

Town of Appleton
2024 Comprehensive Plan
DRAFT

Prepared by the Appleton Comprehensive Plan Committee

Approved by the Residents of Appleton on _____, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Topic	Page #
Introduction	3
History of Comprehensive Plans	3
Volunteer Participation	3
The Vision of Appleton	3
Public Outreach	4
Implementation Section Overview	5
Historic and Archaeological Resources	6
Population	6
Housing	6
Recreational Resources	7
Economy	7
Agriculture and Forestry	7
Water and Natural Resources	7
Public Facilities and Services	8
Education	8
Fiscal Capacity	8
Transportation	8
Land Use	9
Regional Coordination	9
Maps	9
Survey Results	9

INTRODUCTION

The Town of Appleton established the Comprehensive Plan Committee in March 2019 to update the 2007 Comprehensive Plan for the Town. Over the course of three years, the Committee has met monthly to discuss the proposed plan by the Midcoast Council of Governments, who served as consultants during this process.

While there was no deadline, the volunteer Committee recognized the importance of this document, as the Comprehensive Plan would help Appleton have access to grants offered by the State of Maine, and to provide guidance for future updates to their local ordinances.

This Comprehensive Plan will join previous efforts by the Town of Appleton to comply with the State of Maine Growth Management Program (30-A MRSA, Section 4312).

HISTORY OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

Appleton's first Comprehensive Plan was approved in 1973. The 1973 plan was then replaced with an updated version in 1984, which can still be found on the Town of Appleton website.

In 1998, the State of Maine passed the State's Growth Management Statute, which required municipalities to address issues such as growth areas, affordable housing, and capital investments. After this legislation was passed, Appleton approved a new Comprehensive Plan in 2007 but did not submit it to the State for approval.

VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION

The 2023 Comprehensive Plan was an effort that involved members of the public, municipal officials and staff, cooperation from the multiple committees and boards. The Committee wants to thank the following individuals for their cooperation and feedback throughout this process:

Donovan Bowley	Edward Carroll	Lorie Costigan	Charles Garrigan
Donald Mansius	Gary Roberts	Sue Ellen Roberts	Susan Sherman
Andy Staples	Wendy Thatcher-Hall	Heather Wyman	

The following individuals that have met regularly for the past two years and are serving as the current members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee when it was submitted:

Sid Quarrier, Co-Chair	Diane Schiver, Co-Chair	Peter Beckett
Fred Bucklin	Scott Esancy	

THE VISION OF APPLETON

Appleton is a small community of 1,411 residents in northernmost Knox County, Maine. The Town of Appleton is committed to maintaining the features that have attracted residents to migrate and stay in the area. These features include the rural nature of the community, the people, the civic services (municipal officials, the library, and the school system), and the convenient location between service communities in Knox County. Residents of Appleton also appreciate having a friendly community atmosphere with caring individuals and family heritage.

The Town of Appleton will be presented with several challenges and opportunities in the next fifteen years. The problems Appleton face includes the impacts of climate change, development, and general maintenance of municipal infrastructure as construction costs increase. It is critical that the community can strike a proper balance of preserving the historical and rural character of the community while facing developments and regional challenges. The Town recognizes these challenges and should be involved in regional and sustainability discussions to preserve the strengths of the community. Appleton will need to utilize future grants and regional efforts to improve accessibility to important services in the community, and to preserve the rural heritage of the community.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

In 2020, the Appleton Comprehensive Plan Committee released a 52-question public survey to help outline a vision for the Town's future. Residents were asked to outline their thoughts on the current state of Appleton, how the community can improve, and what the greatest issues facing the area are. A copy of the survey, along with the written results from the residents, can be found under Appendix A. Results of relevant survey information will also be provided throughout the Comprehensive Plan. Based on the survey results and information provided to the Committee, the following traits were important items to consider when developing the Comprehensive Plan:

- A very important feature of Appleton is the rural environment, which allows residents a peaceful and quiet spot in Knox County.
- Residents desired improved recreational facilities in Appleton, including water access and trails on town-owned properties.
- There is an inadequate amount of affordable housing, particularly for seniors.
- The Town needs to improve road maintenance, including the replacement of culverts and improving non-vehicular paths in the community.
- The Town should encourage more renewable energy as a source for residential units or municipal buildings.
- The Town should have standards in place for specific categories (examples include, but are not limited to, communication towers, large-scale commercial structures, preserving water quality).

IMPLEMENTATION*

At the end of each Section of the Appleton Comprehensive Plan, there are outlined Goals, Policies, and Strategies that shall provide guidance for the Town over the next fifteen (15) years. The Strategies for each Section include the responsible parties that will be involved in the implementation for each item 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.

The Strategies are written out in each Section as demonstrated below that starts with the Strategy item, contains the responsible entity in parenthesis at the end of the Strategy, and has the timeline italicized:

Ex. The Town of Appleton shall approve the Comprehensive Plan (Select Board, Comprehensive Plan Committee, Town Meeting) - *Immediate*

In addition to the Strategies found in each Section, the Appleton Select Board shall annually review the Strategies in the Comprehensive Plan. Part of the review shall include an assessment of how much capital investments and private developments have taken place in a designated growth area (refer to Appendix A, Map D-1), and how many critical natural resources have been placed under conservation easements.*

SUMMARY OF APPLETON'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The following are summaries from each Section of the Comprehensive Plan. Individuals that are interested in learning more about how these summaries were created are encouraged to read the corresponding Sections in their entirety.

Historic and Archaeological Resources

The history of Appleton is substantially based upon the natural resources that drove the local and regional economy, including forestry and agriculture. Early residents engaged successfully in a variety of businesses, including shingles, staves for barrels, apples, strawberries, dairies, cattle and pig farms and blacksmithing. Many current residents can trace their families back to the town's early days. Appleton still enjoys many of the benefits from its past, as a small town with a strong sense of community, where people look out for one another. The town should seek to maintain a link to its heritage through the protection of historically significant buildings and support of the Appleton Historical Society. Many of the historic sites are located on private land, leaving their fate in the hands of present owners. Fortunately, most owners respect their antiquity and leave them undisturbed, providing a form of benign protection. Appleton's few historic structures and sites are subject both to slow deterioration and instances of rapid change such as demolition or remodeling.

Population

The population of Appleton has grown considerably over the past thirty (30) years. Families continue to be attracted to the Town given the more affordable housing and land options compared to neighboring communities. Appleton also receives interest because of employment options in service centers, despite the community itself not having a major employer.* The median age of Appleton's population is younger compared to Knox County and State levels, but it is increasing. The total number of school age children has remained relatively stable. As with Knox County and the State, Appleton has seen a decrease in the average household size. More retirees, single persons, and single-parent households are locating to Appleton.

Housing

There is a range of new housing in Town, with an increase of more affordable manufactured homes. Appleton will continue to attract new residents due to the availability of relatively more affordable land and housing than is found in nearby service centers and coastal communities where there are employment opportunities. Appleton, like most of Knox County, is becoming increasingly less affordable under the standards of Maine Housing Authority as the Median Price of homes increase while the Median Annual Income required for these homes are unable to increase at the same rate. It is important that the Town considers and acts on recommendations made in this housing section to help ensure the availability of affordable housing. The information from this Comprehensive Plan was gathered while a surge of interested home buyers were coming to Knox County, which is still active at the writing of this document.

Recreational Resources

The natural resources of Appleton provide numerous recreational opportunities for residents as well as visitors to the area. The residents of Appleton emphatically want to retain the rural and natural setting of the community. There are concerns that the natural resources may be mismanaged, threatened by sprawl and other factors, and that more action should be taken to preserve these treasures for the future. In recent years, Appleton has examined new areas to become publicly accessible for residents within the municipality, such as Getchell Family Park, which was purchased in 2021 to provide public freshwater access. Surrounding communities also provide numerous natural, public, and private recreational resources and events.

Economy

The top sectors of employment for Appleton residents (who work in Appleton or elsewhere in Maine) in order, in 2023, were “Educational services, health care and assistance,” “Retail trade,” “Manufacturing” and “Construction.” Living in a rural area limits employment opportunities and increases the costs of commuting to the service centers where most jobs are located. Residents, who responded to the public opinion survey taken in 2020, support the following types of business development in Appleton: farming, restaurants, bed & breakfasts, small retail, craft industries and farm product processing (these include percentages for which over 50% of respondents would like to move to Appleton or expand if they already exist).

Agriculture and Forestry

The public perception and history of Appleton shows a strong desire to preserve agriculture and forestry industries that are still present in the current makeup of the community. However, the soil composition and growing trends also make Appleton a site that could be considered for housing and commercial-scale solar developments if there are high enough investments made to upgrade the utilities in the area. The State offers incentives and tax programs for residents to preserve Tree Growth and Farmlands in Appleton, and local land trusts have also been active in preserving these areas as well.

Natural and Water Resources

Almost 67% of Appleton is forested, 18% is wetlands/open water and almost 14% is grassland/cultivated. Cedar Swamp (about 1,000 acres) and Pettengill Swamp (about 750 acres) function in part as headwaters of and provide flood and water quality protection for the St. George River and Medomak River, respectively. Cedar Swamp has the northernmost occurrence of an Atlantic White Cedar swamp. The Town currently offers protection of its natural resources with locally adopted shoreland zoning, floodplain management, site plan review, subdivision, and mining ordinances. These ordinances will be updated as needed to be consistent with the requirements of state and federal regulations.

The Town will continue to cooperate with the local and regional organizations working to protect the natural resources within and surrounding Appleton, including the Nature Conservancy, Georges River Land Trust, and the Midcoast Conservancy. Regional efforts should focus on groundwater protection, watershed protection, and land conservation. Performance standards for aquifer and surface water protection are to be included in the land use ordinance and provided when applicable to neighboring communities.

Ample rainfall and hilly topography with considerable forest cover provide Appleton with plenty of clean, free flowing brooks and streams. In addition, the lowlands along nearly all of the major waterways frequently broaden into wetlands whose alders, swamp maples and marshes abound with wild birds and give cover for many species of animals. These wetlands are also natural sponges for floodwaters and help assure year-round flows in our streams while helping to charge the underground sources of so much of our drinking water. In short, Appleton's water resources are one of its greatest resources and thus warrants the protection such treasure deserves.

Public Facilities and Services

Through proper maintenance and investment, Appleton's public facilities and services have remained in good shape overall. As the population increases, the demand for existing services and for new services will increase as well.* Townspeople will decide how much they can afford and are willing to pay for those services over which the town has control. The town has provided reserve accounts for many necessary items. Prudent management decisions at the local level have prevented the town from being forced to make large capital investments within one tax year, and has kept the equipment and facilities in Appleton in fair condition that does not risk the safety of the residents or volunteers. However, there are issues that do need to be addressed and managed to meet existing as well as future challenges.

Fiscal Capacity and Capital Improvement Plan

Appleton has been doing very well in managing its finances over the last five years and the mil rate has remained within a consistent range.

Transportation

Major transportation linkages in Appleton consist of SR (State Route) 105 and SR 131. Residents rely on the road network as their primary means of transportation movement. Therefore, state and town roads should provide safe, reliable access to work, school, stores, and residences. Overall, Appleton's roadways are in fair to good condition. Given limited funding and the significant expense, the Town has done a noteworthy job of maintaining its local roads. Continued proper and affordable maintenance of the road network will be in the best interest of all residents. Since Maine DOT has jurisdiction over state roads and several bridges within Appleton, the Town will continue to communicate and cooperate with the Department of Transportation to ensure necessary roadway improvements are made in a timely manner.

Land Use

This Comprehensive Plan lays out a framework by which Appleton, over the next decade, can address land use concerns to residents. Some well thought out Land Use Ordinance decisions may ultimately result, but they will each be subject to a vote at a future Town Meeting. Because this document is a plan, it will require revision to recognize new data, to respond to new trends, and to react to new realities. It is, therefore, only a starting point. If current development trends continue without appropriate land use regulations, Appleton could lose the character, natural resources, and rich heritage of our community. It should be remembered that this plan is not an ordinance, but a guide for Appleton's future. As such, it contains many recommendations. Any ordinance arising from the recommendations contained herein would require approval by a majority of the voters at a town meeting. Successful implementation of the policies recommended in this plan will require the cooperation and increased participation of townspeople in their local government. Both existing and new committees will require participation by a broad segment of Appleton's population.

Regional Coordination

Comprehensive planning recognizes the importance of regional cooperation for land use, the economy and the environment. The land uses in one community can impact another community, particularly when that land use is located near the boundaries of the town. As indicated in the Natural Resources Chapter of the plan, the Town should attempt to develop compatible resource protection standards with nearby communities. Most Appleton residents depend on the region for employment and for consumer needs. Cost savings for public services are accomplished through regional cooperation. Currently the Town realizes savings in the education of its students, in police and fire protection, ambulance service, animal control and waste management. Seeking improvements in these arrangements and other services should continue.

Maps

The maps included in Appendix A of this plan show Appleton's roadways, topography, public facilities, soils, critical habitat, water resources, land cover, existing land use, Shoreland Zoning, historic places, and proposed land use. The information used to create these maps has been derived from multiple sources. The maps as provided are for reference and planning purposes only and are not to be construed as legal documents or survey instruments.

Survey Results

Appleton residents were surveyed in 2020 by the Appleton Comprehensive Plan Committee. 182 responses were received from both online and paper sources. Residents were given three (3) months to respond to the survey questions. The respondents emphasized the importance of preserving Appleton's rural environment and addressing maintenance of public infrastructure and services.

Section 1 History

Historical Background of Appleton

According to archeologists, the St. George River has been inhabited by Native Americans for thousands of years. Artifacts attest to Native American seasonal use and possible settlement of the St. George River corridor at archeological sites studied in Warren, Union, and Searsmont. Some sites date back as far as 9,000 years. Today, these early residents are not entirely gone. In Maine, there are a significant number of residents with Native American ancestry.

Native American culture is carried forward in several different ways. In our local area, and throughout the State of Maine, Native American names are the origin for communities and land features. Examples include Monhegan ('out to sea land') and Muscongus ('The fishing place'). Today, Native American inspired seasonal harvesting and foraging is practiced for alewives, eels, and more. Each year in late March, here in Appleton, the Native American (and then the Maine) canoe is 'honored' at the annual St. George River canoe race.

The present-day Town of Appleton is a small part of the area granted under the Muscongus Patentⁱ on March 2, 1630. The name refers to one corner boundary, a point on the Muscongus Riverⁱⁱ (now called the Medomak). It was a large grant of well-defined coast and nebulous inland boundaries that encompassed an area estimated at between 700,000 and 1,000,000 acres. The grant had various owners-in-common down through the years, such as the first grantees, Thomas Leverett and John Beauchamp, the Ten Proprietors and their Twenty Associates (referred to collectively as the Thirty Proprietors)ⁱⁱⁱ, their heirs or assignees, General Samuel Waldo (son of one of the original Twenty Associates and nephew of another), and later General Henry Knox. After General Waldo's death, the unsold portions of the grant owned in common were divided among individual ownerships. General Waldo's Heirs obtained the largest portion (300,000 acres, in undivided ownership with the Thirty Associates)^{iv} and became known as the Waldo Patent; it was most of the part later collected by General Knox. The Twenty Associates acquired a smaller portion of about 200,000 acres.^v

In return for release from the requirement to help settle undefined areas of the original parcel they ceded 100,000 acres to the Waldo heirs. That secured their clear title^{vi} to their remaining 100,000 acres, including land that is now Appleton as well as Camden, Hope, Liberty, and Montville, and eventually included the mineral rights to the valuable limestone there, under action by the Massachusetts General Court. The original ten associates ended up with 100,000 acres to the north of the rest, which was eventually reduced to about 46,000 acres by action of the Massachusetts legislature. On July 4, 1785, the General Court responded to a request from General Knox to define hard boundaries for the land side of the original nebulous grant, and they pruned off the vaguely defined areas to the west and north, as well as east of Penobscot Bay, leaving 600,000 acres for the whole grant.^{vii}

A few early explorers came up from the trading posts at Thomaston and Warren, and in the 1700s forest surveyors scouted the area for masts for the British Navy. Actual settlement did not occur until the beginning of the Revolutionary War, in 1775. Among the first settlers were Fergus and Archibald McLain and William Davis, settling on Appleton Ridge at that time.^{viii} The eastern part of the general region was settled by people coming in from the coastal area of Camden and became known as Barrett's or Barrettstown, after Charles Barrett, who contracted with the Twenty Associates to bring in settlers. Later this area was named Hope. These settlers came in first from the coast in Camden, then later along the Medomak River and from Thomaston through Warren and Union along the St. George River.^{ix}

A large portion of the western part (Appleton Ridge and beyond) became known as Appleton Plantation, named after Nathaniel Appleton, longtime Clerk of the Proprietors' Committee who signed the deeds (his young relative, Samuel Appleton, worked for Barrett and was for a short time an early settler of Barrettstown). The eastern border of Appleton Plantation was halfway up the east side of Appleton Ridge, between the St. George River and Appleton Ridge Road.

Barrettstown Plantation incorporated as the Town of Hope in 1804. Appleton incorporated as the 283rd town in Maine on January 28, 1829. Later, families in the St. George River valley, which was part of Hope, petitioned the Legislature to have their section annexed to Appleton from Hope because they were unable, due to the early spring season, to cross the mountains between the St. George Valley and the other two thirds of Hope to attend the March Town Meetings^x and say how their taxes were spent. Although the rest of Hope opposed it, the bill succeeded. On February 20, 1843, about eleven and one-half square miles^{xi} on the western edge of Hope were annexed to Appleton. This included settlements at McLain's Mills (now Appleton Village), and Packard's/Plummer's/Smith's Mills (now North Appleton).

According to the 1859 Waldo County map^{xii}, and Walter Wells' 1859 Water Power of Maine, by that time mills were also established at the Eastern Mill Pond (later Shermans Mill), at Pettengill Stream on the road to Proctors Corner; (on the Medomak River in the vicinity of Burkettville Corner), in Fish Town, and at Kirk Brook at the west side of Sennebec Pond. The largest settlement was at McLain's Mills, where many businesses flourished. The St. George River Canal, first built by Barrett in 1794, rebuilt soon after by Knox, and again rebuilt in 1845 to 1848 from Thomaston to Searsmont, carried products to market during its few years of operation, and also provided a route for some of the settlers.

The lumber boom in Maine brought the highest population of 1,727 in 1850. During this productive period there were sawmills, planing, shingle, stave and heading mills; cooper shops making barrels for lime, fish and local apples; a gristmill, a carriage maker, a tannery, mines, blacksmiths, a hotel and many other merchants. Agriculture – in the form of truck gardens, strawberry farms, dairies, cattle and pig farms, and orchards – was carried on in all parts of town, with produce being shipped to Portland, Boston, New York and abroad via sailing vessels and, later, coastal steamers.

New businesses took the place of those that were lost. Poultry and egg farms; blueberry cultivation; squash and other crops for canneries; woodcutting for lumber, pulpwood and firewood employed many. Sand and gravel mining provided material for highways and the construction industry.

Recreation facilities were also developed. It was not uncommon for over 100 deer to be killed in Appleton per year. Stocking of fish and game birds has improved fishing and bird hunting.

Cottages have been constructed at Sennebec Pond, and the Appleton Campground has operated since 1970. Snowmobile trails have been developed throughout the town for winter sportsmen. While poultry and cattle-raising have decreased for a variety of reasons, Appleton has still maintained a diversified industry that includes cows, goats, and even water buffaloes. Appleton is also home to unique agricultural attractions such as the largest blueberry operation in Knox County, the largest lavender farm in the State of Maine, and several small-scale farms offering locally grown products. Unfortunately, agriculture, in general, has declined as more residents travel out of town to earn a living; however, the town's agricultural and natural features have led to an increase in established rustic camp experiences along the Pettengill with another being developed in North Appleton along the St. George River.

Historic Places

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission maintains an inventory of important sites including buildings or sites on the National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP). They record four such listings for the town: Gushee Family House, 2868 Sennebec Rd.; Whitney Farm, 215 Whitney Road; the St. George River Canal Locks; and the Meeting House, 2875 Sennebec Road. MHPC recommends conducting a comprehensive survey of Appleton's above-ground historic resources to identify other properties that may be eligible for nomination in the National Register of Historic Places. Other locations, such as the Fergus and Archibald McLain houses in Appleton Village, the house at Terra Optima Farm near the Mill Pond, and the Pitman Farm on Appleton Ridge appear eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

As with other Maine areas located near the coast, Appleton's population rapidly increased soon after the Revolutionary War. Remnants of that early period may be seen in old stone walls, cellar holes, mill foundations, ruins of dams, and in a few more substantial structures such as houses and barns. In keeping with the goal of maintaining the town's rural character, preservation of this cultural heritage should be strongly encouraged. This section lists some of the more prominent or significant landmarks not already mentioned above.

Appleton Mining & Smelting Co.: Located on the east side of the Gurneytown Road, the copper-mine site is overgrown and barely visible from the road but exists as a reminder of economic activity in the past. It is in no danger now but could be destroyed if the land were developed.

Sherman's Saw & Stave Mill: Run for many years by waterpower from the Mill Pond, formed by a dam across Allen Brook, this historic mill has been removed. Some of the original components were gifted to the Town, which will be turned into a monument in the future.

John Hall's Lime Kiln: Operated from 1872 to 1903 off the Peabody Road, this site is well-preserved on private land.

Lime Quarry: Several hand-dug quarry sites exist across the road from Hall's kiln. Other than being on private land, they are unprotected. There are also a few along the St. George River in North Appleton on the east side.

St. George River Canal: The canal was first built in 1794 by Charles Barrett and is one of the oldest canals in the U.S. (the Erie Canal was built in 1825). It was built to provide transport for products from the interior to the coast. These products included lumber, firewood (for the lime kilns, households and businesses), shingles, staves, hay, lime and farm products including sheep and cattle. Boats of up to 55 feet by 12 feet in size were poled (instead of towed by animals) and provided with sails to cross the ponds. Since it was poorly built, it lasted only several years, despite being rebuilt by Gen. Knox. In 1847 it was rebuilt, connecting Quantabacook Lake in Searsmont to the ocean at Warren. Parts of the canal that ran from Warren to Searsmont can still be seen along the river. Most striking in Appleton are the remains of a canal lock at North Appleton on the west side of the river. Rock walls and remnants of a wooden gate can be seen. The channel of the canal is also traceable along the west side of the river from the bridge south, but time is diminishing its evidence. This section was built in 1848 and used heavily for a short time but it was never a financial success, ceasing operation in 1850. The canal lock is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Cattle Pound: Since most of the stones have been removed, there is little remaining. The cattle pound was located in the general vicinity of modern-day Pieri Pond.

Appleton Baptist Church: Located on Searsmont Road, the church was built in 1845 and 1846 and has been in use ever since. Its original bell and belfry were removed. It is still maintained by the congregation.

The Old Appleton Library: Built on Sennebec Road as *C.A. Keene's Store* before 1859, the structure served as the Grange Hall of Georges Valley Grange, number 1916, from 1875 until 1968. The Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library then occupied the building until the new library, also along the St. George River, was constructed. The building was reduced in size by removal of an addition and is now privately owned.

The former Appleton School: This structure was built in 1920 after the previous school uphill from this building was destroyed by fire. It is now the Appleton Town Hall. In 1989 the townspeople voted to keep and maintain it. Some of the windows were changed in the 1970s to conserve heat, and some interior remodeling has taken place.

Meeting House: This handsome building on Sennebec Road was constructed in 1848 as a non-denominational church. After a period of active use, it was maintained by the Memorial Association (successor to the G.A.R.) and used for Memorial Day services, funerals, and school programs. Before moving into the former Grange, the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library remodeled the balcony to be used as a library. The first Appleton Improvement Committee made an effort to preserve it. The Appleton Historical Society was then organized to restore the building. The society raises funds to supplement a restoration endowment left by Hilda Paxman.

Town House: Located on Town Hill Road, this structure, with its sloping upper floor, was built in 1846 after McLain's Mills was annexed from Hope. It is now a privately-owned barn, and its future depends upon the owner's discretion.

Oakes Mansion: Built in 1900, the Oakes Mansion is privately owned, in fair condition and located on the south side of Appleton Ridge Road near Oakes Corner. The very old Lincoln Family Cemetery, with its fieldstone markers, is on this property.

Odd Fellows Hall: Built in 1893, this building on Searsmont Road near the center of the village was renovated into two apartments and has been significantly changed.

First Town Hall: Built in 1808, this may be the barn now standing on the Pitman's land on Appleton Ridge Road, or it may have been the one to the rear that was demolished.

Medomak Valley Grange: Built in 1875, this structure located on Burkettville Road is in disrepair.

The Former Burkettville Store: Built sometime before 1859, the former Burkettville Store (also the Burkettville Post Office) stood in the center of this small community on what is now Burkettville Road. It closed in 1984 and has since been torn down.

Gushee's Corner Veterans' Memorial Tablet and Flagpole: This tiny park, located at the intersection of Sennebec Road, Sleepy Hollow Road and Peabody Road (called Gushee's Corner), was dedicated in 1929 during the Centennial celebration. Neighbors on behalf of the town maintain the site. The greatest threats to its well-being are vandalism and possible highway widening.

Burkettville Memorial Stone: Located at the intersection of Burkettville Road and Collinstown Road and erected in 1966-67, this tablet was put out by the Appleton Improvement Committee and Medomak Valley Grange. It is in excellent condition and well cared for. Behind it stood the Burkettville School (K-8) until 1963, at which time all students were transferred to the new Village School.

Archaeological Sites

There is one known historical archaeological site within Appleton, as recorded by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC):

D. Gilman Farmstead (Site number ME 014-001)

There are six known prehistoric archaeological sites located within Appleton, according to the MHPC. They are numbered 40.4, 40.11, 39.2 and 39.23 and are in shoreland areas of the St. George River and Sennebec Pond. According to a Phase I archaeological survey done of the 124-acre Appleton Preserve by the MHPC in October 2008, the National Register eligibility of the two remaining sites, 40.13 and 40.14, cannot be assessed without phase II site testing. The survey was completed with partial funding from Land for Maine's Future. The second phase of testing was not recommended at the time assuming that the Georges River Land Trust does not plan improvements to the Preserve that might adversely affect the two sites. The Sennebec Pond shoreline has had a reconnaissance-level survey. MHPC recommends the completion of a prehistoric archaeological survey of the St. George River Valley.

Significant archaeological sites should be identified and protected. Shoreland zoning, floodplain management and land use ordinance performance standards can be used to protect such sites.

Local Regulations*:

The Town of Appleton has amended the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance in 2019 to be up to date to the State of Maine standards regarding preservation of natural and historic resources in the Shoreland Zone.

Outside the Shoreland Zone, the Town of Appleton amended their Site Plan Review Ordinance for Commercial Development in 2016, which includes a Standard requiring commercial developments to have no impacts on natural and/or historic sites in Appleton.

Threats to and Protection of Existing Historic and Prehistoric Sites

Historic Buildings: The historic buildings that have been identified above are not protected within the provisions of existing land use regulations with the exception of commercial developments. Without the proper ordinances in place, the loss or conversion of the remaining buildings is possible.

Archaeological Sites: The locations of the above referenced archaeological sites are protected under shoreland zoning and floodplain management ordinances that have been adopted by the town.

Owners of significant sites may be asked permission for the nomination of archaeological sites on their property to the National Register of Historic Places, and additionally to donate preservation easements if they so desire. National Register listing extends protection of Federal legislation against actions by Federal agencies, while the combination of National Register listing and preservation easement with posting against ground disturbance extends the protection of State Antiquities Legislation to archaeological sites.

Rehabilitation Grants

The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program rewards private investment to rehabilitate certified historic structures (a building listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places or a building located in a registered historic district and certified by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historic significance of the district). The building must currently be used or will be used for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential purposes, but not used exclusively as the owner's private residence. Under PL 99-514 Internal Revenue Code Section 47, tax incentives include:

A 20% tax credit for the certified rehabilitation of certified historic structures.

A 10% tax credit for the rehabilitation of non-historic, non-residential buildings built before 1936.

A Maine State taxpayer is allowed a credit equal to the amount of the Federal credit claimed by the taxpayer under section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code for rehabilitation of certified historic structures located in Maine. The credit is nonrefundable and is limited to \$100,000 annually per taxpayer.

Cemeteries

Cemeteries are a cultural resource providing insight into the history of the community. An inventory of Appleton's larger cemeteries is listed below and shown on the Public Facilities Map. *See the Public Facilities Section for a summary of cemetery capacity.*

Weymouth Cemetery (West Appleton Rd)

Miller Cemetery (Miller Cemetery Rd)

Sprague Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Rd)

Metcalf Cemetery (Guinea Ridge Rd)

Quaker Cemetery (Sennebec Rd)

Hart Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Rd)

Clark Cemetery – private (Burkettville Rd)

Esancy Cemetery – private (Fishtown Rd)

Pine Grove Cemetery (Pine Grove Lane off Sennebec Rd)

Lincoln Family Cemetery – private (Appleton Ridge Rd in the vicinity of the Oakes Mansion)

Summary

The history of Appleton is substantially based upon the natural resources that drove the local and regional economy, including forestry and agriculture. Early residents engaged successfully in a variety of businesses, including shingles, staves for barrels, apples, strawberries, dairies, cattle and pig farms and blacksmithing. Many current residents can trace their families back to the town's early days. Appleton still enjoys many of the benefits from its past, as a small town with a strong sense of community, where people look out for one another. The town should seek to maintain a link to its heritage through the protection of historically significant buildings and support of the Appleton Historical Society. Many of the historic sites are located on private land, leaving their fate in the hands of present owners. Fortunately, most owners respect their antiquity and leave them undisturbed, providing a form of benign protection. Appleton's few historic structures and sites are subject both to slow deterioration and instances of rapid change such as demolition or remodeling.

As displayed in Appendix A (Maps), there are still patterns of the early settlements that are still recognizable based on the layout of the original division of lots as it overlays the major roads and farmland from the initial settlement. Appendix A also provides an early depiction of the settlement along Appleton Ridge.

Issues of Concern

1. The steady growth rate of the town over the past decade could have an adverse effect on our comparatively few cultural resources, especially historic buildings and sites.
2. Some owners may be unaware not only of the cultural value of historic sites on their property, but perhaps even of their presence and location.

Policy

To protect to the greatest extent practicable the significant historic and archaeological resources in the community. *

Strategies (as described on page 5)

1. Awareness of historic structures and artifacts should be promoted, including the consideration of listing of additional sites on the National Register of Historic Places for Appleton. (Appleton Historical Society) - *Ongoing*
2. Potential areas and artifacts of historical and archaeological significance should be professionally surveyed and documented, and historical and archaeological sites and artifacts should be monitored to ensure their protection and preservation. (Appleton Historical Society) - *Long Term*

3. Developers should provide evidence that their proposals will not negatively impact known (or possible) archaeological sites. (Planning Board) - *Ongoing**
4. The Town should encourage landowners in preserving the remnants of the St. Georges River Canal, one of relatively few navigation canals in Maine. (Appleton Historical Society) - *Long Term*
5. Amend the building ordinance to include preservation of historic and archaeological (prehistoric and historic) resources as part of the subdivision application process as well as incorporating any maps and information provided by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission into the review process. (Planning Board, Town Meeting) – *Long-Term**
6. Inventory the historically significant structures and areas in the Appleton Village area and make recommendations for possible initiatives for conservation and restoration. (Appleton Historical Society) – *Ongoing**

ⁱ Also called the Lincolnshire Grant, after the original home of one of the Grantees, in Boston, Lincolnshire, England – the origin of the name of Lincoln County.

ⁱⁱ Muscongus is the Indian name for the bay and the saltwater part of the river. Medomac is the Indian name for the freshwater part of the river.

ⁱⁱⁱ York Deeds, X, folios 242-244.

^{iv} This had been given in gratitude as reward to the General in return for his negotiations in England which had preserved the integrity of the original grant in the face of contrary later claims by Dunbar and others.

^v See Eaton, *History of Thomaston, Rockland, and South Thomaston*, p. 41.

^{vi} Lincoln Deeds, V 6, folios 122-125.

^{vii} See Maine State Library: 974.1cW16r1785 in Safe Box 38.

^{viii} J. Asbury Pitman, in his “Historical Address: One Hundredth Anniversary of the Town of Appleton, State of Maine, 1829-1929,” often called the *Centennial History of Appleton*. Both Fergus and Archibald later settled in the St Georges River Valley.

^{ix} They appear to have followed the Indian trails which later became Western and Middle roads through Warren and Union, joining together in the trail which became Sennebec/Peabody/Magog Roads leading through Appleton and Searsmont to meet the Passagassawaukeag (Belfast) to Cushnoc (Augusta) trail above Quantabacook Pond in Searsmont.

^x See Anna Hardy, *History of Hope, Maine*, page 89: Petition of 17 February 1842.

^{xi} This was about one third the area of Hope and about one half of its tax valuation at that time, according to Anna Hardy in the *History of Hope*.

^{xii} Appleton began in Lincoln County (1760), was next included in Hancock County (1789), then in Waldo County (1827), finally being incorporated in Knox County in 1860.

Section 2: Population

Introduction

This section identifies and analyzes the characteristics, interrelationships, and trends of Appleton's population. This information provides important background for other Inventory and Analysis sections, as well as for the development of comprehensive planning policies and implementation strategies.

In the previous Comprehensive Plan, the community had grown from 672 residents in 1960 to an estimated 1,306 persons in 2002, an average annual growth rate of 2.25% over a forty (40) year period. During the most recent forty (40) year period of 1980-2020, Appleton's residents grew from 818 to 1,411, an average annual growth rate of 1.8%.

Table 2-1: Appleton Historical Populationⁱ

Year	Population	Year	Population	Year	Population
1790	173	1870	1,485	1950	671
1800	114	1880	1,348	1960	672
1810	316	1890	1,080	1970	628
1820	511	1900	975	1980	818
1830	735	1910	842	1990	1,069
1840	891	1920	683	2000	1,271
1850	1,727	1930	574	2010	1,316
1860	1,573	1940	641	2020	1,411

Source: Maine State Economist and US Census

Population Comparisons

Analysis of birth and death statistics and census population totals may indicate whether a town's population is changing because of natural change or because of migration. Over the 2010-2020 period, Appleton saw a total population increase of 7.22% (95 residents). In comparison, Knox County's population grew by 2.2% (807) while the State of Maine increased by 2.6% (33,998)ⁱⁱ Table 3-2 shows the year-round population and growth rate by decade in Appleton, Knox County, and Maine since 1930.

Table 2-2: Population Change by Decade

Year	Appleton		Knox County		Maine	
	Number	% Change	Number	% Change	Number	% Change
1930	574	--	27,693	--	797,423	--
1940	641	11.67%	27,191	-1.81%	847,226	6.25%
1950	671	4.68%	28,121	3.42%	913,774	7.85%
1960	672	0.15%	28,575	1.61%	969,265	6.07%
1970	628	-6.55%	29,013	1.53%	992,048	2.35%
1980	818	30.25%	32,941	13.54%	1,124,660	13.37%
1990	1,069	30.68%	36,310	10.23%	1,227,928	9.18%
2000	1,271	18.90%	39,618	9.11%	1,274,923	3.83%
2010	1,316	3.54%	39,736	0.3%	1,328,361	4.19%
2020	1,411	7.22%	40,543	2.2%	1,362,359	2.6%

Source: Maine State Economist and US Census

Population Forecasts*

The planning period for this Comprehensive Plan is ten (10) years. Accordingly, it is important to forecast population growth for the next decade. The State estimates that the population for Appleton will total 1,566 persons in 2038.ⁱⁱⁱ If the Town's average annual rate of growth is 7.22% over the past decade (non-compounded), as evidenced from 2010 to 2020 continues, the population will increase to a total of 1,834 people by the year 2038.

Based on the previous Comprehensive Plan, the best forecast for Appleton's projected population by the year 2038 will be 1,721 based on linear regression of the forty (40) year non-compounded growth rate. The previous Comprehensive Plan projected the Town of Appleton would have a population of 1,496 by the year 2015; however, the 2020 census showed that Appleton's population did not meet that goal by 5.69% (85 individuals).*

Seasonal Population*

No State or Federal statistics on seasonal population for Appleton are available. Based on information provided by Maine Housing, there are a total of 37 seasonal housing units and estimating household size for non-residents at 2 persons on average, approximately 74 additional persons may reside in Appleton seasonally. There are no hotels or inn-type establishments to date, which demonstrates a lack of dependence on seasonal tourism in Appleton.* Based on the data provided by Maine Housing, the estimated number of seasonal units dropped by twenty-five (25).

Age Distribution

The following statistics are comparative by age group for Appleton, Knox County, and the State of Maine. Appleton has a greater proportion of young people (those under 19 years old) than Knox County and the State. 28% of Appleton's residents are 19 years of age or younger, whereas Knox County is 19% and the State is 21%. The median age of Appleton's residents is lower by 8.3 years than the Knox County resident median age, and 4.6 years lower than the State resident median age. Appleton's age distribution results from the influx of young families with children, as housing costs, discussed in the Housing Section, are lower here than in nearby coastal communities and service centers.

Table 2-3: Age Group Distribution in 2020

Age Group	Appleton	Knox County	Maine
	Number	Number	Number
Under 5 years	92	1,758	64,035
5 to 9 years	147	1,951	69,457
10 to 14 years	95	2,157	72,774
15 to 19 years	117	1,959	79,136
20 to 24 years	60	1,920	75,973
25 to 34 years	185	4,045	158,195
35 to 44 years	192	4,469	152,485
45 to 54 years	231	5,229	185,468
55 to 59 years	142	3,030	107,204
60 to 64 years	93	3,594	103,197
65 to 74 years	153	5,673	158,281
75 to 84 years	53	2,739	75,244
85 years and up	43	1,235	34,043
Median age	40.1	48.4	44.7

Source: Maine State Economist

In proportion to Appleton's total population, a slight increase in most of the groupings of the young and middle-aged adult population, and a larger increase in the older population has been evidenced since 2010. See Table 2-4 for these figures. During the same period, the adults between the ages of 25-54 slightly decreased. The median age of residents increased from 2.6 years to 40.1 years old.

Table 2-4: Appleton Age Distribution Trends

Age Group	2010		2020	
	1,316	%	1,411	%
Under 5	82	6.2	92	6.5
5-19	248	18.8	359	25.3
20-24	49	3.72	60	4.2
25-54	564	42.9	608	42.8
55-64	214	16.3	235	16.5
Over 65	159	12.1	249	17.5
Median	37.5	-	40.1	-

Source: Maine State Economist

Impact on Education*

Based on the trends from Table 2-4, Appleton is experiencing an increase in school-aged children. The Appleton Village School, which handles K-8 education, will have sufficient capacity; whereas the capacity for 9-12 education with Five Town Community School District (CSD) level capacity will be determined by the changing demographics of the additional member communities. A higher percentage of Appleton residents have graduated high school compared to Knox County and State residents. A lower percentage of Appleton residents have graduated from college compared to State residents. Knox County residents surpassed both the Appleton and the State percentages for college graduates.

Table 2-5: Educational Attainment

2020	Appleton		Knox County		State	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
High School Graduate or higher	1,033	95.1	28,105	93.0	915,860	93.2
Bachelor's Degree or higher	326	30.0	10,334	34.2	319,175	32.5

Source: Maine State Economist

Note: These numbers are for individuals 25 years and over.

More information on schools is found in the Public Facilities Section of the Comprehensive Plan.

Summary

The population of Appleton has grown considerably over the past thirty (30) years. Families continue to be attracted to the Town given the more affordable housing and land options compared to neighboring communities. Appleton also receives interest because of employment options in service centers, despite the community itself not having a major employer. * The median age of Appleton's population is younger compared to Knox County and State levels, but it is increasing. The total number of school age children has remained relatively stable. As with Knox County and the State, Appleton has seen a decrease in the average household size. More retirees, single persons, and single-parent households are locating to Appleton.

Issues of Concern

1. An increasing population combined with a declining number of persons per household could increase housing demand as well as place additional burdens on municipal facilities and services.
2. Local school department figures indicate little or no increase in the number of school age children over the next ten (10) years. This number could increase significantly if past population growth patterns continue, and we see an increase in the number of younger families who can no longer afford coastal property.
3. If coastal property prices remain unaffordable for many residents, populations in the inland communities will continue to grow at a faster pace than will coastal communities.
4. Maine has seen a recent surge in out-of-state homebuyers purchasing properties with broadband accessibility. As part of the recent rounds of federal funding, Appleton has had most of the community laid with high-speed fiber, which will make the area an ideal location for remote work and learning.
5. Lower local income levels and increased growth will continue to create an affordable housing problem.

Policy

To inform residents and municipal officials of demographic trends to better plan the provisions of public services.

Strategies (as described on page 5)

1. The Town should gather all available population estimates, census data, and other information concerning the number and characteristics of the Town's population. These will be maintained in appropriate files that shall be available in the Town Office and online on the Town's website for use by the municipal officials and by residents. (Town Office) – *Ongoing*
2. The Town should continue to adapt and revise its municipal services to respond to changes in the population. Areas of particular concern include, but are not limited to, emergency services, housing, recreational opportunities, economic development and planning, and education. (Town Office) – *Ongoing*

ⁱ Census.gov (2020)

ⁱⁱ Courier Gazette "Census shows slight population increase in Knox County". August 12, 2021.

ⁱⁱⁱ State of Maine Economist Demographic Projections

Section 3: Housing

Introduction

Housing is one of the most important considerations for Appleton and its residents. The future availability of affordable, quality homes is of significant concern to all of us. Appleton's housing stock is in large part the basis for the Town's tax base. Housing represents the major investment of most individuals. With rising property values and assessments, affordable housing has become a concern for many residents. The goal of this Section is to document housing conditions and encourage affordable, decent housing opportunities for all Appleton residents.

Housing Units and Projections

Table 3-1: Total Housing Units

Place	2000	2010	2020
Appleton	547	646	674
Knox County	21,612	23,889	24,255
State of Maine	651,901	714,270	739,072

Source: 2000, 2010, and 2020 data from Maine State Economist

During the 2010-2020 period, the Town recorded a 1.18% increase in its housing stock (28 new homes), compared to 1.53% for Knox County (366 new homes) and 3.47% for the State (24,802 new homes). Compared to the development in the 2000s, Appleton had an 18.1% increase (99 new homes), Knox County had an increase of 10.54% (2,277 new homes), and the State saw a 9.57% increase (62,369 new homes).

For Appleton, the difference in development was a result of 70% less houses being built from 2010-2020 compared to 2000-2010. If Appleton continues either the 2000-2020 (70% fewer houses compared to the number built in 2010-2020) or 2010-2020 (a 1.18% increase) linear trend, the Town is projected to see an increase of at least 8 new homes. Compared to the estimated population projection from Section 1 (Population), Appleton is projected to need enough housing for an additional 310 residents by 2038, or at least 105 units.*

The data for the number of homes and residents in 2020 does not consider the recent influx of out-of-state home purchases. Table 3-4 demonstrates that Appleton has already exceeded their projections with at least 16 new homes being built in 2021 alone.

Housing Types

The distribution of housing unit types is an important indicator of affordability, density, and the character of the community. Housing units in structures are presented in Table 3-2. In 2020, one-unit structures (attached and detached) represented more than 85% of Appleton's housing stock, while multi-units accounted for 1% and manufactured housing, which includes mobile homes, accounted for over 13% of the housing stock.

Appleton has a significant share of mobile homes relative to its entire housing stock, almost double the county rate. The number of mobile homes increased in both absolute and proportional terms during the 1990s in order to meet affordable housing needs. Mobile homes are located on individual lots and at the present time, there are no mobile home parks in Appleton. The pre-1976 mobile homes located in Appleton must meet the requirements of the Maine State Building Code and the State Electric Code.

Table 3-2: Housing Units in Structure

Housing Types	Appleton				Knox County			
	2010		2020		2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1-unit, detached	481	81.0	646	85.1	18,426	78.1	646	77.6
1-unit, attached	3	0.5	6	0.8	378	1.6	681	2.8
2 to 4 units	4	0.7	7	1.0	1,947	8.2	1,940	7.9
5 to 9 units	0	0.0	0	0.0	626	2.7	575	2.4
10 or more units	7	1.2	0	0.0	555	2.4	706	2.9
Mobile home, boat, RV, van, other	99	16.7	100	13.2	1,667	7.1	1,587	6.5
Total housing units	594	100	759	100	23,599	100	100	100

Source: 2010 and 2020 American Community Survey

Housing Age and Characteristics*

Almost 29% of Appleton's housing stock was built in the 2000s, compared to almost 15% for Knox County. More than 25% of Appleton's housing stock dates prior to 1939. Some of these units are in substandard condition and in need of repair. It is important for residents to be aware of existing rehabilitation funds (and renters aware of their rights to demand a certain level of maintenance by property owners). Please note the numbers from Table 3-3 are estimates from American Community Survey up to 2020. These numbers do not reflect any new residential structures that may have been built after 2020.

Table 3-3: Year Structure Built

Housing Types	Appleton		Knox County	
	2020		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%
2014 or later	3	0.5	229	1.3
2010 through 2013	25	3.8	288	1.6
2000 through 2009	187	28.6	2,541	14.5
1980 through 1999	147	22.5	4,235	24.2
1960 through 1979	91	13.9	2,897	16.6
1940 through 1959	32	4.9	1,384	7.9
1939 and earlier	168	25.7	5,923	33.8
Total housing units	653	100	17,497	100

Source: 2020 American Community Survey

Building Permits Issued

The permit numbers listed below were all for single-family dwellings and/or mobile homes. There were no multi-family dwellings (3 or more dwelling units in a single structure) built in Appleton during this period.

Table 3-4: Total Appleton Housing Building Permits for New Homes

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Homes	7	8	10	1	13	9	8	10	1	16	4

Source: Appleton Town Reports, 2012-2022

Table 3-5: Occupied and Vacant House Breakdown

Housing Units	Appleton				Knox County			
	2010		2020		2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	646	100	674	100	23,744	100	24,255	100
Occupied	545	84.3	597	86.0	17,258	72.7	17,883	71.5
Vacant	101	15.6	77	14.0	6,486	27.3	6,372	28.5

Source: 2010 US Census and 2020 Maine State Economist

Table 3-6: Vacant House

	Appleton				Knox County			
	2010		2020		2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total Vacant	101	100	77	100	6,486	100	6,372	100
Non-Seasonal	39	38.6	40	51.9	1,658	25.6	1,574	24.7
Seasonal	62	61.4	37	48.1	4,828	74.4	4,798	75.3

Source: 2010 US Census and 2020 Maine State Economist

In 2020, 14% of the Town's total housing units were vacant. Of these 77 vacant units, 37 units (48.1%) were used for seasonal/recreational/occasional use. The county rate in Knox County was 6,372 units (28.5% of all units) being vacant with 5,250 of those units (75.3% of all vacant units) being used for seasonal/ recreational/occasional use. This assessment includes seasonal residents who do not have the housing unit as their primary residence and short-term rental units.

The data notes an increase in occupied housing in Appleton and decrease in vacant housing; whereas Knox County is experiencing an increase in vacant units and decrease in occupied units. Overall, the data is showing more housing in Appleton being converted for year-round residents as opposed to seasonal individuals, which will result in a higher demand for year-round services (regional school system, emergency services, staff hours at the municipal office) while also providing an increase in the local economy for year-round businesses. *

Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is of critical importance for every municipality in Maine. High costs are burdensome to individuals and the local economy. Many factors contribute to the challenge of finding affordable housing, including local and regional employment opportunities, older residents living longer in their homes; more single-parent households; seasonal housing markets, and generally smaller household sizes. Those Mainers most affected by a lack of affordable housing include older citizens facing increasing maintenance and property taxes; young couples and single parents unable to afford their home; low-income workers seeking an affordable place to live within commuting distance; and young adults seeking housing independent of their parents.

Definitions of Affordability

The State defines "affordable housing" as a decent, safe and sanitary dwelling, apartment or other living accommodation for a household whose income does not exceed 120% of the median income for the area as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development under the United States Housing Act of 1937, Public Law 75-412, 50 Stat. 888, Section 8, as amended. This definition can be found under Title 30-A §5246.

Affordability Index

Recent figures on housing affordability are available from the Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA). Tables 3-7 and 3-8 show the estimated median income and the median home price over a 10-year period from the Maine Housing Authority. For the context of these Tables, an “Index” of over 1.0 is considered “affordable” while a number under 1.0 is considered “unaffordable”. The index is calculated by having the Affordable Home Price for an individual with a Median Income divided by the Median Home Price in the community.

In 2012, Appleton was considered “Affordable” by the Maine Housing Authority’s standards by having median annual incomes exceed the required amount necessary to afford a median home price in Appleton. This made Appleton one of five communities, along with Washington, Warren, Union, and Hope that were considered affordable in Knox County in 2012; however, Appleton has had one of the largest drops in ratings in the region due to the Median Home Prices in Appleton rising by \$263,000 (198.49%) while the Median Income rose by \$17,474 (37.18%) over the past ten years. *

Table 3-7:
2012 Housing Affordability

Place	Annual Income Needed	Median Income	Median Home Price	Affordable Home for Median Income	Index
State of Maine	\$47,305	\$45,530	\$165,000	\$158,811	0.96
Appleton	\$38,725	\$47,000	\$132,500	\$160,813	1.21
Camden	\$77,041	\$44,977	\$274,500	\$160,255	0.58
Cushing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Friendship	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hope	\$44,937	\$49,939	\$158,750	\$176,420	1.11
Owl’s Head	\$69,822	\$46,605	\$249,250	\$166,369	0.67
Rockland	\$42,623	\$33,005	\$141,700	\$109,726	0.77
Rockport	\$66,205	\$60,398	\$243,500	\$222,141	0.91
South Thomaston	\$77,136	\$52,422	\$271,700	\$184,649	0.68
St. George	\$60,403	\$52,118	\$229,500	\$198,021	0.86
Thomaston	\$46,486	\$39,922	\$150,500	\$129,248	0.86
Union	\$42,765	\$46,319	\$149,500	\$161,925	1.08
Vinalhaven	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Warren	\$38,750	\$44,663	\$136,373	\$157,180	1.15
Washington	\$21,389	\$44,235	\$120,000	\$153,676	1.28

Source: Maine Housing Authority

Table 3-8:
2022 Housing Affordability

Place	Annual Income Needed	Median Income	Median Home Price	Affordable Home for Median Income	Index	Index Change
State of Maine	\$106,225	\$68,316	\$334,000	\$214,805	0.64	-0.32
Appleton	\$135,435	\$64,474	\$395,000	\$188,040	0.48	-0.73
Camden	\$214,080	\$72,742	\$676,750	\$229,952	0.34	-0.24
Cushing	\$147,414	\$65,933	\$460,000	\$205,741	0.45	N/A
Friendship	\$107,168	\$64,028	\$350,000	\$205,741	0.60	N/A
Hope	\$79,381	\$79,381	\$433,000	\$247,885	0.57	-0.54
Owl's Head	\$69,052	\$69,052	\$552,000	\$223,718	0.41	-0.26
Rockland	\$54,912	\$54,912	\$317,000	\$159,036	0.50	-0.27
Rockport	\$78,629	\$78,629	\$532,000	\$244,343	0.46	-0.45
South Thomaston	\$77,670	\$77,670	\$400,000	\$224,726	0.56	-0.12
St. George	\$65,024	\$65,024	\$465,000	\$218,828	0.47	-0.39
Thomaston	\$65,315	\$65,315	\$300,500	\$192,680	0.64	-0.22
Union	\$131,343	\$71,786	\$403,500	\$220,534	0.55	-0.53
Vinalhaven	\$89,749	\$72,403	\$289,000	\$233,145	0.81	N/A
Warren	\$99,084	\$67,891	\$302,000	\$206,927	0.69	-0.46
Washington	\$79,339	\$62,337	\$250,00	\$196,426	0.79	-0.49

Source: Maine State Housing Authority

Affordable Housing Remedies*

While meeting the State goal has not proved difficult for Appleton, the survey shows that there is a desire by residents to see that there is affordable housing in the future. To this end, it is recommended that:

1. The Town continues to allow individual mobile homes in most areas of Appleton while limiting the area where mobile home parks may be located.
2. The Town should not overlook the role of accessory apartments, or so-called 'mother-in-law' apartments in meeting this need.
3. A regional approach may also meet the need of low- and moderate-income residents. The Town of Appleton will need to work with regional organizations to create affordable units for families and seniors.

This could be through working with a nonprofit organization to develop units in Appleton, or working with other communities in the region for high-density projects that will allow Appleton residents requiring affordable housing to be close to the community.*

3a. Knox County Homeless Coalition is a grassroots non-profit that began in 2014 to help residents in Knox County located services for their housing needs. This has included creating new affordable housing opportunities by cooperating with municipalities.*

3b. Midcoast Habitat for Humanity is the regional chapter of the known global nonprofit (Habitat for Humanity) that uses donations for affordable rehabilitation and construction projects.*

3c. Outside of regional nonprofit organizations, affordable housing is a regional issue that all municipalities are finding ways to address. This method includes cooperating with neighboring communities for utility projects, policy and ordinance revisions that can encourage new developers, and working with nonprofit services to expand into new areas.

