

Section 9 – Seven-Year Action Plan

Goal	Objective	Action	Responsible Party	Priority	Timing	Funding Source
1 - Improve Access to Open Spaces and Recreation Resources.						
<i>A - Identify gaps in accessibility and equity in utilizing these resources and develop plans to address these gaps.</i>						
	i.	Develop a Town-wide sidewalk improvement and expansion plan.	Land Use Committee, Highway Department	high	2023-2030 ongoing	Complete Streets or other grant funds, Chapter 90 funds
	ii.	Review progress that has been made with the Complete Streets program.	Select Board, Highway Department	high	2023-2030 ongoing	Volunteer, Staff time
	iii.	Install sidewalk improvements along streets identified in the Complete Streets plan that have not been repaired or constructed yet.	Land Use Committee, Highway Department	medium	2023-2030 ongoing	Complete Streets or other grant funds, Chapter 90 funds
	iv.	Continue to assess sidewalk conditions along streets in Mendon for connection and expansion opportunities.	Land Use Committee, Highway Department	medium	2023-2030 ongoing	Complete Streets or other grant funds, Chapter 90 funds
<i>B - Enhance accessibility features of these resources to ensure equitable access for all residents.</i>						
	i.	Ensure all town-owned recreation facilities are ADA accessible.	Parks Commission, ADA Coordinator	high	2023-2030 ongoing	Volunteer, Staff time
	ii.	Review Mendon’s ADA Transition Plan, and implement actions that have not been completed yet.	Parks Commission, ADA Coordinator	high	2023-2030 ongoing	CPA
	iii.	Install a handicap accessible parking space at the handicap accessible playground in Town.	Parks Commission, ADA Coordinator	high	2024-2025 ongoing	CPA
	iv.	Construct an ADA accessible trail, possibly at 52 Providence Street abutting the Senior Center.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission, Council on Aging, ADA Coordinator	medium	2026-2027	CPA, Grant Funds

<i>C - Increase public awareness of available open space and recreation resources through outreach and education.</i>					
i.	Update existing trail and recreation facility maps as needed.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	high	2025-2030, but as new properties are conserved, ongoing	CPA Funds, CMRPC Planning hours
ii.	Advertise open space and recreation events, such as the Mendon Hike Challenge, with website updates, newsletters, and other outreach efforts.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	medium	2023-2030	Volunteer time
iii.	Create an online interactive map of the open space and recreation opportunities in town.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	medium	2025	CPA Funds, CMRPC Planning hours

2 - Expand the Amount of and Improve the Condition of Passive and Active Recreation Opportunities.

A - Identify the recreation interests and preferences of residents to help create new recreation opportunities.

i.	Identify opportunities to install bike lanes in more areas of town, connecting opening spaces and to bike paths in neighboring towns such as Millville, Hopedale, and Uxbridge.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	medium	2025-2030	Complete Streets or other grant funds, Chapter 90 funds
ii.	Continue efforts to construct a cross-town trail. Identify lands to acquire to connect existing trails.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	medium	2023-2030, ongoing	Volunteer time, CPA
iii.	Improve outreach and awareness of the kayak/canoe put-in at the Town Beach to encourage utilization.	Parks Commission	medium	2024-2025	Parks Revolving
iv.	Investigate constructing a splash pad in town.	Parks Commission	low	2024-26	CPA Funds, Grant Funds
v.	Renovate tennis/multi-use courts with pickleball lines.	Parks Commission	high	2023	CPA Funds
vi.	Create a priority list of lands to acquire for recreation purposes.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	low	2024-2027	Volunteer, Staff time
vii.	Develop new fields to support the growing needs of the community	Parks Commission Land Use Commission	medium	2023-2033	CPA Funds, Grants
viii.	Work with the Mendon Upton Regional School District and Town of Upton to develop new sports and recreation facilities and/or support the development of a turf field complex.	Select Board Community Preservation Commission Parks Commission School Committee	high	2023-2033	CPA Funds, Debt Exclusion, Grants, Fundraising

<i>B - Assess the condition of and develop a plan to improve existing recreational opportunities.</i>					
i.	Create an assessment and maintenance plan for town-owned recreation facilities.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	medium	2025-2030	Volunteer, Staff time
ii.	Create a full-time Park Maintenance position to improve maintenance of the Town's open space and recreation facilities.	Parks Commission, Select Board	high	2025	General Fund
iii.	Install lights on existing athletic fields to expand usage and safety.	Parks Commission	High	2023	CPA Funds, Grants
iv.	Improve ADA accessibility at Founders Park.	Parks Commission	low	2025	CPA Funds
v.	Improve parking at Memorial Field/Veterans Field Complex and Grover Field Complex.	Parks Commission	medium	2023-2024	CPA Funds, Grants, Parks Revolving
vi.	Make renovations and improvements to the Town Beach facility. Consider improving this space for future outdoor concerts.	Parks Commission	high	2023-2024	CPA Funds
vii.	Repair the existing walking track and install outdoor exercise equipment along the course.	Parks Commission	medium	2024-2025	CPA Funds, Grants
vii.	Work with the Mendon Upton Regional School District to consider major sports and recreation facility improvements on public school grounds	Select Board Community Preservation Commission Parks Commission School Committee	high	2023-2028	CPA Funds, Debt Exclusion, Grants, Fundraising

