15 acres. Steep Slopes greater than 12% are 3,462.12 acres, lands that are already developed are 3,366.16 acres and developable land within county, state and municipal are 2,277.02. The BLUC recommends that Lebanon Township have 386.05 acres of land set aside for recreation purposes. The Township at present owns 90.31 acres, which leaves a total of 295.74 acres. There are 5,816 persons on a total of 20,257 acres, which gives you a density of 183 persons per square mile.

The NJDEP will provide money in the future for acquisition of lands within water supply watersheds. The Spruce Run Reservoir watershed is limited in size and located in a largely rural area. In working with NJ Watershed Association and other agencies, the Township has identified lands that are suitable for preservation, mainly as passive and open space lands. Land of this type is compatible with the goals of Lebanon Township. The Township has identified lands that they would prefer to see protected based on a number of principles including presence of critical environmental resources, development potential related to recreation facilities, linkage to existing open space and residential development potential. Planner Kyle reviewed this on Figure 4 of the plan. Lebanon Township is rich in habitat that is suitable to support populations of threatened and endangered species.

In the Landscape Project categories, four out of five are represented in the Township including forested wetland, emergent, forest and grassland habitat. Most have documented presence of State threatened and endangered species as well as federally listed threatened and endangered species. There is an abundance of habitat in Lebanon Township that is documented as threatened and/or endangered. Lebanon Township has chosen to utilize the NJ Landscape Project data to further define priorities for preservation. The properties identified in Figure 4 represent opportunities to support a variety of conservation objectives.

Planner Kyle stated that to carry out the objectives in this Open Space and Recreation Plan a number of actions would need to be taken. There is a need to acquire lands to construct additional athletic fields by year 2006, an immediate need for active recreation facilities that need to be addressed for recreation programs to successfully continue. Planner Kyle reviewed the actions that must be taken to accomplish this goal. And finally, Public Participation and Planning Consistency. Lebanon Township has many volunteers and citizens who participate in many functions and activities and this was seen as the most efficient means to obtain the information necessary to determine the future of various programs.

In conclusion, the Township has to hold the required two public hearings for the Open Space and Recreation Plan. By the Planning Board holding the first hearing, the hearings will be concluded with the Township Committee holding the second hearing. This will advance the goals of the Conservation Element of the Master Plan in an effective manner.

Chairman MacQueen asked if the board had any questions. Ms. Swan wanted to remind everyone that under the passive recreation plan, Planner Kyle talked about surface and groundwater habitat protection and partnering are also covered under the Spruce Run Initiative. This plan focuses on active with the two plans we have seen this evening and the Spruce Run Initiative. The Township has certainly done its homework, which is a wonderful thing. The Planning Board thanked Planner Kyle and Planner Bolan for all their hard work in putting these two Plan Elements together; they have done a great job. Chairman MacQueen opened the hearing to the public. Neil Grossman and Ed Post asked questions. At the conclusion, Chairman MacQueen asked for a motion to close the

public hearing. Motion by Ms. Bleck and seconded by Mr. Rich to close the public portion of the hearing. Unanimously approved.

Chairman MacQueen asked for a motion to approve, if there are no more questions. Motion by Mr. Rich and seconded by Ms. Bleck to adopt the Open Space & Recreation Plan Element to be included in the Master Plan.

ROLL CALL	Yes: <b>Mr. Rich</b>	<b>Ms. Swan</b>	No: None
	<b>Mr. MacQueen</b>	<b>Ms. Glashoff</b>	
	<b>Ms. Bleck</b>	<b>Mr. Parfitt</b>	
	<b>Mr. Spatz</b>		

Mr. Weeks was not present for the vote. Ms. Glashoff asked to clarify the procedures to follow these two approvals. The Resolutions will be on the next agenda November 26<sup>th</sup> and after the board adopts the resolutions, the Open Space & Recreation Plan will go to the Township Committee for a public hearing. Both plans with their resolutions will then be sent to the Hunterdon County Planning Board. Planner Bolan stated this is the correct procedure. Ms. Swan wanted to know when was the earliest the Committee could hold their hearing since the Green Acre funds will not be released until the Committee holds a public hearing. Planner Bolan suggested the first meeting in December. The hearing will be scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup>. Planner Kyle is available and will be present.