Lot Size and Community Wastewater Facilities*

Permitting the use of smaller size house lots (less than the present one acre minimum), under carefully prescribed conditions may have some important benefits for the Town, such as reducing land costs for low income or elderly housing or permitting clustering in order to protect open space, scenic or natural resource values. However, soil conditions may limit the feasibility of individual onsite septic waste disposal and water supply wells on small lot sizes. Appleton is not densely populated enough to justify the establishment of a dedicated municipal sewer and water district. Appleton's location also makes it difficult for existing sewer districts in Knox County to feasibly expand into the area.

Alternatively, there could be requirements for shared large septic systems that are paid for by developers and users rather than by the Town. The Town could consider including the option of reducing lot sizes in its land use regulations in the event privately developed septic systems can be established for multiple units the new reduction in lot sizes could help meet some specific community housing goal such as low income housing, elderly housing, or reducing housing sprawl on large land parcels to protect open space, the town's rural character or other natural resource factors.

However, it should be noted that, without specific standards laid out in an Ordinance, there is no guarantee new developments can be guaranteed as "affordable" nor protect the rural character of Appleton. It is important that any consideration for future lot sizes must factor the importance of preserving Appleton's rural characteristics.

Housing Programs

Local, state, and federal governments have a number of different manners of subsidizing housing costs for eligible citizens. In most cases the efforts of different levels of government are integrated, with funding and operation and jurisdictional fields overlapping.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the primary federal agency dealing with affordable housing. Rural Development (RD), part of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), also deals with affordable housing. The Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA) is the State's agency for such issues and administers the following: Rental Loan Program, Section 8, SHARP, Supportive Housing, and Vouchers. The Town of Appleton does not have a local housing authority but does have a general assistance program and also a private fund, The Wentworth Fund, which would help eligible applicants with emergency housing needs.

Subsidized units are built with state or federal monies for the express purpose of providing housing to lower income individuals and families. A housing project or development may be entirely formed by subsidized units, or the project may be of mixed guidelines, and residents are expected to pay a fixed percentage of their income as rent.

Housing is also subsidized through certificates and vouchers. Especially when subsidized units are not available, the MSHA will provide monies for citizens to use as payment for rent for non-public units. The Town is also partially reimbursed by the State for general assistance money that may be given to citizens with short-term immediate needs for housing. Finally, low interest loans through the federal or state governments are also a form of subsidy.

Summary

There is a range of new housing in Town, with an increase of more affordable manufactured homes. Appleton will continue to attract new residents due to the availability of relatively more affordable land and housing than is found in nearby service centers and coastal communities where there are employment opportunities. Appleton, like most of Knox County, is becoming increasingly less affordable under the standards of Maine Housing Authority as the Median Price of homes increase while the Median Annual Income required for these homes are unable to increase at the same rate. It is important that the Town considers and acts on recommendations made in this housing section to help ensure the availability of affordable housing. The information from this Comprehensive Plan was gathered while a surge of interested home buyers were coming to Knox County, which is still active at the writing of this document.

Issues of Concern

1. Large tracts of land, often in attractive physical settings, are likely to attract large scale real estate development projects.
2. Increased housing development and sprawl can rapidly change the rural atmosphere of Appleton.

3. Continuing divergence between housing costs and local income levels make affordable housing less available.
4. The increased cost of land will make building new homes a challenge for low- and moderate-income families.
5. Some new home and driveway sites are chosen without regard to their potential health, safety and environmental impacts.

Goals

1. To control the nature of residential housing growth so that the rural character of Appleton is maintained.
2. To ensure that affordable, safe, and sanitary housing is available to all Appleton residents.
3. To ensure that unregulated development requiring costly expansion of municipal services does not occur.

Policies

1. To protect and preserve the rural character of Appleton.
2. To explore and promote all opportunities for affordable housing in the Town of Appleton.
3. To identify and assist with housing grants and programs, including those programs that encourage the maintenance and upgrading of Appleton's existing housing stock.
4. To allow owners to participate in the construction of their own homes.
5. To ensure that all existing code and ordinance requirements are met for all new and renovation projects to encourage development of quality housing and rental units.*
6. To inform and encourage homeowners with faulty septic systems to rectify these systems and take advantage of cost share programs to bring systems up to code.
7. To assist landowners and homebuilders in developing site plans which will minimize soil erosion and water pollution from septic systems, driveways and excavation.
8. To encourage and promote adequate workforce housing to support the community's and region's economic development. *
9. To encourage and support the efforts of regional housing coalitions in addressing affordable and workforce housing needs. *

Strategies (as described on page 5):

1. Enact land use regulations to address density, lot size, and setbacks that will provide incentives to encourage development of affordable/ workforce housing in Appleton. *
2. Amending Ordinances to allow the addition of at least one accessory apartment per dwelling unit based on site suitability. *
3. Participate in community and regional housing coalitions aimed at supporting affordable/ workforce housing. *
4. Review Appleton Mobile Home Park Ordinance to ensure suitable with 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 4358(3)(M). *

5. Support the efforts of local and regional housing coalitions in addressing affordable and workforce housing needs.
6. Seek to achieve a level of at least 10% of new affordable residential development built or placed during the next decade. *

Section 4 Recreational Resources

Introduction

This Section covers what is currently available as recreational resources to the Appleton community, what concerns and opportunities exist and need to be addressed, and the goals, policies, and strategies for providing, promoting, and protecting the recreational resources of Appleton.

Natural Recreation Resources

The Town of Appleton lies in an area that is rich in natural resources that lend themselves well to many types of recreation for residents and visitors. This is the cornerstone of recreational resources for the community. The natural resources of the area offer involvement at both active and passive levels. More in-depth descriptions of each area are available in the Natural Resources section of this document.

St. George River (also known as Georges River): The river runs through the eastern side of Appleton and provides opportunities for fishing, canoeing, hunting, and nature walks. The river flows into Sennebec Pond. There is public access to the river in North Appleton on SR105 where the State Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife owns a strip of land on the south side of the road with parking. There is also limited public access in the village for a short distance above and below the bridge on the east bank. Just south of the bridge in the village is a spot on the east side of the river called the Swimming Hole where children used to swim.

Sennebec Pond: A portion of this large pond is in Appleton. It offers many recreational opportunities year-round but there is currently no public access to the Appleton section of the pond. There is a section on SR131 that lies in Union where access is available, but it is owned and managed by the Town of Union.

Appleton Ridge: Rising above the village to a height of about 600 feet is the highest elevation in the Town. The Ridge offers scenic views and open spaces, however there are no public areas for community use. The view from Appleton Ridge has been identified and listed in the State of Maine's Natural Areas Inventory.

Pieri Pond: A privately owned area on the ridge, it is used by some for swimming and picnicking. It is located on the west side of Appleton Ridge Road.

Shermans Mill Pond: A beautiful area with opportunities for fishing in both winter and summer, it is also used for skating in winter, canoeing and bird watching. A portion of this property was purchased by the Town and converted into Getchell Family Park.

The Medomak River and Pettengill Stream: West of Appleton Ridge, these offer attractive areas for fishing, hunting, canoeing, nature walks, and cross-country skiing. The Town owns several parcels of forest land that are used by hunters, hikers, and other outdoors people.

Scenic Areas: Much of the whole Town of Appleton is considered a scenic area. Every turn of the road offers one spectacular view after another – hills, rivers, forests, ponds, fields, farmlands, and more. SR 105 and 131 cross the area and gently curve through the countryside and hills. SR131 is part of the Georges River Scenic Byway. Some specific scenic areas are Appleton Ridge, Sennebec Pond, and the St. George River, which are described in detail in the Natural Resources Section of this plan.

Public Recreation Sites

Appleton offers a few recreational facilities that are available to the public. These include:

Appleton Village School: The playground and fields are open to the public. There is also a gym that is used by various groups as a meeting place for sports and exercise.

Public Park: A small public park across the road from the Town Hall provides a children’s community garden, gazebo, picnic tables, parking, and access to the St. George River. This is the site of the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library. Across the street and below the Town Hall is a small piece of open land that runs down to the St. Georges River.

Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library: A private lending library located on Sennebec Rd with over 6,500 volumes; book group; onsite computers with internet access; children’s story hour; summer reading program; and other activities.

The Meeting House: The Appleton Historical Society owns and maintains the Meeting House on Sennebec Rd and stores many of its artifacts there. Genealogical records are available for research at the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library where the Appleton Historical Society has a separate office.

Getchell Family Park: Located near Shermans Mill Pond, the Town voted in 2021 to purchase 4 acres of land to create Getchell Family Park, which provides Appleton’s only freshwater access for the public. The Town intends to use funds to design and install a dry fire hydrant on the site.*

Trails:

Appleton Preserve, owned by the Georges River Land Trust, is a 124 acre land conservation parcel in north Appleton on the west side of the St. George River, south of Route 105. The site includes about 3/4ths of a mile of land bordering the River, and it has about a mile of paths and trails for all season pedestrian use. There is a parking area and information kiosk on Route 105.

Canal Path is a trail maintained by the Georges River Land Trust as part of their “Georges Highland Path”. This 3.5 miles of year-round hiking trail runs on privately-owned land on the west side of St. George River from Route 105 to the Ghent Road in Searsmont. The trail includes interpretive signs explaining the old canal.

As part of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan Survey, 40% of respondents noted that town-owned recreational facilities were not adequate and that there is a need for enhancing the current facilities in Appleton. Residents acknowledged the various recreational opportunities in neighboring communities but would prefer to see improved outdoor recreation areas within the Appleton that include public water access. It should be noted that, since the survey took place, the Town established Getchell Family Park in 2021, which might have changed the perspective of some residents.*

Private Recreation Sites

There are some privately owned recreational areas that are available for community use either as an organized affair or by individuals.

- The Riehl Hunting Lodge is located in West Appleton and serves a considerable number of hunters each year.
- Sennebec Lake Campground and Lodge (100 Lodge Lane) is located on SR 131 and offers use of the beach area to Appleton residents for a small fee.
- The Trailmakers Snowmobile Club (Meeting location at 2306 W Appleton Road) maintains a number of trails through the Town that connect with trails from other communities. The snowmobile registration fees paid in Appleton are returned to the club to help with trail making and maintenance. Cross-county skiers, horseback riders, and hikers also use the trails. A great opportunity exists for expanding and promoting this network of trails for use by Appleton residents and visitors to the area.
- West Appleton Country Club offers traditional golf courses and disc golf at 2306 W Appleton Road.
- Appleton Retreat is a “glamping” experience that range from cabins, treehouses, and yurts.

Regional Recreation

The Midcoast area of Maine offers a multitude of natural public and private recreational opportunities for its communities and visitors. The following are some selected regional recreational resources available in the areas surrounding Appleton:

1. Camden Hills State Park, Camden: 30 miles of hiking trails with access from five major trailheads; a 112-site camping area includes flush toilets and hot showers; picnic area; rocky shoreline.
2. Camden Snow Bowl and Ragged Mountain Recreational Area, Camden: Ski area offering 10 trails with 3 lifts (2 chairs and 1 magic carpet). Skiing lessons and equipment rentals are available. Other features include 2 tennis courts, a multi-sport athletic field (soccer, baseball/softball and youth football), a tube sliding area, a racing program and a toboggan chute. The Snow Bowl is the home of the US National Toboggan Championship Races. Hiking and other activities are available in the off-season.
3. Damariscotta Lake State Park, Jefferson: 17 acres; sand beach swimming area with a lifeguard; a group use shelter and playing field; changing rooms; drinking water; picnic tables and grills; small playground.

4. Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland: Contemporary art of Maine's sea and shore including a collection of N.C., Andrew and Jamie Wyeth works.
5. Goose River Golf Club, Rockport: Nine holes, 3049/3096 yd, par 36/35. Season: May-November.
6. Lake St. George State Park, Liberty: Open May 15 to October 1; 38 camping sites, showers and flush toilets; swimming area with lifeguard; fishing and hiking; boat and canoe rentals available.
7. Liberty Historical Society, Liberty: Old Octagonal Post Office (1867) has all of its original equipment and houses the historical society; open Saturdays in the summer.
8. Merryspring Nature Park, Camden: The park offers walking trails and horticultural area with organized programs and events year-round.
9. Mid-Coast Recreation Center, Rockport: Ice skating (September-May), roller skating, golf simulators, pickleball, indoor tennis and fitness center.
10. Montpelier, Thomaston: Replica of original 1793 home built by General Henry Knox, US Secretary of War in George Washington's cabinet; open June through October.
11. Owls Head Transportation Museum, Owl's Head: Landmark; operating collection of World War I era aircraft, automobiles, motorcycles, bicycles, and carriages; air shows and rallies of classic autos, foreign autos, trucks, tractors, commercial vehicles, and military vehicles most summer and fall weekends; several aerobatic shows each summer.
12. True Park, Hope: Park contains a baseball field; basketball court; soccer field, playground, and walking path.
13. Union Historical Society, Union: UHS owns two historic buildings, the Robbins House which it shares with the Vose Library and the Old Town House which may be rented for special occasions; houses many local artifacts at the Robbins House; sponsors programs and self-guided tours to historic sites; publications for sale; monthly meetings for members.
14. Union Golf Club, Union: Private country club.
15. Ayer Park, Union: Provides a boat launch, public access to Seven Tree Pond, and picnic sites.

Events

Another aspect of recreational resources are events and activities that are hosted by the Town to provide opportunities for community involvement and recreation (as well as local revenue). The Mid-Coast area offers an array of public and private events that provide many recreation opportunities. The Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library hosts a variety of community events throughout the year.

Summary

The natural resources of Appleton provide numerous recreational opportunities for residents as well as visitors to the area. The amount of public access provided to town-owned lands becomes increasingly important to residents, as the existing recreational facilities and programs in the community and region have not kept up with the recent growth in the area.* In recent years, Appleton has examined new areas to become publicly accessible for residents within the municipality.

There are extremely limited municipal and/or private recreational facilities and/or sponsored events. The lack of recreational activities and events sponsored by the Town limits community involvement. However, the surrounding communities offer numerous natural, public, and private recreational resources and events. It is becoming increasingly evident that recreation in Appleton is a singular activity, privately organized, or must involve travel to another community to partake. To develop an improved sense of community and additional outlets for recreation, more needs to be done to involve the Town in establishing community-driven events and activities that would have a low impact on the municipal resources. The 2021 purchase, and creation, of Getchell Family Park demonstrated how the Town can utilize surplus funds and available grant funding to create recreational amenities with support from the residents. A similar process should be considered for future projects due to the overwhelming support residents showed for this transaction.

Appleton townspeople emphatically want to retain the rural and natural settings of the community. Its natural beauty is the cornerstone to its recreational resources. It may be threatened by mismanagement of lands and waters, increased and higher speed traffic, vandalism, sprawl, fragmentation of land parcels, pollution, and high impact recreational activities. It is important for us all to have respect for our natural resources, learn more about taking care of the land and waters we have within our borders, practice low impact recreation, and put it all into action to preserve these treasures for the future.

Issues of Concern

1. Lack of town-owned land for public recreational use, especially surface water access to Sennebec Pond.
2. Number of residents restricting their land to informal public access.
3. Vandalism to and lack of courtesy for natural and structural resources.
4. Unauthorized use of private and public areas by off-road vehicles and other high impact recreational activities.
5. Fragmentation of land holdings due to growth and/or development.
6. Lack of providing stricter enforcement of the existing laws for the protection of natural resources and recreational facilities.
7. Loss of scenic views due to mismanagement and/or development of open fields and forests.

8. Growing amounts of traffic and speeding vehicles (especially large trucks in both cases) on SR 131 and SR 105 and other town roads create noise and other pollutants that detract from and potentially harm the natural beauty of the area.

Goals and Policies

1. Seek to achieve public access to Sennebec Pond for boating, fishing, swimming and picnicking.
2. Educate and encourage recreational resource users (townspeople, schoolchildren, visitors) to take individual responsibility in preserving and maintaining Appleton's natural resources.
3. Support opportunities for expansion of recreational resources.
4. Continue conservation and preservation practices and policies.
5. Enforcement of the laws that protect recreational resources.
6. Preserve rural qualities for recreational use and scenic value.*
7. Encourage landowners to practice sound forestry.
8. Expand the amount of town-owned land that allows public access for low impact recreational purposes.
9. Encourage and create appropriate town-centered activities and events that provide opportunities for community involvement.
10. Maintain/upgrade existing recreational facilities as necessary to meet current and future needs.*
12. 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.*

Recommendations/Implementation Strategies (as described on page ...)

1. Seek to achieve public access to Sennebec Pond for boating, fishing, picnicking, and swimming. (Select Board) - *Long Term*
2. Encourage the preservation of open space for recreational use as directed by the Land Use section of this plan. (Planning Board, Select Board) - *Immediate*
3. Encourage continuing interaction with law enforcement providers and the Town to provide appropriate enforcement of existing laws relating to recreational resources for speed limits, and vehicle restrictions (Select Board, Sheriff's Office) - *Ongoing*
4. Encourage a process to educate recreational resource users (townspeople, schoolchildren, visitors) to take individual responsibility in preserving and maintaining Appleton's natural resources. (Select Board, Town Meeting) - *Ongoing*

5. Support private landowners, land conservation organizations and recreational clubs that provide trails for public use. (Select Board, appropriate Boards and Committees, interested clubs and citizens) - *Ongoing*
6. 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. (Select Board) - *Immediate/ Ongoing**
7. Work with existing local land trusts or other conservation organizations to pursue opportunities to protect important open space or recreational land. (Select Board) -*Long Term**
8. Create a list of recreational needs 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 (Select Board)- *Long-Term**
9. Work with public and private partners to extend the public trail network (Select Board) - *Ongoing**

Section 5 Economy

Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to identify and analyze Appleton's local and regional economy, including income, industry, occupations, employment rates, and retail sales. An understanding of past and present economic trends is important in helping the community predict and adapt to future trends.

The sources of data for this Section are from various State and federal research groups. Each data set does have a margin of error that is typically larger for the local (Appleton) data sets compared to the state and national trends.

Background

The Town of Appleton is historically a farming community that has served the region for agricultural needs or for housing accommodations for workers that commute to nearby municipalities that have larger employers. The Knox County area originally developed economically through a mixture of working waterfronts (fishermen, lobstermen, boat builders, shipping, etc.), farming/ agriculture, and timber harvesting. In recent years, these leading industries have shifted to tourism-based industries (restaurants, retail stores, overnight accommodations), medical practices, and construction; however, the industries that have had an historic presence in Knox County are still thriving in the modern era.

Income

Median household income and the percentage change over the recent period are shown in Table 5-1 below. Between 2010 and 2020, Appleton's median household income has increased at a slower rate than seen countywide and just below the state rate.

Table 5-1 Median Household Income

Place	2010	Margin of Error	2020	Margin of Error	Change
Appleton	\$46,823	+ \$8,317	\$50,795	+ 14,993	+ 22.06%
Knox County	\$45,264	+ \$1,899	\$57,794	+ 2,528	+ 27.59%
State of Maine	\$46,933	+ \$457	\$59,489	+ 682	+ 23.41%

Source: Maine State Economist

The income distribution for residents of Appleton and Knox County is shown in Table 5-2 below for the most recent year for which data are available. Appleton has a larger proportion of households who earn between \$50,000 and \$74,999 than Knox County, as well as a larger proportion of households who earn between \$100,000 and \$149,999 than Knox County. Knox County has a slightly higher proportion than Appleton of households who earn more than \$75,000.

Table 5-2 Income Distribution in 2020

Households Earning	Appleton		Knox County	
	Number	%	Number	%
	653	100.0	17,497	100.0
Less than \$10,000	88	13.5	668	3.8
\$10,000 to \$14,999	12	1.8	812	4.6
\$15,000 to \$24,999	128	19.6	1,681	9.6
\$25,000 to \$34,999	30	4.6	1,739	9.9
\$35,000 to \$49,999	65	10.0	2,446	14.0
\$50,000 to \$74,999	105	16.1	3,476	19.9
\$75,000 to \$99,999	112	17.2	2,552	14.6
\$100,000 to \$149,999	70	10.7	2,461	14.1
\$150,000 or more	43	6.6	1,662	4.8
Median household income	\$50,795	--	\$57,794	--

Source: Maine Housing Authority

Sources of income for Appleton and Knox County residents for 2020, the most recent year for which data are available, are shown in Table 5-3 below. Over 80% of households derived income from wages, salaries, interest income, and rental income, or some combination of these sources. For the County that figure was just over 76%. Wage and salary employment is a broad measure of economic well-being but does not indicate whether the jobs are of good quality. Wage and salary income includes total money earned for work performed. It includes wages, salary, commissions, tips, piece-rate payments, and cash bonuses.

Table 5-3 Income Type in 2019

(Households often have more than one source of income, as seen here.)	Appleton		Knox County	
	Number	%	Number	%
Households	593	100.0	17,020	100.0
With earnings (wage, salary, interest, rental) income	485	81.8	12,962	76.2
With Social Security income	202	34.1	7,285	42.8
With cash public assistance income or Food Stamps/SNAP	39	13.8	1,765	1.7
With retirement income	99	16.7	3,655	21.5

Source: Census

More than one-third of Appleton residents collect social security income. This is a smaller proportion than for Knox County residents. Social Security income includes Social Security pensions, survivor's benefits, and permanent disability insurance payments made by the Social Security Administration, prior to deductions for medical insurance and railroad retirement insurance from the U.S. Government. Almost 14% of Appleton residents received public assistance. Public assistance income includes payments made by Federal or State welfare agencies to low-income persons who are 65 years or older, blind, or disabled; aid to families with dependent children; or general assistance. The income types for Appleton show a higher percentage of people receiving public assistance but a lower percentage of social security or retirement income in town than is seen for the county.

Table 5-4 below shows poverty status in Appleton and Knox County from the 2019 Census. The income criteria used by the U.S. Bureau of Census to determine poverty status consists of a set of several thresholds including family size and number of family members under 18 years of age. In 2021, the average poverty threshold for a family of four persons was \$26,500 in the contiguous 48 states (U.S. DHHS). Over 10% of Appleton's families were listed as having incomes below the poverty level, which included 246 individuals. Appleton has a greater percentage of residents in poverty than Knox County.

Table 5-4: Poverty Status in 2020

Below Poverty Level	Appleton		Knox County	
	Number	%	Number	%
Individuals (below poverty level)	246	100	3,514	100
Persons 18 to 64 years	161	65.5	2,769	78.8
Persons 65 years and over	85	34.5	745	21.2
Families (below poverty level)	47	100	676	100
With related children under 18 years	24	51.1	469	69.4
With related children under 5 years	6	12.8	133	19.7

Source: 2020 American Community Survey

Labor Force

The labor force is defined as all persons aged sixteen or older who either are employed or are receiving unemployment compensation but are actively seeking employment. Appleton has a slightly higher percentage of residents who are in the workforce than does the county. This is due to the greater number of young families living in town, which, when taken with the age distribution presented in the Population Chapter of this plan, indicates a higher percentage of younger adults in town than in the county.

Table 5-5 Labor Force Status: 2021

Persons 16 Years and Over	Appleton		Knox County	
	Number	%	Number	%
In labor force	676	-	19,881	-
Employed	645	95.4	19,008	95.6
Unemployed	31	4.6	873	4.4

Source: Maine Department of Labor

The size of the labor force, its distribution by industry, and how it is employed are important factors to consider when planning for future economic development. The plans for a new business or the expansion of an already existing one must be based on the assessment of available labor, in addition to the potential consumer market.

There is no single employer of the town's residents and most businesses in the town and region are ultimately dependent on one another and year-round residents for much of their individual success. Below is a breakdown of the number of establishments within Appleton, their average employment, and how they have changed between 2011 and 2021.

Table 5-6 Employment Characteristics in 2011 and 2021

INDUSTRY	Appleton, 2011		Appleton, 2021	
	Establishments	Average Employment	Establishments	Average Employment
Total, All Industries	29	-	32	-
Construction	10	24	6	23
Professional and Technical Services	0	0	7	6
Administrative and Waste Services	5	8	4	14
Miscellaneous/ Other	14	-	15	-

Source: 2021 Maine Department of Labor Center for Workforce Research and Information

Employers

Most businesses located in Appleton employ just a few people each. In 2020, it was estimated that Appleton businesses employed about 126 people. Most of Appleton's employers are listed below, based on Department of Labor statistics.

Table 5-7 Employers in Appleton (2023)

Business Name	Address
American Dream Builders	1588 W Appleton Rd
Apple Ridge Farm-Riding School	219 Appleton Ridge Rd
Appleton Baptist Church	108 Searsmont Rd
Appleton Fire Department	2915 Sennebec Rd
Appleton Ridge Construction	1108 Appleton Ridge Rd
Appleton Ridge Flower-Vegetables	145 Appleton Ridge Rd
Appleton Town Office	2915 Sennebec Rd
Appleton Village School	737 Union Rd
Berg Works	1073 Union Road
Bucklin Appraisal LLC	1599 Sennebec Rd
Edgecomb's General Store (Burkettville General Store)	1289 Burkettville Road
Fairwinds Grooming Studio	1761 Sennebec Rd
Glendarragh Farm	151 Searsmont Rd
Jeremy Stitt's	2111 Appleton Ridge Rd
JH Kilton Carpentry	1576 Searsmont Rd
John Fancy Inc	Joes Hi Rd
L & S Concrete	22 Moose Carry Rd
Macdonald Concrete	1406 Sennebec Rd
Midcoast Sealcoating	133 Camden Rd
Mildred Stevens Memorial Library	2916 Sennebec Rd
Patriot Land Surveys	122 Searsmont Rd
Ridgeberry Corp	1005 Appleton Ridge Rd
Rockcoast Painters	1721 W Appleton Rd
Sennebec Lake Campground	100 Lodge Ln
Snowhill Garage	220 Snow Hill Rd
Stone's Auto/Truck Services	360 Union Rd
Terraoptima	980 Gurney Town Road
Union School District 69	737 Union Rd
West Appleton Country Club	2306 W Appleton Rd
Woodland Path	178 Magog Rd
Young Construction	1386 Collinstown Rd

Source: Maine Department of Labor; Union Area Chamber of Commerce and residents

Most Appleton residents who work commute to jobs located in surrounding communities. Seasonal fluctuations of employment are significant for tourism related businesses. Many people hold multiple part-time jobs related to seasonal work. The major regional employers in Knox County and Waldo County are listed in Tables 5-8 and 5-9.

Table 5-8 Major Employers in Knox County

Business Name	Location	Sector
Camden Hills Regional High School	Rockport	Education
Hurricane Island Outward Bound	Camden	Education
Kno-Wal-Lin Help at Home Inc	Rockland	Medical
La Bella Vita Ristorante	Rockport	Restaurant
North End Composites LLC	Rockland	Boat Building
Pen Bay Medical Center	Rockport	Hospital
Samoset Resort	Rockport	Hotel
Windward Gardens	Camden	Medical

Source: Maine Dept. of Labor, 2021

Table 5-9 Major Employers in Waldo County

Business Name	Location	Sector
AthenaHealth Inc	Belfast	Health Care
Ducktrap River of Maine	Belfast	Seafood
FSS Inc	Belfast	Boat Building
Harbor Hill Center	Belfast	Medical
Hidden Valley Camp	Montville	Summer Camp
KBHA Foundation	Belfast	Medical
Robbins Lumber Inc	Searsmont	Construction
Tall Pines	Belfast	Medical
Waldo County General Hospital	Belfast	Hospital

Source: Maine Dept. of Labor, 2021

Commuting Patterns

Almost three-quarters of Appleton commuters work in Knox County, meaning just over one-quarter of them work outside of Knox County. Of the 182 responses collected from the 2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey, 29%, or 53 people, marked their place of employment in Appleton.

Table 5-10 Workplace of Appleton Residents

Appleton Commuters	2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%
	742	100.0	601	100.0
Work in State of Residence	735	99.1	595	99.0
Work in County of Residence	560	75.5	431	71.7
Work Outside County of Residence	175	23.6	164	27.3
Work Outside State of Residence	7	0.9	6	1.0

Source: 2010 and 2020 American Community Survey

Appleton's workforce overwhelmingly commutes by private vehicle. The second largest segment of residents commute by carpool, while the third largest work at home. More information on commuting patterns is found in the Transportation Chapter of this plan.

Table 5-11 Commuting Method 2019

Appleton Residents	Appleton		Knox County	
	Number	%	Number	%
		100		100
Workers 16 years and over	735	--	19,364	--
Drove alone	551	75.0	14,870	76.8
Carpooled	99	13.5	2,093	10.8
Used other means	0	0.0	306	1.6
Walked	9	1.2	714	3.7
Worked at home	64	8.7	1,320	6.8

Source: U.S. Census

Note that this data was collected in 2019, not long before the COVID-19 pandemic began affecting Appleton's residents and their work habits. The 2020-2023 period specifically saw a drastic increase in residents working remotely or working from home. The pandemic will likely have a long-term impact on how Appleton residents work and commute, which is not reflected in the data above.

Analysis

In recent years, Appleton has experienced a significant change regarding its population and employment due to COVID –19.* Working from home was a standard practice during the first year of the pandemic, and employees/ students who were sick could continue their work from their homes as long as they had a stable internet connection. The installation by Tidewater Telecom made Appleton an ideal community for workers and families to move to as some employers made the option to work from home available to their employees. The high-speed internet for residential homes has also allowed more Home Occupations and other home-based businesses to flourish in Appleton.

According to the community surveys, residents have indicated minimizing the size of development in Appleton to promote small-scale businesses and home-occupations as opposed to large construction projects. Appleton is a member of the Midcoast Council of Governments, who has a regional Community Economic Development Strategy and Strategic Plan that considers rural areas, such as Appleton, for how they could further develop their economy in the region. There are no other regional organizations that have developed an economic plan in recent years that considers how Appleton can grow their economy.* For example, Appleton does not have a traditional downtown environment to centralize shops and restaurants, and there is also not a huge tourism industry in Appleton.* However, Appleton does have a strong agricultural base and growing home occupation that has been further enhanced by the availability of high-speed internet. The rural and scenic characteristics of Appleton can be used to promote agricultural tourism and recreational opportunities that can allow Appleton to become a destination for visitors in the region without a significant cost in public infrastructure.*

Due to the lack of sewer, water, and public infrastructure, there are no appropriate areas in Appleton to establish an industrial or commercial area.* Appleton lacking a public sewer or water system would make new high-density developments difficult to be established without conflicting with density requirements or the surrounding landscapes. To support more economic activity, broadband does need to be expanded to cover the remaining unserved pocket in the community that was unable to be covered during the 2020-2021 installation of fiber from Tidewater Telecom. Besides broadband, the establishment/ expansion of sewer, water, and three-phase power into Appleton would not be considered feasible due to the lack of large-scale developments. Appleton also does not have local incentives that would be used to encourage development in any growth areas. The Select Board is supportive of assisting with acquiring and implementing grants from outside sources; however, programs, such as a Tax Increment Financing District, are not available in Appleton.*

Summary

The top sectors of employment for Appleton residents (who work in Appleton or elsewhere in Maine) in order, in 2023, were “Educational services, health care and assistance,” “Retail trade,” “Manufacturing” and “Construction.” Living in a rural area limits employment opportunities and increases the costs of commuting to the service centers where most jobs are located. Residents, who responded to the public opinion survey taken in 2020, support the following types of business development in Appleton: farming, restaurants, bed & breakfasts, small retail, craft industries and farm product processing (these include percentages for which over 50% of respondents would like to move to Appleton or expand if they already exist).

Goals

1. To promote economic stability in Appleton's economy through the encouragement and promotion of local services, jobs, sustainable resource production, and clean/green businesses.
2. To direct economic expansion to fit the town's unique rural character.

Policies

1. To retain existing businesses by encouraging citizens to shop locally and to use local service providers.
2. To encourage the location of businesses that are compatible with the town's rural character, including home occupations, businesses based on sustainable natural resource use, and information-based businesses. (To support the type of economic development activity the community desires, reflecting the community's role in the region.)*
3. To provide assistance, if necessary, to support desired economic development, including needed public improvements.*
4. To coordinate with regional development corporations and surrounding towns as necessary to support desired economic development.*

Recommendations/Implementation Strategies (as described on page...)

1. The Town should consider the possibility of sponsoring a local business fair. (Select Board) - *Ongoing*.
2. The Select Board should appoint a committee of several townspeople whose task shall be to identify ways of attracting clean/green businesses to Appleton. (Select Board) - *Immediate*.

3. The Planning Board, in cooperation with the Town Forester, and other interested citizens, should review and amend as necessary local land use ordinances to ensure that they adequately preserve the town's rural character, and do not degrade the environment. (Planning Board) - *Long term*.
4. If Appleton were to adopt a Land Use Ordinance, it should contain appropriate land use regulations that will attract, enhance, and support existing and future development, while minimizing negative impacts of non-compatible uses. The Land Use Ordinance should identify appropriate areas for commercial and industrial development. This action will also reduce the likelihood of future strip development, resistance to new projects or incompatible uses. Home occupation performance standards should be included in the future land use ordinance to ensure compatibility with residential neighborhoods and adjacent properties. (Planning Board, Town Meeting) - *Immediate**
5. The Select Board should investigate and pursue opportunities for collaboration with neighboring towns in developing employment opportunities within and attracting businesses to the region. (Select Board) - *Ongoing*.
6. Enact or amend local ordinances to reflect the desired scale, design, intensity, and location of future economic development. (Planning Board) - *Ongoing**
7. 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.). (Select Board) - *Ongoing**
8. Participate in any regional economic development planning efforts. (Select Board) – *Ongoing**

Section 6: Agricultural & Forest Resources

Forestry in Appleton

Prior to colonial settlement, Appleton lands were covered by forests and forested wetlands. Many "King's Arrow" pines were cut from the area in colonial times. During its logging heyday, the Town supported at least eight sawmills and stave mills. As the population grew the forest disappeared, and by the late 1800s Appleton's land had been largely converted to pasture and orchards.

Nature is resilient. As people moved away, trees reforested the area, and much of Appleton is again forested with a variety of hardwood and coniferous species, including Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) and Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*).

Appleton's forests are a microcosm of what is happening in the State. Some woodland owners manage their properties well. Some woodland owners do not manage their land at all, preferring to let nature take her course. Some forests are highly productive, and will continue to be so if properly managed. Other woodlands, particularly those classified as forested wetlands, serve important ecosystem protection roles that exceed their value as resource production areas.

The Town of Appleton has a local forester who advises the Select Board regarding when to do selective harvesting in municipally-owned forested lands. The cycle for harvesting the lumber varies on the lot and type of trees. There is a forestry plan available in the Town Office.*

The total forested area (14,267.7 acres) makes up a total of 66.61% of the total acres in Appleton (21,420 acres).

Table 6-1
Breakdown of Town Owned Land

Town Owned Land	Acres	Percent
Cemeteries	16	4.18
Village School	15.67	4.09
Municipal Buildings	1.80	0.47
Parks	5.83	0.48
Forest	290.90	75.98
Miscellaneous	56.68	14.8
Total	382.88	100

Source: Appleton Trio

The Town of Appleton owns 382.88 acres over multiple parcels,* and the 61.76% of Appleton residents that responded to the public outreach survey requested to retain the parcel.* In addition

to the areas owned by the Town of Appleton, the Nature Conservancy has 1,539.57 acres of area under their ownership or conservation easements while Georges River Land Trust has 151.2 acres. This information is based on tax records filed at the Town Office. When compared to the total acreage of Appleton (21,420 acres), there is a total of 2,073.65 acres (9.68%) that is preserved under public or non-profit ownership.

At least three rare and threatened plant species find refuge in Appleton's woodlands and wetlands. The best-known species found in Appleton's forested areas is Atlantic White Cedar, found in the Cedar Swamp. Appleton also contains natural areas containing Pondweed, and is the northernmost native home of Michaux's Blue-eyed grass. Not surprisingly, both species are also found in wetland habitats. Their continued existence depends on a strong commitment of stewardship on the part of Appleton's landowners.

The Nature Conservancy has continued purchasing selective parcels of land in Appleton that contain sensitive areas and the rare species previously mentioned, specifically the White Cedars.* Many woodlot owners harvest their mature trees on a regular basis for extra income, supplying several local mills with raw materials and providing local loggers with regular employment. Appleton's forests provide raw material for sawmills in Knox and Waldo Counties, as well as for pulp and specialty mills further a-field. Several persons directly employed in the forest products industry live in Town and depend on the continuing viability of Appleton's forests for their livelihood.*

The forestland of Appleton provides much more than economic value. Many residents and tourists derive satisfaction simply from seeing forests from the many viewpoints in Appleton as well as from observing the various forms of life within them. Without forests to provide cover for wildlife, there would be no hunting, an activity that provides sustenance to many residents as well as attracting many hunters from away (who contribute to the local economy). While providing some forage for certain wildlife species, large clear cuts tend to fragment populations of plants and animals dependent on forested habitats, thereby reducing reproductive opportunities. This has the potential to lead to genetic diversity. Many species of plants and animals also require mature forests to complete at least part of their life cycles. Most importantly, the forest serves as a vast buffer system, absorbing rain and snow, filtering it, and releasing it in controlled quantities to help reduce flooding.

Much of Appleton's soils (e.g. Tunbridge, Lyman, Peru, Marlow, and Boothbay series) is classified as moderately to highly productive in terms of forest health and could yield significant outputs of wood on a sustainable basis if managed properly. However, some soils cannot support commercial forestry operations, therefore, timber should only be harvested during certain times of the year. While the Maine Forest Practices Act addresses very large clear-cut, it does not address to any extent issues of logging on steep slopes, fragile soils, and in wetlands, nor does it address the question of maintaining biological diversity. Certain areas, such as the Cedar Swamp, have other values (e.g. scientific, recreational, etc.) or legal restrictions that would preclude their use as commercial forest.

The "selective harvest method" is a silvicultural system in which individual trees or small groups of trees are harvested with minimal damage to the residual forest. Trees with poor form or those that are likely to die before the next harvest are cut, while the most valuable and vigorous trees are left to develop. The selective harvest method, when properly practiced, can yield regular income from a woodlot. It can also perpetuate forest cover and provide a healthy forest for one's heirs.

Forty-seven (47) parcels totaling 1,644.08 acres in Appleton were classified under the State Tree Growth Program in 2022. The Maine Forest Service surveys and regulates timber harvesting activities.

Table 6-2
Timber Harvesting in Appleton

Year	Selective Method (acres)	Shelterwood (acres)	Clear cut (acres)	Total Harvest (acres)	Change of land use (acres)	Number of active harvests
1991	165	0	2	167	0	5
1992	239	0	18	257	0	10
1993	399	0	436	835	20	13
1994	328	0	57	385	0	9
1995	484	20	42	546	12	12
1996	429	126	46	601	1	15
1997	459	0	0	459	0	14
1998	477	0	0	477	0	16
1999	181	65	0	246	2	16
2000	394	0	0	394	0	16
2001	452	70	0	522	4	13
2002	175	74	6	255	0	8
2003	166	0	0	166	0	16
2004	339	904	5	1248	4	22
2005	142	6	0	148	2	15
2006	155	90	0	180	6	18
2007	288	0	0	288	6	15
2008	357	25	0	382	12	17
2009	316	119	0	435	15	20
2010	267	65	0	332	39	20
2011	320	27	0	347	0	18
2012	503	62	0	565	30	26
2013	123	60	0	183	6	18
2014	320	85	5	410	0	27
2015	125	0	0	125	2	15

2016	88	0	0	88	3	14
2017	355	30	0	385	2	22
2018	232.5	73	0	302	14.5	28
2019	302.4	10	7	319.4	9.5	26
Totals	8580.9	1911	624	11047.4	190	518
Average	296	66	22	381	7	18

Source: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry. Maine Forest Service

Agriculture

Many townspeople raise animals and tend gardens for subsistence and pleasure. Most blueberry lands are located on top of Appleton Ridge, while other agricultural activities are scattered throughout Appleton.

The state offers the Farmland Protection Tax Program, similar to the Tree Growth Tax Program, which allows landowners who are committed to earning an income from farming for at least a five-year period to have their land assessed at current use value rather than a higher market value.

Both commercial and personal agricultural activities play an important role in maintaining the rural character of Appleton. For some landowners, farming provides principal and supplemental income as well as supplying farm products to the community on a small scale. Farming is important not only to the history of the Appleton and the local economy, but also in allowing people to provide for themselves. As part of the Maine School Garden Network, Appleton Village School has a garden promoting education of homegrown produce to our school children.*

Appleton's farmlands, forests, and wild lands combine to form the basis of its rural landscape. Its panoramic views have received state and local recognition as important scenic areas. The townspeople should place priority on the importance of these unique natural features and identify what steps residents should take to ensure their preservation.

Soil Resources

Soils define in large measure an area's biological and agricultural productivity and potential as well as its development potential. Soil is not a renewable resource. Therefore, its management and protection merit serious consideration by its current users. Soil types in Appleton are shown on the following Prime Farmland Soils Map (See attachment).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines prime farmland as the land that is best suited to producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce a sustained high yield of crops while using acceptable farming

methods. Prime farmland produces the highest yields and requires minimal amounts of energy and economic resources, and farming it results in the least damage to the environment. Prime farmland is a limited strategic resource.

For a complete description of these and other soils found in Appleton, refer to the "Soil Survey of Knox and Lincoln Counties Maine", a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) publication available at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Office in Belfast and Augusta. A copy is also available at the Knox-Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District in Rockport.

The NRCS has also developed a rating system that ranks different soil types according to their potential for development. According to this ranking system, more than 35% of Appleton's soils have "medium" development potential. Soils ranked "low to very low" occupy just over 46% of the area; and one soil type ranked "high" and "very high" (including Tunbridge-Lyman Fine Sandy Loam) covers more than 15% of the Town.

Table 6-3
Appleton Soil Suitability for Low Density Development
(Dependent on septic systems*)

Soil Ratings	Acres	Square Miles	%
High to Very High Potential	3330.99	5.20	15.6%
Medium Potential	7539.53	11.78	35.3%
Low to Very Low Potential	9873.96	15.43	46.3%
Not rated	606.71	0.95	2.8%
Total	21351.19	33.36	100.0%

Source: USDA-NRCS

It must be emphasized that most of the soils found in Appleton present some sort of constraint to development, and that the ratings serve only as a guide. Second, the soil ratings should not be considered apart from other factors, such as slope, wetland classification, shoreland zoning, and so on. Third, knowledge of a particular soil's rating does not do away with the need for individual site analyses.

Issues

Analysis of Appleton's soils presents a fundamental dilemma. The best soils for development are generally those that have high values for other uses, such as agriculture and forestry, or are located in areas with high values for wildlife habitat, watershed protection, and scenic views (e.g. Appleton Ridge). Location of housing developments (or incremental individual housing construction) or commercial areas would generally preclude these other uses.

The State of Maine has also experienced many areas that are considered “prime farmland” being converted into a commercial solar farm. Maine Farmland Trust is working with communities to provide examples and to encourage areas with prime farmland to enact ordinances and policies relating to solar farms to strike a balance between addressing climate resilience goals while preserving prime farmlands. Appleton currently does not have 3-Phase power, which is required for a commercial solar farm to operate in the community.

Besides the threats of converting farmlands to residential developments and subdivisions, municipalities have recently encountered the threat of Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) contaminating agricultural areas and placing a significant burden on small farms. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection currently has no active sites in Appleton that have tested positive for PFAS; however, there are positive sites in Knox County.

Farming and Forestry are uses that are broadly accepted in the Town of Appleton. During the public outreach survey, 82.12% of respondents expressed an interest of more Agriculture uses and 81.01% desiring more Forestry. Appleton does not have local ordinances that restrict either use. * There have been no reported incidents between conflicting uses that abut active farms or timber harvesting; however, the recent demand in housing could threaten the prime farmland and forested areas as developers continue to look for buildable lots.* Appleton also has local conservancy groups (the Midcoast Conservancy, Maine Farmland Trust, Nature Conservancy of Maine, and Georges River Land Trust) that can assist with preserving prime farmlands and forested areas to protect them from development. *

State Tax Programs

Agriculture and forestry activities are important to Appleton’s economy and history. Since the previous Comprehensive Plan was approved by the Town of Appleton, there has been growth for small-scale uses that have allowed agriculture and forestry remain relatively stable in Appleton. * The State of Maine offers different tax incentive programs to assist with preserving working farmlands and tree growth areas throughout the state. The Farmland and Tree Growth Programs are voluntary programs that allow landowners to reduce a portion of their tax burden based on the Town assessed value of land placed under protection. To enter into the program, an interested resident must provide a minimum of either five (5) contiguous acres of farmland or ten (10) acres of forested area devoted to growth and commercial harvest. Both programs will remain in effect on the property unless the landowner chooses to pay a penalty for withdrawing the property from the program.

Summary

The public reception and history of Appleton shows a strong desire to preserve agriculture and forestry industries that are still present in the current makeup of the community. However, the soil composition and growing trends also make Appleton a site that could be considered for housing and commercial-scale solar developments if there are high enough investments made to upgrade the utilities in the area. The State offers incentives and tax programs for residents to preserve Tree Growth and Farmlands in Appleton, and local land trusts have also been active in preserving these areas as well.

Policies:

1. To encourage protection of lands identified as prime farmland or capable of supporting commercial forestry.*
2. To support farming and forestry and encourage their economic viability.*
3. Promoting environmentally and ecologically sound methods of farming and forestry.
4. Continue to efforts to protect Appleton's critical natural resources, including wildlife and fisheries habitat, shoreland, scenic vistas, and unique natural areas.

Strategies (as described on page 5):

1. 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. (Planning Board)- *Ongoing**
2. Consult with Soil and Water Conservation District staff when developing any land use regulations pertaining to agricultural management practices. (Planning Board)- *Ongoing**
3. Review the Land Use Ordinances to consider commercial or subdivision developments, if applicable, in order to maintain areas with prime farmland soils as open space to the greatest extent practicable. (Planning Board)- *Immediate**
4. Encourage owners of productive farm and forest land to enroll in the current use taxation programs. (Tax Assessor's Agent)- *Ongoing**
5. 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. (Planning Board, Code Enforcement Officer)- *Ongoing**
6. Include agriculture, commercial forestry operations, and land conservation that supports them in local or regional economic development plans. (Select Board)- *Ongoing**

Section 7 Natural and Water Resources

Introduction

Appleton's richness is its natural resources. The Town is especially fortunate to have several large, yet relatively undisturbed land and water areas that not only define the character of the Appleton and afford a special quality of life, but also perform significant resource protection and production functions. Appleton's considerable wetlands offer the region some of the most scenic and biologically important resources. Large undisturbed areas provide essential habitat for deer, moose, waterfowl, and numerous non-game species while also protecting the watersheds and maintaining the purity of both surface and ground waters. Many of the areas are also valued for recreational purposes. Refer to Maps in the Appendix for further detail on the Natural Resources Inventory.

Appleton is also recognized for its scenic value. Areas, such as Appleton Ridge Road, is prized both for its own natural beauty and for the views of the St. George River valley. Appleton receives a great deal of traffic for the scenic views of these natural resources. Other notable scenic places that can be viewed from Appleton includes Patrick Mountain, Hogback and Frye Mountains, the Camden Hills (Megunticook, Mt. Battie, Ragged Mountain, Pleasant Mountain, Spruce Mountain), and even views of Acadia National Park.

Topography

Appleton's topography can best be described as "relatively rugged". With two major river systems and several prominent ridges cutting from southwest to northeast and several swamps covering much of the flat ground, there is relatively fewer level areas in Town. It will be evident from the slopes and Shoreland Zoning maps and the following discussion that such rough topography poses severe constraints to large-scale housing developments. See the Topography Map, Appendix A, for contour elevations and steep slopes (25% and greater) in Appleton.

A series of ridges divide Appleton. Its low point, 88 feet mean sea level (msl) is located at the Sennebec Pond, and its high point is located northwest of Sprague Cemetery on Appleton Ridge at 652 feet msl. The Medomak River exits the Town at approximately 200 feet msl. Between the high point and these two low points, there are many ups and downs.

Appleton Ridge dominates the Town's landscape. It is visible from most points in Town. "The Ridge", as it is known divides the St. George and Medomak River watersheds. It offers excellent views in all directions due to its bald nature.

The river valleys and the ridge tops composed the primary traditional travel corridors. Numerous swamps constituted the principal barriers to travel, and most traditional ways avoided these where possible. Routes connecting ridge top and river generally plunged directly from one to the other along subsidiary ridges. While the river is no longer used for transportation purposes, Appleton's road network does not differ much from the 1700s.

Until recent years, housing also followed traditional patterns (see the Land Use Section for a more detailed discussion). That is, people built primarily in areas with an existing community, such as Appleton Village and Burkettville, or along principal thoroughfares. Lately this pattern has changed somewhat, with new homes often appearing on less suitable sites (e.g. abutting swamps and steep slopes).

Water Resources Watersheds

When addressing water quality it is crucial to identify and consider watersheds. A watershed is the land area in which runoff from precipitation drains into a body of water and is defined by topography. See the Water Resources Map, Appendix A, for the locations of watersheds in Appleton. The portion of the watershed that has the greatest potential to affect a body of water is its direct watershed, or that part which does not first drain through upstream areas.

Water Bodies

Appleton has ponds and free flowing streams of good water quality. However, these resources are sensitive to even small increases in phosphorus, described below, and other pollutants. Continuing care and protection are needed if good water quality is to be maintained. See the Water Resources Map for the location of water bodies in Appleton. Pesticides, sewage, refuse, and chemical wastes can threaten the quality of our ground and surface waters. It is less well known that phosphorus is also a significant threat because of its natural abundance and potential to contaminate.

Phosphorous is found in soil and is held in place by vegetation. When vegetation is removed for house or road construction, timber harvesting, agricultural activities and other changes made to the land, surface runoff increases, which transports phosphorus along with eroded soils into water bodies. If that amount of phosphorus becomes too great, it will act as a fertilizer and cause algae to thrive. With increased levels of algae, the oxygen in a water body, especially in the bottom waters of lakes and ponds, is exhausted by bacterial decomposition. Trout and salmon along with other animal life, which live in the colder bottom waters of many lakes, suffocate as oxygen becomes depleted. The decay of algae also generates obnoxious odor and taste. Most fish, plants and wildlife of lake and pond ecosystems are endangered in this process.

A water body with high concentrations of dissolved nutrients such as phosphorus, often deficient in oxygen, is termed eutrophic and is extremely slow to recover, requiring intensive action to immobilize phosphorus in the sediments. Thus it is well advised to plan for and manage the amount and sources of phosphorus in order to prevent eutrophication.

The State has determined the phosphorous concentrations in Appleton's water bodies. Table 7-1 shows the acceptable increase in phosphorous concentrations that may result from development. This information is useful for determining the adequacy of Shoreland Zoning buffering provisions to protect the health of water bodies while allowing for a reasonable level of development near and in the shoreland.

Table 7-1 Per-Acre Phosphorus Allocations for Selected Water Bodies in Appleton

Water Body	DDA	ANAD	AAD	GF	D	F	WQC	LOP	C	P
Johnson Pond	69	5	64	0.25	16	0.74	All are mod - sensitive	m	1.00	0.046
Newbert Pond	333	75	258	0.2	52	3.17		m	1.00	0.061
Sennebec Pond	11336	1500	9836	0.25	2459	101.3		h	0.75	0.031
Sherman's Mill Pond	884	100	784	0.2	157	5.71	- sensitive	m	1.00	0.036
DDA ANAD AAD GF D F WQC LOP C P	Direct land drainage area in Town in acres Area not available for development in acres Area available for development in acres (DDA – ANAD) Growth Factor Area likely to be developed in acres (GF x AAD) lbs. Phosphorus allocated to towns share of watershed per ppb in lake Water quality category Level of Protection (h=high(coldwater fishery);m=medium) Acceptable increase in lake's phosphorus concentration in ppb lbs. Per acre phosphorus allocation (FC/D)									

Source: Maine Department of Environmental Protection, 2017

See the Water Resources Map (Appendix A) for the locations of the following water bodies in Appleton.

Sennebec Pond: Located in the southwestern part of Appleton, Sennebec Pond lies in a glacial depression and is fed by the St. George River, Allen Brook and several small streams. The town line between Appleton and Union roughly bisects the pond, with Appleton having approximately 250 acres of surface area. The shoreline is quite heavily developed with year-round dwellings and summer camps. Appleton residents have no public access to the pond. The Town of Union has a small public access point and boat launch on SR 131 at the southwest end of the pond. A large private campground operates on the western shore, and the lake is popular among fishermen and boaters. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection placed Sennebec Pond in their 2020 Nonpoint Source Priority Watersheds List for Lakes as a “Threatened Lake Priority”. The purpose for this designation was due to sensitive sediment chemistry, which means the area has been determined to be susceptible to internal phosphorus release.

Sherman's Mill Pond: This is a man-made pond of approximately 36 acres formed by the damming of Allen Brook at Sleepy Hollow Road (formerly Sherman's Mill). There are two year-round residences on the pond, but no other cottages or camps. The Town has public access via a 4-acre parcel.

Newbert Pond: Located inside the Cedar Swamp in the northern part of Appleton, Newbert Pond drains into the Dead River, and eventually, the St. George River. The pond is shallow and grassy and covers approximately 20 acres.

Johnson Pond: This is a natural spring-fed pond of about seven acres located near the crest of Appleton Ridge. The west end is a marsh, and the eastern end empties down the north side of Appleton Ridge into Pettengill Stream near the intersection of Guinea Ridge Road and Moose Carry Road. This area is privately owned.

