



TOWN OF ENFIELD



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

ADOPTED 2024

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Comprehensive Planning Committee

Ellen Simone

Henry Carey

Nels Kramer

Natalie DiPentino

Douglas Theriault

Brooklyn Theriault

Special Thanks To...

Charles Frazier

Gina Batchelder

Jet Timmons

Consultant

Hope Eye, Regional Planner, Eastern Maine Development Corporation



Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION 1

A TOWN TO REMEMBER 2

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SUMMARY 2

REGIONAL COORDINATION 2

EVALUATION 3

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS 4

HOUSING 10

TRANSPORTATION 19

ECONOMY 30

WATER RESOURCES 36

NATURAL RESOURCES 55

AGRICULTURAL & FOREST RESOURCES 67

HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES 75

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES 79

RECREATION 85

FISCAL CAPACITY AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN 92

EXISTING LAND USE 97

FUTURE LAND USE PLAN 102

APPENDIX 110

INTRODUCTION

A comprehensive plan guides the future growth of a municipality and creates a collective vision for local community and economic development. As a long-range plan, the document serves as an inventory of current community conditions and trends and identifies characteristics important for local growth. Adopting a comprehensive plan consistent with the State of Maine’s Growth Management Act has numerous advantages including preferential consideration when applying for state grants, promoting local resource protection, and providing a foundation for land use related decision-making. Following a framework established by the State of Maine, the Enfield Comprehensive Plan contains chapters in which related goals, analyses, policies, and strategies direct future growth and emphasize community values.

- Population and Demographics
- Housing
- Transportation
- Economy
- Water Resources
- Natural Resource
- Agricultural and Forest Resources
- Historic and Archaeological Resources
- Recreation
- Public Facilities and Services
- Fiscal Capacity and Capital Investment Plan
- Existing Land Use • Future Land Use

MISSION STATEMENT
To provide a well-balanced, caring, and dynamic community for those who grow-up, work, start a family, and retire

VISION
Using the past to move into the future by keeping its eyes forward

A TOWN TO REMEMBER

Almost exactly in the middle of Penobscot County lies Enfield, Maine. The town's story weaves a narrative steeped in history and forward-thinking aspirations. Established in 1835, the town's roots trace back to its early days as a thriving mill community, harnessing the power of the Penobscot River. In the face of evolving economic landscapes, Enfield has undertaken dedicated efforts toward sustainable development, shaping a comprehensive plan that embraces both its historical heritage and modern growth. With an eye on the future, the community aspires to create an ever-lasting comprehensive plan that not only preserves its cherished past but also strategically paves the way for a resilient and vibrant future. Through a collaborative approach and a commitment to balance, Enfield aims to set a blueprint that sustains its unique character while fostering economic vitality for generations to come.

Enfield's Comprehensive Plan is an opportunity to celebrate and preserve its rural way of life, while responsibly preparing for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. This plan is designed to be a flexible guide, adaptable to the evolving needs and desires of residents as it shapes the future of Enfield.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Participation from the Enfield community played an essential role in the comprehensive planning process. Throughout the plan's four phases, a Comprehensive Planning Committee consisting of the Planning Board, and other community members held public meetings to discuss plan chapters and the planning process. In February of 2023, a survey was distributed to the town to assess public perceptions of Enfield's quality of life as well as community opportunities and challenges. To enhance participation, surveys were accessible online and on paper in the Town Office. Upon the deadline, one hundred and seventeen individuals participated in the survey via online form and mail. While not all respondents answered all questions, unanswered questions are classified as "No response," for the purposes of capturing the total number of respondents throughout the survey analysis. The survey and analysis are a joint effort between Eastern Maine Development Corporation and the Town of Enfield. Through the community survey, personal interviews, and Comprehensive Planning Committee, local involvement shaped and enriched the plan's vision and analyses.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

Being such a small community, Enfield regularly engages with other municipalities for promoting regional development and enhancing the quality of life for its residents. It shares EMS services

with Howland, and school districts with several surrounding towns (MSAD 31, AOS 43 & Northern Penobscot Tech Region III).

By working closely with neighboring towns, Enfield leverages collective strengths and tackles common challenges to create a stronger, more resilient rural community. The Town of Enfield will successfully continue the collective management of valuable resources including education, emergency response services, natural resources, and water resources. Because Enfield and the surrounding towns are so rural, no policy or strategy conflicts were identified.

EVALUATION

Enfield's Comprehensive Plan is a community-driven endeavor. It represents its shared aspirations, values, and commitment to a bright and sustainable future, one where its rural character is celebrated, the natural resources are preserved, and its residents thrive in a vibrant and connected community. This plan will help to shape an Enfield that is true to its roots and prepare for any future.

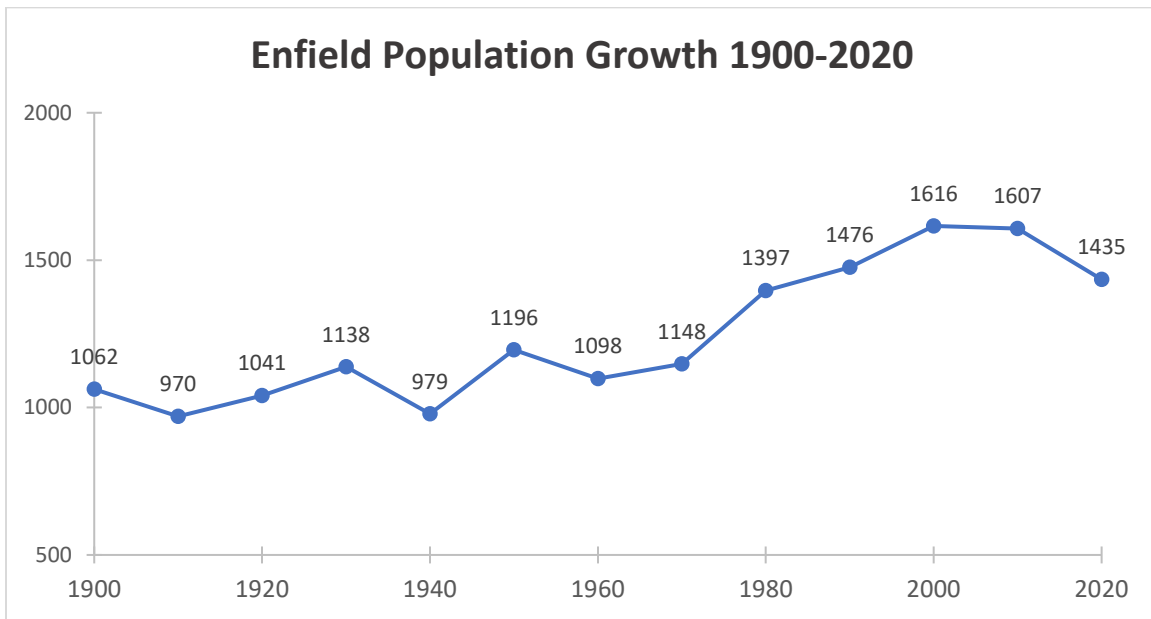
The community will routinely monitor the degree to which future land use plan strategies have been implemented, the location and amount of new development, and the completion of capital investment projects. As new data becomes available over time, the existing data in the Comprehensive Plan chapters will be updated to ensure its contents are current and relevant.



POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Population Growth & Projection

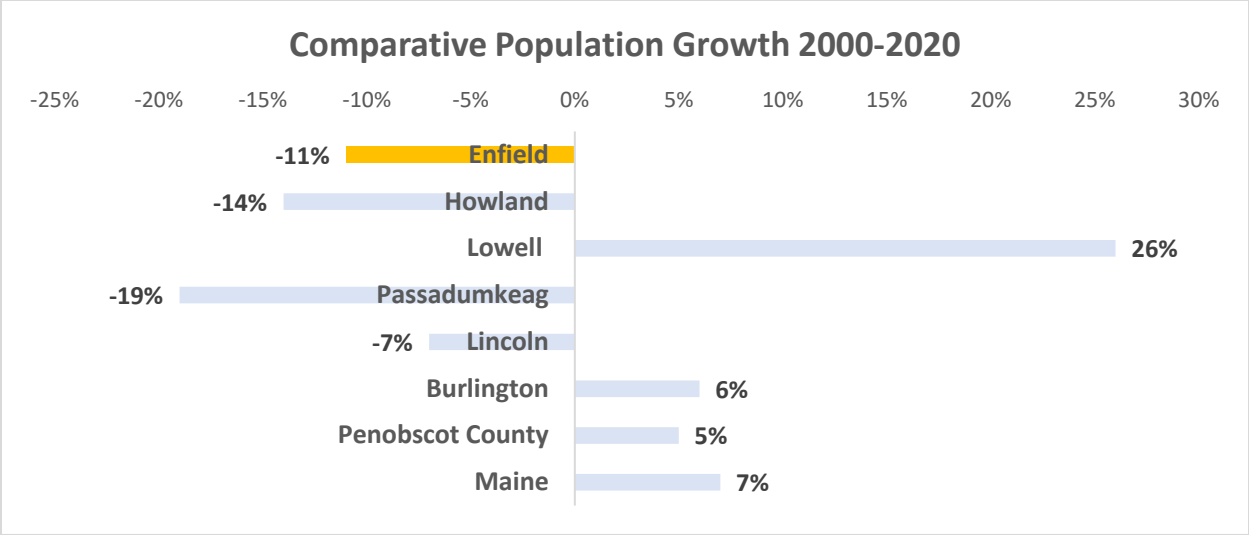
Originally land of the Penobscot Nation, European colonizers settled into the area in 1819. The Town of Enfield was initially known as Cold Stream, the translation of the native word “Ammadamast.” Incorporated on January 31st, 1835, the town was renamed to Enfield, possibly a reference to the town’s location: at the end of a field. Though Enfield experienced moderate growth in the 20th century, the local population has begun to decline in recent decades, and this trend is projected to continue for the foreseeable future.



Although Enfield’s population has declined over recent years, the town is in line in comparison to neighboring towns of Lincoln, Passadumkeag, and Burlington. While the town of Lowell experienced a modest increase in residents, as the town has a population in the low hundreds, it can be considered an outlier in these findings.

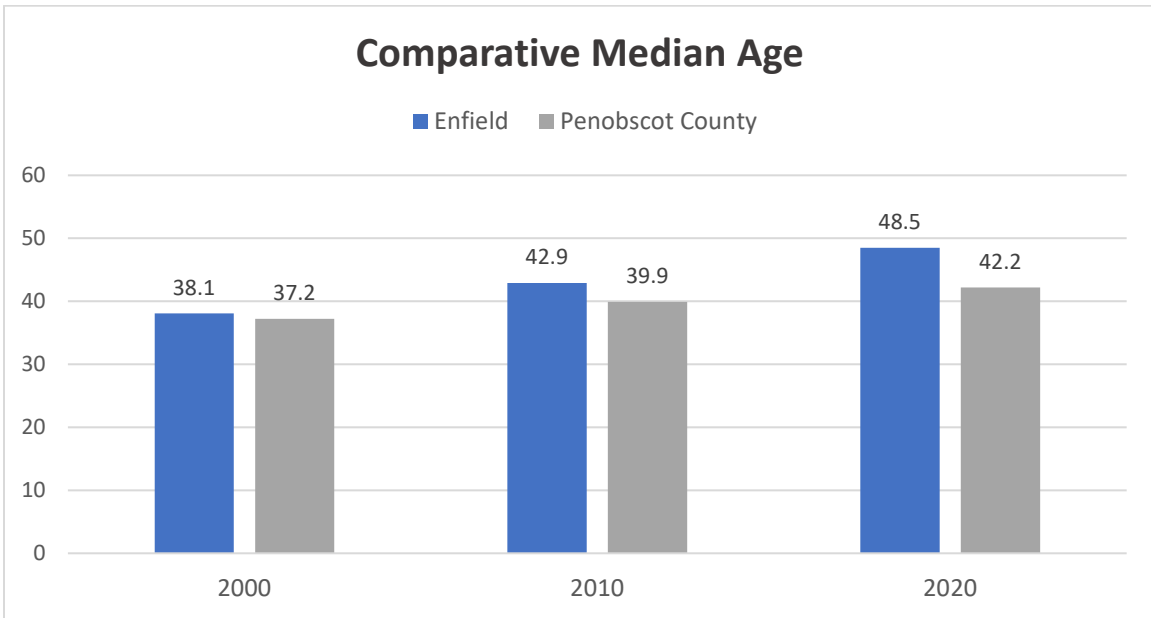
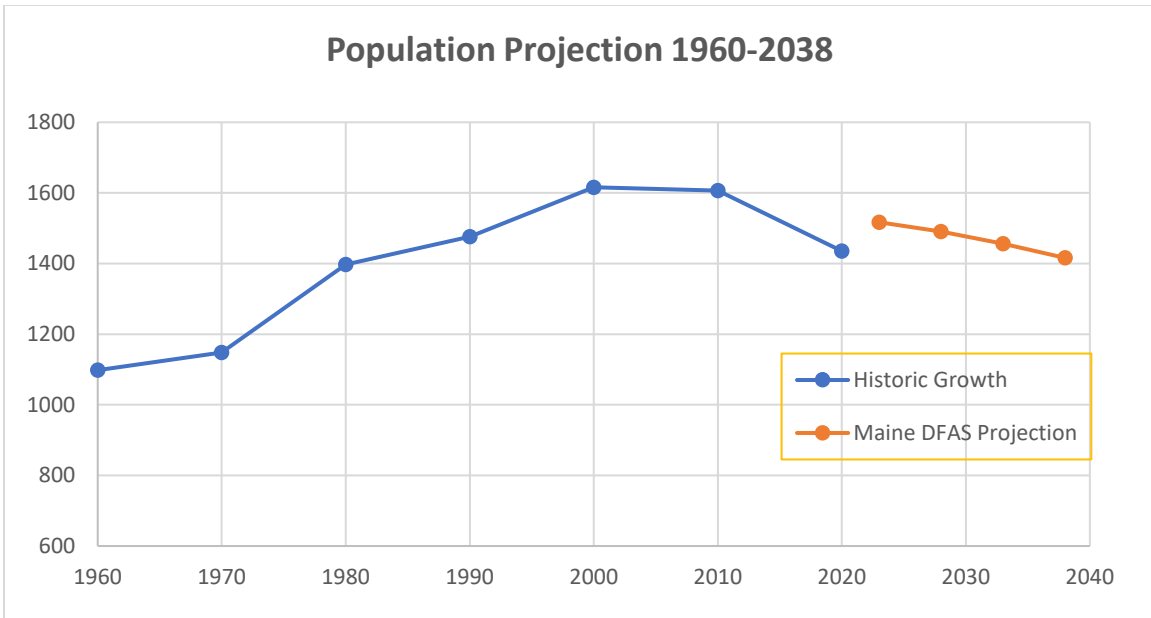
For comparison, the population of Penobscot County rose during this period as well as the State of Maine. While marginal growth (and decline) is anticipated for developing regions, for a town of its size, the population of Enfield appears to be shrinking, but to a lesser extent than its neighboring town of Howland but more rapidly than the other neighboring community of Lincoln.

There is also the significant seasonal population to consider, which will be talked more about in the Housing chapter.



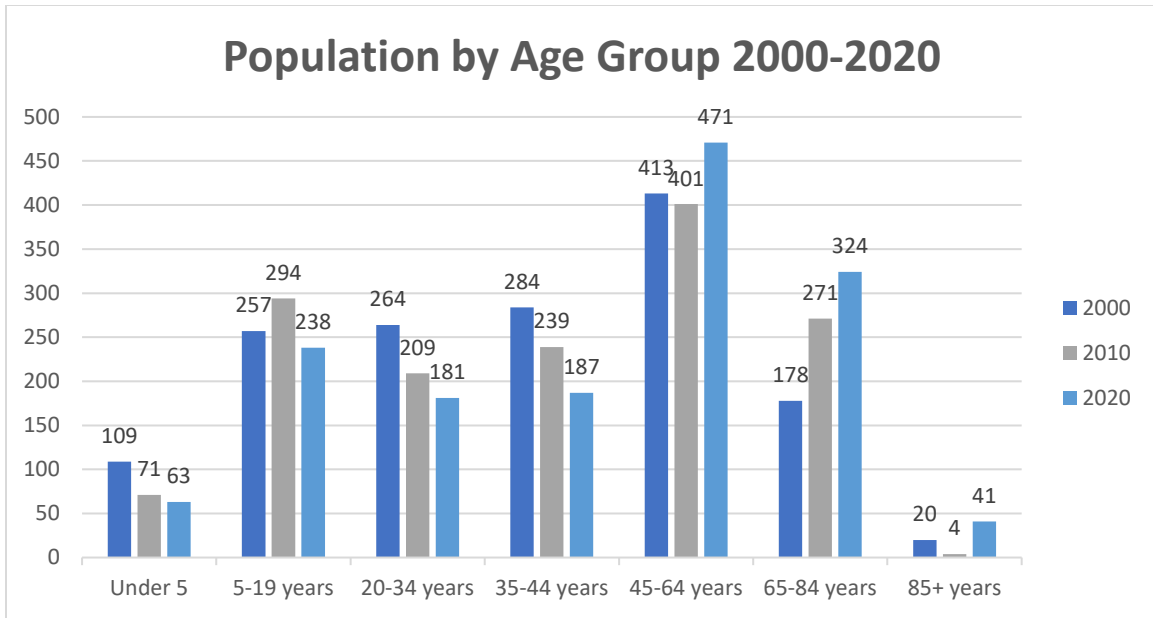
Utilizing projections prepared by the State Economist the population of Enfield is projected to continue its decline over the next 16 years. Between 2023 and 2038, the town is expected to decrease by an additional 8%. However, as these estimates were created prior to the 2020 census – which shows Enfield’s population is even lower than projected currently than it was anticipated to be years from now. As such, Enfield may likely experience a far more rapid decline in local population than anticipated.

If this trend is to continue, some implications of this change may be that due to the reduced number of working age individuals may result in the decline of the local workforce, making it difficult for businesses to find employees and potentially leading to further decline in economic growth. With that, may come reduction in services. With a decreased population, the reduction of certain services could lead to the consolidation or closure of institutions, making it harder for residents to access essential services. This may cause shifts in infrastructure, housing demands, and even social dynamics, with noting the average age of the population.



Age Distribution

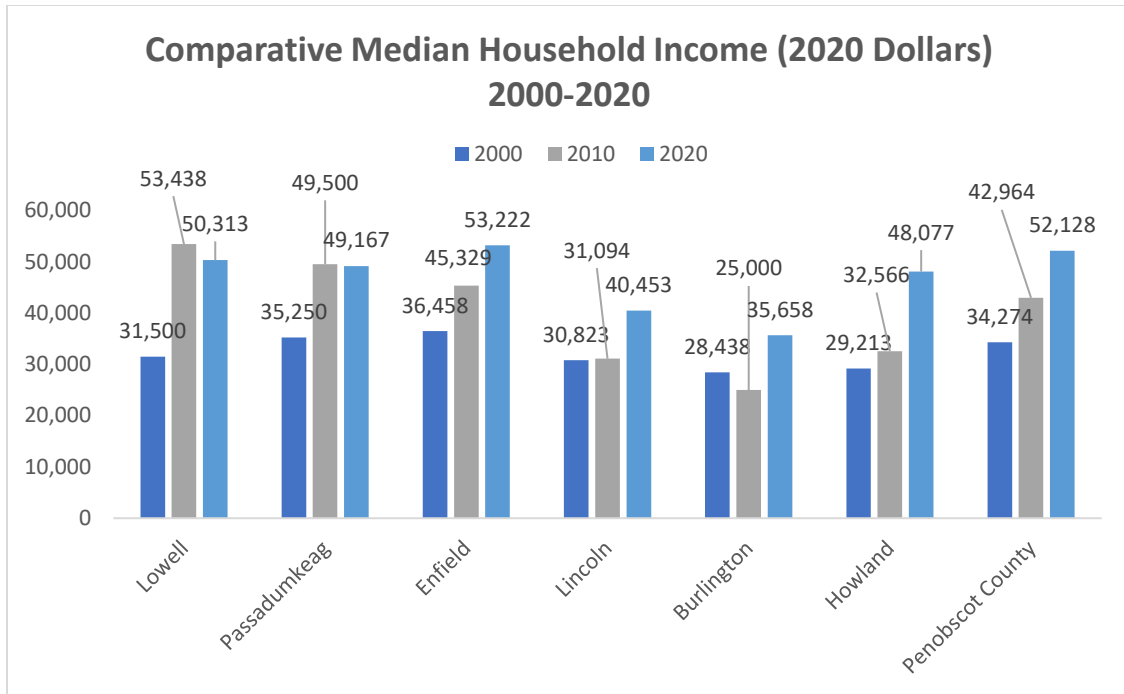
Similar to other small Maine communities, Enfield’s median age has also increased – but at a rate twice as quickly as the rest of the county over the past two decades. While the median age increased by 10.4 years, from 38.1 to 48.5 between 2000 and 2020. In comparison, Penobscot County’s median age increased by just 5 years to a lower median age of 42.2. Compared to Enfield’s 10.4-year increase in median age between 2000 and 2020, Penobscot County’s median age increased by only 5 years during the same period.



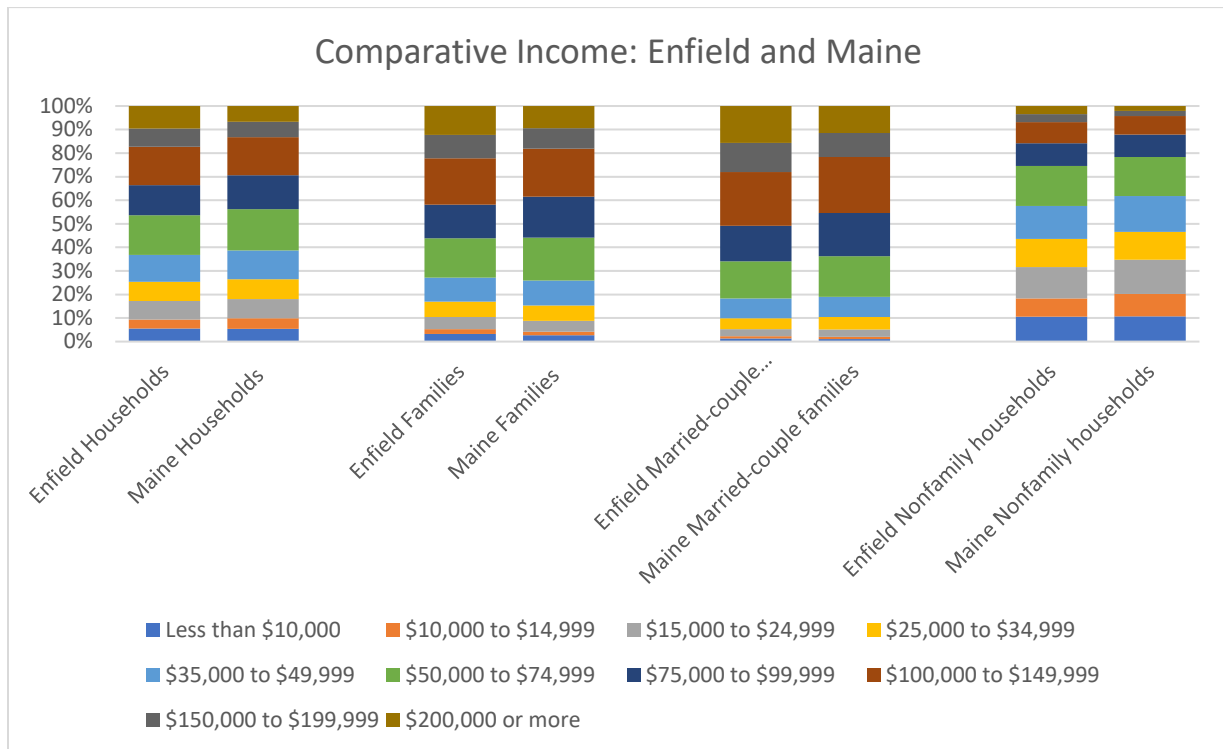
In alignment with the characteristics of an aging population, the number of people in younger demographics has steadily decreased over time, while older demographics make up the majority of the town’s population. Between 2000, 2010, and 2020, the 65-84 age group experienced the most change, with a 52% increase between 2000 and 2010, and again increasing by 20% between 2010 and 2020, for a total growth of 82% in 20 years. All other age groups changed at a comparable rate to each other, with groups under 45 years old decreasing by roughly 30%, and age groups over 45 years old increasing at roughly the same rate. These statistics coupled with the low fluctuation of those in younger age groups suggests that a considerable number of Enfield residents are of retirement age, and few are families with young children.

Income

Between 2000 and 2020, Enfield’s median household income rose by \$26,764 - an increase of 46%. With the exception of Lowell, Enfield has experienced the highest growth in household income for the county. However, unlike surrounding communities, household income has steadily increased each decade, whereas others like Lowell, Passadumkeag, and Greenbush, it has fluctuated, stagnated, and even decreased. In contrast to the county as a whole, Enfield’s median household income is \$1,094 higher than average. Given the advanced age of Enfield’s population, this is likely indicative of higher income which is typical of those near retirement age and likely earning their peak salary. As Enfield is not a service center, and where its major employers do not create a daytime population that is larger than its resident population, there are no additional efforts needed to serve this type of population.

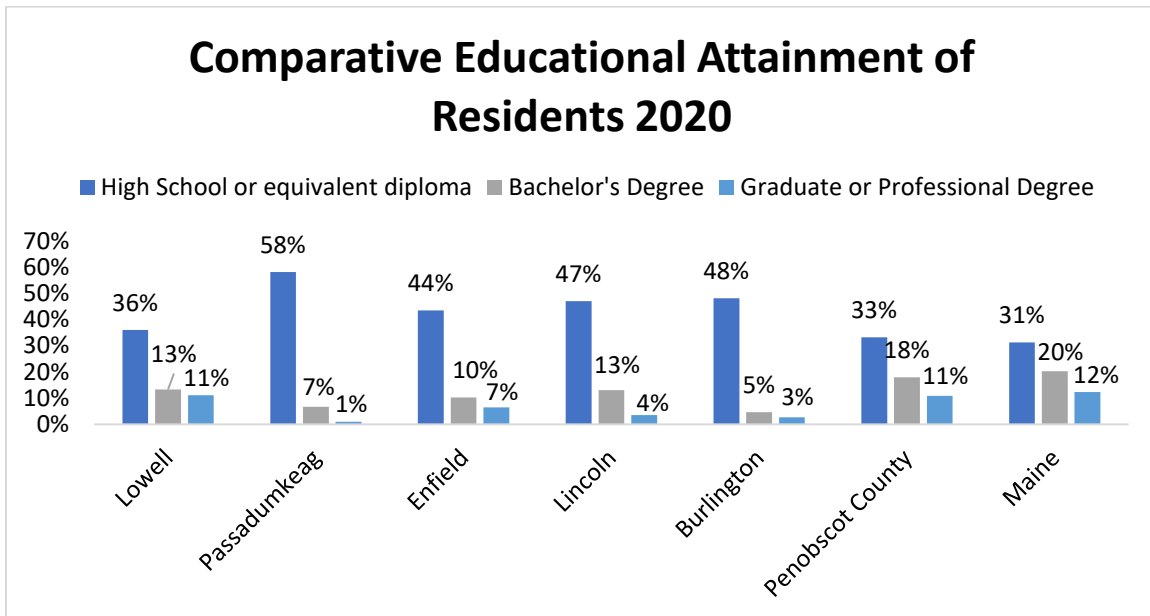


As for comparing Enfield income to Maine's, the data show a very similar story between income of Enfield in comparison to the state as a whole. This means Enfield may be able to take what the State of Maine does in reference to income and related policies and easily implement similar strategies for itself.



Education

As of 2020, Enfield's educational attainment is average of Penobscot County. Like the surrounding communities, Enfield's residents have fewer secondary degrees than the county and state as a whole, and have more high school diplomas or equivalent. Below is a chart comparing the surrounding community, the county, and the state. Data was sourced from the US census bureau.



Following the trend of a declining population, changes potentially occurring to education in Enfield may increase the need for local community involvement and partnerships, as a decreased population can lead to further consolidation of school systems and decreased class sizes.

One solution the town may explore is to provide a packet to new parents of children residing in Enfield, explaining potential education programs for these children to be available at any given point in their future. As stated by Enfield's leadership, there is an understanding that investing in the school system is a big draw to young folks.

HOUSING

Purpose

Housing represents the major investment of most individuals in Enfield. Housing, especially its affordability, is very important to the well-being of residents. The purpose of this section is to:

1. Describe the characteristics and changes of the housing stock in Enfield.
2. Identify the relationship between housing characteristics and demand in Enfield and the region.
3. Predict the size, characteristics, and affordability of housing needed to meet the demands of the future population.

State Goal

To encourage and promote affordable, decent housing opportunities for all Maine citizens.

Policies

To encourage and promote adequate workforce housing to support the community's and region's economic development.

To ensure that land use controls encourage the development of quality affordable housing, including rental housing.

To encourage and support the efforts of the regional housing coalitions in addressing affordable and workforce housing needs.

Summary of Key Findings

Enfield's housing stock has stayed consistent in the past two decades.

- Total occupancy increased from 612 in 2000 to 622 in 2020.
- The amount of housing units used for seasonal, recreational, or only occasional use has risen significantly from 276 units in 2000 to 339 in 2020, a 23% increase.
 - **Key definition:** By Census definition, occupied housing units are considered occupied only "if a person or group of persons is living in it at the time of the interview or if the occupants are only temporarily absent." Seasonal units are considered vacant if they are entirely occupied by persons who have a usual residence elsewhere.

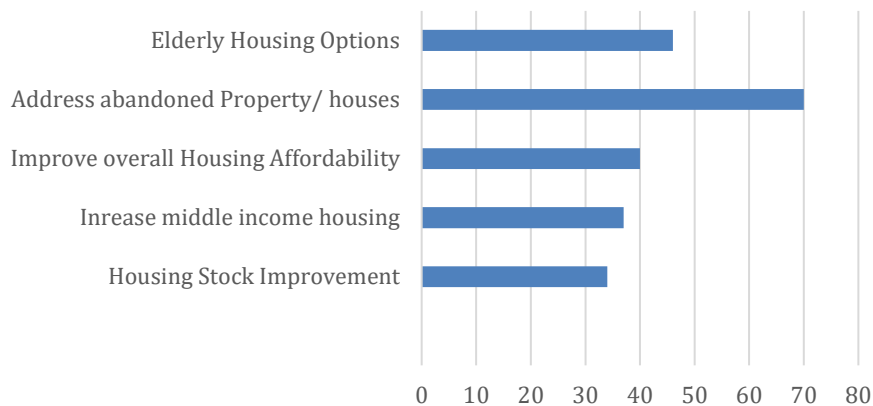
- Household and Family sizes have both steadily decreased, from 2.66 and 2.95 in 2000 to 2.59 and 2.88, respectively, in 2020.

Projected population changes are not significant enough to warrant any changes in the housing stock per se., however, the committee noted that there is a definite need for more “affordable” housing. This concern stems from a change being seen by residents of year-round housing being converted into seasonal housing especially around Cold Stream Pond area. This will be further discussed in the following paragraphs.

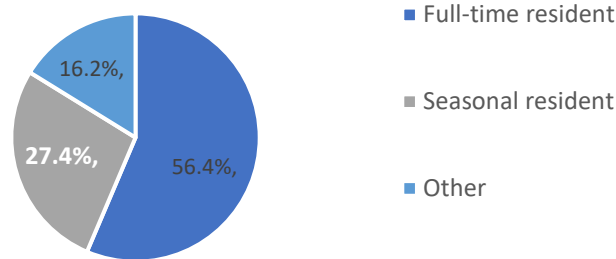
2023 Community Survey Results

From the survey provided to the town, Enfield’s concerns echo a similar sentiment to the rest of rural Maine. The 2023 Community Survey was released to the public and received responses from many active members of the Enfield community – 16.2% are not residents of the town. Survey results indicate 95.7% own their home, with very few who rent. When prompted about the availability of housing, 68.4% responded that they felt it was a challenge for low to moderate income earners to find affordable housing. As well, among housing issues important to Enfield, the majority of respondents indicated that addressing abandoned properties and homes is their primary concern. Other issues raised, in order of respondent importance, include adding elderly housing options, housing affordability, and amount and quality of housing stock. The town may plan to further investigate methods of addressing these abandoned properties and houses for planning more effective future land use.

Survey results Of Housing Issues In Enfield, Maine



Survey Respondent Residential Status In Enfield Maine



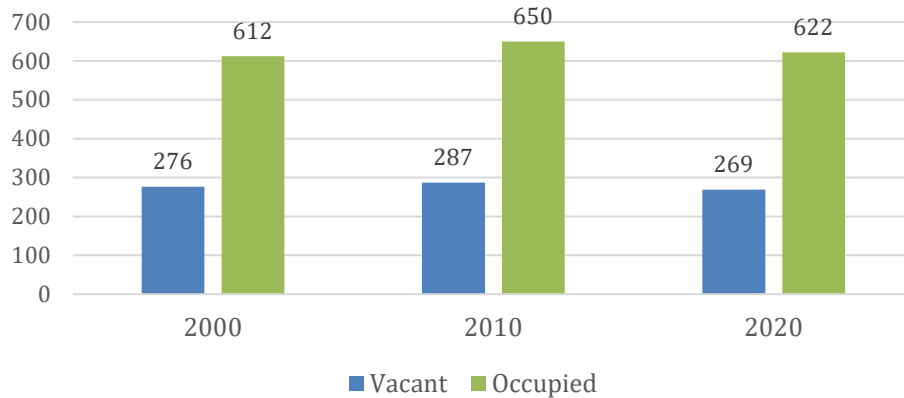
Housing Through Time

Over the past two decades Enfield’s housing stock has remained fairly unchanged. Although the number of homes slightly rose in 2010, from 612 to 650 occupied homes and 276 to 287 vacant ones. However, these gains receded in 2020, lowering back down to 622 occupied homes – 10 more than 2000 stock, and 269 vacant homes – 7 less than in 2000. During the same period, the number of homes used only seasonally, recreationally, or for occasional use, increased significantly from 276 in 2000 to 339 in 2020 – a 20% increase. This change is more drastic from 1990, where the U.S. census bureau cited seasonal housing in Enfield to be about 188 housing units. Although increased seasonal housing can be good for the tourism industry, the data would suggest that houses are being converted rather than added is causing a potential impact to the community by putting a further strain on year-round services, permanent housing stock, and bring changes to the community’s character and identity.

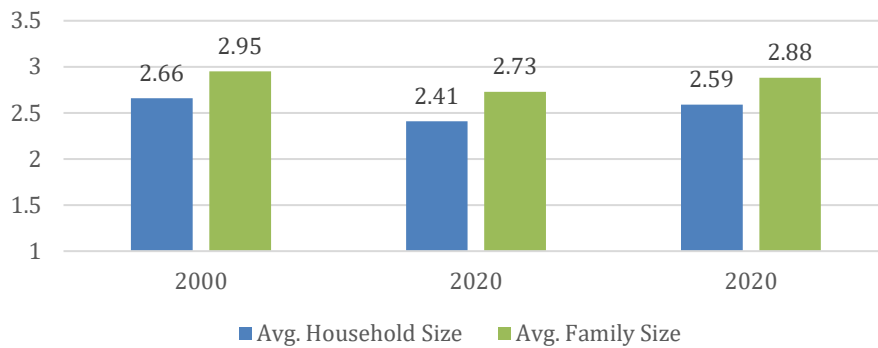
In reviewing the previous comprehensive plan from 1996, similar issues were observed for housing. Notably, ensuring affordable housing options and updating existing housing stock. Although this plan was never accepted by the state, there is a clear benchmark for guidance to create a comprehensive plan that is more robust due to the presence of past barriers being readily available for review.

Overall, it would appear that the population of Enfield is poised to further decline rather than grow. These housing changes depict a shrinking rural community that is increasingly used as a vacation destination for working-class Mainers. That said, the population older than 45 (45-64) is the most dominant age group, increasing while the younger population decreases, suggesting the greater need for senior housing sooner rather than later. Enfield recognizes this need, and will work with appropriate entities to satisfy any needed housing.

Occupancy Status 2000-2020



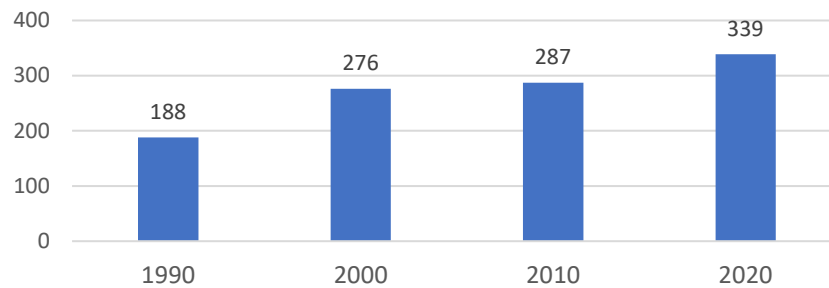
Household Size & Family Size 2000-2020



Future Demand

With the number of both occupied and vacant housing units staying fairly consistent, and the amount of solely seasonal occupied homes growing by one-fifth between 2000 and 2020, there can be understandable concern as to the direction Enfield will move in the coming years. When asked about their favorite aspects of living in Enfield, a majority of respondents acknowledge the “minimal population” and “beauty of community” as their most important factors, along with the “rural appeal” being its greatest strength. Although a majority of respondents indicated greater availability to reliable internet access was their top desire for available services, even more responded they are satisfied with the level of services currently provided. In reviewing the housing data, Enfield may be a popular destination town for tourism in the coming years.

Housing Units for Seasonal, Recreational, or Occasional Use 1990-2020



Affordability

The median household income in Enfield was \$53,722 in 2020. With the highest median income of Penobscot County, Enfield is certainly an outlier in this regard, with an increasingly affluent population and much fewer working-class and lower-income residents. Possibly accounting for Enfield’s exceptional income, according to community survey results most respondents are retired and are likely receiving a pension, social security, and returns on investments. This is a feasible conclusion, especially when considering the third largest group of survey respondents are business owners.