#### December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2002- Public Hearing at Township Committee

A summary of the OSRP was presented to the Township Committee and members of the public in a presentation lasting approximately 30 minutes. The presentation outlined the requirements of the OSRP, as outlined in NJDEP Green Acres documentation, along with the purpose of the plan. Additionally, it was stressed to the Committee that they are approving the plan and committing to fund, to the greatest extent practicable, the activities outlined in the Action Plan. The following paragraphs are excerpted from the Township Committee minutes from December 4, 2002.

*Planner Jim Kyle of Banisch Associates gave a presentation on the Open Space and Recreation Plan Element. He stated that the purpose of the Open Space and Recreation Plan is two fold: first is to plan for both active and passive recreation in the municipality and to let the public know what the township intentions are with respect to recreation and how the township plans to spend money. Second, to fulfill the requirements of Green Acres to take advantage of funds that they can make available to the township. The requirements under Green Acres are as follows: to have an Open Space and Recreation Plan, open space tax and a dedicated source of funding. The plan has been submitted to Kevin Richardson, Open Space Coordinator for Hunterdon County. He reviewed the most important required elements of the plan, which are the inventory, the need analysis and the action plan. He briefed the Committee on the initiatives that are an important part of the action plan. At this time Mr. Kyle asked if there was anyone from the public who had comments or questions. Davide Shope, Penwell Road, questions if all environmentally sensitive lands were included in the 15,000 acres of developed land. George Piazza, Observatory Road questioned if the township would lose funding if all the fields are not developed. Being not further questions from the public, a motion was made by Mr. Pletzer, seconded by Mrs. Swan and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved closing the public hearing.*

## Appendix

# Concept Plan Rich Tract

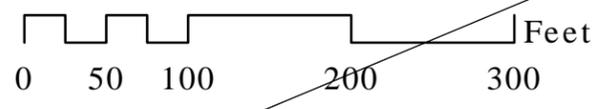


**BANISCH**

Associates, Inc.

Planning/Design

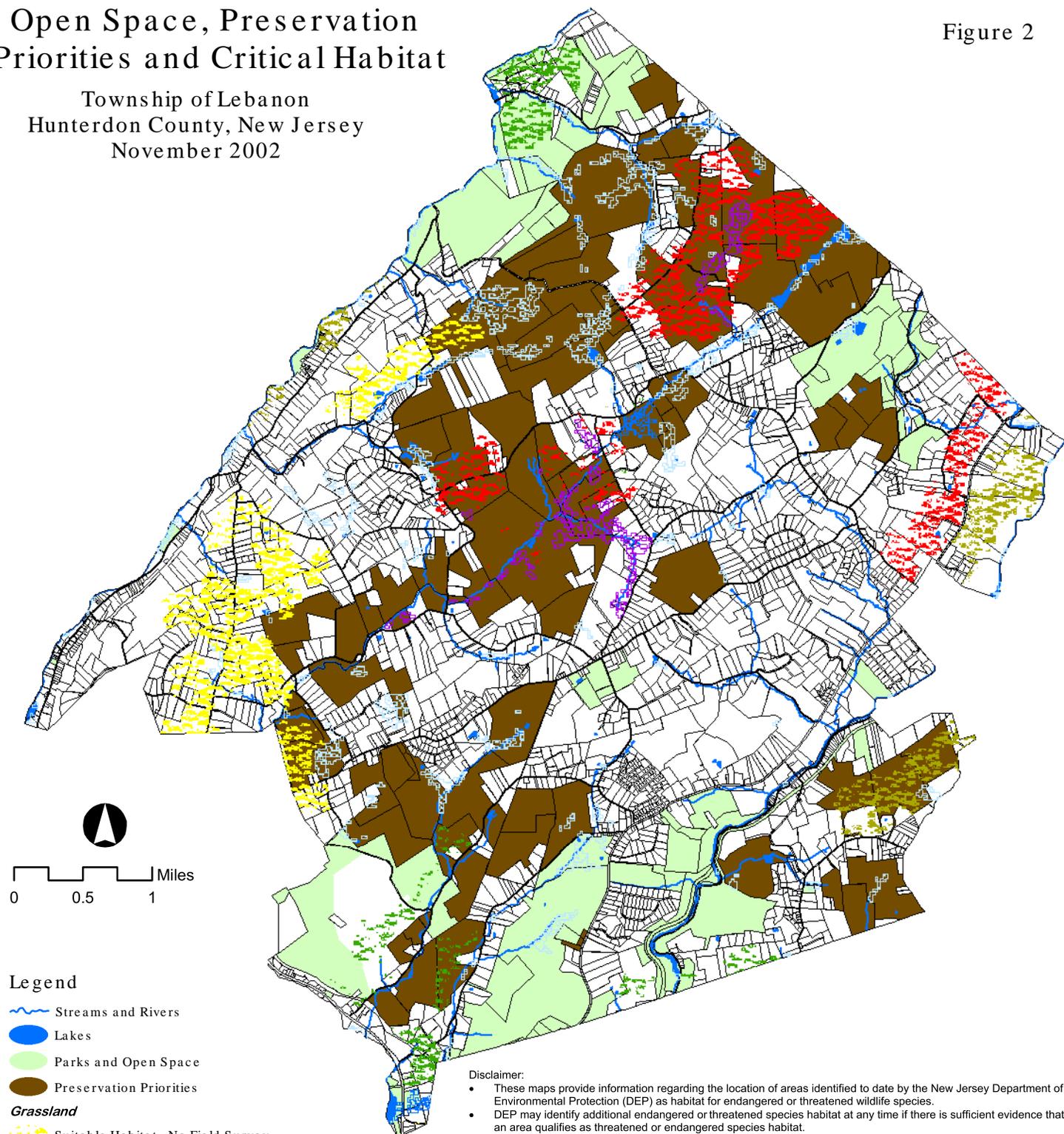
PO Box 154, Sergeantsville, New Jersey 08857  
(908)782-0835/7636 fax banisch@earthlink.net