Pieri Pond: A privately owned, man-made pond of about 10 acres located on the crest of Appleton Ridge near the Village, Pieri Pond is spring fed and empties on the north side of the Ridge into Pettengill Stream. Public access is allowed with strict rules at this time.

Pettengill Stream Pond: This pond was formed by the damming of Pettengill Stream near the intersection of Guinea Ridge Road and Moose Carry Road at what was formerly known as Cutler's Mill. Originally a very large lake, it is now reduced in size to about 10 acres of open water, the remainder being a large wetland. The Pond and neighboring wetlands support a large migrant population of waterfowl, as well as deer, beaver, and other wildlife.

Rivers and Streams

St. George River: Originating in Liberty at Lake St. George, the St. George River flows through Montville and Searsmont, to Appleton on the south side of Appleton Ridge, into Sennebec Pond, then through Union and to Warren, where it enters tidewater. It was formerly dammed at North Appleton (Smith's Mill), and Appleton Village (McLain's Mill). At one time in the mid-1800s a canal paralleled stretches of the river from Warren to Searsmont. The River supports a healthy sport fishery and its valley is a haven for birds and animals. The River, from Searsmont to Appleton Village, is a popular canoeing route. For all these features, the Maine Rivers Study rated the St. George as class AA - outstanding statewide significance.

Pettengill Stream: This stream originates near the Appleton-Searsmont line in the northeast portion of Appleton. It was formerly dammed near the intersection of Guinea Ridge Road and Moose Carry Road, forming a large lake. The dam is partially washed out, leaving a small area of open water and a large wetland of approximately 750 acres. The Stream empties into the Medomak River in Union. There are three large beaver dams between Pettengill Stream Pond and the West Appleton Road.

Medomak River: Originating in Liberty, the river is still a small stream in the two-mile section of it that flows through the extreme western corner of Appleton. It is rated class B and recognized to be of regional significance for its ecological and anadromous fishery value.

Dead River: This quiet stream in West Appleton originates in Newbert Pond and the Cedar Swamp and flows north into the St. George River in Searsmont.

Allen Brook: The headwaters of this small stream lie in Hope and the northeast section of Appleton. The brook was dammed many years ago to form the Sherman's Mill Pond. It empties into the northeast part of Sennebec Pond.

Miller Stream: An important upper tributary of the Medomak River, this small stream originates in a pond near the southwest corner of the Cedar Swamp. The Stream flows west through some wetlands on the west side of the Collinstown Road, then turns south to join the Medomak River just southwest of the Appleton-Washington Townline.

Wetlands

Wetlands play a number of important roles including water quality buffering, water discharge and recharge, shoreline stabilization, nutrient and sediment retention, flood flow alteration and control, habitat for a wide variety of plant and animal species, and recreational opportunities. See the Water Resources Map (Appendix A) for the locations of wetlands in Appleton. The Town's principal wetlands are described below.

Cedar Swamp (also known as Appleton Bog): This is an area nearly three miles long and averaging nearly a half mile in width, located in the northern quadrant of Appleton. It contains the northernmost stand of Atlantic White Cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) in the country. The Nature Conservancy owns a significant portion of the swamp. Newbert Pond is located near the middle of the swamp, where the Dead River begins. A small open area known as "The Pool", located on the southern edge of the swamp, harbors many unusual and interesting plant species that are found only in northern bogs.

Pettengill Stream and Pond Complex: The second largest wetland in Appleton surrounds the Pettengill Stream. This location covers an area of about 750 acres on the western side of Appleton Ridge, running from the Searsmont line to the old dam southeast of the intersection of Guinea Ridge Road and Moose Carry Road. This huge marsh is a haven for waterfowl, beaver, deer, and other wildlife. The area follows the stream for a distance of four miles with an average width of 1500 feet. This wetland is still an almost untouched wilderness. The Pettengill broadens into a second, smaller wetland about three quarters of a mile downstream from the dam, and this marsh extends nearly to the Union line.

St. George River between Appleton Village and Sennebec Pond: This wetland covers about 140 acres. It is more heavily populated and is less remote than others mentioned in this section. Nonetheless, this wetland is extremely important for migratory waterfowl, particularly in the spring. It is a beautiful section of river of floodplain forest and marsh, and merits serious protection from encroachment, especially from the direction of Sennebec Pond.

St. George River between Searsmont and North Appleton (SR 105): This is a small wetland of approximately 40 acres. It supports a fairly large beaver population along several small feeder streams and is a haven for deer and other wildlife. The beaver receive heavy trapping pressure.

St. George River from North Appleton (SR 105) to Appleton Village: The third largest wetland in Appleton lies along the middle third of the St. George River and covers approximately 400 acres. The River winds in a serpentine fashion through this wetland and what appears to be an untouched part of pristine Maine. The area supports many species of migratory waterfowl and other birds, as well as deer and other wildlife.

Upper End of Sherman's Mill Pond: Two beaver dams form a wetland of about 50 acres at the upper end of Sherman's Mill Pond. This wetland is relatively inaccessible, even by canoe, and supports a variety of wildlife.

Allen Brook upstream from Sennebec Pond: This small wetland is close to many camps and dwellings.

Harriet Brook upstream from Collinstown Road: This wetland, of unknown acreage, contains important wildlife habitat, and helps to buffer part of the Cedar Swamp.

Surface Water Protection*

Appleton's surface water is protected through local regulations including Shoreland Zoning, subdivision ordinance, site plan, plumbing code, floodplain management ordinance and the mining ordinance. Surface water protection at the State level encompasses the Site Location Law, Public Water Supply Regulation, the Natural Resource Protection Act, Hazardous Law, and Underground Storage Tank Regulation.

At the local level, Appleton's Shoreland Zoning Ordinance outlines standards and procedures for proposals that could be developed in four separate Districts: Resource Protection, Stream Protection, Limited Commercial, and Limited Residential. The Resource Protection and Stream Protection are established based on the natural habitats and floodplain threats that are cited by the Beginning with Habitat maps, and will have additional standards applied and fewer allowed uses; whereas Limited Commercial and Limited Residential Districts are areas that are considered suitable for development. The Shoreland Zoning was last updated in 2019 to comply with Chapter 1000 from Maine Department of Environmental Protection.*

Protection at the federal level consists of Wetlands Protection, the Clean Water Act, the Resources Conservation and Recovery Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.

The Town of Appleton also takes surface water protection seriously amidst their projects. Public works crews and contractors utilize best management practices to minimize damages to surface water and groundwater sources, which includes creating temporary barriers at project sites near surface water sources.*

Floodplains

Floodplains are areas adjacent to a river, stream, lake, or pond, which can reasonably be expected to be covered at some time by floodwater. The primary function of floodplains is their ability to accommodate large volumes of water from nearby overflowing channels and dissipate the force of flow by reducing the rate of flow through a widening of the channel. A floodplain may also absorb and store a large amount of water, later becoming a source of aquifer recharge. Floodplains serve as wildlife habitats, open space and outdoor recreation, and agriculture without interfering with their emergency overflow capacity.

Intensive development on floodplains and flood prone areas can increase the severity of floods and cause flooding of previously unaffected areas and should be avoided. The major consequence of intensive development in floodplains and flood prone areas is widespread property damage and loss of life that results from severe flooding. Other significant consequences include the public costs associated with cleanup and rebuilding, increased insurance costs, and water contamination from toxic and hazardous materials.

Appleton participates in the Flood Insurance Program, and its flood protection consists of a Floodplain Management Ordinance. See the FIRM (Floodplain Insurance Rate Map) available at the Town Office for the location of floodplains. Special flood hazard areas are inundated by 100-year floods (less than a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in a given year and include most shoreland and wetland areas.

Appleton has adopted Shoreland Zoning Standards, as required by the State Mandatory Shoreland Zoning Act. This ordinance serves to protect lakeshores by restricting building to reduce flood damage.*

Ground Water Resources

Three small sand and gravel aquifers lie in part or in whole within Appleton's boundaries. See the map titled Water Resources for the locations of the two significant aquifers, which yield 10-50 gallons per minute. A minor aquifer is located just south of the town center and directly under the former town dump. The edges of two aquifers cross over the town boundaries from Washington and Liberty (Appendix A). Other aquifers may exist, but they have not been located. All household water is obtained from drilled and dug wells or springs. Appleton has no municipal water supply.

As with most municipalities, Appleton's water resources are susceptible to threats from contamination. There are no known point sources (direct discharge) of contamination, but several non-point sources exist. For example, there were three underground petroleum storage tanks in Appleton at one time. One tank has leaked in the past, contaminating a residential drinking water supply. The former town dump may contain hazardous materials that could eventually find their way into ground water unless contained.

Residential discharges can constitute a significant threat to Appleton's water resources, with malfunctioning septic systems being the potential major problem. The failure to properly dispose of hazardous and toxic materials (e.g. used motor oil and anti-freeze) can threaten local ground and surface waters.

Logging operations can have a more visible impact. Heavy equipment operations in wet areas have compacted soils. Increased siltation of surface waters occurs when heavy equipment destroys gravel road culverts or transports logs across streambeds.

Car repair garages generate toxic and hazardous wastes, particularly fluids. The Department of Environmental Protection generally does not regulate small garages, as the amount of waste they generate is small.

Agricultural chemicals used for crop production and forest management can pollute ground water supplies even when properly applied. While many chemicals break down quickly in sunlight or in the upper levels of the soil, others break down very slowly and may leach into groundwater. Misuse of such chemicals by homeowners has become more of a concern in recent times. While farmers and foresters generally receive training in chemical application safety, some homeowners may not read the cautionary label on the chemical container.

Analysis of Water Resources

Current water supply and, to a lesser extent, sewage disposal systems seem adequate for the ten year planning period. However, concentration of development in certain areas, or the location of high-density housing (e.g. mobile home parks) could necessitate the installation of a water and community wastewater or sewer infrastructure. The Planning Board prior to approval of a development should carefully consider the costs of installing and maintaining such systems and the issue of who will pay for them.

The various wetlands found in Appleton merit increased protection. The Cedar Swamp is currently protected by Nature Conservancy of Maine as a nature preserve; however, Pettengill Stream and Sherman's Mill Pond enjoy less protection in comparison. The presence of rare species of plant and aquatic life within the Town's wetlands also justifies increased protection.

Appleton's large surface waters already suffer from some pollution. Upstream controls require a cooperative effort with the Towns of Liberty, Montville and Searsmont.* Three water bodies: the St. George River, Sennebec Pond and the Medomak River, require protection through inter-municipal agreements. Should this not be feasible, the Town could act through the St. George River Land Trust and the Midcoast Conservancy to protect its interests. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection offers an Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report that is updated every two years summarizing water quality information. The St. George River and its tributaries are identified as Class AA, which encourages protecting natural and free flow of aquatic life; meanwhile, the Medomak River is classified as Class A, which notes the importance of natural preservation. The Report did not include a segment for Sennebec Pond.

The protection of the Pettengill Stream is the responsibility of the Town and its inhabitants. While currently in a relatively pristine state for most of its length, the stream and its large associated wetlands are highly vulnerable to disturbance. Even limited development could have a negative impact on the entire area.

Water Resources Summary

Ample rainfall and hilly topography with considerable forest cover provide Appleton with plenty of clean, free flowing brooks and streams. In addition, the lowlands along nearly all of the major waterways frequently broaden into wetlands whose alders, swamp maples and marshes abound with wild birds and give cover for many species of animals. These wetlands are also natural sponges for floodwaters and help assure year-round flows in our streams while helping to charge the underground sources of so much of our drinking water. In short, Appleton's water resources are one of its greatest resources and thus warrants the protection such treasure deserves.

Beginning with Habitat

The Beginning with Habitat program cooperates with state and federal agencies, conservation groups, and regional organization in Maine. As part of the Comprehensive Planning process, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry provided maps to Appleton that highlights different parts of the area that contain highly valuable habitats and natural resources.

The following maps can be found in Appendix A of the Comprehensive Plan.

Undeveloped Habitat Blocks & Connectors and Conserved Lands

Throughout the Town of Appleton, a high number of parcels have been placed under private conservation agreements or voluntary easements. These protected areas include sensitive areas surrounding Cedar Swamp, Newbert Pond, and the St. George River.

Water Resources & Riparian Habitats

This map depicts areas in Appleton associated with major surface water features and important public water resources. This map indicates National Wetlands Inventory sites in Appleton, associated Riparian Habitats, and aquifers with a flow of at least 10 gallons per minute. The only aquifer in Appleton can be found along the municipal boundary line shared with Liberty.

This map also depicts the Riparian buffer zone, which is an area that interfaces between land and a body of water. For the maps provided by Beginning with Habitat, these are areas of up to 250 feet from applicable bodies of water.

High Value Plant & Animal Habitats

These areas are defined as areas with species appearing on the official state or federal lists of endangered or threatened species; candidates for deer wintering areas and travel corridors; Inland Waterfowl and Wading bird habitats; and rare plant locations. These include nesting and feeding areas; critical spawning and nursery areas for Atlantic salmon; shorebird nesting, feeding and staging areas and seabird nesting islands as defined by; and significant vernal pools as defined. In fact, any of the large undisturbed areas, but especially those surrounding wetlands, have great value as prime wildlife habitat. Many wildlife species, birds as well as mammals, require large and diverse territories to provide adequate year-round feed, cover and breeding grounds. Appleton's forests currently shelter a healthy diversity of large and small animals. Loss of species diversity can have untold effects, including the overabundance of certain 'pest' species. It is worth keeping in mind, then, that fragmentation of territory and habitat disturbance are the principal causes of species decline.

Brook Floater, Silver Maple Floodplain, Yellow Lampmussel, Upland Sandpiper, and Upper Floodplain Hardwood areas are examples of Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Wildlife in Appleton.

Wetlands Characterization

This map outlines the various functions of wetlands in Appleton that include addressing runoff and/or erosion control, finfish and/or shellfish habitats, plant/ animal habitats, or culturally significant. Cedar Swamp, Pettengill Swamp, and St. Georges River are such focus areas in Appleton that significantly contribute to natural stormwater controls and are a Focus Areas of Statewide Ecological Significance.

As noted above in the Wetlands section of this Section, Cedar Swamp, and Pettengill Swamp are two wetlands separated by a narrow upland ridge and the St. George River. Cedar Swamp flows northward into the St. George River via Harriet Brook and the Dead River. Witcher Swamp, in Searsmont, flows southward into the St. George River. Most of Pettengill Swamp appears to drain southward into the Medomak River. The proximity of the three large wetlands, and their combined habitat diversity, suggest that they may be viewed as one large conservation entity. In addition, because these wetlands function in part as headwaters of the St. George River, this area also provides flood and water quality protection for the St. George River. The plant and animal habitats of the two wetlands in Appleton are described below.

Cedar Swamp (Appleton Bog) is the northernmost occurrence of an Atlantic white cedar swamp, and it is one of the largest Atlantic white cedar swamps in the state. The site contains three pure stands of Atlantic white cedar as well as red maple swamp, unpatterned fen, and other wetland types that are part of an approximately 1,000 acre wetland complex. Newbert Pond, a 30-acre kidney-shaped pond, and the location of an historic pondweed, is embedded within the wetland complex.

The Atlantic White Cedar, once widely distributed along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Florida, is now uncommon to rare in New England. The Cedar Swamp itself is a rare natural community and it is especially prized because it has suffered little disturbance. The presence of a rare pondweed (*Potamogeton conferoides*) that reportedly grows in Newbert Pond (within the boundaries of the Critical Area) adds to the significance of the Cedar Swamp. This pondweed is found in only four other locations in the state. Its seeds provide an important food source for migratory waterfowl.

The Pettengill Swamp/Whitney Bog complex is a 1,100-acre peatland that occupies a broad valley at a watershed divide. The northern part of the complex, Whitney Bog, is adjacent to and drains into the St. George River, while the southern part, Pettengill Swamp, drains southward into the Medomak River. In aggregation, this un-patterned fen ecosystem contains multiple types: red maple woodland fen, dwarf shrub bog, tussock sedge meadow, shrub fen dominated by sweet gale and meadowsweet, and black spruce bog.

Bogs serve a noteworthy ecological function, acting as a sponge to collect, absorb and purify runoff water. They are also a unique and fragile ecosystem, extremely sensitive to disturbance. Species that occur at the limits of their range, such as the Atlantic White Cedar, along with their ecosystems, have immense value as study sites and as indicators of environmental change.

Table 7-2 lists the rare species found in the Cedar Swamp and Pettengill/Whitney Bog complex.

Table 7-2
Rare Species/Natural Communities Summary

Common Name	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Habitat Description
Natural Communities				
Atlantic White Cedar Swamp		G3/G5	S2	Cedar Swamp
Red Maple Swamp		Not ranked	S4	Cedar Swamp
Un-patterned Fen Ecosystem		Not ranked	S5	Cedar Swamp
Un-patterned Fen		Not ranked	S4	Pettengill Stream
Rare Plants				
Atlantic White Cedar	SC	G4	S2	
Swamp White Oak	T	G5	S1	
Rare Animals				
Upland sandpiper	T	G5	S3B	open fields
Brook Floater	T	G3	S3	acidic fens and wet bogs
Yellow Lampmussel	T	G3/4	S2/S3	streams and rivers

State Rarity Ranks	
S1	Critically imperiled in Maine because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres) or because some aspect of its biology makes it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the state.
S2	Imperiled in Maine due to rarity (6 - 20 occurrences or few remaining individuals or acres) or other factors making it vulnerable to further decline.
S3	Rare in Maine (on the order of 20-100 occurrences).
S4	Apparently, secure in Maine.
S5	Demonstrably secure in Maine.
SH	Occurred historically in Maine, and could be rediscovered; not known to have been extirpated.
SU	Possibly in peril in Maine, but status uncertain; need more information.
SX	Apparently extirpated in Maine (historically occurring species for which habitat no longer exists in Maine)
Global Rarity Ranks	
G1	Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres) or because some aspect of its biology makes it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the State of Maine.
G2	Globally imperiled due to rarity (6 - 20 occurrences or few remaining individuals or acres) or other factors making it vulnerable to further decline.
G3	Globally rare (on the order of 20 - 100 occurrences).
G4	Apparently secure globally.
G5	Demonstrably secure globally.
Note: The Nature Conservancy determines global ranks.	
State Legal Status	
Note: State legal status is according to 5 M.R.S.A./13076-13079, which mandates the Department of Conservation to produce and biennially update the official list of Maine's endangered and threatened plants. The list is derived by a technical advisory committee of botanists who use data in the Natural Areas Program's database to recommend status changes to the Department of Conservation.	
E	ENDANGERED: Rare and in danger of being lost from the state in the foreseeable future; or federally listed as Endangered.
T	THREATENED: Rare and, with further decline, could become endangered; or federally listed as Endangered.
SC	SPECIAL CONCERN: Rare in Maine, based on available information, but not sufficiently rare to be considered Threatened or Endangered.
PE	POSSIBLY EXTIRPATED: Not known to currently exist in Maine; not field verified (or documented) in Maine over the past 20 years.

Source: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry

While the Cedar Swamp is widely recognized for its resource value and vulnerability to disturbance, a small portion of it is not protected under a conservation easement. Ownership of the area is largely in private hands although a parcel is owned by The Nature Conservancy.

Appleton is also the home of a rare freshwater mussel, the swollen wedge mussel (*Alasmidonta varicosa*), found in the St. George River near North Appleton and identified by Maine's Natural Heritage Program. Freshwater mussels serve an important role in aquatic systems and are an indicator of overall water quality. The St. George River is also noted for its ample supply of freshwater fish such as large and small mouth bass, brown trout, brook trout and pickerel. As such it is rated as a high value river for fisheries and attests to its current good water quality. Pollution and watershed disturbances that cause siltation are the major threats to freshwater fauna and protection efforts must therefore extend beyond the towns boundaries.

Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIFW) has also mapped and rated several areas as significant wildlife habitat, including seven deer wintering yards. See the Critical Habitat Map, Appendix A, for the location of wildlife habitats.

In 1973, Congress passed the Endangered Species Act to protect rare, threatened or endangered plant and animal species. The value and importance of these species is not always understood, and there has been much debate over this issue. Today, there are resources available to assist with nonprofit and/or municipal acquiring parcels for protection, such as through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriations, or through a State program such as the Land For Maine's Futures.

Threats

Encroaching development, which chips away both at the edges and in the interior of Appleton's large natural areas, threatens to disturb the integrity of these areas. Without careful management, this fragmentation will greatly reduce not only the current natural value of these large parcels but also their long-term viability. As previously discussed, disruption and destruction of significant wildlife habitat areas will result in, among other things, decreased abundance and diversity of wildlife species. This, in turn, could adversely affect hunting, fishing and the enjoyment of other outdoor recreational activities. Disturbances that increase sedimentation of wetlands will significantly inhibit their ability to provide essential watershed protection functions for people and animals alike. Threats to wetlands and surrounding upland forested areas include both commercial and residential development, road, and driveway construction and unseasonable or unsound logging activities.

Throughout the State of Maine, harmful chemicals and contaminants are being found in water and natural resources that threaten the health and safety of the environment and residents if not properly contained and treated. In Appleton, there are residents who have found traces of arsenic in their drinking wells; however, none of these well tests have reported significantly high levels. It is important to properly educate residents about these threats and to encourage ongoing monitoring.*

While the enacted Shoreland Zoning ordinance offers some protection to wetlands and therefore the species that frequent them, it does not guard against fragmentation of habitat. Along with the forested wetlands of the Cedar Swamp, the Pettengill Stream watershed (including the Pettengill Bog), the Mill Pond, and the section of the St. George River from SR 105 in North Appleton to the Village center all merit significant protection efforts.

Ideally, several large tracts of land could be set aside to remain undisturbed by residential or commercial development. These undisturbed areas could include those Critical Natural Areas as designated by the state, which would enjoy special protection and be designated as limited use. Certain portions of the protected areas could also be managed as a wildlife refuge. Other areas within the 'protected zone' could be designated for resource production (i.e. timber harvesting) and/or recreational use.

Realistically, one of the best method of protecting natural resources in perpetuity is to cooperate with nonprofits or to encourage owners to grant conservation easements for the properties. Preventative actions through education and regulation should also be pursued to reduce threats to wetlands, significant wildlife habitat, scenic areas, or other priority protection areas. *

Mineral Resources

Several limestone quarries were active in North Appleton during the 1800s searching for zinc, lead, and copper. A limekiln operated at this time on Peabody Road. As limestone has value in both the agricultural sector and the construction industry, these deposits may again become viable for exploitation.

The southeastern portion of Appleton (generally southeast of Allen Brook) reportedly contained deposits of zinc, lead and copper. In the 1960s several residents leased the mineral rights to their properties in this area. No exploitation occurred, and these leases have expired.

There are also undeveloped gravel deposits in other parts of Appleton. Sand and gravel deposits are prime locations for aquifers but can have a negative impact if not properly monitored. One aquifer in the center of town suffered severe depletion from sand and gravel extraction in the past.

Appleton's mineral ore resources are not of major importance. Any mining development that might occur in the area would have to satisfy requirements from the Appleton Mining Ordinance.

Natural Resources Summary

Almost 67% of Appleton is forested, 18% is wetlands/open water and almost 14% is grassland/cultivated. Cedar Swamp (about 1,000 acres) and Pettengill Swamp (about 750 acres) function in part as headwaters of and provide flood and water quality protection for the St. George River and Medomak River, respectively. Cedar Swamp has the northernmost occurrence of an Atlantic White Cedar swamp. The Town currently offers protection of its natural resources with locally adopted shoreland zoning, floodplain management, site plan review, subdivision, and mining ordinances. These ordinances will be updated as needed to be consistent with the requirements of state and federal regulations. The Town will continue to cooperate with the local and regional organizations working to protect the natural resources within and surrounding Appleton, including the Georges River Land Trust and the Midcoast Conservancy. Regional efforts should focus on groundwater protection, watershed protection, and land conservation. Performance standards for aquifer and surface water protection are to be included in the land use ordinance and provided when applicable to neighboring communities.*

Issues of concern for Topography

1. There needs to be continued attention to existing topographical constraints during road, driveway and home siting that increases environmental damage and safety hazards.

Issues of Concern for Water Resources

1. Surface water is subject to pollution, much of which is unintentional, from homes, farms, fields, roads, and other sources. The critical importance of individual action to eliminate or alleviate this casual pollution should be stressed at every opportunity.
2. Pettengill Stream and Pond is still an almost natural landscape and every effort should be made to preserve and protect it from future development and encroachment.
3. The health of our most important waterway, the St. George River, depends as much on our neighbors upstream as it does on the people of Appleton; and for the same reason, we have an obligation to our downstream neighbors. Regional cooperation with regard to the river is essential.
4. Recent growth trends demonstrate Appleton's attraction as a nice place to live. Unrestricted development, especially along our beautiful ponds and streams, should be carefully managed.
5. Since protection of water resources is a long-term effort, their protection, maintenance and restoration should be a part of every child's education, and should be incorporated into the school curriculum.
6. Development and other activities (i.e. subdivisions, logging, and sewage disposal) may have adverse effects on water quality, wetlands viability and wildlife habitat. Every effort should be made to protect vulnerable resources and otherwise educate townspeople about stewardship of our water resources.

Issues of Concern for Critical Habitats

1. Fragmentation and disruption of significant wildlife habitats with resulting loss of species diversity.
2. Disturbances to wetland areas and surrounding uplands that reduce function as watershed protection.
3. Loss or disruption of scenic views (and public access to them) would decrease the quality of life in Appleton.
4. The local extinction of rare species is possible through thoughtless actions of landowners and others. Protection of habitats containing rare species should be actively pursued.

Goals

Protect, preserve and manage natural resources by continuing to educate residents, consult with natural resource agencies, survey, enforce and update local land use ordinances as needed to protect the health and safety of residents, maintain consistency with state and federal requirements, and adequately protect resources that support the local economy without threatening critical habitats, residents, or property values.

Policies

1. Continue to protect rare or endangered plants and animal species, their habitats and rare natural communities, from development which threatens those habitats, and to ensure that no species of plant or animal currently found in Appleton is made locally extinct by habitat destruction, overexploitation or other avoidable causes.*
2. Continue to protect and improve the quality and manage the quantity of the town's water resources, including lakes, aquifers, great ponds, wetlands, rivers, and sources of drinking water.*
3. Continue to enforce the Mining Ordinance to prevent destruction of the town's environment due to mineral extraction.
4. Protect water and natural resources from intensive development. *
5. Cooperate with neighboring communities, regional advocacy groups, and state agencies to protect natural resources identified in this Comprehensive Plan. *

Strategies (as described on page 5)

1. Encourage conservation easements on large tracts of open space within subdivisions. (Planning Board) - *Ongoing*
2. Educate large landowners about the potential tax benefits associated with donations of property or conservation easements to various non-profit land trusts, including the Georges River Land Trust and the Midcoast Conservancy. (Planning Board) - *Ongoing**
3. Create protection agreements with towns sharing the Town's known aquifers, wetlands and watersheds. Priorities include maintaining and/or improving the water quality, fisheries and scenic beauty of the St. George River system. (Select Board) - *Long-term*

4. List and prioritize special areas to be preserved due to their scenic beauty, agricultural value, wildlife habitat, etc. Aggressively pursue the establishment of conservation easements and other protection methods on priority properties. Areas of concern include Appleton Ridge (scenic and agricultural value), the entire St. George River-Sennebec Pond corridor, Pettengill Stream corridor, the northwestern quadrant of town that encompasses the Cedar Swamp, and the Mill Pond. (Select Board) - *Long term*
5. Investigate and pursue all possibilities for protection of high priority areas (i.e. Cedar Swamp) including acquisition, conservation easements, etc. (Select Board) - *Long term*
6. Update the current shoreland zoning, floodplain management, and other ordinances, as needed, to protect interior wetlands and identify district types for currently undesignated shoreland districts that are viewed as Critical Resource Areas. (Planning Board, Select Board, Town Meeting) – *Immediate**
7. Ensure compliance with the U.S. Clean Water Acts, the Maine Natural Resources Protection Act, and the town's shoreland zoning ordinance through education and enforcement. (Planning Board, CEO) - *Ongoing*
8. Identify existing uses that threaten ground and surface water resources, monitor them on a regular basis, and require clean-up and/or mitigation where necessary. Take measures to reduce pollution from public and private roads as well as phosphate pollution from fields, roads and residences. (Select Board) – *Ongoing**
9. Identify existing faulty septic systems; encourage landowners to take advantage of cost share programs to bring systems up to code. (CEO) -*Ongoing*
10. Maintain an ongoing dialogue between landowners and the various land protection organizations currently active in the area. (The Nature Conservancy, George's River Land Trust, Midcoast Conservancy) - *Ongoing*
11. Educate landowners within the designated natural resource areas as to the importance of this area and the severe negative impacts of intensive development and invasive species. (Select Board) - *Ongoing**
12. Educate appropriate landowners and townspeople in general about the benefits and importance of wetlands and activities that are compatible or non-compatible with their presence. (Select Board, Planning Board) – *Ongoing**
13. Continue enforcement of Mining Ordinance, review annually to ensure its adequacy to effectively regulate mining. (Planning Board, Select Board) *Ongoing and Long term*
14. Amend local ordinances, as applicable, to incorporate stormwater runoff 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.(Planning Board) – *Immediate*

15. Require subdivisions and non-residential property developers to 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. (Planning Board, Code Enforcement Officer)- *Ongoing**
16. Require continuing to have the Planning Board include Beginning with Habitat maps as part of consideration for municipal review processes. (Planning Board) - *Ongoing**
17. Research into whether aquifer protections should be implemented in Appleton. (Planning Board, Select Board) - *Long-Term**
18. Consider amending applicable local ordinances to incorporate low impact development standards. (Planning Board, Town Meeting) - *Long-Term**
19. Where applicable, develop an urban impaired stream watershed management or mitigation plan that will promote continued development or redevelopment without further stream degradation (Planning Board, Town Meeting) - *Long-Term**
20. Adopt water quality protection practices and standards for construction and maintenance of public and private roads, as well as public properties, and require their implementation by contractors, owners, and community officials and/ or employees. (Select Board) - *Long-Term**
21. Participate in local and regional efforts to monitor, protect, and improve water quality as well as preserving critical natural resources (Select Board) - *Immediate/Ongoing**
22. Ensure that local ordinances are consistent with applicable state laws regarding critical natural resources (Planning Board) -*Immediate**

Section 8 Public Facilities and Services

Introduction

This Section reviews the existing public facilities and services, and estimates future needs based upon anticipated growth and economic development. Current facilities and services are described to determine if they adequately serve the town today and if they have the available capacity to serve the Town for the next ten years. The goal of this Section is to plan, finance, and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services that will accommodate the town's future needs.

See the Public Facilities Map for the location of these facilities within Appleton. *

Governance

Appleton is part of State Senate District 12, State House District 95, and U.S. Congressional District 1.

Appleton operates under the Town Meeting form of government administered by a five-person Select Board serving staggered three-year terms and meeting each Tuesday at 6:30 PM, or on an as needed basis. The town's fiscal year ends on June 30. The town budget, school budget, and other town business, is voted on at the annual town meeting, typically held on the second Tuesday of June. Other town meetings are held as needed throughout the year.

The Town has a capital reserve account for equipment replacement, building maintenance, and highways.

All municipal positions, except school employees, town clerk and deputy town clerk, are part time. The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk also serve as Registrar of Voters, Treasurer and Tax Collector. All town positions are listed below:

Town Clerk (and Deputy)	Registrar of Voters (and Deputy)
Treasurer (and Deputy)	Tax and Excise Tax Collector (and Deputy)
School (see separate entry)	Road Commissioner
Health Officer	Fire Department (see separate entry)
Ballot Clerks	Code Enforcement Officer
Plumbing Inspector	Town Forester
Animal Control Officer(s)	Select Board Members
Janitor	Cemetery Caretakers & Sextons
Addressing Officer	Tax Assessor's Agent

Boards and Committees

The Select Board appoints long-term, short-term, and project-specific committees as needed. The following are standing boards and committees:

Ambulance Advisory Committee

Budget Committee

Planning Board (elected)

School Board (elected)

Capital Improvement Plan Committee

Jason A. Gushee and Ily Shofestall Scholarship Fund Committee

Board of Appeals

Comprehensive Plan Committee

Broadband Committee

Norman and Mary Clark Scholarship Fund

The Ambulance Advisory Committee was formed in 2022 and consists of members from the serviced communities of Appleton, Union, and Washington.

The Budget Committee works with the Select Board and town employees to prepare the annual budget for town meeting.

The Board of Appeals hears variance requests and administrative appeals.

The Planning Board holds monthly meetings to review permit applications for development. The Planning Board reviews subdivisions, Shoreland zoning and wetlands issues for compliance with state and local regulations. The Planning Board also develops ordinances for building and land use.

The Broadband Committee cooperates with local Internet Service Providers to expand broadband into underserved areas in Appleton.

Both Scholarship Funds are distributed to students for education beyond high school.

Street Lighting

Twenty-two (22) streetlights, owned and serviced by Central Maine Power Company, are located throughout the town. The community had CMP upgrade the streetlights in 2021 to LEDs to be more energy efficient.

Municipal Buildings, Properties and Services

Town Hall: Located in the former Village School, this building houses the Town Office and meeting rooms. Town meetings are held here and in the Village School. The building is in fair condition with ongoing renovations and repairs but the town clerks have noted that more space will be a required project in the future to meet their needs.

Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library: (Private): Located on Sennebec Road in Appleton. (See the History and Culture Section for the library's history).

Usage: Circulation is 2,500

Capacity: 7,500 books.

Remarks: An annual report is published in the Appleton Annual Report. Funding comes from town appropriation, memorial funds, gifts, book sales, bake sales, rent for the use of the building, grants and other fund-raising efforts.

Collection: Total (approximate) 6,500

As with so many village services the library depends on the help and support of members of the community. There is a need for more community involvement, since most workers, except for one paid employee, are volunteers. The Library Board, which is a volunteer organization not associated with the Town Office, is dedicated to the ongoing maintenance and daily activity of the Library that was built in 2010. Information for the hours of operation and librarian can be found on the library website (<https://appletonlibraryme.org>).

Salt/Sand Storage Shed: Decreed as a town necessity by the State of Maine, a salt/sand storage shed has been built in Appleton, located on Sennebec Road behind the Fire Station.

Fire Station: A three bay fire station is located on property adjacent to the Town Hall and was designed with expansion in mind should voters ever decide to relocate the Town Hall there. The new fire station has a fireproof vault in the basement where irreplaceable town records can be stored safely. Currently records are vulnerable to loss or damage in the present Town Hall.

Appleton Fire Department: Appleton has a volunteer fire department. Current staff includes a Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, and approximately sixteen Firefighters. The Chief is elected by the firefighters and appointed by the Select Board. The Town has mutual aid agreements with surrounding municipalities. Present firefighting apparatus includes the following:

- 2001 International Fire Truck (E2) 1,200 gallons. 1,250 gpm pump
- 2008 International Pumper tanker (E1) 1,800 gallons. 1,250 gpm pump
- 2016 Ford F550 Utility/ Forestry truck (E3) 300 gallons.
- 2020 International Tanker (T4) 3,000 gallons. 1,250 gpm pump.
- ATV with tracks and rescue sled on trailer
- 1800' of 4" supply line
- Approximately 1000' of 2 1/2" supply/firefighting hose

Appleton's Fire Station is designed to hold six trucks or other vehicles. Projected equipment needs are listed below. The 2020 International Tanker (T4) requires additional equipment to be fully fitted.

This equipment list is based on a formula for required water flow to fight structural fires. (Example: a single-story ranch 24'X36' requires a flow of LW/3 or 288 gallons per minute for a light to moderate fire.)

To improve firefighting readiness and equipment, the department recommends the following actions:

1. Establish new fire ponds and require new subdivisions to include fire ponds within the subdivision.
2. Improve truck access to existing water supplies.
3. Refit present apparatus to meet the town's needs.
4. When vehicle or equipment purchases are necessary, compare cost and quality of used vs. new equipment.
5. Encourage greater participation by town residents in the fire department.
6. The Department should work closely with adjoining towns in Mutual Aid Response and future equipment purchases.

In 2022, the Appleton Fire Department responded to 52 total emergency calls. The responses included alarm and odor investigations, flooded basements and brush fires, and providing mutual aid to neighboring communities.*

Medical Facilities

There is no primary health care (acute or preventive) available within Appleton.

Contract ambulance service is available from Union Rescue. The average distance is 10 miles and the average response time to Appleton is less than 30 minutes. Union Rescue responds to over 500 calls per year within their coverage area. Penobscot Bay Medical Center, in Rockport, is 20 miles away. Waldo County General Hospital, Belfast, is also 20 miles away. (The Madge H. Walker Trust provides benefits of free or reduced rate medical care at Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast and Mid-Maine Medical Center in Waterville. Eligibility is defined by the trust.) Physicians' offices are clustered around each acute care facility. Sheepscot Valley Health Center in Cooper's Mills is a walk-in clinic, but it is not always staffed. Visiting RNs (Registered Nurse) are available from the MaineHealth Care at Home program by order of attending medical doctor, paid in part by Medicare. There are also two walk-in clinics in Rockland that are available to Appleton residents. Coastal Medical Clinic is located on Old County Road in Rockland, and the Pen Bay Walk-in Care facility on White Street.

Sheriff Department

The Town of Appleton does not have a dedicated police department. The community is serviced by the Knox County Sheriff's Department. Of the 172 residents that responded to the public outreach survey, 153 residents (88% of respondents) believed that the level of police protection is adequate for the community. Some residents that participated in the survey noted a desire for a faster response time from the Sheriff's Office or for more proactive approaches to address speeding in areas of Appleton besides the town center. The Knox County Sheriff's Office is over 30 minutes away from Appleton. If there is a desire for a faster response time, Appleton should look into a satellite office for a deputy officer to reduce the travel distance for an officer to respond.

Appleton Village School

The Town of Appleton operates the Appleton Village School which provides for the education of as early as pre-kindergarten, to 8th grade in the Town of Appleton. The Town of Appleton is also part of the Five Town CSD through which it provides 9-12 education to Appleton students.

Appleton Village School is located at 737 Union Road. As of April 2023, 136 Appleton students attended AVS. The mission of Appleton Village School is to provide a learning environment that stresses the importance of school, nurtures self-esteem, and ensures the development of knowledge, skills, attitudes and values Appleton students need to be productive members of society. Curricula is reviewed, piloted and adopted by the teachers, principal, superintendent and the school committee. A guidance counselor provides services to individuals and small groups including drug awareness, bullying prevention, emotional and behavioral learning, and family support.

A wing of the Appleton Village School was completed in 1989. In addition to the wing, the playground was expanded with opportunities that now include a soccer field with goals, a baseball field, a basketball court, plenty of swings and other playground apparatus. Another addition was completed in 2006 that contained a new office and computer lab. The lot also received new Pre-K playground equipment and a ropes course.

Five Town Community School District (CSD)

In 1998, the Town of Appleton joined the four communities of Hope, Lincolnville, Rockport and Camden to create the Five Town CSD. Before that time Appleton provided high school education by paying tuition to SAD 28. The CSD built and operates Camden Hills Regional High School at 25 Keelson Drive (off SR 90), Rockport. The school has attracted several families to Appleton, since the town is one of the more affordable communities in the CSD. The school district also started a pre-kindergarten program in August 2022, which had 13 students in the first year. Past and forecasted enrollment figures are found in the Population Section.

The school administrative units per-pupil operating costs for the most recent fiscal year (FY2019) are shown in Table 8-1. Most of the school unit's costs are represented by these amounts. However, expenditures from some federal sources are excluded, and some expenditures from state and local funds are also excluded. At the Elementary level education, and according to Superintendent Clark, the costs are \$23,934 per student in 2022-2023 for the Local School Unit. It is unknown what the Per-Pupil Operation Costs were statewide for 2022-2023.

Table 8-1
Per-Pupil Operating Costs

2019-2020		Elementary (PreK-8)	Secondary (9-12)
Local	School	\$14,545.69	\$15,473.72
Unit			
Statewide		\$12,174.78	\$13,049.97

Source: Maine Department of Education

Local property taxpayers pay for much of the school administrative unit's costs. The taxpayer effort to provide this local share of school unit costs can be described as a mil rate: the number of property tax dollars raised for each \$1,000 of taxable property. The school administrative unit mil rate for 2022-2023 for the Appleton Village School was 17.91.

Staff

A principal with the support of one and a half office assistants administers the Appleton Village School. Superintendent services are shared with Lincolnville and Hope through School Union 69. Each grade from PreK-5 has a separate teacher and classroom, grades 6-8 have teachers who specialize in subject matter. There is a literacy teacher, full time teacher aides, an educator's aide who provides special educational services under the direction of 3 special education teachers employed by School Union 69, a full time guidance counselor, and part time personnel for art, Spanish, health, full-time physical education, and music. The school employs two full-time maintenance person and a part-time social worker.

The Appleton Village School employs a full-time registered nurse.

Transportation

AVS contracts with a private contractor on an annual basis to provide 2 buses to transport students over 200 miles to and from school. The CSD hires a private contractor to provide transportation for Appleton 9-12 students to and from the high school. AVS provides transportation to some after school sports and events.

Planning

The analysis of needs and direction is a continual process. Recommendations are made through a collaboration between the school staff, the school committee, team leaders, and the superintendent with the principal.

School Recommendations*

1. Continue summer academics and social skills provided to specific students each year.
2. Continue to develop after-school enrichment activities for our children. These activities should provide physical, vocational, and academic enrichment for our students.
3. Maintain and improve upon the greater community involvement in the education of our students. Continue and build upon programs like the Veteran's Day program and career awareness to link the community and the school.
4. Study the after-school transportation needs of Appleton Village School and Camden Hills High School to ensure safe transportation to after-school events and access for Appleton students to the after-school programs at the high school.

Power, Communications, and Utilities

Telephone Service: Tidewater Telecom principally serves the Town. Consumers choose from numerous companies for long-distance services. Some customers are served by exchanges in Washington but when they call within Appleton, they are not charged for long distance calls.

Newspapers: Regional weeklies include the Waldo Independent, Republican Journal and Village Soup Citizen, all located in Belfast; the Camden Herald; the Free Press and Village Soup Times in Rockland. The Rockland Courier-Gazette is published three times a week. The principal dailies are the Bangor Daily News and the Portland Press Herald.

Television Stations: Aerial reception of commercial network stations (ABC, CBS, and NBC) and Maine PBS depends upon the location within town, topography, etc. Satellite service is also dependent on location; however, in most areas service is available, dependent on unobstructed views of the southern sky. Cable service is available through Tidewater Telecom.

Radio: Camden and Rockland both offer stations serving Appleton. The Maine Public Broadcasting Network also serves the Town.

Internet: As part of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan Survey, 30% of respondents said they do not have access to high-speed internet. Tidewater Telecom has worked with the Broadband Committee, using federal funding, to install high-speed fiber in all areas of Appleton except portions historically covered by Consolidated Communications. RedZone Wireless offers internet coverage to Appleton residents as an alternative for those that are a considerable distance from a physical connection to broadband.

Postal Service: Appleton has no in-town post office; rural free delivery service is provided by the post office in Union (04862).

CMP Distribution Lines: The regional office for CMP is in Rockland. Any expansion of the network is up to the individual owner or developer to finance. The current practice is for CMP to provide up to 150 feet of wire to a residence, but no poles, and to charge a ‘hook up’ fee. The individual homeowner is responsible for all expenses beyond the 150-foot distance from the nearest CMP pole.

Sewage Facilities

There are no public sewers, and each home has its own on-site subsurface wastewater facility. Most homes have septic tank-leach field systems, but there are a few with cesspools or outhouses in use. The town contracts with Interstate Septic of Rockland for septage disposal. Appleton's location and lack of demand makes it financially difficult to expand or establish a new public sewer line in the community.

Private septic systems must receive a plumbing permit and subsurface wastewater disposal form that is approved by the Local Plumbing Inspector.

Solid Waste Facilities

The Town is a charter member of Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization (TCSWMO) in Union (which serves Appleton, Liberty, Somerville, Union, and Washington). This facility had an adjusted recycling rate of 44.1% in 2003, with waste disposed at PERC in Portland.

As part of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan Survey, 28% of respondents noted the town service of solid waste disposal is not adequate, with many mentioning a desire for Sunday service and the possibility to recycle plastics again. The Transfer Station currently recycles #2 plastics, and there is interest in the Town to convert to universal recycling. The Transfer Station is anticipating financial aid from the State to address package recycling.

Water Supply

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Drinking Water Program records three public water sources in Appleton as of 2023, as noted in Table 8-2.

Table 8-2 Public Water Supplies in Appleton

State #	Public Water System (PWS) Name	PWS Type	Source Name	Source Type
ME0000011	Appleton Village School	NTNC	DR WELL 450'	Groundwater
ME0001002	Sennebec Lake Campground	NC	DR WELL 285'	Groundwater
ME0001002	Sennebec Lake Campground	NC	#2 WELL-266'	Groundwater

Source: Maine Department of Health and Human Services

NTNC (non-transient, non-community)

NC (non-community)

Each home or business has its own private source, normally a drilled or a dug well. There is some limited use of surface waters.

Appleton's growing population has placed increasing demands on the water supply. This demand is primarily for drinking purposes, but is also for landscaping, gardening, and for recreational water use. Increasing water usage is of concern. There is a well at the Town Office. With the installation of a filtration system in 2023, this well allows limited amounts of water to be safe for public consumption. A thorough upgrade will be necessary before it can be a public water supply.

Cemeteries

See the Public Facilities Map for the location of cemeteries within Appleton.

All cemeteries, except for Clark Cemetery and Esancy Cemetery, are maintained by the Town. While the caretakers for each cemetery are not written, it is an important role for the maintenance and upkeep of these sites.

Clark Cemetery

Location: north of Appleton Ridge, west side on SR 105

Condition: excellent

Usage: private, family, continued use

Remarks: not open to the public

Hart Cemetery

Location: Appleton Ridge Road, east side north of blueberry field (North of Kate Barnes' property)

Condition: fair

Usage: closed

Capacity: full in 1910

Esancy Cemetery

Location: Fishtown Road, west side

Usage: closed

Metcalf Cemetery

Location: East side of Guinea Ridge Road off SR 105

Condition: good, partially restored

Usage: closed

Remarks: Veterans from the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the American Civil War

Miller Cemetery

Location: Miller Cemetery Road

Condition: excellent

Usage: open

Capacity: family lots are all taken.

Remarks: headstones show burials from Camden, Rockport, Liberty, Washington, and Appleton.

Quaker Cemetery (Wentworth)

Location: Sennebec Road, west Side, south of Gushees Corner

Condition: very good

Usage: closed

Remarks: contains foundation of the Quaker meeting house; also a Gushee obelisk with family area

Pine Grove Cemetery

Location: off Sennebec Road, east side of the hill from river

Condition: good

Usage: open

Capacity: 1,500 lots in use with 40 lots planned for 2 spaces each.

Remarks: Pine Grove has several parts, the old and new area, referred to as the Ames addition

Sprague Cemetery

Location: Appleton Ridge Road, west side south of Pitman Corner

Condition: good

Usage: closed

Capacity: medium to small

Weymouth Cemetery

Location: West Appleton Road

Condition: fair

Usage: closed

Remarks: house built on land in back

Summary

Through proper maintenance and investment, Appleton's public facilities and services have remained in good shape overall. As the population increases, the demand for existing services and for new services will increase as well. * Townspeople will decide how much they can afford and are willing to pay for those services over which the town has control. The town has provided reserve accounts for many necessary items. Prudent management decisions at the local level have prevented the town from being forced to make large capital investments within one tax year, and has kept the equipment and facilities in Appleton in fair condition that does not risk the safety of the residents or volunteers. However, there are issues that do need to be addressed to eliminate possible future repercussions.

Issues of Concern

1. Fluctuating class sizes make it difficult to plan for hiring teachers and assuring an adequate number of classrooms.
2. A need for additional cemetery space.
3. Escalating costs for emergency services (fire, ambulance).
4. Enhancements to the existing Town Hall.
5. Enhancements to Appleton Village School.
6. Need for additional community meeting space.

7. Public access to Sennebec Pond.
8. There are town-owned roads that remain unpaved.

Goal

To maintain Appleton's existing public facilities and services while minimizing the fiscal and environmental impact of any future new or improved public facilities or services.

Policies

1. Expand and improve Appleton's (through TCSWMO) existing recycling program and explore the applicability of additional solid waste disposal methods (i.e. composting, source reduction of waste materials, etc.)
2. Encourage greater participation of Appleton residents in the fire department.
3. Work closely with adjoining towns in Mutual Aid Response and purchases.
4. Increase contributions to a capital reserve fund, to be used for equipment replacement, building maintenance, and highways.
5. Educate the public regarding financial assistance programs available to upgrade septic systems.
6. Develop additional cemetery space in Appleton.
7. Ensure the town's compliance with the State law regarding septage disposal.
8. To efficiently meet identified public facility and service needs.*

Strategies (as described on page 5)

1. The fire department should establish a committee within its organization to prepare and present to the residents at future annual town meetings programs addressing methods to: (a) acquire new equipment as required, (b) increase participation and (c) increase cooperation with adjoining town fire departments. (Fire Department) - *Ongoing*
2. Remain Active in the management of local EMS operation. (Select Board) - *Ongoing*
3. The town (through TCSWMO) should continue to educate its citizens on the importance of recycling by using fliers, informational meetings and school programs. Literature on TCSWMO's recycling program should be made readily available to residents at the town office and on the website. (Select Board) - *Ongoing*

4. Identify any capital improvements needed to maintain or upgrade public services to accommodate the community's anticipated growth and changing demographics. (Select Board) – *Ongoing* *

5. Establish locations for applicable new public facilities in the Capital Improvements Plan. (Select Board) – *Long-Term* *

6. If public water supply expansion is anticipated, identify and protect suitable sources. (Select Board) – *Ongoing**

7. Explore options for regional delivery of local services (EMS, Fire, Police). (Select Board, Fire Department) – *Ongoing**

Note: Please see Section 9 (Fiscal Capacity and Capital Improvement Plan), for the specific recommended improvements for the Town to undertake during the next ten-year planning period.

Section 9 Fiscal Capacity and Capital Improvement Plan

Introduction

All planning decisions must take into account a municipality's ability to make the necessary expenditures and the effect this spending will have on its citizens. An analysis of past and present fiscal trends will help to forecast future operational and capital expenditures and enable the Town to meet these commitments.

The primary funding source for municipal government is property tax revenue. In order to maintain a consistent mil rate year to year, a Town government must operate in a fiscally responsible manner. Large increases in the tax rate can cause public outcry and can discourage economic development. Although the priorities of the Town change from one election year to another, stable municipal finances are always a fundamental responsibility of municipal government. It is important for Appleton to handle diligently all yearly expenditures while at the same time planning for the Town's long-term objectives. As is the case with any business, the physical assets of Appleton must be properly maintained through capital reserve accounts to protect the Town's continued economic health. The goal of this Section, as with the Public Facilities Section, is to discuss plans for, finance, and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services to accommodate anticipated growth and economic development, without placing an enormous burden on the Town's taxpayers.

The majority of the financial information for this Section was taken from Town reports.

Valuations

As noted, the Town's primary revenue source is through the taxation of real and personal property. These taxes are assessed to local property owners according to the fair market value of their property. This assessment is known as the municipal valuation and is determined by the local tax assessor. Between FY18 and FY23, the Town valuations grew by 2.22% (\$2,617,320). The numbers below were taken before the Town conducted a revaluation, which typically occurs every ten years or when the Town's certified assessment ratio falls below 70% of the fair market value.

Table 9-1

Valuations from FY2018 to FY2022 (for year ending June 30)*

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change (%)
Appleton	\$117,935,760	\$119,122,800	\$120,385,500	\$119,342,860	\$120,553,080	+2.2% (2,617,320)

Source; Appleton Town Reports

State law provides for tax exemptions for certain types of property, including charitable and benevolent, religious, literary and scientific, and governmental organizations.

Partial exemptions also exist for veterans of foreign wars or their widows who have not re-married, individuals who are legally blind and homestead exemptions for the homeowner's primary residence. The state does provide some reimbursement to the municipalities for veteran and homestead exemptions. In many communities the number of exempt properties is increasing which in turn decreases the municipal tax base. Since exemptions are established by statute, the Town has virtually no choice but to grant an applicable exemption.

The state also places a total valuation on the Town. This is known as the State Valuation. Every year the Maine Revenue Services Property Tax Division reviews all arms length sales that have occurred in each community. (An arms length sale is a sale that occurs between a willing seller and a willing buyer without any extenuating circumstances.

Examples of non-arms length sales could be estate sales, interfamily transfers, foreclosure sales and auctions.) Arms length sales are compared to the Town's local assessed values to determine the assessment ratio or the percentage of market value that the Town assessing. The state's valuation is used to determine the amount of revenue sharing the Town will receive and the portion of the county tax that the municipality will pay.

In 2005, then-Governor Baldacci signed into law LD 1: *An Act to Increase the State Share of Education Costs, Reduce Property Taxes and Reduce Government Spending at All Levels* (Public Law 2005, Chapter 2). The intent of the legislation was to assist municipalities with cost sharing programs when they complied of spending limitations. If a municipality was able to limit their spending levels, the State would assist with providing 55% of funding for K-12 education and increasing the Homestead Exemption.