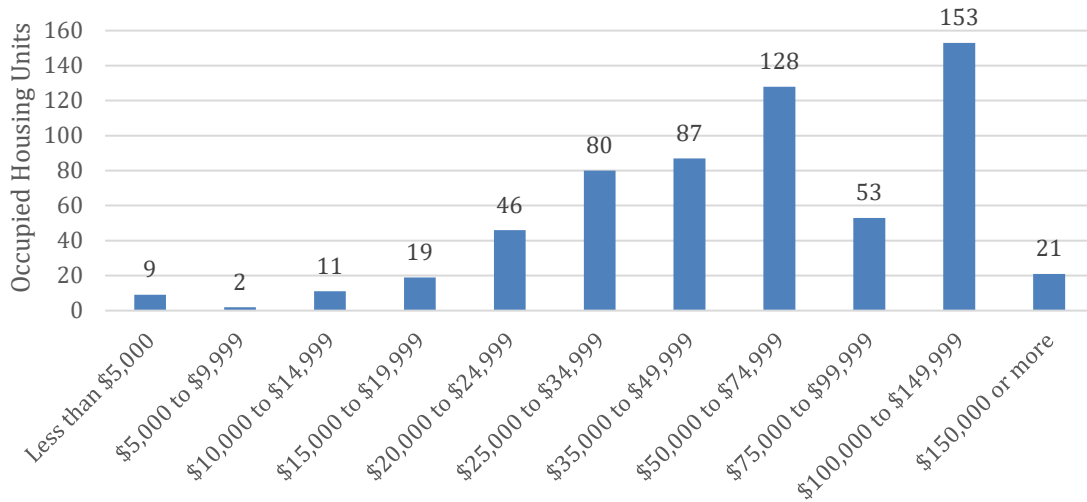
In regard to housing affordability, as most residents are homeowners, residents’ average monthly housing costs are between \$400 to \$999 a month, with the second largest group of residents paying over \$1,000 monthly. With the median income being \$54,158 in 2021, monthly housing costs of around \$400 would represent approximately 35% of their income.

The numbers differ slightly when looking at homes currently for sale in Enfield. In 2022, the average house price was \$268,785.70. To afford a house of that price, one person would need to make over \$95,000 a year. If most residents are making \$54,158 per household, then the average household does not have enough money to afford a house in Enfield. The numbers change slightly when referring to east Enfield around the lake (approximately \$370,000), or West Enfield (approximately \$168,000), closer to the Penobscot River. Showing this comparison highlights the greater disparity between the “two Enfield’s”, showing the biggest differences between the two ends of town. An investigation into how local regulations can aid in alleviating the need for affordable housing may be beneficial. Currently, local regulations are designed around the upholding status quo and are being reevaluated by the town. Estimated completion for the evaluation is 2024.

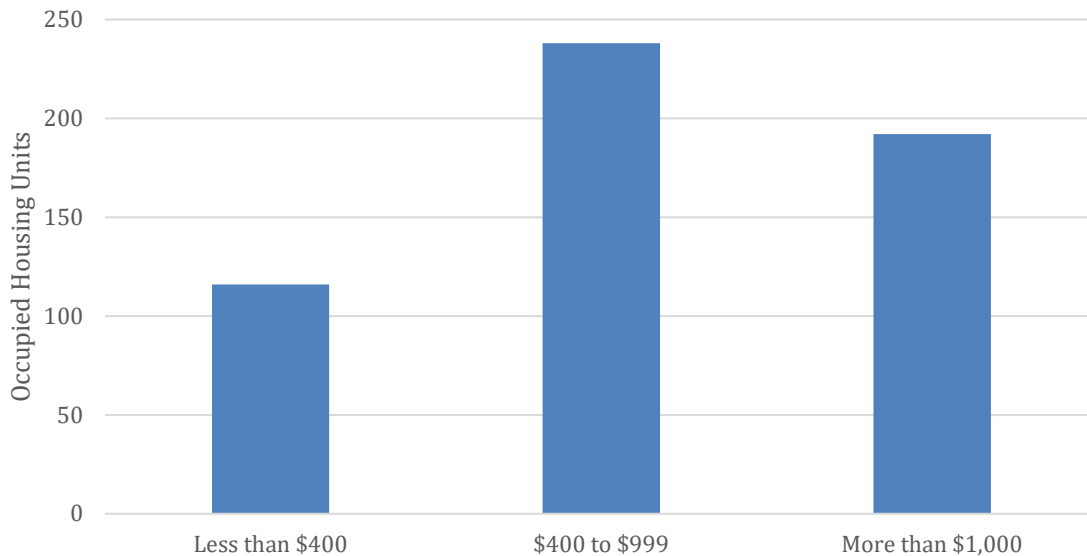
Locally, Enfield may investigate certain grants to curb affordable housing issues. These include the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) program, the housing assistance program offered by the DECD (Department of Economic and Community Development), and some also

offered by the Maine State Housing Authority. Regionally, the best option to mitigate the issues caused by a lack of affordable housing is the Rural Affordable Housing Program launched by Governor Janet Mills in May of 2022. The program, half initially funded by the COVID-era Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, provides developers with subsidies and loans to construct affordable rental units in rural areas. However, this only solves half the issue. Costs of existing housing stock continue to go up in not only Enfield, but the rest of Maine as well.

Household Income Distribution 2020

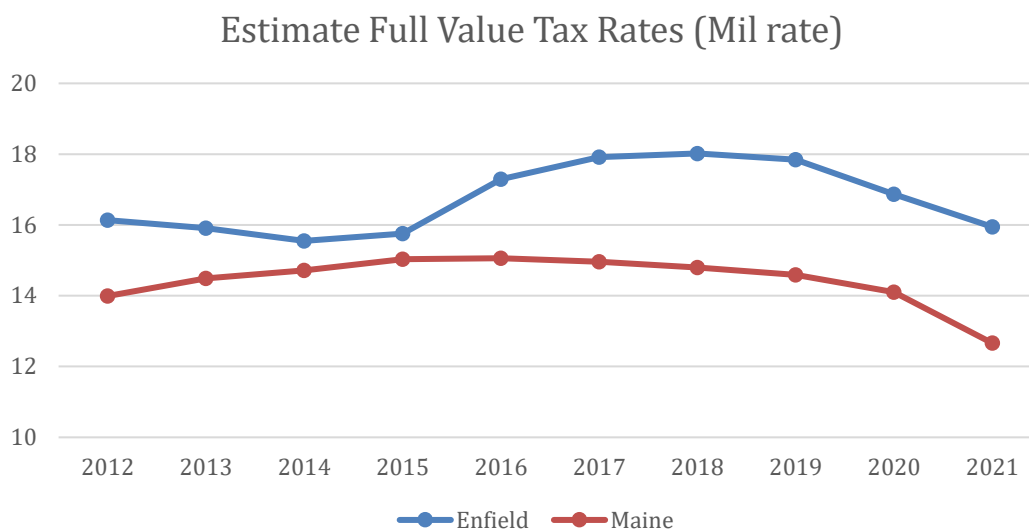


Monthly Housing Costs 2020



Moving on to mil rate, Enfield experienced a slight raise comparatively to the state average in 2015, but then saw a steady fall until 2021. Enfield’s Mil rate remains lower than the state’s average, which may be a talking point for future investment opportunities in the area. The slight

decrease in Enfield’s mil rate can offer advantages in terms of affordability, competitiveness, and attracting economic activity. While a lower mil rate may attract new businesses and residents, it may also lead to increased development pressures, including potential issues like urban sprawl, strains on infrastructure, and changes to the rural landscape. The community in Enfield plans to manage growth effectively, considering the community's long-term goals and the impact of development on its social fabric, environment, and resources.



Considering Enfield’s population is both aging and shrinking, coupled with decreasing housing stock and affordability, seeking resident demand for senior housing options, as well as to diversify housing variety to better suit residents wants and needs in terms of price, size, and location is one of the town’s future priorities. Given the growing trend of single-family homes transforming into secondary residences, prioritizing the review of local development regulations is also a priority. A review could contextualize availability and affordability of housing through a more critical lens to consider residents who wish to age in-place within their family homes. With the approval of Enfield’s Comprehensive Plan will come land use ordinances, and with that, conversations surrounding local regulations related to various types of housing development, including affordable and workforce housing. There are currently no regulations that discourage the development of affordable and workforce housing in town.

New Legislation

LD 2003 was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor in April 2022, and went into effect July 27, 2022. The goal of the new law is to alleviate the housing affordability issues in Maine by increase housing opportunities.

Soon after, LD 1706, An Act to Clarify Statewide Laws Regarding Affordable Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units, became effective on June 16, 2023. This legislation amends LD 2003 by extending the implementation date of July 1, 2023, to January 1, 2024, for municipalities that

enact ordinances by municipal officer without further action or approval by voters of the municipality and July 1, 2024, for all other municipalities.

The Enfield Comprehensive plan is grandfathered in, meaning Accommodation for LD 2003 is not required by the state. The town however is dedicated to establishing affordable housing as soon as possible, so mention of LD 2003 felt appropriate.

It requires towns and cities to increase housing density allowed in their zoning ordinances in several different ways.

1. It requires municipalities to allow additional units on lots zoned for single-family homes.
2. It requires municipalities allow at least one accessory dwelling unit on lots with existing single-family homes.
3. In some areas, it requires municipalities to allow 2 1/2 times the currently allowed housing units, for developments where most of the units meet standard affordability definitions.

The extent of the law's requirements are determined by "growth areas".

Where is our "growth area"?

The law defines a growth area as:

1) Locally designated growth areas identified in a comprehensive plan which meets consistency guidelines of the Growth Management Program

OR in the absence of a consistent comprehensive plan

2) an area served by a public sewer system with capacity for a growth-related project

3) an area identified in the most recent Decennial Census as a census-designated place, or

4) a compact area of an urban compact municipality

The town plans to work with its residents to implement LD 2003, now PL 2021, Ch. 672 and seek guidance from the state and its regional planning office to fully integrate the language into its new ordinances.

Strategies

Maintain, enact or amend growth area land use regulations to increase density, decrease lot size, setbacks and road widths, or provide incentives such as density bonuses, to encourage the development of affordable/workforce housing.

Maintain, enact or amend ordinances to allow the addition of at least one accessory apartment per dwelling unit in growth areas, subject to site suitability.

Create or continue to support a community affordable/workforce housing committee and/or regional affordable housing coalition.

Designate a location(s) in growth areas where mobile home parks are allowed pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. §4358(3)(M) and where manufactured housing is allowed pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. §4358(2). Support the efforts of local and regional housing coalitions in addressing affordable and workforce housing needs.

Seek to achieve a level of at least 10% of new residential development built or placed during the next decade be affordable

TRANSPORTATION

State Goal

To plan for, finance and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services to accommodate anticipated growth and economic development.

Town Goal(s)

To plan for comprehensive town transportation services by fostering transportation education, inter-municipal partnerships, and developing robust, multi-use pedestrian trails. These goals are consistent with Enfield's concerns as recorded in the most recent survey conducted by the comprehensive plan committee.

Policies

To prioritize community and regional needs associated with safe, efficient, and optimal use of transportation systems.

To safely and efficiently preserve or improve the transportation system.

To promote public health, protect natural and cultural resources, and enhance livability by managing land use in ways that maximize the efficiency of the transportation system and minimize increases in vehicle miles traveled.

To meet the diverse transportation needs of residents (including children, the elderly and disabled) and through travelers by providing a safe, efficient, and adequate transportation network for all types of users (motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists).

To promote fiscal prudence by maximizing the efficiency of the state or state-aid highway network.

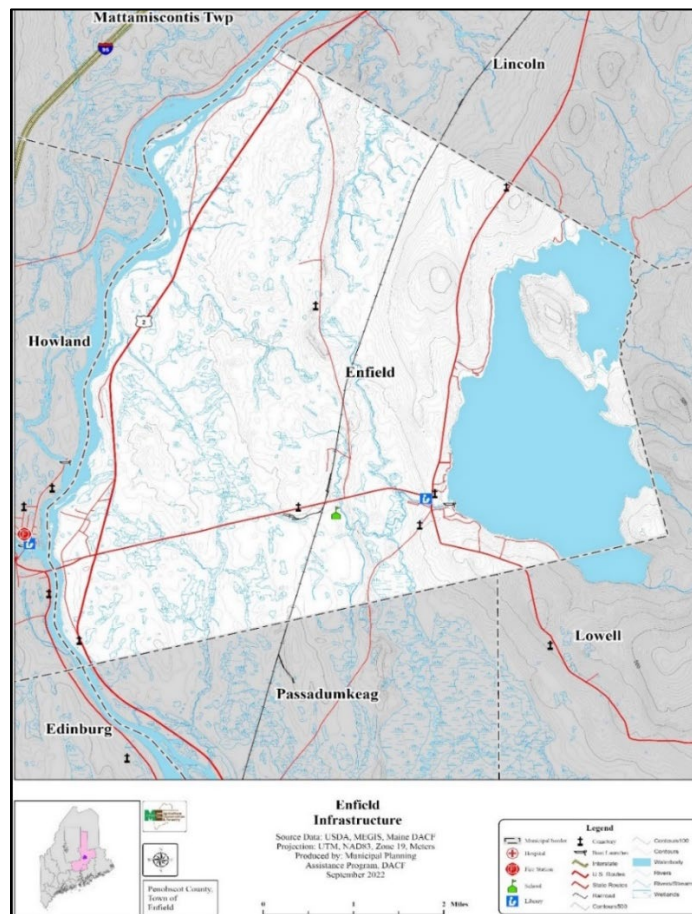
Transportation Overview

Enfield's transportation network features over 12 miles of town-owned roads and roughly 11 miles of state aided roads. The total mileage of all roadways in the Town of Enfield is 32.44 miles. Bailey Street, Pelletier Drive, Emmett St, Airport, Old Hatchery Road, Oakview Lane, North, Mill, Pierce, Pine, Emerson Streets, and Mohawk, Old County, and Dodlin Roads are classified as local roads. Route 155, a state road, is the largest arterial route through Enfield, and is regularly used by residents, heavy commercial vehicles, and visitors of Cold Stream Pond. While use is nominal most of the year, during the summer months traffic flow swells as the town welcomes seasonal travelers and residents.

Like many rural areas, Enfield may face unique challenges in developing and maintaining comprehensive transportation. However, advancements in technology and changing transportation trends can potentially shape the future of transportation in the area. There are plans in development by the newly appointed Road Commissioner, to be further examined later in this chapter.

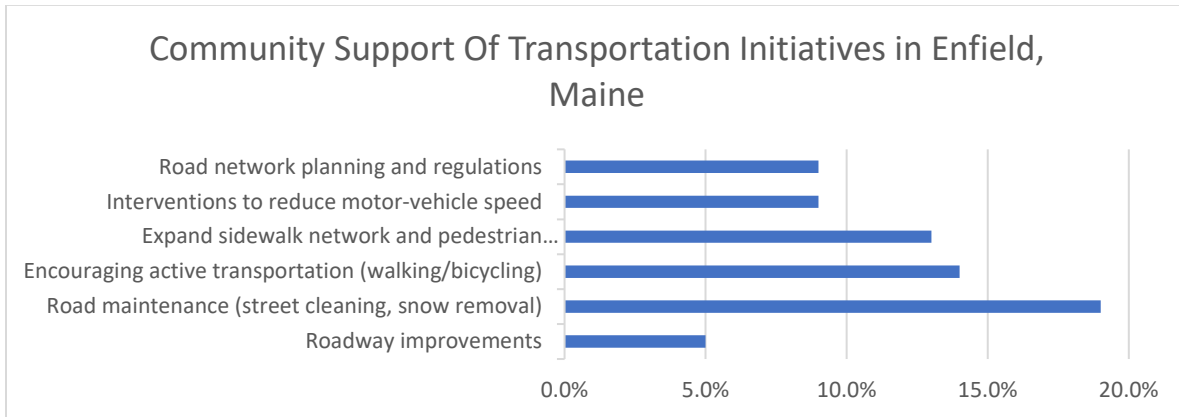
While traffic is considered manageable at current levels, planning is necessary to ensure that the local road network remains resilient to increasing instances of severe weather events and other potential natural disasters, as well as to accommodate potential population and economic growth. Enfield has no or traffic permitting measures in place, other than those set by the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT). Road design standards are looked at as needed depending on flow of traffic and other factors.

Because there are a few roads owned and maintained by the MaineDOT, there is a lot of room for state collaboration in planning on roadway improvement. Looking more regionally, Enfield has a few roads connected to Howland, Lowell, Passadumkeag, and Lincoln. Currently, no plans exist for regional collaboration, but looking to the future, there is opportunity for town transportation collaboration for the regional area.



Community Concerns

As part of the analysis, a community survey was distributed to Enfield to gauge concerns for transportation in the community and region. Below are those results, as well as the town’s plans to address those concerns.



The survey showed residents of Enfield were mostly concerned with roadway improvement and road maintenance. These include services like street cleaning, shoulder maintenance and mowing, road condition improvement, and street sweeping. The 3rd most important concern for Enfield residents was encouraging active transport like walking and biking. The graph above gives a snapshot look into what will be reviewed in more detail in the following paragraphs.

The last Comprehensive plan presented in 1996 – which was not officially accepted by the State, showed that maintenance of State Route 155 remains a persistent concern for Enfield community members. As of August 2023, there is a 14” divot on this road as you’re driving west. Community members report seeing tractor trailers and heavier vehicles look as though they’re going to tip over as they drive through that area. In the last plan, bike paths and public parking were also discussed. The previous plan stated that these issues would be explored in hopes of providing safer travel for pedestrians in high traffic areas.

Road Infrastructure

Roadway Inventory

Name	Ownership	Length (mi)	Traffic Level	Condition	Last Maintenance	Recommended Treatment
Route 155	State	~8.3	Medium	Cracking, Potholes, Depressions		Routine maintenance
Route 188	State	~1.5	Medium	Cracking		Routine maintenance
Route 2	State	~7.9	High			Routine maintenance

Caribou Road	State	~1.4	Medium	Cracking		Routine maintenance
Airport Road	Local	0.28	Low	Cracking	2023	Routine maintenance
Mill Street	Local	0.29	Low	Cracking	2023	Routine maintenance
Bickford Terrace	Local	0.27	Low	Cracking	2023	Routine maintenance
Emmett Street	Local	0.21	Low	Cracking	2023	Routine maintenance
Emerson Street	Local	0.25	Low	Cracking	2023	Routine maintenance
Pine Street	Local	0.13	Low	Cracking	2023	Routine maintenance
Pierce Street	Local	0.22	Low	Cracking	2023	Routine maintenance
Dodlin Road	Local	5.35	High	Cracking, Rutting, Potholes	2023	Preventative 3/4" overlay
Dodlin Road Ext	Local	0.3	Low	Cracking	2023	Preventative 3/4" overlay
Old Hatchery Road	Local	0.21	Medium	Cracking		3/4" overlay
North Street	Local	0.14	Low	Cracking		Maintenance dredging of ditch for drainage
Oakview Lane	Local	0.56	Low	Frost Heaves, Depression, Settling,		Routine maintenance
Old County Road N.	Local	1.26	Medium	Cracking	2019	3/4" overlay
Old County Road S.	Local	0.86	Medium	Cracking	2019	3/4" overlay
Mohawk Road	Local	2.64	Medium	Cracking	2021	overlay surface with 2" HMA
Bailey Road	Local	0.14	Low	Cracking, Rutting, Frost Heaves, Settling, Raveling		Consider returning road to gravel and building road up to provide sufficient cover over culverts and raise road bed above wet areas.

Pelletier Drive	Local	0.37	Low	Frost Heaves, Depression, Settling,		Routine maintenance
-----------------	-------	------	-----	-------------------------------------	--	---------------------

Highways

The Enfield area is served by one major highway that connects it to nearby towns and cities. U.S. Route 2 runs through Enfield, offering a vital northeast transportation link. This scenic highway provides access to neighboring communities such as Lincoln to the north-east and Passadumkeag to the south. Additionally, Interstate 95, a key interstate highway on the East Coast, is easily accessible from Enfield. This interstate enables convenient travel to major cities like Bangor, and other destinations throughout the state and beyond. I-95 serves as an essential conduit for transportation to and from Enfield, connecting it to regional hubs and facilitating both local commuting and regional travel.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Paths/ Facilities

Despite the abundance of stunning landscapes and outdoor recreational opportunities, residents and visitors to Enfield are limited in their ability to explore and connect with the environment on foot or by bike. There are very minimal sidewalks present in Enfield, and no official trails for visitors to partake in the town’s natural beauty.

The third most expressed concern for Enfield citizens were active transport encouragement, which has persisted through the last Comprehensive Plan in 1996. This is helpful to have as it will present a good benchmark for what Enfield will be able to achieve given updated analyses.

Bridge & Culvert Inventory

According to the Maine Department of Transportation, there are currently three bridges in Enfield. All three bridges are owned by MEDOT (Maine Department of Transportation) and are located on Lowell Road (Cold Stream Bridge), Caribou Road (Kimball Bridge), and Bridge Road (King’s Bridge). All bridges were last inspected in 2022, and all met minimum safety standards. However, Cold Stream Bridge, the longest serving bridge in town, has the lowest federal sufficiency rating of all three. Issues identified include “moderate to major deterioration” as well as major damage and erosion to its bank. These problems have similarly been identified at Kimball Bridge, but due to a lower Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT), their wear and tear are not as severe.

Bridge Inventory in Enfield

Name	Owner	Year Built	Location	Length (ft.)	AADT	Last Inspected	Federal Sufficiency Rating
------	-------	------------	----------	--------------	------	----------------	----------------------------

Cold Stream (2164)	MaineDOT	1938	Lowell Rd.	15'	1,248	2022	59.7
Kimball (2436)	MaineDOT	2011	Caribou Rd.	14.6'	330	2022	98.4
King's Bridge (2660)	MaineDOT	2017	Bridge Rd.	30'	4,770	2022	63

Bridges in Enfield, Maine



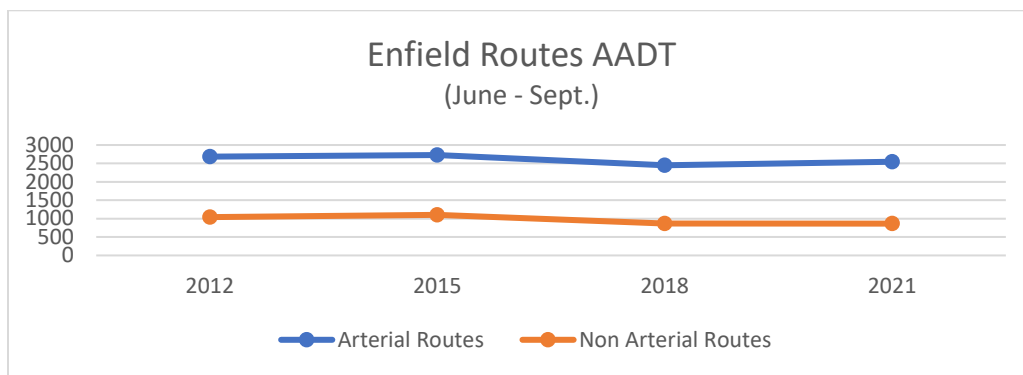
In addition to its three bridges, MaineDOT has identified one “large culvert” in Enfield that connects Tate Brook across Route 2. Whereas bridges provide essential transportation infrastructure for the community, culverts allow the free flow of water, minimize the risk of flooding and waterway obstruction, and reduce erosion and sedimentation in waterways, thereby protecting aquatic ecosystems and habitats like those in Cold Stream Pond.

Public Parking Facilities

Enfield does not have any official parking lots or garages for public use. However, as the town operates the Cole Memorial Building (789 Hammett Road), Transfer Station (593 Hammett Road), Salt/Sand Shed (594 Hammett Road), and the boat launch (40 Old Hatchery Road), there is an informal designation that their parking lots may be made use of by residents for regular use. No issues have been mentioned regarding the current structure of public parking.

Traffic & Safety

Between 2021 and 2023, MaineDOT identified the intersections of Route 2 and Route 155 (Bridge St., Hammett Rd., and Main Rd.), as well as Mohawk Rd. & Dodlin Rd. as high crash areas. Between this period of time there were approximately 10-20 crashes annually, of which a fraction resulted in injury and zero fatalities. As these crashes took place in proximity of Enfield's town lines – nearing the border to Lowell and bridge to Howland – it is possible that driver behavior or existing infrastructure has an outsized influence on safety. The town has been apprised that a traffic study would likely reveal greater insight to improve existing roadway design and reduce the number and severity of crashes. Since 2010, there have been 350 crashes in Enfield, with a rough average of 30 annually.

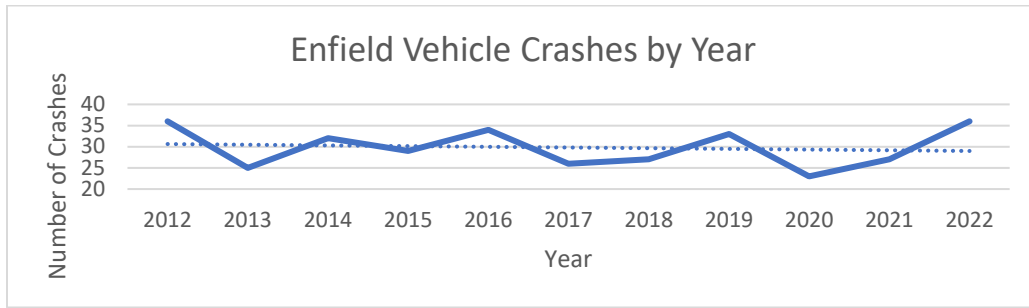


Daily traffic volume varies significantly throughout Enfield based on residents and visitors' destinations. As Routes 2, 155, and 188 serve as the primary transportation corridors in town, they receive considerably more daily use than smaller town roads. The AADT average for Enfield as a whole in 2021 was 2,332 vehicles, however, in some areas, the count of vehicles was as great as 5,550 vehicles. Given that Enfield is a major destination for tourists visiting Cold Stream Pond during the summer, smaller, less-traveled roads can also see significant use several months out of the year.

MaineDOT traffic counts show that motor vehicle traffic on most Enfield roads has remained consistent over the past 5-10 years. That said, recorded volumes were highest during tourist season (June – September) each year, when traffic throughout Maine is typically at its peak.

Currently, the town plans to address the safety issues in two ways. Firstly, expanding the road shoulders of areas like Routes 155 and 188 to create greater visibility for motorists and pedestrians alike. The comprehensive plan committee expressed the concern for community members walking/biking to places like Morgan Beach from West Enfield, and concluded that this would also aid in connecting the “two Enfield’s” often used to describe how each side of Enfield feels disparate. Secondly, the committee expressed interest in expanding driver's education within the school system to provide a better basis for drivers' knowledge within and beyond the community.

Crash History



According to MaineDOT the number of crashes in Enfield have stayed fairly consistent over the past decade. However, since the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic in 2020, the amount of crashes have gone up. This data is consistent with other towns of similar size in the region.

The number of crashes along with traffic volume has remained fairly consistent over the past decade, but has begun to slightly rise starting in 2018. With travel increasing, especially to rural and recreation spaces during the pandemic, this trend may continue into the future.

Budget & Maintenance

Enfield has implemented a comprehensive 4-year road maintenance plan for all locally owned roads. Long-term planning to maintain and improve roads, bridges, and culvert repair and maintenance is an ongoing goal.

Enfield Pavement Management Four Year Maintenance Plan			
Year	Road Section	Proposed Maintenance	Estimated Cost (2022 Dollars)
2023	Dodlin Road, Section 3	2" HMA Overlay	\$351,760
	Mohawk Road	2" HMA Overlay	\$635,010
	Old Hatchery Road	Spot Repairs	\$16,250
	North Street	Drainage Repairs	\$72,000
Year 2023 Total			\$1,075,020
2024	Dodlin Road Section 1	3/4" Overlay	\$275,940
	Dodlin Road Section 2	3/4" Overlay	\$90,970
	Dodlin Road Extension	3/4" Overlay	\$30,710
	Old County Road North	3/4" Overlay	\$154,690
	Old County Road South	3/4" Overlay	\$103,630
Year 2024 Total			\$655,940
2025	Old Hatchery Road	3/4" Overlay	\$18,150
	Emmett Street	Crack Sealing	\$5,830
	North Street	Crack Sealing	\$3,330
	Pine Street	Crack Sealing	\$3,870
	Emerson Street	Crack Sealing	\$7,430
Year 2025 Total			\$38,610
2026	Airport Road	Crack Sealing	\$7,580
	Pierce Street	Crack Sealing	\$5,520
	Mill Street	Crack Sealing	\$7,280
	Bickford Terrace	Crack Sealing	\$7,310
Year 2026 Total			\$27,690

Sewall

Not much data are available from past expenditures, but Enfield shows the following in roadway improvement expenditures from 2017, 2020, and 2021:

2017 Old County Rd – North & Old County Rd – South - \$75,000.00 overlay existing roadway

2020 West Enfield roadways - \$250,000.00

2021 Dodlin / Mohawk Shim - \$100,000.00

As of 2023, the planned budget for maintenance expenditures is \$1,000,000.00 +/- Bond

The Enfield roadways have all been reviewed by an engineering firm and are on a pavement management plan.

MaineDOT has performed several maintenance and road improvement initiatives in the past several years. Over the past five years, Enfield has received, on average, \$28,613, in financial support from the Maine Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP). This is slightly below the average Enfield received from between 2013 and 2016 (\$28,861) and slightly above the average amount Enfield has received annually since the program began in 2013 (\$28,330).

Maine DOT Maintenance Accomplishments (2022)			
1	Tree Removed	35.2	Tons of Patch Applied
1	Bridge Washed	47.1	Miles of Striping Applied
4	Emergency Event Responses	853	Square Feet of Pavement Legend Applied
1	Drainage Structure Installed or Maintained	25.6	Shoulder Miles of Sweeping
6	Drainage Structures Thawed	48.6	Shoulder Miles of Mowing
9	Drainage Structures Cleaned	70	Linear Feet of Shoulder Rebuilt
13	Minor Signs Installed or Maintained	2505	Linear Feet of Brush Removed
47.5	Shoulder Miles of Herbicide Applied	2061.8	Linear Feet of Backhoe Ditching

LRAP finances are calculated based on whether an area is rural (\$600 per lane-mile for town ways; \$600 per lane-mile for state aid/minor collectors; and \$300 per lane-mile for seasonal town ways) or urban (\$2,500 per lane-mile for summer maintenance of state highways; \$1,250 per additional lane-mile for summer maintenance of state highways; and \$1,700 per lane-mile for winter maintenance of state highways). Enfield is presently considered rural.

Local Road Assistance by Fiscal Year	
FY 2019	\$29,468
FY 2020	\$29,600
FY 2021	\$27,500
FY 2022	\$27,500
FY 2023	\$29,000

The MaineDOT 2023-2025 annual municipal transportation work plan scope of work for Enfield includes the new construction of slightly over a half-mile of on-road sidewalk/trail extending

north on Old County Road from Rt. 155 for pedestrian and cyclist use. State funding for this project is estimated at \$580,000. With many respondents to the 2023 Community Survey indicating they wish to see an improvement to roadway conditions, active transportation options, and expanded sidewalk network, these changes will likely be well met – but likely not during or until construction has concluded.

Transportation Connectivity

Enfield is a car-dependent community. Road/traffic conditions and the distance from Lincoln or Bangor, and the nearest major service centers, makes biking for transportation prohibitive.

By Rail

Amtrak - Brunswick (143 miles from Enfield)

The State of Maine and Downeast Scenic Railroad Company own a rail line that formerly ran between Bangor and Calais with a stop in Ellsworth.

By Air

Bangor International Airport (39 miles from Enfield) is the closest international airport offering flights to destinations along the East Coast.

By (Private) Bus

Greyhound & Concord Coach Lines Bangor (38 miles from Enfield) operate intercity bus services between Bangor, Augusta, Portland, and Boston.

By Public Transit

None

No public transportation options are currently available in Enfield. Given the older population, some form of organized public transportation service would be desirable, however, the low population density proves a challenge to sustaining such a service.

By Taxi/Ride Share/Ride Services

None

No taxi or livery services currently operate in Enfield, with the closest options being located in Lowell. Rideshare companies like Uber and Lyft operate statewide, but are dependent on the availability of their drivers. However, Lynx provides a variety of social service programs in Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties, including transportation services.

Resilient Road Networks

A resilient road network in more rural areas, serves a critical purpose in enhancing community sustainability and disaster preparedness. The primary aim of such a network is to ensure reliable

transportation and connectivity, even in the face of adverse weather conditions or natural disasters, such as heavy snowfall or flooding, which are common in this region. This resilience is achieved through a combination of well-designed road infrastructure and proactive maintenance strategies. Some of the ways the town is looking to create and bolster these networks is with long-range maintenance and repair schedule with a funding plan like the town roads reserve, which is used for grading and ditching, and the roads and bridges reserve used to incorporate bicycle and pedestrian facilities, formalizing budget sources for larger roadway improvements with LRAP and Taxation, working with MaineDOT to evaluate culverts and drainage, designing for resilience and accessibility: paving and repair standards to ensure longevity of improvements including flooding, and evaluating of spring/summer road maintenance schedule.

Strategies

Continue to update a prioritized improvement, maintenance, and repair plan for the community's transportation network.

Initiate or actively participate in regional and state transportation efforts.

Enact local ordinances as appropriate to address or avoid conflicts with:

- a. Policy objectives of the Sensible Transportation Policy Act (23 M.R.S.A. §73);
- b. State access management regulations pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. §704; and
- c. State traffic permitting regulations for large developments pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. §704-A.

Enact ordinance standards for subdivisions and for public and private roads as appropriate to foster transportation-efficient growth patterns and provide for future street and transit connections.

ECONOMY

Goals

State Goal: Promote an economic climate that increases job opportunities and overall economic well-being.

Town Goal(s): Enfield has several goals they wish to meet over the next ten years.

Zoning: Form a separate working group to look at the possibility of creating appropriate zoning for issues such as commercial businesses, housing divisions and short-term rentals. Zoning should reflect the goals of citizens to limit or expand various business and land uses.

Grants: Securing grants for town or individual resident's needs by securing grant writing education and opportunity seeking. Grant writing or monitoring needs to be an assigned or paid task of the Town government.

Land: Utilize TIF money for public land for development

Utilities/Communication: Promote and encourage public utilities to expand internet, cellular and electric power to all residents. Promote and encourage any businesses that would enable easier shipping such as a Mailboxes etc., like UPS drop off box at town hall or the FedEx drop-off at Dollar General.

Policies

To support the type of economic development activity the community desires, reflecting the community's role in the region.

To make a financial commitment, if necessary, to support desired economic development, including needed public improvements.

To coordinate with regional development corporations and surrounding towns as necessary to support desired economic development.

Enfield's Economy

With its original name being Cold Stream, emphasizing its access to the Penobscot River, the abundant and rich hydrological resources had a profound impact on the town's economy, acting as both a crucial means of transportation for early settlers and explorers, and a significant source of power for various mill industries. At present, there is one lumber mill – the Pleasant River Lumber Company – that still operates within Enfield, has a 60/40 Split for TIF money, and is one of the town's largest employers. Portland-based Standard Biocarbon, a major producer of biochar

has this as well. Furthermore, the economy of Enfield reflects more of a mix of sectors, including services, tourism, and other small-scale manufacturing. Home occupations are also taking a larger role in the community as more people utilize IT resources to start businesses and work from home. It is commonly agreed that this type of work will only play a bigger role in the community as it gets further into the future. Understanding the historical context helps appreciate how the community has navigated economic changes, demonstrating resilience and adaptability in the face of evolving industries.

The absence of any local or regional economic plans are a possible byproduct of Enfield's longstanding independent goals and perspectives. Whereas communities utilize their older and "built-up" areas as historic districts to preserve their cultural and architectural heritage, while encouraging new business and development that complements the existing area. Although there is not a pre-existing economic center, or "main street" that would lend itself to renovations or improvements to make the town more attractive to visitors or businesses, Enfield's opportunity lies in the freedom to develop the space freshly as the community sees fit. The closest Enfield has to such an area is the southwest corner of town known as "West Enfield" where the local post office and bridge to Howland is located.

Currently, Enfield has fifty-two acres of land owned by the town. There is a lot of opportunity for development in any of the economic areas that Enfield chooses to pursue. Further investigation is needed to determine where these areas are located and potential partnerships the community should pursue if collaboration is possible.

Employers and Residents

There are over twenty businesses that operate within Enfield. Of the town's population of residents that are 16 years or older, approximately 54.3% participate in the labor force. The community's population works locally and in surrounding towns, including Howland, Lincoln, Old Town, Orono, and Bangor. Employees in the community reside locally and in surrounding communities in Penobscot county. The town's major employers include Pleasant River Lumber (as stated previously) Ware Butler, The Town of Enfield, with most working for the Enfield Station School, Kings Construction, and the golf course. Most people in Enfield are optimistic about the future of the town's economy, citing the arrival of Pleasant River Lumber in 2020, and the new Biochar company beside it.

At this time there is one medical facility in Enfield: Health Access Network (HAN), located in West Enfield. Founded in 2003, although HAN provides access to a variety of non-emergency medical services, its limited size and staff is insufficient to fully meet the needs of residents, requiring the use of services located in nearby Lincoln, Bangor, and Millinocket.

Similar to a few surrounding communities, Enfield does not operate its own Fire / EMS/ or Police departments. Instead, fire prevention and emergency medical services are provided by neighboring Howland's Fire & EMS Department located across the West Enfield bridge. Law enforcement services are provided by the Penobscot County Sherriff's Office. Although these

services are currently sufficient, according to the Community Survey, there is an urgency to examine potential disaster scenarios to determine future needs in the area. This urgency is supported by a recent University of Southern Maine study which describes Enfield and a few other communities as ambulance deserts, where it takes over 25 minutes to reach an emergent care facility.