# Open Space, Preservation Priorities and Critical Habitat

Figure 2

Township of Lebanon  
Hunterdon County, New Jersey  
November 2002



## Legend

- Streams and Rivers
- Lakes
- Parks and Open Space
- Preservation Priorities
- Grassland**
  - Suitable Habitat - No Field Survey
  - Habitat with State Threatened Species
  - Habitat with State Endangered Species
  - Habitat with Federal Threatened and Endangered
- Forested Wetlands**
  - Suitable Habitat - No Field Survey
  - Habitat with State Threatened Species
  - Habitat with Federal Threatened and Endangered Species

### Disclaimer:

- These maps provide information regarding the location of areas identified to date by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as habitat for endangered or threatened wildlife species.
- DEP may identify additional endangered or threatened species habitat at any time if there is sufficient evidence that an area qualifies as threatened or endangered species habitat.
- DEP may determine that an area shown on the maps as threatened or endangered wildlife habitat is not suitable for use as habitat. In that case, the area will no longer be classified as endangered or threatened species habitat.
- The maps will be updated periodically to reflect additional areas identified as threatened or endangered wildlife habitat, and to remove areas determined to be no longer suitable habitat for endangered or threatened wildlife.
- These maps show only areas identified as suitable habitat for threatened or endangered animal species, not threatened or endangered plant species. The DEP's method for identifying threatened or endangered plant species habitat can be found in the Department's Freshwater Wetlands Technical Manual, available from the Department's Office of Maps and Publications at (609) 777-1038.
- Any wetlands boundaries shown on these maps are approximate and are for guidance only. Therefore, these maps are not an accurate indication of whether DEP will classify an area as exceptional resource value wetland under the DEP's freshwater wetlands rules. To obtain a determination of whether or where wetlands are located on a property and the resource value classification of a wetland, contact the DEP and apply for a letter of interpretation under the freshwater wetlands rules, N.J.A.C. 7:7A-3.