Property Tax Rate

After the Town's budget has been approved and all applicable state and local revenues are deducted from the approved expenditures, the Town determines the dollar amount that will be raised through tax revenues. This amount is called the net commitment or appropriation. The local assessor arrives at a valuation for each taxable property in the Town and taxpayers are assessed their share of the tax burden through a mathematical calculation. The total appropriation is then divided by the total taxable or assessed valuation of the Town to arrive at the minimum tax rate (mil rate). This rate is usually expressed in dollars per thousand-dollars of valuation, or in decimal form, commonly referred to as the mil rate. The difference between the amount that is actually committed to the collector and the total appropriation is called overlay. Overlay is commonly used to pay any tax abatements that are granted during that tax year. Any overlay that remains at the end of the year is usually placed into surplus. The overlay cannot exceed 5% of the total appropriations. Since the mil rate is a direct result of a mathematical calculation, fluctuations in this rate will occur from year to year if there is a change in the total valuation or the tax commitment.

The bulk of Appleton's tax burden is attributable to education and road maintenance, county tax and other expenses that are beyond the control of Appleton municipal government. Appleton Town services and administration are fiscally conservative, particularly in comparison to nearby service center communities.

Table 9-2 provides the mil rates for Appleton and how they have changed after 5 years. To remain consistent with the other tables, Table 9-2 only shows between Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2022. In the most recent tax year (Fiscal Year 2023), Appleton dropped the mil rate to \$21.50 for every \$1,000. This recent change would result in a change of -\$1.30 for every \$1,000, or a 5-year change of negative 5.7%.

Table 9-2

Mil Rates by Fiscal Year (for year ending June 30)

Municipality	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change	Change (%)
Appleton	21.70	22.80	22.80	22.80	22.80	+1.10	+5.1%

Source: Appleton Town Reports

Debt*

Since the approval of the last Comprehensive Plan in 2007, the Town of Appleton has accrued debt from two projects:

A loan was taken out by the Town of Appleton to purchase a fire truck. The loan was closed on March 6, 2020 for \$306,561. As of the writing of this Plan, the Town still owes \$202,589.96.

The second project was a bond to assist with renovations of the Appleton Village School. The Bond was issued on November 3, 2016 for \$650, 000. As of the writing of this Plan, the Town still owes \$371,428.56.

Municipal Revenues and Expenditures

Table 9-3 below shows the major sources of municipal revenue for Fiscal Year 2018 through Fiscal Year 2022. Intergovernmental revenues consist of road maintenance funds, tree- growth, veteran and homestead reimbursements. Other sources consist of general assistance funds, insurance dividends, sales of Town property, fees, interest on investments, transfers from other funds, interest and municipal revenue sharing.

It is difficult to predict municipal expenditures in the coming years. Demands for services, county assessments, valuation, population, and many other factors all enter the very political process of determining expenditures every year. It should also be noted that the amounts for FY22 and FY23 are unaudited amounts.

Table 9-4 shows the money spent for each of the major departments within the Town during the same period of time as Table 9-3. Both received information from the Appleton Town Reports and the Tax Assessor's Agent.

Table 9-3**Town of Appleton Actual Revenues FY2019- FY2023 (for year ending June 30)***

Categories	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Auto Excise	264,430	265,633	314,398	297,410	310,434
Boat Excise	2,199	2,374	2,490	2,798	2,484
Agent Fee	6,011	7,164	9,306	8,272	8,324
Tax Interest	14,982	15,411	19,090	15,656	11,757
Bank Interest	21,634	17,475	9,064	8,433	51,898
Animal Welfare Fund	85	1,029	697	3,616	1,468
Building Permits	3,677	2,291	2,424	2,538	1,989
State Revenue Sharing	94,155	148,166	214,899	324,844	370,433
State Veterans Reimbursement	2,330	2,025	1,979	2,027	2,140
Tree Growth	6,741	8,488	7,360	10,453	10,374
State Snowmobile Refund	450	463	357	331	298
Homesteads	123,084	136,895	188,646	188,350	180,345
Renewable Energy				340	589
G/A Reimbursement from State	190	241		-	2,673
Refund on Property Casualty Ins	-	785	783	705	654
Refund Workers' Comp. Ins	-	203	190	211	398
Property Taxes Current Year	2,719,351	2,754,741	2,739,091	2,748,610	2,685,616
Vital Records	1,029	878	1,061	1,124	1,363
Misc	2,269	2,587	4,140	2,036	1,915
Total for Town Office	3,262,617	3,366,849	3,515,975	3,617,756	3,645,157

Table 9-4

Town of Appleton Actual Expenditures FY2017-FY2022 (for year ending June 30)*

Categori es	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
General Gov't.	\$229,329	\$242,987	\$243,005	\$258,593	\$304,486.96
Protection	\$135,765	\$152,906	\$191,976	\$202,945	\$296,764.37
Highway & Bridges	\$647,176	\$660,043	\$529,500	\$514,500	\$772,156.66
Sanitation	\$40,519	\$40,100	\$40,050	\$42,200	\$42,891.08
Misc.	\$73,954	\$67,371	\$23,600	\$120,323	\$129,193.00
County Taxes	\$128,308	\$136,026	\$148,637	\$150,210	\$156,523.00
Education	\$474,932	\$554,710	\$505,190	\$491,664	\$481,078.00
Total	\$1,729,983	\$1,854,143	\$1,682,408	\$1,782,575	\$2,183,093.07

Capital Improvement Plan*

The Comprehensive Plan Committee wishes to point out that approval by the voters of this Plan does not in itself raise or appropriate the itemized funds in any category, nor does it mandate the approval of these funds at a later date. All expenditures listed in this report must be approved by the voters at Town Meeting or by secret ballot when each item is presented to voters.

The Town does have the ability to borrow to pay for capital investments, in the past, this has assisted the Town and would continue to do so if properly managed. This income could be allocated to pay for specific capital improvement needs.*

For the purposes of the Comprehensive Plan, the Estimated Cost and Priority for the projects are categorized as shown below. Because prices are subject to change, and some projects are based on potentially multiple items, some categories will state a “to” since the price may be on the higher end of one tier while on the lower end of another.

Estimated Cost-

Low- Estimated price of up to \$250,000 to complete.

Moderate- Estimated price between \$250,001 to \$1,000,000 to complete

High- Estimated price likely to exceed \$1,000,000.

Priority-

Low- While it should remain on the Town's radar, the project is not necessary to complete within the next ten years.

Moderate- There is a strong urgency to complete the project in the next ten years.

High- Functions are likely to be impacted if not addressed in the immediate future.

APPLETON VILLAGE SCHOOL

<u>Item</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Priority</u>
An addition to the school building to meet student needs.	High	High
Climate control the southern portion of the building	Low	High
Addressing electricity rates	Low to Moderate	High
Replacing the roof	Moderate to High	High
Replacement of the gym floor	Moderate	Moderate
Window replacements	Moderate	Moderate
Replacing envelope at the front of the building	High	Moderate
If possible, upgrade to 3-phase power.	High	Low
Parking lot expansion	Moderate	Low
Regulation-size soccer field and softball field with storage	Low	Low

Additional Comments:

- The School intends to address the additional space and climate control items as soon as possible, and with any remaining funding that came as a result of COVID-19.
- The climate control task involves installing heat pumps to help make the southern side of the building comfortable to use during extreme weather days. There are rebates and grants available to assist with these types of improvements.
- The 3-phase upgrade would benefit the School so it can use items requiring more energy usage; however, they are aware of the high expense and do not want to have the upgrade done if they are the only beneficiaries. The Town could use federal funding through programs such as Northern Borders Regional Commission to assist with utility upgrades.
- Schools are required to purchase additional buses and create more school space when the population goes up by 150. This could impact the Capital Improvement Plan if the population continues to grow. Knox County is currently the fastest growing county in the State of Maine and could continue seeing a boom in student enrollment.
- At the time of writing, the School has benefited from \$0.08 per kwh for their electricity. The School has until October 2024 to find a long-term solution or risk the rate nearly tripling. The School advocates for a joint meeting with the Town for a solar farm. The State offers Climate Action Grants to assist with creating solar farms, and a joint purchase between the municipality and School budgets could lower the overhead expenses and upfront costs. The municipality also noted having municipal buildings on solar as a capital improvement project that is something they wish to address in the future.

MUNICIPAL

<u>Item</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Priority</u>
Maintaining roads	High	High
Having municipal buildings on solar	Low to Moderate	Medium
Making municipal buildings energy efficient	Low to Moderate	Medium
Increasing storage of administrative documents	Low	Medium
Paving roads that are currently gravel	Moderate to High	Low

Additional Comments:

- Town plans to work on a regional approach to address emergency services (fire, ambulance, police).
- Solar and energy efficiency projects would utilize programs offered by the State to encourage similar projects (ex: Climate Resilience Partnership). A large enough solar farm could also address the need of the Appleton Village School.
- Pavement of selected gravel roads is intended to help control maintenance costs.
- Accurate estimates for projects are next to impossible to obtain as no contractor is able to give construction estimates beyond the next season. The above estimates, as well as the time-frame to commence work, are 'ballpark' estimates provided by the road commissioner. Funds for the road projects listed above would come from several sources: Town appropriations from property taxes, Local Road Assistance Program (State) funds, and other MDOT matching funds, if available.

Funding Opportunities

The Town of Appleton has 41 miles of roads, bridges, and culverts under town maintenance. The Town has been active in seeking funds to assist with repairs that have occurred from natural disasters (October 2021, December 2022, May 2023). Receiving these funds from State and Federal resources (FEMA, MDOT) have saved the residents tens of thousands of dollars in funding to allow vital all public rights-of-ways to remain open for access. It is crucial for Appleton to remain observant on additional funding opportunities to account for the increasing frequency of storm events, and to create new resilience opportunities that may allow Appleton to reduce overhead expenses.

The Town of Appleton also has the ability to apply for a bond through the Maine Municipal Bond Bank when necessary. The Town continues to prioritize grant resources; however, applying for a bond with an outlined plan for paying it back allows the Town to undertake a “High” priority capital improvement project when interest rates and construction costs may be ideal.

Growth and Development

Increased growth and development, particularly residential development, puts an extra burden on a Town's budget by creating a demand for new or improved public facilities and municipal services. In addition, unfunded state and federal mandates as well as inflation have a significant effect on a municipality's budget. In the future, Appleton's budget will most likely be affected by a combination of these factors.

Currently, the Town has a strong municipal financial structure. This strength is evidenced by various economic trends and indicators, such as an increasing valuation, consistent positive ratio of revenues to expenditures, relatively stable tax rate and a modest long-term debt. It appears that Appleton will be able to meet its future financial commitments.

Regional Collaboration*

The Town participates in two separate cooperative purchasing programs that assist in reducing overhead expenditure. The Town participates in the Knox County cooperative purchasing program that aims to lower costs of heating and transportation fuels as well as road salt. Appleton is also a member of the Midcoast Council of Governments/ Greater Portland Council of Governments' cooperative purchasing program that includes offers bulk purchasing for paper, basin cleaning, road striping, and more that can be found on their website.

Appleton also collaborates with neighboring towns to provide adequate emergency services (fire, ambulance, and police) for the residents. Appleton is part of a mutual aid agreement with all abutting municipalities' fire departments, which allows a greater coverage area in the event of a fire. Appleton also pays an annual fee to the Union-Washington ambulance service to assist residents facing a medical emergency. By continuing to work on regional collaborations for these services, Appleton has been ensuring residents received emergency coverage in a cost-effective manner. The Select Board is continuing to examine ways to improve regional service coverage and partnerships.

Summary

As indicated by the figures, Appleton has been doing very well in managing its finances over the last five years.

Issues of Concern

1. Given Appleton's dependence on State funds, further decreased State funding levels would have a negative impact on municipal operations.
2. An increasing residential population will increase the demand for municipal services. Costs of services will, most likely, be higher than increased property tax revenues and thus create a higher tax rate.
3. If the school age population increases, educational expenditures could increase and could cause taxes to increase.

Goal

To promote stability and practicality in local fiscal management while minimizing the financial impact of tax assessments on residents.

Policies

1. To seek out and apply for state and federal grant programs, the funds for which can be used to lessen the financial impact of new or improved municipal facilities and services.*
2. To consider a policy which would (a) require new commercial and residential subdivisions be financially responsible for all changes in current municipal services and facilities and (b) ensure that any municipal water or sewage facilities and services are maintained and upgraded by the owners/tenants.
3. To consider alternative property tax payment schedules.
4. To finance existing and future facilities and services in a cost effective manner*
5. By staying within LD 1 spending limitations.

Strategies (as described on page 5)

1. The Select Board should analyze current property tax payment schedules and determine whether alternatives, such as monthly or semi-annual tax payments would be acceptable to the Town and beneficial to Appleton residents. (Select Board)- *Immediate*
2. The Select Board should determine what state and federal grant programs are available to the Town of Appleton. The selectmen should provide this information to the budget committee and to the Townspeople on an annual basis or as often as possible. The Townspeople will determine whether to apply for these funds. (Select Board, Town Meeting)- *Ongoing*
3. The Planning Board, in conjunction with the Selectmen, should determine whether the current subdivision ordinance should be modified to protect the Town's fiscal responsibility for changes to and future maintenance of municipal facilities and services created by new commercial and residential subdivisions. (Planning Board, Select Board) - *Immediate*
4. The Budget Committee should continue to review the funding requests yearly and make recommendations for Town meeting review. This process will promote an efficient and cost-effective methodology for financing and operating the existing and future facilities of the Town budget Committee (Budget Committee) - *Ongoing*
5. The Townspeople should decide whether they are willing to support the hiring of a full-time 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 Meeting, Select Board) - *Immediate*
6. Explore opportunities to work with neighboring communities to plan for, and finance, shared or adjacent capital investments to increase cost savings and efficiencies. (Select Board)- *Immediate **
7. Collaborate with Appleton Village School to reduce spending with joint projects such as, but not limited to, solar farms, bulk purchasing, and submitting grant requests to have municipal and school properties more energy efficient. (Select Board, Appleton School Village)- *Immediate*

Section 10 Transportation

Introduction

A safe and dependable transportation infrastructure is the lifeline of a community that links it to its neighbors and the outside world. This is particularly true for small rural communities that have little or no access to a public transportation system.

This chapter details the current condition and usage of Appleton's roadways and bridges as well as provides an overview of the Town's total transportation system. Road names and geographic locations are taken from the Appleton Road Name Directory and Maine Department of Transportation. These names occasionally vary from local usage but have been used to maintain consistency.

Roadways

There are three types of roads in Maine: arterial highways, collector highways and local roads.

Arterial Highways: State highways are usually arterials and are comprised of a system of connected highways throughout the state that serve arterial or through traffic. Arterials carry high-speed, long-distance traffic and attract a significant amount of federal funding. They usually carry Interstate or U.S. route number designations. There are no arterials in Appleton.

Collector Highways: State aid highways are usually collectors and are roads that are not included in the system of state highways but serve as feeder routes connecting local service roads to the state highway system. These roads collect and distribute traffic to and from arterial routes, serving places of lower population densities, and are somewhat removed from main travel routes.

Local Roads: Local roads include all other public roads not included in the state aid classification system. These roads are maintained entirely by the municipality. Based on the state system, they function as local service roads that provide access to adjacent land. Some local roads may actually be functioning as collectors. Local roads with annual average daily traffic counts greater than 200 vehicles per day and/or serving more than 25 residences may be considered collectors.

Appleton has approximately 47.9 miles of roads. The state maintains 12.5 miles, while the Town maintains 35.4 miles of roads. Of the 35.4 miles maintained by the Town, 19 miles are gravel roads. The two state-maintained roads in Appleton, SR (State Route) 105 and SR 131 are classified by MDOT as collectors. Trucks use SR 131 as a bypass to US Route 1. It is also used by lumber and gravel trucks originating from local logging operations and quarries. These roads are vitally important as they connect with other arterials and collectors and allow Appleton residents to commute to work and shop outside of town. All state-maintained collector roads in Appleton have a paved surface. SR 17, an arterial that allows access to I-95 in Augusta and U.S. Route 1 in Rockland, is located approximately 6 miles to the south in Union.

Local roads are equal to collector roads in their importance to Appleton citizens. There are 35.4 miles of local roads in Appleton. Of these local roads, 16.85 miles have a paved surface, and 18.55 miles are gravel. In the most recent municipal budget (FY24), the Town allocated \$621,828 (16%) of the total budget specifically for roads. The Town also breaks down, in the Town Reports, any expenditure for road maintenance on a town-maintained road.* In addition to the state and local roads listed in the following table, there are 19 private roads in Appleton maintained by the property owners.

Table 10-1 Appleton Roadway Inventory

Roadway	Description TL=Townline	Arterial, Collector, Local, Public Easement or Private	Length in Miles	Owned by	Maintained by	Surface
Burkettville Rd (SR 105)	Liberty town line to Morang Corner	Collector	5.10	State	State	Paved
Camden Rd (SR 105)	Searsmont Rd to Hope TL	Collector	3.10	State	State	Paved
Union Rd (SR 131/105)	Union TL to Sennebec Rd	Collector	2.60	State	State	Paved
Searsmont Rd (SR 131)	Sennebec Rd to Searsmont TL	Collector	1.70	State	State	Paved
Fishtown Rd	Burkettville Rd to Liberty TL	Local	1.15	Town	Town	Mixed
Mitchell Hill Rd	Burkettville Rd to Washington TL	Local	0.33	Town	Town	Gravel
Esancy Rd	Fishtown Rd to end	Local	0.35	Town	Town	Gravel
Campground Rd	Burkettville Rd to Washington TL	Local	0.34	Town	Town	Gravel
Collinstown Rd	Union TL to Liberty TL	Local	4.96	Town	Town	Mixed
Miller Cemetery	Collinstown Rd to end	Local	0.27	Town	Town	Gravel
Guinea Ridge Rd	Union TL to Moose Carry Rd	Local	1.93	Town	Town	Gravel
Appleton Ridge Rd	Union TL to Town Hill Rd	Local	2.01	Town	Town	Mixed
Snow Hill Rd	Burkettville Rd to end	Local	0.11	Private	Town/ Private	Gravel

Roadway	Description TL=Townline	Arterial, Collector, Local, Public Easement or Private	Length in Miles	Owned by	Maintained by	Surface
Town Hill Rd	Union Rd (SR 105/131) to Appleton Ridge Rd	Local	0.8	Town	Town	Paved
Chaples Rd	Union Rd (SR 105/131) to Town Hill Rd	Local	0.23	Town	Town	Gravel
Whitney Rd	Appleton Ridge Rd to end	Local	1.2	Town	Town	Gravel
W. Appleton Rd	Union Rd to Searsmont TL	Local	4.83	Town	Town	Paved
Old County Rd	W. Appleton Rd to end	Local	0.29	Town	Town	Gravel
Back Rd	W. Appleton RD to end	Local	0.12	Town	Town	Gravel
Lower Rd	W. Appleton Rd to end	Local	1.2	Town	Town	Gravel
Sennebec Rd	Searsmont Rd to Union TL	Local	3.32	Town	Town	Paved
Gushee Rd	Sennebec to Cottage Ln	Local	0.3	Town	Town	Gravel
Gurneytown Rd/Sleepy Hollow Rd	Sennebec Rd to Sennebec Rd	Local	2.68	Town	Town	Paved
Hillside Rd	Gurneytown Rd to end	Local	0.20	Town	Town	Gravel
Peasetown Rd	Gurneytown Rd to Hope TL	Local	1.1	Town	Town	Gravel
Jones Hill Rd	Gurneytown Rd end	Local	0.8	Town	Town	Gravel
Peabody Rd	Sennebec Rd to Camden Rd (SR 105)	Local	2.37	Town	Town	Mixed
Magog Rd	Camden Rd (SR 105) to Searsmont TL	Local	0.81	Town	Town	Gravel

Source: Town Clerk, Road Commissioner

Traffic Commuting Patterns

Most Appleton residents who commute to work drive alone. Only 13.5% of residents carpool. More residents walked to work or worked at home in 2020 than in 2010. According to the Census, the most common commuting time for Appleton residents was between 30 and 34 minutes in both 2010 and 2020. The numbers provided under Tables 6-2 and 6-3 are estimates provided by American Community Survey and the Maine State Economist.

Table 10-2 Commuting Methods of Appleton Residents

	2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%
Workers 16 years and older	742	100.0%	735	100.0%
Drove Alone	608	81.9%	551	75.0%
Carpooled	75	10.1%	99	13.5%
Used Public Transportation (excluding taxis)	3	0.4%	12	1.6%
Used Other Means	4	0.5%	0	0.0%

Source: Maine State Economist, American Community Survey

Table 10-3 Travel Times

	2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%
Less than 5 minutes	7	1.01	3	0.54
Between 5 to 9 minutes	66	9.52	11	2.00
Between 10 to 14 minutes	52	7.50	13	2.36
Between 15 to 19 minutes	32	4.62	22	3.99
Between 20 to 24 minutes	114	16.46	100	18.15
Between 25 to 29 minutes	107	15.44	51	9.26
Between 30 to 34 minutes	205	29.58	146	26.50
Between 35 to 39 minutes	19	2.74	57	10.34
Between 40 to 44 minutes	29	4.18	47	8.53
Between 45 to 59 minutes	18	2.60	52	9.44
Between 60 to 89 minutes	14	2.02	17	3.09
90 minutes or more	30	4.33	32	5.80
Total	693	100	551	100

Source: Maine State Economist, American Community Survey

Traffic Volumes

Table 10-4 shows the roads with the highest Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) counts in Appleton. The volumes represent both through traffic and local activity. Seasonal variation, with peak volumes in the summer, is averaged in these figures. Additional data can be found on the Maine Department of Transportation Public Map Viewer that can be accessed online (<https://www.maine.gov/mdot/mapviewer>).

Table 10-4 Traffic Volumes

Location Description	AADT in 2016	AADT in 2019	Change
SR 105/131 (SEARSMONT RD) SW/O SR 105	1,700	2,010	+310
SR 131 (SEARSMONT RD) NE/O SR 105	1,960	1,990	+30
SR 105/131 (UNION RD) NE/O SR 105	1,730	1,870	+140
West Appleton Road	2,320	Data not available	N/A

Source: Maine Department of Transportation, 2019 data

Safety

According to Maine DOT, from 2012 through 2022 there were 265 reported accidents in Appleton. There were no fatalities, 47 accidents with serious personal injuries, 218, only involved property damage. Maine DOT calculates roadway and intersection safety and found no high crash locations in Appleton, i.e., areas with at least 8 accidents occurring in 3 years. Nevertheless, residents have expressed concern with these areas.* Speed limits are posted on SR 105/131 in the school vicinity and on other heavily traveled roads. Accidents commonly occur on SR 105 and SR 131. Of the 265 reported accidents that took place in Appleton between 2012-2022, 45 accidents took place on SR 105 (Burketville Road), while 107 accidents were on SR 131 (Union Road). This information can be found online at the Maine Public Crash Query Tool website (<https://mdotapps.maine.gov/mainecrashpublic/>).

Access Management

Access Management is the planned location and design of driveways and entrances to roads. Such planning reduces accidents and prolongs the useful life of arterial roadways. While arterial highways represent only 12% of the state-maintained highway system, they carry 62% of the statewide traffic volume. Maintaining posted speeds on this system helps people and products move faster, which enhances productivity, reduces congestion-related delays and environmental degradation. By preserving the capacity of the existing roads, Appleton can reduce the need to build costly new highway capacity such as new travel lanes and bypasses.

Maine DOT has established standards, including greater sight distance requirements, based in part on posted speeds, for the permitting of driveways and entrances for three categories of roadways: retrograde arterials, mobility arterials, and all other state and state-aid roads. No roadways in Appleton are classified as a retrograde arterial or mobility arterial.

To maintain and improve traffic flows, Appleton has a Driveway/ Private Road Entrance Permit application that is reviewed by the Road Commissioner and Select Board to determine if the proposed entrance will meet local standards. Locating shared access points for businesses and residences can enhance safety while allowing development to occur along state roads.

Private roads for subdivisions have traditionally had a lack of standards regarding their dead-ends. The end of a road is inevitable; however, the designs of these roads can have an impact on future developments and navigation for emergency services. These changes can enhance the potential for continuing to develop parcels in Appleton without creating additional access points on high traffic roads.

Bridges

There are ten bridges in Appleton. The Town owns and maintains six bridges; the state owns and maintains four bridges.

Table 10-5 Appleton Bridge Inventory

Bridge Name	Waterway	Road	Location	Owner
Millay Br. (2)	Medomak River	Fishtown Rd	0.8 mi. North of SR 105	Town
Magog Br.	Waterman Brook	Magog Rd	0.5 mi. North of SR 105	Town
Sherman Mills Br.	Allen Brook	Sleepy Hollow Rd	1 mi. East of SR 105	Town
Burkett Hill Br.	Medomak River	SR 105	1.3 mi. South of TL	State
McLain's Mills Br.	St. George River	Sennebec Rd	2.8 mi. North of TL	State
North Appleton Br.	St. George River	SR 105	1 mi. West of TL	State
Jonas Davis Br.	Pettengill Stream	SR 105	1.8 mi. West of SR 131 junction	State
Allen Brook Br.	Allen Brook	Sennebec Rd	1.2 mi. North of TL	Town
Grange Hall Br.	Medomak River	SR 105	1.3 mi. Southeast of TL	State
Pease Brook Br.	Pease Brook	Peasetown Rd	0.8 mi.. East of Gurneytown Rd	Town

Source: Maine DOT

Public Transportation*

No public transportation is available in Appleton. Concord Trailways offers coach service from Rockland.

When asked about using a public transportation system, 75% of respondents to the Comprehensive Plan Survey (130 residents) stated that they wouldn't use the public transportation system. The residents do have sufficient access to transportation thanks to volunteer groups and nonprofits, such as Waldo Community Action Partners, that offer transportation for purposes such as taking residents to medical services. These services are by appointment only.

Air Transportation*

There are no airports in Appleton. The closest FAA-approved airport is Ridgeview Airport-12ME in Searsmont, which is registered for private use.

Primary regional airports include:

Bangor International Airport provides national and international commercial passenger and freight services, as well as civil defense operations. The largest runway is 11,441 feet long. Car rental services are available.

Knox County Regional Airport serves Knox County with scheduled commercial service (Cape Air and Penobscot Island Air), air taxi and general aviation, and is owned by Knox County. The longest runway extends 5,000 feet. Voluntary noise abatement is in place, limiting hours of operation. The facility is about 3 miles from Rockland in Owls Head and has an average daily use of 106 air operations per day, making it one of the busiest airports in the State of Maine. Fuel is available: 100LL JET-A.

Augusta State Airport serves Augusta and Kennebec County with scheduled commercial service, air taxi and general aviation, and is owned by the State of Maine. The longest runway extends 5,000 feet. Fuel is available: 100LL Avgas and Jet A.

Belfast Municipal Airport is a 218-acre general aviation airport owned by the City of Belfast. The airport is leased out for flying instructions and charter companies (Aero Charter New England, Air New England, Cobalt Air, Kestrel Air, and Skip Air).

Railways*

There are no rail lines in Appleton or active rail service in neighboring towns. Rockland and Thomaston have a rail line that services limited freight needs. Until 2015, residents had the ability to take passenger rail service between Rockland and Brunswick; however, this service has been discontinued.

Parking

The Town of Appleton does not require a minimum parking standard for projects in the community. Most businesses provide parking spaces for their customers and employees in Appleton. If needed, public parking is available at the Town Office. In general, there is no demand for increased public parking.*

The largest parking lots in Appleton are listed in the next table.

Table 10-6 Parking Lots*

Location	Access (Road Name)	Approximate number of spaces
Town Hall	Sennebec Rd	18
Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library	Sennebec Rd	11
Appleton Village School	Union Rd	50

Source: Town Clerk

Pedestrian Ways*

There are no paved pedestrian sidewalks in Appleton. Most pedestrians use road shoulders or trail systems as walkways and unpaved paths and choose to walk for recreation as opposed to transportation purposes. There are still walkable areas, for example Jones Hill, Appleton Ridge, and parts of Burkettville. Maintaining and creating conditions where children can walk to school, and where it would be possible to walk to a general store or other unofficial meeting place is desirable.

Ports and Marine Transport*

Rockland Harbor has the closest port to Appleton in Knox County. It has a public landing and piers for vessels with a draft no greater than 13 feet and/or length no greater than 200 feet.

Ferry service to North Haven, Vinalhaven and Matinicus is provided from the Maine State Ferry Service Marine Terminal in Rockland. Ferry service to Islesboro is provided from a Maine State Ferry Service facility in Lincolnville Beach.

Maine Department of Transportation (Maine DOT)*

The Maine DOT Three-year Transportation Improvement Plan (2023-2025) lists the major transportation policy initiatives and capital improvement projects Maine DOT expects to include within the next three-year budgeting period. There are no upcoming projects listed on the Maine DOT Three-year Work Plan.

In addition to their Work Plans, the Maine DOT has begun to implement the Village Partnership Initiative, which is a cooperative program to address improvements to state aid roads that go through village areas of communities. These improvements focus on traffic calming measures, streetscape and visual improvements, and expanding non-vehicular infrastructure. Municipalities, such as Appleton, are allowed to apply and provide matching funding for projects that can vary in size.

Town Road Commissioner

The Town has a Road Commissioner (an elected official) to coordinate road maintenance, upgrade schedules, and perform other regulatory duties related to the roadways of Appleton. The Commissioner is responsible for approving driveway applications on town-maintained roads and providing advice to the Planning Board and CEO on proposed driveway entrances.

Summary

Major transportation linkages in Appleton consist of SR (State Route) 105 and SR 131. Residents rely on the road network as their primary means of transportation movement. Therefore, state and town roads should provide safe, reliable access to work, school, stores, and residences. Overall, Appleton's roadways are in fair to good condition. Given limited funding and the significant expense, the Town has done a noteworthy job of maintaining its local roads. Continued proper and affordable maintenance of the road network will be in the best interest of all residents. Since Maine DOT has jurisdiction over state roads and several bridges within Appleton, the Town will continue to communicate and cooperate with the Department of Transportation to ensure necessary roadway improvements are made in a timely manner.

Issues of Concern

1. Potential costs for maintaining the roads.
2. Safety and liability regarding the four town owned bridges listed in 'poor condition' and in need of repair.
3. A need for a road maintenance/management schedule given the increase in the population and traffic volume.
4. Difficulty of establishing public transport due to such a diversity of areas that are frequented.
5. Increased traffic volume may also contribute to an increased number of accidents, particularly at SR 105 and 131.
6. Increased volume of vehicle traffic has had a negative impact on local roads, particularly during the mud season.

7. Speeding is a significant problem throughout the community.
8. Trees and vegetation along the way travel cause potential hazards for drivers.

Goal

To maintain and improve the safety and the condition of existing town roads while minimizing fiscal and environmental impacts in the future.

Policies

1. To explore alternatives that will increase pedestrian safety on roadways.
2. To consider alternatives to using salt on local roads.
3. To consider a local road maintenance/reconstruction schedule. The schedule should be compatible with the intent of this plan to preserve the Town's rural character.
4. To prioritize community and regional needs associated with safe, efficient, and optimal use of transportation systems. *
5. To safely and efficiently preserve or improve the transportation system at sites with a record of reported crashes, such as SR 105 and SR 131. *
6. To promote managing land use in ways that maximize the efficiency of the transportation system and minimize increases in vehicle miles traveled. *
7. 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. *
8. To promote fiscal prudence by maximizing the efficiency of the state or state-aid highway network by cooperating with the Maine Department of Transportation. *

Strategies (as described on page 5)

1. The Town should develop (or continue to update) a prioritized improvement, maintenance, and repair plan for the community's transportation infrastructure. (Road Commissioner, Select Board) - *Ongoing*. *
2. The Town should create policies and standards which pertain to the safety, efficiency, upkeep, and resurfacing of local roads. (Road Commissioner, Town Meeting) - *Immediate*.
3. As opportunities arise, the Town should investigate ways to promote alternatives to single passenger commuting patterns, emphasizing the financial, social and environmental benefits to both the town and individuals. (Select Board, Planning Board) - *Ongoing*.

4. To promote pedestrian and bicyclist friendly facilities, the Town should welcome opportunities to create walking and bicycling spaces and to facilitate the development of park and walk, or park and bike facilities. Through public participation the town should prioritize potential projects, and then seek funding from appropriate sources such as Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) infrastructure funds and Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative. Private landowners and public support for these project proposals will be obtained before the Town commits resources. (Select Board, Planning Board, Road Commissioner, Town Meeting) – *Immediate*

5. The Town should initiate or actively participate in regional and state transportation efforts. (Select Board, Road Commissioner) - *Ongoing**

6. The Town should maintain, enact or amend 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.

(Planning Board) - *Short-term*

7. The Town should maintain, enact or amend 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. (Planning Board) - *Short-term**

8. Consider improving facilities for parking and walkways in the Appleton Village area. (Road Commissioner, Select Board) – *Ongoing*.

Section 11A Existing Land Use

Introduction

As with many inland communities in Maine, people move to Appleton because of its peaceful, rural character and relatively low prices compared to the coastal counterparts. Preparing and planning for growth can allow for the protection of rural character and values, can prevent unsightly sprawl, can provide for the most efficient use of public services, and can minimize unnecessary increases in costs and services. The inventory and analysis of current land use practices is an essential step in developing a comprehensive plan for any community. The land use inventory, in conjunction with the current land use and land cover maps, and maps showing natural resource constraints, can be used to understand development trends, to identify potential problem areas, and to determine areas most suitable for future residential and commercial development.

Historical Perspective

Appleton was incorporated as a town in 1829. During the lumber boom of the 1850s it reached its peak population of 1,727 residents. Community centers grew up around mills along the waterways that provided transportation routes for goods produced in the area. Other businesses flourished along with the mills, including cooper shops, blacksmiths, and millineries. The largest of these settlements was in the present village area. Other population centers developed in North Appleton and Burkettville. Small family farms were spread throughout the town. In the 1930s the population fell to an all-time low of 574. Economic hard times and a change of transportation systems demonstrated that Appleton's location, its poor soils and steep slopes could not compete with more agriculturally productive and centrally located areas. The role of agriculture has thus decreased. Second growth trees have taken over former fields and farms. Logging also holds less importance than it once did for the local economy. Fewer residents now make their living from the land, and most go out of town to earn their living. Thus, Appleton has become more of a residential community and less of a resource production area. The 1970s brought a new influx of people to Appleton, increasing the population by over thirty percent. This trend continued through the 1980s, 1990s and to the present day. Over the years, many of the community's gathering places have been lost. The loss of these locations has not only hindered the provision of goods and services to residents, but has more importantly damaged the sense and function of community. Seven remaining unofficial gathering places exist: the Appleton Village School, Appleton Historical Society Meeting House, the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library (Appleton Library), the Medomak Valley Grange, the Town Hall, the Foda Restaurant, and Edgecomb General Store (formerly known as the Burkettville General Store). Although Appleton's population is increasing, local services have dwindled; regional service centers in larger communities have grown. Appleton maintains records of permits by utilizing a physical and digital system to track development in the community that is consistent with the local standards.*

Land Cover

Land Cover is described in the Natural Resources Section in detail. Because of its importance to land use, Table 10-1 is repeated here as well. See the Land Cover Map, Appendix B, for the location of these areas.

Table 11-1

Land Coverage of Appleton

Land Cover	Acreage	Square Miles	%
Forest	14,267.7	22.3	67
Grassland/Cultivated	2,957.4	4.6	14
Wetlands/Open Water	3,853.0	6.0	18
Developed	244.2	0.4	1
Other	31.4	0.0	0
Total (Rounded)	21,354.0	33.4	100

Source: NOAA Landsat Thematic Mapper

Residential Development*

Table 11-2

Building Permits, 2018-2022

FY	New Units	Accessory/ Garage	Additions	Deck	Mobile Home/ Trailers	Misc	Total
2018	16	22	12	0	0	5	55
2019	13	20	12	0	3	0	48
2020	2	5	1	0	0	0	8
2021	14	11	4	3	2	0	34
2022	9	15	4	4	1	1	34
Total	54	63	33	7	6	6	179

Source: Appleton Town Reports

Note: These totals do not include septic and plumbing permits.

The most recent developments have no consistent pattern but are following the community vision of preserving the rural environment.* Based on the trend of new residential units that were built in the previous five (5) years, Appleton will need up to a projected 124 acres of land for development in the next ten (10) years. This projection is based on the on the 54 units that were built in addition to a fifteen percent (15%) grow surge based on the recent housing trends*

Commercial Development *

Appleton does not have a large commercial base. Most working residents commute to larger urban centers for jobs and major shopping. Local businesses do provide some basic services. Home occupations constitute the most significant group of local businesses, which are scattered throughout Town.* Some constitute the sole livelihood for their operators while others provide supplemental income. See the Economy Section for a description and listing of local employers and businesses.

All new commercial or industrial projects must satisfy the requirements of the Site Plan Review for Commercial Development Ordinance overseen by the Planning Board.

Public and Tax-Exempt Land

There are several publicly owned and tax-exempt lands in Appleton. The town itself owns five parcels of primarily forested lands encompassing 298 acres. These were obtained through tax foreclosures. Two parcels are in West Appleton, one parcel along Pettengill Stream and two parcels along Collinstown Road.

Other municipal properties include the town office, the Fire Department and the Appleton Village School. Tax-exempt lands include the Appleton Baptist Church, the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library, the Union Meeting House, the Medomak Valley Grange in Burkettville, The Nature Conservancy property in the Cedar Swamp (approximately 950 acres) and several parks within the Village area. A map displaying the conserved lands can be found in Appendix A.

Existing Town Land Use Regulations and Ordinances

The following is a summary overview of Appleton's Land Use Ordinances. A complete can be found on the Appleton Town Office website.

1. Addressing Ordinance: The purpose of this ordinance is to enhance the easy and rapid location of properties for the delivery of public safety and emergency, postal delivery, and business delivery.
2. Building Permit Regulations: Adopted to ensure safe construction, protect neighbors and natural resources, and to facilitate equitable tax assessment.
3. Floodplain Management Plan: Adopted to provide homeowners access to floodplain insurance, to improve the limited construction that does occur in flood prone areas, which reduces reconstruction costs and public services/aid needed. The Town updates the Floodplain Management Plan to stay consistent with state and federal standards.*
4. Hazardous Waste Ordinance: Prohibits the transportation, disposal, or storage of hazardous wastes within the boundaries of the town.

5. Lot Specification Ordinance: Adopted to preserve residential character, minimum lot size town wide set at one acre, with a 150-foot minimum road frontage on a public street or subdivision road but not on private driveways or rights of way, and setback and height restrictions.*
6. Manufactured Housing and Mobile Home Park Ordinance: Adopted to establish minimum standards for the placement of manufactured housing and mobile homes within parks and to assure a safe and healthful environment for residents of mobile home parks.
7. Mining Ordinance: Adopted to adequately protect residents, their homes, and environmental resources from mining operations.
8. Planning Board (Administrative) Ordinance: Adopted to ensure due process rights of applicants and residents and to ensure a timely review of development proposals.
9. Road Entrance Permit: Adopted to ensure that private roads accessing town ways have adequate sight distance and drainage in order to protect the safety of motorists.
10. Shoreland Zoning Ordinance: Amended to comply with state requirements and to protect surface waters from pollution.
11. Site Plan Review for Commercial Development Ordinance: Adopted to minimize the negative impact of commercial development on nearby residential development, traffic, public services/facilities, and on natural resources.
12. Subdivision Ordinance: Amended to comply with state requirements and allow for better sited subdivisions that reduce negative impacts on neighbors and on the environment, minimum lot size for major subdivisions set at five acres.
13. Wireless Telecommunications Ordinance: Adopted to ensure that such towers are safely installed on sites that do not significantly impact the town in a negative manner.

See the ordinances themselves for their specific provisions. The ordinances are available at town hall or on the town's website.

Issues of Concern

In the planning process, Appleton residents must find ways to accommodate inevitable future growth and changes without sacrificing the land as a living resource. While some of the once populated areas are again being developed, most of the optimal housing sites have long been built upon and maintained as residences. As residential and population growth increases, more houses are built in previously undeveloped areas. With increased residential growth, there will be an irreversible transformation of farms, fields, and forests into house lots if measures are not taken.

Appleton's geography, with its steep slopes, shallow and rocky soils and extensive wetlands, is poorly suited for high-density development. To protect soil and water quality it is imperative that future development is sensitive to the land's physical constraints. Property owners and residents will ultimately determine the future of Appleton's land, how it will be used, cared for and valued.

To obtain guidance from Appleton residents regarding their wishes for the town's future, the Comprehensive Plan Committee distributed a survey concerning local land use issues in 2020.

Of the 180 residents who completed the survey, preserving the town's rural character and protecting its natural resources ranked as their highest priorities. Preserving agricultural land and large tracts of undeveloped forestlands were also ranked high as priorities. Most respondents indicated their appreciation for the quality of rural life, the beauty of the area and the quiet. Most residents indicated concern over solid waste disposal options for the town. For a more detailed review of the survey results, please refer to the Survey Results in Appendix A.

The results of this 2020 survey contributed to the development of future land use concerns for Appleton residents:

1. Continued and unregulated residential development can or will:

(a) result in loss of productive agricultural and forest lands

(b) interrupt scenic views

(c) change the rural character of Appleton

(d) fragment and therefore disturb or destroy prime wildlife habitat areas;

(e) have adverse effects on water quality through increased runoff from new roads, driveways, septic systems and yards

2. There are few physically suitable areas in Town for concentrating on future growth. In many areas of town both residential and commercial development must overcome many natural (physical) constraints so as not to adversely affect water quality.

3. While several state and local regulations exist, they are only effective when they are enforced. In many cases, it is the public's responsibility to ensure enforcement of certain activities. Increased development also places increased demands on the Code Enforcement Officer's time. To meet these demands, the Town may need to expand his hours. In addition, to address the complexity of certain situations, a multi-disciplinary review team may be required, consisting of some or all of the following town officers: Road Commissioner, Town forester, Planning Board members, Code Enforcement Officer and Select Board.

Impact Fees*

The Town of Appleton ensures that their Ordinances include provisions for the collection of impact fees, as allowed by Maine's impact fee statute, Title 30-A MRSA, §4354, as amended. The Town may assess impact fees from applicants if the expansion of a public facility and/or service is necessary and caused by the proposed development. The fees charged are based on the costs of the new facility/service apportioned to the proposal. Fees may be collected for the following, as well as for other facilities and services not listed below:

Solid waste facilities/ Transfer station

Fire protection facilities

Roads and traffic control devices

Parks and other open space or recreational areas

Public Services, in general, including educational facilities

Section 11B Future Land Use

Managing Land Use

The Maine State Land Use Planning and Regulation Act of Maine requires the identification of Growth and Rural Areas within municipalities that are growing in population.

The designation of Growth Areas is intended to encourage development in places most suitable for such growth and away from places where growth and development would be incompatible with the protection of rural resources. Based on growth management, Growth areas are to be located close to municipal services to minimize the cost to the municipality for the delivery and maintenance of these services.

The designation of Transitional Areas is intended to encourage continued observation of portions of a community that has historically had an importance to the community but has natural or man-made restrictions that could prevent it from being a Growth Area. Appleton is encouraged to find grants and resources to continuing improving the civic infrastructure in these areas with the possibility of this site being in a Growth Area in the future.

The designation of Rural Areas is intended to protect agricultural, forest, scenic areas, and other open space land areas from incompatible development and uses. A Comprehensive Plan is not a Land Use Ordinance, but it can serve as the legal foundation of current and future Land Use Ordinances. In the future the establishment districts may be recommended but they would be subject to a vote at Town Meeting.

The proposed land use districts described below do not identify specific parcels or areas needed to accommodate predicted growth and development. Only detailed site-specific analysis, working in direct consultation with property owners, can determine the precise location of proposed districts. This Comprehensive Plan has not assessed landowners' desires to sell their land for development, to develop it themselves, or to leave it undeveloped.

Growth Area

Intersection of Magog Road, Peabody Road, and Camden Road (SR 105)

When considering favorable places for growth and development, the recommendation for this location is based on the potential the area presents. The topography and location on SR 105 would make this a more favorable location for a developer interested in being connected to the region to place and commercial or residential structures that are heavily dependent on state-owned infrastructure.

The Proposed Growth Area is depicted on Map D-1 in Appendix B.

Transitional Area

Appleton Village

The Appleton Village has historically been the center of the community. However, in many ways it does not serve the community as it could in being a vital center. In the Appleton Village area, there is the Town Hall, a sand shed, the firehouse, the library and Historical Society offices, the Historical Society Meetinghouse, and the Baptist Church (on route 131). The houses and other buildings tend to be closer together in this area, and there is a flavor of historic Appleton in the architecture of many of the buildings. In the past, this area has had several stores, a post office, the town school, and even a small hotel. It once served the community as more of a village center than it does today.

In the 2020 survey, some responses commented about the lack of real “downtown” and community spaces for people to gather. Other points raised in the survey included how the lack of retail and amenities in Appleton results in residents having to drive a significant distance to neighboring communities. The desire to encourage a village area likely stems from the consensus of residents to also preserve the rural character throughout Appleton. While a minimum lot size of 1 acre and 150 feet of road frontage is required for a new lot, the survey had some respondents suggesting smaller lot sizes in the village and larger lot sizes in the Rural Areas.

To make Appleton Village more viable, the Town of Appleton should examine various ways to incentivize smart growth in these areas. The Town should investigate the possibility of having non-financial incentives to encourage small businesses and developers and pursue grant funding to improve this area. The grants could improve vehicle safety, such as the Village Partnership, or focused on walkability and sustainable development of dense construction, such as through the Northern Borders Regional Commission. *

Rural Area

The purpose of a “Rural Area” is to encourage the preservation of low-impact developments. The types of developments associated in “Rural Areas” are typically, but are not limited to, single-family dwelling units, agricultural uses, home occupations, conservation, and recreation. In addition to the area listed below, areas not defined under “Growth” nor “Transitional” shall be considered “Rural Areas”.

Existing Shoreland Zones

The existing Shoreland Zones as set in the Appleton Shoreland Zoning Ordinance protect natural resources by limiting residential and commercial uses in the applicable shore land areas. Accordingly, no amendments to the Shoreland Zones are proposed in this plan. A survey of un-forested wetlands could be conducted to determine if further regulation is required to protect these areas from inappropriate development.

General Recommendations for Land Use Ordinance

Land use regulations should achieve the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and reduce the number of non-conforming properties. The Comprehensive Plan should not impose burdensome requirements on the everyday activities of the town's residents. Likewise, the Plan should not create costly enforcement issues for town government. The ultimate goal of growth management is to regulate land use development to the extent necessary to protect natural resources, property values, and public safety.

In ordinances, specific standards and clear definitions are needed because all ordinances must meet the minimum standards as set forth by state law. In addition, it is important that land use ordinances be consistent with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan provides the legal basis for enacting the ordinances, and their consistency with the plans, goals, and policies will be a major consideration in the event that the ordinances are subject to a legal challenge.

Outside of the Shoreland Zone, the Town of Appleton does not have separate Districts for land use regulations.* While the Town of Appleton is not required to implement a Land Use Ordinance, this Comprehensive Plan shall provide the framework for an Ordinance if it is implemented by the community. Due to the rural nature of Appleton, the desire to create Land Use Zoning is a low priority.*

The residents of Appleton have identified several specific needs and concerns that will be addressed in land use ordinances. Land Use Ordinances may be amended to:

- (1) create districts to incentivize development in Growth Areas;
- (2) maintain a user-friendly permitting process; and
- (3) encourage larger minimum lot sizes for areas outside the identified Growth and Transitional Areas.

Enforcement

The value of any ordinance is dependent on how well it is enforced. In order to achieve better enforcement, two issues are of importance:

- (1) the education of residents as to the requirements of local and state regulations, and
- (2) provision for adequate hours for the code enforcement officer to ensure that compliance is taking place.

The key to adequate and successful enforcement is providing the code enforcement officer with the proper legal language and definitions within the land use ordinance. The success of any ordinance depends on the ability of the code enforcement officer to enforce the ordinance and support of the code enforcement department by elected officials, or their designee.

Summary

This Comprehensive Plan lays out a framework by which Appleton, over the next decade, can address issues of concern to residents. Some well thought out Land Use Ordinance decisions may ultimately result, but they will each be subject to a vote at a future Town Meeting. Because this document is a plan, it will require revision to recognize new data, to respond to new trends, and to react to new realities. It is, therefore, only a starting point. If current development trends continue without appropriate land use regulations, Appleton could lose the character, natural resources, and rich heritage of our community. It should be remembered that this plan is not an ordinance, but a guide for Appleton's future. As such, it contains many recommendations. Any ordinance arising from the recommendations contained herein would require approval by a majority of the voters at a town meeting.

Successful implementation of the policies recommended in this plan will require the cooperation and increased participation of townspeople in their local government. Both existing and new committees will require participation by a broad segment of the Appleton's population.

Goal

To encourage development in appropriate areas of the community, while protecting rural character, making efficient use of public services, and preventing development sprawl.

Policies

1. Revise land use regulations as deemed appropriate by the will of the voters.
2. Ensure existing and proposed land use ordinances are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
3. Consider shared land use standards with neighboring communities. *
4. Preserve Appleton's open spaces: agricultural land, fields, forests, unique natural areas, and wildlife habitat. *
5. Ensure that future residential and commercial development has minimal visual and environmental impact; preserve the town's most valuable scenic views and skylines.
6. Maintain and encourage sustainable use (production) on Appleton's farms and forests.
7. Supporting land uses outlined in the Vision Statement and Community Survey. *
8. Supporting the commitment necessary to designated Growth and Transitional Areas. *
9. Establish efficient permitting procedures. *

Strategies (as outlined on page 5)

1. Designate responsibility for implementing this Section to an appropriate Committee or municipal official. (Select Board) - *Immediate*.*
2. Consider drafting a Land Use Ordinance consistent with the goals and guidelines of this Comprehensive Plan. This draft Ordinance should consider different scaling for proposals, an efficient permitting procedure, protective measures for natural resources, and protective measures for natural and water resources. (Planning Board, Select Board, Town Voters) - *Long-Term**
3. Amend Subdivision Ordinance and Site Plan Review Ordinance consistent with the goals and guidelines of this Comprehensive Plan. (Planning Board, Select Board, Town Voters) - *Immediate*
4. Provide neighboring communities with information on development, planning initiatives, or changes in land use ordinances, in order to solicit opinions and suggestions, and encourage neighboring communities to do the same. (Town Clerk) - *Ongoing* *
5. Consider the establishment of a fund to assist in critical conservation purchases or stewardship endowments. At a minimum, the key rural assets identified will be made known to conservation organizations to guide their prioritization. (Select Board, Town Voters) – *Immediate*
6. Study and consider the implementation of growth caps to minimize financial burden to the town. (Planning Board, Select Board, Town Voters) - *Immediate*
7. Regularly review and update the existing ordinances to ensure their consistency with state and federal laws, local needs, and the intent of the Comprehensive Plan. (Code Enforcement Officer, Local Plumbing Inspector, Planning Board, Select Board) - *Ongoing*
8. Investigate the development of a land use ordinance for residential and commercial development that requires preservation of open space to offset the effects of the developed land area. (Select Board, Planning Board) – *Ongoing*
9. Encourage landowners to maintain scenic views. (Planning Board) - *Immediate*
10. Review current impact fees and capital investment plans that support land use developments. (Select Board, Code Enforcement Officer) - *Immediate**
11. Provide the Code Enforcement Officer with the tools, training, and support necessary to enforce land use regulations, in accordance with 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 4451. (Select Board) - *Ongoing**
12. Track new developments in the community by type and location. (Code Enforcement Officer) - *Ongoing**
13. Consider ways of using future capital investments into designated growth and transitional areas. (Select Board) - *Long term*. *
14. Evaluate the implementation of this plan at least every five years. (Select Board) - *Long term**

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey Results

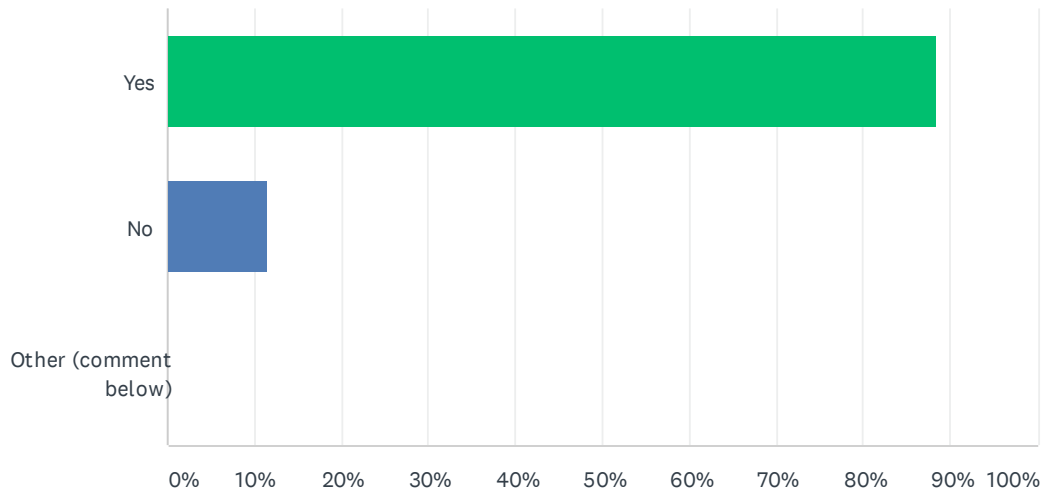
In all, 182 residents responded to calls to complete a survey to assist in planning for Appleton's infrastructure. The survey responses were collected via paper and online. All paper responses were then added to residents' online answers, resulting in 182 responses.