Commercial Development

Although the potential for any future industrial or major commercial development is unlikely, one sector Enfield has had considerable growth in is the number of seasonal residents. Coupled with the town's rural aesthetic and Community Survey results evincing the town's "minimal population, beauty, recreational opportunities, and "family atmosphere"," Enfield may be well situated to rebrand its image and revitalize its economy as an ecotourist and recreational destination. While the "heyday" of the lumber industry has long passed, there is still ample opportunity for Enfield to again capitalize on its hydrological resources, without needing to sacrifice its small-town charm or natural bounty. Despite abundant access to forest, ponds, and the Penobscot River, there are presently two public-owned camps in Enfield, and very few privately owned camps/ campgrounds in the surrounding area. The two town-owned camp buildings in Enfield are on Cold Stream Pond. These public camps, named the "Red Camp" and "Brown Camp", generate roughly \$15,000 year in revenue. In addition, there are roughly 10 Airbnb listings in Enfield as of June 2023.

Another aspect of nature-based tourism that the town describes as advantageous is incorporating a river-walk/trail, similar to Brewer, Maine. Brewer's "River Walk" as it is called, is so popular that there is now a riverwalk festival organized by the city, celebrating the river itself, and the surrounding local businesses. Enfield establishing a river walk by the Penobscot River has the potential to stimulate significant economic development for the community. A river walk offers an attractive and accessible waterfront space that can attract visitors, tourists, and residents alike. The presence of a well-designed river walk creates a scenic and recreational destination, drawing people to the area for leisure activities such as walking, jogging, biking, or simply enjoying the natural surroundings. This increased foot traffic can generate opportunities for local businesses, including cafes, restaurants, gift shops, and recreational equipment rentals, stimulating economic growth and creating new jobs.

Enfield has the opportunity to strengthen its reputation as a small, destination-based town by prioritizing the development of its economy to cater to specific industries. By doing so, the town can distinguish itself from being perceived as a commuter town or aging community.

If Enfield opts to capitalize upon its nature as a small rural community as discussed, there is likely a considerable market of newly-remote workers who are seeking to relocate to areas with Enfield's exact qualities. Given the new-found ubiquity of remote work as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many workers in costly urban areas are relocating to suburban and rural areas

where they can take advantage of reduced costs of living. Broadband must be expanded on to make this push. This is a goal that Enfield is already pursuing. While there is already an economic incentive, Enfield can address other areas most important to attracting such potential new residents. The rebranding of Enfield necessitates further development land use policies to ensure protection of the town's resources.

Economic Development Plan

Residents have expressed a strong interest in attracting more businesses to Enfield, with the most desired being restaurants, grocery, and retail stores. Considering these businesses are customer and food service oriented, and would have immediate benefits in contrast to other industries or forms of development, residents would theoretically be more inclined to welcome their added presence to Enfield. In addition, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Access Research Atlas, while it is not itself one, Enfield is surrounded by food deserts. A "food desert" refers to a census tract where a significant number or share of residents do not have access to affordable or good-quality fresh food with or without a vehicle within a certain distance. Howland, Passadumkeag, Maxfield, Burlington, and even Lowell are all food deserts according to the USDA. Taking into consideration the wants and needs of town residents and the surrounding area, there appears to be viable market openings to address these industry deficits, which would undoubtedly be a boon for Enfield's economy.

To initially attract visitors and new residents, the community expressed interest in pursuing marketing campaigns and branding for the town. They conveyed that their goal with it would be to make a "vision of us." This is not a new strategy for smaller American towns. For a similar example of successful branding or marketing like this, one might turn to Portland Oregon, or Austin Texas. For a smaller and more local example, Bangor, Maine has demonstrated great progress with using the visage of Paul Bunyan to represent the city. Across the pond, there is "The Wild Atlantic Way" in Ireland. This was a tourism campaign that focused on Ireland's rugged western coastline, which includes many rural areas. The campaign promoted the regions cliffs, villages, and rich heritage. By branding the area as a scenic driving route, and highlighting its unique local experiences, the campaign attracted visitors to explore rural Ireland and contributed to the local economies along the routes. Further resident surveys and partnerships with marketing agencies were discussed as a way to benefit Enfield as the town works to define and pursue the vision of Enfield.

There is also a strong interest in making Enfield an ecotourism destination. Because ecotourism is defined by its potential for environmental stewardship, the community in Enfield expressed it may align well with its purported rural appeal. To accomplish economic growth through ecotourism, the planning committee discussed investigating zoning measures for a bog walk and stylized bridges, as well as enhancing hiking trails and focusing more on investing in various

business endeavors associated with ecotourism. This may involve providing grants, organizing training programs, or facilitating partnerships between entrepreneurs and tourism experts.

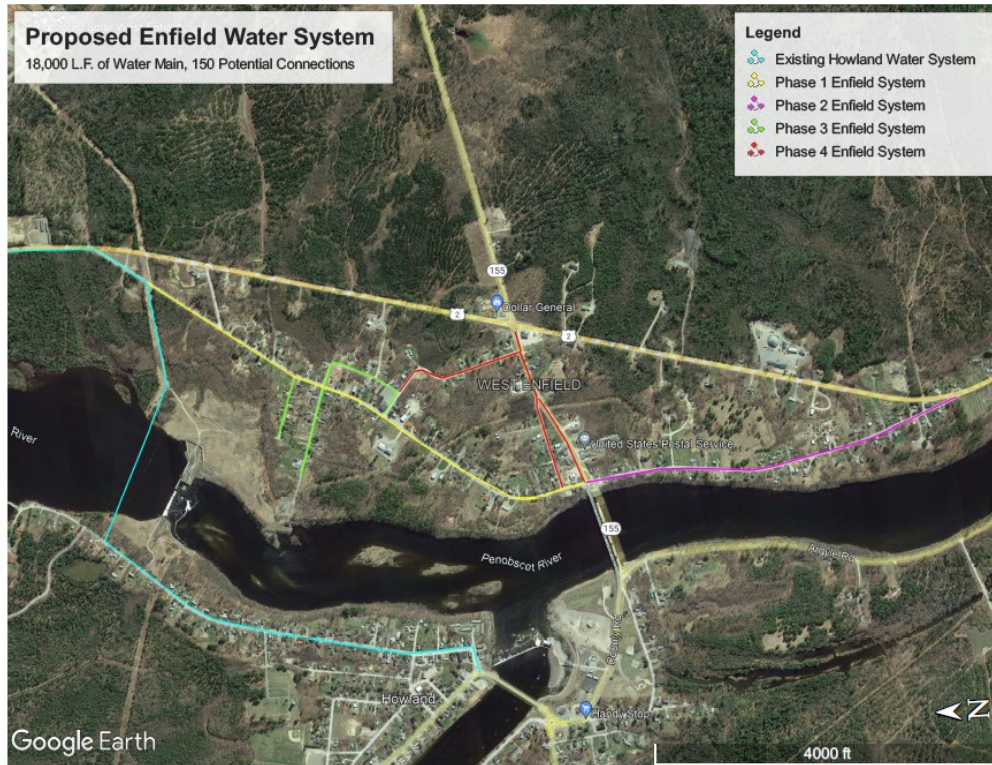
There are other obstacles that affect development. The town does not have central water and limited sanitary systems, broadband service and cellular service is erratic, and three phase power is limited to a very small strip of road. A portion of the Howland system runs through some of Enfield, serving about 170 households. All residents obtain their drinking water from wells.

Waste and Water Systems

The Town of Enfield installed sewer lines along the Penobscot River in West Enfield in the 1990's. The West Enfield Sewer Project was completed in phase 2 of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) process. The Town of Enfield received a \$1,296,600 grant from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), a \$791,000 grant from Farmers Home Administration, a \$800,000 CDBG and a \$258,000 loan from the Farmers Home Administration to fund this project. The Sewer Project provides West Enfield with a satellite sewer system that connects to Howland's host system across the river.

The system was functioning by the fall of 1996. The need for this project arose from failing subsurface septic systems that created health hazards and water pollution. Repair or replacement of the malfunctioning systems is not possible because the land in this area consists of poorly drained and very wet soils. In 2020, repairs and replacement to the system commenced, as the equipment was over 25 years-old and in need of upgrading.

Enfield is currently working with the engineering firm A.E. Hodgdon in Waterville to create a more centralized public water utility service to be completed in four phases, creating 150 water services in town. It is incomplete, as water storage would need to be determined. Hydraulic analysis for water storage would need to be completed for a more detailed plan.



An updated public water system would play a vital role in Enfield’s economic development by attracting residents, supporting businesses, promoting tourism, facilitating agriculture, and improving public health. It is a crucial infrastructure investment that fosters economic growth and overall prosperity for rural communities like Enfield.

Broadband Service and Cellular Service

A robust broadband network and reliable cellular services is needed to foster Enfield’s economic development. A good broadband network enables access to high-speed internet, facilitating online connectivity, communication, and information exchange. The impetus would be connecting the town to global markets, enabling businesses to reach a broader customer base and engage in e-commerce. Greater broadband access opens avenues for remote work, entrepreneurship, and access to online education and training, allowing residents to acquire new skills and improve employability. Moreover, a strong digital infrastructure attracts investment and encourages the establishment of tech-based industries, creating job opportunities and stimulating local economic growth. New opportunities are available through Federal Enhanced Alternative Connect America Cost Model (EACAM) to provide fiber to underserved addresses.

Reliable cellular services ensure effective communication, which is vital for businesses to maintain smooth operations, coordinate with suppliers and clients, and respond promptly to market demands. Access to high-quality cellular networks also improves emergency services, healthcare delivery, and public safety in rural areas, so this kind of infrastructure may positively impact Enfield as well by enhancing overall community well-being. The availability of good

broadband and cellular services empowers rural areas to overcome geographical barriers, unleash their economic potential, and foster sustainable development. So, Enfield stands to benefit from improving their access to broadband and cellular services.

Three Phase Power

There are several benefits to three phase power that could bolster Enfield's economic development. It ensures more efficient distribution of electric power. The enhanced efficiency would result in cost-savings for both utility companies and residents. The three-phase system enables the handling of larger electrical loads, making it well-suited for industrial and commercial applications with high power requirements. This increased capacity and stability can foster the growth of businesses in Enfield, driving economic development and generating employment opportunities. It may bolster the reliability, efficiency, and capacity of the local electrical infrastructure, providing tangible benefits to the community and supporting its long-term sustainability.

Any areas in Enfield seeking commercial or industrial development may need these upgrades for such development to be appropriate.

Strategies

If appropriate, assign responsibility and provide financial support for economic development activities to the proper entity (e.g., a local economic development committee, a local representative to a regional economic development organization, the community's economic development director, a regional economic development initiative, or other).

Enact or amend local ordinances to reflect the desired scale, design, intensity, and location of future economic development.

If public investments are foreseen to support economic development, identify the mechanisms to be considered to finance them (local tax dollars, creating a tax increment financing district, a Community Development Block Grant or other grants, bonding, impact fees, etc.)

Participate in any regional economic development planning efforts.

WATER RESOURCES

State Goal

To protect the quality and manage the quantity of the State’s water resources, including lakes, aquifers, great ponds, estuaries, rivers, and coastal areas.

Town Goal(s)

Enfield plans to strengthen monitoring of Cold Stream Pond, The Penobscot River, and the aquifer for greater resiliency, and include monitoring for PFAS by leveraging partnerships with the region and the state.

State Policies

To protect current and potential drinking water sources.

To protect significant surface water resources from pollution and improve water quality where needed.

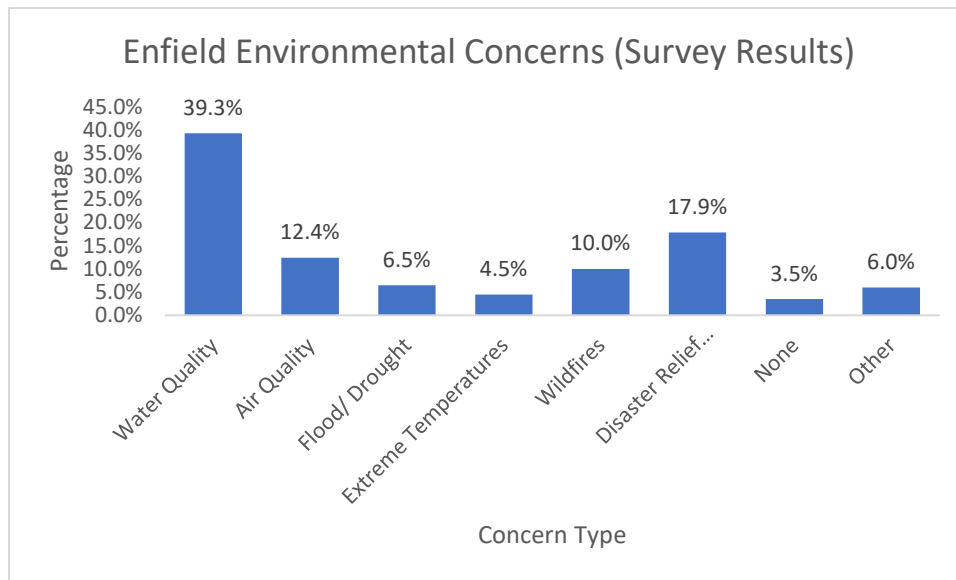
To protect water resources in growth areas while promoting more intensive development in those areas.

To cooperate with neighboring communities and regional/local advocacy groups to protect water resources

Consider amending local land use ordinances, as applicable, to incorporate low impact development standards.

Protection and Preservation

The presence of water, in general, has a significant impact on various aspects of a given region, let alone a municipality. From clean reliable drinking water and wastewater management to maintaining ecosystem health and providing recreation, Enfield’s water is the most vital for sustaining the life in and around town. As such, Enfield feels it is vital to always use best management practices to protect water resources in their daily operations. Enfield has a lot of opportunity to leverage its water resources for economic development, especially noting the presence of one of the purest bodies of water in the state and the Penobscot River.



Ammadamast

Ammadamast is the original name for Cold Stream in our regions native Algonquin. Today, the name is displayed on the town's grange hall and gathering place. A few residents posit that it reminds the town where its heart is. Cold Stream Pond is also said to be the reason Enfield exists. It's importance to the town is certainly not to be discounted.

Cold Stream Pond is roughly 1/3 of the town of Enfield's size. The total surface area of this pond is 3,628 acres. Three thousand, three hundred and eighty-eight (3,388) acres are located in Enfield while the remainder is located in the towns of Lincoln and Lowell. The pond has drainage area of 28.1 square miles at its outlet near the Enfield village. It consists of two distinct basins separated by a ridge of land called "the bluff" and connected by a narrows. These two basins, although somewhat different habitat types, are managed as a unit. Large boulders, gravel and some large sand beaches dominate the shoreline, with a mud bottom in deeper areas. Softwood growth dominates the area around the lake.

Both basins stratify thermally, and abundant oxygen exists at all depths in the south basin, but the north basin often becomes oxygen deficient in the late summer. Enfield Fish Hatchery located beside the outlet of the lake uses water from Cold Stream Pond to rear salmon and trout. Lake trout are native to Cold Stream Pond, and at one time, eggs were taken from these fish to be raised in the hatchery, but this practice has been discontinued. Lake trout are not currently stocked and natural reproduction on the spawning bed in Webb Cove sustains the lake trout fishery. Landlocked salmon were first introduced into Cold Stream in 1876. Because of very limited salmon spawning area in the outlet, salmon are stocked on an annual basis to maintain the fishery. Salmon growth is very good, although somewhat variable, depending on smelt abundance. Brook trout are being stocked on an experimental basis to determine if they can

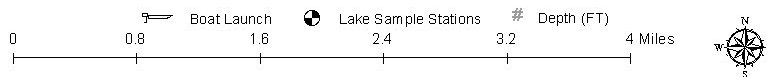
provide another fishery for the anglers. Access to the lake is by a town-maintained public boat launch facility on the Old Hatchery Road off Route 188.

Cold Stream Pond is protected under the local Shoreland Zoning and Flood-plain Management Ordinances of the town, which prioritize the health and safety of the body of water, are updated regularly, and can be found on the town’s website. Cold Stream Pond is also currently a non-point source (NPS) Priority Threatened Watersheds. The reason for this designation is to prioritize Maine DEP NPS water pollution control efforts and attract local communities to take action to restore or protect waters impaired or threatened by NPS pollution.



Cold Stream Pond MIDAS # 2146

Lowell, Penobscot Co. - Delorme Page 33 - 3620 acres



Value

The excellent water quality of Cold Stream Pond makes it an especially valuable recreational and fishery resource worthy of special protection. Water quality data have been periodically collected by the MDEP and the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) since 1970.

The ecological significance of Cold Stream Pond is underscored by its role as a vital freshwater ecosystem within the region. This mesotrophic pond, characterized by its clear waters, supports a diverse and interconnected biological community. The submerged vegetation, including species such as *Nymphaea odorata* and *Potamogeton* spp., provides critical habitat for juvenile fish species, contributing to their recruitment and growth. Avian diversity is notably prominent, as the pond attracts a range of waterfowl and other bird species, utilizing its resources for nesting, foraging, and shelter during migration. The presence of emergent and riparian vegetation along the pond's margins serves as a buffer zone, minimizing sediment runoff and supporting terrestrial organisms. This freshwater ecosystem serves as an exemplar of the interplay between hydrological, botanical, and faunal components, highlighting the complex dynamics that drive its ecological integrity and further affirming its ecological importance within the local landscape.

Threats

Cold Stream Pond is listed under the threatened lake priority list by the Department of Environmental Protection. The reason is for its outstanding water quality and the presence of the Enfield Fish Hatchery. There is a camp owners association which presented a 10-year Watershed-based Protection Plan that was published in 2016 in association with the Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District. Monitoring of the lake has been taking place since 1970 when the camp owners association formed, primarily due to concerns about a proposed 1,500-unit development along the east shore of the lake. The association, now with over 140 members, was reconstituted in 1994 with a focus on shoreline protection and water quality issues. This plan described potential threats to water quality and quantity and emphasized that although the lake is currently free of any invasive species, it is important to continue monitoring efforts to make sure it stays that way.

As with other lakes in Maine, the greatest threat to water quality in Cold Stream Pond is polluted run-off. Phosphorous is a common element in soils around the lake and also may enter the lake from use of fertilizers or from inadequate septic systems. Another threat comes from growth, which, if managed improperly, can result in conversion of forest lands into developed lands and contribute to a gradual decline in water quality. Furthermore, The Cold Stream Pond (CSP) Watershed projection Project workplan has been underway since 2017 to help mitigate any further threats of runoff affecting surface waters. The exact details of this plan can be found [via the Maine Department of Environmental Protection \(DEP\)](#).

Other threats to be aware of are invasive species. There are a number of invasive fish species that pose a direct threat to all waters in the Town of Enfield, especially to Cold Stream Pond. Smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*) are abundant in the Penobscot River, they were illegally introduced into Upper Cold Stream Pond (Little Narrows) at some point in the 1990's and positively identified in 1997. By 1999 they had come down through the outlet from Upper Cold Stream (Big Narrows) and were caught by anglers in Cold Stream Pond.

The Penobscot River

Enfield is located in the Penobscot River Basin with the river forming the town's western border. Much of Enfield's history can be attributed to the presence of the Penobscot River, which served as the main source of transportation for both the native Penobscot peoples and white settlers. The Penobscot River, with a drainage area of 8,592 square miles, is Maine's largest river basin. From Enfield, it flows south for approximately 102 miles to the Penobscot Bay.

There is a dam in the Penobscot River located in the West Enfield area. The West Enfield Dam is owned by Brookfield Renewable and is used to generate power. In 1984, the dam was expanded by 9.5 megawatts to have a total capacity of 13.6 megawatts. At that time, it was also relicensed for 40 years.

Prior to 2018, The Penobscot River at Enfield had a water quality rating of C. It's recent reclassification to B is due to clean up efforts over the years. Upgrading a Class C River to a Class B River means that wastewater dischargers are regulated more strictly to protect a broader range of uses. According to the Maine DEP, the switch to class B rating means the water around Enfield is suitable drinking water supply after treatment; fishing; agriculture; recreation in and on the water; industrial process and cooling water supply; hydroelectric power generation, except as prohibited; navigation; and as habitat for fish and other aquatic life. The habitat must be characterized as unimpaired. The Penobscot River is protected under the local Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. The Penobscot River is also protected under the local Floodplain Management Ordinance.



Value

The part of the Penobscot River situated in Enfield stands as a pivotal ecological entity, wielding substantial value within its riparian habitat. Its intricate network of tributaries, diverse aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, and dynamic hydrological regime collectively contribute to its ecological significance. The river supports a rich assemblage of native fish species, notably acting as a critical spawning and nursery ground for Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*). The intricate wetlands, floodplains, and forests that envelop its banks provide crucial nesting and foraging habitats for a myriad of avian and mammalian fauna. Furthermore, the Penobscot River, through its interconnectedness with downstream estuarine environments, fosters nutrient cycling, sediment transport, and the maintenance of aquatic biodiversity. However, anthropogenic activities and historical dam construction have disturbed its natural dynamics, necessitating comprehensive management strategies to preserve and restore its ecological integrity and sustained functionality. Recognizing its intricate role within the regional landscape, diligent conservation efforts are imperative to ensure the river's continued ecological value.

The river also has cultural value to the Penobscot Nation, which continues to thrive there despite heavy colonization. To the Penobscot people, their river represents identity, spirituality, and livelihood. The river allows them to make baskets, pottery, birch canoes, and moccasins as they have done for over 10,000 years. All of the islands in the river officially belong to the Penobscot nation and as such, are governed by them. The presence of the nation allows for better collaboration for land and river management in and around the river.

Threats

There are potential threats that could undermine the river's ecological equilibrium and functional integrity. Among these threats, the encroachment of invasive species presents a paramount concern. The establishment of non-native species such as the European green crab (*Carcinus maenas*) and the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) has the potential to disrupt indigenous ecosystems by outcompeting native species for resources and altering habitat structure. Additionally, the alteration of flow regimes due to anthropogenic activities, particularly dam construction and water diversions, has the potential to hinder migratory fish movements, disrupt sediment transport, and modify habitat availability. This, in turn, could undermine the reproductive success of iconic species like the Atlantic salmon and jeopardize the stability of riparian and floodplain habitats. Climate change further compounds these threats by introducing uncertainties in precipitation patterns, stream temperatures, and extreme weather events, potentially exacerbating invasive species proliferation and altering ecosystem dynamics.

There are other fish species that are known to be established in the Penobscot River and are considered a threat to Cold Stream Pond, including largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), white catfish (*Ameiurus catus*), and most significantly, northern pike (*Esox lucius*). Pike were identified down river in Pushaw Lake in 2003 and are considered a very significant threat to the entire Penobscot Watershed. Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife installed barriers in the outlet dam at Cold Stream Pond to prevent northern pike, and other non-native species, from entering the lake on their own from below. However, there is always the possibility that someone will

purposely move northern pike, or any other non-native or invasive species, into Cold Stream Pond.

Other Waterbodies

Enfield, like a bulk of Maine, has quite a few waterbodies that are worth mentioning as it conveys a more complete picture of the towns water resources.

Ponds

There is an unnamed pond of four acres in surface area is located on Pollack Brook. The watershed of this pond is 75% located in Enfield and 25% located in Lincoln. Water quality information has not been collected for this pond, and thus, it is considered to be "moderate/sensitive".

Streams

There are a number of streams located in Enfield. These include Beaver Brook, Brady Brook, Cold Stream, Merrill Brook, Pollack Brook, and Tate Brook.

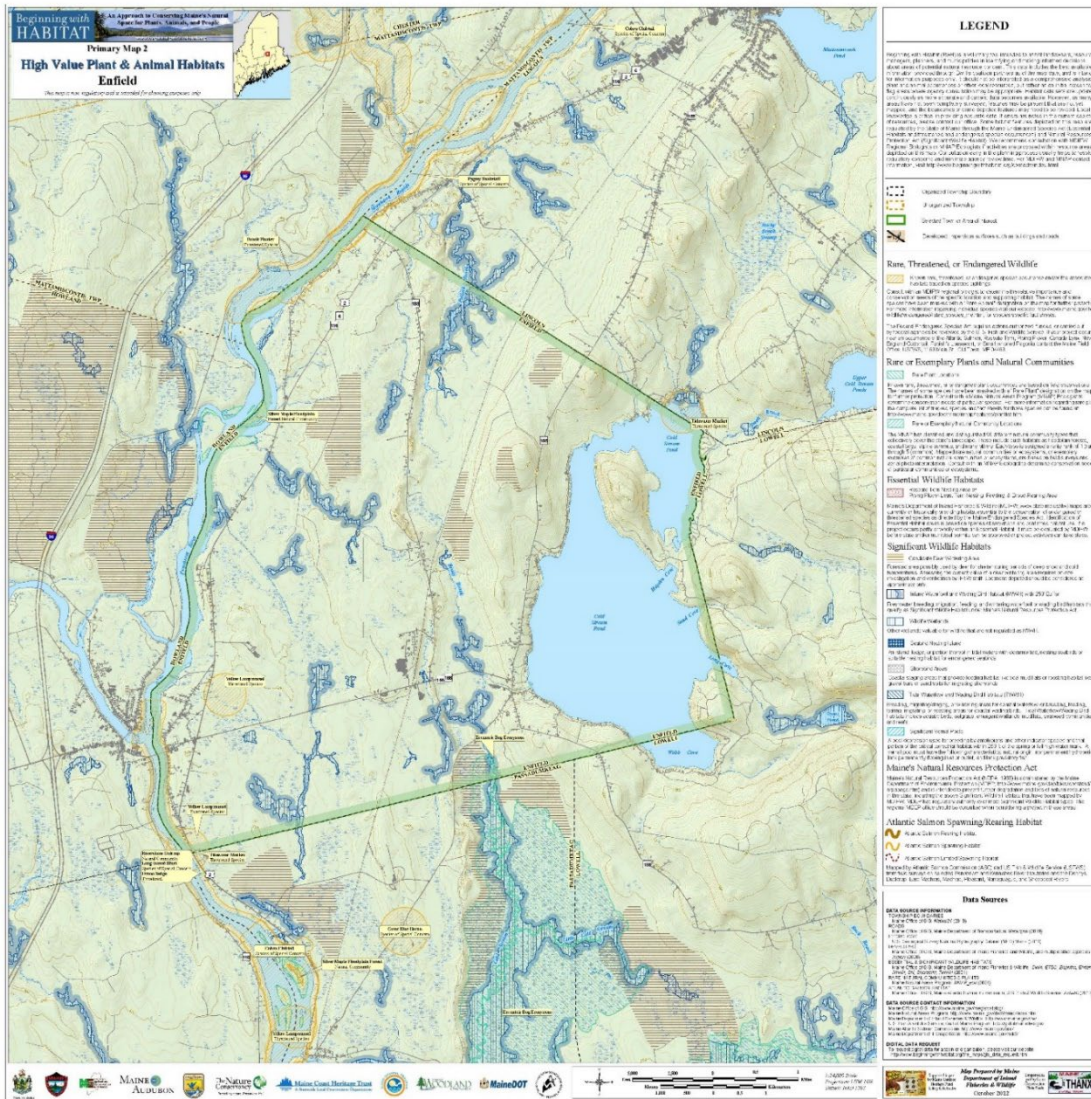
Brady Brook, a small tributary of Cold Stream, originates in central Enfield and flows south for two miles to its confluence with Cold Stream near Enfield Village. Brady Brook has a drainage area of approximately 2.4 square miles.

Cold Stream, a tributary of the Passadumkeag River, originates at Cold Stream Pond in Enfield and flows west from Cold Stream Pond through Enfield Village, and south for eight miles to its confluence with the Passadumkeag River in Passadumkeag. The drainage area of Cold Stream is approximately 44.9 square miles.

Wetlands

Wetlands (bogs, peatlands, fens) are one of the most productive ecosystems in the world, comparable to rain forests and coral reefs. They are important for maintaining stream flow and stabilizing groundwater levels in addition to providing very important habitats for wildlife. For humans, wetlands provide natural water quality improvement, flood protection, shoreline erosion control, opportunities for recreation, and aesthetic appreciation and natural products. Enfield's freshwater, non-forested wetlands have been identified and can be seen below on the beginning with habitat high value plant and animal map. State law requires this wetland to be zoned Resource Protection under the Shoreland Zoning Laws. Enfield has taken the appropriate steps in protecting this high value wetland. All of the forested wetlands have been protected under the Enfield Shoreland Zoning Ordinance.²

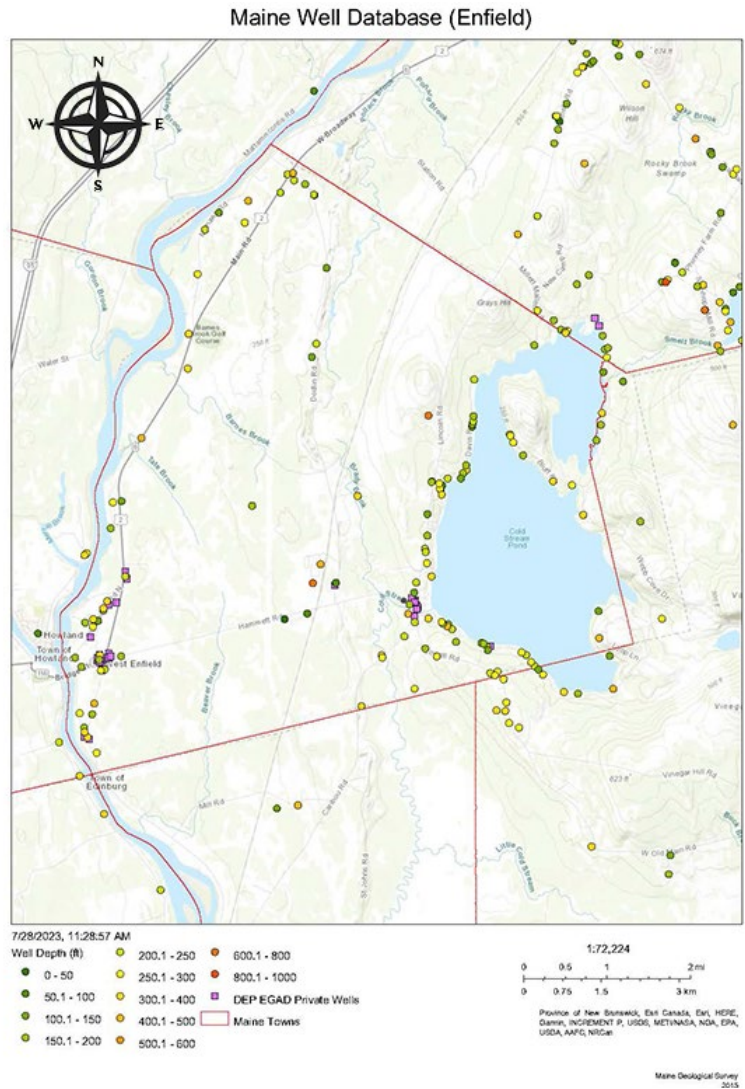
² <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/wildlife/beginning-with-habitat/maps/pdf/Enfield/Enfield%20Map%202.pdf>



Groundwater and Aquifers

Groundwater is a major source of drinking water in Enfield and is pumped from individual wells drilled down to the underlying aquifer. The known sand and gravel aquifers located in the town of Enfield, based on information provided by the State Department of Conservation, include a large and significant aquifer which traverses the town from north to south and runs underneath or very close to the Dodlin Road for a major portion of its distance. This aquifer not only provides Enfield's water, but Lincolns water and that for Poland Springs bottling enterprises. There is a new Land Use ordinance being drafted to make that area as a protected district from some types of development. Looking to the future, droughts may become more prevalent throughout Maine and last longer. To mitigate the possibility of droughts in the future, it is important to routinely and thoroughly monitor the state of groundwater and aquifers. Currently, Enfield does not have

any protection measures in place for their supplies and recharge areas aside from what the state requires. Below is a map of estimated wells dug in Enfield. Although this map shows most of the wells found, some are still missing.

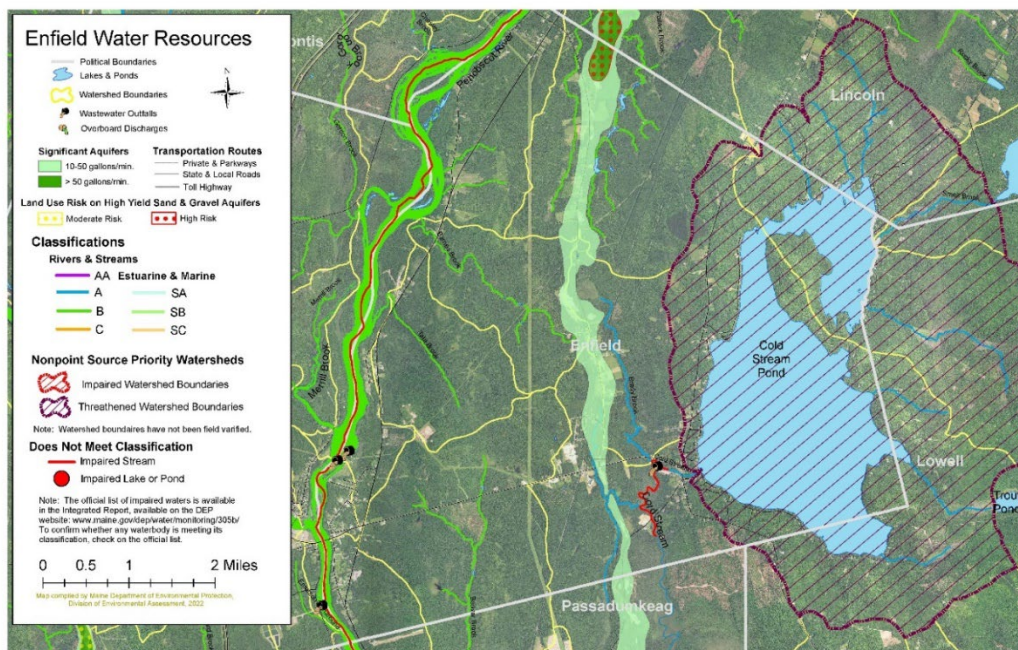


Aquifers

An aquifer currently supplying the drinking water for Lincoln and Howland lies under Lincoln, Enfield, and Passadumkeag. The high yield section underlies Lincoln and Enfield around the towns' boundary. The municipal wells for the water supply are located in Lincoln. Enfield is considering their future needs for drinking water, which may include developing their own municipal water supply from the aquifer or hooking into the existing supply system for Lincoln and Howland, which uses the aquifer.

The aquifers as indicated are the known deposits of coarse-grained surface materials in all probability that can supply useful volumes of groundwater to properly constructed and developed wells. Boundaries are based on the best-known information and enclose areas that

tend to be the principal groundwater recharge sites. Recharge to these specific aquifers, however, is likely to occur over a more extensive area than that shown on the water resources map.



Flood Management

Our complex network of rivers and streams give our state a unique landscape, and unique opportunities for water recreation. It also makes the state as a whole more susceptible to periodic flooding.

Dams

Dams are important in flood management because they offer a range of flood control measures. By storing excess water during heavy rainfall or snowmelt, dams can regulate the flow downstream and prevent immediate inundation. They act as vital barriers in upstream areas, attenuating peak flows and shielding downstream communities from floodwaters. Additionally, controlled releases through spillways help mitigate the intensity of flooding events. The reservoirs created by dams also serve as valuable storage basins, allowing for strategic floodwater management. Moreover, the potential hydropower generated from dams provides funds to support flood prevention initiatives, maintenance efforts, and the implementation of comprehensive flood resilience strategies. In Maine's pursuit of sustainable flood management, the role of dams as a key element in flood control cannot be overstated.

There is currently one hydroelectric dam in Enfield, called the West Enfield dam, or the Stanford dam. It lies on the Penobscot River just above its confluence with the Piscataquis River between the towns of Enfield and Howland. The dam has a fish passage. Its power plant has a 13 MW

installed capacity. There is also a dam on Cold Stream Pond owned by the state of Maine, which used to be known as the hatchery dam. Its purpose is to control the water level.

Protection

The town’s shoreland zoning which outlines protection measures are stricter than the base guidelines set by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). As Enfield abuts most of Cold Stream Pond and the Penobscot River, as well as a wetland that is categorized as high value habitat, it is important that the community continuously aid in monitoring and partner with other municipalities and organizations because of the significance of the ecosystem services these waterbodies provide. The town’s biggest priority is keeping Cold Stream clean and allowing access for residents and visitors, alike. There are two town beaches, and two boat landings (one vehicular and one hand carry). Measures of water resource protection around every water source utilizes their shoreland The Penobscot River, in particular, is of increased importance because of recent efforts by a variety of agencies including Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR), Atlantic Salmon Federation (ASF), and Maine Audubon to improve and increase the amount of fish passages through barriers. In Enfield, the projects are centered around the Stanford dam. The goal is to improve native fish passages, but especially for the endangered Atlantic salmon population. These actions were due to start in 2022, and will continue through 2024 according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Barrier threats to Atlantic Salmon in Enfield

Watershed	Threat	Activity	Recovery Action	Location
Penobscot River	Partial barrier	Engage in West Dam Hydro relicensing		Enfield

Shared Resources

Most of Cold Stream Pond lies within Enfield and is managed by Enfield. The shorelines within Lowell and Lincoln are managed separately by their Code Enforcement Officer. Collaboration to protect Cold Stream Pond between the communities are beneficial because it would allow the pooling of resources and management styles.

The Penobscot River is the largest river in Maine and runs through several towns and cities. This River contains multiple threatened species and species of concern. Of the several which are endangered, threatened, or of special concern, only three habitate in Enfield’s portion along the Penobscot. These include Brook floaters (*Alasmidonta varicosa*), tidewater mucket (*Leptodea ochracea*), and yellow lamp mussel (*Lampsilis cariosa*).

Of greatest importance to the Penobscot River is the Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*). Maine is home to the only remaining populations of wild Atlantic salmon in the United States. salmon face

a large suite of threats to survival in both fresh and saltwater environments, including dams, pollution, and (historically) overfishing. Water quality is an essential component of suitable habitat for spawning and rearing. Maine DEP monitors the water quality and biological communities in Maine's Atlantic salmon rivers and streams in close collaboration with state and federal agencies and non-profit groups, with the goal to restore and enhance the populations of this endangered species. Work is guided by Maine's water quality standards ([38 M.R.S. Section 464 4-A](#)).

The issue with protecting wildlife is that most organisms do not recognize municipal borders. The protection and conservation of species that have habitat along Penobscot River will necessitate regional cooperation. That said, there are already state-wide efforts for these species' protection, but further effort from the surrounding municipalities would make any regulations surrounding their protection more effective.