Data Sources:  
Hunterdon County Division of GIS  
NJDEP ENSP

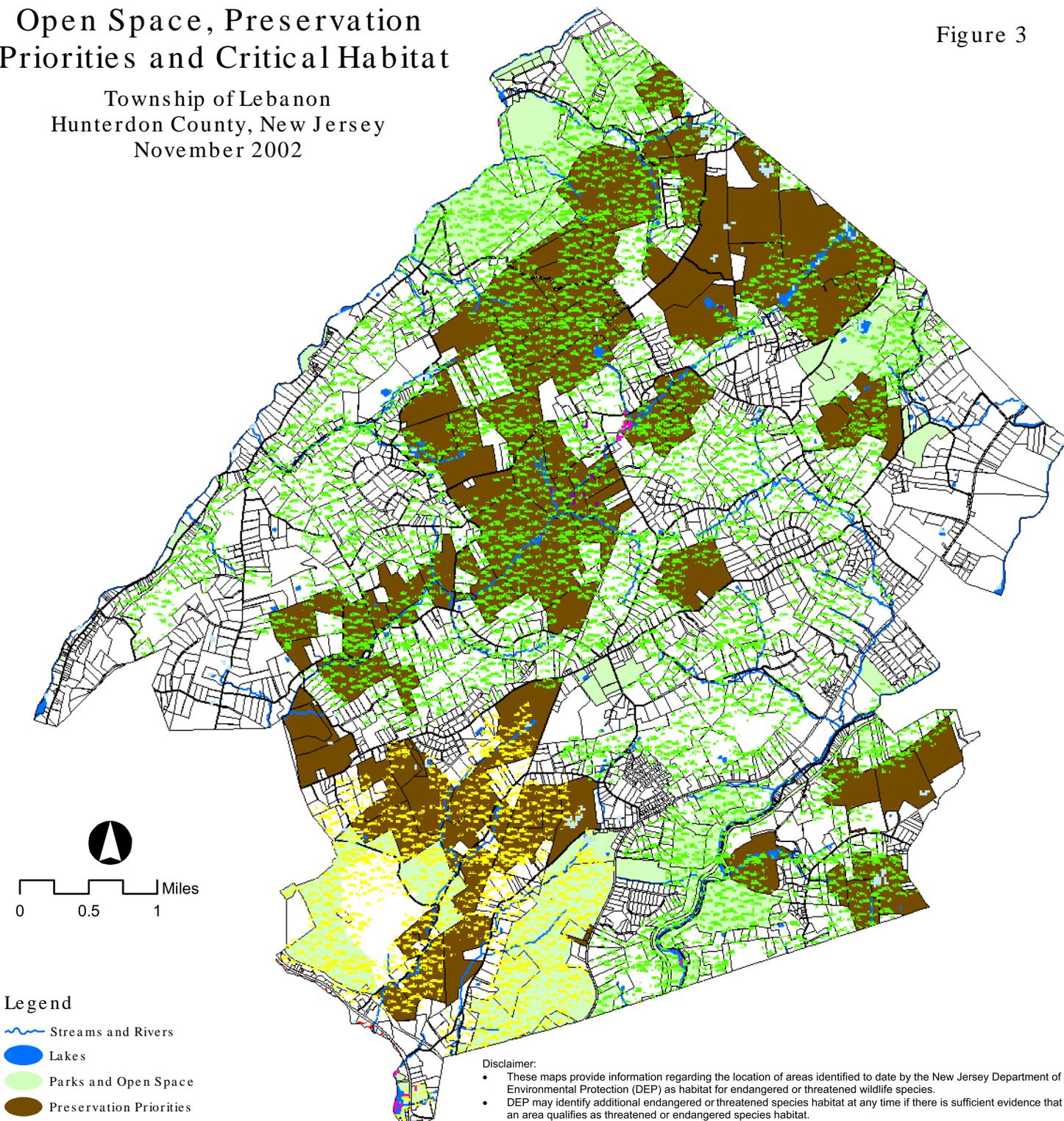
This map was developed using New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Geographic Information System digital data, but this secondary product has not been verified by NJDEP and is not State-authorized.