Residents were alerted to the survey via posters, postcards mailed to all residences, print and online media articles, and via the town website and town office. The window to complete the survey exceeded three months. Surveys were collected at the Appleton Town Office, Appleton Library, Burketville General Store, and the West Appleton Country Club. A tabulation of results and comments are found herein.

Comments have been printed as received.

Q1. Is the town service of fire protection adequate?

Answered: 175 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	88.57%	155
No	11.43%	20
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		175

Add Comment Here

Answered: 27 Skipped: 155

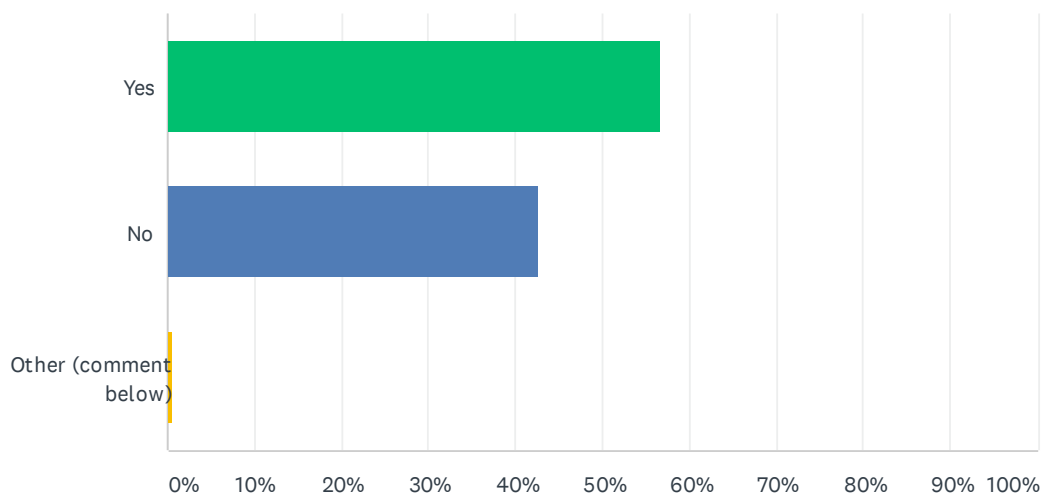
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	not sure	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
2	not sure	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
3	Suggest that fire dept. of fice workshops for residents fire related issues. For examples, mandatory fire extinguishers	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
4	Need more Appleton V olunteers, good mutual aid	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
5	No criticism of present volunteer ef forts and commitment!! However , reality of ef fective saving of structures or lives in rural areas, w/shared services and distance response times is questionable, as is exorbitant expense of new equipment making a dif ference in results or outcome.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
6	David Stone does a good job giving burn/fire permits	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
7	I am on a dirt road and it would seem very far away from hydrants or water accessibility	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
8	I think our service is as expected in a small Maine town without town water . W e know what to expect living on a dirt road in the woods.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
9	Could use more volunteers	3/20/2020 2:16 PM
10	I have no experience to base knowledge on	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
11	Due to mutual aid	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
12	have thankfully not needed the help of this service	3/15/2020 6:27 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

13	I don't have any personal experience with the performance of the fire department, but it seemed to arrive on the scene very quickly and do good work at the nearby Rockledge Farm fire on the Peabody Rd.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
14	there is concern about slow response capability	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
15	I don't have any experience with this	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
16	As long as all the firefighters show up sober .	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
17	More training would be great.	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
18	could use more staf f and updated equipment	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
19	I don't think that fire could get to me if I needed them.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
20	need more volunteers	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
21	Don't know. Appreciate the volunteers tho.	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
22	No on duty people at fire station means they will almost always arrive too late to be of any use saving a structure.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
23	my house would be burned down before they could respond....	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
24	Aging equipment, lack of daytime manpower	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
25	Although I have never used the service, and dont know much about it.	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
26	I'm not sure	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
27	They have a hard rime retaining newer volunteers because of a couple of bad eggs on the team.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM

Q2. Is the town service of road maintenance adequate?

Answered: 178 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	56.74%	101
No	42.70%	76
Other (comment below)	0.56%	1
TOTAL		178

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Is there a rotating schedule for less traveled roads maintenance; brush clearing/ditching?	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 56 Skipped: 126

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Town roads in disrepair need repair	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	more action needed to fix pot holes and roads vs the reasons we can't	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
3	Think we should have a long term plan for road improvement	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
4	131 needs major attention/ paving	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
5	We do the best we can with funds available, but paved road conditions are fair. For scraping and shoulder "scraping back" needed in slushy/icy conditions. Dangerous when meeting oncoming. Slippery and dangerous at downhill/ Sennebec +131 intersection East approach.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
6	I can see an effort has been made w/the small funds left over from AVS... but Appleton roads are some of the worst around.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
7	schools take most of the taxes	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
8	Theres always room for improvement especially some of thhe dirt roadds could use a solid base.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
9	The dirt side of Collinstown Road is treated like a red headed step child. There are no children so the school bus doesn't come down the road. The road is not wide enough (rod measurement) and the problem stems from the base not the top. The top is just a band aid as it has gotten so bad that cars are hitting bottom. The sparse gravel that is put on some spots is only sustainable until another truck, car or 4 wheeler comes by. The road needs to be black topped and the commissioner realize that while it is an expense, putting a band aid on the problem is more expense for those of us who pay the same amount of taxes that the black top families do. They get plowed and do not have to fight to save our cars from the enormous pot holes that come around every year with no permanent solution in sight. The bills for new leaf springs, struts, tires, etc is only felt by those of us that live on that end. The road is more densely populated therefor there is more damage done to the road on a daily basis.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
10	Snow removal and road maintenance after storms is lacking for people who have to work even though schools may have a delay or be closed.	4/6/2020 8:02 AM
11	What maintenance that is done is not always done well. Grading is done to encourage further washouts. Need to get someone who knows how to operate machines.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
12	Dirt roads need more attention.	4/5/2020 9:47 AM
13	Jones Hill Road needs to be paved up to the start of the hill	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
14	potholes last a long time.....	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
15	It needs a lot more investment. Better management. An outline of what roads will be fixed and when. How those roads will be repaired and a quote as to how much it will cost roughly per road	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
16	Pave ridge road between appleton and searsmont, 1/4 mile stretch. Likely payback in 3-5 years in cost savings on continuous maintenance.	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
17	Our road was badly graded a few years ago and the substrate was dug up. It badly needs a lot of material to be added, or major repair of the road bed. During mud season and at times of winter thaw, it is impassable for some of our neighbors without 4x4s and good clearance.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
18	Road is barely passble at times, time between complaint and corrective action too long	3/28/2020 1:12 PM
19	Routinely have giant potholes and impassable sections of dirt roads.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
20	My dirt road is poorly maintained - full of ruts and potholes.	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
21	Problem across the state	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
22	snow removal and road maintenance appears slow and inadequate	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
23	Since taking over as commissioner, Jake Boyington and the ARC crew have done a SURBERB job—the best EVER—on my road.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

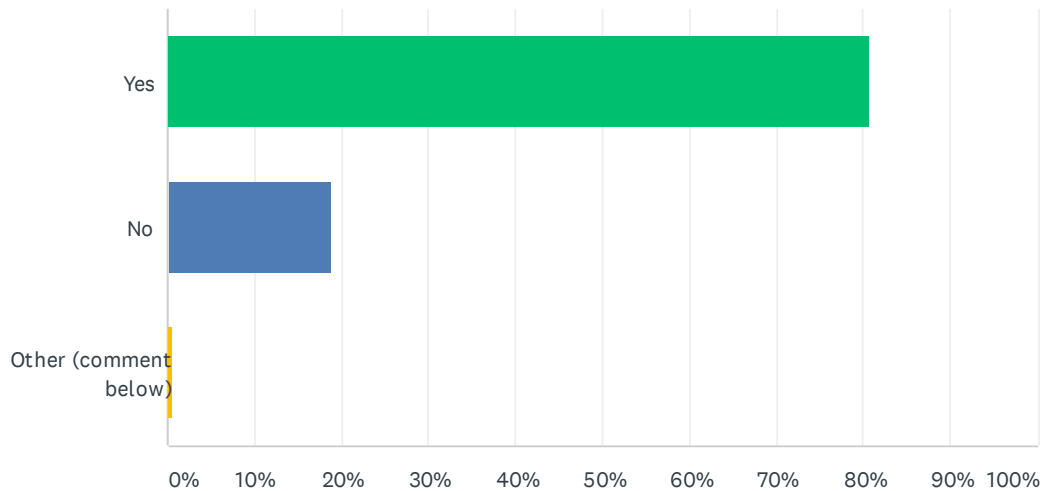
24	roads could be a little better maintained. Plowing, sanding and salting could be better as far as starting sooner.	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
25	Many town roads are in need of repair/reconstruction	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
26	Appleton Ridge road is in poor condition from Pitman's corner towards Searsmont., Dirt section towards Searsmont needs to paved	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
27	Driving through deep mud on town road is difficult	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
28	West Appleton Rd. is kind of a mess.	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
29	But I would like to see some lingering potholes addressed.	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
30	Sloppy work	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
31	West Appleton road hasn't been paved in over 5 years and my tires and vehicles cost more as a result.	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
32	Doesn't seem to be a plan that goes out more than a year or two.	2/10/2020 1:30 PM
33	For two months we cannot get out on the Appleton side of Collinstown Road in the spring. You should put crusher dust on this whole road and pack it down. When it does get gravel, no one comes all the way to our place so we still can't get out to the better area.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
34	Adequate yes, but upgrades would be supported.	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
35	Dirt roads need ditching. Culverts need cleaning. Dirt roads need better foundations in many places. The list goes on.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
36	The holes along the side of the roads are a danger	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
37	Sanding is not sufficient in storms. I cross over the town line to Union on my commute, and it seems the Union side is better sanded every time.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
38	Pot holes, culverts, and break down lanes are not kept up in a timely manner and have caused lots of wear and tear on our vehicles	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
39	Pot holes are not repaired in a reasonable amount of time.	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
40	The roads are a challenge financialy for the town and for road commisioners time	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
41	Dirt roads are terrible	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
42	Don't really know. Compared to what?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
43	Dirt roads need to be posted for weight!	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
44	Roads have no solid base and the cracks and potholes are NEVER properly repaired. AND the new asphalt topping that is being put down is way too thin to be of any lasting use.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
45	Snow removal and pot hole repair could be better.	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
46	one way bridge and very very rough road through Pettengill Stream is dangerous.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
47	Many need retaring and tar in general. My road is close to impassable every spring	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
48	The roads are terrible, compared with Union.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
49	I have owned property in three different towns in the MidCoast and Appleton has by far the worst road maintenance.	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
50	After waiting several months my Road is still pouring water down my driveway and causing damage to buildings. This issue is still not resolved	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
51	Town Hill Rd needs upgrades to ditches & culverts. Tree trimming is also needed.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
52	Some pot holes and cracked roads, but that is to expexted	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
53	Most of the time!	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
54	Jacob has the proper equipment and the man power to keep things in order.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
55	My dirt road gets really bad in the spring and needs more maintenance I literally got stuck frame deep last year	1/25/2020 3:32 PM

56 I live on Magog Road and there is a fallen culvert that hasn't been maintained in 10 years. We often have muddy sections of the road that make it difficult to get through in the muddy season and gravel is slow to arrive to solve the issue.

1/25/2020 3:31 PM

Q3. Is the contracted service of town snow removal and sanding adequate?

Answered: 181 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	80.66%	146
No	18.78%	34
Other (comment below)	0.55%	1
TOTAL		181

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Depends on the road commissioner. Presently seems good.	1/13/2020 12:04 PM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 33 Skipped: 149

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The current contract system does not reflect frequency of storms, resulting in skewed payments. The town would be served with changing the contract, particularly if the contract is to be held by the same bidder every three years.	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
2	however with less and less storms per year we pay a lot of money for this service on a per storm basis - we should review the cost effectiveness of this for future and have the town own this service	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
3	By next day- no on storm day	5/3/2020 8:23 PM
4	Not always. Realize sometimes can be done + some not possible. See above!	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
5	I figure due to overly-high focus on Village School, that road funds are limited...but it's a snowy Sunday morning, and roads aren't even plowed...many work days roads aren't plowed, in the early mornings either- that makes travel more hazardous.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
6	Seems all they do is sand. Hardly any plowing. Roads are just ice	4/14/2020 6:52 PM

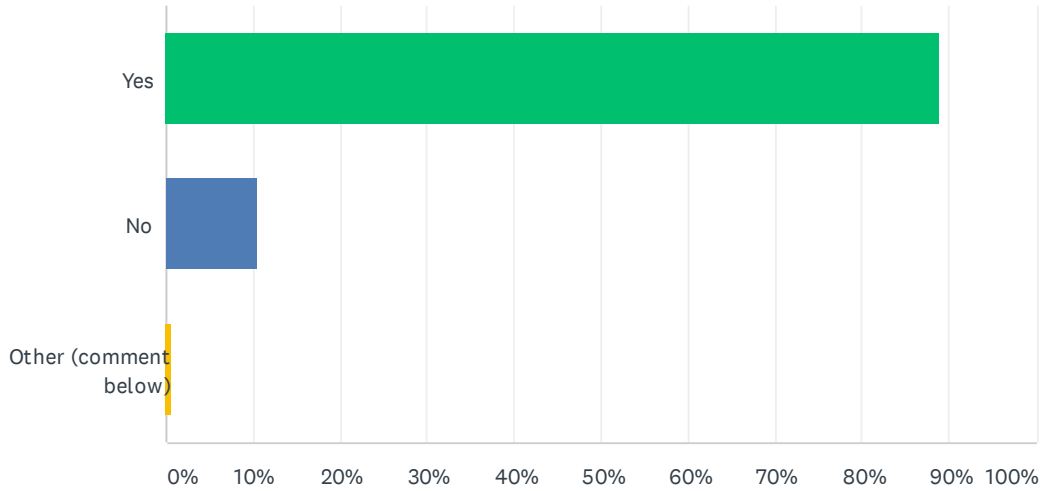
2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

7	The dirt end of Collinstown is not taken care of adequately and some storms hours afterwards or no sand at all, at the very least not ever the entire length of the road. Sometimes it's sanded only in specific areas.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
8	See above	4/6/2020 8:02 AM
9	It is better than it was several years ago.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
10	Cant plow our section of ridge road between appleton and searsmont many times due to mud and ruts.	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
11	Varies...this year there wasn't much snow. They tend to leave a lot behind, resulting in several inches of slush, and ruts. The Union seems to do better.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
12	Snow plowing and sanding is great. People are out often and at early hours to ensure that there is no inconvenience.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
13	Amazing!	3/20/2020 2:16 PM
14	However, Earlier Sunday AM plowing on 105 would be helpful. I n	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
15	See above comment. ARC's plowing and sanding of my road have been timely and thorough.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
16	Plowing, sanding and salting could be better as far a starting sooner.	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
17	It's ok but mailboxes get destroyed.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
18	We often have an inch of slush when 131 just south of Appleton town line is clear.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
19	not on the side roads	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
20	Hardly any sand here!	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
21	I've always felt that we could do better in snow removal	2/7/2020 11:11 AM
22	Thanks	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
23	Possibly relax the efforts	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
24	There is a reason it is so easy to tell when you are crossing the town lines into Union and Washington.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
25	I think they do a very good job!!	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
26	Sometimes it is adequate; maybe a town public works would be better.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
27	Snow removal has drastically improved this year.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
28	Plowing does seem to be Timely, but the contractors vehicle seem under sized at times. The road quality also prevents easy plowing.	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
29	Sanding is frequently inadequate on main roads	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
30	Always get the nib done nicely and early	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
31	mostly thought you can clearly see the line between Union and Appleton. Union does a better job.	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
32	Please look to Canada though for how they treat roads. We need to get away from salt and calcium chloride.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
33	been great past few years	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q4. Is the level of police protection adequate?

Answered: 172 Skipped: 10

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	88.95% 153
No	10.47% 18
Other (comment below)	0.58% 1
TOTAL	172

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Have no experience.	1/13/2020 12:04 PM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 32 Skipped: 150

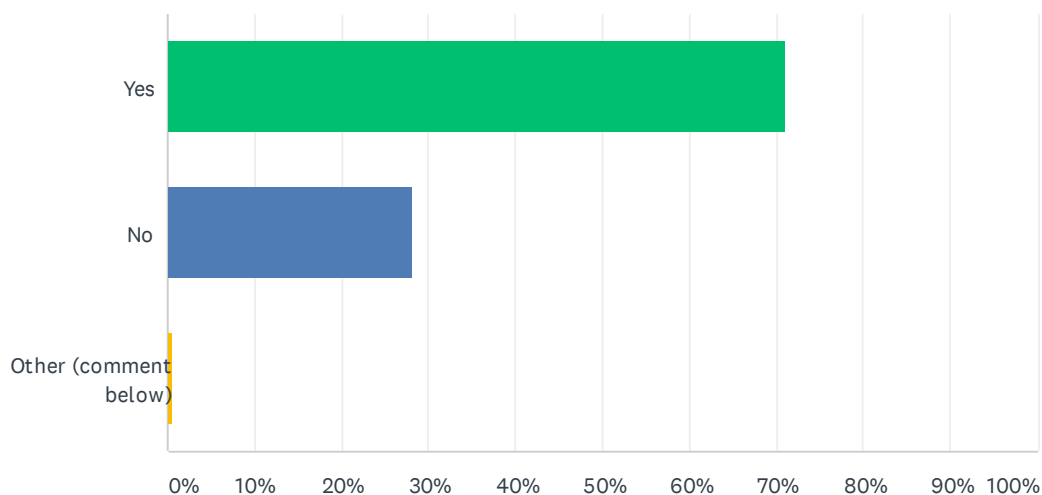
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I have no experience so cannot answer	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	not sure	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
3	not sure	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
4	better understanding of what they do would help	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
5	never had to use it	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
6	Called 911, took too long for sherif to come	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
7	Not much of a police presence. We need proactive community oriented connected with sheriff's dept.	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
8	People speed by our home all the time! Tractor-trailer trucks pass our home at all hours , going very fast. We don't even like to walk in our neighborhood anymore. Drunks from neighborhood business leave broken alcohol bottles in the road. Many logging trucks travel our small road now + they trade fast.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
9	state police and Sherriff	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
10	State police and country sheriff	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
11	lack of info for the public	4/15/2020 5:40 PM
12	The state police are there when needed and do adequate patrol. I would like to see the vast amount of cars in peoples yards addressed. They are not all registered but no one seems to care.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

13	Appleton is a small town, I am surprised by how many sheriff's and state patrol cars I see.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
14	the sherriff is a long way off, although we rarely need him....	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
15	Know County Sheriffs Deputies are awesome!	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
16	I do not know much about any troubles.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
17	I don't know. Doesn't the Knox County Sheriff's department still handle our police needs?	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
18	No experience, can't say	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
19	It's not noticeable or very present.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
20	Does Appleton have police?	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
21	speeding within the current reduced speed zone is at an epidemic level	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
22	I guess so, I have not needed them.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
23	When seconds count, the police are several minutes away.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
24	We never see them; lots of people go speeding down 105.	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
25	takes too long for sheriff to arrive	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
26	Less is better	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
27	What police? The ONLY time I have EVER seen a police vehicle on the road we live on is when WE called them.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
28	Never seen is good!	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
29	Had one experience with Sherfiff, verh professional	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
30	We have no reason to believe otherwise, although have never need them.	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
31	Knox County S/O should have more of a presence in all these local towns.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
32	I've only noticed occasional sheriff patrol, usually as a speed monitor in town center.	1/25/2020 3:31 PM

Q5. Is the level of health services adequate?

Answered: 156 Skipped: 26



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	71.15%	111
No	28.21%	44
Other (comment below)	0.64%	1
TOTAL		156

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Don't know	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 47 Skipped: 135

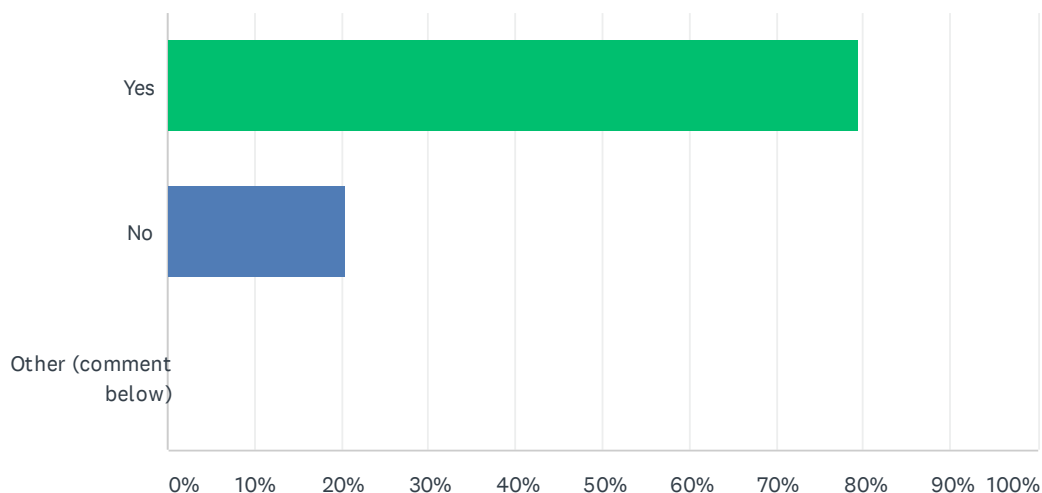
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Unable to answer, lacking experience	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	what health service?	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
3	I expect to go to town	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
4	I use my doctor	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
5	Do we have ANY health services	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
6	what health services?	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
7	Are there any?	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
8	(Good enough Bub) None we know of-We go to towns for health services	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
9	none local	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
10	None in Appleton, but ample nearby.	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
11	The vast amounts of garbage that is allowed to accumulate on some folks' property is definitely a health hazard. There are no consequences because they are on a road that isn't following through with town ordinances..	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
12	Not really a town issue, are there any providers in Appleton or even Union? We go to Camden.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
13	It is not in town for all needs, but it is near by if transportation is available.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
14	I have no knowledge or experience of this.	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
15	We are using Union EMS; hospitals and all services are at least 30 minutes away	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
16	I don't know, and I'm embarrassed to say that I didn't know Appleton even had health services.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
17	N/a there are no health services I'm aware of	3/10/2020 12:49 PM
18	Penn Bay Medical and Waldo County Hospital close by and provide good care.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
19	There is none.	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
20	What health services? Health care sucks in general as far as I can tell...it could be an oxymoron.	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
21	I don't know of any	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
22	OK. Not many present.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
23	Really can't comment since I haven't used it.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
24	I am not aware Appleton has any town health services. Ambulance seems to serve us promptly.	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
25	What health services?	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
26	What health services?	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
27	Would be nice to have a doctor in town.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
28	What health services?	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
29	nearest ambulance is 5 miles away-no other services exist	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
30	I guess so, I have not needed them.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
31	What health services?	2/8/2020 8:56 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

32	We need a better form of public transportation for getting to medical appointments.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
33	nonexistant	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
34	there are none	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
35	There's health services?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
36	Why is the town duplicating state and county services?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
37	There is none	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
38	I am not sure what is available.	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
39	Are there even health services nearby?	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
40	Have no idea.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
41	What are the health services?	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
42	I didn't know that we had any health services	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
43	Unaware of any health services available	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
44	Healthcare in thia country is a joke.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
45	Is there any such thing in Appleton? I don't expect the town to do this.	1/25/2020 3:31 PM
46	A local urgent care is lacking in Appleton and the surrounding area.	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
47	what health services?	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q6. Are emergency medical services adequate?

Answered: 165 Skipped: 17



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	79.39%	131
No	20.61%	34
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		165

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Add Comment Here

Answered: 35 Skipped: 147

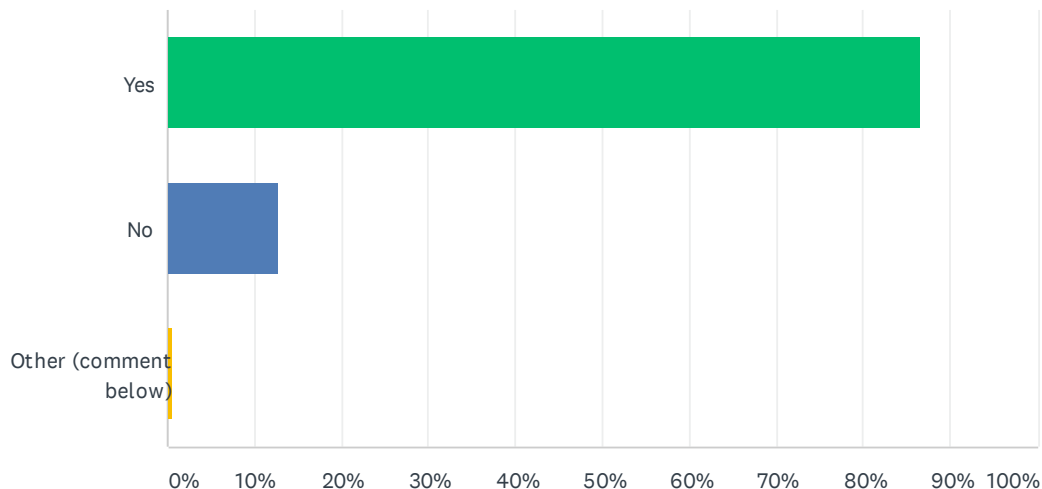
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Unable to answer, lacking experience	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	as far as I can tell	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
3	as far as I can tell	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
4	what emergency medical service?	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
5	Very stressed and not well staffed + slow	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
6	Wish Appleton had its own ambulance	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
7	would prefer Northeast ambulance	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
8	out of town ambulance	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
9	We depend on neighboring town for ambulance service, which seems to work.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
10	As far as I know, we haven't needed them.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
11	Same as above.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
12	I have no knowledge or experience of this.	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
13	I don't know. But I worry that the ambulance would never be able to get down some of the "least improved" roads in town, ESPECIALLY DURING MUD SEASON.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
14	Neighboring town has a great crew, Union	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
15	we have emergency medical services?	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
16	No experience, can't comment	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
17	Ok. Not very present.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
18	Never had to use them though so not sure	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
19	not sure never used them	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
20	Don't trust Union Ambulance	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
21	But some more training for volunteers would be great	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
22	repeat above	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
23	Don't think they could get here if I needed them.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
24	ambulance has to come from Union-	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
25	Don't know	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
26	What EMS services?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
27	I am very unsatisfied with my experience with Union Ambulance this past year. The care I received was inadequate and unsafe. The paramedic was lazy and clearly felt I didn't need EMS to transport me to the hospital. At the hospital I was diagnosed with a subarachnoid hemorrhage (brain bleeding). I will request another service if EMS services are ever needed for myself or my family.	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
28	I assume. I haven't had to utilize them.	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
29	Have no idea.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
30	Union Rescue like many small ambulance services sometimes has a lack of personnel and a longer response time	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
31	Although I have never used the service	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
32	Unknown	1/26/2020 9:04 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

33	not sure	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
34	It takes 30 minutes to get an ambulance.	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
35	long delay	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q7. Are local school systems adequate?

Answered: 173 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	86.71%	150
No	12.72%	22
Other (comment below)	0.58%	1
TOTAL		173

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Cost per student seems high. 3 million for 150 students seems excessive.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 39 Skipped: 143

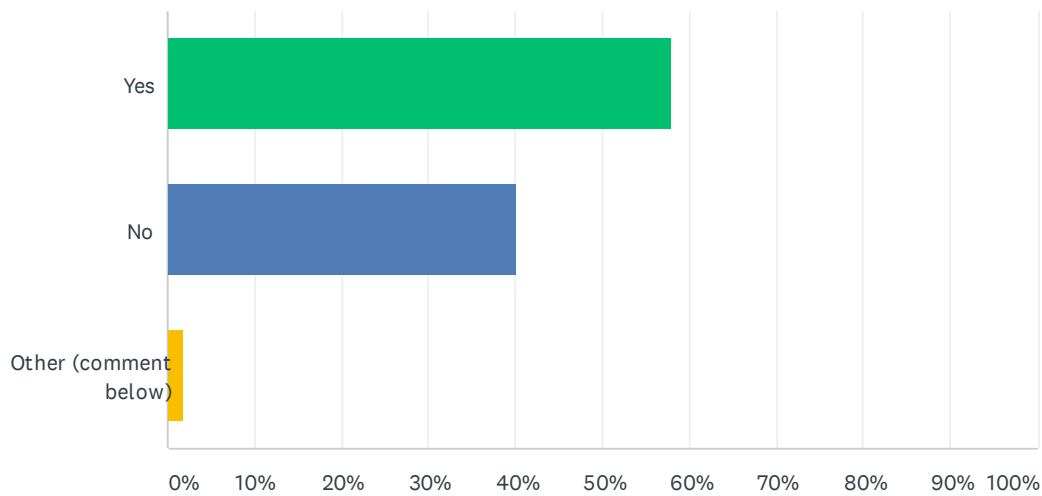
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As far as I know	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	not sure	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
3	not sure	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
4	It would benefit the town to join with other schools to expand curriculum and disperse costs over a wider area, like the CSD model.	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
5	need more arts and language - maybe school consolidation with hope	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
6	If we spend money on anything it should be teachers pay and the school. A quality school will attract more families.	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
7	Need for tightening of school budget more creative sharing of services w/ in administrative union. Should consider real cost of consolidation vs. maintaining virtually "private" school. Concept w/ out adequate state funding. Maybe should consider cost of state operation of school vs. town operation similar to Somerville.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

8	too much	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
9	Wasted funding! Homeschoolers get a better education on a tiny-family budget. AVS wastes its funding. Abraham Lincoln was living in a log cabin, home schooled + became president...Appleton pours into AVS-yet no presidential candidates are being made. Education needs to be re-thought... Lets start with AVS! Less money more intelligence.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
10	no control over children	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
11	School system is an area that really needs serious changes, maybe consolidation with a neighboring town. Need to find a way to reduce the tax burden , reallt need to find ways to increase the growth of residential cpmmercial taxable properties'	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
12	School's test results are not very good and it costs tax payers a huge amount of money.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
13	The school needs a bigger budget to increase programs, to keep up with 5 towns	4/5/2020 9:47 AM
14	Need to provide pre K and after school care.	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
15	We need to continue to stay on top of building safety.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
16	I'm not sure and need to follow this issue more closely.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
17	Over Adequate, need less employees, less bills	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
18	not enough budgetary support, but they manage with what they have.	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
19	The school is FAR too expensive. It should be consolidated or closed and students sent to private schools. It would be cheaper and higher quality education.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
20	However, adequate does not mean equal to the challenge of special needs students moving to town.	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
21	Don't know dont have children	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
22	principal paid too much for too little	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
23	However, we need to think about building a new, larger school	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
24	A V S needs teacher and student education improvement	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
25	I don't know, as I don't need them.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
26	The school needs more support.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
27	wonderful school!	2/7/2020 11:11 AM
28	It's hard to know where to begin. I wish my desires for quality education for the children of Appleton were achieved	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
29	Nope too expensive	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
30	Cost way more than they should - too much is being spent on non-educational nonsense.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
31	I am not sure. My child is not in school yet.	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
32	From what I have heard - YES	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
33	Classes are taught to the lowest level in group	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
34	Although I have never used the service	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
35	There was no gifted and talented program when our daughter was in school. Hopefully that has improved.	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
36	Public schools spend too much time teaching things that a child may use and not enough time teaching things that theu will definitely need to use in life.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
37	It may be advisable to consolidate with neighboring towns.	1/25/2020 3:31 PM
38	Avs is amazing	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
39	more than adequate	1/25/2020 1:25 PM

Q8. Are town recreational facilities adequate?

Answered: 162 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	58.02% 94
No	40.12% 65
Other (comment below)	1.85% 3
TOTAL	162

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Our whole town is a recreational area.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
2	Pretty nonexistent. Swimming spot would be nice.	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
3	Access to Sennebec pond	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 51 Skipped: 131

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Unable to answer, lacking knowledge of same	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	we need town access to Sennebec Pond for swimming and Kayaking	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
3	we need town access to Sennebec Pond for swimming and Kayaking	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
4	Appleton residents deserve a swimming area as well as access to freshwater boating.	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
5	do we have a swimming hole? tennis courts	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
6	too bad the ball field + team are no more	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
7	Could use more trails	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
8	Swimming area needed	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
9	unknown	5/3/2020 8:23 PM
10	Should schools join consolidation with other communities, present facility could be converted to town hall, rec center, leased spaces perhaps	5/3/2020 3:55 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

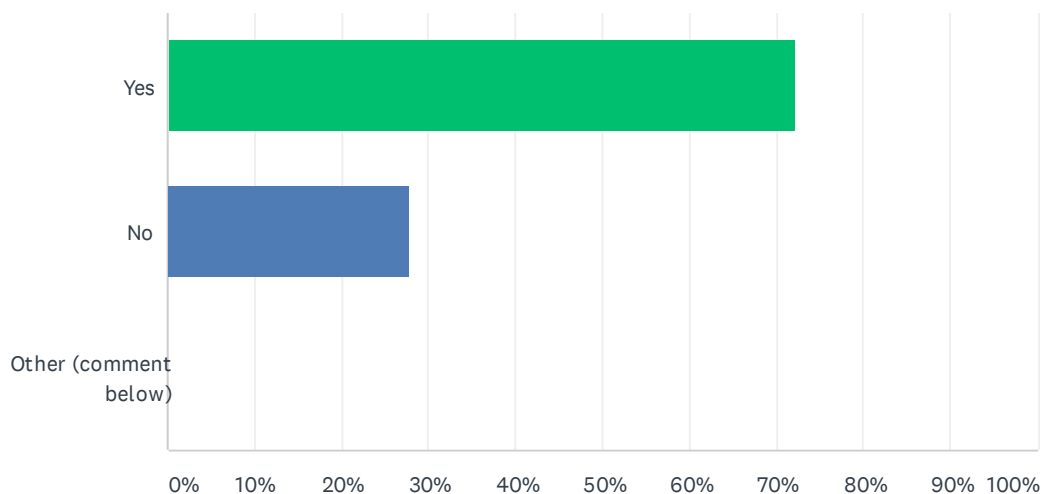
11	what facilities	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
12	Not provided by town, but ample available nearby.	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
13	Am not aware of any town recreational facilities in Appleton	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
14	What recreational facilities?	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
15	Do we have any?	4/3/2020 7:28 PM
16	There is a good trail system, school playground and park by the town office.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
17	Closing of little league field.	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
18	I wasn't aware there were any?	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
19	Town access to Sennebec Pond	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
20	N/A	3/20/2020 2:16 PM
21	As far as i know citizens get together themselves. The school and library provide programs etc.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
22	I don't know of any - except G River Land Trust trails	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
23	Hiking trails & Swinning ponds -yes, but no gym/recreation center.	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
24	Are there any?	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
25	no recreation facilities except school and library	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
26	I'm not aware that we have any recreational facilities. Do we?	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
27	Need public boat landing/ parking on Sennebec Pond	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
28	None	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
29	What would town recreational facilities look like? Game night and special events in the library are good, but that doesn't make Appleton Library a "recreational facility".	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
30	Snowmobile/cross country trails are nice but would be good to have a place like True Park in Hope. Love Pieris Pond.	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
31	Love the library	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
32	No facilities. Library sometimes available but then library volunteers make own personal decision what events can and cant be held there.	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
33	I wish we had public access to Sennebec Pond	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
34	None...library only! No athletic or health well being of community	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
35	But we don't have the money to build any either.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
36	Senebec Pond access would be a good an improvement	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
37	I didn't know any existed.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
38	Can Appleton please purchase, or negotiate a donation, for some water access? We blew it when the town decided to not buy Pieri's pond when it was offered for \$60,000. Surely as that property and others change hands due to aging, etc., some deal could be made for public access.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
39	The boat launches are not safe and need to be fixed	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
40	I don't know of any town recreational facilities.	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
41	we need to be creative in getting Appleton folks more active	2/7/2020 11:11 AM
42	there are none	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
43	There's recreational facilities?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
44	What facilities, and why should the town even have any?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
45	More green space- forests, trails would be great!	2/1/2020 11:21 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

46	Should allow atv clubs to work with snowmobile clubs to create atv trail system	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
47	I believe children between 1st and 8th grade need more after school activities available to them, especially ones parent's are not able to bring them to.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
48	What facilities? I am not aware of any	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
49	Although I have never used the facilities	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
50	Not sure what there is	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
51	what town facilities?	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q9. Is the service of solid waste disposal adequate?

Answered: 162 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	72.22% 117
No	27.78% 45
Other (comment below)	0.00% 0
TOTAL	162

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Add Comment Here

Answered: 49 Skipped: 133

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	would be great if open on Sunday as well	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
2	use a dumpster	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
3	more recycling	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
4	with competition in this area getting more competitive we as a town should cost / benefit private use	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
5	dump is part of country living	5/3/2020 9:59 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

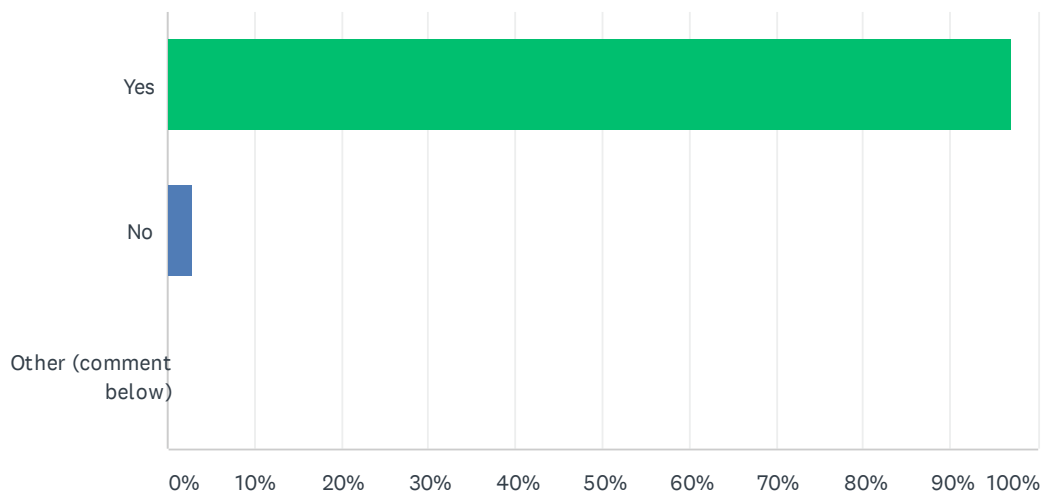
6	We have inadequate recycling of plastics. How come Camden/Rockport continue to recycle so many types of plastic when we are limited to what we can recycle.	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
7	Just adequate, MCSW is much better.	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
8	Guys that work there are creepy+ stare. They smoke near us while we try to recycle our glass/cans/plastics.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
9	should be open Sundays	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
10	Sunday service would be helpful	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
11	Am not aware as I take my garbage to the transfer station	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
12	The guys at the solid waste site are surly and the hours are terrible.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
13	What solid waste disposal?	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
14	Single-source recycling would be great....	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
15	Fewer and fewer plastics remain recyclable due to profit margins needed by contracted services. Appleton unfortunately doesn't have much for available options.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
16	Should reopen on Sundays to handle volume	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
17	No experience	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
18	no waste removal	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
19	I wish that the town and/or transfer station would develop a way to recycle/reuse all the plastics that we now have to throw away. I also wish that the transfer station was open on EITHER Sunday or Monday.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
20	Tri-county disposal has great disposal and recycling facilities	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
21	what service? I haul my own trash and pay for bags...and they stopped recycling the majority of plastics which are the bulkiest and most terrible waste.	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
22	We need better recycling options, especially plastics.	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
23	Hours are terrible, employees are surly.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
24	If by that is meant the Union transfer station, and taking our trash there, it is adequate.	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
25	We pay for a private service - but the Tri-State facility is very good	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
26	The current Transfer Station staff are great!	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
27	As with all of Maine recycling has some what diminished.	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
28	What?	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
29	Not being open on Sunday is foolish	2/9/2020 9:37 PM
30	Recycling program needs improvement.	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
31	TCSWMO should be open on Sundays.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
32	We desperately need plastic recycling! Only #2 is now recyclable.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
33	over priced	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
34	as long as you are willing to go to the tricounty waste	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
35	Need another day	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
36	Sunday hours need to be returned	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
37	Residents need to be responsible for minimizing the trash they generate.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
38	It is do it yourself so if you don't like it it is your own fault. However, it is sad when the facility responsible for recycling things like plastics refuses to recycle them, they just add them to the trash.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
39	No opinion	1/30/2020 7:07 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

40	Don't understand question - we travel to Belfast transfer station.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
41	Days open are a problem	1/29/2020 6:28 AM
42	Tri Country should contact with Eco Maine, or another service that recycles plastics. The items they no longer accept at TriCounty is unacceptable	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
43	Does not apply. Most in town have private sewer as far as I know	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
44	lack of battery recycling. No large scale brush (stump dump) removal	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
45	Collection of hazardous waste should be available more often.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
46	Always helpful	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
47	How about contracting with a curb-side (road-side) weekly garbage hauler? Which we as residents would pay for, NOT with more taxes!!!	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
48	I would like to see more recycling	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
49	Bring back Sundays. Very crowded with just one weekend day	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q10. Are services of the town library adequate?

Answered: 177 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	97.18%	172
No	2.82%	5
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		177

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Add Comment Here

Answered: 26 Skipped: 156

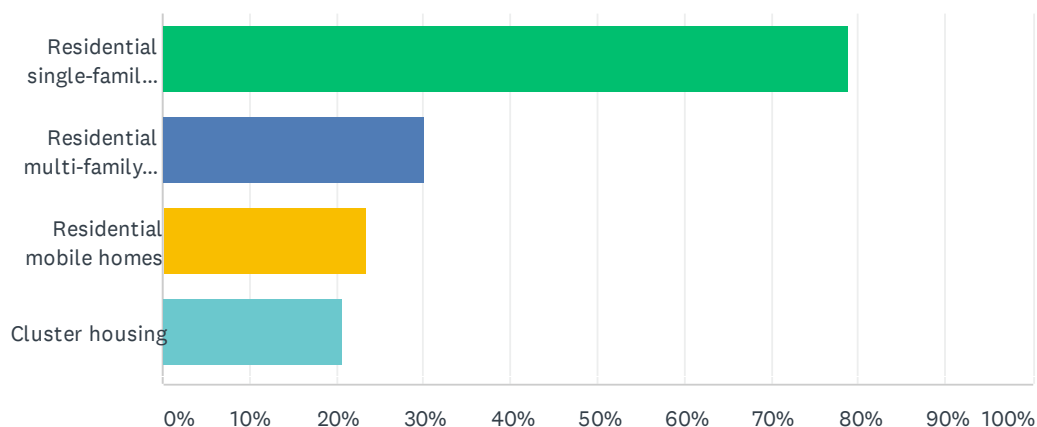
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	excellent facility and services	5/10/2020 10:40 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

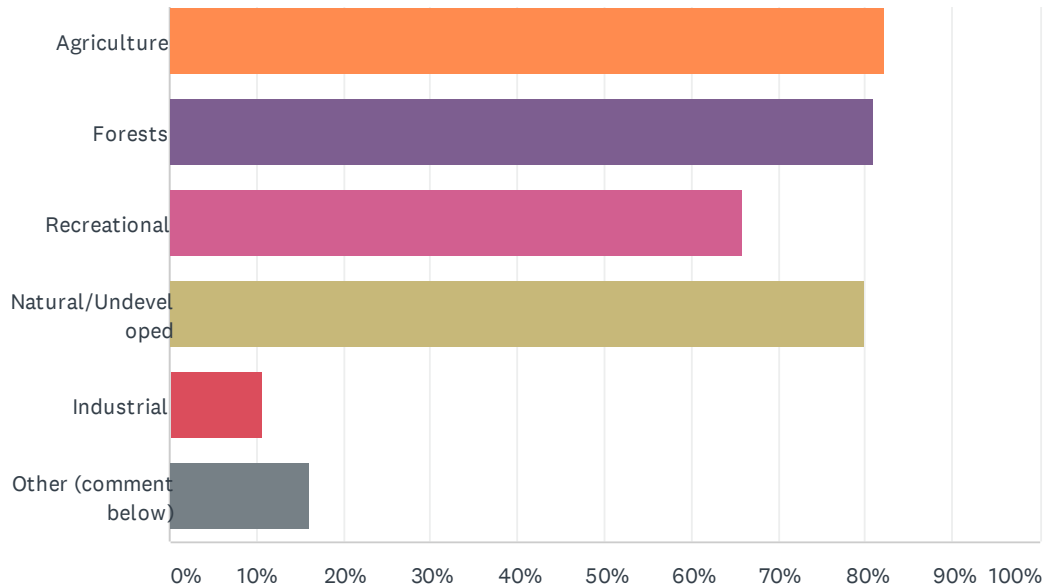
2	I understand that more hours open requires more volunteers	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
3	Don't use the library	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
4	Peaceful environment. Helpful workers	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
5	Very Commendable Library for a town this small	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
6	The library is not open enough.	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
7	love the new library, it's great!	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
8	The library is one of the best things about this town.	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
9	Great library, great volunteers and staff!	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
10	We have a great library.	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
11	Library should be open and available to all. They should not encourage or discouraged who uses its services	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
12	I love Appleton's library!	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
13	The volunteers do a wonderful job.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
14	Odd hours not conducive	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
15	The library is not a town library. It is a private library which asks for money from the town each year.	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
16	Great library	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
17	Fake lectures on the constitution? Sad!	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
18	The library volunteers are wonderful!	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
19	We have a wonderful library! Thank you.	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
20	Though I would like to see more events and longer hours.	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
21	Wonderful Library	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
22	Lovely library	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
23	longer hours would be nice	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
24	Always helpful	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
25	We have a great library!	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
26	we do not have a town library. it is a private non profit entity.	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q11. What type of land use would you like to see in Appleton? Check all that apply.

Answered: 179 Skipped: 3



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Residential single-family homes	78.77%	141
Residential multi-family homes	30.17%	54
Residential mobile homes	23.46%	42
Cluster housing	20.67%	37
Agriculture	82.12%	147
Forests	81.01%	145
Recreational	65.92%	118
Natural/Undeveloped	79.89%	143
Industrial	10.61%	19
Other (comment below)	16.20%	29
Total Respondents: 179		

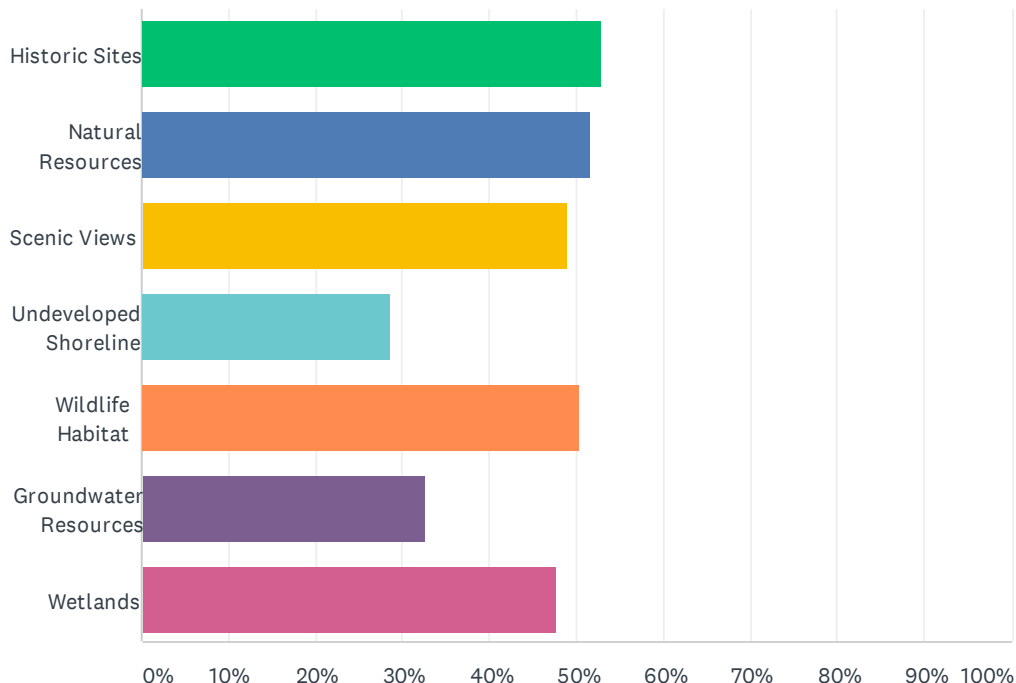
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Its nice to have a restaurant	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
2	Co-housing like in Belfast	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
3	Duplexes might be best rather than "multi-multi".	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
4	commercial business	5/3/2020 3:09 PM
5	Expand AVS + higher... opps... I attended AVS (in all fairness not all grade levels), hire a few more teachers for our own HIGH SCHOOL! Save \$ in long run instead of sending kids + \$ to Camden. Attach solar + make sun pay for AVS education-make our school "shine" + have other districts pay us to educate their kids. Involve Agricultural learning, hands on--	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
6	As stated before we need tax dollar growth.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
7	Solar farms?	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
8	I love that we have a great restaurant in town! I would patronize and support small businesses in town.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

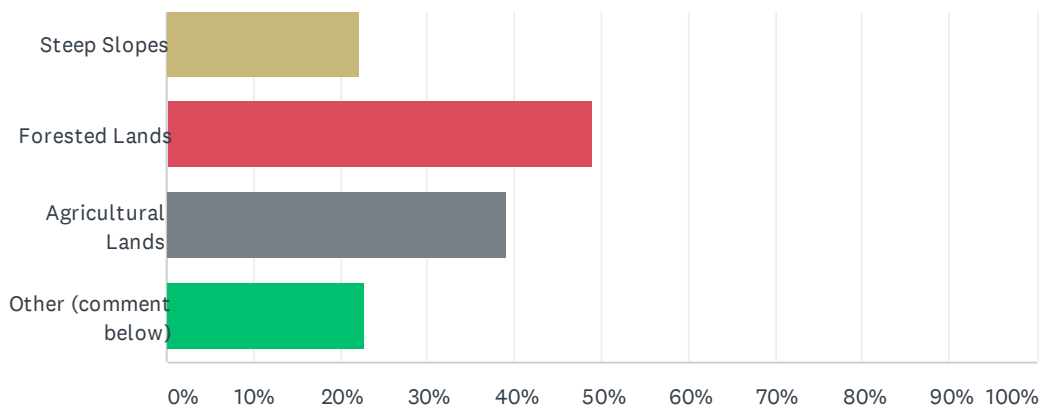
9	Other commercial businesses	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
10	commercial	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
11	Hiking trails	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
12	Commercial	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
13	Single mobile homes rather than in parks;	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
14	Businesses	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
15	More shoreline development	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
16	Appleton should be doing more to promote business development.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
17	Open space is paramount.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
18	Wind/solar	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
19	local small business use should continue	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
20	Businesses!!!!	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
21	The town needs to bite the bullet and establish zoning to encourage development to go where it's appropriate and not happen where it shouldn't.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
22	Multiple unit retirement cottages or apartments	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
23	Free market to decide	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
24	Home businesses.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
25	Small business is good - NOT INDUSTRIAL!!!	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
26	small businesses	1/29/2020 6:43 PM
27	Co-housing	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
28	Small industrial businesses	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
29	MAYBE industrial--would depend on the industry.	1/26/2020 11:17 AM

Q12. Check all areas you feel Appleton protects adequately.