Pollution

Because the town has quite a few sources of water, it is important to keep track of any and all potential pollution. Disposing of waste properly, maintaining septic tanks, and reducing sediment run-off are a few of many ways that Enfield utilizes to mitigate pollution. Soon, Enfield plans to engage in an inflow-outflow study to aid in monitoring and improving water quality.

The Cold Stream Pond Camp Owners Association (COA) prioritizes water quality protection and the preservation of local waterbodies. Through the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program developed by the Lake Stewards of Maine, individuals can become trained water monitors and identify sources of phosphorus and invasive plants on boats and boat propellers. On their website, the Association provides educational information on how to ensure the preservation of local lakes and the importance of boat inspections to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic species such as milfoils, hydrilla, water chestnut, spiny water flea, Asian clam, or zebra mussels. The Town of Enfield collaborates with the COA to create awareness of the tributary system flowing into Cold Stream Pond. Erosion along these tributaries can carry non-point source pollutants that can cause unintended consequences, like algae blooms, in the recipient lake. The watershed signs let people know that even small brooks and streams can have an impact on water quality of a lake located many miles away and the town is proud to take part in creating this public awareness. The Association also provides funding to help properties obtain the LakeSmart designation, a voluntary program overseen by Maine Lakes that supports projects that minimize stormwater runoff and prioritize water quality preservation. When a property is being evaluated to determine whether it qualifies for a LakeSmart designation, five property attributes are assessed, some of which include lawns, shorefront areas, and roads. For properties that qualify for LakeSmart designation, owners receive signs to post on their shoreline property. If a property does not qualify for an award, the LakeSmart evaluation team will make recommendations to improve the assessed areas.

Point Source

Point source pollution comes from specific, identifiable sources, such as industrial facilities or wastewater treatment plants discharging contaminants directly into water bodies. Point-source pollution might arise from factories, sewage treatment plants, or other industrial activities that release pollutants into nearby waterways, leading to localized pollution and possible adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems. There are currently know areas for potential point-source pollution in Enfield.

Non-Point Source

Non-point source pollution is more diffuse and arises from multiple sources, making it challenging to pinpoint a specific origin. In Enfield, this could include runoff from forested or agricultural lands, or construction sites, carrying pollutants like fertilizers, pesticides, oils, and debris into rivers and streams during rainfall events.

In December 2020, Maine DEP issued updated Nonpoint Source Priority Watersheds Lists identifying seventy-one impaired streams, 21 impaired lakes, and 36 impaired marine waters in the state, as well as 77 threatened streams, 170 threatened lakes, and 2 threatened marine waters. The term ‘threatened’ in these lists refers to unimpaired waters that are subject to potential impacts from nonpoint source pollution. In Enfield, there were no impaired streams or lakes on the 2020 lists.

There are no recent occurrences of non-point source pollution reported in Enfield. The wastewater is managed through a combination of private septic systems and a centralized wastewater that gets sent to Howland where it is treated and discharged into the Penobscot River or recycled.

One concern is for the runoff into wetlands or the river from demolished buildings nearby. One example is where Cold Stream Mill once stood at the corner of Route 2 and Route 155 in West Enfield. It is unknown what leaches from the soil into other places. Enfield utilizes culvert systems to mitigate most runoff, but breakdown of infrastructure poses a threat to prevent runoff. The town may test the soil if there is an opportunity to partner with the state to cover the costs. Another example is where a large culvert is deteriorating near the river on Mohawk Road, and might be depositing unregulated discharge into the river. Immediate culvert repair or replacement is needed to mitigate this possibility. The salt shed’s presence on the edge of a protected wetland is also important to monitor. Luckily, Maine DEP has a road Salt and Sand-Salt Storage Area Program that is responsible for mitigating the effects on ground and drinking water from piles of uncovered salt and mixed sand-salt.

All buildings reportedly have up-to-date septic systems, sanding of roads is done to state standards, and shoreland zoning is managed well by the town Code Enforcement Officer and Planning Board.

When refuse is burned, it is done to all Maine DEP standards. The only real potential for non-point source pollution in the community may arise from excessive flooding in the west Enfield area that abuts the Penobscot River. Certain conditions after heavy rains would have to manifest for this to be possible though. The town is working on strategies for future management of this area.

The major bodies of water are Cold Stream Pond and The Penobscot River, but there are several smaller ponds, brooks, and streams that Enfield cherishes including Beaver Brook, Brady Brook, Cold Stream, Pollack Brook, Tate Brook and an unnamed Pond. Below is a table describing chemistry data sourced from USGS and the lakes of Maine website.

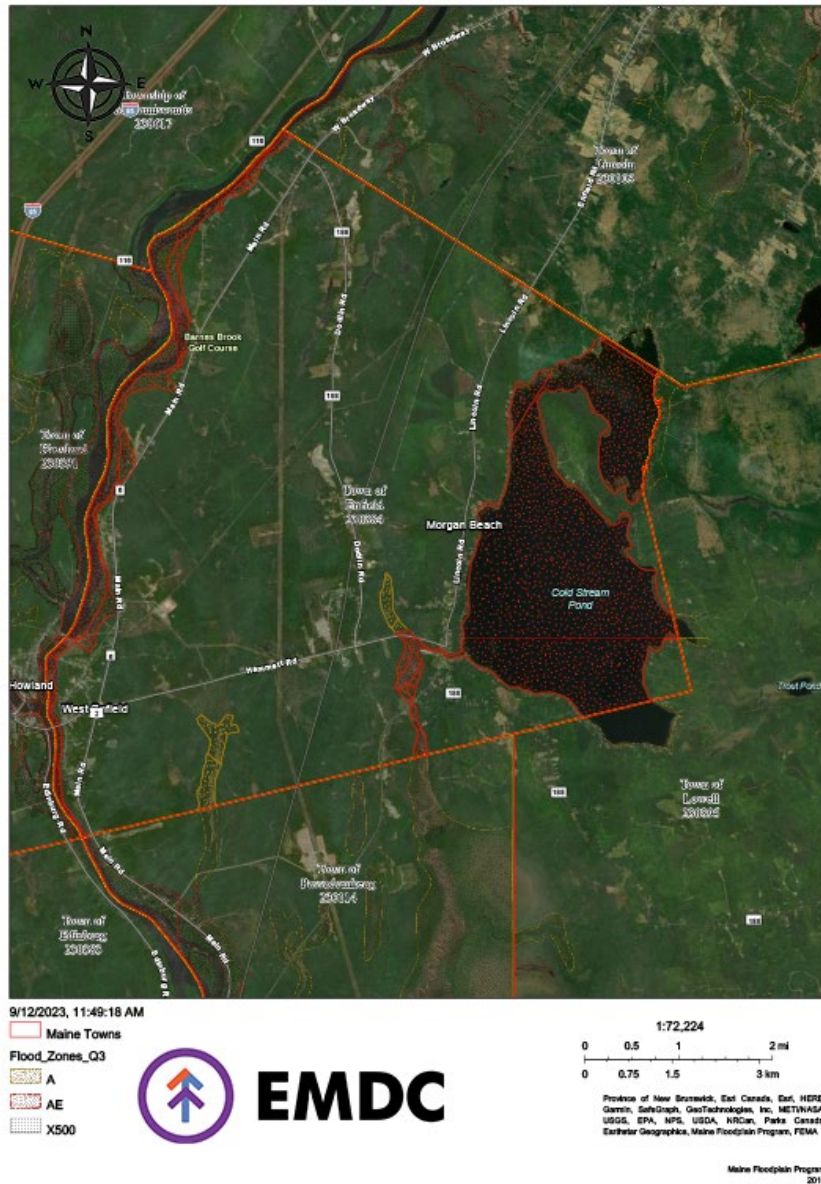
Phosphorus Levels and Other Qualities in Major Enfield Water Bodies

Location	Water shed Size (sq. mi.)	Annual Flush Rate (Flushes per yr.)	Avg. Phosphorus Level (ug/L)	2018 Phosphorus Level (ug/L)	Avg. Water Clarity (m)	2018 Water Clarity (m)	2018 Number of Tests
<i>Cold Stream Pond</i>	21	1.75	5.6	6	10.5	8	2
<i>Penobscot River</i>	9.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.74	1.74	1

Community Needs

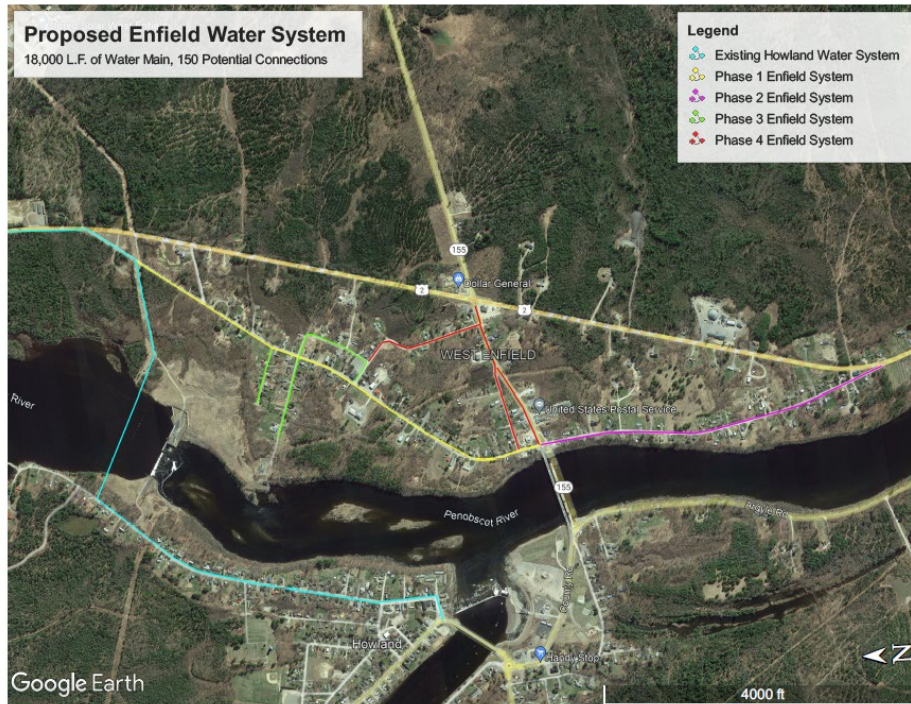
Enfield does not have any needs for its water resources other than continued monitoring and regular maintenance. The town continues to operate under best management practices for the area, making it known that the water resources are a point of pride, and using the pristine quality as an opportunity for foster community education and engagement in continued sustainable water practices. Strong consideration must be given to how humans interact and change the surrounding climate and potential impacts, including flooding, changes in precipitation, and long-term impacts on water quality in local lakes, ponds, and the Penobscot River. There are several climate resilience resources available to the town through the [Maine Climate Change Adaptation Toolkit](#), an interagency initiative led by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The community should refer to these resources when considering preventative measures against climate change impacts.

Enfield Flood Hazard Map



Public Water systems

Enfield's current sewer water system runs on wells and partly shared distribution from Howland. Enfield is working with AE Hodsdon in Waterville to create a more centralized public water utility service to be completed in four phases, creating 150 water services in town. It is incomplete, as water storage would need to be determined. Hydraulic analysis for water storage would need to be completed for a more detailed plan.



Access to clean and reliable water is a fundamental requirement for human life. By providing a public water system, Enfield would ensure that residents have access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene standards. This creates a healthier living environment and improves the overall quality of life for the community. On top of this, a reliable public water system is an essential factor in attracting new residents. People are more likely to settle in an area that offers basic amenities, including access to clean water. As the population grows, it stimulates local economic activity, such as increased demand for housing, retail, and services. Altogether, an updated public water system would play a vital role in Enfield’s economic development by attracting residents, supporting businesses, promoting tourism, facilitating agriculture, and improving public health. It is a crucial infrastructure investment that fosters economic growth and overall prosperity for rural communities like Enfield.

Strategies

Adopt or amend local land use ordinances as applicable to incorporate stormwater runoff performance standards consistent with:

- a. Maine Stormwater Management Law and Maine Stormwater regulations (Title 38 M.R.S.A. §420-D and 06-096 CMR 500 and 502).
- b. Maine Department of Environmental Protection's allocations for allowable levels of phosphorus in lake/pond watersheds.
- c. Maine Pollution Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Program

Maintain, enact or amend public wellhead and aquifer recharge area protection mechanisms, as necessary.

Encourage landowners to protect water quality. Provide local contact information at the municipal office for water quality best management practices from resources such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Soil and Water Conservation District, Maine Forest Service, and/or Small Woodlot Association of Maine.

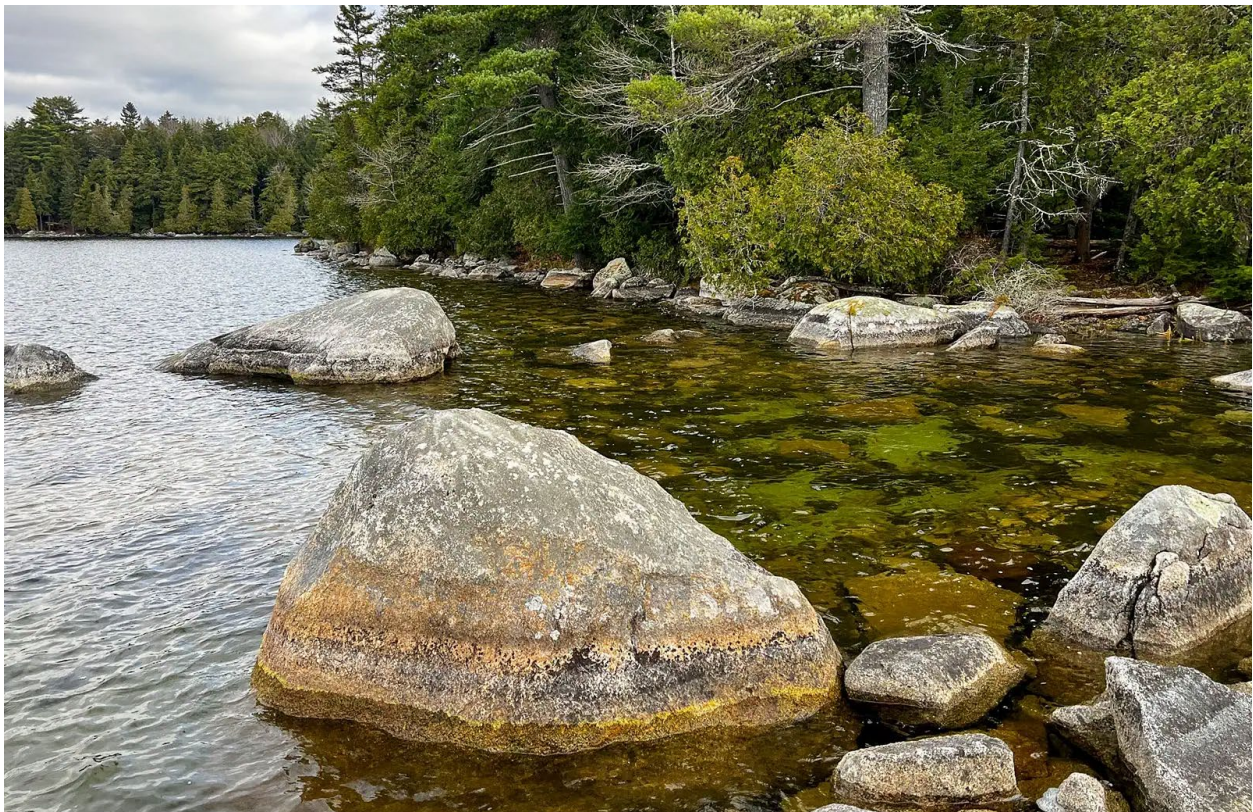
Adopt water quality protection practices and standards for construction and maintenance of public and private roads and public properties and require their implementation by contractors, owners, and community officials and employees.

Participate in local and regional efforts to monitor, protect and, where warranted, improve water quality.

Provide educational materials at appropriate locations regarding aquatic invasive species.

Monitor water bodies for PFAS

Create an Inflow/ flowage study to see how water resources are managed



NATURAL RESOURCES

State Goal

To protect the State's other critical natural resources, including without limitation, wetlands, wildlife and fisheries habitat, sand dunes, shorelands, scenic vistas, and unique natural areas.

Town Goal(s) and Policies

Promote inter-local relations among municipalities for a coordinated regional effort to protect natural resources by way of increased communication.

Explore ways to improve, expand, and balance recreational activities with conservation practices around the town's vital natural resources like The Penobscot River and Cold Stream Pond by utilizing campaigns already undertaken by other towns and cities in Maine as a blueprint.

Policies

To conserve critical natural resources in the community

To coordinate with neighboring communities and regional and state resource agencies to protect shared critical natural resources

Natural Community & Landscape

Enfield lies within the Eastern Maine Brunswick plains ecoregion. Otherwise categorized as region 82c. Region 82c is generally low-relief landscape, with some hills occurring. Elevations are mostly 200 to 600 feet with many peaks over 1000 feet. A mix of bedrock geology is found here, including low-grade metamorphosed pelites and sandstones, as well as intrusive granitic rocks and some volcanics. There are many long, north-south trending eskers and kames. Organic and finer-textured soils occur in depressions and on broad flat lowlands. The region has numerous lakes, and the largest concentration of peatlands in Maine. The lakes in this region are often shallow, and mostly low in nutrients and alkalinity. Some areas of calcareous sediments with generally atypical alkaline wetlands also occur in the region. The climate is milder than in ecoregions to the north and northwest, and is transitional to the coastal Ecoregion 82g. Spruce-fir Forest is dominant, with northern hardwoods on drier sites and hills. Forestry activities are a dominant land use. A few blueberry barrens occur in the south near the boundary with Ecoregion 82g. The following figure can be found in ecoregions of New England with a focus on the relevant part of Maine.

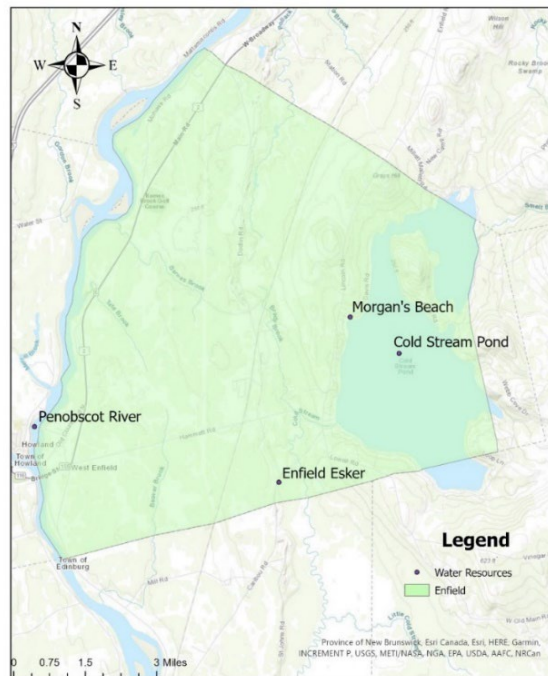
Looking at Enfield more specifically, Enfield derives significant benefits from its natural resources, which contribute to both its local economy and quality of life. The lush forests provide timber for the forestry industry, offering job opportunities and contributing to the region's economic

stability. The pristine lakes and rivers offer recreational activities like fishing, boating, and swimming, enhancing residents' leisure and well-being. Additionally, the picturesque landscapes and diverse wildlife attract tourism, bolstering the town's revenue and fostering a sense of community pride. The combination of these natural assets not only sustains Enfield's economic vitality but also nurtures a harmonious balance between nature and human habitation, enriching the lives of its inhabitants.

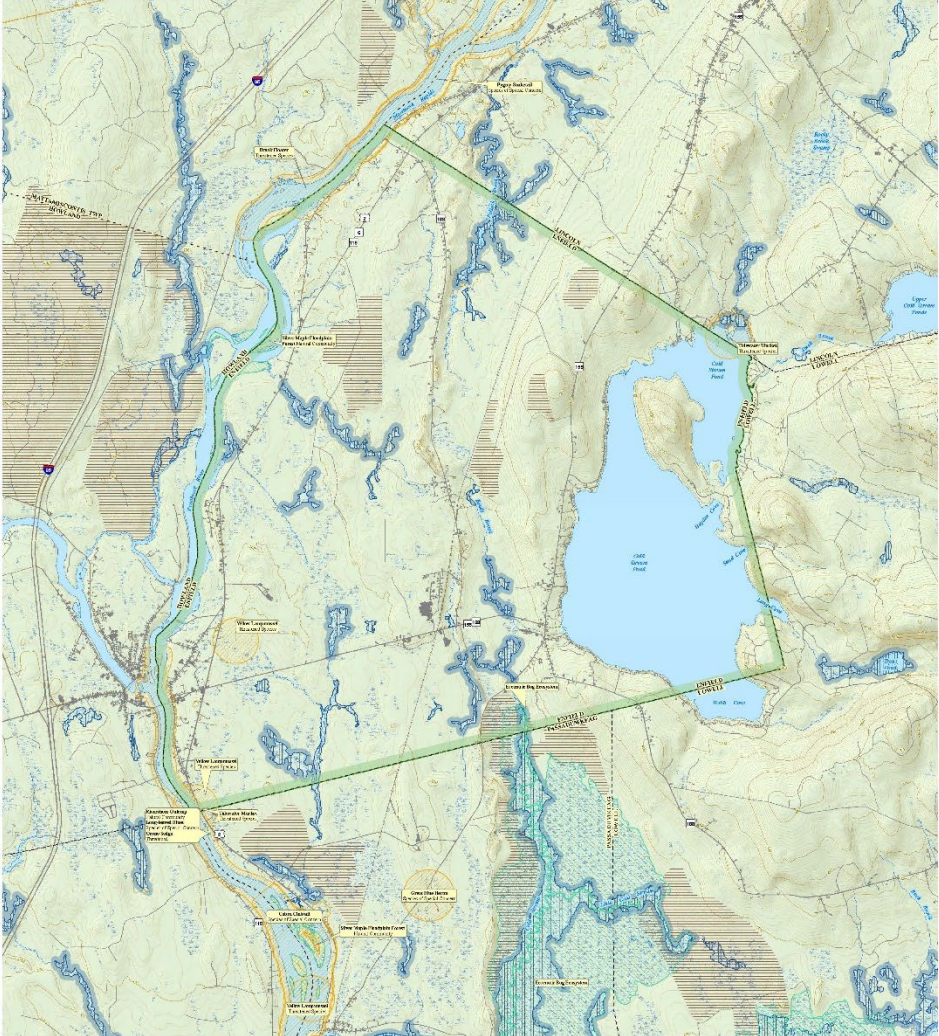
Critical Natural Resources

As defined in the State's Comprehensive Plan Review Criteria Rule³, "critical natural resources" are natural resources which under federal and/or state law warrant protection from the negative impacts of development. Critical natural resources in Enfield include significant habitats like deer wintering areas, inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat, and where a threatened or endangered species has been found. The Penobscot River and Cold Stream Pond are of vital importance to Enfield for various reasons, but most notably used for recreation. As Maine's climate starts to fluctuate more due to human intervention, Maine is generally experiencing more droughts each year, posing direct threats to our water resources which cascade throughout Maine's ecosystems. This Comprehensive Plan looks at these critical natural resources with help of Beginning with Habitat maps, as well as significant scenic point in Enfield as important for consideration of future development.

Scenic Points of Enfield



³ https://www.maine.gov/dacf/municipalplanning/docs/ch208_annotated_2014.pdf Accessed August 6th, 2023.



LEGEND

- Scattered Woods Landscapes
- Wetlands of State Importance
- State Wetlands Inventory
- Local Wetlands Inventory

Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Wildlife

Wildlife species that are rare, threatened, or endangered are shown on this map. These species are listed in the Maine Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) and are protected by law. The map shows the distribution of these species across the Enfield area.

Rare or Exemplary Plants and Natural Communities

Plants and natural communities that are rare or exemplary are shown on this map. These species and communities are listed in the Maine Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) and are protected by law. The map shows the distribution of these species and communities across the Enfield area.

Essential Wildlife Habitats

Habitats that are essential for the survival and reproduction of wildlife are shown on this map. These habitats are listed in the Maine Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) and are protected by law. The map shows the distribution of these habitats across the Enfield area.

Signature Wildlife Habitats

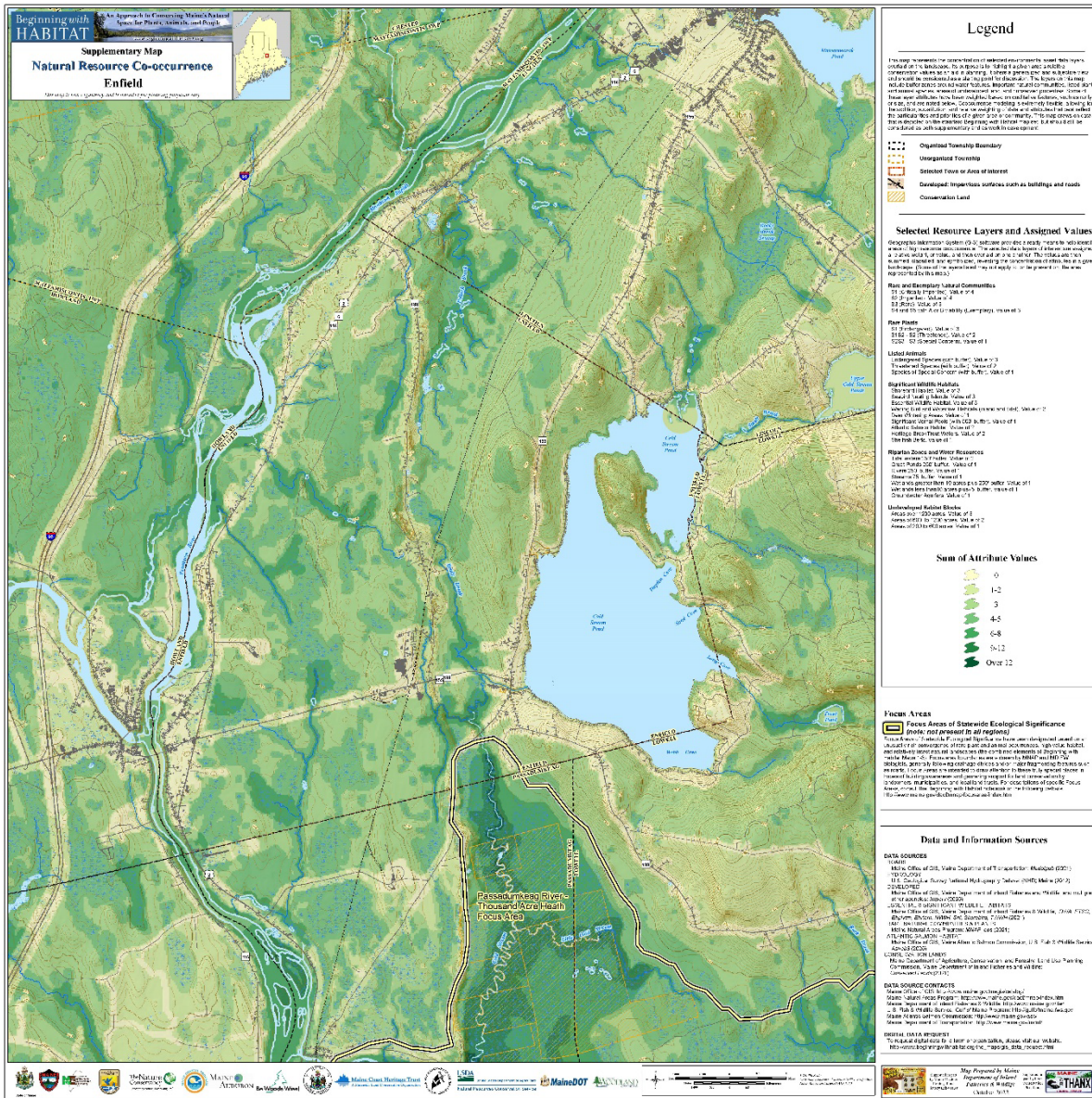
Habitats that are signature for the state of Maine are shown on this map. These habitats are listed in the Maine Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) and are protected by law. The map shows the distribution of these habitats across the Enfield area.

Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act

The Maine Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) is the primary law governing the protection of Maine's natural resources. It defines various types of natural resources and sets out the rules for their protection. The map shows the distribution of these resources across the Enfield area.

Data Sources

The data for this map was collected from various sources, including the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, and the Maine Department of Transportation. The data was collected between 2010 and 2015.

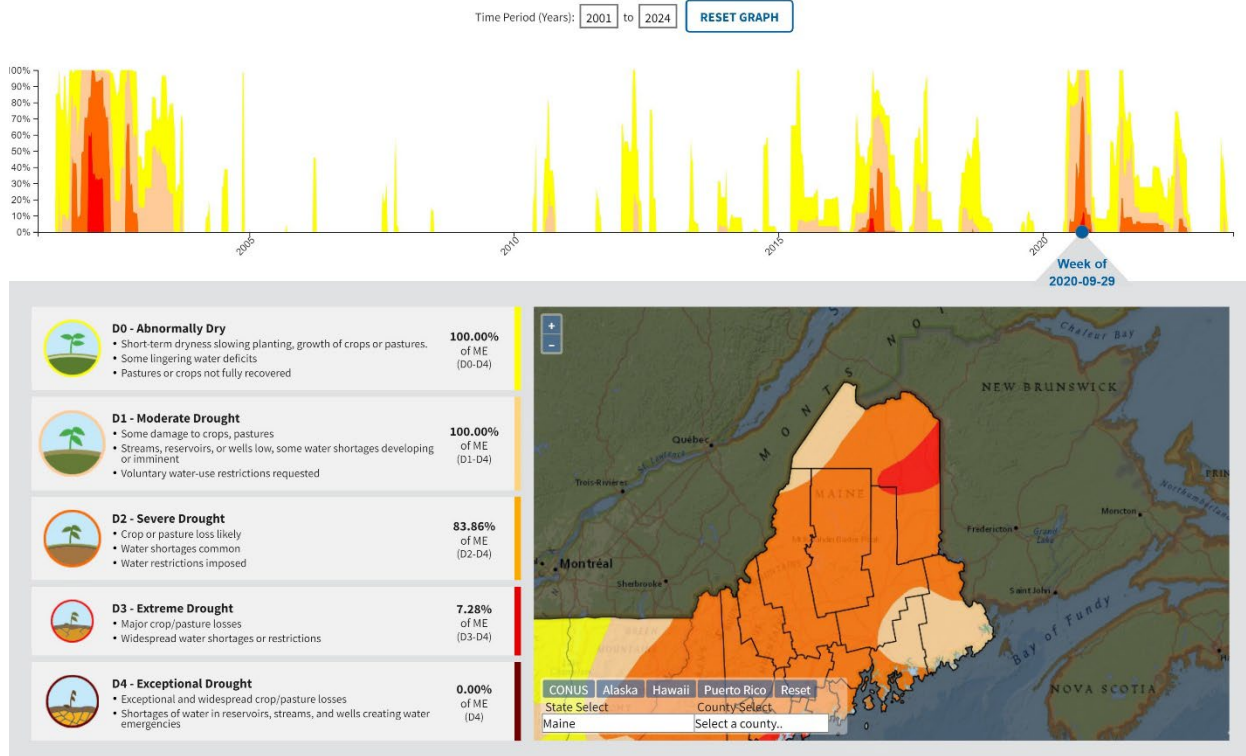


Threats

As previously stated, Maine has seen increased instances of drought throughout the state since at least 2000. Drought in Enfield would mean losses to plant growth, increases to fire and insect outbreaks, altered rates of carbon, nutrient, and water cycling, and at worst, local species extinctions. In short, it could lead to the loss of area and cleanliness of Cold Stream Pond. The following graphic shows drought conditions from 2000 to the present, with a highlight point on a certain week in 2020 when recent drought conditions were at their worst.

2000 - Present (Weekly)

The U.S. Drought Monitor (2000-present) depicts the location and intensity of drought across the country. Every Thursday, authors from NOAA, USDA, and the National Drought Mitigation Center produce a new map based on their assessments of the best available data and input from local observers. The map uses five categories: Abnormally Dry (D0), showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought (D1-D4). [Learn more.](#)



To mitigate the effects a drought may have, Enfield has included strict regulations into their shoreland zoning. When doing any development around any areas where there are prominent water resources, the town follows the shoreland zoning code accordingly. Local shoreland zone standards are consistent with the state guidelines and are updated to the current state levels.

Acid rain may no longer immediately threaten ecosystems, however, recent fires all over the country and beyond have caused prevailing winds to bring the smoke to our region causing a phenomenon called “dirty rain”. Despite more fires in Ohio, California, and parts of Canada, Maine has not yet received deposits of harmful chemicals from dirty rain. If drought conditions persist throughout the US, causing more fires, the likelihood of dirty rain depositing chemicals into Maine’s soils and waterways becomes more likely. To mitigate this, Enfield can use similar tactics it may use to prevent runoff or non-point source pollution, being cautious of when a dirty rain event may occur, and monitoring the towns ecosystems for harmful chemicals.

Another newer problem occurring throughout Maine is due our growing understanding of polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS break down very slowly and are persistent in the environment. This means that PFAS may build up in people, animals, and the environment over time. Health agencies are working to understand more about the health effects of low level, long-term exposure. As of now, our understanding of PFAS is that exposure may cause a number of different health risks:

Potential Health Impacts from PFAS
Decreases in fertility or increases in high blood pressure in pregnant women
Reduced ability of the body's immune system to fight infections including reduced vaccine response
Child development effects including low birth weight, accelerated puberty, bone variations, or behavioral changes
Increased risk of some cancers including prostate, kidney, and testicular cancers
Interference with the body's natural hormones
Increased cholesterol levels and/or risk of obesity

According to Maine's EPA, technology for the treatment, concentration, and destruction of PFAS is still in its early stages and at this time, there is no universal, cost-effective way to remove PFAS from all media. Furthermore, technologies currently available to manage PFAS vary based upon the type of media. For example, removing PFAS in water requires different considerations and processes than removing PFAS from soil, sludges, leachate, vegetables, milk, beef, or other contaminated media. This is because each media type has unique characteristics which may pose challenges with existing technology. Both the Federal Government, the State of Maine, multiple academic institutions, and private industry are researching new technologies and methods for treating, concentrating, and destroying PFAS. It is anticipated that options will be evolving rapidly over the next few years. To mitigate any potential presence of PFAS in Enfield, residents can continue to keep its standards for drinking water via private wells updated. The town may also continue monitoring for the presence of PFAS.

The presence of Pleasant River Lumber mill puts Enfield in a unique situation. The sawmilling process involves debarking and cutting of logs into sections, which are sawn into timber boards. Particulate environmental matter arises from log debarking, sawing into boards, wood residues and kiln drying as these processing stages create environmental hazards on the land. Similarly, heavy machinery is involved throughout the process with the impacts on land, water, and air quality. Normally, the presence of a sawmill is associated with environmental degradation. However, with the addition of the new biochar company, the biochar could soon offset any waste produced by the sawmill. More details can be found using The Departmental Findings of fact and Order Air Emission License made by Maine's Department of Environmental Protection, on the state of Maine's website.⁴

The new company, Standard Biocarbon is developing a facility in Enfield. It is purported to be the first in New England to produce biochar. It works by trapping carbon molecules that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere, warming the planet, and leading to greater instances of climate disasters and extreme weather events.

² <https://www.maine.gov/dep/ftp/AIR/licenses/ch115/A1163AN.pdf> Accessed October 5th, 2023.

Deer Wintering Habitat

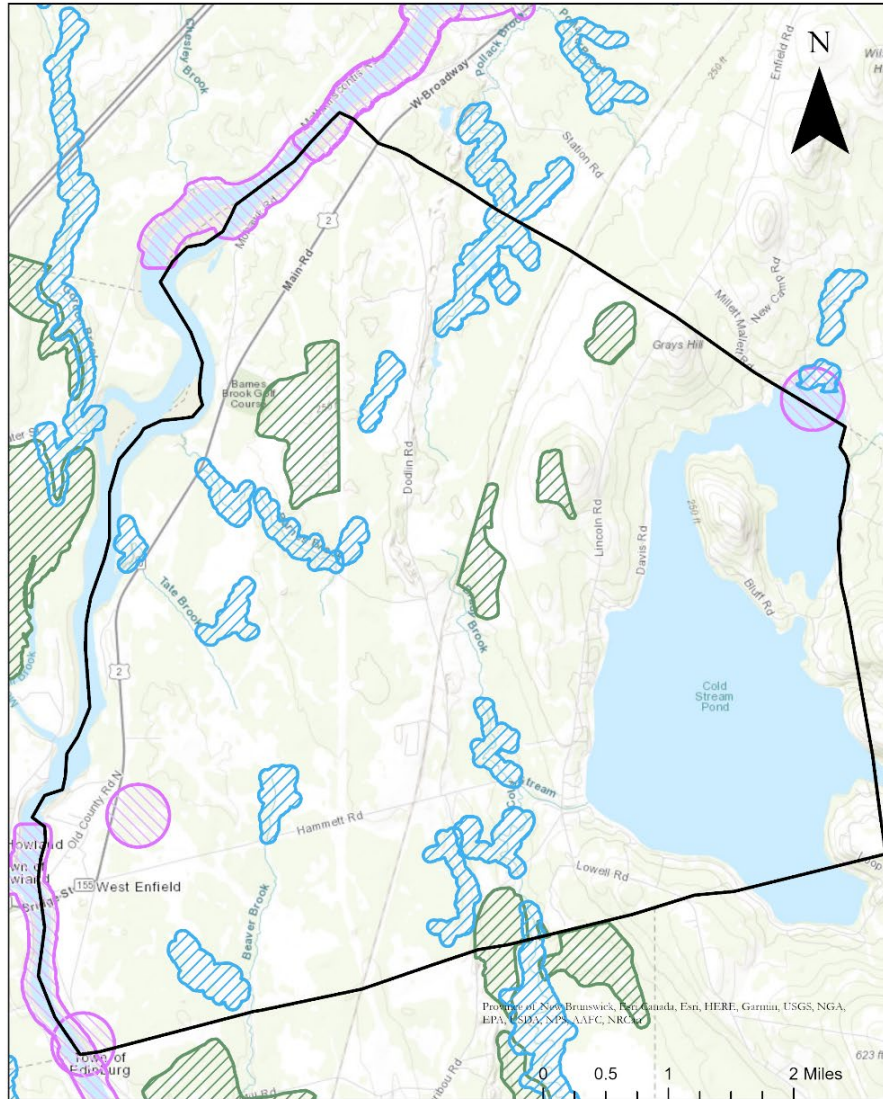
Deer wintering habitat in Maine plays a pivotal role in the broader context of natural resource management. These habitats are critical for sustaining white-tailed deer populations, as they offer essential elements for winter survival, including thermal cover and accessible forage. Effective management of these areas is integral to maintaining a balanced ecosystem. Robust management practices not only ensure the well-being of deer but also have cascading effects on other wildlife species and vegetation. By preserving and strategically managing deer wintering habitats, we contribute to biodiversity conservation, enhance forest health, and promote ecological resilience. Recognizing the interconnectedness of these habitats with the overall ecosystem underscores the relevance of their robust management in the broader spectrum of natural resource stewardship.