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# Open Space, Preservation Priorities and Critical Habitat

Figure 3

Township of Lebanon  
Hunterdon County, New Jersey  
November 2002



## Legend

- Streams and Rivers
- Lakes
- Parks and Open Space
- Preservation Priorities
- Forest**
- Habitat with State Threatened Species
- Habitat with State Endangered Species
- Habitat with Federal Threatened and Endangered Species
- Emergent Landscapes**
- Suitable Habitat - No Field Survey
- Habitat with State Threatened Species
- Habitat with Federal Threatened and Endangered Species

### Disclaimer:

- These maps provide information regarding the location of areas identified to date by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as habitat for endangered or threatened wildlife species.
- DEP may identify additional endangered or threatened species habitat at any time if there is sufficient evidence that an area qualifies as threatened or endangered species habitat.
- DEP may determine that an area shown on the maps as threatened or endangered wildlife habitat is not suitable for use as habitat. In that case, the area will no longer be classified as endangered or threatened species habitat.
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- These maps show only areas identified as suitable habitat for threatened or endangered animal species, not threatened or endangered plant species. The DEP's method for identifying threatened or endangered plant species habitat can be found in the Department's Freshwater Wetlands Technical Manual, available from the Department's Office of Maps and Publications at (609) 777-1038.
- Any wetlands boundaries shown on these maps are approximate and are for guidance only. Therefore, these maps are not an accurate indication of whether DEP will classify an area as exceptional resource value wetland under the DEP's freshwater wetlands rules. To obtain a determination of whether or where wetlands are located on a property and the resource value classification of a wetland, contact the DEP and apply for a letter of interpretation under the freshwater wetlands rules, N.J.A.C. 7:7A-3.

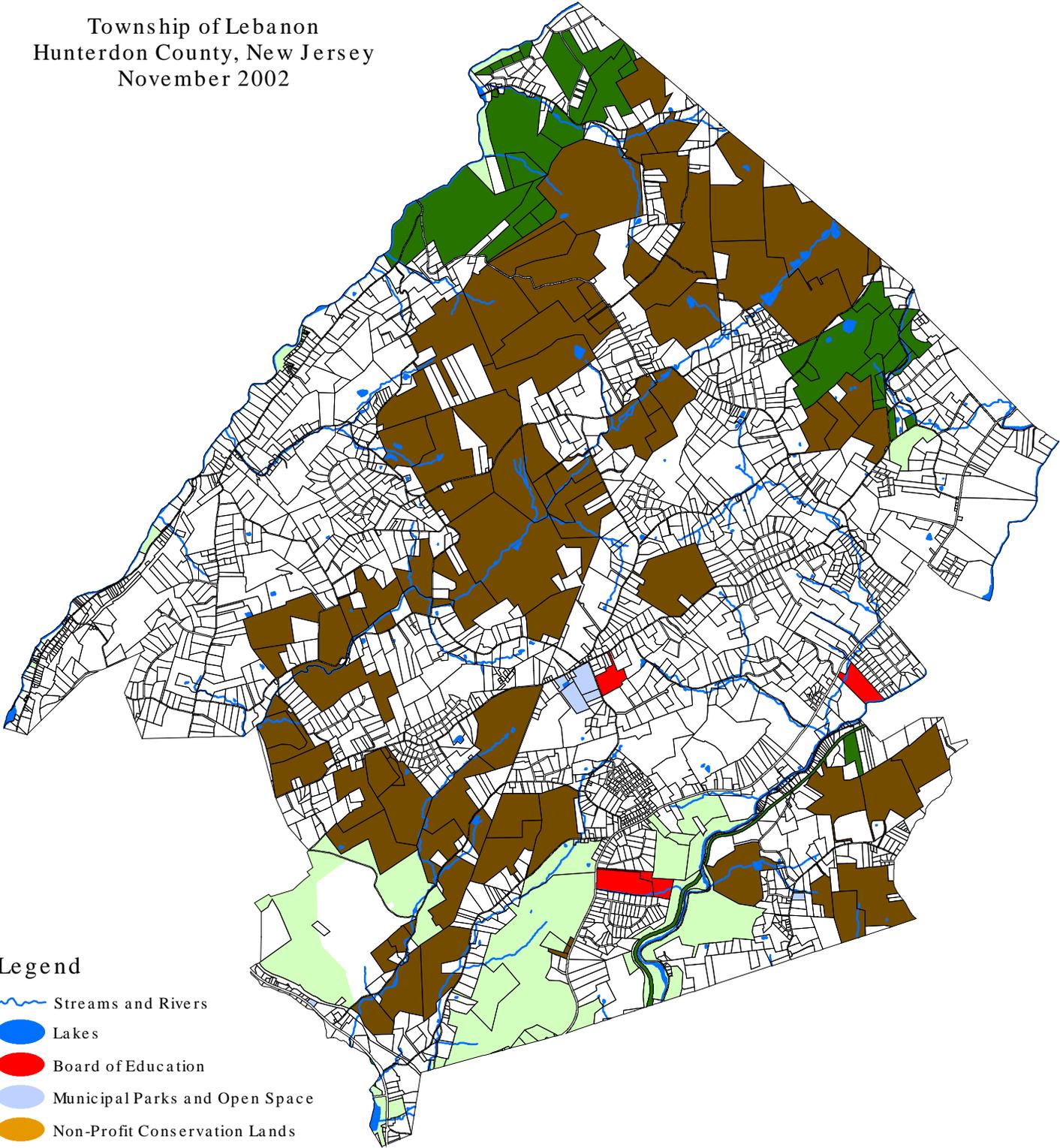
Data Sources:  
Hunterdon County Division of GIS  
NJDEP ENSP