Answered: 153 Skipped: 29



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Historic Sites	52.94%	81
Natural Resources	51.63%	79
Scenic Views	49.02%	75
Undeveloped Shoreline	28.76%	44
Wildlife Habitat	50.33%	77
Groundwater Resources	32.68%	50
Wetlands	47.71%	73
Steep Slopes	22.22%	34
Forested Lands	49.02%	75
Agricultural Lands	39.22%	60
Other (comment below)	22.88%	35
Total Respondents: 153		

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	need more information	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
2	not enough information about what is or is not protected	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
3	unsure of levels of protection for the above	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
4	unsure of levels of protection for the above	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
5	Appleton needs better protections for scenic views, nighttime light pollution, pesticide and herbicide spraying, and protections for drinking water sources. Tax breaks/credits for organic practices could encourage more blueberry growers to join their peers and go organic.....	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
6	we have 0 rules for spraying chemicals - so people spray wherever and whenever they want - if we as a community are serious about preserving our natural resources - We NEED to take greater environmental action to protect the town and us the people	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
7	I would be sad if the Pitman land on the on the down hill side was allowed to grow into forest again. I know harvesting by hand is not profitable. Could it be burned anyway?	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
8	not sure what the town does.	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
9	We are on the cusps of BIG CHANGE, we need to develop a plan all of these resources with possible zoning, ordinances and whatever (grants) we can. We have a beautiful valley-exceptionally so! Gentrification is already changing our scenic resources in negative ways.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM

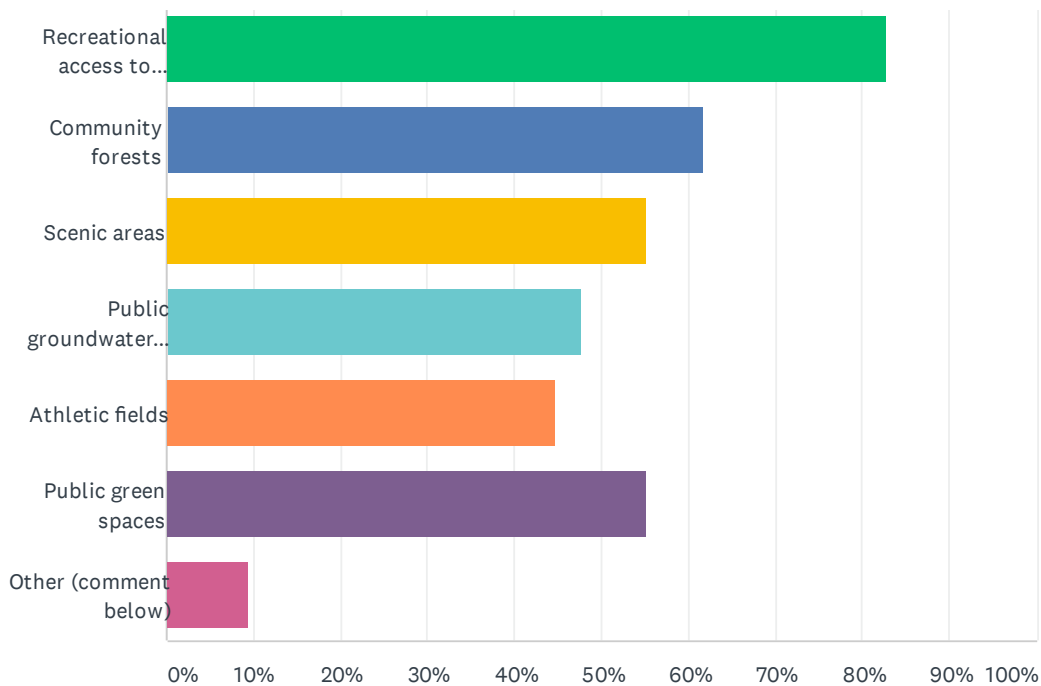
2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

10	Its all worth protecting as long as we're not over-regulating	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
11	I personally think that the tree growth program needs to go away for all residencial properties and owners pay tax on all property owned. this might help makemore land available for future homes.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
12	I don't know enough to specifically check the boxes above. The new house across from Deerfoot on Sennebec Lake sorta spoiled the view, but what can you do?	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
13	The ability of landowners to carry on agricultural and related business enterprises on their properties	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
14	Town does not own these things, but protects natural sites and watches out for historical buildings and land.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
15	DOT's cut down of our giant oaks along RTS. 105 1nd 131 were a real loss.	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
16	It's protected to much	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
17	Not sure what Town of Appleton protects ?	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
18	Over protected	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
19	Water is questionable.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
20	not sure	3/1/2020 1:49 AM
21	I'd like to see all of this better protected.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
22	Does the town protect any of these things?	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
23	I'm a little unsure of what protective measures are being taken inn Appleton, but I do appreciate the GRLT's preserves here. I'd love to see more land protection.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
24	I didn't know Appleton protected any of these features.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
25	N/a	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
26	need more protection for all of above	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
27	Don't know that we do any of the above	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
28	Well, there is that new house at the 105 131 intersection that destroys the scenic view of Senebec.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
29	As far as I can tell, all of the above are done by private individuals.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
30	I don't feel that I know enough about this to comment fully...	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
31	Unknown	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
32	The town does alright protecting some of these things bit new comers to the town try and make the locals who have been here for years feel inferior to them and are constantly demanding equality. Hypocrisy dont you think?	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
33	Scenic hilltops are being developed along Appleton's ridges. Light Pollution. The town needs a Land Use Ordinance.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
34	Only with shore land zoning as far as I know	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
35	I am unaware that there is town sponsored protection of any of these	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Q13. Check all areas you feel Appleton should retain or acquire for public use.

Answered: 170 Skipped: 12

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Recreational access to freshwater	82.94%	141
Community forests	61.76%	105
Scenic areas	55.29%	94
Public groundwater sources	47.65%	81
Athletic fields	44.71%	76
Public green spaces	55.29%	94
Other (comment below)	9.41%	16
Total Respondents: 170		

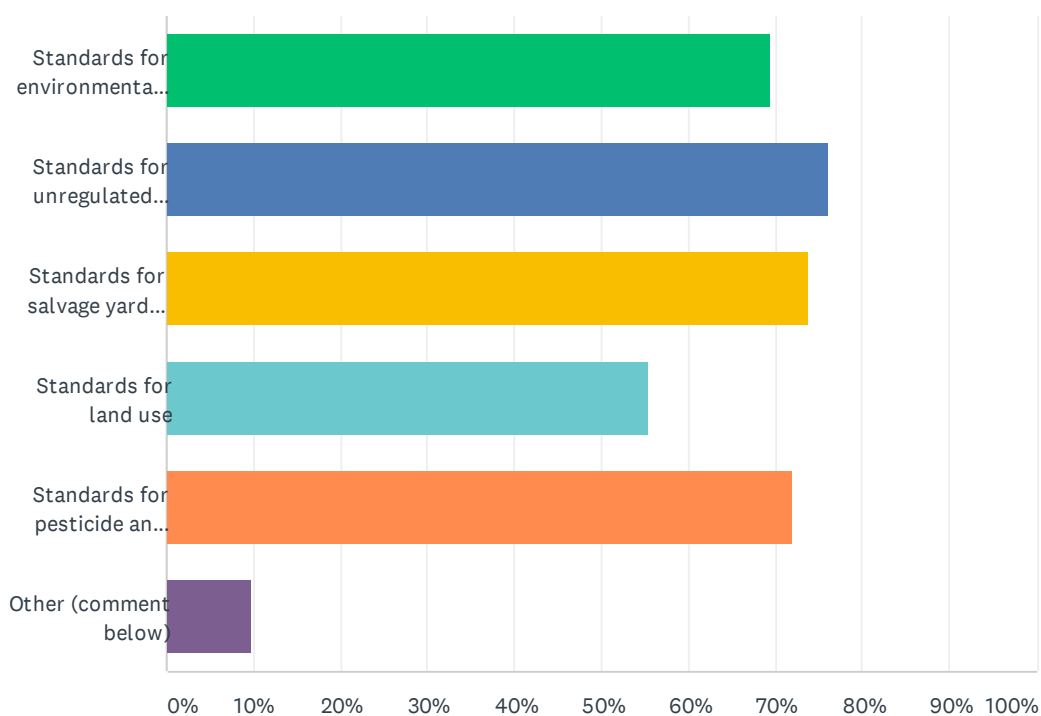
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Former "Mink shore", Pieri Pond area, with accepted uses determined by town ordinance or whatever is required, Perhaps "Appleton Resident only" w permit stickers. Any town- opened land and adjacent to any water resources should be retained. Land containing natural aquifers should be owned and protected.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
2	Do not retain any land for public use	5/3/2020 2:59 PM
3	...And label... so public knows that they have legal access to these sites.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
4	the town should only own property for necessary building (school, town office, fire station, library, historical building, an access to water supplies for fire trucks, any property the town owns should be used for taxable purposes. Sell to a home owner. or business.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
5	I'd love a small beach like Liberty has on the lake, but there really isn't a likely spot on our end of Sennebec.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
6	Town access to Sennebec pond	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
7	Town Common or open field for events.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
8	None	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
9	access on Appleton ridge	3/3/2020 7:32 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

10	But again, we can't afford to add areas for public use.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
11	especially public access to Sennebec with parking	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
12	Public sports complex	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
13	None of the town's business to waste tax payer's money on.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
14	Yes! I think this is the right direction for Appleton to go.	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
15	ATV trails	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
16	The town should not acquire any more property. The town should focus on maintaining its Assets, and figure out where town facilities move to in the coming years.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Q14. Check all areas you believe Appleton should have ordinances to regulate:

Answered: 164 Skipped: 18



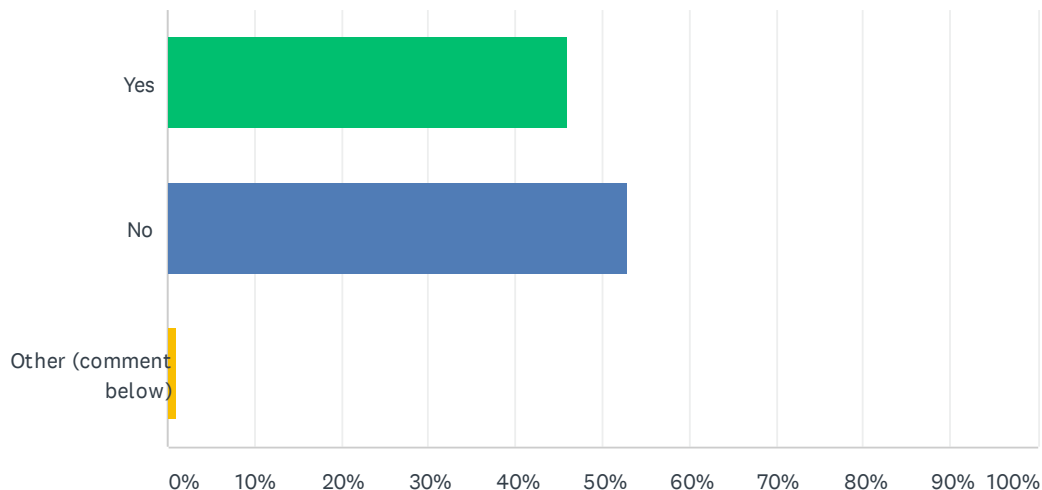
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Standards for environmental protection	69.51%	114
Standards for unregulated waste disposal	76.22%	125
Standards for salvage yards and automotive recycling	73.78%	121
Standards for land use	55.49%	91
Standards for pesticide and herbicide use	71.95%	118
Other (comment below)	9.76%	16
Total Respondents: 164		

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	noise	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
2	Residential Junk yard / trash build up	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
3	The fewer ordinances the better. There are plenty of laws in place to deal with all the above.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
4	Town should keep track of all these and more. Have regs to keep all sites clean - no dumps on private lands, junk around houses.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
5	None	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
6	To follow basic Maine Building codes and that all contractors should be bonded and vetted to prevent "castle builders" type of event from occurring	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
7	Less regulations.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
8	The state protects many of these however some, such as unregulated waste and pesticide herbicide use are not adequately covered by state law.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
9	We have such a nice place to live it's worth protecting.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
10	town should never regulate anyone's land but the towns land	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
11	Location of all new building, residential, commercial, etc. Otherwise known as zoning.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
12	Oversight and standards for large open mining; standards for water use and taking (so Sennebec/St.George River aren't sucked dry); Dark Sky regulations including a ban on 24-hour commercial lighting	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
13	Are these the only choices?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
14	Only if not already regulated by the state	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
15	we or state haw all above	1/25/2020 1:32 PM
16	The town needs a Land Use Ordinance	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Q15. Should Appleton regulate cannabis production, processing and sales?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	46.02%	81
No	52.84%	93
Other (comment below)	1.14%	2
TOTAL		176

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	The town should allow such businesses to exist and follow the state rules and regulations.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
2	no opinion	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 36 Skipped: 146

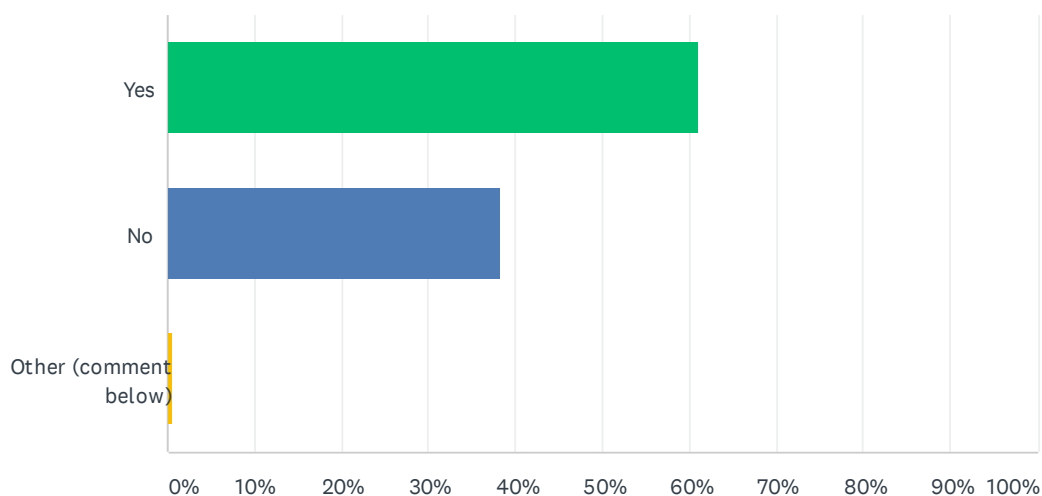
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	safe distance from school	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
2	safe distance from school	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
3	Tax it	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
4	I don't want any in Appleton. Look into Colorado statistics. It's poison for a healthy community.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
5	I'm against it	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
6	Should be areas that off limits and should be some type of permit so these locations are known.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
7	Due to the fact that most of Appleton is wooded, there is very little regulation in "backyard growing" . There is very little "checking up" on anyone with a license.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
8	Growers should be registered, protected, and encouraged. They should in return be open and honest.	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
9	Only if the town wants stricter regulation than the State	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
10	Its should follow state guidelines	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
11	Let the State figure it out.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
12	That should not be allowed	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
13	ban it	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
14	It appears that state regulations would regulate this	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
15	There should be a permit in place for each cannabis production business. And they need to be filed with the town before production begins.	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
16	Keep it out completely.	3/9/2020 12:53 PM
17	Keep a drug production, processing and sales out of town please.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
18	State law is adequate, the town is small and does not have the resources to regulate or enforce cannabis production or sales.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
19	I don't believe the town should take on the responsibility of regulating cannabis, unless its policy is more liberal than that of the state.	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
20	The state and federal government are doing that enough.	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
21	Maine state law should be followed...	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
22	Only inasmuch as regulation might help protect agricultural land and prevent over-development, not to vilify cannabis.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
23	If regulating cannabis means getting more tax revenue for the town, by all means do it.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
24	The overregulation of cannabis production throughout Maine has been extremely detrimental to the small businesses and individual producers while benefiting large out of state corporations.	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
25	It's been going on for decades. At least if it's legal & has some oversight, we can have some leverage to limit folks from secretly growing on someone else's land.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
26	let the state do that	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
27	Free market people! Less govt regs	2/3/2020 8:15 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

28	Just lay low on that. Let people be free do do what they want to do on this.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
29	It is a Federal crime to grow/sell marijuana so why would the town want to promote illegal activities?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
30	I am not sure. I would need to know more about implications.	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
31	Make sure it is a good base for Town income and is allocated appropriately.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
32	Is regulation a requirement for production, processing, and sales? If not, no; if yes, then yes	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
33	I believe Appleton should allow it	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
34	Regulate not to prevent but to promote and enable lawful sale of marijuana.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
35	YES!!! OUTLAW it altogether!!!!	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
36	Regulating is fine as long as it's not banned I think people should be able to do what they want with it on there own land	1/25/2020 3:32 PM

Q16. Should Appleton consider zoning to control future growth and development?

Answered: 172 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	61.05%	105
No	38.37%	66
Other (comment below)	0.58%	1
TOTAL		172

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Possibly	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

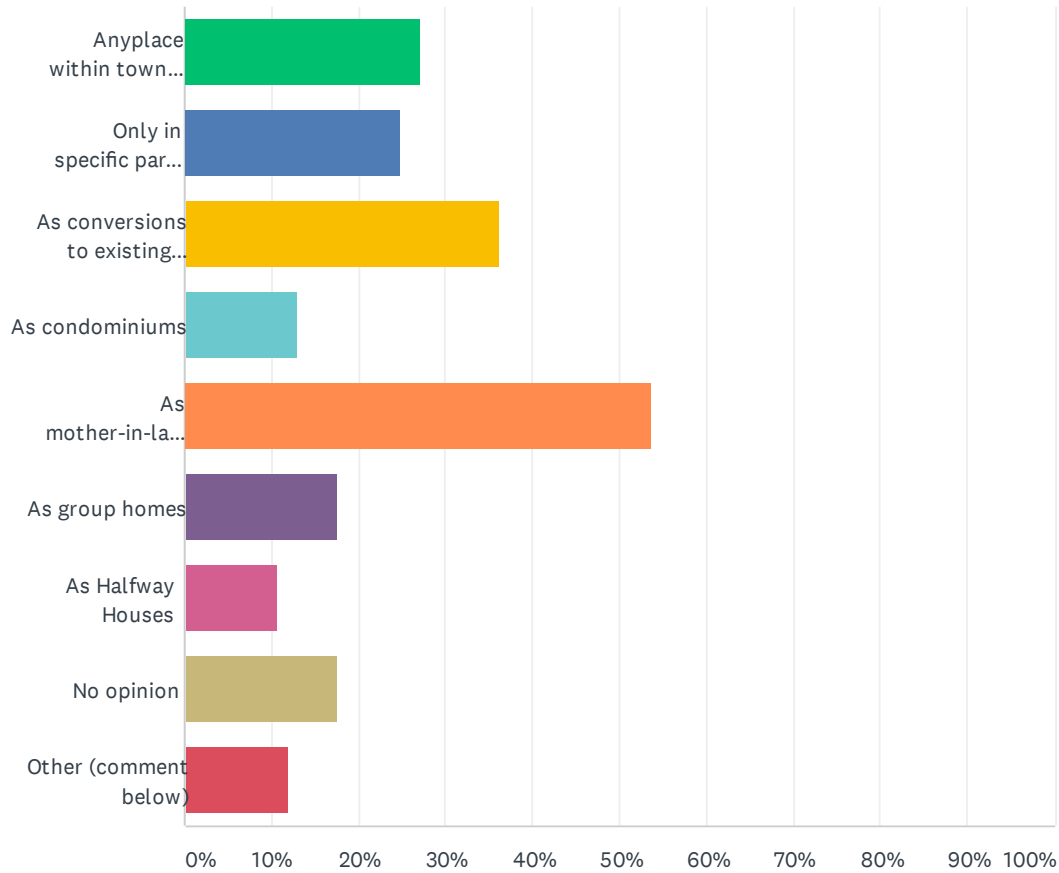
Answered: 26 Skipped: 156

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	unknown	5/3/2020 8:23 PM
2	Not at this time	5/3/2020 2:59 PM
3	Control maybe but not to stop growth.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
4	We need growth and development	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
5	If Appleton did so it would likely be based upon outdated concepts of land use zoning that would encourage a suburban development model.	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
6	undecided	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
7	Consider! Keep track	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
8	Maybe, unfamiliar with current zoning.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
9	Consider and evaluate - to see how zoning might preserve Appleton's rural character while allowing limited commercial activity	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
10	If properly structured, worded and enforced, zoning regulations COULD help us maintain the small, rural nature of our town. BUT, in many New England towns, zoning has become a monster on the loose. We don't want that.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
11	not yet...	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
12	Maintain the things people love about Appleton. Keep it rural, underdeveloped, and beautiful.	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
13	What growth and development?	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
14	Again, people like Appleton because it's a beautiful valley town. If we let all kinds of growth happen, it will detract from that.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
15	Not there yet.	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
16	We need more familys and tax revenue. We are pushing long time residents out of town	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
17	I do not see how this is relevant as the property taxes already keeps future development at bay.	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
18	One growth area should be defined (center on the village) and compact. But it's almost too late.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
19	The agrarian nature and rural charm of Appleton are intrinsic to its character, allowing it to become just another suburban outcropping would be a tremendous loss.	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
20	Cluster housing. No trailer parks. No big box stores such as Dollar Store, Walmart et al. Any encouragement for development such as tax abatement should go to current Appleton residents first. Don't allow a few residents to bulldoze over zoning in ways that infringe on others just because they are related to someone on a board.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
21	Free market	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
22	Maybe....No Walmarts etc	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
23	We could have better zoning to manage development, as well as encourage it in ways that are appropriate.	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
24	Appleton is special - to keep it that way the Town needs to have restrictive zoning..... hate to sound privileged, but trailers should only be allowed for temporary living....	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
25	Although it is Union, it was very disappointing to see Dollar General go up. I would hate to see the same thing happen in our village. Appleton should remain small business oriented.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
26	I do not want to see retail come to this town.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM

Q17. Check all areas where you believe Appleton should allow multi-family housing.

Answered: 177 Skipped: 5



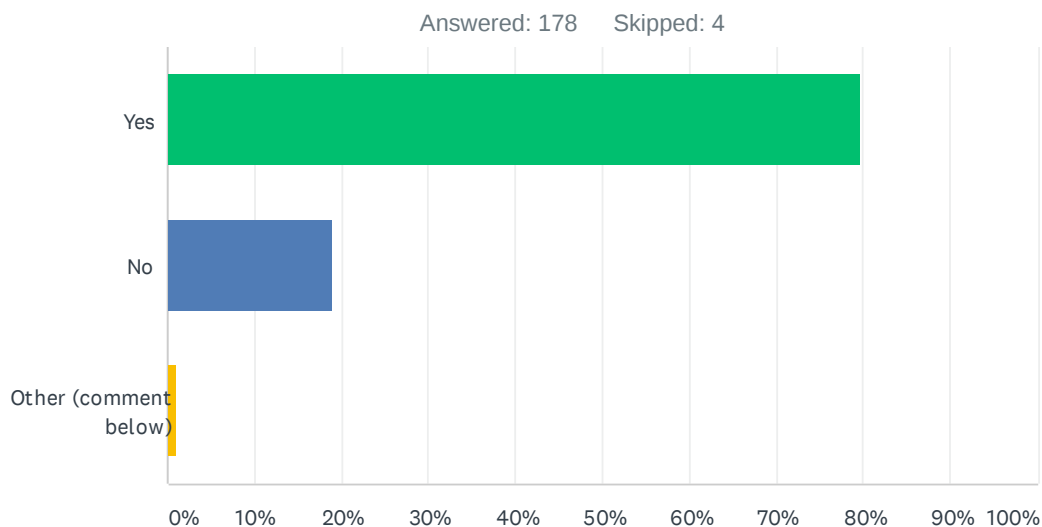
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
Anyplace within town limits		27.12% 48
Only in specific parts of town		24.86% 44
As conversions to existing single-family residences		36.16% 64
As condominiums		12.99% 23
As mother-in-law apartments		53.67% 95
As group homes		17.51% 31
As Halfway Houses		10.73% 19
No opinion		17.51% 31
Other (comment below)		11.86% 21
Total Respondents: 177		

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	no supportive of multihousing	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
2	burketville	5/10/2020 10:40 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	no supportive of multihousing	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
2	burketville	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
3	See eco-village co-housing model in Belfast. Affordable housing model:town owns land, owner owns house.	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
4	Let us keep the rural-quiet country community	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
5	whwere there is adequate space	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
6	Case by case upon request	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
7	As long as properties are reasonably maintained, setbacks are observed and lot sizes are reasonable, let people do what they wish with their property.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
8	Anywhere	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
9	Is there a need?	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
10	As long as septic is permitted.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
11	This is a tough one-- I don't think there's anything wrong with mother-in-law apartments or guest cabins, but I am very wary of developing more housing as Appleton is a community that, for many, is a quiet haven from over-crowding.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
12	Allowed only in growth area; conversion of existing buildings ok.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
13	Multi family housing has many forms. Housing is an issue, but frankly, large apartment complexes are not in the best interest of Appleton unless other factors change. The owner would be taxed, not the renters; if it's family apartments and 30 families with multiple kids move in, how will that impact our school expenses, road expenses, etc.?	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
14	Keep Appleton simple. Allow residents to add on or house family . Make it hard for a business venture to exploit our town's beauty.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
15	We moved out here to get AWAY from all that stuff!!!!!!!	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
16	Very tricky - this takes judgement without prejudice..... not an easy issue when it is next door to you. The Town voters should have a say in any controversial application.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
17	I wouldn't like to exclude them, bit it's like to see the rural Marie of Appleton retained	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
18	I do not believe Appleton should allow multi-family housing	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
19	As residential community for 55+	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
20	any place with planning board/ abutting neighbor approval	1/25/2020 5:25 PM
21	Low income complexes are always needed	1/25/2020 3:32 PM

Q18. Are you satisfied with Appleton's minimum lot size of 1 acre?



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	79.78%	142
No	19.10%	34
Other (comment below)	1.12%	2
TOTAL		178

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	would like to see it a 2 acres	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
2	Limits access to homes.	1/13/2020 12:04 PM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 36 Skipped: 146

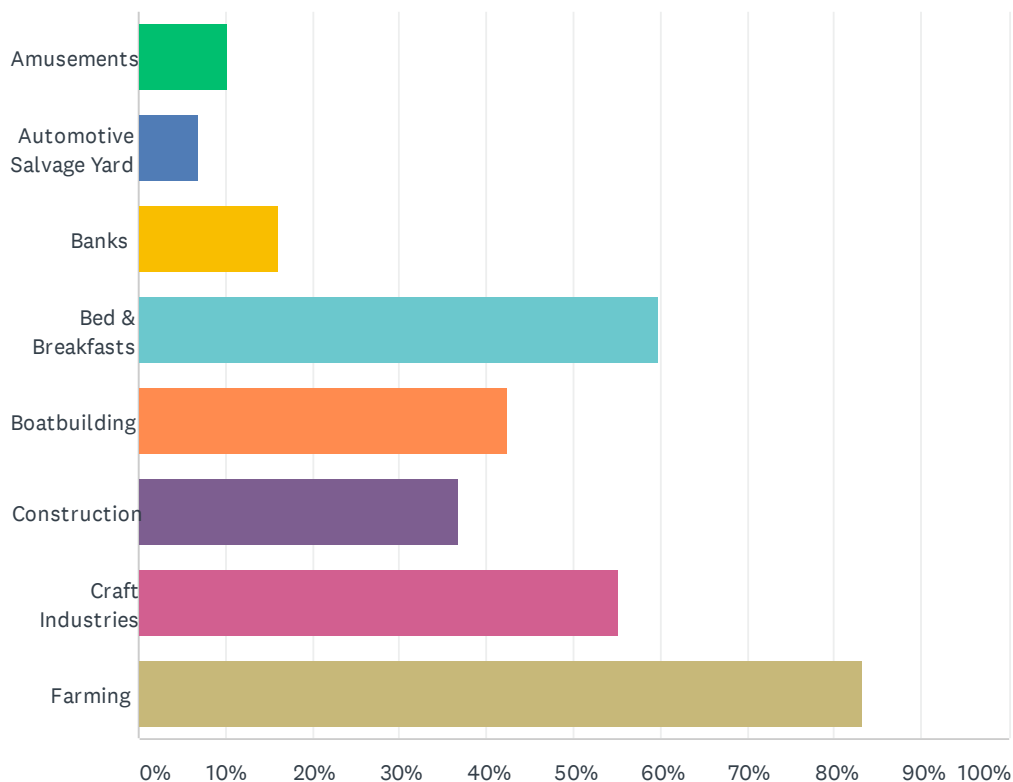
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It should be greater than one acre	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	maybe zoning	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
3	what about farms; retirement home(s)	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
4	To retain the rural character of our community, I would favor a minimum lot size of 2 acres.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
5	Less than 1 acre in parts of town	5/3/2020 2:59 PM
6	Maybe tax cuts could be given to people with more than 1 acre, to encourage people to have homes on more than 1 acre, so we keep that "country feel" of Appleton.m	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
7	Larger 3+ Acres	5/3/2020 1:50 PM
8	I think under certain conditions such as subdivisions , mobile home parks that should be looked at on case to case.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
9	I think it is too big, many towns have moved to smaller lot sizes. Appleton should too.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
10	2 or more	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
11	Although I wouldn't complain if it were 2 acres, but that's too restrictive for lower-income people.	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
12	Lots are narrow and long. Decreasing lot size would drastically increase infrastructure.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
13	Would consider raising it.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
14	Should be smaller	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
15	Provided that that one acre has adequate geological protection for drinking water on- and off-site.	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
16	I'd actually rather see a minimum of FIVE acres. But this would make land unaffordable for the younger generation and other people who could help keep our town the special place that it is.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
17	Should be 1 1/2 to 2 acres to insure adequate separation from well to septic system (including eventual septic leach field replacement	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
18	Need more residential growth in Appleton. I believe we are currently land poor. To many exempted tax paying properties	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
19	A one acre lot size is fairly big, in my opinion it should be smaller, perhaps 1/4 acre.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
20	Small lots sizes allow density... and therefore might allow clustering in villages - leaving larger open spaces intact	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
21	Two acres minimum	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
22	Could be smaller, for less sprawl.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

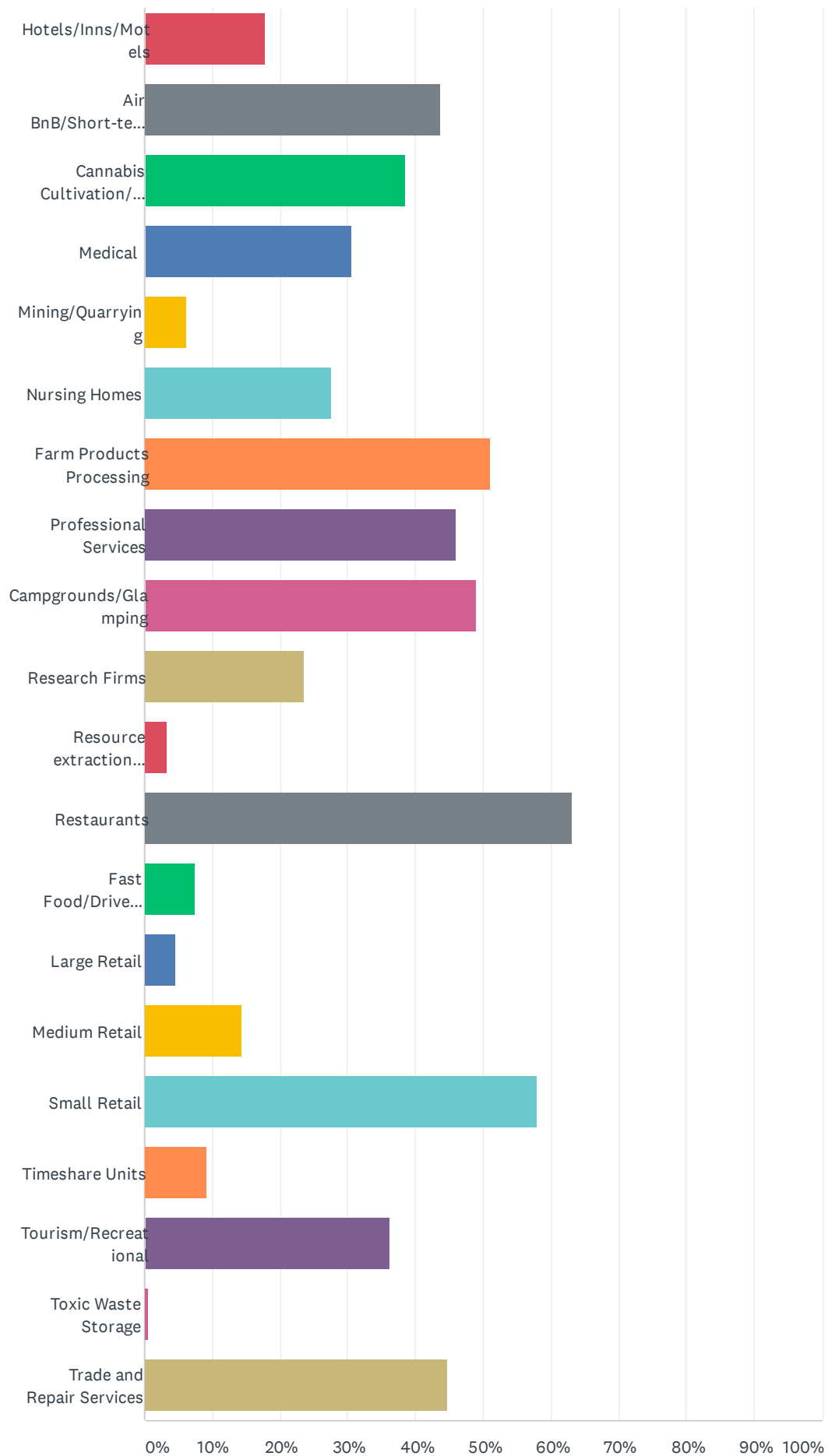
23	Make it 2 or more. Keep Appleton rural	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
24	Lot size should be reduced in the growth area; need much larger minimum lot sizes in "rural" areas.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
25	Any lots being subdivided in the future should be larger than one acre	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
26	We need to look at cluster housing or perhaps a co-housing plan. One acre sounds small, but if it were possible to have, say, 5 houses with a total of 5 acres, some left as open space, that could be a nicer long-term development plan, and allow more preservation of natural habitat vs. being all lawn.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
27	Lot sizes should be increased to at least 2 acres.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
28	Don't have an opinion	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
29	Minimum lot size outside immediate village should be minimum 2 acres or greater. The	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
30	Should be 2+acres	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
31	To preserve the Town's attributes I would like to see it changed to three acres with a minimum of 250' frontage.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
32	I am satisfied though my lot is less than 1 acre.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
33	Should be higher. 5 acres.	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
34	didn't know this was a thing?	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
35	I guess so..	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
36	Would decreasing this allow more development in clusters in the village vs. development spread far apart. Development in clusters would be better.	1/25/2020 4:45 PM

Q19. Select the following businesses/industries you would like to move to Appleton, or expand in Appleton if they already exist. Check all that apply.

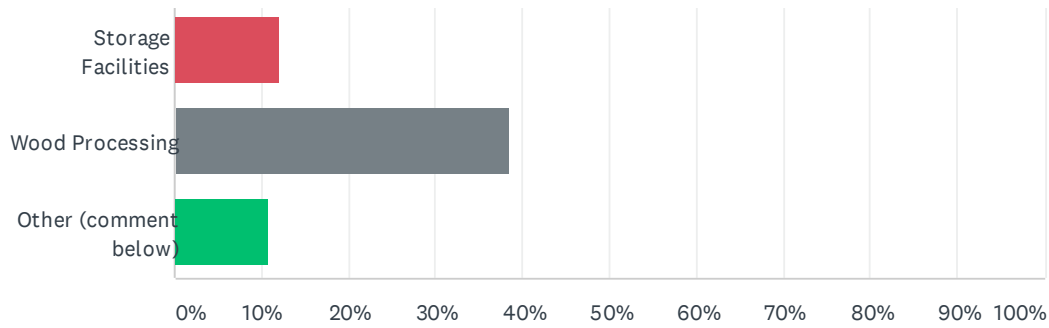
Answered: 174 Skipped: 8



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Amusements	10.34%	18
Automotive Salvage Yard	6.90%	12
Banks	16.09%	28
Bed & Breakfasts	59.77%	104
Boatbuilding	42.53%	74
Construction	36.78%	64
Craft Industries	55.17%	96
Farming	83.33%	145
Hotels/Inns/Motels	17.82%	31
Air BnB/Short-term rentals	43.68%	76
Cannabis Cultivation/Processing/Sales	38.51%	67
Medical	30.46%	53
Mining/Quarrying	6.32%	11
Nursing Homes	27.59%	48
Farm Products Processing	51.15%	89
Professional Services	45.98%	80
Campgrounds/Glamping	48.85%	85
Research Firms	23.56%	41
Resource extraction (i.e. water)	3.45%	6
Restaurants	63.22%	110
Fast Food/Drive Thrus	7.47%	13
Large Retail	4.60%	8
Medium Retail	14.37%	25
Small Retail	58.05%	101
Timeshare Units	9.20%	16
Tourism/Recreational	36.21%	63
Toxic Waste Storage	0.57%	1

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

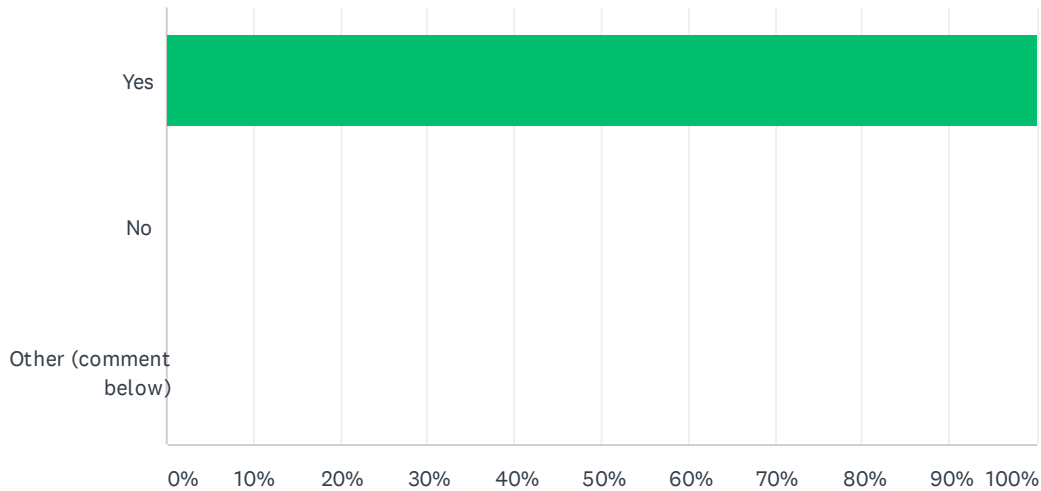
Trade and Repair Services	44.83%	78
Storage Facilities	12.07%	21
Wood Processing	38.51%	67
Other (comment below)	10.92%	19
Total Respondents: 174		

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	"small scale"	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	No arcades. Private medical practices. Farm products processing if regulated by town. Would not support poultry/meat processing. Favor veg, fruit processing. No more camping, not on Sennebec developed enough already! Depends on what research firms, possible impacts on community resources, safety and environment. Tourism, agro, natural hist, low impact, hiking, canoeing, etc. Storage facilities in existing structures, no "farms" of storage building taking up beautiful open space. We should focus on our community being a quality residential/small business town, retaining the character of a true community, not being "taken over" by outside real estate investors, developers, short term rentals, condos, motels, etc.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
3	Any business that brings in tax dollars and employs people can only be a plus.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
4	Small businesses in existing homes may be more realistic.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
5	In an earlier question, I said that I'd like to see us recycle/reuse plastics. Toward that end, Appleton could "host" a small plant that made new products from those plastics.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
6	It's a free country, anything they want	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
7	All	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
8	Any industry that does not permanently degrade the natural resources of the town should be promoted.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
9	I'd rather pay higher taxes and have fewer industries personally. Keep Appleton the way it is.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
10	On the whole, Union seems like a more central town for services to be located and be successful	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
11	Post Office for mail delivery	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
12	very small retail -	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
13	Let market dec	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
14	No comment	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
15	people from large and small cities love to come to Appleton to GETAWAY and be close to Belfast, Camden, Rockport & Rockland. STAY SMALL WHOLE INCREASING TAX BASE WITH EMPHASIS ON CREATING NATURAL HABITAT.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
16	more cell towers, wireless internet or fiber!	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
17	More businesses are needed in Appleton	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
18	NO to toxic waste storage and water extraction	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
19	Aroma Joe's!	1/25/2020 1:35 PM

Q20. Should people be allowed to have small businesses in their homes as long as they meet town standards related to traffic safety, environmental and neighborhood impacts?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 2

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	100.00% 180
No	0.00% 0
Other (comment below)	0.00% 0
TOTAL	180

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

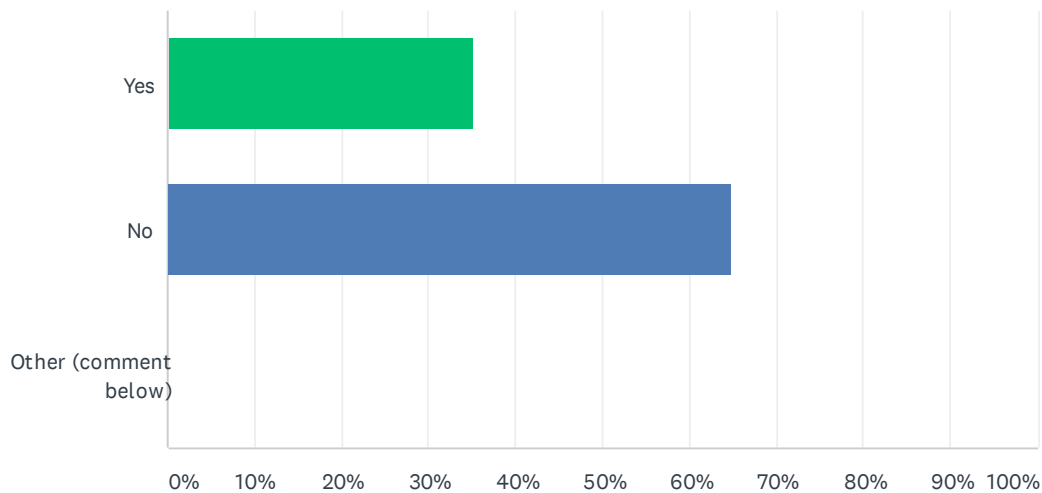
Add Comment Here

Answered: 9 Skipped: 173

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Neighbors should actually be notified individually, abutters, etc. Like they are in larger communities, with open public hearing if needed.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
2	People should not just be allowed but encouraged to have small businesses in there homes. There should be tax incentives to do so. What else are you going to do in Appleton? There is NO industry in the town. The only store is the Burketville General?	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
3	"Cottage industries" are a traditional and critical part of Maine's economy and traditions. We, as a town, should encourage them whenever possible.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
4	Less regulations the better.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
5	ABSOLUTELY!!! WHY WOULDN'T YOU PROMOTE SMALL BUSINESS? WHAT ELSE BRINGS FOLKS TO APPLETON?	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
6	Yes, but with regulation to cap noise/traffic impacts.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
7	Need additional regulations for traffic flow, parking, stormwater, noise, etc.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
8	How small is "small"? Many people living here have traditionally had multiple seasonal jobs, including forest work, blue-and-white collar jobs, home industry such as wreath-making, crafts, small bakeries, buy-and-sell vintage or antiques, small farm stands, etc. The entrepreneur spirit is alive, and it's how many have survived. But—there needs to be some plan for what is a small business vs. something else.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
9	More free market.	2/3/2020 8:15 PM

Q21. Should Appleton regulate short-term, AirBNB rentals?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	35.23%	62
No	64.77%	114
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		176

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Add Comment Here

Answered: 17 Skipped: 165

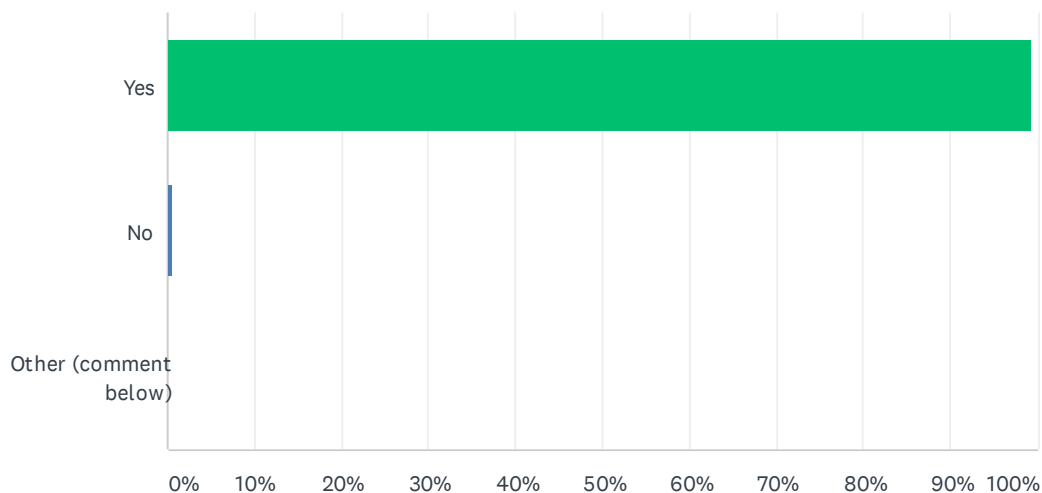
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	what is it?	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	Definitely! Have seen how these have negatively affected neighborhoods, community and safety, and availability of affordable housing.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
3	If it's someone's own house, its like having a house sitter if they're on vacation or a relative come visit	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
4	Airbnb has been around for a long time without regulation and it hasn't infringed on anyone's property	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
5	I choose to live in a residential where I can get to know neighbors, not next to unknown short term rentals.	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
6	Minimum 30 day rental	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
7	Aren't they already regulated?	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
8	As noted in one of my answers above, I'd prefer to see B&Bs. But more short-term rentals are inevitable, and we need to make sure they don't get out of hand.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

9	Outlaw them. Short term residents cause problems and we don't have a local Police force to deal with issues.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
10	If not regulated by the state	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
11	everybody else seems to	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
12	Tax them!	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
13	There should be some common standards, so that new construction or revamping of existing buildings doesn't become detrimental to the other residents. Again, entrepreneurship has allowed many to make ends meet out here in the boonies, but I'd not like having my road become a haven for temporary residents. Airbnb could morph into something more like cheap boarding houses, it's hard to predict the future, so it's better to have some regulations in place.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
14	not sure	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
15	And ..,free market!	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
16	Not sure	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
17	Not presently, but the Town should receive tax income from Airbnb. The Guests who come to Appleton Airbnb's are going to Briar Patch, the lavender place, Highcroft, Appleton Creamery, local pubs, Liberty etc - They will support cool Appleton Business's/initiatives AND they, for the most part, have disposable income, are young, and may be loyal return visitors that are looking for a healthy, relaxing getaway.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM

Q22. Should people be allowed to have small businesses on their properties in a building other than their main residence?

Answered: 182 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	99.45%	181
No	0.55%	1
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		182

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

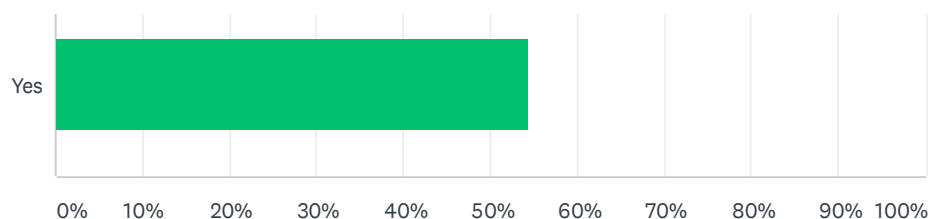
Add Comment Here

Answered: 19 Skipped: 163

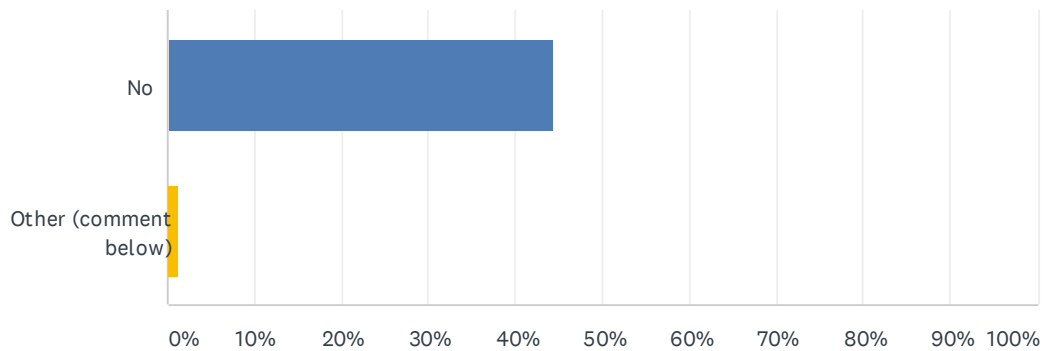
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As long as suitable regulations are in place	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
2	Shed or garage use	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
3	As long as it doesn't adversely affect their neighbors or the towns people.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
4	As long as there is space for building and parking	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
5	Again, it should be encouraged. Not only is it good for the people it is good for the tax base.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
6	Such a person must report all to town office	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
7	With approval of abutters and having regulations regarding building and land maintenance, onsite storage, Trash accumulation, noise levels, hours of operation, Signage and overall visual impact. We have enough trashy places in town.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
8	ABSOLUTELY!!!! WHY WOULDN'T YOU PROMOTE SMALL BUSINESS?	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
9	In a garage or small outbuilding.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
10	yes--- like farm stands, etc-- but with size/noise/hours of operation regulations.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
11	Within reason.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
12	Again, what is "small"? What is the nature of the businesses? There are currently a sailmaker, a large-equipment repair, a lavender farm, a restaurant, a horse-riding facility, a landscape artist, a yoga studio, etc. that have separate buildings for their businesses. This sort of thing makes sense. We'd need to set some standards on what is "small"? What sorts of businesses are they? Do they generally add to the livability of our town? Are they single-owner, or leased from a larger corporate entity? For example, could I open a drive-through McDonalds? Or a Dollar Store? Or a small tannery? How would these "small" businesses affect the nature of our town, the traffic, the wildlife and other nearby natural resources?	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
13	However standards should be set on size, neighborhood impact, traffic etc. that said business must meet.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
14	would need restrictions on size , environmental impact type of business	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
15	Free market should decide this, not some corporate guy who retired here, or trust fund baby-pulease!	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
16	Why not?	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
17	There should be standards, and impact on neighbors considered	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
18	As long as it is not an eyesore to the community, i.e. no neon signs!	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
19	This is how we are making a living here in Appleton.	1/25/2020 4:45 PM

Q23. Should Appleton establish specific areas for commercial development?

Answered: 169 Skipped: 13



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	54.44% 92
No	44.38% 75
Other (comment below)	1.18% 2
TOTAL	169

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Planning board discretion	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
2	possibly	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 22 Skipped: 160

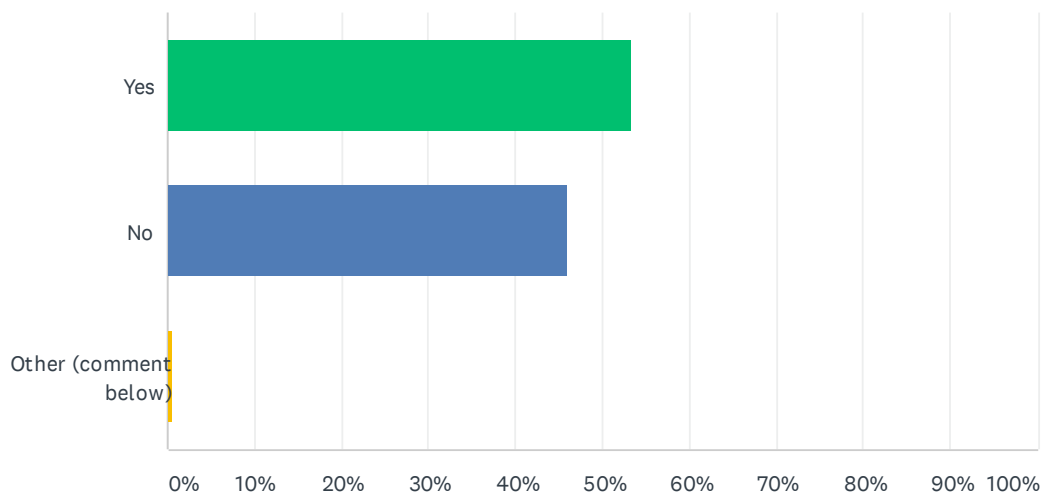
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	?	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
2	don't know	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
3	unsure about this	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
4	Depends on what kind of development and impact on specific neighborhood, traffic, air/water quality, etc.	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
5	Should be done when a permit is applied for or someone is looking to purchase property .	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
6	Difficult issue for most of us. We don't like seeing the trees being cut down to put up garages-parking lots, etc.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
7	Not if it means a zone of large tax breaks for businesses. Taxes are a cost of doing business,	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
8	Probably	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
9	All areas of the town should be available for commercial development.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
10	We should have zoning, but we need to consider different cases - not answering yes or no	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
11	Ground water protection.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
12	Yes, but only if people would still be allowed to have a business on their property. All in all, I think it would be a great idea to establish a "downtown" area that would encourage new businesses to move to town, and would be a gathering place for residents and non-residents alike.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
13	res/ comer can co-exist on a limited basis... the level of activity should determine establishment of a area for "commercial" use.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

14	Regulation of areas that can be developed for commercial use helps maintain a quiet neighborhood for residential areas and protects undeveloped land.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
15	Not sure where in town something like this would fit without significant impacts on our already terrible roads, building on our best agricultural soils, etc.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
16	Encouraging development of the town center would be wonderful	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
17	away from already residential areas	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
18	If a person wants to have a repair shop or craft shop it is fine.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
19	Are we talking about a strip mall? NO STRIP MALLS. Only a specific area for industrial commercial use - WHICH WE DO NOT NEED!!!! I guess "Commercial Development" needs to be better defined.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
20	Unsure	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
21	Yet not limit those areas to commercial only.	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
22	Maybe--depends on the commerce in question	1/26/2020 11:17 AM

Q24. Would you approve of using local taxes to pave currently unpaved Appleton roads?