Inland Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat

These are significant ecosystems that support a diverse array of avian species. The state's numerous lakes, ponds, and wetlands provide critical breeding grounds and stopover points for waterfowl and other birds like herons, egrets, and ibises during their migratory journeys. These habitats offer abundant food resources, nesting sites, and protection for bird spp. Birds often rely on the rich abundance of aquatic life found in these habitats, including fish, amphibians, and invertebrates. Maintaining and preserving these habitats is essential for the conservation of birds, contributing to biodiversity and maintaining ecological balance.

Below is a map showing the critical natural resource areas designated by the State of Maine. Showing these on an overlay of the town will be helpful as it creates potential future land use plans and ordinances to help mitigate habitat loss in these areas.

Critical Natural Resources in Enfield, Maine



EMDC EASTERN MAINE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
2024

Legend

- Boundary
- Inland Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat
- Deer Wintering Areas
- Endangered Threatened and Special Concern Wildlife

Protection

Organisms

There are several Endangered or Threatened species, and species of concern that have one or more habitat ranges in or around Enfield.

Endangered and Threatened Organisms in Enfield

Common Name	Latin Name	Listing Status	Type	Location
Brook Floater	<i>Alasmidonta varicosa</i>	Threatened	Mussel	Penobscot River
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Endangered	Reptile	Within Natural Habitat Range
Cobra Clubtail	<i>Gomphurus vastus</i>	Special Concern	Dragonfly	Penobscot River
Pygmy Snaketail	<i>Ophiogomphus howei</i>	Special Concern	Dragonfly	Penobscot River
Tidewater Mucket	<i>Leptodea ochracea</i>	Threatened	Mussel	Cold Stream Pond
Wood Turtle	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	Endangered	Reptile	Within Natural Habitat Range
Yellow Lampmussel	<i>Lampsilis cariosa</i>	Threatened	Mussel	Beaver Brook Area

As for plants, no plant species listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern have been documented within this town according to the state of Maine.

Habitat Communities

There are two notable habitat communities in and around Enfield that are currently under protection of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) and other state organizations.

Habitat Communities in Enfield

Habitat Type	Brief Description	Status	Location
Eccentric Bog Ecosystem	In Maine, eccentric bogs appear to be restricted to the east central region, roughly from Lincoln north to Ashland and east to the Canadian border.	S3 Rare in Maine (on the order of 20-100 occurrences).	Refer to beginning with habitat map on Pp. 46
Silver Maple Floodplain Forest	Sites occur in a floodplain setting with mineral soil. Silver maple is the dominant tree. There is a dense herb layer with sensitive fern and, locally, ostrich fern. Spring ephemerals are frequent	S3 Rare in Maine (on the order of 20-100 occurrences).	Refer to beginning with habitat map on Pp. 46

Regional Cooperation

As stated in a previous chapter, wildlife, and organisms in general, do not recognize municipal or human-made boundaries, which makes management on a regional level crucial to sustainability. Shared ecosystems, such as the Penobscot River watershed and surrounding habitats, demand synchronized efforts to address common challenges, such as invasive species propagation,

habitat degradation, and water quality maintenance. Collaborative initiatives enable the pooling of expertise, data, and resources, fostering the development of comprehensive strategies that account for regional variations and synergistic impacts. The integration of scientific research and local knowledge within a collaborative framework enhances the efficacy of conservation actions, facilitates data-driven decision-making, and maximizes the long-term viability of natural resources. In an era marked by escalating anthropogenic pressures and environmental uncertainties, the synergy of Enfield and adjacent municipalities could serve as a model for prudent and sustainable natural resource management.

The Future of Natural Resources Through Land Use Planning

It is important to prioritize land use planning through the lens of natural resource management, as using ecological standards help to foster greater sustainability and indefinite use. The trajectory of future land use planning holds the promise of advancing ecological sustainability. A data-driven approach, grounded in spatial analysis, remote sensing technologies, and ecological modeling, can further inform the identification of critical habitats, ecological corridors, and areas of high conservation value. Integrating this scientific foundation with stakeholder engagement and participatory processes can yield dynamic land use strategies that harmonize human needs with ecosystem imperatives. Adaptive management frameworks, underpinned by ongoing monitoring and assessment, may be implemented to refine land-use plans in response to changing environmental conditions. Moreover, a forward-looking approach should encompass climate resilience considerations, acknowledging the potential impacts of human driven changes in the climate, on natural resource dynamics. Ultimately, the prospective evolution of land use planning in Enfield pivots upon the fusion of scientific rigor, community collaboration, and holistic ecological stewardship, foster both human and natural systems.

Strategies

Ensure that land use ordinances are consistent with applicable state law regarding critical natural resources.

Designate critical natural resources as Critical Resource Areas in the Future Land Use Plan.

Through local land use ordinances, require subdivision or non-residential property developers to look for and identify critical natural resources that may be on site and to take appropriate measures to protect those resources, including but not limited to, modification of the proposed site design, construction timing, and/or extent of excavation.

Through local land use ordinances, require the planning board (or other designated review authority) to include as part of the review process, consideration of pertinent BwH maps and information regarding critical natural resources.

Initiate and/or participate in interlocal and/or regional planning, management, and/or regulatory efforts around shared critical and important natural resources.

Pursue public/private partnerships to protect critical and important natural resources such as through purchase of land or easements from willing sellers.

Distribute or make available information to those living in or near critical or important natural resources about current use tax programs and applicable local, state, or federal regulations.

AGRICULTURAL & FOREST RESOURCES

State Goal

To safeguard the State’s agricultural and forest resources from development which threatens those resources.

Town Goal(s)

Find an incentive to keep agricultural and forestry lands viable and sustainable by devoting resources to look and apply for grants and other means of incentivization.

Successfully promote of agricultural and forestry activities such as a farmer’s market to support a more diverse and robust economy by way of advertising strategies.

Policies

To safeguard lands identified as prime farmland or capable of supporting commercial forestry

To support farming and forestry and encourage their economic viability

Legacy Industries

In Maine, logging has always been important to our economic development, especially along the Penobscot River. Proportionately, Maine is the most heavily forested state in the nation, with approximately 90% of its land area (17.7 million acres) in forest. Maine’s forests are part of the largest contiguous block of undeveloped forestland east of the Mississippi. This expansive forestland, with the economic value that it provides for fiber production as well as the relatively undeveloped and remote landscape that it creates, is in large part what defines Maine’s distinctive character. The forests offer a variety of opportunities and values, including timber harvesting, recreation, energy production, wildlife habitat and watershed protection. Maine’s forestland, along with the economic health of the forest products industry, provides a working landscape upon which many communities rely.

As for farms, their importance is almost unspoken. Agricultural production provides the food we need to live. As the state developed through the colonial era, farms contributed heavily to the growth of trade and industry. Despite making up only 5% of its GRP in 2021, Maine’s 8,100 working farms covering about 1.3 million acres remain crucial to Maine’s economy by supporting rural livelihoods and contributing to the state’s rich agricultural heritage.

In 2010, agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining made up 8% of Enfield's labor force. In 2020, that number is down to 4.2% according to US census data. This is consistent with the trend of decreasing pastures and farmable forests throughout Maine, and the US. It is projected that Enfield will lose more pasture in the near future.

Forested Enfield

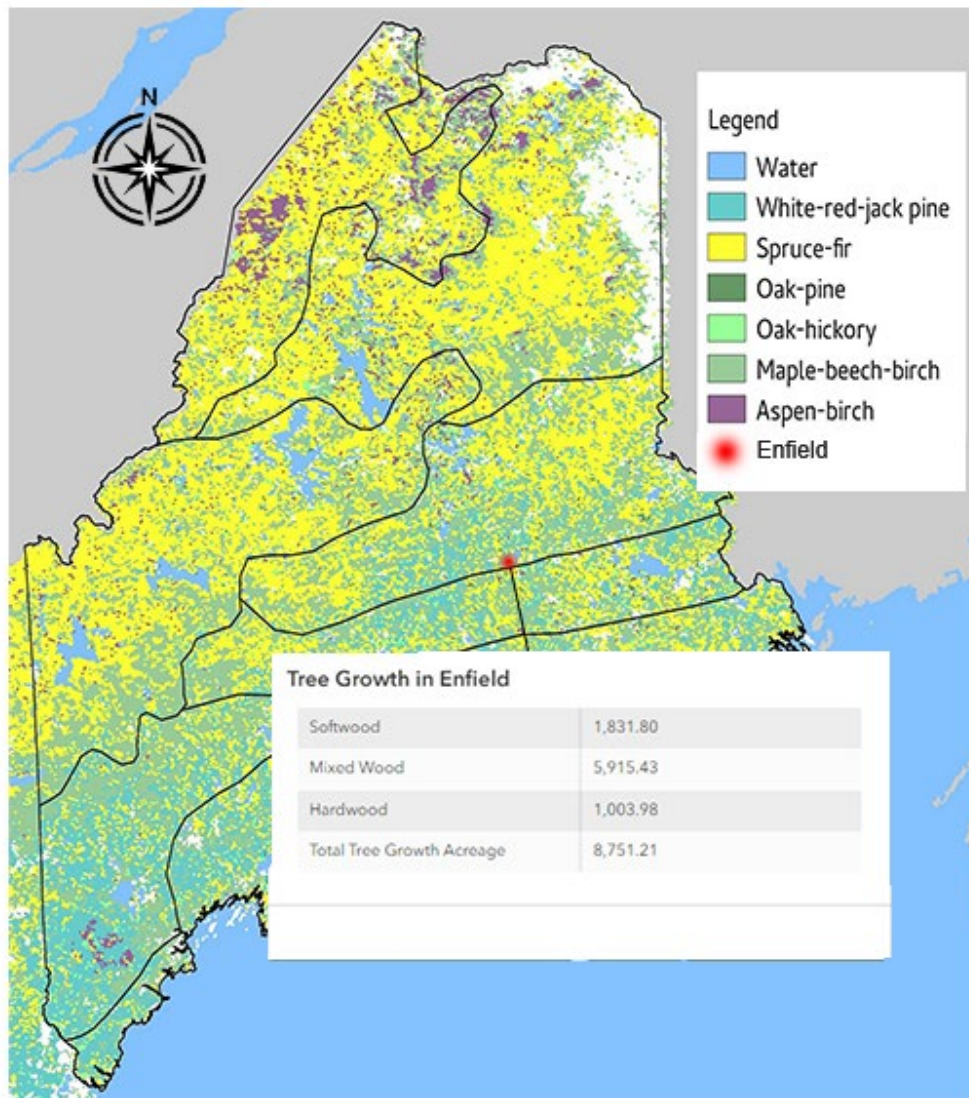
Forests and Tree Cover

The woodland composition in Enfield is similar to other communities in the more northwestern part of Maine. There is a predominance of spruce-fir forest, with some oak, pine, maples, and birches throughout. This makes sense with the presence of a large pond within the town, along with some wetlands, and a river adjacent. The majority of the land in Enfield is forested. Some woodlots are actively managed for timber harvest; others are harvested by their owners to supplement incomes. Other land is un-managed and not being harvested.

In 1990, there were 37 parcels totaling 7,427 acres in Enfield registered under the Tree Growth Tax Law. These include 144 acres (2%) in hardwood; 3,644 acres (49%) in softwood; and 3,639 acres (49%) in mixed woods. In 2020, There were 57 parcels totaling in 8,881 acres Enfield registered under the Tree Growth Tax Law. These include 1,040 acres (11.7%) in hardwood forest, 1,885 acres (21.2%) in softwood Forest, and 5,956 acres (67%) in mixed wood forest. Classification under the Tree Growth Tax Law has increased since from 1990 to 2020. Sizable acreage in the neighboring towns of Edinburg, Howland, Lincoln, Lowell and Passadumkeag are also enrolled under this program.

Remaining forested land is owned by individual landowners including local residents. The forested land in Enfield is not only important economically, but the undeveloped land provides recreational opportunities and contributes to the rural nature of the community valued by residents and non-residents alike. As evidenced by the classification under the Tree Growth Tax Law program in neighboring towns, forested land is of regional, as well as local, importance. Current protection to forested land includes the State Forest Practices Act which regulates clearcutting and establishes regeneration standards. There has been a considerable amount of harvesting within the watershed of Cold Stream Pond in recent years. Below is a map of Maine's forested ecosystems separated by ecoregion.

Tree Growth In Enfield 2023



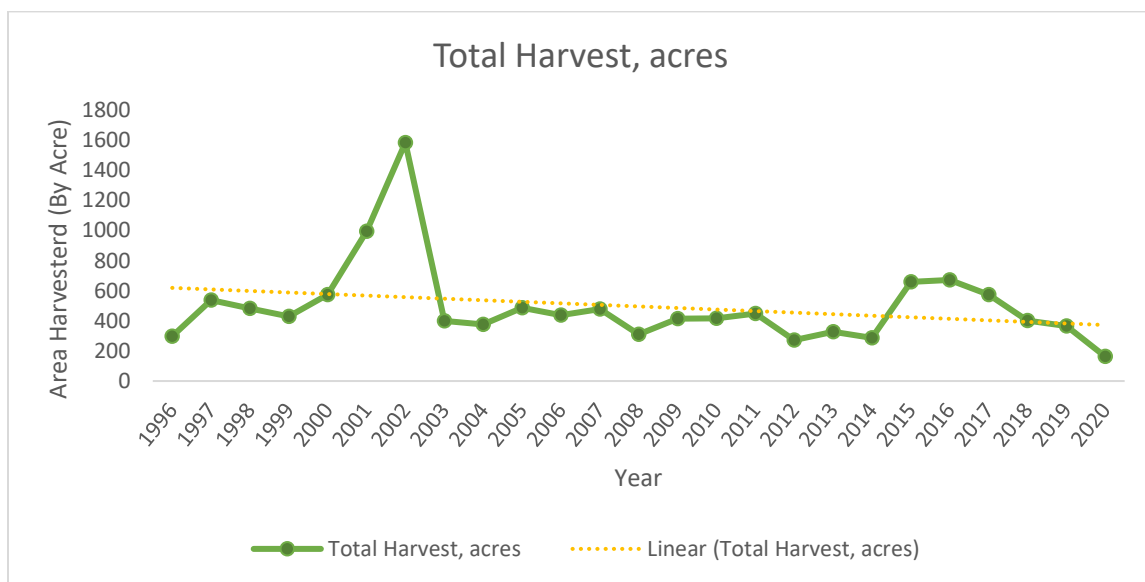
Source: US Forest Service Forest Inventory & Analysis forest type cover



All tree species found within Enfield are mostly native. At this time, there are no invasive tree species recorded, or species that would pose an immediate danger to the existence of any tree species within Enfield. That said, the presence of Japanese knotweed has been recorded within Enfield, which poses a threat to native tree species by potentially crowding the growing area and shading out native vegetation. No relevant endangered species have been recorded within Enfield forests that may immediately affect the composition or management.

Timber Harvesting and Forestry

Forestry in Maine is a legacy industry, and has been declining steadily since the 1990’s. Before the Pleasant River Lumber opened in 2020, Enfield housed the Cold Stream Lumber Company which operated for approximately 30 years prior. Pleasant River Lumber is a driving force of economic development. This spruce/fir mill, which began operations in 2020, is currently adding production capacity. When complete, this will be the largest sawmill in Maine. Similarly, Standard Biocarbon is another newer company located next to and working with Pleasant River Lumber. Standard Biocarbon plans to be the first company in New England to “carbonize” woodchips and sawdust residuals from a neighboring sawmill through a process called pyrolysis. The result is “biochar” — a granular charcoal-like material that is used in high-value applications such as PFAS remediation, stormwater management and in agriculture for soil improvement and in animal bedding while permanently removing CO2 from the atmosphere. In Maine, forestry made up 2.6% of Maine’s total GRP, which is a greater share than the US (0.8% of total GRP) in 2021.



With the addition of the Pleasant River Lumber in 2020 and then the Standard Biocarbon company, Enfield may be headed toward seeing a resurgence in forestry contributing to a larger part of their economy. If forestry expands in Enfield into the future, land use and zoning laws may be reviewed to reflect this.

Protection

There are no local efforts aside from those of the Penobscot Nation, Maine Forestry Service and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to protect certain forested lands. The Penobscot Nation though, works closely with state agencies for sustainable management of

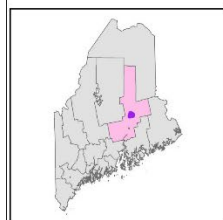
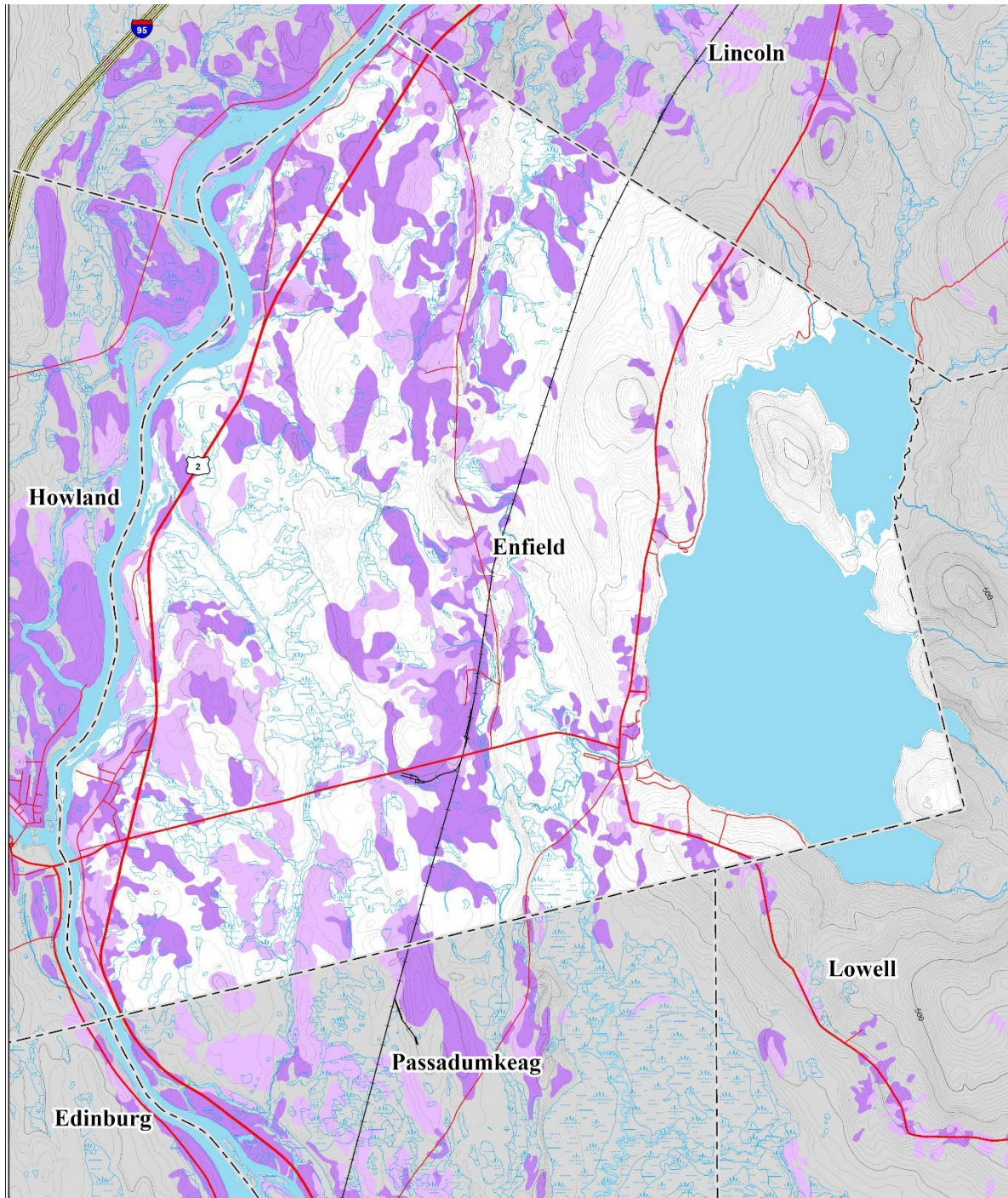
forested lands. This same strategy is used by each municipality adjacent to lands currently acknowledged as belonging to the Penobscot Nation. Enfield does not feel like it needs to take further action at this time, as there have been no incompatible uses affecting the local logging industry. Furthermore, there are no large tracts of industrial forest land that have been or may be sold for development in the foreseeable future. If there are any ecological changes, the town plans to address them as needed, and is open to working together to preserve their way of life.

Enfield Farming

As of 2020, there are six parcels of farmland in Enfield (counting the fish hatchery). Three farms are located along Lincoln Road, and another on the Mohawk Road. The fish hatchery is on Cobb Road near Route 155. All farms in Enfield make up about 90 acres. All the farms are smaller “hobby farms” compared to large agricultural firms which dominate the US today. Farming, like forestry has largely decreased in this area due to retirement of older farmers and falling population. The valuation of Enfield’s farmlands in 2020 amounted to \$78,200. With increased prices of housing since 2020, there is no doubt this valuation has gone up, and it is also fair to assume that the parcels and acreage of farmland have also fluctuated. The below chart is land currently designated for farming, while the graphic describes total land available for farming in Enfield.

Farms in Enfield

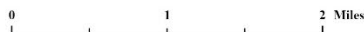
Farm	Owner	Acreage
Hobby Farm	Private	28.20
Robinson’s Orchard	Private	16.00
Hobby Farm	Private	5.00
Hobby Farm	Private	14.00
Enfield Fish Hatchery	State of Maine	20.00
New Song Farm	Private	2.90
Maine Promised Land Farm	Private	3.50



Penobscot County,
Town of
Enfield

Enfield Agriculture

Source Data: USDA, MEGIS, Maine DACF
 Projection: UTM, NAD83, Zone 19, Meters
 Produced by: Municipal Planning
 Assistance Program, DACF
 September 2022



Legend	
	Municipal border
	Interstate
	U.S. Routes
	State Routes
	Railroad
	Contours500
	Contours100
	Contours
	Waterbody
	Rivers
	Rivers/Streams
	Wetlands
	Farmland of statewide importance
	All areas are prime farmland

Protection

The Town of Enfield has no efforts or groups focused on protecting Enfield's farmlands. Unfortunately, old farmers are retiring, causing further reduction of agricultural pastures. The town may investigate regional programs or groups to protect the farmlands it already has to incentivize growth, or those on the state level to promote the protection of farms from development or altered uses.

Community Forestry and Agricultural Practices

Currently, there are no local initiatives to promote community farming or forestry, or tree street programs. As well, the community does not have any town or public woodlands under management, or that it foresees would benefit from further forest management. On the state level, Food Sovereignty was passed that allows small farms in any town as well as individuals to sell what they grow, cook, and produce on their property. The initiative has led to some local farms selling affordable eggs and any excess produce out of their homes. Enfield has a lot of opportunity to promote and plan for building up these industries as both were once greater part of the town's economy. The town may explore options like the Farmland, or Open Space Property Tax Programs, which work to reduce property tax to support working farmland. The community wants to protect and support farmland for future use. However, Enfield does not feel the need to act to protect forestry lands beyond or outside what state regulations already mandate.

Development

There are no signs of any development that may impact forestry or agricultural practices in Enfield. There are a few large landowners along Route 2, Dodlin Road, and Enfield Road, but there is no indication of development on any of these parcels or that the owners will use them for such or sell the land any time soon.

Strategies

Consult with the Maine Forest Service district forester when developing any land use regulations pertaining to forest management practices as required by 12 M.R.S.A. §8869.

Consult with Soil and Water Conservation District staff when developing any land use regulations pertaining to agricultural management practices.

Amend land use ordinances to require commercial or subdivision developments in critical rural areas, if applicable, maintain areas with prime farmland soils as open space to the greatest extent practicable.

Limit non-residential development in critical rural areas (if the town designates critical rural areas) to natural resource-based businesses and services, nature tourism/outdoor recreation businesses, farmers' markets, and home occupations.

Encourage owners of productive farm and forest land to enroll in the current use taxation programs.

Permit land use activities that support productive agriculture and forestry operations, such as roadside stands, greenhouses, firewood operations, sawmills, log buying yards, and pick-your-own operations.

Include agriculture, commercial forestry operations, and land conservation that supports them in local or regional economic development plans.



HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

State Goal

To preserve the State's historic and archaeological resources.

Town Goal(s)

To continuously honor this history of Enfield and of all the organisms that have ever lived here.

To identify, mark, and honor historical points and places of significance.

State Policy

Protect to the greatest extent practicable the significant historic and archaeological resources in the community.

Historic Resource Protection

The Town of Enfield, which includes that portion known as West Enfield, previously known as Montague, owes its existence to the abundant water resource within its boundaries. The Penobscot River, Maine's largest, forms the community's western boundary, and Cold Stream Pond its eastern limit. There are 15,000 acres between the Penobscot River and Cold Stream Pond.

It was on the shores of Cold Stream Pond, one of the State's purest deep-water lakes, that General Joseph Treat secured a military land grant and in 1821 erected a lumber mill in order to promote settlement in the area. The lake remains the focal point of the region and along the shores of this 4 ½ mile long and 3-mile-wide body of water are now over 400 seasonal camps and year-round residences. In 1876, landlocked salmon were first stocked in the lake to complement the already excellent togue fishery that exists to this day.

On January 29, 1835, the community that had grown around the founding lumber mill and had come to be known as Treat's Mill or Cold Stream Village was signed into existence by Governor Dunlap as the Town of Enfield.



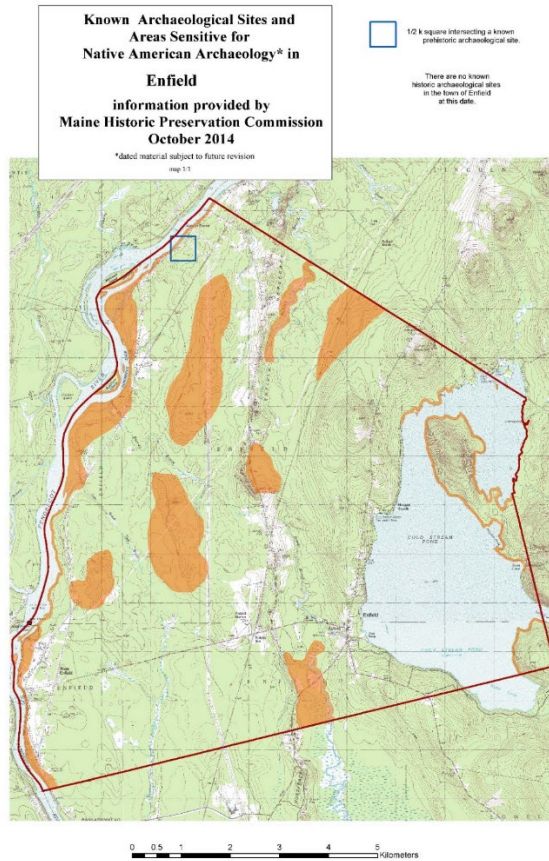
While the initial industries were clustered along the outlet of Cold Stream Pond, the last of which closed at the end of World War II, there was a simultaneous development along the town's western border, the Penobscot River. One such development which began in 1917 but expanded in the middle of the 20th century, was that of a small

transportation company started by Allie Cole, of the now Cole Family Land Transportation Museum. The Cole Company was started at the Enfield Station and served Maine, northern New England, and the Canadian Maritimes. It grew to be one of the largest operations in Maine. The station can now be found inside Cole Land transportation museum.

The Penobscot River, a natural transportation route for Indigenous Americans and early European explorers, eventually had a primitive road along its shores that was later improved and extended as far as Houlton. This is still occasionally referred to as the Military Road, having been constructed in order to supply the northern military post. This road is now Route 2, and runs from Passadumkeag on the town's southern border to Lincoln on its northern neighbor. Easy access to Interstate 95 is also available in the Town of Howland across the bridge spanning the Penobscot River.

Steamships traveled the river north past Enfield by way of a canal that skirted Piscataquis Falls. This spot became the site of an early pulp and paper mill later taken over by the international Pulp and Paper Company and finally sold to the Bangor Hydro-Electric Company, now Versant Power. A generating station at Stanford Dam, was built at the base of the falls.

There is one known archaeological site known in Enfield, on the bank of the Penobscot river. Any archaeological survey in Enfield has been limited to one powerline/utility survey, a survey for a solar array, and a survey for a water bottling facility. Archaeological survey of the West Enfield Hydro project impoundment margins (Penobscot Riverbanks) is underway as of 2022, but results have not yet been reported. The number of archaeological sites and area that has been surveyed in Enfield will increase when these results are reported. The banks of the Penobscot River need survey (see above, some underway), as does the shore of Cold Stream Pond. Extensive areas of glacial outwash-based soils, or aeolian-sand based soils also need survey in advance of construction/disturbance. The one site reported is currently protected by the shoreland zoning ordinances as a result of its proximity to the Penobscot River, and The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966.



Threats

Historical and archaeological resources must first be identified before they can be protected from any potential threats. Potential archaeological sites are often threatened by development because their location and existence are not obvious. The banks of the Penobscot River need survey (see above, some underway), as does the shore of Cold Stream Pond. Extensive areas of glacial outwash-based soils, or aeolian-sand based soils also need survey in advance of construction/disturbance. Fortunately, most archaeological sites tend to be located along streams and rivers or "fossil shorelines, and are afforded some protection through shore land zoning, flood plain management, and similar ordinances. Potential sites in Enfield are within wetland, shore land and flood plain areas and are offered some protection since most development is not possible within these areas.

Although occupied historical structures are not as vulnerable to destruction, renovation work may destroy the historic value of the building. Vacant historic buildings may be in danger of being lost through neglect. Hopefully, by identifying the historic buildings and sites in town these threats can be eliminated. In years past, the Maine Central Railroad maintained a depot in Enfield. It was here that Allie Cole began to learn the transportation business that his family, still with strong ties to the community, had built into Cole's Express Company. Although the depot no longer exists, the railway is still active. Today, the citizens of Enfield still depend for their

livelihood largely on the community's water and forest resources and related industries, and the town remains an attractive, well-rounded community, largely centered about the presence and history of the Penobscot River and Cold Stream Pond.

Historic resources, such as old homes, graveyards and historic sites are a valuable part of a community's character and contribute to the town's uniqueness. An inventory of historic buildings helps to create a feeling of community pride, encouraging further preservation of town landmarks to provide the best picture of the past. The National Register of Historic Places, administered by the National Park Service, is a listing of those buildings, districts, structures, objects, and sites judged worthy of preservation for their historical, cultural, or archaeological value. Currently, Enfield has no sites listed in the Register.

Local and State Strategies

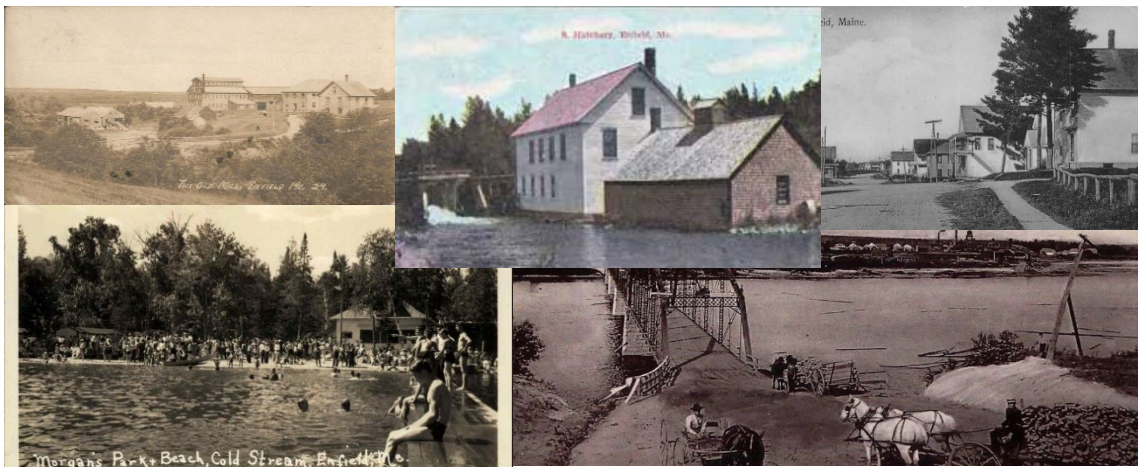
Establish historic sites and properties

Plan a survey for potential archeological sites

For known historic archeological sites and areas sensitive to prehistoric archeology, through local land use ordinances require subdivision or non-residential developers to take appropriate measures to protect those resources, including but not limited to, modification of the proposed site design, construction timing, and/or extent of excavation

Adopt or amend land use ordinances to require the planning board (or other designated review authority) to incorporate maps and information provided by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission into their review process

Work with the local or county historical society and/or the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to assess the need for, and if necessary, plan for, a comprehensive community survey of the community's historic and archaeological resources



PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

State Goal

To plan for, finance and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services to accommodate anticipated growth and economic development.

Town Goal(s)

To use the public facilities to promote connectedness and support growth and development around the town.

To upgrade the electrical and broadband infrastructure in the next 5 years

To expand the public sewer system in the next 5 years

Policies

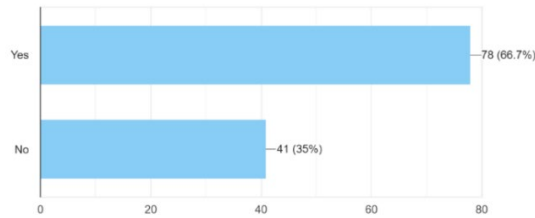
To efficiently and effectively meet the needs of the community to utilize public facilities and services.

To provide public facilities and services in a manner that promotes and supports growth and development in identified growth areas.

Local Partnerships, Collective Growth

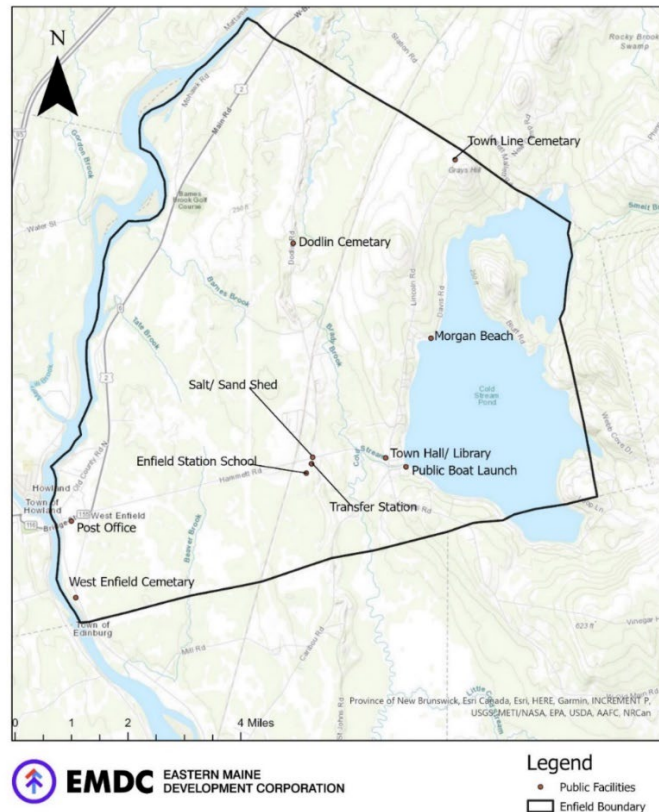
Public facilities and services are the backbone of a thriving community. Enfield recognizes the importance of these resources in ensuring the well-being and quality of life for its residents. This chapter outlines the commitment to providing essential public facilities and services while addressing the evolving needs of the community. The town is dedicated to maintaining and improving its public facilities and infrastructure to meet the demands of its residents. Efficient facilities that promote connectivity and accessibility are of increasing importance. Enfield currently maintains all facilities and equipment well. The physical condition of these facilities continues to improve, no doubt lending itself as part of the reason public services are viewed favorably.

Are you satisfied with current public services provided?
117 responses



Overall, the anticipated capacity is expected to rise for Enfield, while demand for facilities and services are projected to remain steady during the planning period. Most of the town’s facilities and services are owned and operated by Enfield, with exception of EMS, and Public Sewer, which is managed by Howland.

Public Facilities of Enfield 2023



Water Systems and Waste Management

While Enfield’s residents completely source their drinking water from private well systems, there is a plan to contract with A.E. Hodgdon in Waterville to create a more centralized public water utility service to be completed in 4 phases, as mentioned in the Economy chapter. Presently however, these options are considered a low priority.

Enfield does not currently have a stormwater management facility, but is undergoing an Inflow and Infiltration study to see what drainage occurs off of the road and into the Town’s wastewater treatment system.