	<i>C - Increase the number and variety of recreational programs, events, and activities to engage residents of all ages and abilities.</i>				
i.	Develop organized sports programs for adults (soccer league, pickleball league, chair volleyball, etc.).	Parks Commission, Local Sports Organizations	medium	2024-26, ongoing	Self-funded through registration fees
ii.	Expand existing youth sports programs for all ages including adults and aging adults.	Parks Commission, Local Sports Organizations	medium	2024-26, ongoing	Self-funded through registration fees
iii.	Identify a location and install an ice-skating rink in the winter.	Parks Commission	medium	2025-2026	CPA Funds, Donations/Sponso rship
iv.	Continue to host and expand walking tours and hiking events around town. Improve outreach and awareness of these events.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	medium	2025-2030, ongoing	Volunteer, Staff time
v.	Increase programming and event opportunities at the Town Beach.	Parks Commission	high	2024-2030	Cultural Council Funds, Sponsorships
3 - Protect the Natural Resources in Mendon including Forests, Farmlands, Water Resources, and Wildlife Habitats					
	<i>A - Promote sustainable use of natural resources, including responsible land management practices, conservation of biodiversity, and reduction of waste and pollution.</i>				
i.	Create a priority list of lands to acquire for conservation purposes.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission, Conservation Commission	medium	2025-2030, ongoing	Volunteer, Staff time
ii.	Acquire valuable land as noted in the BioMap3 program and properties mentioned in the Master Plan Surveys.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission, Conservation Commission	high	2025-2030, ongoing	CPA, grants
iii.	Help local farmers access and/or preserve agricultural lands in town.	Land Use Committee, Agricultural Commission	medium	2025-2030, ongoing	Volunteer time
iv.	Utilize APRs, CR, Grant Funding, and/or Chapter 61 programs to support these efforts.	Land Use Committee, Community Preservation Committee	medium	2023 - 2030	Volunteer, Staff time

<i>B - Monitor and control invasive species, protect wildlife habitats, and promote habitat restoration and enhancement.</i>					
i.	Education program on invasive species management.	Conservation Commission, Land Use Committee	high	2025-2030	CPA, Conservation Fund
ii.	Create invasive species best practices and distribute.	Conservation Commission, Land Use Committee	high	2025-2030	CPA, Conservation Fund
<i>C - Implement sustainable infrastructure solutions to reduce stormwater runoff and protect water quality.</i>					
i.	Create and distribute lawn care best practices (pesticide-free, etc.).	Board of Health, Land Use Committee	high	2025-2030	CPA, BOH funds
ii.	Refer to and implement the suggested actions listed in the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Summary of Findings Report.	Land Use Committee, Highway Dept. Stormwater Task Force	high	2023-2030	CPA Funds, General Fund, Grants
iii.	Promote Low-impact development and green stormwater infrastructure.	Land Use Committee, Stormwater Task Force, Planning Board	high	2023-2030	Volunteer time
iv.	Educate boards and developers about low impact development.	Land Use Committee, Stormwater Task Force, Planning Board	high	2023-2030	Volunteer, Staff time
<i>D - Leverage grants, private donations, and other funding sources to support these efforts.</i>					
i.	Utilize all resources available to find funding through donations, federal and state grants, collaboration with other groups, use CPA funds, solicit private donations etc.	Community Preservation Committee, Land Use Committee, Parks Commission	high	2024-2030	Volunteer, Staff time

4 - Preserve Mendon's Sense of Community						
<i>A - Encourage community participation in the development and stewardship of its open space, recreation, cultural, and historic resources.</i>						
	i.	Empower the Land Use Committee to lead or assist with implementing the actions of this plan and other related town planning efforts.	Land Use Committee	high	2023 – 2030	Volunteer time
	ii.	Start a sustainability group in town that could focus on healthy landscaping, pollinator gardens, and other environmentally-friendly initiatives.	Land Use Committee	high	2025 - 2030	Volunteer, Staff time
<i>B - Develop and promote community events and activities that celebrate the Town and its resources.</i>						
	i.	Investigate an outdoor common space to hold future community events.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission, Select Board	medium	2023 - 2030	Volunteer, Staff time
	ii.	Investigate hosting regular outdoor concerts, movies nights at the Town Beach.	Parks Commission	high	2023 - 2030	Parks Revolving, Cultural Council, Sponsorships
	iii.	Investigate a location to host regular farmers markets with local vendors.	Land Use Committee, Parks Commission, Agricultural Commission	medium	2023 - 2030	Public/Private Partnerships
<i>C - Foster partnerships with local businesses and organizations to support these efforts.</i>						
	i.	Investigate a program to house canoes, kayaks, and paddle boards at the lake for rental use.	Parks Commission	medium	2026- 2030	self-funded through user fees
	ii.	Support the Mendon-Upton School District's initiative to construct a multi-use turf field.	Mendon-Upton School District		2024-2026	CPA Funds, Debt Exclusion
<i>D - Prioritize sustainable and affordable housing opportunities that encourage open space design.</i>						
	i.	Promote the use of Open Space Communities subdivision and help to make the process flow well for the developer and the town.	Land Use Committee, Planning Board		2023-2030	Volunteer time
	ii.	Work to develop affordable housing that is energy efficient, uses renewable energy and designs the developments to be pedestrian friendly, use green stormwater infrastructure and provide open space. Look for state and federal grant opportunities, as well as educating developers to the cost savings of sustainability.	Affordable Housing Director, Land Use Committee, Town Planner	High	2023-2030	CPA Funds, State & Federal Grants

	<i>E - Expand knowledge and awareness of Mendon's historical and cultural resources.</i>				
i.	Provide engaging workshops and presentations to show residents the rich history of Mendon, including the agrarian background of Mendon.	Mendon Historical Commission, Mendon Historical Society		2023-2030	Cultural Council, Sponsorships, CPA Funds
ii.	Look for buildings and landscapes to preserve using CPA funds and grants.	Mendon Historical Commission, Land Use Committee		2023-2030	CPA Funds, Grants