This map was developed using New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Geographic Information System digital data, but this secondary product has not been verified by NJDEP and is not State-authorized.

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# Open Space System Map and Preservation Priorities

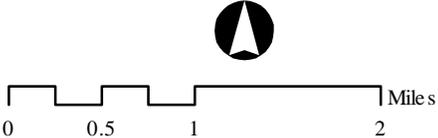
Township of Lebanon  
Hunterdon County, New Jersey  
November 2002



### Legend

-  Streams and Rivers
-  Lakes
-  Board of Education
-  Municipal Parks and Open Space
-  Non-Profit Conservation Lands
-  County Parkland
-  State Parks and Preserved Open Space
-  Private Open Space
-  Preservation Priorities

Data Sources:  
Hunterdon County Division of GIS  
Hunterdon County Planning Board  
Lebanon Township



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# Lebanon Township Open Space System

10/22/2002

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Name</u>
00002000	00003000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	17.42	Spruce Run Reservoir Recreation Area
00003000	00003000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	9.28	Spruce Run Reservoir Recreation Area
00004000	00002000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	2.81	Spruce Run Reservoir Recreation Area
00004000	00003000	County Parkland	0.19	Union Furnace Nature Preserve
00005000	00001001	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	1.36	Voorhees State Park
00007000	00001000	County Parkland	0.53	Union Furnace Nature Preserve
00007000	00002000	County Parkland	0.07	Union Furnace Nature Preserve
00008000	00004000	Municipal Parks and Open Space	1.43	Route 31
000090000	000070000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	209.10	Hagadorn Preserve
000100000	000070000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	104.16	Hagadorn Preserve
00011000	00001000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	3.33	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00008003	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	56.69	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00024000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	62.33	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00037000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	408.91	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00038001	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	9.54	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00046000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	8.47	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00047000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	4.33	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00048000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	2.19	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00049000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.37	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00050000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.14	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00051000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.26	Voorhees State Park
00011000	00052000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.03	Voorhees State Park

# Lebanon Township Open Space System

10/22/2002

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Name</u>
00012000	00002000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	17.19	Voorhees State Park
00012000	00004000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	5.89	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00012000	00044000	Board of Education	17.46	Vorhees High School
00012000	00044001	Board of Education	38.03	Voorhees High School
00012000	00056001	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	7.69	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00012000	00057001	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	6.48	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00012000	00061000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	43.11	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00012000	00067000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	38.09	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00012000	00067001	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	31.17	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
000120000	000560000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	44.75	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00014000	00003000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	35.96	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00014000	00005000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	4.53	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00016000	00001000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	13.36	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00016000	00013000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	126.08	Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
00017000	00005000	Municipal Parks and Open Space	3.04	Mt. Grove Preserve
00018000	00016000	County Parkland	15.85	Columbia Trail - South Branch Reservation
00021000	00008000	Board of Education	26.53	Bunnvale School
00024000	00006000	Board of Education	19.46	Woodglen Elementary School
00024000	00009000	Board of Education	0.30	Woodglen Elementary School
00029000	00027000	Municipal Parks and Open Space	4.79	Lebanon Township Memorial Park
00029000	00028000	Municipal Parks and Open Space	17.22	Rich
00029000	00032001	Municipal Parks and Open Space	5.28	Lebanon Township Municipal Building