Most residential waste management is handled through private septic disposal systems. Enfield initiated a feasibility study for development of a public sewer system in the 1990’s. The study split Enfield into five sections: West Enfield, Cold Stream Pond, Dodlin Road, Mohawk Road, and Enfield Village. The feasibility study also considered options that included developing Enfield's own sewage treatment system, developing a cluster sewage system, and connecting with Howland's system. The Town of Enfield decided in April 1993 to connect with Howland's sewage system and currently supports 173 households in west Enfield. Septic tank disposal is handled through a private company to provide the Town of Enfield with a site, approved by the Department of Environmental Protection for the disposal of all waste, refuse, effluent, sludge and any other materials from all septic tanks and cesspools located within the municipality. The reason behind the connection and continued coordination with Howland is because Enfield’s water table is quite high, and private septic systems were not sufficient in some places to prevent backups from occurring. Enfield is working to identify the combined sewer overflows through an influx and overflow study. Enfield has a robust full sewer use ordinance found on the town website. There is now a concern that it will rise more given the warming climate and sea level rise. In the future, residents would like to be better equipped for disaster scenarios.

Enfield has its own transfer station which operated year-round on certain days, and curbside trash pickup as of November 2023. Curbside pickup was previously discontinued in June of 2022. Residents are excited to have it once more, as this may indicate further improvements for the town. At this time, recycling options are offered by the Transfer Station and by curbside pickup as well. All of the town’s solid waste is transported to a facility in Orrington, and Juniper ridge in Alton, ME. The solid waste management system is meeting all current needs for Enfield. Data for waste in the last 5 years is as follows:

Enfield Transfer Station Refuse Data

Year	Recycling	Demo.	Total (in Tons)
2020	N/A	87 Tons	MSW 717
2021	20 Tons	151 Tons	MSW 620
2022	5 Tons	100 Tons	MSW 545
2023	10 Tons	100 Tons	MSW 472.99
2024 (Estimates)	(being done by a waste hauler)	125 Tons	MSW 573

Looking at the population trends toward increased seasonal residence, Enfield may open the transfer station on more days during the summer months to meet the needs of these residents.

Schools

School age children in Enfield are part of the MSAD 31, AOS #43 Howland school district, and Northern Penobscot Tech Region III. If residents are in MSAD 31, they attend Enfield Station School for Elementary, move to Hichborn Middle School, and then finally to Penobscot Valley High School. Total enrollment in 2022 for PVHS was 131 students. No school construction is planned for the future. At Enfield Station School, overall enrollment has decreased in the last 20 years from over 300 in 2003 to approximately 200 in 2023.

Partnering with other communities for education allows multiple municipalities to come together to provide a robust education system that allows the pooling of resources to provide the best education possible. Enfield has a school choice program allowing parents a choice between two school districts or will pay for tuition at a private institution at the same rate as public school. The projected number of students for the foreseeable future is not sufficient to support a public High school in Enfield. As for any construction or expansion that may occur in during the planning period, the town would like a pre-school program to meet the growing needs of new parents. Once the comprehensive plan is set in place, the town may seek funds to add a regional preschool close to the elementary school. With the adoption of this plan, and acquisition of potential funds, Enfield may increase enrollment for primary school age children in the next 10 years by approximately 100 students. By capitalizing on regional partnerships in SAD #31, Enfield may help to increase enrollment at PVHS by 100 students in the next 10 years.

Public Safety

Enfield has always contracted with either Howland or Lincoln for Fire and EMS services. The town is looking into creating a district with other nearby towns in the region including Howland and Lowell, to better streamline these services. The town is also served by the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office, with extra patrols during the summer months. Although these services are currently sufficient, there is a need to examine potential disaster scenarios to determine future needs in that area, as Enfield is categorized as an ambulance desert by a study conducted by University of Southern Maine.⁵ Response times for EMS calls average at 2 minutes. In 2022, 213 total calls were made for EMS.

Utilities

The current infrastructure for telecommunications is insufficient to meet the needs of Enfield and any projected growth anticipated to occur. For one, electric power is lacking on some town roads. When it goes out, residents may wait for multiple days for its return. Furthermore, Consistent broadband access is severely lacking. Residents often voice their desire for better internet to support current residents working from home and potential immigrants to the area

⁵ <https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1013&context=ems>

for future remote work opportunities. Further study is needed to determine the need for town involvement in encouraging power companies to electrify more rural areas.

Health and Social Services

At this time there are no health or social service facilities in Enfield other than the Health Access Network (HAN) located next to the town's post office. HAN is a nonprofit serving multiple communities throughout Maine, but not regulated by the town. Otherwise, residents make use of services located in nearby Lincoln, Bangor, and Millinocket which are an average of 35 minutes' drive away. Along with the rest of the state, the town's health care and public health services are lacking. This will continue to affect the entire population of Enfield. Residents who are experiencing poverty may go to the town hall by making an appointment to seek general assistance pursuant to Title 22, MRSA section 4305.

Municipal Staffing

The Town of Enfield has a town manager-selectperson form of government. The legislative powers rest with the annual town meeting held every June. Other town meetings are held as needed throughout the year. The board of select persons (three members) act as an executive committee assisted by a full-time town manager who also serves as the road commissioner, Treasurer, and local health officer. In addition, there is a tax collector, and a town clerk, who also helps with general assistance.

Other elected officials in Enfield include the 5-member planning board, the members of the Hospital Administrative District (HAD #1) and the 5-member SAD #31 Board of Directors. Members of other committees and boards are appointed by the selectpersons and volunteer their time and efforts to the town. Enfield also employs two full-time public works employees and one part time transfer station attendant, as well as contracted Assessor's Agent and Code Enforcement Officer. Selectpersons and administrative personnel offices are located at the Cole Memorial Building, which also holds the town's library. At this time, municipal services are adequate to meeting any demographic or population changes. Some capital improvements are needed for these to maintain and/or upgrade public services. Area municipalities are working to create a Fire District to help distribute costs and maintain level of professional service for the future. There is potential need for capital improvements to the aging sewer infrastructure and an Inflow and Infiltration study will help determined Enfield's capacity for future growth (i.e. sewer connections). The town currently has no growth areas to focus investment or facilities improvements in, however, in the future, the town may explore greater funding for fulltime staff.

The town has a 10-year lifecycle plan for Public Works equipment, from plow trucks, to backhoes, to work trucks. The town has a 5-year road maintenance plan for all paved town roads. The town will require capital investments for sewer infrastructure, public buildings, public facilities (beach/boat launch), downtown development (sidewalks, park) over the next 10 years as well. Ideas about adding water infrastructure have been proposed. Estimated costs

range from \$7-10 million over the next 10 years. This will be explained more in the Fiscal Capacity and Capital Investment chapter.

Strategies

Identify any capital improvements needed to maintain or upgrade public services to accommodate the community's anticipated growth and changing demographics.

Locate new public facilities comprising at least 75% of new municipal growth-related capital investments in designated growth areas.

Encourage local sewer and water districts to coordinate planned service extensions with the Future Land Use Plan.

If public water supply expansion is anticipated, identify and protect suitable sources?

Explore options for regional delivery of local services.

RECREATION

State Goal

To promote and protect the availability of outdoor recreation opportunities for all Maine citizens, including access to surface waters.

Town Goal (s)

Improve access to parks, trails, facilities, open spaces, and recreational activities that support physical activities and community well-being and to support and increase school / recreational program offerings, particularly year-round opportunities.

To explore funding opportunities for walking/ running trails around open spaces

To explore greater partnerships with big landowners in hopes of developing a greater network of trail systems

To convey the recreational needs of the Enfield's residents

Policies

To maintain/upgrade existing recreational facilities as necessary to meet current and future needs.

To preserve open spaces commonly utilized for recreation

To seek to achieve or continue to maintain at least one major point of public access to major water bodies for boating, fishing, and swimming, and work with nearby property owners to address concerns.

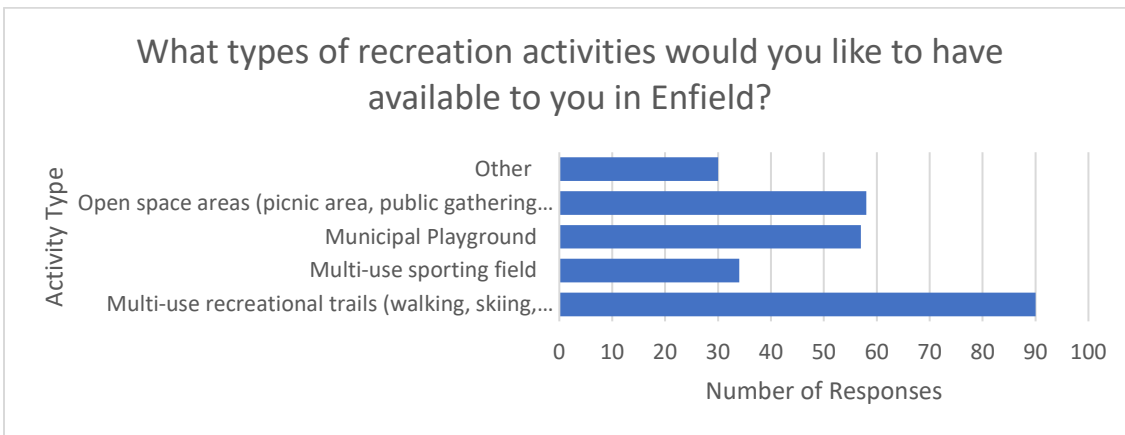
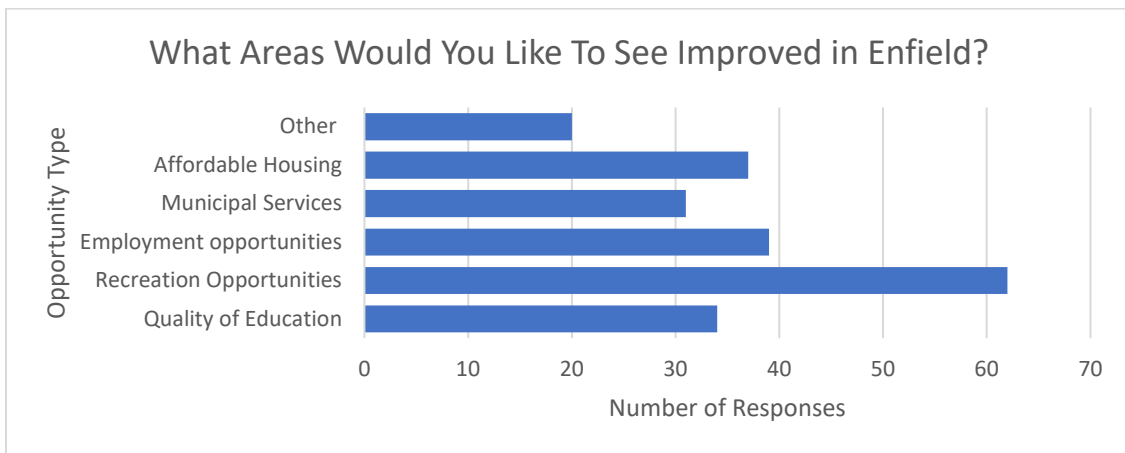
Opportunities for Recreation

Outdoor recreation is a significant asset to Enfield, and a major driver for the attraction of tourists and home buyers seeking properties in areas rich in recreation opportunities. Recreational activities serve as more than just a source of leisure; they act as social and cultural hubs, fostering community bonds. Enfield's residents benefit from shared spaces like parks and trails, offering opportunities for physical activity and a respite from daily routines. Additionally, community events and gatherings centered around recreation become platforms for residents to connect, celebrate local identity, and support local businesses. The positive impact extends beyond individual well-being, contributing to the overall resilience and cohesion of Enfield, creating a stronger and more vibrant community fabric. Between the local boat launches, nature trails, town beaches, and numerous acres of forestland, all are accessible for public use. As stewards of

the land, the community takes great care of the natural resources and waterbodies on which they explore.

Community Response

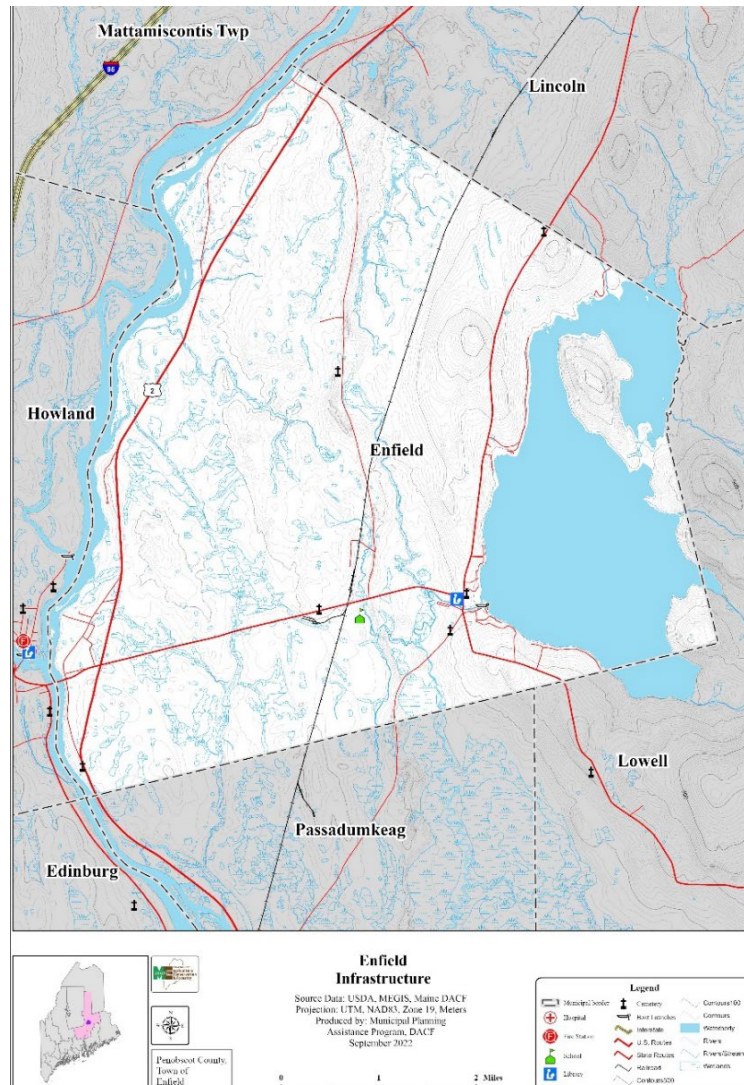
Expectantly, the community response to questions on recreation underscored the significance of outdoor activities and communal spaces. Residents expressed their desire for continued investment in parks, and open spaces, emphasizing the importance of maintaining and enhancing the town’s recreational resources. Below are the top survey responses to gauge interest in improvement opportunities and certain types of recreational opportunities. Although the community is ready to explore recreational expansion or enhancement, there is little change needed due to little or no projected population growth.



Parks

Enfield has several municipal parks. These parks currently meet the needs of the town’s residents, however if any demographic changes occur, especially growth, the towns needs may be reevaluated to better accommodate any and all residents. Enfield's parks are listed Below. A map of basic recreation infrastructure provided by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry is also shown below.

- Cole’s Athletic Field (Cole’s Field) – Cole’s Field is located on Rte. 155 on the way from West Enfield as you are going to town hall.
- Helen Woods Park - The Helen Woods Park is located on Cedar Rest Road. This 5-acre nature Park and accompanying trails was donated to the Town of Enfield by Mr. Richard Bradford in memory of his wife.
- Gary Stover Memorial Beach - The Gary Stover Memorial Beach is located adjacent to the public landing on Old Hatchery Road. The park was donated to the Town of Enfield in memory of Gary Stover.
- Galen Cole Historical Park - This Historical Park is located on Route 155 and commemorates Enfield's original Railroad Station.
- Lang Park – This park is located on the corner of Rte. 155 and 188.
- Village School Park – This park is located adjacent to the Grange Hall on the Lowell Rd at the site of the old school grounds.
- Heather White Park – Located on Old County North Rd.
- Jim Blanche Park – Located on Old County North Rd.



Morgan's Beach



Morgan's beach is located on the west shore of Cold Stream Pond. As previously stated, Cold Stream Pond is one of the purest bodies of water in Maine. The residents of Enfield take great pride in the lake, noting it to be foundational to the town's existence. The beach is open from 9am to 6pm mid-June through Labor Day. There is an attendant on site, grills, a snack shack, and you can even rent an on-site pavilion for events. During the open-season, the town and/or the Cold-Stream Camp Owners Association will host community wide gatherings to celebrate the lake or just for entertainment. Enfield takes great strides to create an enjoyable atmosphere in one of Maine's best-known lakes.

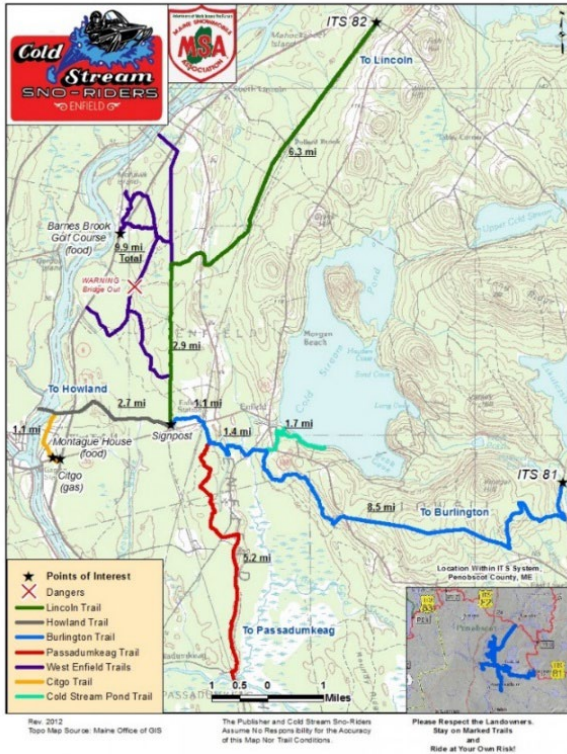
Barnes Brook Golf Course

Enfield has a well-maintained public golf course, called Barnes Brook, located on Route 2. The 9-hole course supports a restaurant, attracts tourists, and creates several jobs for the town, on top of enhancing recreational opportunities. In the winter, it is used for cross-country skiing.

Partnerships and Private Access

Although Enfield has not explored the idea of purchasing partnerships with landowners to acquire open spaces or access to waterways, Enfield often works with the Camp Owners Association (COA) of Cold Stream Pond when it comes to the lake. Any plans requiring public funds to be raised or spent would have to be proposed to the community. Furthermore, access to private lands is by private invitation. Access restrictions do not seem to occur, and are not posted. In the past, the association had a communication director which would actively participate in town sponsored events, but the lack of one has made that more difficult. Even so, members of the COA still come to planning board meetings and relay what they are doing, especially when it concerns the town.

Enfield technically has another boat launch, which is managed through a private partnership but is meant for home and camp owners living closer to Cold Stream Pond. It is private land deeded for that specific use. The town may want to explore expanding this relationship to allow greater use in the future.

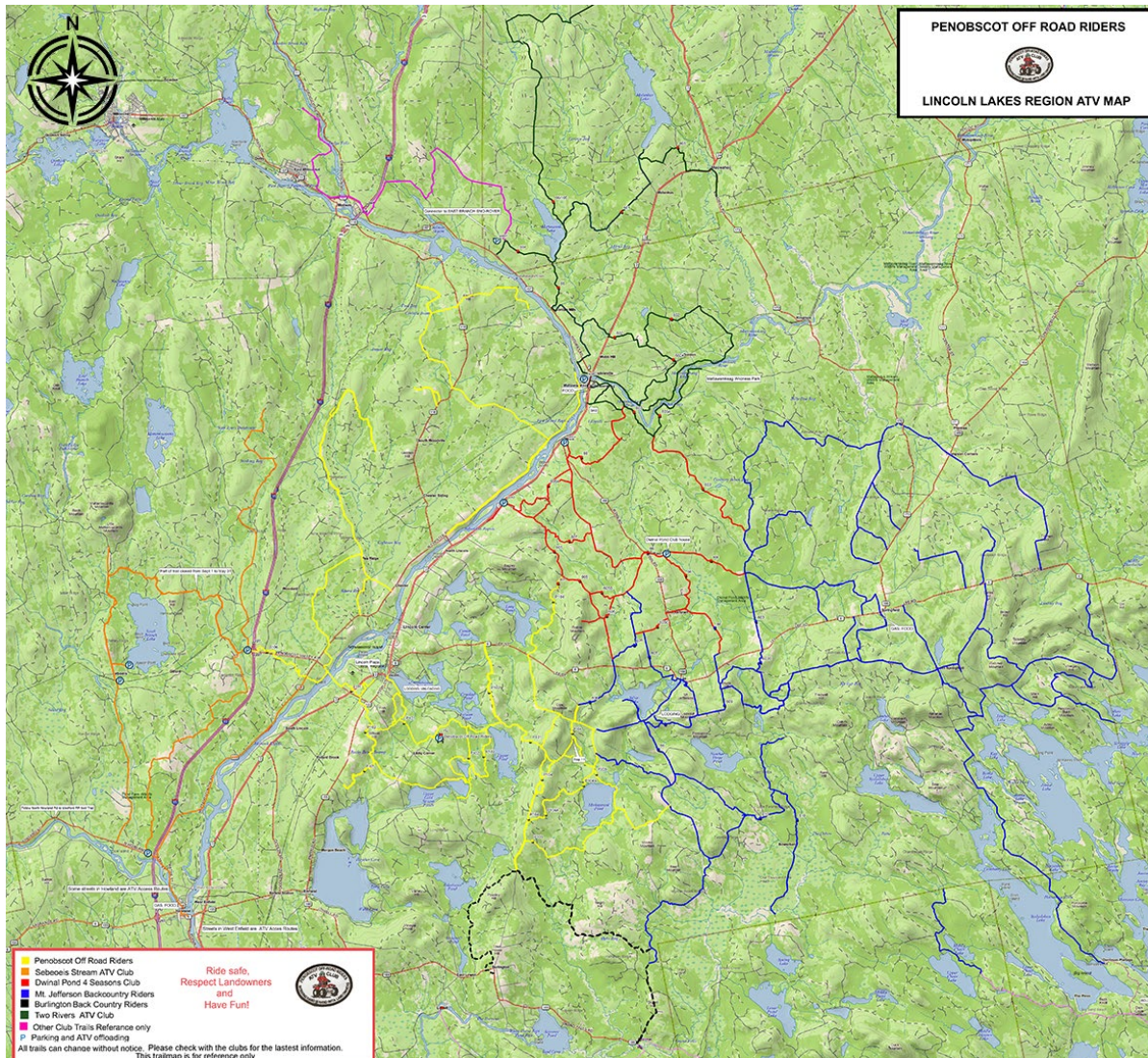


Recreational trails in Enfield are all on private property and are mostly used by ATVs and snowmobiles. These trails are registered and maintained by local and surrounding community state-sanctioned clubs. One such trail, known as Helen’s Woods, on Cedar Rest Road has gone unmaintained. This trail was donated to the town, and is supposed to be maintained by the town, however, opposition by local landowners has made maintenance difficult. The town may seek to restart maintenance on this trail specifically before engaging in efforts to create new trails.

Generally, property owned by individuals is restricted with signage against public use with the land companies owning forested lands allowing ATV trails and hunting. No conflicts are noted at present. These trails are often multi-use unless otherwise stated.

ATV/Snowmobile Clubs in the area

- ❖ Burlington Back Country Riders Club
- ❖ Cold Stream Snow-Riders Club
- ❖ Lincoln Snow Hounds Club
- ❖ Enfield Cruisers



Locally, there are a few active ATV/snowmobile clubs. Cold Stream Riders, (who provided the map above) meet at the Barnes Brook Club House once the snowy season starts. Trails are maintained by club members with other surrounding clubs participating in some areas also. Generally, property owned by individuals is restricted with signage against public use with the land companies owning forested lands allowing ATV trails and hunting.

Ammadamast Grange and other facilities

Although it is not owned by the Town of Enfield, The Ammadamast Grange is a well-known gathering place and activity center for Enfield’s residents. It is located at 46 Lowell Road and has been a non-profit since 1910. The Grange conducts various fundraising events and community services around Enfield. The Grange awards scholarships to local area high school graduates, and the building is available to rent. It is also available free for bereavement purposes or by donation if food and staff are provided. Some of the more popular uses for the Grange are annual craft fairs, classes, music jams, plays, and a monthly community supper to name a few things specific

things it is used for. Other facilities include the Montague house and the KofC Hall in Lincoln; however, the Grange Hall remains the most popular. Residents expressed an interest in greater advertising for use of the Grange Hall.

Recreation Needs

Knowing that about one-third of the town is a lake, it's easy to see that people come to Enfield for the lake and recreation associated with the outdoors. Still, there is much opportunity for the town to capitalize on its natural beauty to meet the diverse needs of its residents. Recognizing the importance of fostering an active and engaged population, there is a growing demand for a well-rounded recreational infrastructure. This includes the development of trails, sidewalks, and green spaces that encourage outdoor activities, such as hiking and picnicking, as well as the establishment of a boat launch above the dam. For example, there is a canoe trip that comes down the Penobscot, and before the dam, boat riders must get out of their canoes and carry them quite a distance from one boat launch to another, to get around the dam. The town may invest in a boat launch closer to the dam to make it easier on these canoers transferring their boats from one part of the river to another.

Additionally, investing in recreational facilities will cater to the needs of families and individuals of all ages, fostering a sense of community pride and well-being. By strategically addressing these recreational needs, Enfield aims to create a vibrant and inclusive environment that enhances the overall quality of life for its residents.

Strategies

Create a list of recreation needs or develop a recreation plan to meet current and future needs. Assign a committee or community official to explore ways of addressing the identified needs and/or implementing the policies and strategies outlined in the plan.

Work with public and private partners to extend and maintain a network of trails for motorized and non-motorized uses. Connect with regional trail systems where possible.

Work with an existing local land trust or other conservation organizations to pursue opportunities to protect important open space or recreational land.

Provide educational materials regarding the benefits and protections for landowners allowing public recreational access on their property. At a minimum this will include information on Maine's landowner liability law regarding recreational or harvesting use, Title 14, M.R.S.A. §159-A.

FISCAL CAPACITY AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN

State Goal

To plan for, finance and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services to accommodate anticipated growth and economic development.

Towns Goals(s)

To explore grants available to assist in the future funding of capital investments within Enfield.

To explore all feasible opportunities to partner with regional neighboring towns for regional efforts to invest in local capital

Policies

To finance existing and future facilities and services in a cost-effective manner

To explore grants available to assist in the funding of capital investments within the community

To reduce Maine's tax burden by staying within LD 1 spending limitations

Financing The Future

A significant component of planning for future growth is determining which capital investments are most essential for achieving the community's vision. The next step is to consider sources for how the capital investments will be funded, whether that be grants, or donations. By having a Comprehensive Plan that is found consistent with the Growth Management Act by the State of Maine, the community will be given preferential consideration when applying for state grant programs. In turn, this will assist the community in funding their capital investment projects. All planned and potential future capital investments will be funded via property taxes and grants as they are procured. Reserve accounts have been established also. Although there are no current plans to borrow to pay for capital investments, the community has a very good credit rating and more than sufficient borrowing capacity to obtain necessary funding.

Enfield Public Revenues					
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Taxes (including Homestead Exemption)	\$2,798,503	\$2,839,364	\$2,875,385	\$3,013,973	\$2,997,377
Excise Tax	\$307,279	\$304,159	\$375,379	\$369,579	\$378,818
State Revenue Sharing	\$85,991	\$143,962	\$198,110	\$305,860	\$338,518
ARPA Funds/Municipal Review Committee Return	\$136,270	N/A	N/A	\$162,414	\$20,000
Investment Earnings	\$32,763	\$38,309	\$32,755	\$8,711	\$79,367
Interest and Fees on Delinquent Taxes	\$20,458	\$18,217	\$17,245	\$9,805	\$7,811
Other	\$29,333	\$26,510	\$46,164	\$40,580	\$39,383
Total Revenues	\$3,410,597	\$3,370,521	\$3,545,038	\$3,910,922	\$3,861,274

Enfield Public Expenditures					
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Administration	\$340,239	\$374,399	\$407,978	\$469,282	\$517,313
Protection	\$63,869	\$66,239	\$62,139	\$62,530	\$75,297
Health and Sanitation	\$117,815	\$122,894	\$128,225	\$130,832	\$145,803
Transportation	\$378,482	\$677,559	\$559,192	\$572,396	\$651,977
Education	\$2,035,651	\$2,103,071	\$2,160,886	\$2,069,571	\$2,129,804
Unclassified	\$48,602	\$51,006	\$41,605	\$44,449	\$61,077
Assessments	\$207,813	\$216,526	\$222,615	\$241,989	\$259,714
Total Expenditures	\$3,192,471	\$3,611,694	\$3,582,640	\$3,591,049	\$3,840,985

Debts

Long-Term Debt

The town currently has no long-term debts.

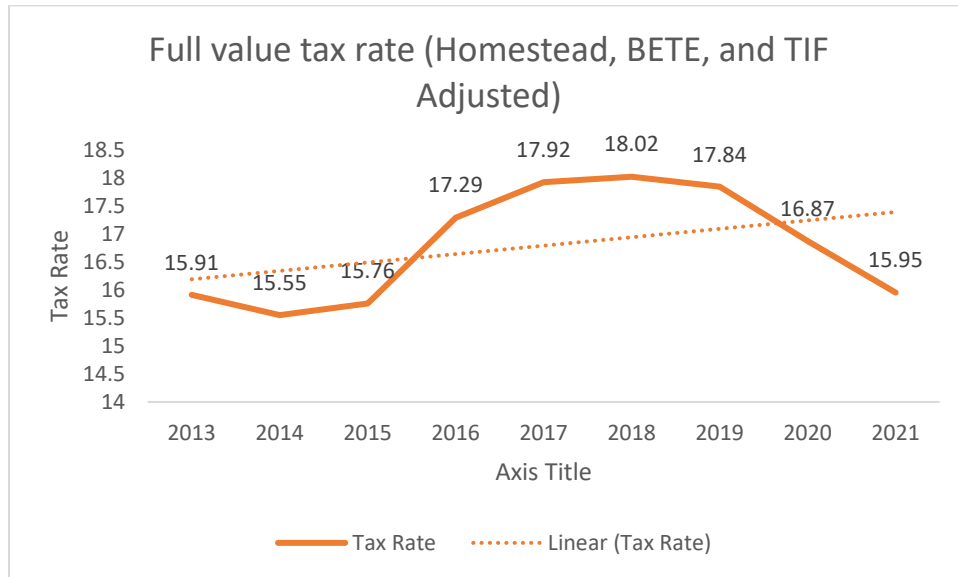
Short-term Debts

Enfield currently has \$1,000,000 road construction bond through 2031, a \$300,000 road loan through 2027, a 2020 Freightliner Plow truck \$161,609 through 2025, a 2023 Bobcat skid steer \$75,924.97 through 2028, and a 2023 Freightliner plow truck \$163,575.58 through 2026. These all total to be \$1,325,185.

Maine State Valuation

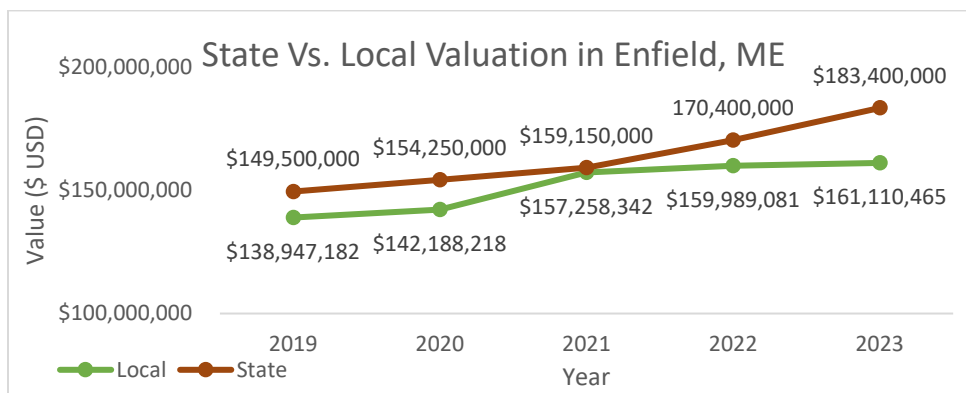
The State's Valuation is informed by field work, meetings with local assessors, and a sales ratio study which measures the assessed value of residential and certain commercial properties relative to their actual selling price. It is used to determine things such as the levy of county taxes

and state funds for education and revenue sharing, as well as to establish bond debt limits. Since the State Valuation process takes about 18 months to complete, this valuation lags behind actual market values and municipal assessments by nearly two years by the time it is final and certified. Enfield's 2021 State Valuation is 15.95%. Enfield's State Valuation increased approximately 0.5% between 2012 and 2021. There have been some fluctuations, but more consistently, the tax rate has gone up in Enfield. The 2024 Mil Rate is reported to be 16.44 by the town.



Local Valuation

Below is a chart of Enfield's Local and State Valuation for the last 5 years (2019-2023).



The form of valuation that occurs at the municipal level and is used to determine local taxes. The town's valuation is based on assessed values for real estate and personal property as determined by the Town Assessor. Operating grants and contributions are often sourced from county, state, or federal programs and include funds for education, school lunches, and retirement benefits.

Property taxes are assessed against land, buildings, and other assets and are a common self-sourced form of income. As such, reductions to county, state, or federal funding for these

municipal programs often compel municipalities to rely on local property tax as a stable source of revenue. In FY 2019, Enfield total property tax revenue was \$2,798,503. In FY 2023, the revenue was \$2,997,307. In the last 5 years, the property tax revenue has gone up \$198,804.

Capital Investment Plan

Although Enfield is not expected to experience significant population growth, the 2020 addition of the Pleasant River Lumber mill and the new biochar facility set to open soon may bring significant capital investment via tax revenues and job growth to the town in the next 10 years. Enfield is also currently undergoing tax reevaluation of its properties. This will be applied to 2025 taxes. This effort reflects increased aggressiveness in collecting tax arrears in the last 5 years.

In addition, reserve accounts have been established for regular maintenance and are established on an as needed basis. Regular maintenance is funded by a combination of reserve money, grants, and loans. Priorities are largely identified based in past investments and tracking what is happening around the state.

Enfield Capital Improvement Plan Guide

Item	Cost	Priority	Funding
PW Equipment	\$1,200,000	Medium High	Loans, Taxation
Broadband Improvements	To be determined based on need	Medium	ARPA Funds, Grants, Loans
Downtown development (sidewalks, parks)	\$150,000	Medium	Grants, Loans, Bonds, Taxation
Road Improvements	\$3,500,000	High	LRAP Funds, Grants, Loans, Bonds, Taxation
Public Sewer/Water	To be determined based on feasibility studies	Medium High	ARPA, Grants, Loans, Bonds, Taxation
Public buildings and facilities	To be determined based on need	Medium	Grants, Loans, Bonds, Taxation

The future of capital Investment Funding

Capital investments refer to the expenditure of municipal funds of \$20,000 or more to purchase assets of land, machinery, equipment, or buildings. There are a variety of capital investments that the Town of Enfield has identified as being priority projects in their Capital Investment Plan. Projects related to broadband expansion, housing developments, and sustainable growth are among them. These will be funded in numerous ways, including bank loans, municipal low interest loans, a Forestry Reserve Account, donations, volunteer labor, tax funding, private funding, and state and municipal grants.

Over the next 10 years, Enfield is expecting approximately \$10,000,000 in capital investments. This number is based on what has been received in the past and looking at how inflation trends are shaping capital investment around the state. If the community approves the projects listed in the plan, the diverse funding sources (e.g. state grants, municipal grants, donations, etc.) enhance borrowing capacity and increase the likelihood of project completion. The town has a 10-year lifecycle plan for Public Works equipment, from plow trucks, to backhoes, to work trucks. The town has a 5-year road maintenance plan for all paved town roads. The town will require capital investments for sewer infrastructure, public buildings, public facilities (beach/boat launch), tourism development (sidewalks, park) over the next 10 years as well. Ideas about adding water infrastructure have been proposed.

Strategies

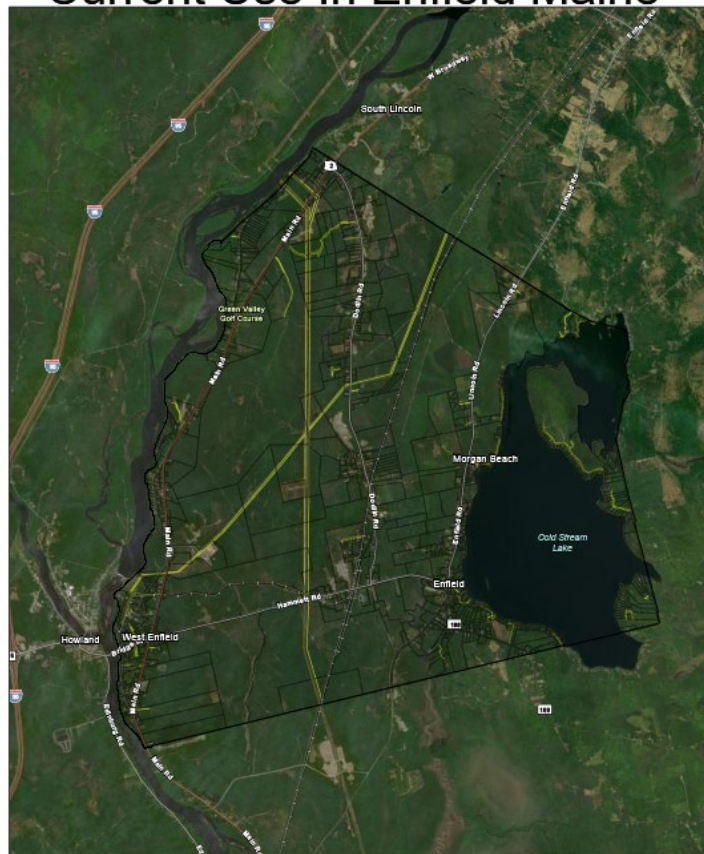
Explore opportunities to work with neighboring communities to plan for and finance shared or adjacent capital investments to increase cost savings and efficiencies.

EXISTING LAND USE

Understanding Enfield’s existing land use and zoning provides a basis for understanding current conditions and determining if future changes need to be made to achieve town goals. Land use regulations have implications for all of the other elements of Enfield’s Comprehensive Plan. As a primary tool to maintain and focus uses, zoning and land use regulations are critical to efforts to be proactive about directing change and protecting the features that residents wish to preserve. As Enfield is highly focused on capitalizing on its natural beauty, it may focus more on regulatory measures surrounding its natural resources, while non-regulatory measures it may look into involve fostering the connectedness of the community to encourage mutual stewardship.

