

Mission Statement

IT IS THE MISSION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION to pass on to future generations the full value of the natural and cultural resources of the Wellesley park and conservation open space system.

This stewardship imperative should be reflected in management decisions. Commission policies and regulations are structured with long term stewardship in mind, as are the levels of maintenance and development specified for active or passive recreational uses.

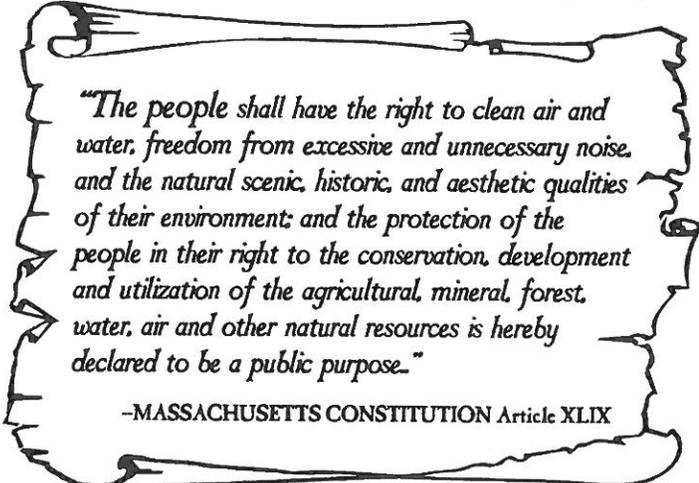
EDUCATION is a fundamental component of the NRC mission. Stewardship can only be achieved by building long term public understanding, support and enjoyment of open space as an integral part of Wellesley's quality of life. The high level of public demand for information on Wellesley's park and conservation lands, recreational opportunities, and natural and historical resources is a hopeful indication for the future.

Providing access to open space for suitable recreational opportunities for all members of the public is an important part of NRC's mission. Prudence in planning new or expanded active recreation programs or facilities is needed in order to assure preservation of Wellesley's natural and cultural resources, native wildlife, and the healthful and aesthetic qualities essential to an outstanding residential community.

ADVOCACY of environmentally-sensitive management practices by public and private agencies and individuals alike is fundamental to the stewardship mission. Emphasis on the 3Rs—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle—is basic. Reducing pesticide, fertilizer and sediment-loading of Wellesley's waters is crucial to Wellesley's water supply and water-contact sports. Planting trees is critical to Wellesley's aesthetics and real estate values but even more to fresh air, climate control, noise reduction, and pollution abatement.

Cooperation and coordination with the private sector—neighborhood groups, private land trusts, watershed associations, horticultural interests and the business sector—are integral to accomplishing this mission. Volunteer efforts and contributions have been and will continue to be vital to maintaining and improving Wellesley's quality of life.

The policies, regulations and directives which follow are intended to provide guidance to public and private agencies, to promote efficient and effective management, and to encourage and support broad participation by neighborhood and other volunteer groups.



"The people shall have the right to clean air and water, freedom from excessive and unnecessary noise, and the natural scenic, historic, and aesthetic qualities of their environment; and the protection of the people in their right to the conservation, development and utilization of the agricultural, mineral, forest, water, air and other natural resources is hereby declared to be a public purpose."

—MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTION Article XLIX