Answered: 174 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	53.45%	93
No	45.98%	80
Other (comment below)	0.57%	1
TOTAL		174

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Lets try and fix and maintain the roads that we have.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 41 Skipped: 141

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	maybe	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
2	Appleton Ridge needs pavement to offset the yearly spending on mud and dust mitigation near the Burke castle.....	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
3	Do the residents want them paved?	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
4	Do we need to? How much? Why?	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
5	Depends on cost, tax rate impact	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
6	As long as our property tax burden doesn't increase	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
7	fix the roads already tarred	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
8	Should be an item that gets voted on in most cases'	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
9	PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE!!!!	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
10	Appleton should be doing long term planning to pave all the town roads. It will be cheaper in the long term.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
11	Roads need to be stable first...	4/4/2020 11:30 AM
12	Appleton Ridge Road is a thru way to Belfast. The 1/4 mile section between appleton and searsmont requires extensive and expensive maintenance in regards to mud, ruts, dust and is sometimes impassable to passenger cars. Roads like snow hill, witch is a dead end dirt road, do not require paving.	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
13	Only if the road is used for general traffic	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
14	Absolutely!	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
15	If the people on those roads want them paved.	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
16	Only as necessary	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
17	Paving isn't the answer. Improving existing gravel roads—and enforcing speed-limits on them!—would, in most cases, be more appropriate and far less expensive.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
18	but not raising the taxes.	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
19	Appleton Ridge road towards Searsmont.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
20	More care to dirt roads. Collinstown's dirt roads can't be driven on for a few months.	3/3/2020 7:06 PM
21	In the long run it would save money, both in road maintenance and wear and tear on vehicles.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
22	Depends on the numbers...	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
23	Dirt roads are better. The road to hell is paved.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
24	It seems as though we can hardly afford to repave the ones we have.	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
25	I say yes, but my taxes are already VERY high.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
26	on a case by case basis only... If maintenance on current dirt roads is wasting money each year... then put that money toward up grading/paving roads a little at a time.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
27	Only if it does not increase the outrageously high property taxes.	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
28	We can't keep the existing paved roads maintained as it is. Better to invest in better maintenance of all roads. Current maintenance is a disaster.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
29	Yes and no. People have chosen to build houses on long dirt roads that they knew were unpaved going in. Or long personal driveways. In some cases, they are now petitioning for paving subsidized by taxpayers. There should be a long-term plan for town road upgrades, based on number of residents over time, the ability for the town to keep the unpaved road adequately and safely surfaced, the information on building permits, if that is relevant (not sure if road access info is on building permit applications or not. It could be.) A long-term plan would prioritize roads based on number of residential homes, pass-through traffic count (if it's an	2/7/2020 9:35 PM

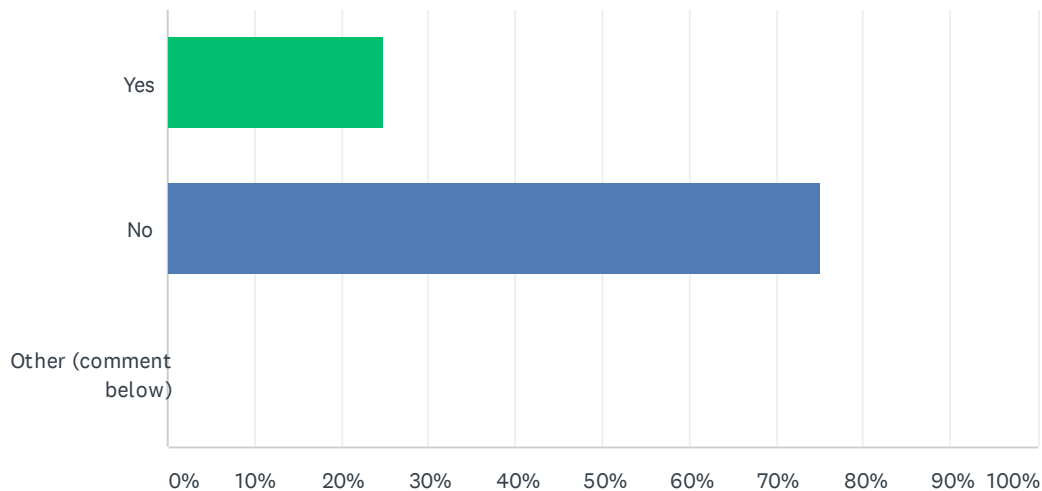
2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

access road maintained as such). Also look at roads that are currently paved but are supported by century-old logs (in one section of town.) Just paving based on the loudest individual voices doesn't take into consideration that our resources are limited, and people largely choose to move here for cheap land or access to a good school district, and a long-term incremental plan is the fairest and sanest way to go. It is true that roads in awful condition still cost us as much, but the cost is shifted to individuals in terms of car repair, alignments, and possibly towing out of mud (well in the old days anyway.) We can't however pave every new road and driveway that people move to or build on, willingly and with knowledge of the road's condition beforehand.

30	No because you can't take care of the ones we have! Take care of the existing ones that are paved then we can talk.	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
31	Only with additional State funding attached	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
32	Gravel roads are beautiful.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
33	Roads already paved are NOT being maintained so why have more to not maintain?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
34	Unless it is a safety issue, or a major nuisance for a significant number of residences, keep it quaint & dirt, but well maintained.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
35	Only if the underlying Road issues are worked on before Paving. The Town of Union seems to have had some success with longer-term Road repair by doing a better quality product	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
36	I strongly oppose paving dirt.	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
37	Within reason	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
38	We could use far better upkeep of the pavement that we already HAVE too...	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
39	Lets care for our currently paved roads better	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
40	Yes!!! Guinea ridge rd please!	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
41	No, because paved roads are not adequately maintained.	1/25/2020 1:25 PM

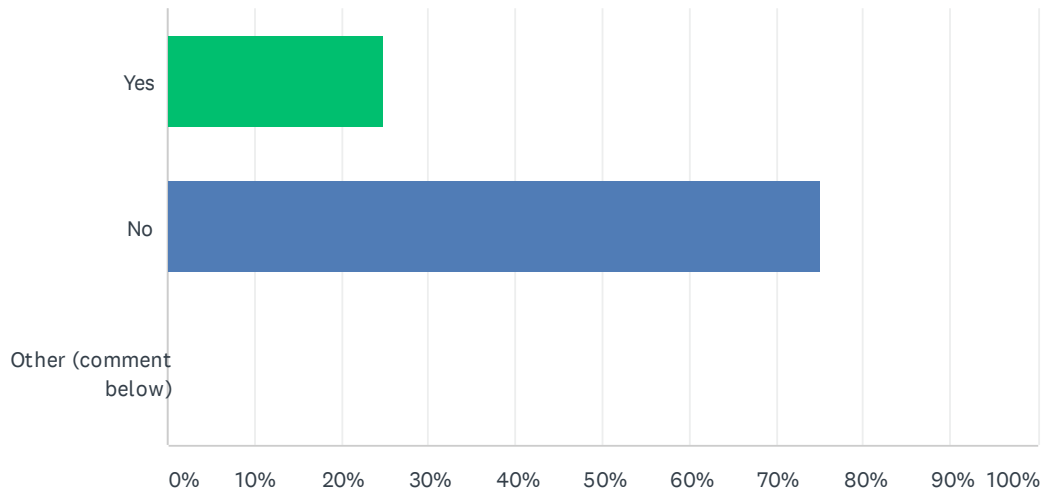
Q25. Would you utilize a regularly scheduled mode of public transportation if available?

Answered: 173 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	24.86%	43
No	75.14%	130
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		173

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	24.86%	43
No	75.14%	130
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		173

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Add Comment Here

Answered: 24 Skipped: 158

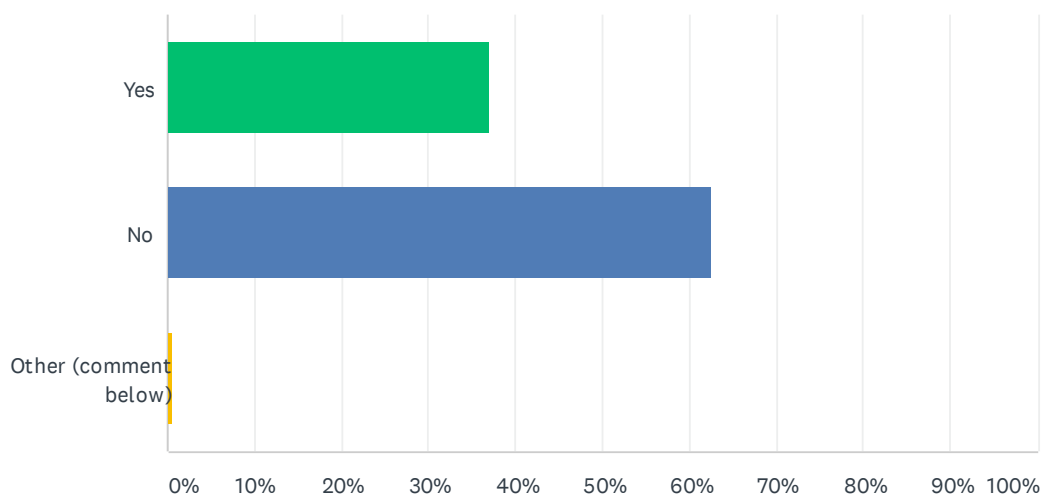
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	probably not	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
2	would probably in the future	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
3	maybe to Belfast + Camden/ Rockport, Rockland	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
4	Probably if I were unable to drive	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
5	Not yet-but when I can no longer drive-yes	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
6	I am independent at this point. Perhaps in the future unless there is a great need.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
7	It is too rural here and things are too spread out for public transportation to be viable.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
8	maybe.....	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
9	There's nowhere to go in town, really...	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
10	maybe	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
11	That entirely depends on where its routes take it and the schedule kept.	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
12	Within the next 10 years, I'll reach an age where driving my own vehicle everywhere isn't a good idea. In addition, I support ANY public transportation ANYWHERE because it reduces fuel use and air pollution.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
13	maybe	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
14	But elderly may.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

15	Probably not, too far away from things. Not high enough population to warrant frequent schedule.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
16	Kids to YMCA - Camden/Rockport area	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
17	We don't have the population density to support this. People go in all directions from here. It's not like we all commute to BIW or some other place of large employment.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
18	It turns my stomach to actually be in traffic jams on Rte 17 going to work. There are many more cars on the road in the last 20 years since I moved back here. (And of course a huge increase since I was a child here.) I would love to see some reasonable type of public transportation available. A shuttle to and from Camden-Rockport would be a start.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
19	Don't know	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
20	I am still young but maybe if I were old.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
21	You are kidding?	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
22	Not at this time, but as I age I'd want to	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
23	I am not sure how this would work I. Our community but would be interested	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
24	To where.?	1/27/2020 11:31 AM

Q26. Would you support using local tax dollars to fund a regularly scheduled public transportation service?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	36.93%	65
No	62.50%	110
Other (comment below)	0.57%	1
TOTAL		176

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	possibly	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

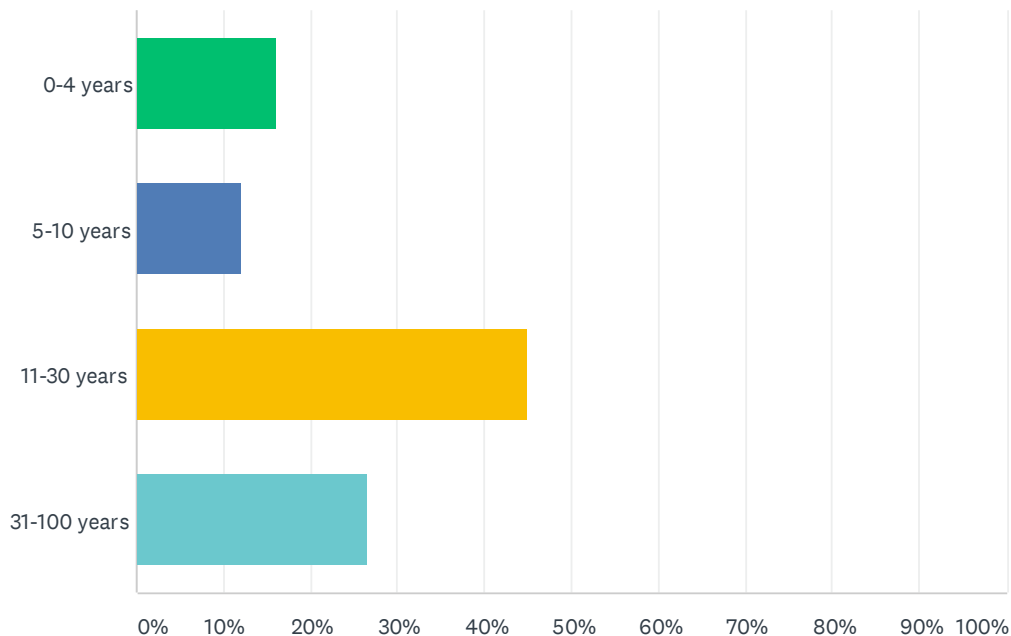
Add Comment Here

Answered: 15 Skipped: 167

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Not yet-but when I can no longer drive-yes	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	Not currently, or in near future, too costly	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
3	I can't imagine enough people would use it....	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
4	Possibly if part of a comprehensive plan with affordable housing or elderly housing, etc. Also, as there is no place for comments to related questions 32-36, such housing and rentals, etc. would only be feasible with public transportation.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
5	If there is an identified need, sure.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
6	This is something that would only make sense as a more regional project at present	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
7	If there is a proven need and ridership is high, then yes.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
8	See comment in #26, above	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
9	If they linked up with other trans.	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
10	Waste of money. Better to encourage ride sharing services.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
11	after a study done to verify usage	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
12	Maybe for the elderly	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
13	If you want that kind of service, move back to a city.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
14	Call me, I'll give them a ride.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
15	Maybe. But I doubt this is actually feasible in a town this size.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM

Q27. How long have you lived in Appleton?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 2

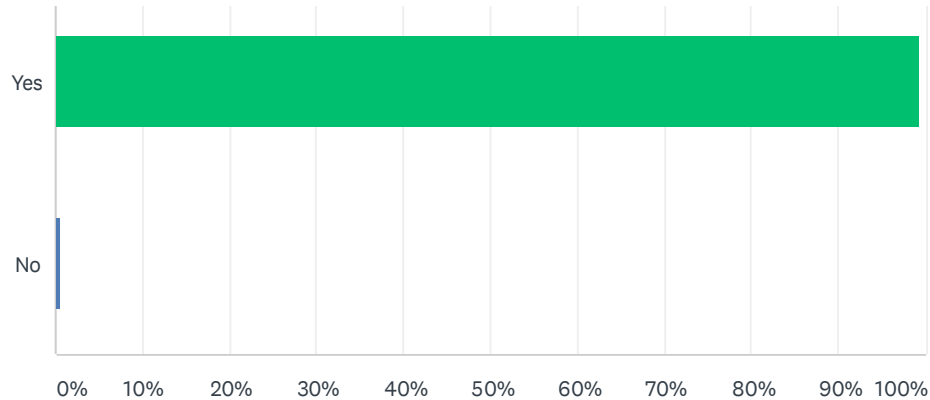


2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-4 years	16.11%	29
5-10 years	12.22%	22
11-30 years	45.00%	81
31-100 years	26.67%	48
TOTAL		180

Q28. Are you a year-round resident of Appleton?

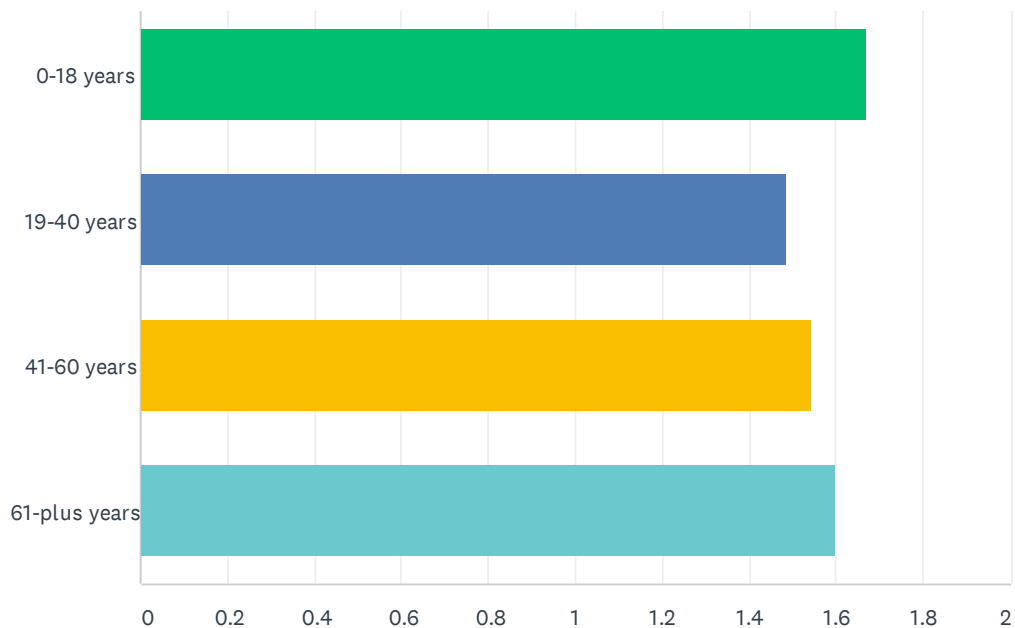
Answered: 179 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	99.44%	178
No	0.56%	1
TOTAL		179

Q29. Please indicate the number of people who live in your house by age group?

Answered: 173 Skipped: 9



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
0-18 years	2	122	73
19-40 years	1	95	64
41-60 years	2	145	94
61-plus years	2	112	70
Total Respondents: 173			

#	0-18 YEARS	DATE
1	2	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
2	1	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
3	1	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
4	2	5/3/2020 2:59 PM
5	2	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
6	2	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
7	2	4/8/2020 3:37 PM
8	2	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
9	2	4/6/2020 8:02 AM
10	1	4/5/2020 5:37 PM
11	4	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
12	1	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
13	3	4/5/2020 9:47 AM
14	3	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
15	1	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
16	2	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
17	0	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
18	3	3/20/2020 2:16 PM
19	3	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
20	3	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
21	2	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
22	1	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
23	2	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
24	1	3/9/2020 12:53 PM
25	1	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
26	2	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
27	2	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
28	1	3/3/2020 6:39 PM
29	2	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
30	1	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
31	2	3/3/2020 7:32 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

32	2	3/1/2020 1:49 AM
33	2	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
34	1	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
35	2	2/22/2020 5:40 PM
36	2	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
37	1	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
38	3	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
39	1	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
40	3	2/9/2020 9:37 PM
41	1	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
42	2	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
43	2	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
44	2	2/5/2020 12:45 PM
45	1	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
46	4	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
47	4	2/3/2020 6:32 PM
48	0	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
49	0	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
50	1	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
51	1	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
52	1	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
53	1	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
54	1	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
55	2	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
56	1	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
57	0	1/29/2020 7:28 AM
58	1	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
59	2	1/28/2020 11:18 AM
60	2	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
61	1	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
62	2	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
63	1	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
64	0	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
65	0	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
66	3	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
67	2	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
68	1	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
69	2	1/25/2020 3:32 PM
70	3	1/25/2020 3:31 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

71	2	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
72	0	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
73	2	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
#	19-40 YEARS	DATE
1	1	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
2	1	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
3	2	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
4	2	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
5	2	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
6	1	5/3/2020 1:21 PM
7	2	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
8	1	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
9	2	4/6/2020 8:02 AM
10	1	4/5/2020 5:37 PM
11	2	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
12	2	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
13	1	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
14	3	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
15	2	3/29/2020 4:16 PM
16	2	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
17	0	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
18	1	3/20/2020 2:16 PM
19	1	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
20	1	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
21	2	3/10/2020 12:49 PM
22	1	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
23	2	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
24	3	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
25	1	3/3/2020 7:06 PM
26	1	3/3/2020 6:39 PM
27	2	3/1/2020 1:49 AM
28	1	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
29	2	2/22/2020 5:40 PM
30	3	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
31	1	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
32	1	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
33	2	2/9/2020 9:37 PM
34	2	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
35	2	2/7/2020 3:28 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

36	2	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
37	2	2/5/2020 12:45 PM
38	2	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
39	2	2/3/2020 6:32 PM
40	0	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
41	1	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
42	0	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
43	1	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
44	1	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
45	1	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
46	1	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
47	2	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
48	1	1/31/2020 12:09 PM
49	2	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
50	2	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
51	1	1/29/2020 7:28 AM
52	1	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
53	2	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
54	2	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
55	2	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
56	1	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
57	1	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
58	0	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
59	2	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
60	2	1/25/2020 5:25 PM
61	2	1/25/2020 3:32 PM
62	2	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
63	0	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
64	1	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
#	41-60 YEARS	DATE
1	1	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
2	1	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
3	2	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
4	2	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
5	2	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
6	2	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
7	2	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
8	2	5/3/2020 3:04 PM
9	2	5/3/2020 2:59 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

10	2	5/3/2020 1:56 PM
11	1	5/3/2020 1:21 PM
12	1	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
13	1	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
14	2	4/8/2020 3:37 PM
15	2	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
16	1	4/6/2020 8:02 AM
17	2	4/5/2020 5:37 PM
18	2	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
19	1	4/5/2020 9:47 AM
20	2	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
21	1	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
22	2	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
23	2	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
24	1	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
25	2	3/28/2020 1:12 PM
26	0	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
27	1	3/20/2020 2:16 PM
28	1	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
29	2	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
30	2	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
31	2	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
32	2	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
33	1	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
34	2	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
35	1	3/10/2020 12:49 PM
36	1	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
37	2	3/9/2020 12:53 PM
38	2	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
39	1	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
40	2	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
41	2	3/4/2020 2:25 PM
42	1	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
43	2	3/3/2020 7:19 PM
44	2	3/3/2020 7:06 PM
45	2	3/3/2020 6:39 PM
46	2	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
47	1	3/3/2020 11:35 AM
48	2	3/3/2020 10:40 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

49	2	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
50	2	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
51	2	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
52	2	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
53	2	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
54	2	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
55	1	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
56	1	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
57	1	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
58	1	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
59	2	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
60	1	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
61	2	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
62	2	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
63	1	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
64	2	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
65	2	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
66	2	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
67	2	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
68	2	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
69	0	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
70	2	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
71	1	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
72	2	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
73	1	1/31/2020 12:09 PM
74	2	1/29/2020 6:43 PM
75	1	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
76	2	1/29/2020 6:28 AM
77	1	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
78	1	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
79	2	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
80	2	1/28/2020 11:18 AM
81	1	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
82	2	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
83	0	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
84	2	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
85	2	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
86	0	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
87	2	1/26/2020 11:17 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

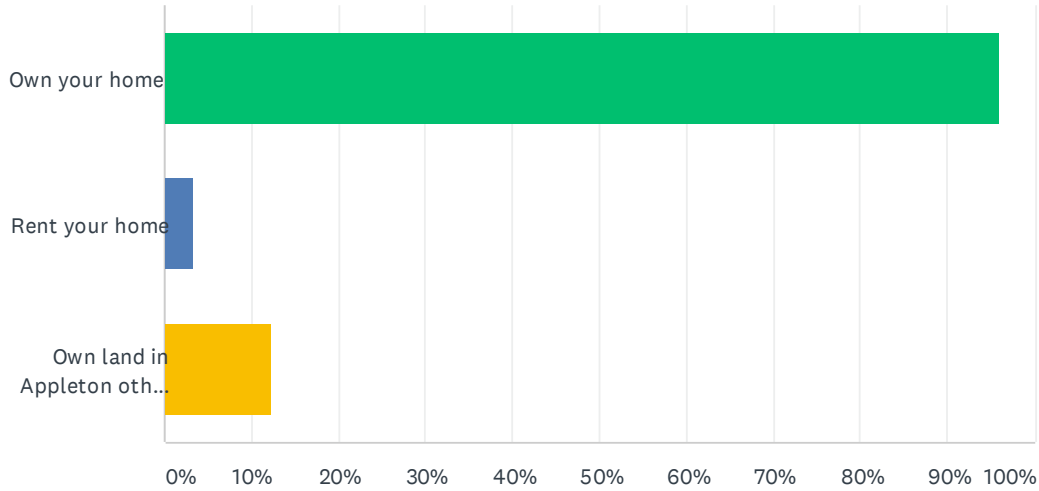
88	2	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
89	1	1/25/2020 3:31 PM
90	2	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
91	1	1/25/2020 1:32 PM
92	1	1/25/2020 1:25 PM
93	0	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
94	1	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
#	61-PLUS YEARS	DATE
1	1	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	2	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
3	2	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
4	1	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
5	2	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
6	2	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
7	2	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
8	2	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
9	2	5/3/2020 8:23 PM
10	2	5/3/2020 8:18 PM
11	1	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
12	2	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
13	3	5/3/2020 2:52 PM
14	1	5/3/2020 1:50 PM
15	2	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
16	1	4/15/2020 5:40 PM
17	1	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
18	2	4/9/2020 10:26 AM
19	1	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
20	2	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
21	1	4/5/2020 9:47 AM
22	1	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
23	2	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
24	2	4/4/2020 3:45 PM
25	2	4/3/2020 7:28 PM
26	2	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
27	2	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
28	2	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
29	2	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
30	1	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
31	1	3/20/2020 2:16 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

32	1	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
33	2	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
34	1	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
35	1	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
36	1	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
37	1	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
38	2	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
39	2	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
40	1	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
41	1	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
42	1	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
43	2	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
44	1	2/21/2020 10:54 AM
45	1	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
46	2	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
47	2	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
48	1	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
49	1	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
50	2	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
51	2	2/10/2020 1:30 PM
52	2	2/7/2020 11:11 AM
53	2	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
54	2	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
55	2	2/3/2020 7:57 PM
56	2	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
57	2	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
58	2	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
59	2	1/29/2020 12:37 PM
60	1	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
61	1	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
62	0	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
63	2	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
64	2	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
65	2	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
66	1	1/25/2020 1:32 PM
67	1	1/25/2020 1:25 PM
68	2	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
69	2	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
70	2	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Q30. Do you presently.... (Check all that apply)?

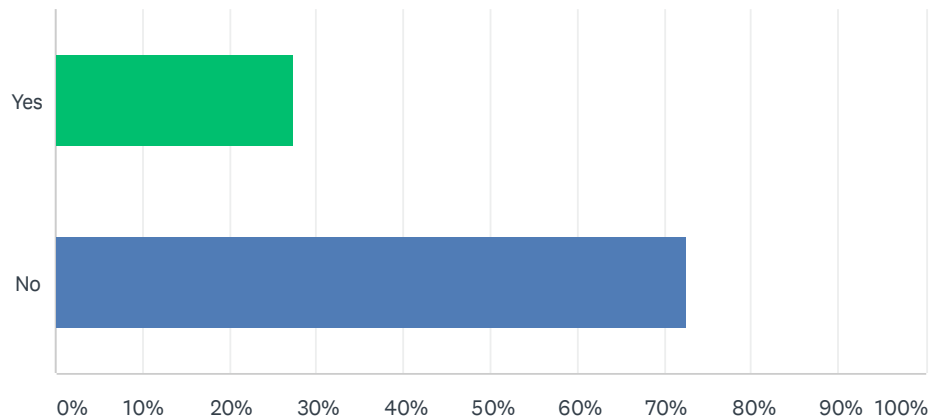
Answered: 177 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Own your home	96.05%	170
Rent your home	3.39%	6
Own land in Appleton other than your homesite	12.43%	22
Total Respondents: 177		

Q31. Would you subdivide your property if the opportunity arose?

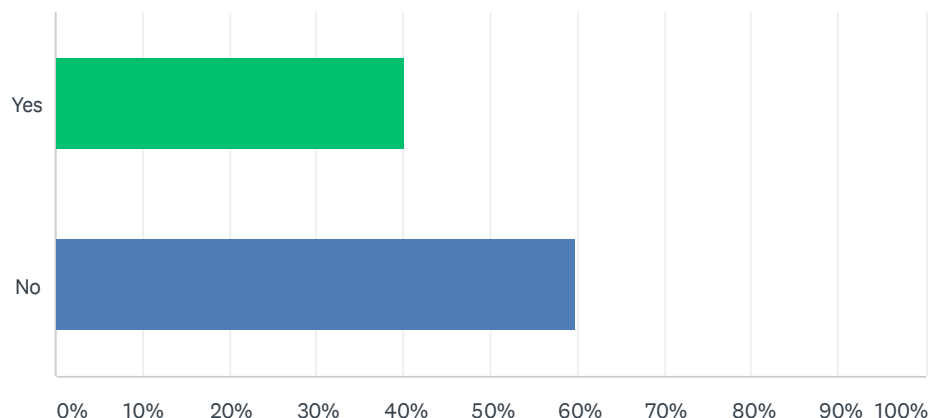
Answered: 179 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	27.37%	49
No	72.63%	130
TOTAL		179

Q32. Does Appleton have enough housing for the elderly?

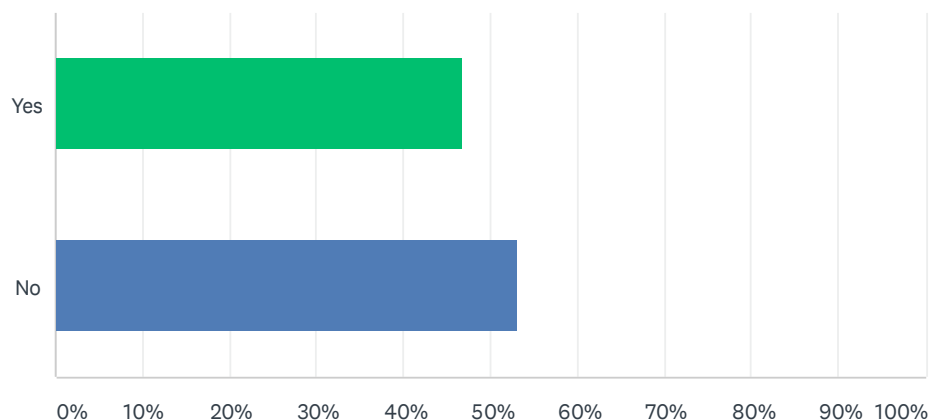
Answered: 159 Skipped: 23



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	40.25%	64
No	59.75%	95
TOTAL		159

Q33. Does Appleton have enough affordable housing?

Answered: 156 Skipped: 26

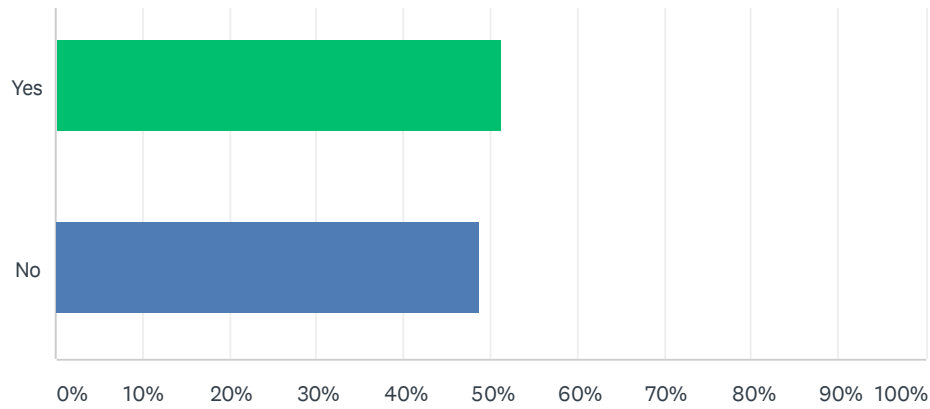


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	46.79%	73
No	53.21%	83
TOTAL		156

Q34. Does Appleton have enough rental apartments?

Answered: 148 Skipped: 34

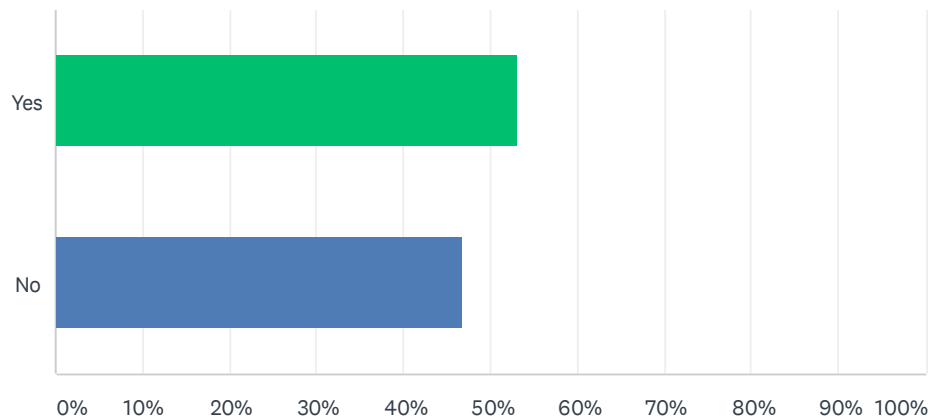
2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	51.35%	76
No	48.65%	72
TOTAL		148

Q35. Does Appleton have enough rental homes?

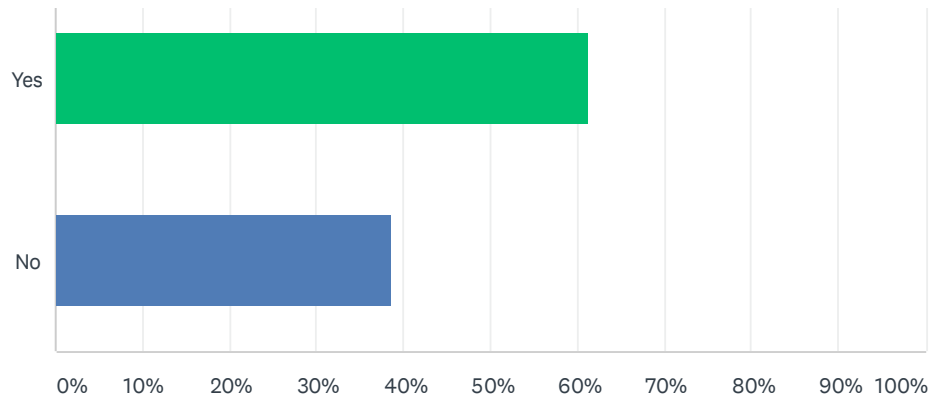
Answered: 143 Skipped: 39



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	53.15%	76
No	46.85%	67
TOTAL		143

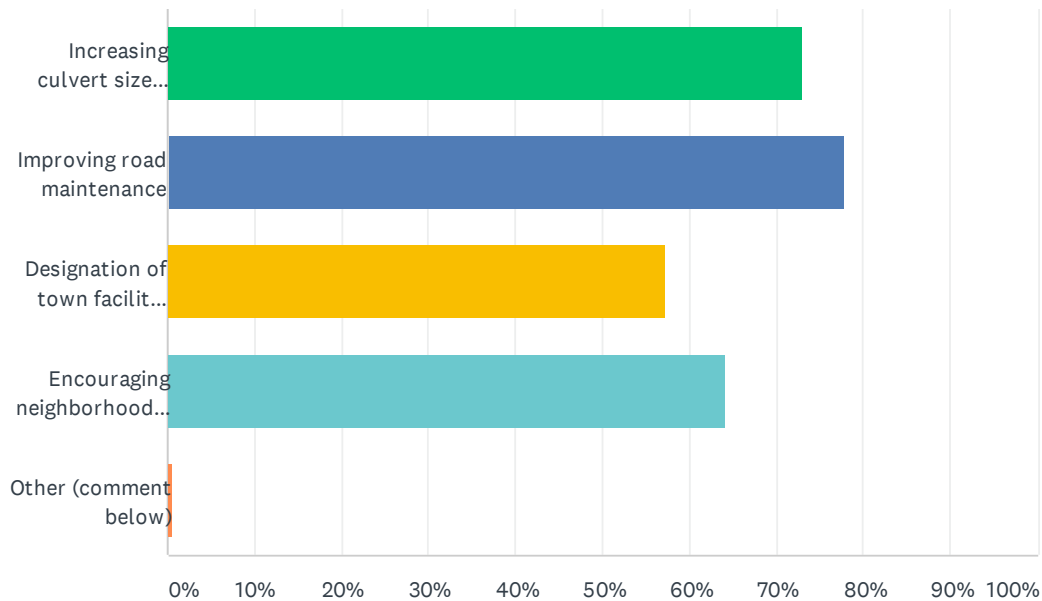
Q36. Does Appleton have enough boarding homes?

Answered: 137 Skipped: 45



Q37. Check all ways you believe the town should prepare for and respond to severe weather events.

Answered: 171 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Increasing culvert size when replacing	73.10%	125
Improving road maintenance	77.78%	133
Designation of town facilities as emergency shelters	57.31%	98
Encouraging neighborhood communication networks	64.33%	110
Other (comment below)	0.58%	1
Total Respondents: 171		

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	It is pretty good as it is	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 13 Skipped: 169

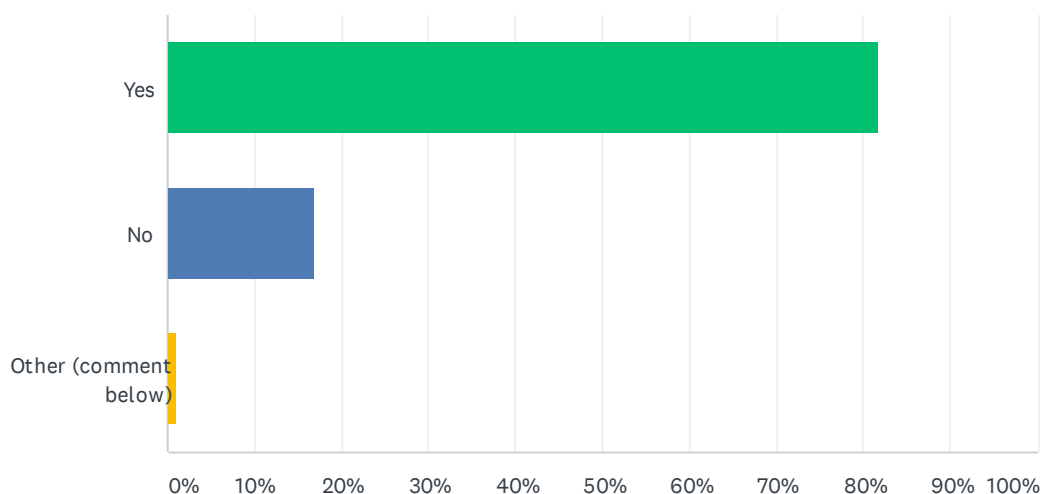
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	take int account the plants, shrubs... planted by waterways ... erosion controls	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
2	Maybe emergency water+ food supplies, medical supplies etc., in case people run out of their own back up supplies-if things ever got that bad-maybe to be portioned out to tax payer/households??	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
3	There are some places that could use larger culverts and maybe some reditching water flow.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
4	There could be phone trees from one neighborhood to another. I am sure there are radio and computer notifications. Word of mouth seems to work very well as always.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
5	Pave dirt roads that are thruways	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
6	It's all fine.	3/6/2020 8:36 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

7	Proper grading, pulling gravel up to crown road and actually allow water to drain off roadway.	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
8	better to have this and not need it, than need it and not have it...	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
9	The floodplain ordinance should be reviewed for effectiveness in light of increasing storm severity and stream flows.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
10	Increasing walkability and bike access on all roads. We are comp,steely dependent on cars, and in emergencies, or when oil prices rise, we have no way to safely get around anymore. Also, create a comprehensive list of shut-ins, if there is not one. Create a network of communication for support- so many are living alone and don't have family close by as support if something goes wrong, and so many have cell phones, it's nearly impossible to know how to reach people.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
11	Don't know- probably a mix.	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
12	We can handle it. The town can deal with the real problems that are too big for us like washed out roads etc.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
13	Actually having proper (real) ditches along the roads would be really helpful too.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM

Q38. Should the town encourage residential wind/solar installations?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	81.82%	144
No	17.05%	30
Other (comment below)	1.14%	2
TOTAL		176

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	How is this possible? What could the town possibly offer to residence?	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
2	possibly	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

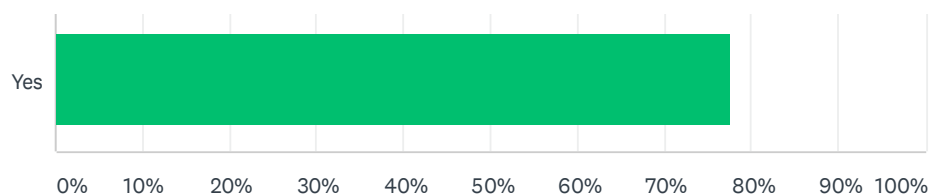
Answered: 28 Skipped: 154

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

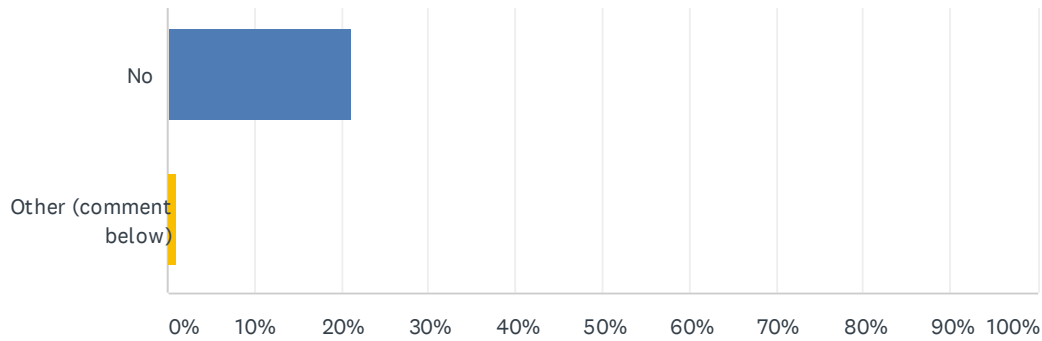
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	size considerations for wind turbines	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
2	only as a need to need basis	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
3	...but...sound (wind) should be analyzed, as it could be bothersome to neighbors rights, as well as aesthetics of anything above ground level.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
4	Its very expensive for most but it appears if it were reasonable there may be a possibility	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
5	Yes, tax incentives should be provided.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
6	Solar	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
7	Should not discourage either, stay out of personal business.	4/4/2020 11:30 AM
8	How would the town "encourage"?	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
9	Absolutely, I would support tax incentives for wind and solar installations. INCLUDING off grid systems.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
10	Solar. Wind in certain places if it doesn't detract.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
11	Stop town telling me what i can and can't do	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
12	This is so obvious	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
13	However, it is cost prohibitive to most!	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
14	more is better... in this case.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
15	For domestic use, or possibly microgrids, not large systems feeding the grid.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
16	Yes yes we need to look at renewable energy.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
17	I would want to see the pricing and the pros vs cons for our area	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
18	Why not?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
19	Absolutely!	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
20	Too many birds are being killed by wind mills already, and without government subsidies NONE of them are financially responsible expenditures.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
21	There is a lot of consistent wind on all of the ridges.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
22	I would like a wind tower on my property	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
23	Wind and solar installations ARE NOT cost effective.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
24	Better yet, follow Hope's solar example.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
25	Maybe--depends on what you mean by 'encourage'	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
26	Solar being the best energy efficient alternative.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
27	solar	1/25/2020 1:32 PM
28	Solar only	1/24/2020 11:48 AM

Q39. Should municipal buildings utilize more wind/solar energy sources?

Answered: 175 Skipped: 7



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	77.71% 136
No	21.14% 37
Other (comment below)	1.14% 2
TOTAL	175

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	The municipal buildings need to become more energy efficient.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
2	Possibly	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 23 Skipped: 159

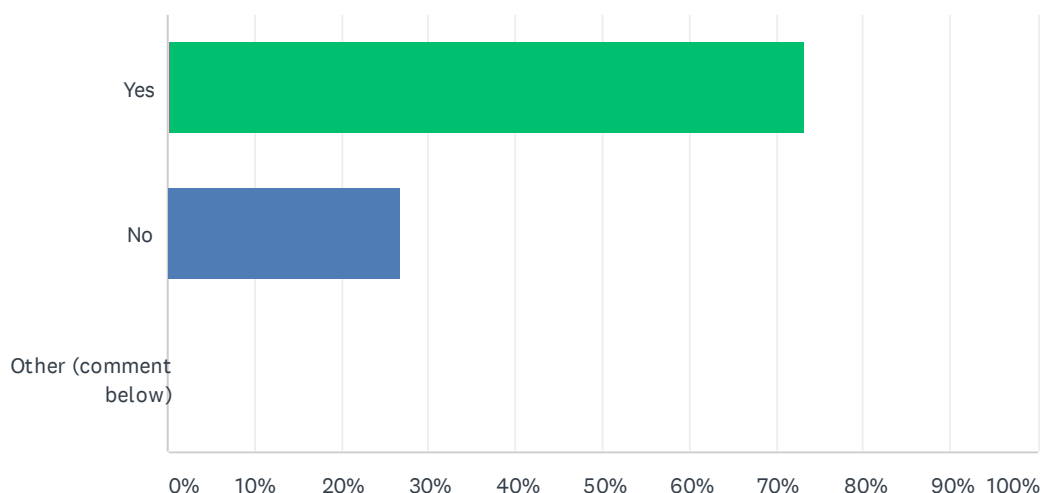
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	if affordable	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	solar	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
3	... and taxpayers should benefit!	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
4	Solar	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
5	town office and/or school could tie into other solar farms and save money	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
6	If a building is to be new or repaired	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
7	absolutely	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
8	If financially feasible.	3/3/2020 7:19 PM
9	Especially not if taxpayers pay for it.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
10	Solar where appropriate is always better. Wind when it doesn't detract.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
11	Yes, but is expensive initially.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
12	prefer solar	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
13	Definitely the school. Might be able to put some panels in front of the town office.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
14	So cheap now! No extra cost with market fluctuations	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
15	Absolutely!	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
16	There are NO alternative energy systems that are truly cost effective. Nor are there any such systems that can actually produce enough energy in their lifetimes to equal the energy required to make them, so they are ALL have a negative affect on the environment. And just think of all that plastic that will be added to landfills when the die.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

17	Union Rd	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
18	Waste of money	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
19	If it is reasonably cost justified.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
20	As much as possible, please!	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
21	Only if the economics add up. ie would they produce more energy at a less expensive rate than what is currently utilized before they become obsolescent? ie would they more than pay for themselves and their installation and upkeep before they come to the end of their useful lives?	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
22	Solar	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
23	Solar only	1/24/2020 11:48 AM

Q40. Should Appleton regulate commercial communication towers?

Answered: 172 Skipped: 10

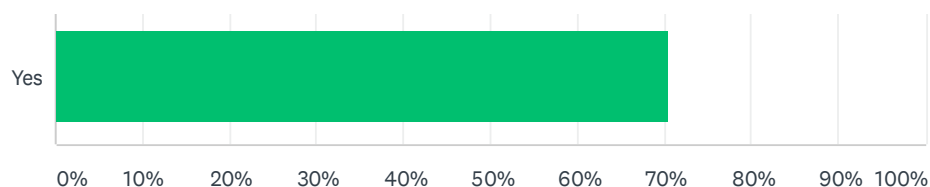


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	73.26% 126
No	26.74% 46
Other (comment below)	0.00% 0
TOTAL	172

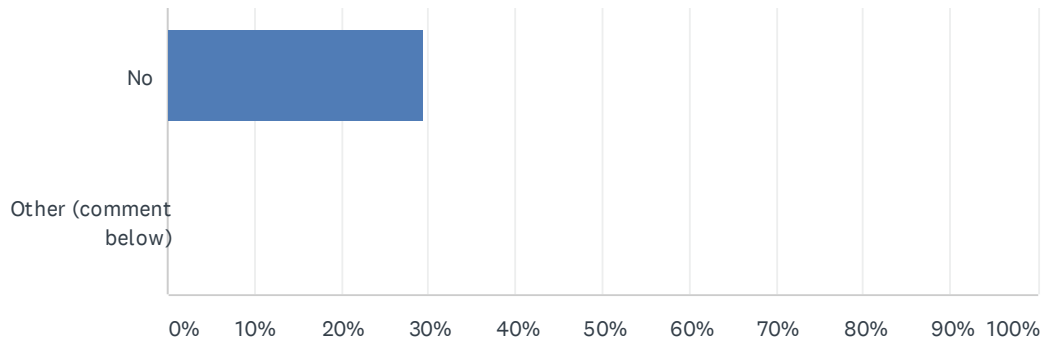
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q41. Do you have access to high-speed internet. If not, please indicate your street name in the comment field.

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

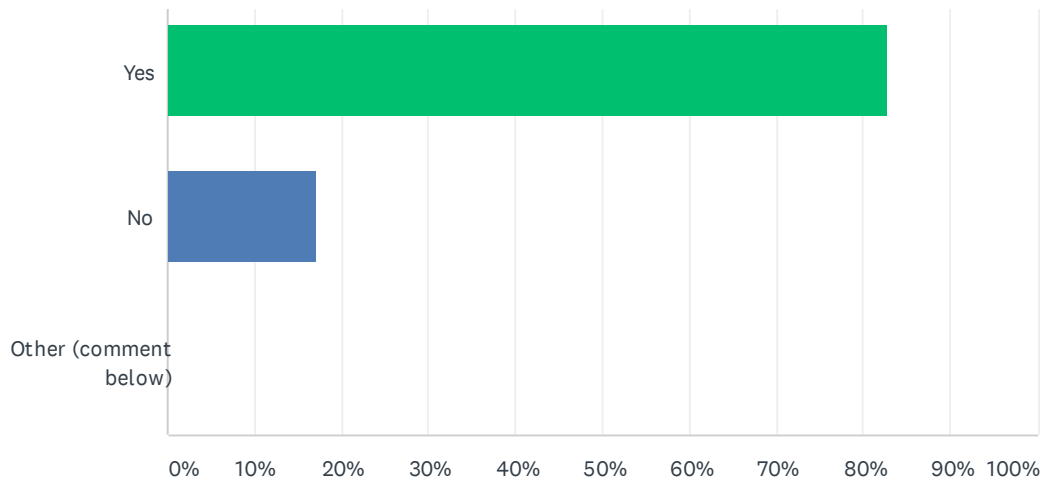


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
Yes		70.45% 124
No		29.55% 52
Other (comment below)		0.00% 0
TOTAL		176

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
There are no responses.		

Q42. Should Appleton create recreational trails on town-owned properties?

Answered: 174 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
Yes		82.76% 144
No		17.24% 30
Other (comment below)		0.00% 0
TOTAL		174

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
There are no responses.		