Current Land Use

Current Use In Enfield Maine



Enfield has no existing land use maps, and no land use ordinances. The above tax map serves as a base for development of future land use. Although there is no current zoning outside of shoreland zoning in Enfield. It is important to note that even though this map does not reflect current land use in the town, it can be used as a guide for how land use has developed and remained stable for the town.

Dimensional standards are as follows:

Minimum lot size: 20,000 sq. feet

Minimum lot road frontage: 100 feet

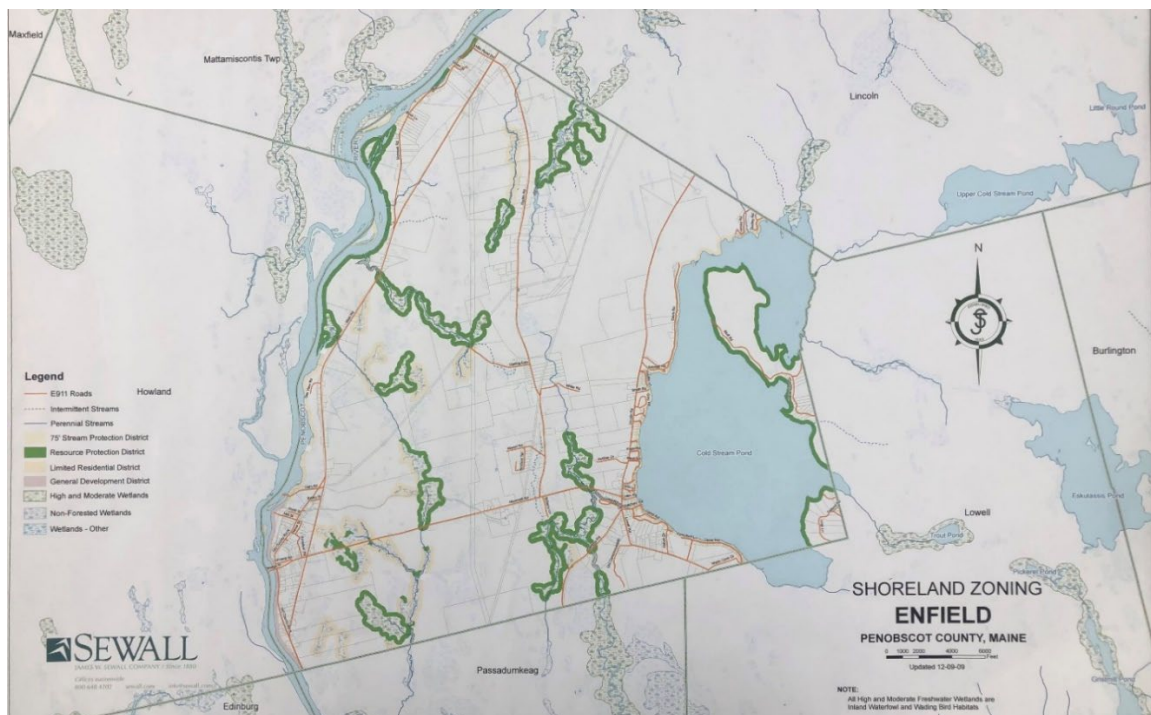
Minimum ground coverage: for one dwelling unit, no restriction; however, 25% maximum lot coverage.

Egress Doors and Windows: Any sleeping area must have a framed door separating the sleeping area from the rest of the structure, and an outward swinging, framed door to the outside or a window with an opening of 5.7 sq. ft (820 sq. in.) at minimum, with a minimum window width of 20" and a minimum opening height of 24". The bottom of the window should be no higher than 30" from the floor.

Smoke Detectors: All living areas will have working smoke detectors.

During the planning period, Enfield plans to implement a new land use ordinance, with zoning districts and performance standards.

Shoreland Zoning



Enfield exhibits a zoning and land use framework primarily characterized by its shoreland zoning. The town's emphasis on shoreland regulations underscores the importance of Cold Stream Pond to the vitality and integrity of the town. Enfield's zoning practices prioritize the maintenance of scenic beauty and ecological balance along its shores, fostering a community that values both responsible growth and environmental stewardship. Any Development that occurs is currently lot by lot, indicative the resources available to the small town. As the town grows, planned developments are more sought after as the method most in line with the community's vision.

Enfield's shoreland zoning ordinance applies to all land areas with 250 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of any great pond or river, or upland edge of a freshwater, wetland, and all land areas within 75 feet, horizontal distance, of the normal high-water line of a stream. 2009 and follows stricter guidelines than what is minimally required by the state of Maine. The ordinance can be found on the Enfield town website.

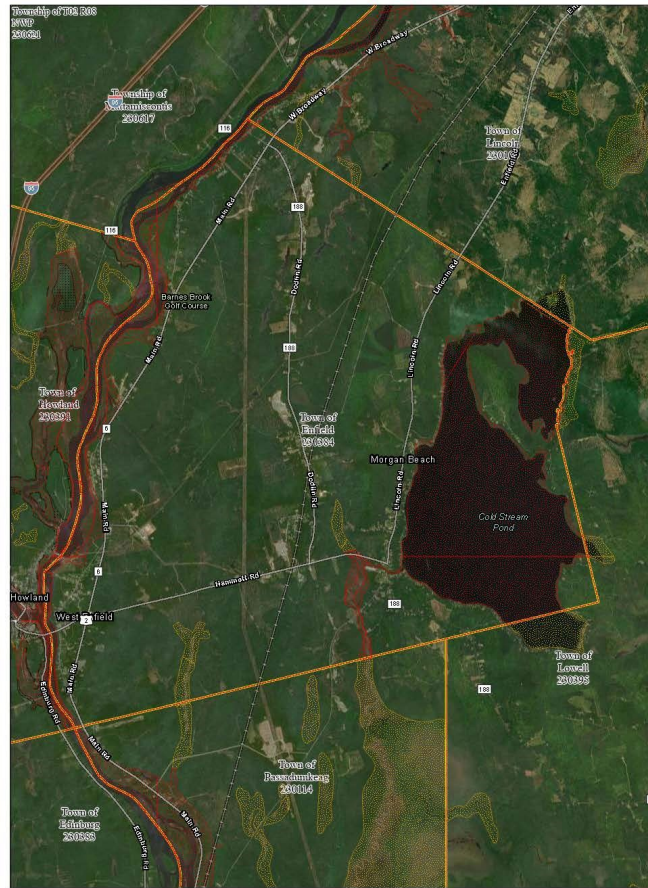
Planning Board

The Town of Enfield has a 5-member planning board that reviews all permit requests for compliance with State and local requirements. The town also has a code enforcement officer (CEO) that assists the board in this process, and inspects new construction for adherence with sewage and wastewater codes. The code enforcement officer also provides advice and inspections for shoreland zoning. There is an increasing need for more hours from the CEO for the town, as the current CEO works only one day a week.

Floodplain Management Ordinance

Enfield has not had any floodplain issues since 1987 and does not have flood insurance beyond what is provided by the Maine Municipal Association. The town's floodplain management has not been updated since 2007, putting it out of date with the changes made by the state of Maine.

Maine Flood Hazard Map



Development and Trends

Residential

Land ownership patterns are characterized by residents as few people owning large parcels of land. However, more recently, Enfield has seen smaller parcels of land being used for more residential space, as new residents move to the area, which is indicative of naturally changing land use patterns. Over the last 10 years, population growth has decreased by approximately 100 as shown in the Population and demographics chapter. However, this may be inaccurate since the COVID-19 Pandemic brought a strong influx of new residents throughout Maine. There are promising developments happening for Mohawk Road.

Industrial

Until 2020, Enfield had not seen any industrial growth. Since 2020, increased focus has been directed toward the development of land by Pleasant River Lumber and the Enfield Biochar

project through Standard Biocarbon. Throughout history, the influence of larger industries significantly impacted all facets of small communities, contributing to economic development. By adhering to smart growth principles, Enfield will strategically chart its growth using similar establishment of ventures in other municipalities across the United States. There is also a new solar field in Enfield.

Commercial

Enfield has a moderate amount of commercial businesses typical of its population size. Commercial development has occurred mainly within the west Enfield area with an occasional home business in the more rural areas of the town. In the last 10 years, most prominently, a Dollar General opened on the corner of Route 2, and businesses like the Grass Station have also arisen. There have also been expansions, like that of Ware Butler on Rte. 155. Overall, there are less than 10 businesses that have successfully opened.

Enfield also has little development pressure, it is considered a bedroom community for Lincoln in the north, and Bangor further south. With its lower tax rates and well-known potential, it is an attractive community for those wishing to locate to the town.

Projected Needs

If projected growth stays as predicted in the population and demographics chapter, the town estimates that it will need a minimum of 50 acres for development in the next 10 years. This may happen in and around the designated growth areas primarily.

The Comprehensive Plan cannot provide detailed solutions for all of the community's economic development issues. It does, however, identify many of the basic resources, facts, and local concerns so that the town's leaders, along with the residents can have better information for the future decision-making on some of the town's most pressing land use matters.

FUTURE LAND USE PLAN

State Goal

To encourage orderly growth and development in appropriate areas of each community, while protecting the state's rural character, making efficient use of public services, and preventing development sprawl.

Town Goal(s)

Foster sustainable growth that accommodates the changing needs of the community.

Encourage the development of affordable housing options for residents of all income levels.

Expand Public Transportation options to reduce dependency on personal vehicles.

Create and maintain land use to support and attract small businesses, artisans, and locally owned enterprises.

Policies

To coordinate the community's land use strategies with other local and regional land use planning efforts

To support the locations, types, scales, and intensities of land uses the community desires as stated in its vision.

To support the level of financial commitment necessary to provide needed infrastructure in growth areas.

To establish efficient permitting procedures, especially in growth areas.

To protect critical rural and critical waterfront areas from the impacts of development.

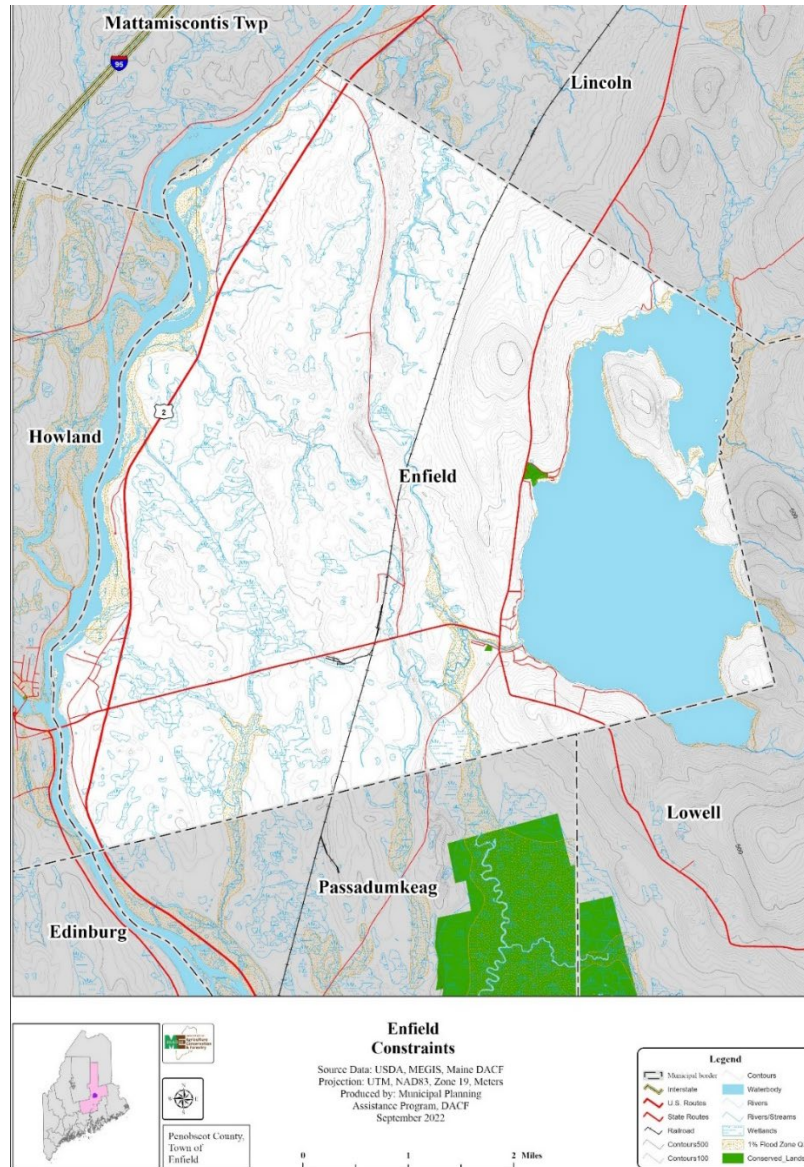
Planning for Future Growth

The following chapter is dedicated to identifying areas where future growth is likely to occur as well as locations for rural areas, where agriculture and open space are most appropriate. To ensure the community's vision is at the forefront of future land use considerations, constraints to development, including conserved land, threatened wildlife habitat, wetlands, and slope are identified in the natural resource chapter. Being considerate and thoughtful when planning where future growth may be most suitable is essential to ensuring that the character, historical

value, and the critical natural resources of the community are respected and acknowledged. Current and future residents, land developers, and prospective local business owners may find the following land use maps beneficial in the process of considering locations best suitable for their business or residence.

Enfield faces a unique challenge in strategizing future land use, given the constraints imposed by its wetlands. The town's vision of "using the past to move into the future by keeping its eyes forward" suggests a nuanced approach to development that respects its history while embracing progress. To navigate the constraints of wetlands, a comprehensive land use plan could prioritize areas outside these sensitive zones for activities that drive economic growth.

Similarly, while future residential and commercial development will advance local economic development, special attention must be given to critical natural resource protection. Non-regulatory protective measures such as the efforts made by the Cold Stream Pond Camp Owners Association, and The Penobscot County Conservation Commission work in concert with regulatory and non-regulatory protective measures led by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, and Maine Department of Environmental Protection to conserve threatened wildlife habitat and open wetlands. Maintaining communication with these state departments, local groups, and regional entities is key to ensuring the long-term protection of these natural resources and wildlife habitats. At the local level, ensuring that local ordinances prioritize these natural resources and recognize their value will assist in the monitoring and assessment of environmental impacts from a project's proposal to completion. Growth areas identified in the Future Land Use Plan are primarily diverted away from significant natural resources to support their continued protection. By maintaining low levels of disturbance and development in critical natural habitat areas (See Natural Resources Chapter) these natural communities and wildlife populations will be able to thrive for years to come.



Alignment with Community Vision

The Future Land Use Plan, which identifies growth areas where residential and commercial development are projected, and rural areas, where open space and agriculture are top priorities. Participants in the Community Survey identified specific types of desired development that would help Enfield expand its economy and population while remaining true to its rural character and history. Participant responses that directly relate to a Future Land Use plan are listed below.

- a. Desire for more recreation opportunities and activities: A significant portion of the survey respondents expressed a desire entertainment and recreation opportunities within Enfield. This is where its wetlands can be a strength rather than a constraint. Bog walks are a popular wetland centered activity that prioritizes conservation and preservation of this critical natural resource.

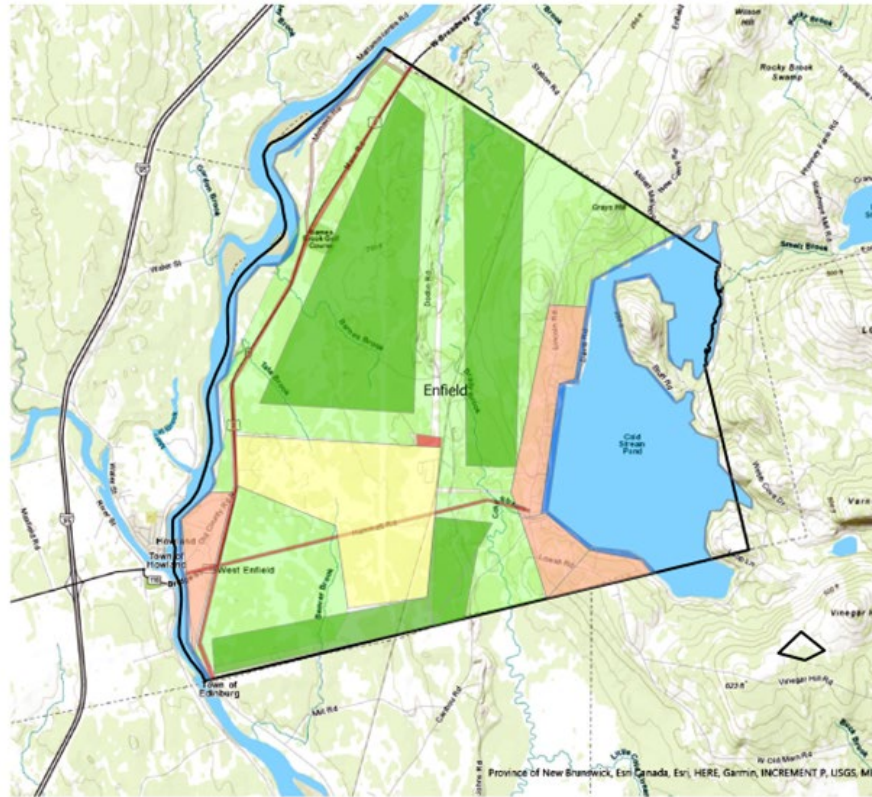
Emphasizing the role of the Fish Hatchery and the fishing possibilities of stream, river or deep-water lake would be another opportunity to elevate the assets of Enfield.

b. Need for employment opportunities: With the recent addition of Pleasant River Lumber and Standard Biocarbon, the town may yet see an increase of employment. Barring this, there are plans the town may make in land use to advocate for businesses looking to relocate/ expand/ or start out.

c. Priority on affordable housing: Many respondents highlighted the importance of offering affordable housing. Residents are eager to balance the affordable tax rates, which allow them to continue enjoying life in Enfield, while establishing plans to create housing for anyone wishing to relocate or move within the city, especially near the lake, where housing prices are particularly high.

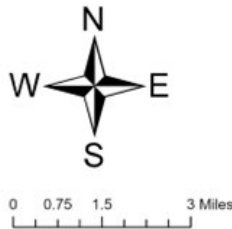
By pinpointing development constraints while keeping environments like wetlands, sensitive wildlife habitats, conserved land, and the region's terrain pristine, Enfield is poised for future growth while also preserving its deep-rooted community values and the cherished heritage of the town. The deliberate identification of these areas offers a glimpse into the potential for upcoming development, all the while upholding a respectful consideration for, and admiration of Enfield's historical and natural legacy. Within the framework of the Future Land Use Plan, Enfield anticipates a blend of rural, industrial, residential, and mixed commercial-residential growth in designated zones. On a smaller scale, rural life continues to be an integral part of the community's identity today. The rural areas identified in the Future Land Use Plan may witness increased farming or logging activities in the years ahead, fortifying forestry, and reinforcing the town's enduring heritage. Below is a proposed future land use map, which is in its initial stages, and is subject to change after the adoption of this comprehensive plan. Not included in this potential map is the designation of Critical Resource Areas. These will be added with reference to critical natural resources, and are shown in a separate map on page 62 of this Comprehensive Plan.

Potential Future Land-Use Districts



Legend

- Industrial District
- Mixed Use District
- Recreational and Open Area
- Residential Use District
- Shoreland Zone
- Aquifer Protection Zone
- Rural Residential District



ENFIELD
Penobscot County, Maine

To realize the vision and goals outlined in this plan, the town of Enfield will employ a range of strategies, including but not limited to zoning regulations, incentives for sustainable development, investment in infrastructure, and public engagement initiatives. Although the town does not yet have a land use plan or ordinance set in place, when it implements one, the ordinance will regulate residential, commercial, agricultural, forestry, and industrial land uses. To address the desires of residents while fostering the responsible growth of the town, growth areas and development opportunities have been identified:

Commercial Zones

In response to the community's desire for more commercial attractions, Enfield may designate specific areas for commercial development. These zones will encourage the establishment of new restaurants, grocery stores, and other retail businesses. These commercial areas will be conveniently located to serve the needs of residents and contribute to the local economy.

Residential Development

While maintaining low property taxes is a priority for the community, there is a real need for new residential development. Enfield may promote the construction of affordable housing options to address the demands of a potentially growing population while keeping property taxes as low as possible, especially along Mohawk Road.

Sustainability and Responsible Growth

Protecting critical and important natural resources during future land use development in Enfield involves careful planning and implementing conservation strategies. Here are some key considerations:

Establish Buffer Zones: Designate buffer zones around critical resources to minimize direct impacts. These areas can serve as protective buffers, helping to shield ecosystems from the potential negative effects of development.

Enforce Zoning Regulations: Enfield's solid shoreland zoning is again, a cornerstone of the community's development. Enforcing zoning regulations that clearly define land use restrictions around critical and important natural resources is a part of that.

Incentivize Conservation Easements: Encourage landowners and developers to voluntarily establish conservation easements on properties with critical natural resources. This legal agreement restricts certain types of development, preserving the ecological integrity of the land.

Utilize Transfer of Development Rights (TDR): Implement TDR programs that allow landowners to sell development rights from ecologically sensitive areas to developers in more suitable locations. This approach helps concentrate development in less environmentally impacted zones.

Promote Sustainable Design Practices: Advocate for sustainable development practices that minimize ecological impact. This includes incorporating green infrastructure, permeable surfaces, and energy-efficient technologies to reduce the environmental footprint of new developments.

Community Education and Engagement: Raise awareness among the community, developers, and policymakers about the importance of preserving critical natural resources. Encourage a shared commitment to sustainable development practices through educational programs and public forums.

Collaborate with Environmental Experts: Engage environmental scientists, ecologists, and conservationists in the planning process. Their expertise can provide valuable insights into effective preservation strategies and guide decision-making to minimize ecological disruption.

Monitor and Enforce Compliance: Establish monitoring programs to track the impact of development on natural resources. Enforce compliance with regulations and swiftly address any violations to ensure the protection of critical ecosystems.

Infrastructure and Services

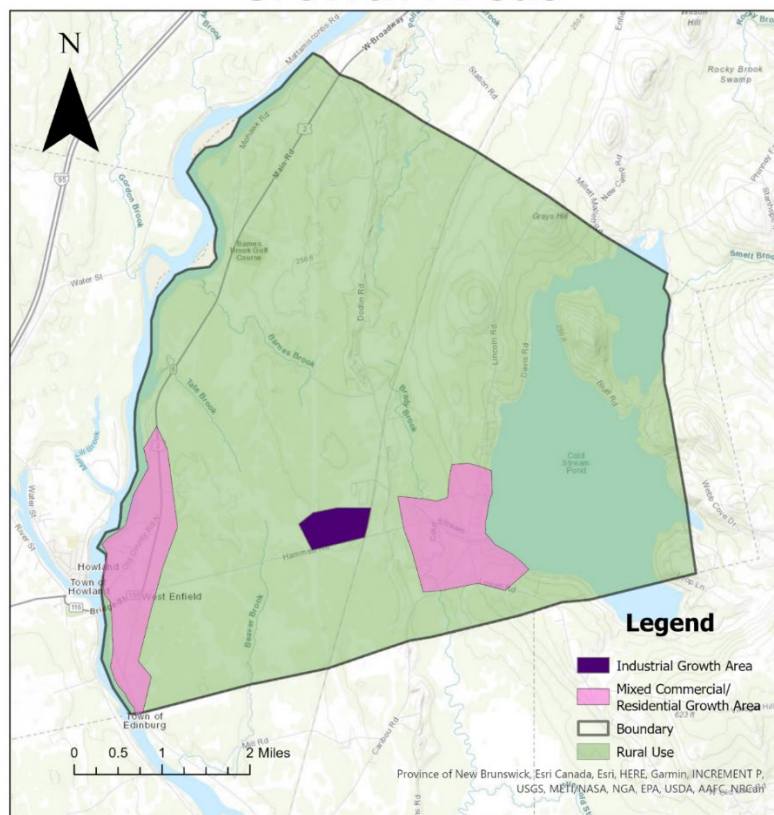
In response to the community's feedback, it will continue to invest in infrastructure and public services to support the growing town. This includes ensuring that roads, utilities, and public transportation are adequate to meet the needs of residents and businesses.

Recent Development Trends

Growth Areas

Although the town does not yet have a land use zoning ordinance set in place, when it implements one, the ordinance will regulate residential, commercial, agricultural, forestry, and industrial land uses. Currently, all of Enfield is rural. The principal use for this land is mixed use with emphasis on residential, rural type residence, and associated uses. Enfield aims to develop other specific purposes of this area including conservation of natural resources, reduction of soil erosion, and the encouragement of appropriate recreational land use. It appears that most development will occur in residential housing. Over the next decade, Enfield expects to add commercial and residential development to its current stock of such lots and buildings.

Future Land Use Growth Areas



Regional Efforts in Land Use

In shaping the future of Enfield, Maine, efficient permitting procedures, and general approaches to land use planning are always being monitored for future improvement. Marked by strategic capital investments and collaborative initiatives with neighboring communities as well as planning organizations, Enfield plans to support the level of financial commitment necessary to provide needed infrastructure in growth areas. This chapter not only aims to show efforts towards standardization and efficiency but also sets the stage for sustainable development. By pooling resources and insights through regional collaboration, Enfield ensures a cohesive and interconnected approach to land use that transcends individual boundaries. The unwavering commitment to a substantial financial investment underscores the town's determination to build the necessary infrastructure for any growth areas that may soon arise, laying the foundation for a resilient and prosperous future.

The Future Land Use Plan chapter sets a framework for the responsible development of Enfield while protecting the town's unique character and natural assets. It is a flexible guide that will be adapted and updated as the town evolves, ensuring that the needs of current and future residents are met while respecting the environment that makes Enfield, Maine a special place to live and work.

Strategies

Using the descriptions provided in the Future Land Use Plan narrative, maintain, enact local ordinances as appropriate to:

- a. Clearly define the desired scale, intensity, and location of future development;
- b. Establish or maintain fair and efficient permitting procedures, and explore streamlining permitting procedures in growth areas; and
- c. Clearly define protective measures for critical natural resources and, where applicable, important natural resources.
- d. Clearly define protective measures for any proposed critical rural areas and/or critical waterfront areas, if proposed.

Include in the Capital Investment Plan anticipated municipal capital investments needed to support proposed land uses.

Direct a minimum of 75% of new municipal growth-related capital investments into designated growth areas identified in the Future Land Use Plan.

Periodically (at least every five years) evaluate implementation of the plan in accordance with Section 2.7

APPENDIX

Strategy Implementation Table

The table below lists strategies in applicable chapters of the plan and local groups and entities that will play lead roles in their implementation along with a timeline that is broken down into the following categories:

- Ongoing – The strategy is something the town is actively working on, and is encouraged to continue doing as part of the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Immediate – A strategy that is on the verge of completion and the town is able to start and/or complete within five (5) years of adopting the Comprehensive Plan.
- Long-Term – These strategies require a significant lead-time that may involve prior actions to be completed. These strategies are anticipated to take more than five (5) years to complete.

Estimated timeframes for strategy completion are also provided. In addition to these strategies, Enfield may annually review the Strategies in the Comprehensive Plan.

<i>Chapter Title</i>	<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Responsible Agent(s)</i>	<i>Timeframe for Completion</i>
Housing	1. Stabilize housing prices	Town Manager, Selectboard and Planning Board	Ongoing
	2. Establish Land Use ordinances to support establishment of senior and low-income housing	Town Manager, Selectboard and Planning Board	Ongoing, 1-3 Years
	3. Maintain, enact or amend growth area land use regulations to increase density, decrease lot size, setbacks and road widths, or provide incentives such as	Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and Assessing Agent	Long term, 5-10 Years

	density bonuses, to encourage the development of affordable/workforce housing.		
	4. Enact ordinances to allow the addition of at least one accessory apartment per dwelling unit in growth areas, subject to site suitability.	Town Manager, Selectboard and Planning Board	Ongoing
	5. Designate a location(s) in growth areas where mobile home parks are allowed pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. §4358(3)(M) and where manufactured housing is allowed pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. §4358(2).	Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and Assessing Agent	Immediate
Transportation	1. Establish Drivers Education program through the schools or a public program	Town Manager, Selectboard, School Administrative District #31 Directors	Immediate
	2. Establish A sidewalk from West Enfield to Cold Stream Pond for pedestrians to safely travel	Town Manager, Selectboard , Maine DOT	Immediate, Ongoing
	3. Increase road maintenance, especially grading	Town Manager, Town select-people, Maine DOT	Immediate
	4. Continue to actively participate in regional and state transportation efforts.	Town Manager, Town select-people, Abutting towns, Maine DOT	Ongoing
	5. Enact local ordinances as appropriate to address or avoid conflicts with: a. Policy objectives of the Sensible Transportation Policy Act (23 M.R.S.A. §73); b. State access management regulations pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. §704; and	Town Manager, Town select-people, Planning Board, Maine DOT	Immediate, 3-5 Years

	c. State traffic permitting regulations for large developments pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. §704-A.		
	6. Enact ordinance standards for subdivisions and for public and private roads as appropriate to foster transportation-efficient growth patterns and provide for future street and transit connections.	Town Manager, Town select-people, Planning Board	Immediate, 1-3 years
Economy	1. Use TIF Money to Allocate public land for development	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board	Long term
	2. Appoint a committee of several people to identify ways of attracting new businesses to Enfield	Town Manager, Selectboard	Immediate, Ongoing
	3. Create an Advertising Campaign to Promote living and working in Enfield	Town Manager, Selectboard, Residents	Ongoing, 1-5 years
	4. Coordinate with other municipalities in efforts to spur regional economic development	Town Manager, Selectboard, Residents, Adjacent Towns	Immediate
Water Resources	1. Adopt or amend local land use ordinances as applicable to incorporate stormwater runoff performance standards consistent with: a. Maine Stormwater Management Law and Maine Stormwater regulations (Title 38 M.R.S.A. §420-D and 06-096 CMR 500 and 502). b. Maine Department of Environmental Protection's allocations for allowable levels of phosphorus in lake/pond watersheds.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning board	Immediate, Ongoing

	c. Maine Pollution Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Program		
	2. Consider amending local land use ordinances, as applicable, to incorporate low impact development standards.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning board	Immediate, Ongoing
	3. Maintain, enact, or amend public wellhead and aquifer recharge area protection mechanisms, as necessary.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning board, Code Enforcement Officer	Immediate, 1-3 years
	4. Encourage landowners to protect water quality. Provide local contact information at the municipal office for water quality best management practices from resources such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Soil and Water Conservation District, Maine Forest Service, and/or Small Woodlot Association of Maine	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning board, Residents	Immediate, Ongoing
	5. Adopt water quality protection practices and standards for construction and maintenance of public and private roads and public properties and require their implementation by contractors, owners, and community officials and employees.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning board, Code Enforcement Officer	Ongoing
	6. Participate in local and regional efforts to monitor, protect and, where warranted, improve water quality.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning board, Code Enforcement Officer	Ongoing
	7. Provide educational materials at appropriate	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning	

	locations regarding aquatic invasive species.	board, Town administrative staff	
	8. Monitor water bodies for PFAS	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board	Immediate, Ongoing
	9. Create an Inflow/flowage study to see how water resources are managed	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board	Ongoing
Natural Resources	1. Increase regional communication surrounding protection of natural resources	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, MDIFW	Immediate, Ongoing
	2. Through local land use ordinances, require subdivision or non-residential property developers to look for and identify critical natural resources that may be on site and to take appropriate measures to protect those resources, including but not limited to, modification of the proposed site design, construction timing, and/or extent of excavation	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, MDIFW	Immediate, Ongoing
	3. Through local land use ordinances, require the planning board (or other designated review authority) to include as part of the review process, consideration of pertinent BwH maps and information regarding critical natural resources.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board	Immediate, 1-3 Years
	4. Initiate and/or participate in interlocal and/or regional planning, management, and/or regulatory efforts around shared critical	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Other Towns, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Immediate, Ongoing

	and important natural resources.		
	5. Pursue public/private partnerships to protect critical and important natural resources such as through purchase of land or easements from willing sellers	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Adjacent towns, Cold Stream Pond Camp Association	Immediate, Ongoing
	6. Distribute or make available information to those living in or near critical or important natural resources about current use tax programs and applicable local, state, or federal regulations.	own Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Administrative Staff	Immediate, Ongoing
Agricultural and Forest Resources	1. Reestablish a farmers' market	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Resident farmers, Ammadamast Grange	Immediate - Long term
	2. Establish a conservatory for historic farmland to preserve for future use.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Resident Farmers	Immediate, 3-5 years
	3. Consult with the Maine Forest Service district forester when developing any land use regulations pertaining to forest management practices as required by 12 M.R.S.A. §8869.	Board of Selectmen and Planning Board	Immediate/ Ongoing
	4. Consult with Soil and Water Conservation District staff when developing any land use regulations pertaining to agricultural management practices.	Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, DACF	Immediate/ Ongoing
	5. Amend land use ordinances to require commercial or subdivision developments in critical rural areas, if	Board of Selectmen, Planning Board	Immediate, 1-5 Years

	applicable, maintain areas with prime farmland soils as open space to the greatest extent practicable.		
	6. Limit non-residential development in critical rural areas (if the town designates critical rural areas) to natural resource-based businesses and services, nature tourism/outdoor recreation businesses, farmers’ markets, and home occupations.	Board of Selectmen, Planning Board	Immediate/ Ongoing
	7. Encourage owners of productive farm and forest land to enroll in the current use taxation programs.	Board of Selectmen,	Immediate/ Ongoing
	8. Permit land use activities that support productive agriculture and forestry operations, such as roadside stands, greenhouses, firewood operations, sawmills, log buying yards, and pick-your-own operations.	Board of Selectmen, All Enfield Residents	Ongoing
	9. Include agriculture, commercial forestry operations, and land conservation that supports them in local or regional economic development plans.	Board of Selectmen, All Enfield Residents	Ongoing
Historic and Archaeological Resources	1. Establish historic sites, properties	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Property Owners, Local historic society	Ongoing, Immediate
	2. For known historic archeological sites and areas sensitive to prehistoric archeology, through local land use ordinances require subdivision or non-residential developers	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Local historic society, Penobscot Nation	Long term, 5-10 years

	to take appropriate measures to protect those resources, including but not limited to, modification of the proposed site design, construction timing, and/or extent of excavation.		
	3. Plan a survey for potential archeological sites	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Property Owners, Local historic society, Penobscot Nation	Immediate, 3-5 years
	4. Adopt or amend land use ordinances to require the planning board (or other designated review authority) to incorporate maps and information provided by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission into their review process.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board	Immediate, 3-5 years
Recreation	1. Add a trail around Cole's Field	Selectboard and Planning Board,	3-5 years
	2. Establish a River Walk Along the Penobscot River	Selectboard and Planning Board, DACF	Immediate, 3-5 Years
	3. Reestablish Helen's Woods trail	Town Manager, Selectboard and Planning Board, Cold Stream Pond Camp Owners Association	Ongoing Immediate, 1-3 Years
	4. Create a list of recreation needs or develop a recreation plan to meet current and future needs. Assign a committee or community official to explore ways of addressing the identified needs and/or implementing the policies and strategies outlined in the plan.		

	5. Work with public and private partners to extend and maintain a network of trails for motorized and non-motorized uses. Connect with regional trail systems where possible.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Residents	Ongoing
	6. Work with an existing local land trust or other conservation organizations to pursue opportunities to protect important open space or recreational land.	Town Manager, Selectboard	Ongoing
	7. Provide educational materials regarding the benefits and protections for landowners allowing public recreational access on their property. At a minimum this will include information on Maine’s landowner liability law regarding recreational or harvesting use, Title 14, M.R.S.A. §159-A.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Town Administrative Staff	Ongoing
Public Facilities and Services	1. Expand Public Sewer/ Water	Town Manager, Selectboard and Planning Board	Immediate, 3-5 years
	2. Expand Transfer stations services, days open in the summer months for increased seasonal residents	Town Manager, Selectboard and Planning Board	Immediate, 3-5 years
	3. Establish Regional Fire/ EMS District	Town Manager, Selectboard and Planning Board, Other Municipalities	Ongoing, 0-2 years
	4. Continue to adapt and revise municipal services to respond to changes in the population (emergency services, housing, recreational opportunities,	Town Manager, Selectboard and Planning Board, Other Municipalities	Ongoing, Immediate

	economic development, and planning).		
Fiscal Capacity and Capital Investment Plan	1. Explore new generation streams by reviewing towns of similar size to diversify tax revenue	Town Manager, Selectboard	Immediate, 5 years
	2. Support the hiring of a fulltime Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) to replace the current part time position to provide adequate permitting services, as well as to enforce existing ordinances and state regulations.	Town Manager, Selectboard, Planning Board, Regional Planning Commission	Ongoing, 1-5 Years

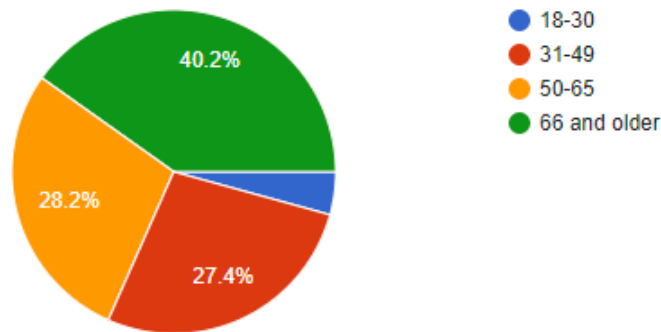
Enfield Community Survey Results

In February 2023 one hundred and seventeen (117) individuals in Enfield, Maine participated in a survey to assess public perceptions of quality of life as well as community opportunities and challenges. Based on 2020 census data, Enfield has 1,438 residents occupying 653 dwellings full time. 238 dwellings are occupied by part-time residents with the number of occupants/users unknown. While not all respondents answered all questions, unanswered questions are classified as “No response,” for the purposes of capturing the total number of respondents throughout the survey analysis. This survey and analysis are a joint effort between Eastern Maine Development Corporation and the Town of Enfield.