# Lebanon Township Open Space System

10/22/2002

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Name</u>
00029000	00032003	Municipal Parks and Open Space	14.87	Lebanon Township Memorial Park
00030000	000010000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	30.88	Hagadorn Preserve
00040000	00039000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	32.28	Teetertown Nature Preserve
00044000	00003000	County Parkland	6.71	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00044000	00004000	County Parkland	0.17	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00044000	00005000	County Parkland	14.75	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00044000	00024001	County Parkland	4.85	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00044000	00024003	Municipal Parks and Open Space	1.35	Cold Brook Preserve
00044000	00025000	County Parkland	1.96	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00044000	00026000	County Parkland	0.04	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00045000	00002000	County Parkland	3.95	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00045000	00004001	County Parkland	6.59	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00003000	County Parkland	5.26	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00004000	County Parkland	34.01	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00005000	County Parkland	14.29	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00006000	County Parkland	1.32	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00007000	Municipal Parks and Open Space	0.69	Cold Brook Preserve
00046000	00008000	County Parkland	0.99	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00009000	County Parkland	4.70	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00010000	Municipal Parks and Open Space	0.62	Cold Brook Preserve
00046000	00014000	County Parkland	4.39	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00014001	County Parkland	21.03	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm

# Lebanon Township Open Space System

10/22/2002

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Name</u>
00046000	00034000	County Parkland	133.20	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00034001	County Parkland	21.57	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00046000	00034002	County Parkland	6.59	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00048000	00027000	County Parkland	21.41	Teetertown Nature Preserve/Mountain Farm
00054000	00013000	County Parkland	18.23	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00054000	00014000	County Parkland	60.96	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00054000	00023000	County Parkland	40.44	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00001000	County Parkland	185.13	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00007000	County Parkland	42.94	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00008000	County Parkland	11.78	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00008001	County Parkland	12.12	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00021000	County Parkland	34.89	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00023000	County Parkland	131.26	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00023001	County Parkland	1.39	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00028000	County Parkland	28.79	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00056000	00030000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	30.28	Musconetcong River WMA
00057000	00001000	County Parkland	19.29	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00058000	00006000	County Parkland	33.20	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00060000	00013000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	14.07	Musconetcong River WMA
00060000	00044000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.21	Musconetcong River WMA
00060000	00045000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.14	Musconetcong River WMA
00060000	00046000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.18	Musconetcong River WMA

# Lebanon Township Open Space System

10/22/2002

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Name</u>
00060000	00048000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.41	Musconetcong River WMA
00060000	00049000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.23	Musconetcong River WMA
00060000	00050000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.14	Musconetcong River WMA
00060000	00057000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	0.17	Musconetcong River WMA
00070000	00024001	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	8.42	Musconetcong River WMA
00072000	00014000	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	1.07	Musconetcong River WMA
00077000	00007002	State Parks and Preserved Open Space	12.45	Musconetcong River WMA
00077000	00007006	County Parkland	3.26	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00077000	00007007	County Parkland	3.05	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00077000	00007008	County Parkland	2.89	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00077000	00007009	County Parkland	2.79	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00077000	00007010	County Parkland	5.25	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00077000	00009000	County Parkland	44.47	Point Mountain Section - Musconetcong River Reservation
00300000	00001000	County Parkland	9.05	Columbia Trail - South Branch Reservation
00300000	00001000	County Parkland	10.58	Columbia Trail - South Branch Reservation
00300000	00002000	County Parkland	19.43	Columbia Trail - South Branch Reservation
<b>Grand Total:</b>			<hr/> <b>2,602.53</b>	