

## **NRC Director Testifies at State House on Environmental Protection Legislation**

In FY11, NRC Director Janet Bowser testified at the State House and/or provided written testimony on the following legislation that is critical to helping protect and preserve the Town's open space and natural resources:

- Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program: the mission of this important state program is to protect the rare species of Massachusetts, their habitats, and the full range of natural community species to conserve the biodiversity of the Commonwealth;
- An Act to Protect Natural and Historic Resources of the Commonwealth: this legislation will provide a statutory framework to ensure no net loss of conservation land through disposition or land exchanges under Article 97 of Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution;
- An Act to Sustain Community Preservation: this legislation will amend MGL Chapter 44 B in order to, among other provisions, allow for capital improvements for existing open space, housing, parks and recreational facilities not purchased with Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds;
- Sustainable Water Resources Act;
- Public Lands Preservation Act; and
- Safer Alternatives to Toxic Chemicals Act.