Demographics

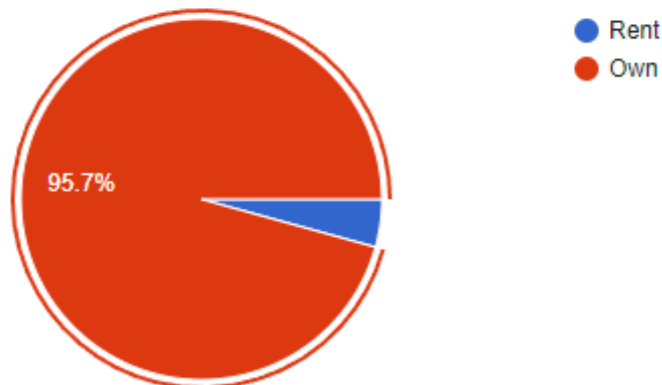
Age bracket

117 responses



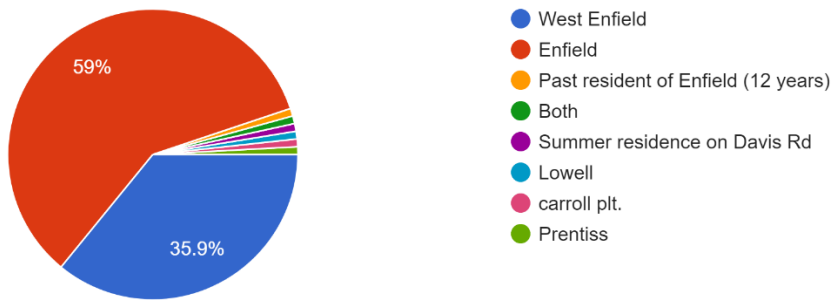
Do you:

117 responses



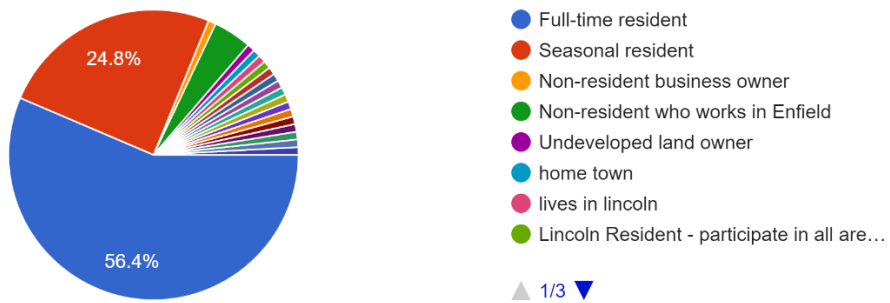
What part of Enfield do you live/work?

117 responses



Which of the following best describes your relationship to Enfield?

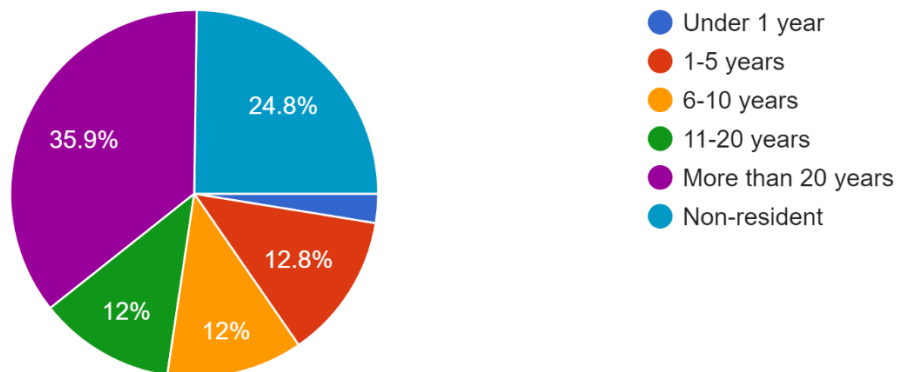
117 responses



▲ 1/3 ▼

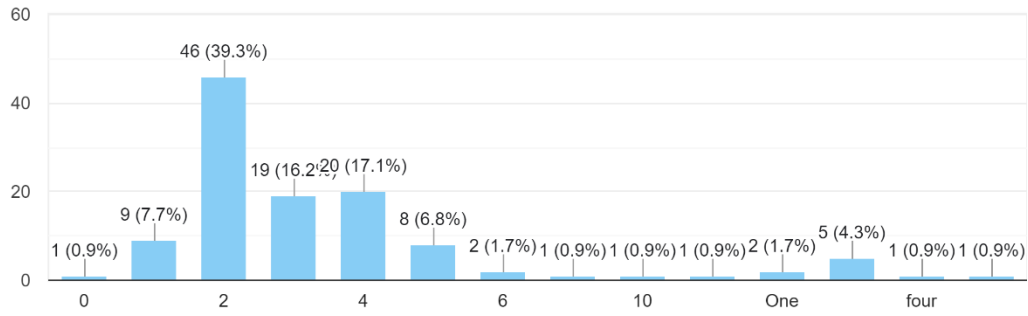
How long have you lived in Enfield?

117 responses



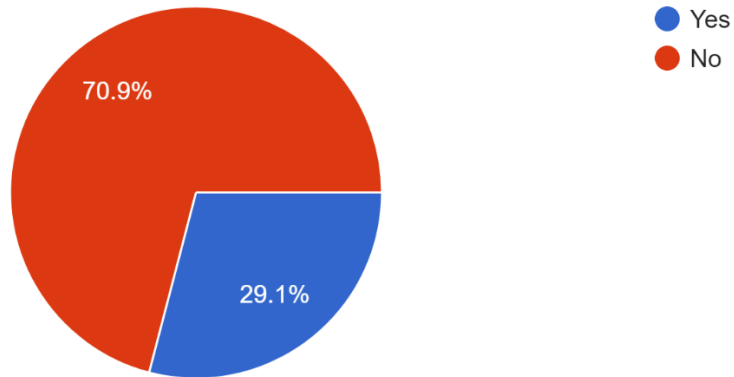
How many people are in your household?

117 responses



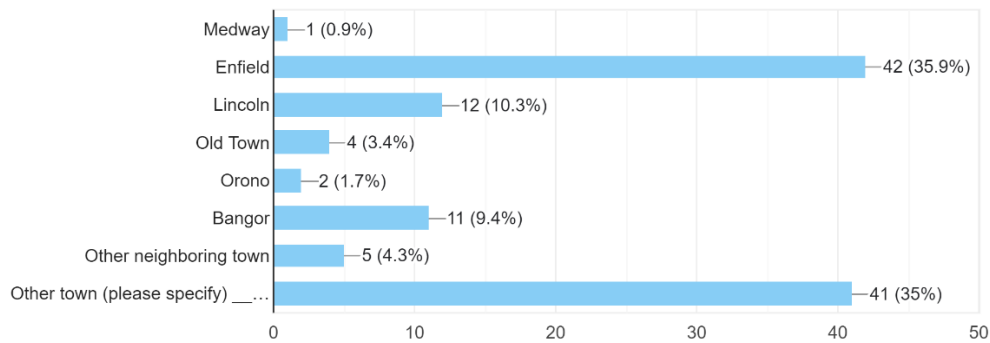
Do you have school-aged children under the age of 18 living at home?

117 responses



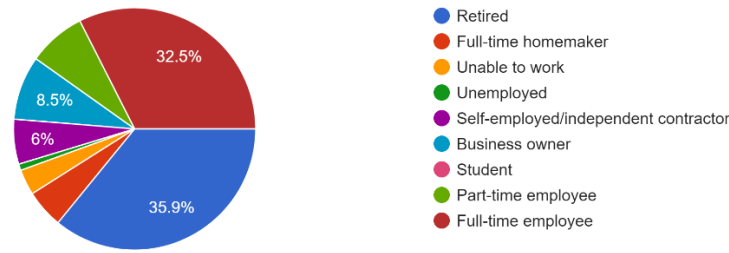
In what town do you work or attend school?

117 responses



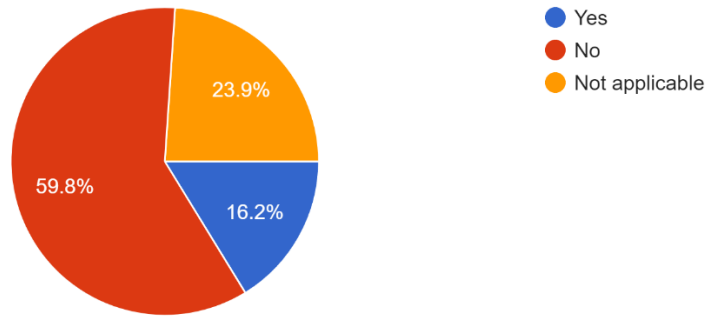
Which of the following best describes your employment?

117 responses



Do you work remotely from home?

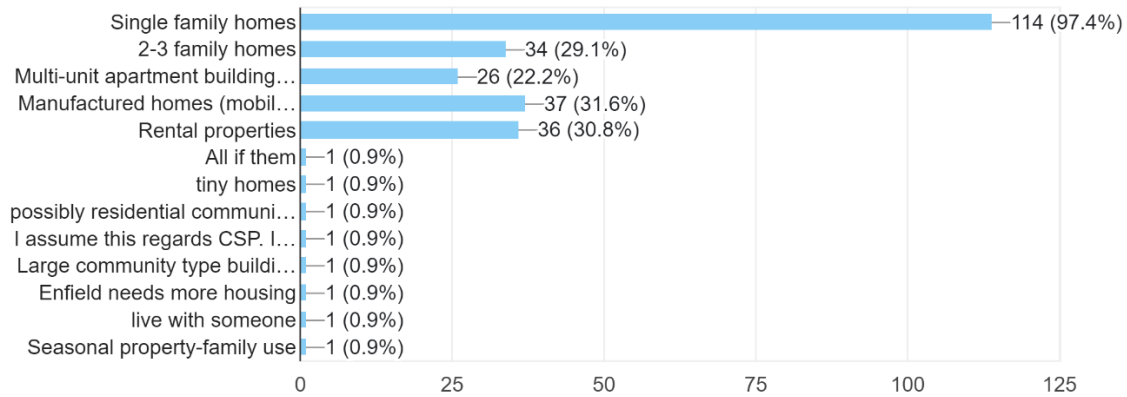
117 responses



Housing

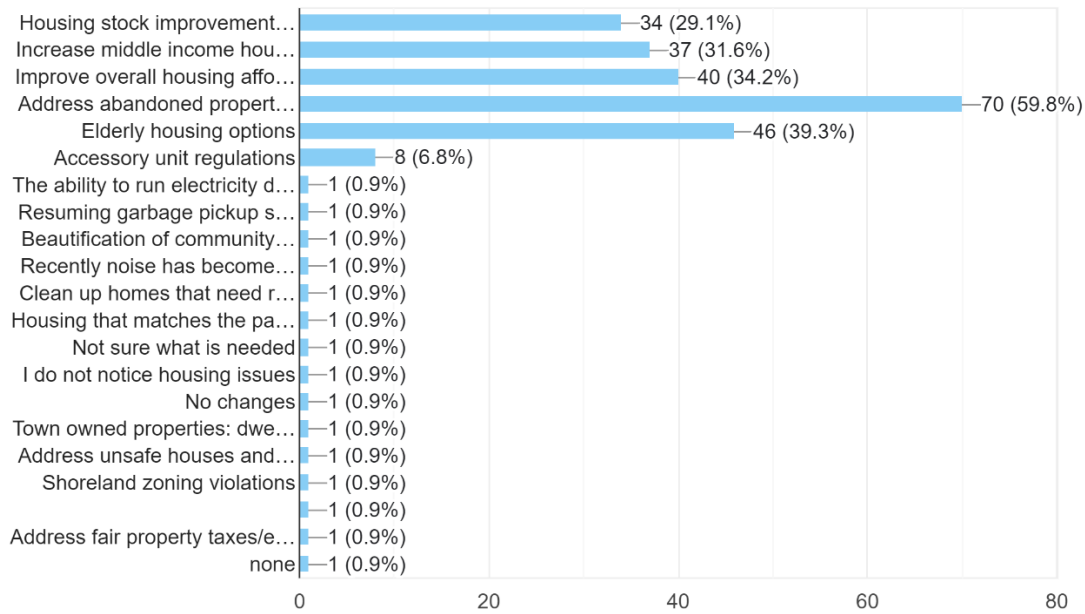
What types of housing do you support? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



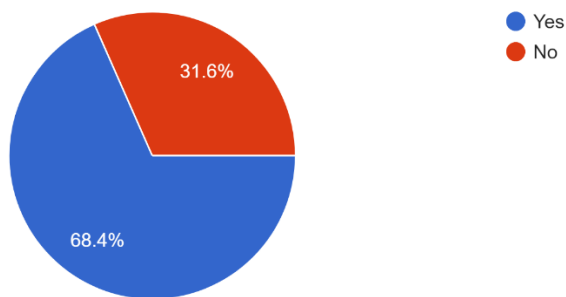
What housing issues do you think Enfield should address? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



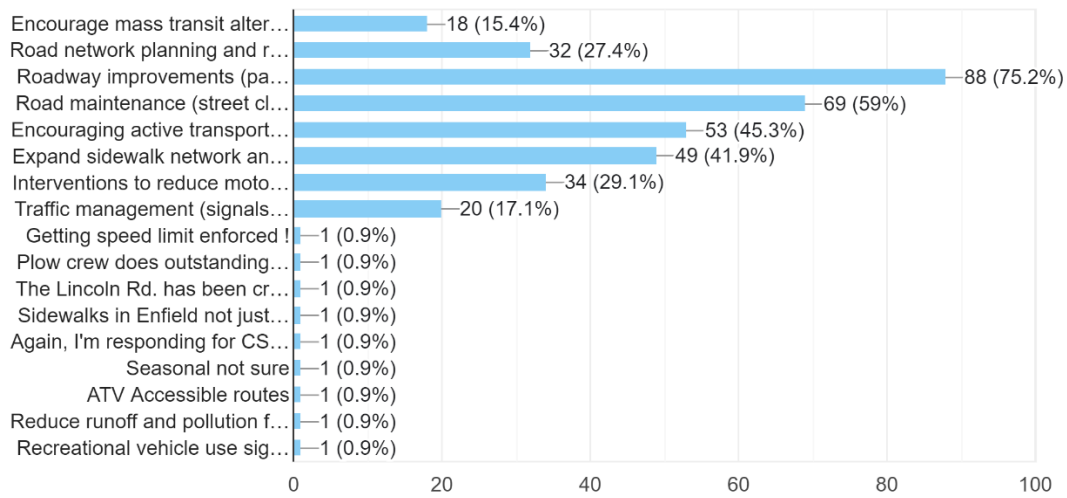
Do you think that it is challenging for low- and moderate-income people to find affordable housing in Enfield?

117 responses



What transportation initiatives do you think Enfield should support? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



Top Answers:

Proposed growth) improve growth)

Roadway improvements (paving, pavement markings, road conditions) Road network planning and regulations (road systems which can support

Road maintenance (street cleaning, snow removal)

Encouraging active transportation (walking/bicycling)

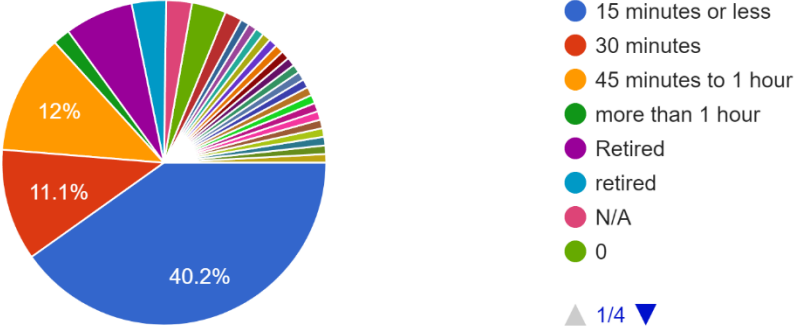
Expand sidewalk network and pedestrian infrastructure

Expand sidewalk network and pedestrian infrastructure

Traffic management (signals, signage)

If you commute to work/school, how many minutes on average is your commute?

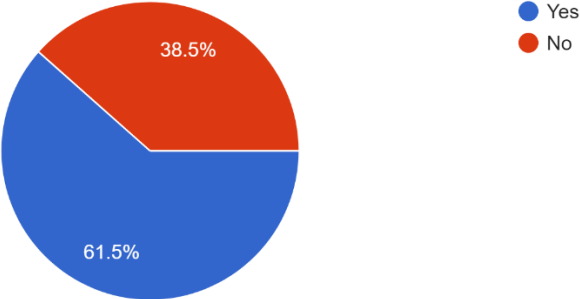
117 responses



Economy

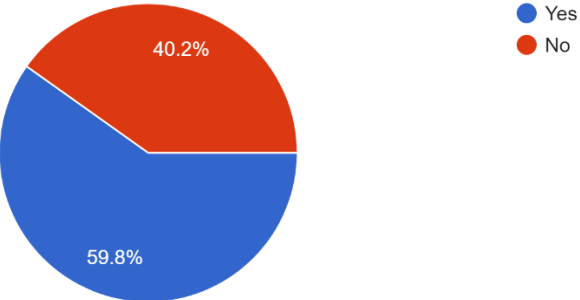
Is tourism important to Enfield?

117 responses



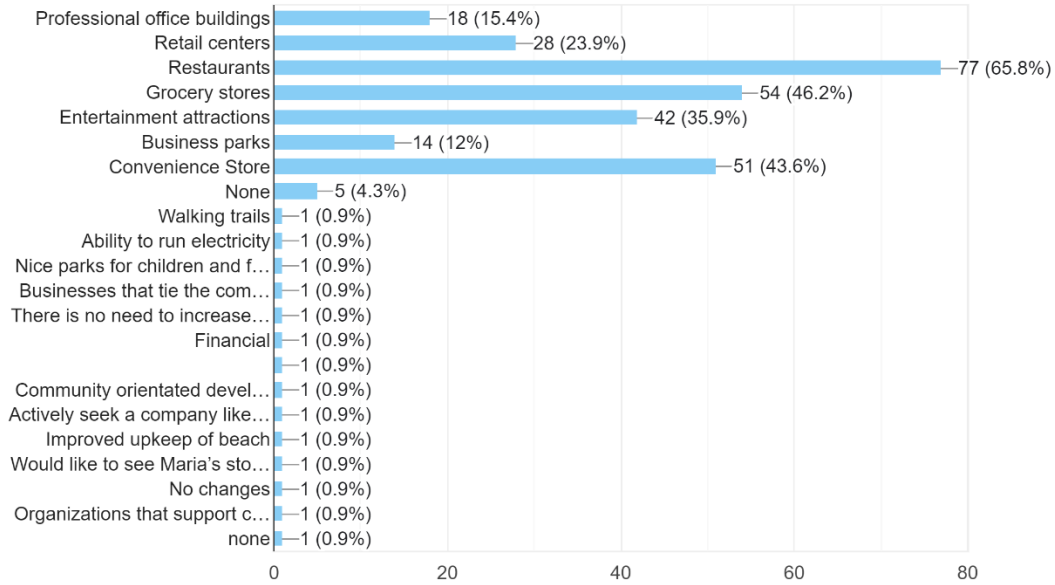
Do you think tourism in Enfield should be promoted?

117 responses



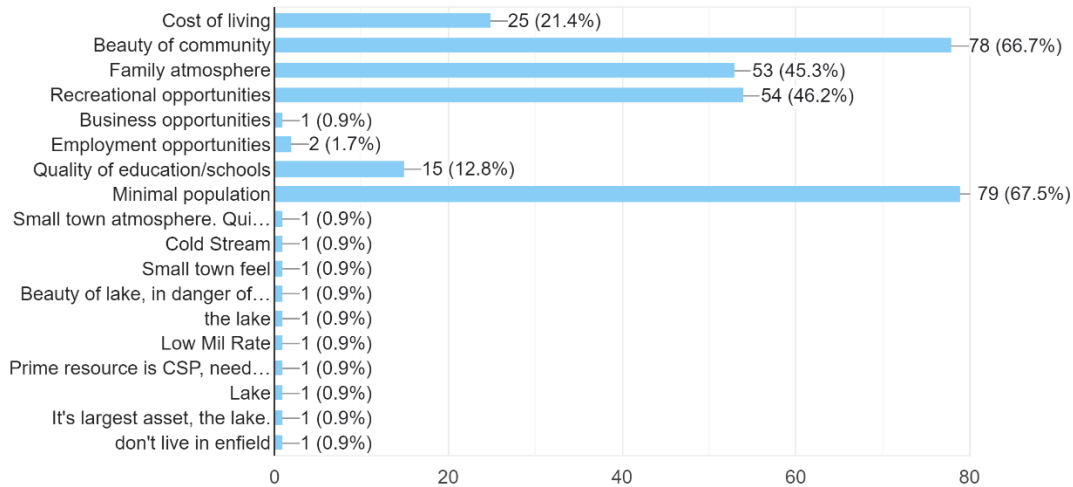
Which of the following types of commercial development would you like to see more of in Enfield?
(Please select all that apply)

117 responses



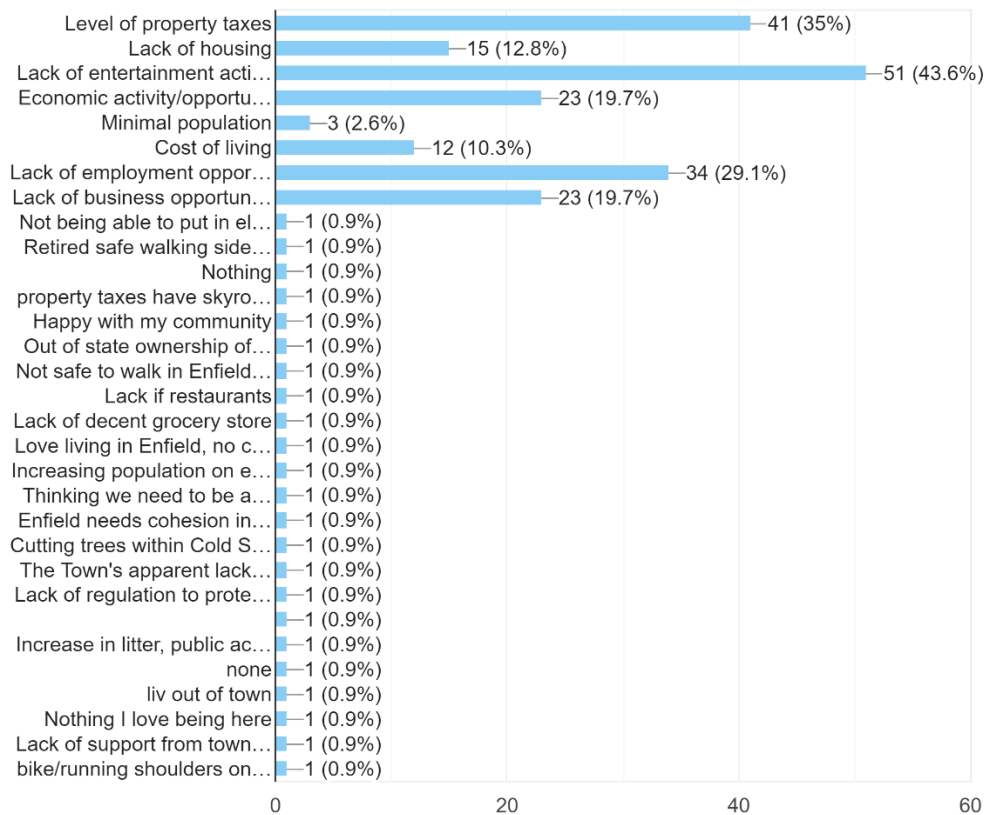
What do you like most about living in Enfield? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



What do you like least about living in Enfield? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



Top Answers:

Level of Property taxes

Lack of Housing

Lack of Entertainment Activities

Economic Activity/ Opportunities

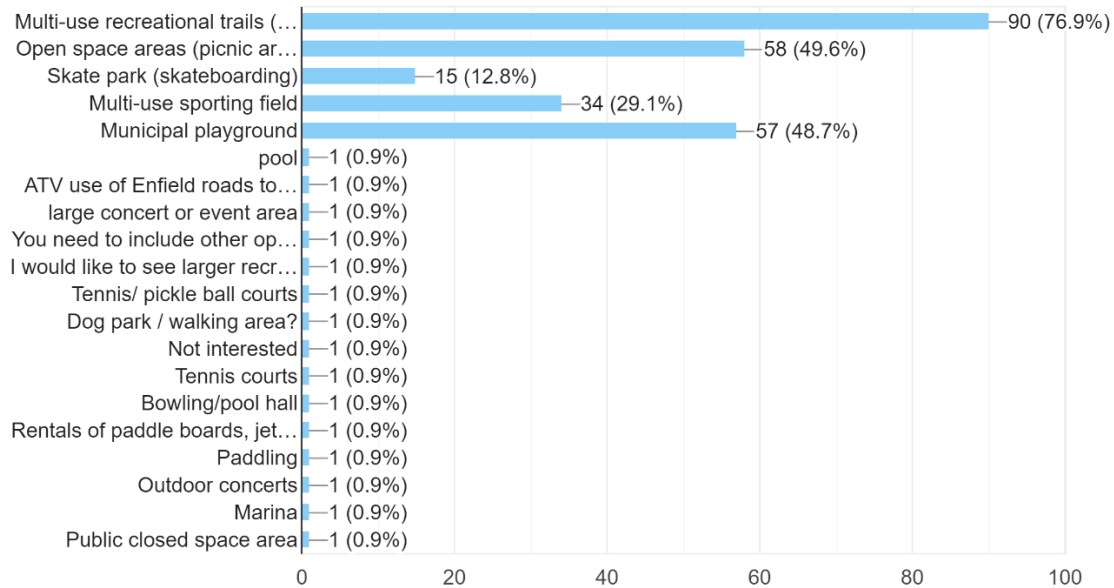
Lack of Employment Opportunities

Lack of Business Opportunities

Recreation

What types of recreation activities would you like to have available to you in Enfield? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



Top Answers:

Multi-use recreational trails (walking, skiing, biking, atv)

Open space areas (picnic area, public gathering area)

Skate park (skateboarding)

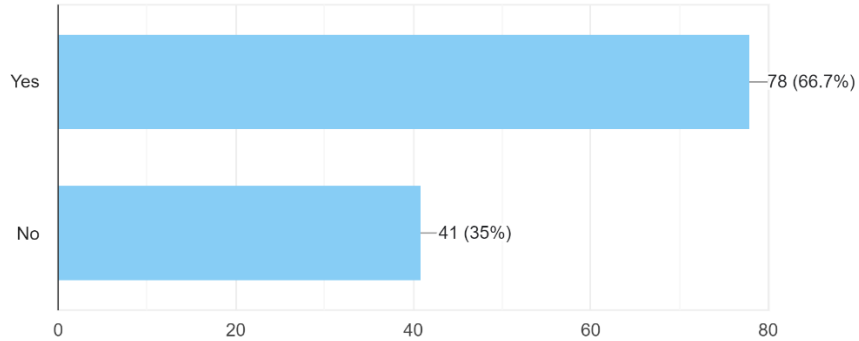
Multi-use sporting field

Municipal playground

Public Facilities and Resources

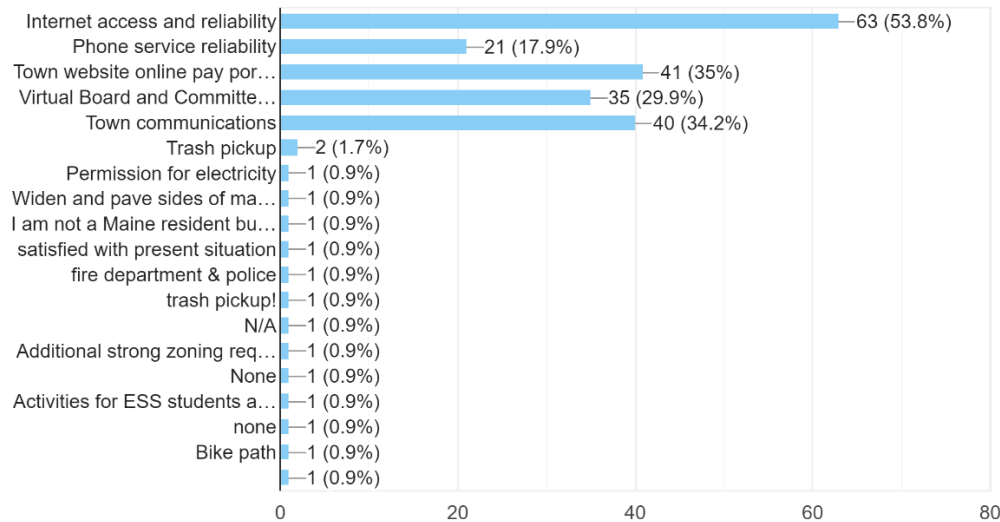
Are you satisfied with current public services provided?

117 responses



What public services would you like Enfield to strengthen or add? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



Top Answers:

Internet access and reliability

Phone service reliability

Town website online pay portal availability

Virtual Board and Committee meetings

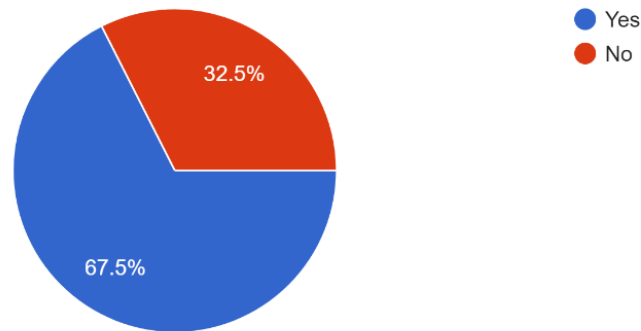
Town communications

There were also additional comments. These were excluded due to space and content. Most references were made to having curbside pickup for garbage, road issues, and promoting Cold Stream Pond or recreation.

Land Use

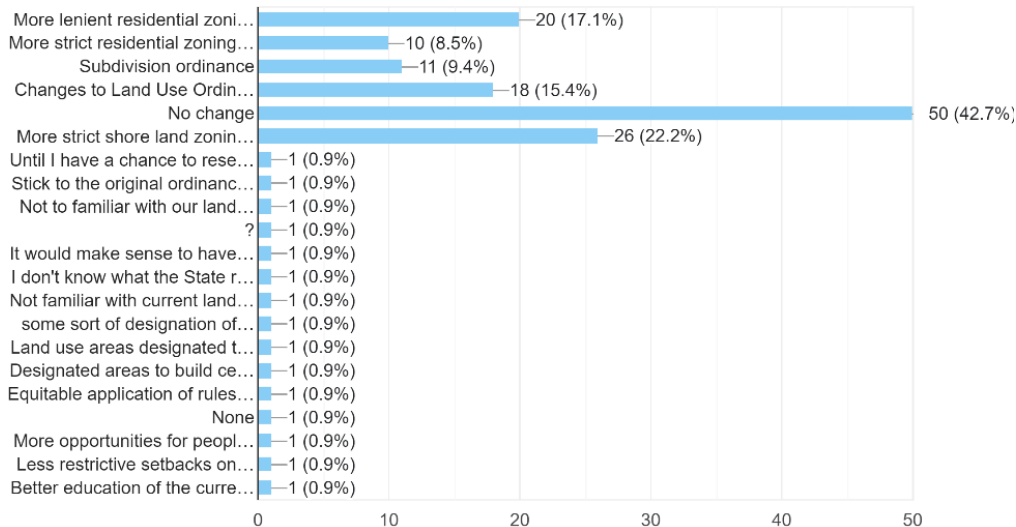
Are you satisfied with Enfield's current Land Use policies/ordinance?

117 responses



What land use changes would you like to see in Enfield? (Please select all that apply)

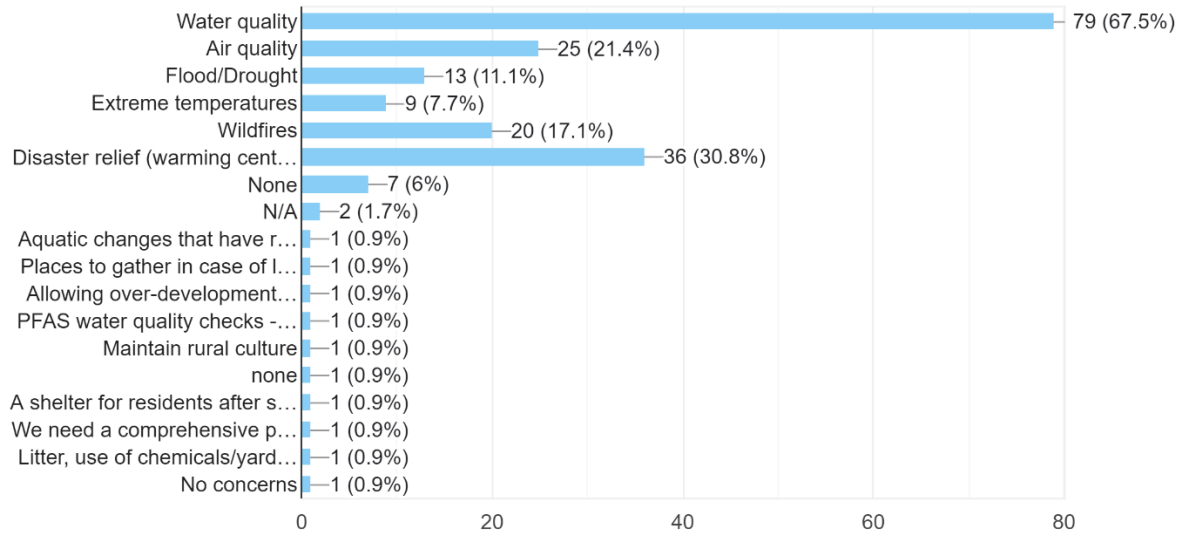
117 responses



Resiliency

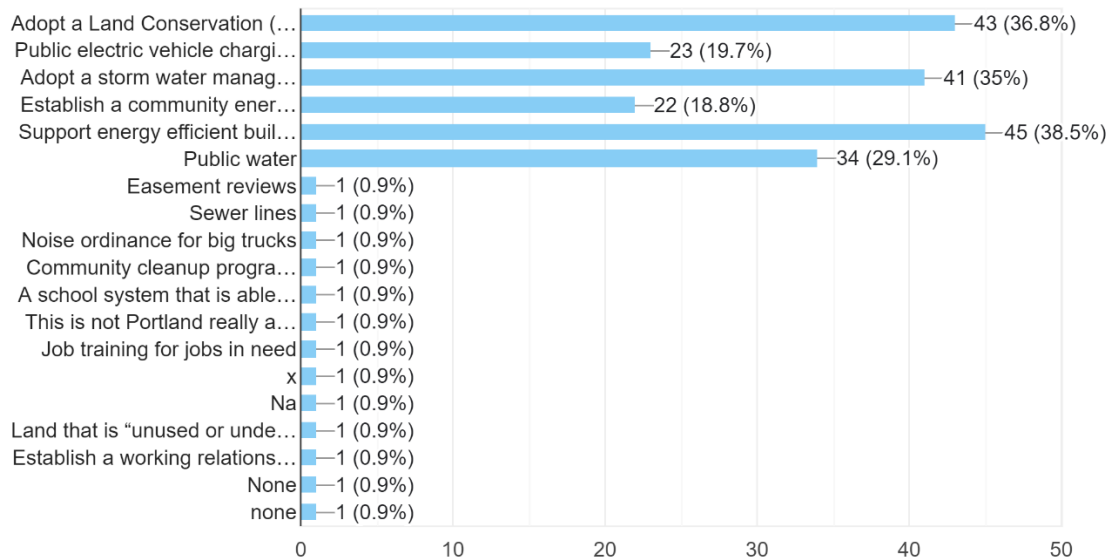
Which of the following environmental concerns do you have for Enfield? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



What resiliency actions would you like to see implemented in Enfield? (Please select all that apply)

117 responses



Top Answers:

Adopt a Land Conservation (to protect or manage unused or underused land resources)

Public electric vehicle charging stations

Adopt a storm water management plan

Establish a community energy and climate change action committee

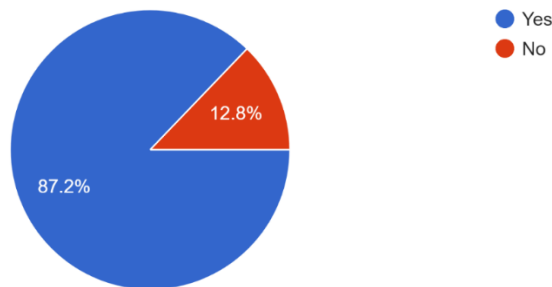
Support energy efficient building codes for new construction

Public Water

Regional Coordination

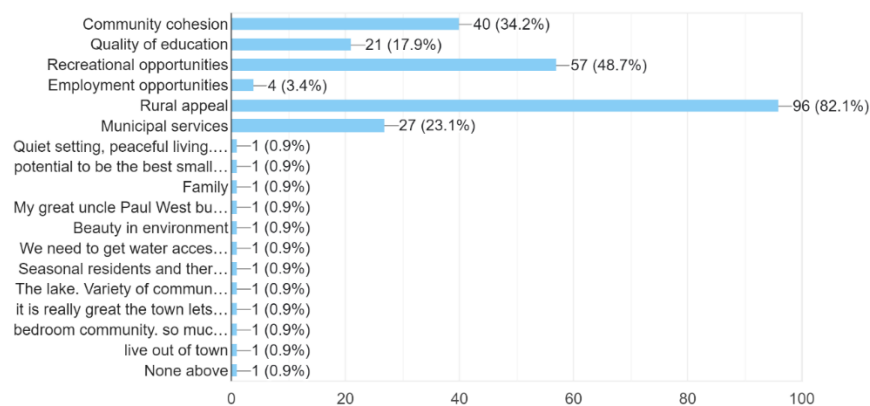
Would you be willing to work with neighboring towns to share resources?

117 responses



What strengths do you believe Enfield to have? (Please check all that apply)

117 responses



What areas would you would like to see improved in Enfield. (Please check all that apply)

117 responses