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Add Comment Here

Answered: 36 Skipped: 146

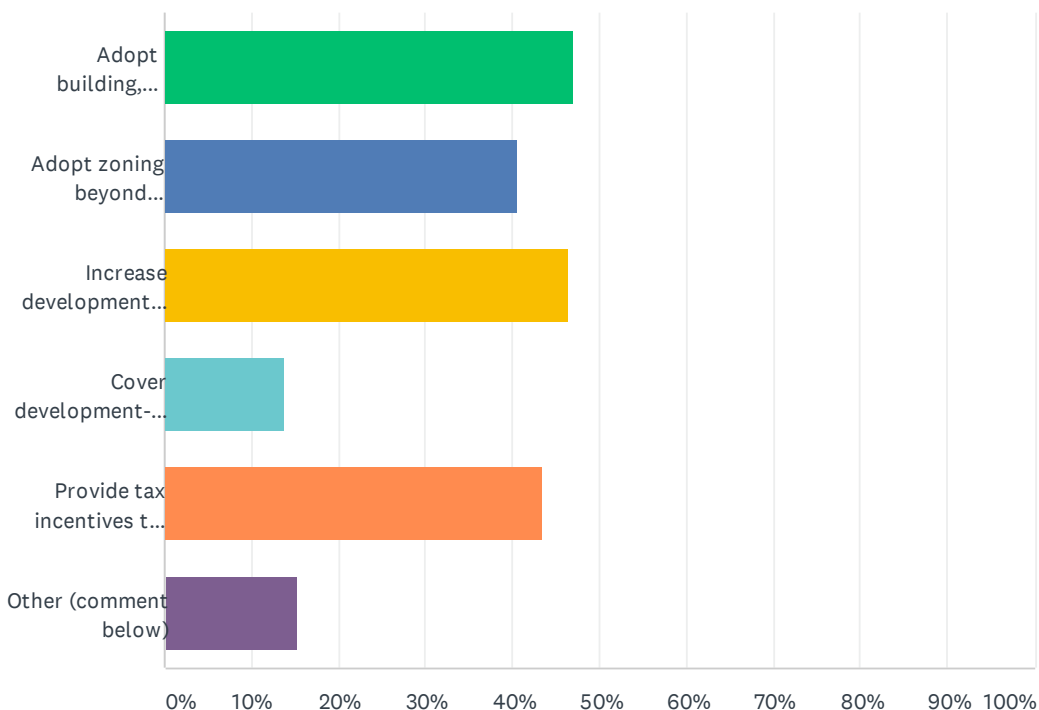
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	q41 Dsl 866 Union Rd. (DSL is not high speed in modern terms)	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
2	q41 Jones Hill Rd	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
3	q41 Peabody rd	5/3/2020 8:23 PM
4	42. "carry in, carry out" leave no trace. 41. We have been told by tidewater that if all households between Union line and school subscribed we could have it. Also "heard" that other low or sub-level access areas in town actually do have availably and can be "hooked up". If one "handles the situation" correctly re; part of north end of Appleton ridge between Pitmans Corner and Searsmont line...	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
5	279 Fishtown Rd Q41	5/3/2020 2:52 PM
6	That would be an addition to our town	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
7	Searsmont Rd q41	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
8	Searsmont Rd Q41	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
9	It depends on property location, as I said before if property could be used to create tax dollars the town should not own property.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
10	Hornbeam Lane	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
11	Sennebec	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
12	Jones Hill Road	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
13	Allow organization to do so, if willing.	4/4/2020 11:30 AM
14	40. Only if Appleton wants stricter regulation than State requires 41. DSL available but costly; higher speed supposedly available but more costly 42. Yes, dependent on public interest and cost	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
15	Taxes should be kept as low as possible. Taxpayers in Camden are stuck with the money-losing Snow Bowl which is not used by most of these tax-payers.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
16	I'm not sure of the value, unless there's a mountain to climb with a nice view that I don't know about.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
17	Could try one. Don't go overboard.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
18	Or collaborate with local land trusts to do so.	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
19	If it can be done without raising taxes.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
20	Volunteer only.	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
21	Gushee Road, Tidewater Telecom quoted us a price for high speed internet of installation cost of \$7500 then monthly service payment.	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
22	Nothing wrong with hiking trails. I'd hate to see ATVs dig everything up, though.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
23	not a priority, but put on the list	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
24	Comment is for Question 41 because there is no comment box there! No high speed internet on Peabody Road.	2/10/2020 1:30 PM
25	Question 41. Collinstown Road	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
26	Don't add more infrastructure that we can't take care of. We can't take care of what we have now.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
27	Trails for walking, mountain biking, cross-country Skiing, not ATV's or dirt bikes!, They rip up the ground and disturb wildlife. I'm mixed on snowmobile use- most snowmobilers have been responsible and it's seasonal. They don't generally tear up the ground, as it's snow-covered.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
28	Jones Hill Road	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
29	Hiking or bicycle trails would be great for kids and families.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

30	Sure if it does raise taxes- were highest in Knox!?!	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
31	as long as they are funded and maintained by the end users.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
32	Only on existing trails	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
33	We pay for Hughes to provide high speed internet..... which is like going back to 1988.... that will change on its own in time. The Town can only appreciate in value by adding and maintaining trails.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
34	On volunteer basis. high speed internet on Collinstown road, but it's spotty	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
35	Hatchery lane	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
36	allow private groups/ clubs to create trail system with limited official involvement	1/25/2020 5:25 PM

Q43. Please check all categories you believe the town should address.

Answered: 138 Skipped: 44



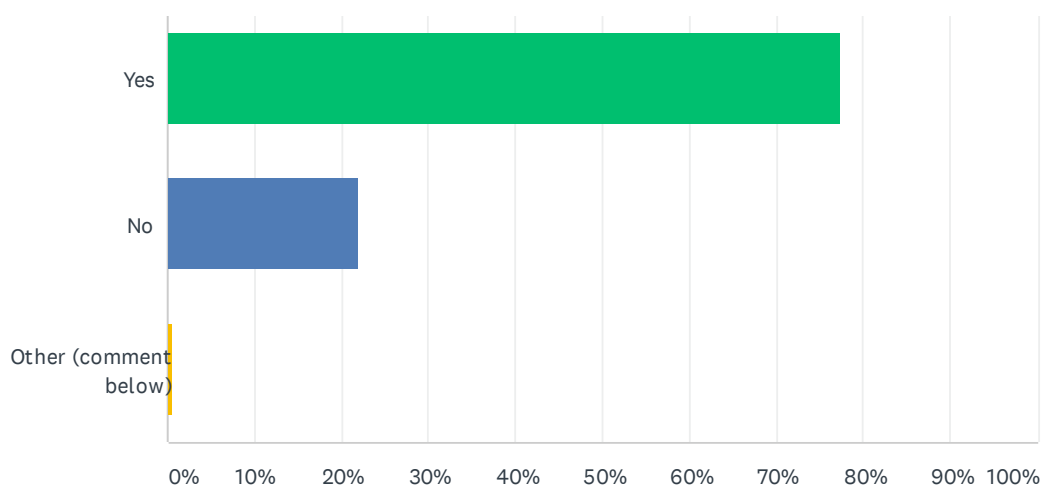
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Adopt building, energy and construction codes	47.10%	65
Adopt zoning beyond shoreline zoning	40.58%	56
Increase development impact fees to cover related public costs	46.38%	64
Cover development-related public costs with property taxes	13.77%	19
Provide tax incentives to attract businesses that increase employment	43.48%	60
Other (comment below)	15.22%	21
Total Respondents: 138		

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	I thought most of these categories were already addressed	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	Eliminate the tree growth program for residential properties.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
3	Taxes are already too high, they can't go up without driving people out of town.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
4	Adopt building codes, etc. if town wants stricter guidelines than State requires.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
5	Keep the taxes low. Are you from New York City?	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
6	Don't be bossy	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
7	Keep Appleton as pretty and small as it is.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
8	tax incentives are a risky element... but we do need jobs	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
9	Creating a public works department like Washington did, to ensure more accountability in road work.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
10	Provide tax incentives to attract small local businesses that increase employment.	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
11	Water use, to work with adjacent towns to protect taking of water and reduction of our water table and ponds; light and noise pollution restrictions	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
12	Fix the poorly performing school- or close it. Too expensive for so little	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
13	The state already does all that so why duplicate services/regulations?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
14	Stop spending	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
15	I don't think incentives will necessarily attract the businesses that the Town is coveting..... however I would not rule that out, based on a Town vote.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
16	Maintain roads	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
17	I don't know enough specifics about any of those topics to have an educated opion. But I'm pro-conservation, pro-environmentally friendly initiatives, while also being unable to support property tax increases.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
18	Lower property taxes	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
19	I think that town goverment should keep their noses OUT of as much of our lives as possible!!! And our taxes are ALREADY too high! NO MORE!!	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
20	increase renewable energy for town office ie solar or wind	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
21	haha pubic	1/25/2020 3:31 PM

Q44. Should the town facilitate water quality monitoring in our local watershed?

Answered: 168 Skipped: 14



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	77.38%	130
No	22.02%	37
Other (comment below)	0.60%	1
TOTAL		168

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	This should be done by local non-profits who own property in Appleton; The Georges River Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

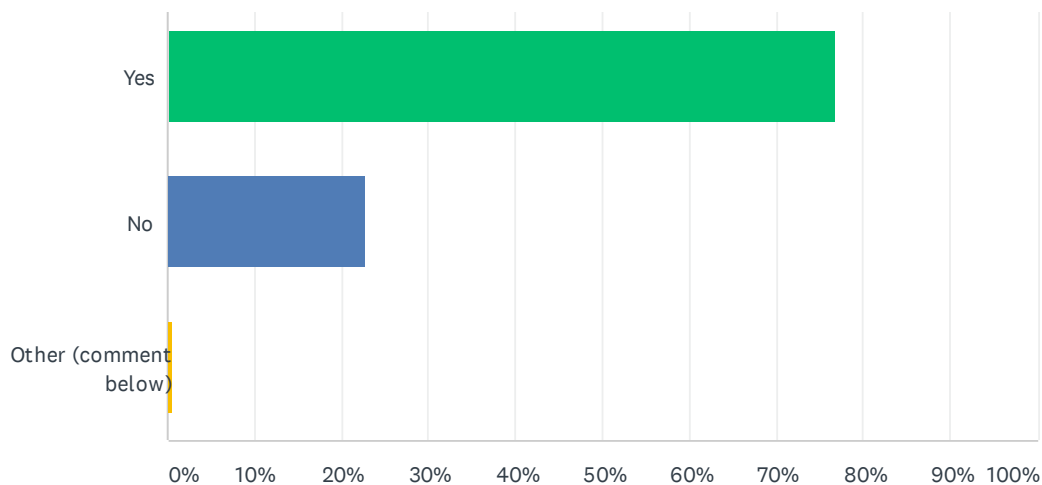
Add Comment Here

Answered: 10 Skipped: 172

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	when needed	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	Possibly if checking quality of water utilized by public use areas	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
3	Laws are in place to deal with future problems.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
4	Let the state regulate this.	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
5	Water testing performed when a house is sold or bought. State and volunteer groups monitor water quality of lakes and streams.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
6	Protect our water table	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
7	The Maine state fishing syllabus says you can eat one fish a month from the St George... don't think we can fix that on our own. But monitoring wouldn't hurt	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
8	Don't spend taxpayer resources - partner with DEP and land trusts.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
9	Water is vital	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
10	Why not?	1/27/2020 12:51 PM

Q45. Should the town designate no-spray pesticide and herbicide zones?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	76.70%	135
No	22.73%	40
Other (comment below)	0.57%	1
TOTAL		176

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	This should be left to the landowners discretion.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Add Comment Here

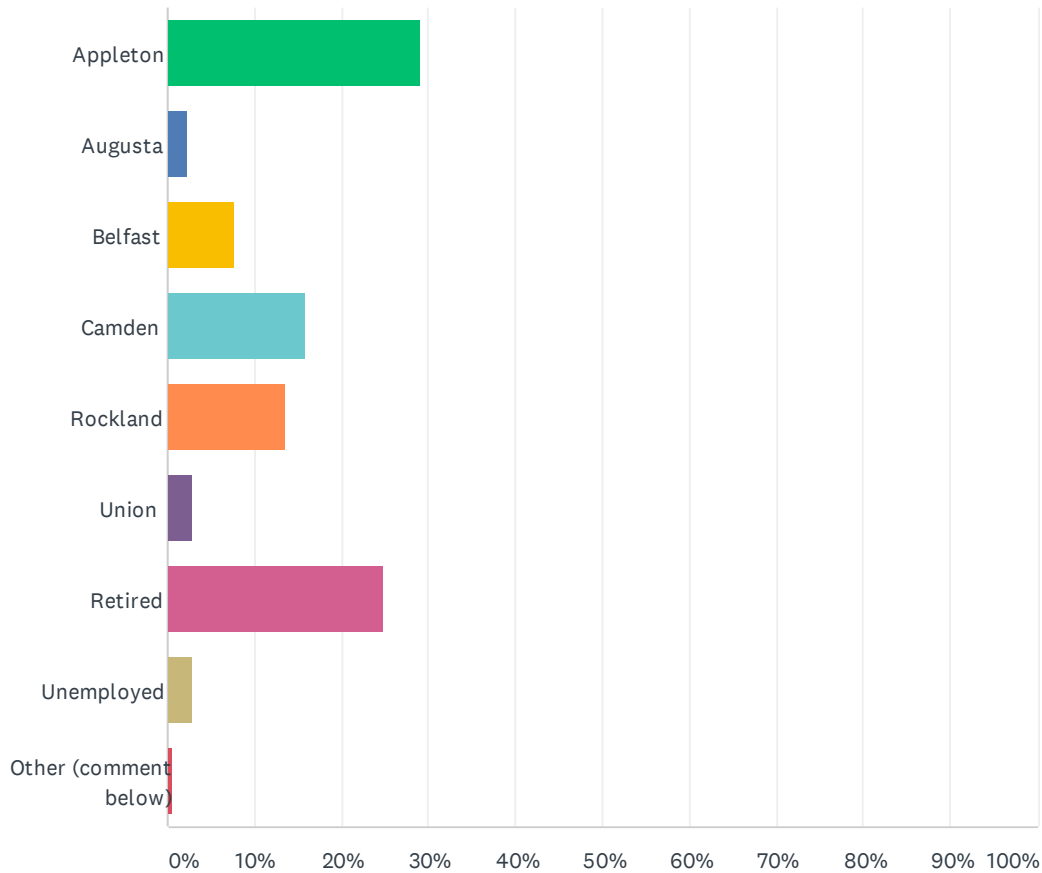
Answered: 17 Skipped: 165

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	without guidelines today we are putting all the people at risk	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
2	no spraying near homes, or gardens (crops)	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
3	Goes without explanation.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
4	The entire town should be a no-spray pesticide and herbicide zone.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
5	Possibly if necessary to protect specific public use areas.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
6	Yes, but keep it simple.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
7	Let State laws apply	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
8	The entire town should be a designate no-spray pesticide and herbicide zone.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
9	Not crazy about all the pesticides used on the ridge. . .	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
10	get rid of the ticks. spray kept them at bay when we sprayed	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
11	commercial spraying has an effect on neighbors. It should be approved and monitored.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
12	The town should set the example for not using pesticides and herbicides on public property and rights-of-way. OK with banning household spraying. Don't support ban on spraying for agriculture and forestry.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
13	The negative impact pesticides and herbicides have on humans and the ecosystem are well established. Farmers using these products risk contaminating not just their own property but the properties of farmers around them who do not use them.	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
14	Many people are trying to farm for themselves and/or as business. The loosened federal regulations need reigning in to protect our food chain, our animals, and people.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
15	It effects every one!	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
16	The town should acknowledge the dangers these sprays pose to our environment and ban them all.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
17	My wife says NO..... Need more bats, bees, birds, fireflies, etc. Appleton should try to keep it natural everywhere possible without going totally overboard with regulations.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM

Q46. Where is your place of employment?

Answered: 169 Skipped: 13

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



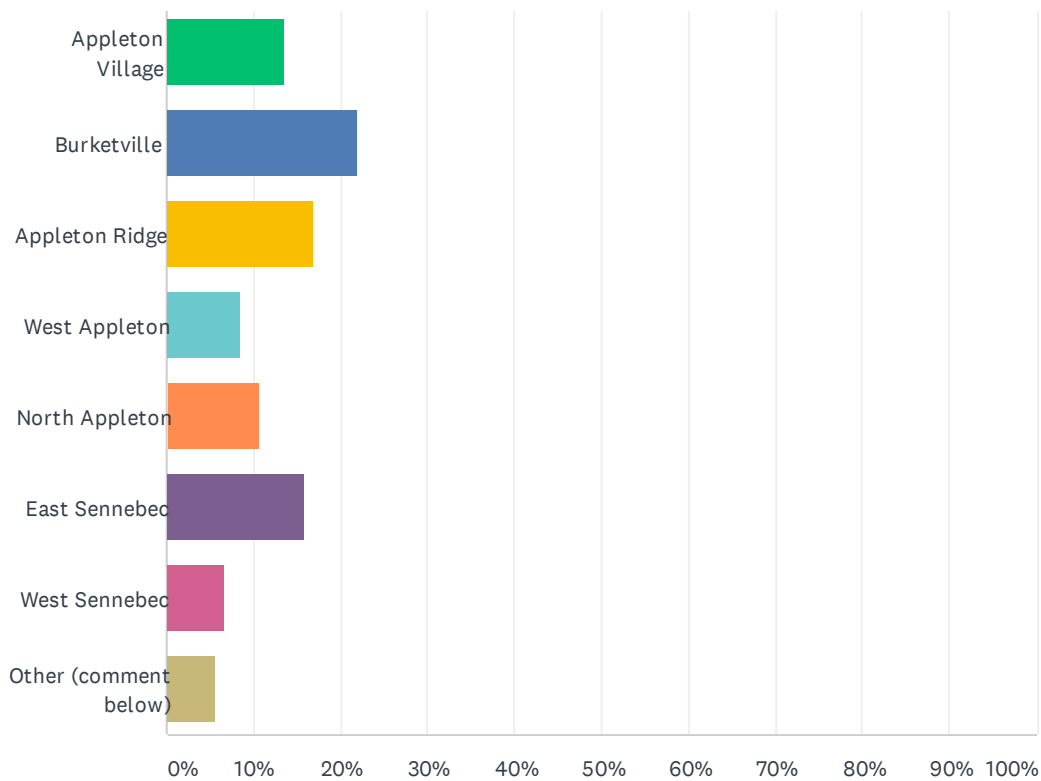
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Appleton	28.99% 49
Augusta	2.37% 4
Belfast	7.69% 13
Camden	15.98% 27
Rockland	13.61% 23
Union	2.96% 5
Retired	24.85% 42
Unemployed	2.96% 5
Other (comment below)	0.59% 1
TOTAL	169

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	All area	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Q47. In which area of Appleton do you live?

Answered: 177 Skipped: 5

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Appleton Village	13.56%	24
Burketville	22.03%	39
Appleton Ridge	16.95%	30
West Appleton	8.47%	15
North Appleton	10.73%	19
East Sennebec	15.82%	28
West Sennebec	6.78%	12
Other (comment below)	5.65%	10
TOTAL		177

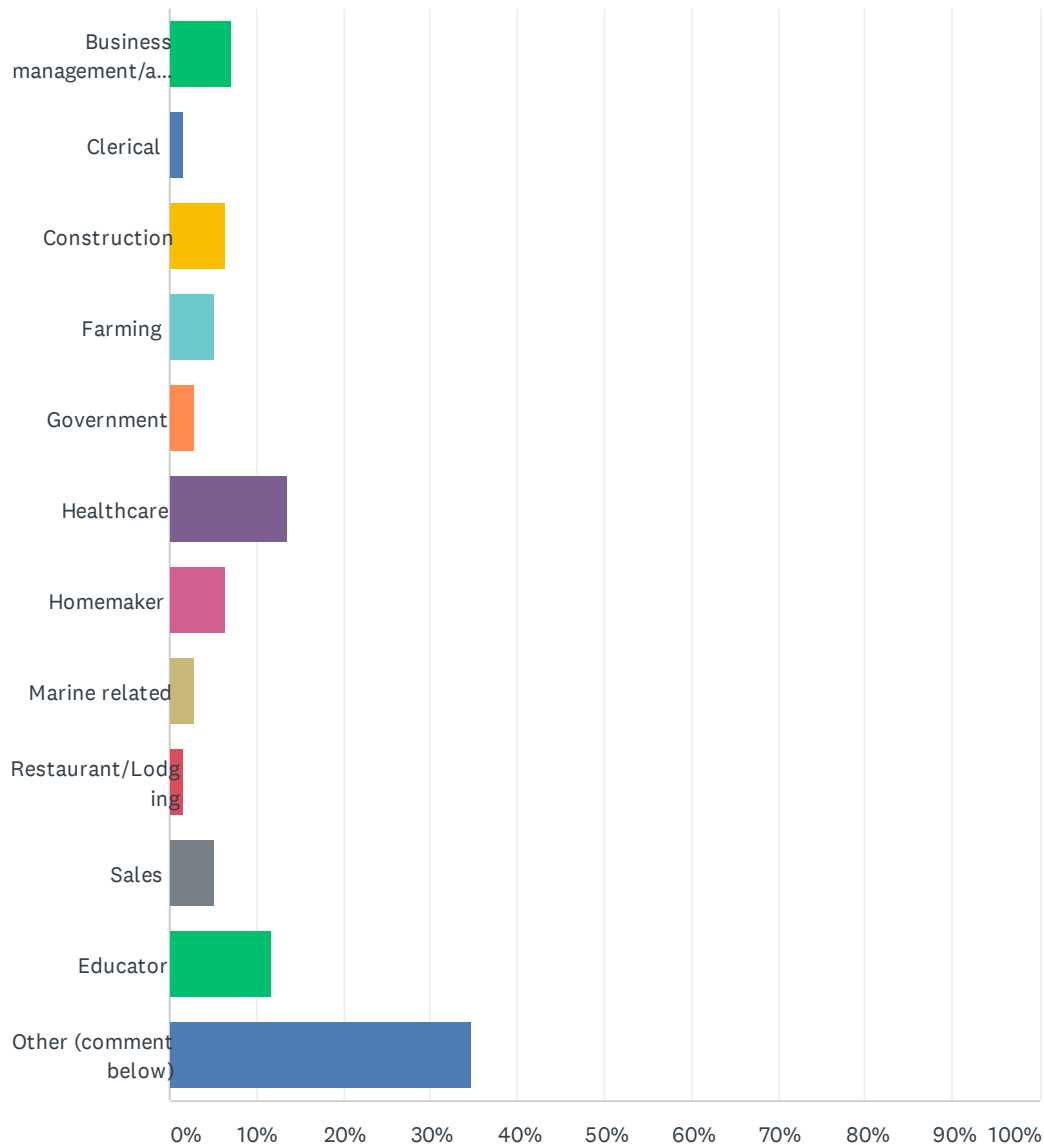
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Q46. Appleton, Belfast, Camden, Rockland and Union	5/3/2020 8:41 PM
2	Jones Hill Rd	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
3	Mill pond	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
4	Union Rd.	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
5	Union line	3/1/2020 1:49 AM
6	On the Appleton/Liberty line	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
7	Between the Ridge and Burkettville	2/7/2020 9:35 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

8	Union Rd.	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
9	1396 WEST APPLETON ROAD	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
10	I live in Burkettville (I believe this is the correct spelling).	1/28/2020 5:20 PM

Q48. What is your occupation?

Answered: 170 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Business management/administration	7.06%	12
Clerical	1.76%	3
Construction	6.47%	11
Farming	5.29%	9
Government	2.94%	5
Healthcare	13.53%	23
Homemaker	6.47%	11

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Marine related	2.94%	5
Restaurant/Lodging	1.76%	3
Sales	5.29%	9
Educator	11.76%	20
Other (comment below)	34.71%	59
TOTAL		170

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Fiber Artist	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	retired logger	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
3	retired	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
4	computer repair	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
5	Construction/ Maintenance	5/3/2020 8:41 PM
6	Retired	5/3/2020 8:18 PM
7	Was clerical/governmental	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
8	other	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
9	logging	5/3/2020 1:50 PM
10	retired	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
11	retired	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
12	Legal	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
13	Medical	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
14	retired teacher and Electrical engineer	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
15	Professional service	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
16	Caterer, Bookkeeper	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
17	construction, as well as business management/administration (program won't allow more than 1 choice)	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
18	Condo Superintendent	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
19	Retired, involved in garden farming.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
20	Legal Services	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
21	Information Technology - Remote Worker	3/29/2020 4:16 PM
22	scientist	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
23	retired	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
24	Retired educator	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
25	Firefighter	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
26	Retired	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
27	Engineering	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
28	Landscaping, other	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
29	Electronic Design Engineer	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
30	Consulting	3/4/2020 10:38 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

31	Retirement Act Call Center	3/3/2020 7:06 PM
32	retired	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
33	Self employed professional in a STEM field	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
34	nonprofit	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
35	IT	3/1/2020 1:49 AM
36	Writer/Park Ranger	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
37	Retired	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
38	Retired	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
39	have done some of each of your categories	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
40	Designer	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
41	self employed	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
42	retired healthcare	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
43	wood worker	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
44	Skilled craft: woodworker	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
45	We are building Airbnb lodging for Guests that want to getaway..... and escape to silence.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
46	service industry	1/29/2020 6:43 PM
47	Land stewardship	1/29/2020 7:28 AM
48	Retired/disabled	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
49	Law Enforcement	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
50	Artist, writer, illustrator, teacher, bartender, retail and misc.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
51	Self Employed	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
52	Retired health care	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
53	Fine Arts and Crafts	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
54	auto repair	1/25/2020 5:25 PM
55	Self Employed	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
56	HazMat Truck driver	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
57	Computers	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
58	Retired	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
59	Natural scientist	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Q49. What do you like best about living in Appleton?

Answered: 165 Skipped: 17

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The quiet and space. The people. Our school and library.	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	open spaces, forests, rivers and ponds, safety	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
3	open space, friendly	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
4	The beauty, openness, people	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
5	Forests, woodlands...natural areas, river, beauty, rural, quiet, proximity to coast	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
6	the remoteness while being close to towns	5/10/2020 10:40 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The quiet and space. The people. Our school and library.	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	open spaces, forests, rivers and ponds, safety	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
3	open space, friendly	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
4	The beauty, openness, people	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
5	Forests, woodlands...natural areas, river, beauty, rural, quiet, proximity to coast	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
6	the remoteness while being close to towns	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
7	It is quiet at night	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
8	People + Landscape	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
9	quiet	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
10	low-density of population, natural environment	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
11	quiet atmosphere	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
12	School, people, beauty	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
13	nice town	5/3/2020 8:41 PM
14	Good school, CHRHS, open spaces	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
15	Gentle people; quiet atmosphere	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
16	Beauty, quality of life, rural character, open space, views.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
17	quiet	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
18	Being left alone	5/3/2020 3:09 PM
19	Peace and quite not a lot of activity	5/3/2020 3:04 PM
20	Quiet, Peaceful	5/3/2020 2:52 PM
21	Appleton is pretty. Appleton has been quiet/ peaceful. Appleton has been neighborly/ friendly. Family friendly	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
22	The community feel and its residents	5/3/2020 1:56 PM
23	Peace-N-Quite except logging trucks	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
24	Born here, like country living	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
25	Peace and quiet	5/3/2020 1:21 PM
26	Appleton is a village , not a center for commerce	4/15/2020 5:40 PM
27	Small town life. Small school for my kids	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
28	We have a great location for kids and animals.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
29	Natural rural setting and good community spirit.	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
30	Generally peaceful, quiet. Good neighborly qualities, helping others.	4/9/2020 10:26 AM
31	Natural beauty	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
32	The privacy, quietness and kindness of town folk	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
33	Rural, small town lifestyle	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
34	Space Natural beauty	4/5/2020 5:37 PM
35	Less people	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
36	It is lightly populated and I can do whatever I want to on my own property.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
37	Living on a wode open heritage farm property. Enjoying the wildlife and scenic views of our	4/5/2020 9:47 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

	property	
38	Small residential town	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
39	Quite and beautiful	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
40	Low crime	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
41	some great forward-thinking people live here. Also, almost ALL people are interested in helping others...	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
42	Central location to everything	4/3/2020 7:28 PM
43	Great people! Great location!	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
44	The privacy, school system and landscape.	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
45	Safety	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
46	Un-hecktic lifestyle and a place where real down-home people live.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
47	I loving living in the woods with quiet and privacy. We also have wonderful neighbors and a community that takes care of each other.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
48	Freedom, the land, and the people.	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
49	The quiet, the dark, and the live and let live - to a certain degree.	3/29/2020 4:16 PM
50	Open space	3/28/2020 1:12 PM
51	the landscape and the rural character	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
52	The people and the views.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
53	peaceful	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
54	Small community	3/20/2020 2:16 PM
55	Nature is wonderful, people are nice	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
56	The peacefulness, the neighborliness, the school	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
57	Access to nature Friendly people Low crime rate Peaceful	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
58	The freedom and open space	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
59	Freedom, great neighbors, great school	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
60	away from everything	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
61	the rural character	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
62	Good Neighbors, Rural Character, Town Government, Fire Protection, Library, and Schools	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
63	Friendly community; neighbors; school; natural beauty; rural community	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
64	The "feel" and pace of life in our small, rural town and community of fine people. The expanses of undeveloped land. The wildlife.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
65	The quite peaceful times living on Sennebec Lake.	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
66	Small town community and our small town independence	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
67	I like living in a rural quiet area. And the school systems have good reputation for my children.	3/10/2020 12:49 PM
68	Open space and Land	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
69	It is a peaceful small low populated, beautiful town.	3/9/2020 12:53 PM
70	Rural, quite, easy commute to Camden/Rockland/Belast/Augusta	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
71	The country, the folks.	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
72	Rolling hills, Wooded/ farm land mixed with sparse residential areas, Quiet with little traffic.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
73	Very pretty land.	3/5/2020 1:10 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

74	The quiet and beauty of our open spaces. The lack of development.	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
75	Open undeveloped areas, quiet, friendliness of people	3/4/2020 2:25 PM
76	Clean air and water, outdoor recreational opportunities, quiet and open spaces. The library is awesome and a great community meeting place and resource.	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
77	Being able to live off my land, being self-sufficient.	3/3/2020 7:19 PM
78	Always lived here. It's distant from work and stores but it is a quiet neighborhood.	3/3/2020 7:06 PM
79	It's private.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
80	rural living	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
81	peace and quiet	3/3/2020 11:35 AM
82	Great views, quiet and I can do whatever I want with my house and land.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
83	Open space, quiet and nice people	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
84	the people and the sense of community, the beauty of our natural setting	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
85	It's beautiful, quiet, friendly, nice school, easy access to Belfast, Camden, Rockland, etc.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
86	The quiet, the beauty, the ridge, the bog, the village school community, being part of the five town community and access to one of the best high schools in the state	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
87	Piece and quiet. Great neighborhood friends and get togethers! All over a great place to live	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
88	The ability to have land and farm animals.	2/22/2020 5:40 PM
89	Vistas	2/21/2020 10:54 AM
90	Remoteness, wilderness	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
91	Rural, neighbors	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
92	Great neighbors	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
93	My home and farmstead are here	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
94	Sense of community and rural character.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
95	It's still small and rural and for the most part local and locally run so there's accountability. And my family history is here since this was Massachusetts so I'm kinda partial	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
96	It's natural beauty.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
97	location, neighbors and friends, country setting with access to goods and services within a half hour drive.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
98	I am off the grid and have some acreage for privacy.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
99	It's quiet, far less trafficked than other towns in the Midcoast, less developed. I love coming home to a calm, country area.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
100	Appleton is home	2/9/2020 9:37 PM
101	Community, privacy, beautiful scenery, open spaces, K-8 school.	2/9/2020 3:49 PM
102	The views	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
103	Access to high quality natural space.	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
104	Freedom. Lots of open space.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
105	The close-knit community full of small businesses and the rural splendor	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
106	It's beautiful; I have enough land to garden; I liked the schools (AVS and CHRHS) for my daughter; there are a lot of very nice people here; I grew up here and have good memories of the outdoors, and community events from back then. The town office clerks are generally helpful and patient.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

107	It's beautiful and private. It's fairly laid back environment that we feel safe in.	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
108	Quiet and beautiful. Nice neighbors.	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
109	The rural nature	2/7/2020 11:11 AM
110	It is a rural community with lots of woods, and large spacing between homes allowing families to be able to walk out their front door and enjoy the natural area.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
111	its rural character and rural characters. I am hoping that they always have a place in our community	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
112	rural yet close to midcoast towns	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
113	Rural location with quick access to Camden, Rockport, Rockland, Belfast and Augusta	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
114	Being a hermit	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
115	It is away from everything and we can live in peace and quiet. My kids can play Nd I don't worry about the busy roads.	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
116	Small town community feel. I love the quiet and peaceful life.	2/3/2020 6:32 PM
117	Rural, small town feel	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
118	Feeling of community	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
119	The people, peace and quiet, no light pollution, nice soil,the general freedom, low traffic, the low salt use on the roads. A nice town office. It is beautiful.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
120	It is NOT a big city with all the crap that goes on in big cities. It is a rural area with very little useless development like McDonalds, or Home Depot. Leave all that to the big cities.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
121	My home town!	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
122	My neighbors, small community school. the rural area.	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
123	Quiet	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
124	The rural feel - woods, farm land, waters, wildlife	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
125	Quiet, beautiful, safe	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
126	The peace, the preservation of history	1/31/2020 12:09 PM
127	The peace of our property. The natural beauty of the area.	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
128	Small town atmosphere	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
129	It's real and the people are really diversified from every walk of life, young & old - they respect the environment and Appleton.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
130	Small town feel, low crime, scenic beauty, wonderful neighbors.	1/29/2020 6:43 PM
131	Low population, beauty, remoteness	1/29/2020 12:37 PM
132	Peaceful small quiet good schools, close to lakes and ocean	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
133	The river, ridge, water access. The rural feel	1/29/2020 7:28 AM
134	Peace & quiet	1/29/2020 6:28 AM
135	It's beautiful	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
136	I appreciate the serenity and being surrounded by nature.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
137	I love living in the rural environment	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
138	Space	1/28/2020 11:18 AM
139	The sense of community around the school and library. This is a small quiet town with its own charm, perfect place for inspiration	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
140	Quiet neighborhoods relatively close to Camden Rockland Belfast	1/28/2020 10:26 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

141	Friendliness of residents, agriculture, open spaces	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
142	Rural quiet lifestyle	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
143	Rural quiet community.	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
144	Quiet safe place. The town is extremely beautiful and has a lot to offer.	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
145	It's quiet. And its land trust preserves and trails.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
146	Quiet, simple living in a rural area.	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
147	Quiet, safe, friendly, beautiful scenery.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
148	The beauty	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
149	Quiet	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
150	Peace and quiet, and that by-and-large people mind only their own business.	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
151	Rural living, quiet, knowing our neighbors	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
152	its near everything without being by anything	1/25/2020 5:25 PM
153	I love the space and my neighbors	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
154	My familys heritage dates back to when the town was created. The forests, stream, rivers, ponds, wetlands, etc. The small town feeling and the beauty of our Village.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
155	So peaceful and I grew up here so it's home	1/25/2020 3:32 PM
156	the rural feel and proximity to the coast	1/25/2020 3:31 PM
157	10th generation on family land. Hunting	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
158	rural scenery	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
159	My family loves Appleton. The safety and security of the community, school and the quiet town is the reason why we live here.	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
160	the wide open spaces	1/25/2020 1:25 PM
161	Rural aspect, not over developed	1/24/2020 11:48 AM
162	Friendly people	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
163	The quiet. Our whole town is a recreational area.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
164	Community, quiet, rural character	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
165	Beautiful, rural	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Q50. What do you like least about living in Appleton?

Answered: 153 Skipped: 29

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The uncontrolled and untenable destruction of tree and shrub growth in the clearing of roadsides. It was/is unconscionable property owners should have a say in what is cut. Several of my trees were basically destroyed. There was no announcement and no warning.	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	mud season	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
3	nothing really	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
4	Having to drive 30 minutes for retail needs, work, We have no convenience stores in Appleton and not enough community events.	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
5	lack fo shoulders on roads for safely walking, running, biking	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
6	High Property Taxes. Limits of local school system.	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
7	property taxes relative to services	5/10/2020 10:40 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

8	Like it all. No complaint	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
9	distance	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
10	roadside litter	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
11	isolation from modern Amenities such as spectrum cable	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
12	Property taxes & some roads. No internet, no cable	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
13	Traffic through village on 131. Focus on attracting families by supporting school (increase tax base). Increase incentives to keep open spaces, agricultural use	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
14	Ticks; Brown tail moths and their caterpillars + mosquitos	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
15	Tax rate, poor decisions of past related to school planning, fear of loss of scenic resources + overdevelopment, gentrification, real estate speculation, over development of Sennebec, need to protect driving water and other water resources.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
16	Traffic	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
17	Its lonely ha ha	5/3/2020 3:09 PM
18	Taxes (cost of road maintenance)	5/3/2020 3:04 PM
19	Taxes are too high	5/3/2020 2:59 PM
20	Property taxes are too high, and too much \$ designated to AVS instead of move funds towards roads. Traffic is increasing (number of vehicles, size of vehicles and speed of vehicles) on our road. It is more dangerous to walk now.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
21	Distance to town	5/3/2020 1:56 PM
22	city people/taxes	5/3/2020 1:50 PM
23	Ticks and Brown-tailed moths	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
24	Ticks, truck traffic	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
25	Unpleasant view of unkept residences. Not enough businesses	5/3/2020 1:21 PM
26	The ongoing tension between old time residents and the ideas of newcomers as to what the town should be like	4/15/2020 5:40 PM
27	Haven't lived here long enough to answer honestly	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
28	Tax burden , internet issues	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
29	The people who do things like dump trash out their vehicle windows and who bring negative energy to town meetings without stepping forward to find solutions to problems.	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
30	Lack of services such as garbage	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
31	The blatant disregard for folks who don't follow the laws and there are no repercussions or consequences for their actions	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
32	Nothing	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
33	Long drives	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
34	Property taxes are too high. The town lacks any industry to help pay taxes. The school is a joke, salary are too high, scores are too low. The school should be closed and kids sent to a school of there choice, it would be cheaper and provide better education.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
35	Being so far away from in town conveniences	4/5/2020 9:47 AM
36	Roads	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
37	Taxes and little Public green space	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
38	High taxes, no trash pickup, far from stores, no community spaces	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
39	politics is dividing us. not appleton's fault. true everywhere.	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
40	Property tax mil rate	4/4/2020 11:30 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

41	The condition of the roads	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
42	Lack of tax base and high property taxes	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
43	The drive when shopping is necessary.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
44	Divisiveness and decrease of organic connection among townspeople.	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
45	Very few restaurants or shops close by	3/29/2020 4:16 PM
46	Road conditions	3/28/2020 1:12 PM
47	not much	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
48	The potholes.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
49	nothing	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
50	Nothing	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
51	The distance required to drive to services	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
52	Poor maintenance of dirt roads	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
53	The lack of a "downtown" with restaurants, shops, pubs, to shop, visit with community	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
54	The fear of seeing it get taken over and changed like small towns in southern Maine did.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
55	away from everything	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
56	nosey neighbors	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
57	far from services and work; far from emergency and other healthcare.	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
58	Being surrounded by enthusiastic Trump supporters.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
59	Lack of road maintenance	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
60	Bugs!	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
61	I pay an outrageous amount in taxes. So much so I'm considering selling	3/10/2020 12:49 PM
62	Road conditions and the lack of community involvement. There is no center of town. The School should be the heart of the town.	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
63	Taxes are fairly high.	3/9/2020 12:53 PM
64	High taxes, lack of road maintenance/infrastructure, lack of restaurants/local shops	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
65	The property taxes are to high.	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
66	Nothing yet.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
67	To expensive, mil rate of 22.80!! Rural town, no internet, no cable, dirt roads	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
68	Commuting	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
69	Isolation.	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
70	amount of property taxes	3/3/2020 7:19 PM
71	For farm work and stores 35 minutes	3/3/2020 7:06 PM
72	Nothing.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
73	Taxes	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
74	the high taxes!	3/3/2020 11:35 AM
75	Two things, lack of business to help with tax base and the school. The school drives me nuts. Mediocre education with a cost per student far above what private school or sending students to another district would cost. The taxpayers of Appleton cannot afford to keep the school, it should be closed.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
76	Lack of general store... and driving distance for kids	3/3/2020 7:32 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

77	divisiveness along lines of people who are new to the community vs those who have lived here for many generations	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
78	People burning rubber in front of my house. Can be insular at times, even toward those of us who have lived here 20-something years.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
79	Driving, arsenic, mud, ticks	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
80	big trucks driving on small back roads	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
81	High taxes.	2/22/2020 5:40 PM
82	Driving to work	2/21/2020 10:54 AM
83	Taxes	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
84	Rural, neighbors	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
85	Taxes	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
86	Big trucks, speeding cars	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
87	No public transport. Too much driving.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
88	Taxes	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
89	No food delivery and the roads suck	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
90	Decaying roads and an aging school and not enough taxpayers to pay for what needs to be fixed.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
91	we could do better in Maine with Educational reimbursement from Augusta. I think this would reduce taxes for those who do not use the services required...	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
92	Collinstown Road and no mail delivery.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
93	Honestly? I don't dislike anything about living here. I love Appleton.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
94	Property taxes are so high due to a school that should be consolidated with another town. It is not feasible nor affordable to the residents, not to mention fiscally irresponsible.	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
95	Narrow roads.	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
96	Too many people who don't respect private property (four-wheelers mostly, but also some hunters, party-ers).	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
97	New residential development, the degradation of scenic views, and lack of internet	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
98	Having to drive a long way for everything;	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
99	Drive times, road quality, lack of online government resources like registration processes, unkempt and unclean residential property management, and lack of safe legal monitoring of local atv and walking trails, and lack of law enforcement presence in high traffic areas in and around the general burkettville area.	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
100	Driving everywhere. High property taxes.	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
101	Access to public transport, fear of walking/cycling our roads	2/7/2020 11:11 AM
102	The high property taxes. People can't afford to pay thousands more each year than the same property would cost if located in Hope or Lincolnville.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
103	property taxes	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
104	The dirt road I live on in mud season	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
105	The trust finders and retirees Since they want to make our town like Camden or the town they moved from. They need to enjoy living here for a decade or two before trying to recreate something they walked away from.	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
106	No business	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
107	Nothing!	2/3/2020 6:32 PM
108	High taxes	2/3/2020 2:26 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

109	Property taxes	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
110	I love it all.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
111	Nonexistent road maintenance.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
112	Taxes and lack of simple conveniences.	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
113	Property taxes	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
114	`	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
115	Not many stores, medical car nearby,	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
116	Nothing really.	1/31/2020 12:09 PM
117	The drive to my place of employment. The lack of "third space" gathering areas in the center of town - I really wish that Appleton Village had a cafe, general store, coffee house, playground, etc. We have had a hard time meeting people since moving here.	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
118	Taxes are extremely high	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
119	The taxes are too high. We need to attract the right type of business that will not alter our balance. A little high taxes is ok..... just need to keep it in check.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
120	West Appleton Rd	1/29/2020 12:37 PM
121	Road conditions in mud season	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
122	No community center, other than library	1/29/2020 7:28 AM
123	The speed cars are traveling on our roads	1/29/2020 6:28 AM
124	Hard to make friends, meet people if you don't have kids in the school system	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
125	Lack of access to high speed internet.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
126	The speeders on Sennebec Road. From The Briar Patch to 131 should be 25mph. There are a lot of children on this road as well as dog walkers and runners. Also with the restaurant, library and Town Office, the speed limit really should be reduced. Cars fly down going at least 50mph.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
127	Nothing much here but Library.	1/28/2020 11:18 AM
128	Roads in the spring	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
129	High property taxes, poor Road management	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
130	Road maintenance	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
131	Road maintenance is inadequate	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
132	A lot of new houses are going in.	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
133	The property taxes	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
134	Unsure	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
135	Road maintenance issues.	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
136	Distance from Portland, Portsmouth, Boston, etc.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
137	Far away from grocery	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
138	Lack of high speed Internet	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
139	Poor road conditions, a town govt that looks like it is planning to become more intrusive. High tax rates.	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
140	Distance to health services, isolation for elderly	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
141	highest mil rate in the county aside from rockland	1/25/2020 5:25 PM
142	crappy internet. We live on collinstown Rd.	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
143	The taxes for our schoold are ridiculous. They raised taxes to match the other local schools but do not have the amount of children that they do. Small town feel with a big tax burden. Not so fun.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

144	It's a far drive to anywhere you need to go like bigger stores and in the winter the roads are sketchy	1/25/2020 3:32 PM
145	not being able to stay in town for recreation, shopping and entertainment	1/25/2020 3:31 PM
146	Taxes, speed of traffic, out of towners moving in and trying to run the town like the town they moved out of.	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
147	Lack of high speed internet. On Guinea ridge rd all we can get is redzone which is mediocre at best	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
148	the lack of restaurants, such as take-out	1/25/2020 1:25 PM
149	High taxes	1/24/2020 11:48 AM
150	High Taxes	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
151	Property Taxes are too high for the services provided.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
152	The inevitable taxes. Need some businesses.	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
153	not much	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Q51. What do you consider to be the single most important issue or problem facing the Town of Appleton?

Answered: 143 Skipped: 39

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	High real estate taxes. I may be taxed out of my home.	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	High Property Taxes.	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
3	taxes	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
4	Chance of unregulated development	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
5	Development by medium box retail/ chain store without resorting to zoning	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
6	global warming; what to do w/ all our plastic	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
7	Climate change. We need to be pro-active in helping each other reduce our uses of fossil fuel	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
8	Road maintenance and internet providers	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
9	None at the moment	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
10	I think we are doing good	5/3/2020 8:41 PM
11	Maintaining rural character of community	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
12	Keeping Appleton a place that would be recognized as a home town to those who first lived here.	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
13	Potential development w/ out proper town regulation! Taxes!	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
14	Jobs	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
15	Taxes	5/3/2020 3:09 PM
16	Costs of Road maint. and school budget (elementary + high school)	5/3/2020 3:04 PM
17	The potential of Breweries or Cannabis ("pot") cultivation/ processing/sales being allowed into our town. I believe any of this would lower our standards as a Family-Friendly town. Look at Colorado statistics for what happens to neighborhoods.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
18	Tax increase	5/3/2020 1:56 PM
19	Taxes	5/3/2020 1:50 PM
20	Roads	5/3/2020 1:42 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

21	Roads	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
22	Unemployment and poverty	5/3/2020 1:21 PM
23	public participation in town matters	4/15/2020 5:40 PM
24	Same as above	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
25	School and tax burden for the elderly. need to get growth moving.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
26	High property taxes and size of school budget that the town has to bear. State needs to cover higher percentage of school costs.	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
27	Keeping taxes down while maintaining current services.	4/9/2020 10:26 AM
28	Cost of education	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
29	The cohesiveness of the town and breaking away from the good ol' boy system.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
30	Keeping land for the next generation	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
31	Taxes and the poorly run, aging school.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
32	Balancing appropriate tax rate to budge covered services	4/5/2020 9:47 AM
33	Taxes	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
34	High Taxes. Need to attract business with over fifty employees to conduct their operations in town	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
35	property taxes are difficult for many people. Paying for the school (a necessity) makes some angry.	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
36	school cost	4/4/2020 11:30 AM
37	Drugs	4/3/2020 7:28 PM
38	Finding the right balance to provide expected safety and services to a somewhat diverse group of residents without greatly changing what makes Appleton unique	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
39	The condition of the roads	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
40	Road maintenance and improvement	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
41	The apparent willingness (as implied by this survey) of humans to complicate life for others.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
42	Adequate funding.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
43	Divergent views of what the town should be - a rural community with diverse activities and occupations or a retirement community.	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
44	I feel too removed from the Town and Town decisions at this point to be able to answer this question. Maybe -- Energy use and source issues. I would love to have a town incentive program to help residents have solar and/or wind installed	3/29/2020 4:16 PM
45	Taxes are too high	3/28/2020 1:12 PM
46	school funding	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
47	Future land use plans.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
48	none	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
49	Small population which places demands on a few to serve the town well.	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
50	For me personally, poor condition of dirt roads that makes access to my property difficult in spring & winter.	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
51	Rising taxes, but moderate incomes making it hard for families to continue to live here.	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
52	Property taxes	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
53	school	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
54	Possible future public water supply sites and protection and public sanitation needs in certain areas	3/17/2020 1:33 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

55	encouraging alternative fuels and energies; building a sustainable community and limiting unsustainable growth.	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
56	Uncontrolled development and growth, which would destroy everything I mentioned in #49, above	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
57	Roads	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
58	The shoulders of our roads.	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
59	I'm unaware of any crises	3/10/2020 12:49 PM
60	Taxes are going to drive people out of town and its not an attractive cost to have people move into town.	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
61	High property taxes.	3/9/2020 12:53 PM
62	Low population for amount of town services resulting in high taxes	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
63	Property taxes	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
64	Not sure ?	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
65	Tree, open space, and environment easements tax deductions for some property owners have stopped residential growth. Making existing residents pay high taxes, and end up have to move out. Building new homes with that tax rate is making a poor living community.	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
66	Long-term affordability to remain a resident.	3/3/2020 7:19 PM
67	The signs hanging on the power lines.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
68	urban sprawl	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
69	having a grocery store and/small market	3/3/2020 11:35 AM
70	Taxes	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
71	Affordability of small school.	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
72	The above division, and the small tax base, with no businesses, placing a high tax burden on residents, who are often living on a fixed income	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
73	Development/growth.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
74	Balancing a necessary tax base for growth with land preservation and old family homesteads	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
75	Taxes are way too high for this town.	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
76	Providing decent low cost housing	2/21/2020 10:54 AM
77	Taxes	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
78	high taxes	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
79	To political. Dissention of reidents regarding political views	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
80	Funding public education	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
81	Rising property taxes	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
82	Environmental protection.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
83	Taxes too high	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
84	I honestly don't know..maybe no public transportation so job issues.	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
85	We need to grow.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
86	becoming more of a pass through community. we should increase the area of reduced speed. It's been the same for 40-50 years while growth has expanded in the Village.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
87	Roads. They will all be dirt soon if we don't come up with a plan.	2/10/2020 1:30 PM
88	Haven't lived here long enough to know, but I understand there are major road issues all over Appleton, so maybe that is where you need to start.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

89	I worry about development and subdivision of lots; I'd hate to see open field and/or forest built up. I think maintenance of the town's identity as a country setting is important; maybe acquisition and renovation of existing dilapidated properties can be encouraged as opposed to new construction.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
90	High taxes.	2/9/2020 3:49 PM
91	Property taxes!!! It is no longer affordable to live in Appleton. Keeping the school is irresponsible fiscally.	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
92	Protection of high quality natural resources as population grows.	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
93	Determining whether we want to be a dispersed development bedroom community for surrounding towns or if we want to maintain the values, open spaces, and reasons that led most of us to choose Appleton as home. That means zoning. Sorry, but we're at that point.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
94	Protecting the land for public and agricultural use and preventing further residential or industrial development	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
95	Being a bedroom community and dealing with fast, under regulated growth as a result. We don't have the capacity in our current small-town selectboard and volunteer committees to deal with planning and oversight of this growth, and it is going to be taken advantage of. Many of us who would like to work on town committees are just working too many jobs, to make ends meet, and no longer have the time or energy to serve on committees such as planning board, select board etc. I'd like to be involved but I work 6-7 days a week, care for an elderly parent, etc.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
96	Property tax hikes due to expansion and global economy, proper road care infrastructure, and maintaining the way that Appleton should be - family friendly and supportive.	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
97	Attracting small businesses and bringing down our property taxes.	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
98	Town Regulations etc. need to be followed by everyone. The idea that because you're related or know someone exempts you from the rules is foolish. Just because something has always been done a certain way does not mean it should be continued if it is being done the wrong way.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
99	the culture war	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
100	high property taxes going to a school that needs to be consolidated with neighboring school -	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
101	Unsure	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
102	Free market should decide this stuff.	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
103	At the moment the way our selectmen and women run the town. They want government control over things that don't need to be.	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
104	I'm not sure	2/3/2020 6:32 PM
105	High taxes	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
106	Property taxes	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
107	Global climate change. Possibly development for profit.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
108	Taxes are way too high.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
109	School tax. We should look at what is being taxed to the residents per student and consider the saving of alternative high schools.	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
110	high taxes	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
111	The need to protect farming and conservation areas and have environmental regulations,	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
112	I haven't lived here long enough to have an informed opinion on this.	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
113	Projects that are not needed spending taxpayers dollar. Like a library that is barely used.	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
114	The future. I think the makeup of the people contributing to the Planning Board's future decisions is critical to Appleton's long term future..... and I know it takes young, old, new and long term residents, rich & poor etc, etc.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
115	High property taxes compared to what we get for our "investment."	1/29/2020 6:43 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

116	Road conditions	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
117	Housing growth management	1/29/2020 6:28 AM
118	Maintaining quality of life affordably.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
119	The majority of taxes go to the Appleton Village School. I think tax dollars need to be distributed in a better manner.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
120	School budget	1/28/2020 11:18 AM
121	Maintaining a certain standard of quality without having to increase property taxes	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
122	Attracting more tax-paying businesses and residents to hopefully lower the overall tax burden	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
123	Lack of tax base	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
124	Attracting younger families when our population is aging.	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
125	The property taxes are too high. They make it hard for young people to move to town.	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
126	Climate change.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
127	Growth. Not growing in areas we should (businesses friendly), but growing too much in places we shouldn't	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
128	Reliance on oil for heat rather than renewable sources ie: solar electric, geothermal, etc.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
129	Property taxes are too high	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
130	Access to fast and affordable internet service would be nice :) So would actually doing base structural repairs on our paved roads so that they don't so readily develop so many potholes (which are then only skim coated...)!!!	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
131	The right to farm. People move to the country, then complain about farms.	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
132	The climate emergency	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
133	Being able to continue being a small town in an area that out of staters flock to.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
134	I know taxes are high, more rentals would be nice	1/25/2020 3:32 PM
135	Managing the educational needs with the rest of the town's needs and how it overstretches our budget and feels unfair to town members that don't actively use or need the educational system here.	1/25/2020 3:31 PM
136	Taxes, too much of it goes to the school departments	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
137	Lack of infrastructure or lack of internet	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
138	high taxes	1/25/2020 1:25 PM
139	High taxes	1/24/2020 11:48 AM
140	Tax increases	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
141	Future growth and a Land Use Ordinance.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
142	Affordability.	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
143	public participation in community government and related services	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Q52. Any additional comments or concerns prompted by this survey?

Answered: 54 Skipped: 128

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Thank you for conducting the survey!	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
2	another yearly community gathering/party/potluck similar to souper supper to foster connections, but outdoors, late summer, would be helpful.	5/25/2020 10:59 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

3	Appreciate for your planning work	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
4	we should have mixed nonresidential development that allows small business development unique to the area.	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
5	I hope the comprehensive plan will strongly support it, encourage Appleton's rural qualities	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
6	high speed internet, cable and tv	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
7	Thank you for keeping our community up to date and still a place to call HOME.	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
8	Glad we're doing it. Hope it helps to influence/ support positive and wise changes to our community/	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
9	Appleton needs MORE business	5/3/2020 3:09 PM
10	No	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
11	Thank you for providing an opportunity to add my voice.	4/5/2020 5:37 PM
12	Do not allow any 5g towers to come to appleton	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
13	Need high speed internet on Jones Hill Road	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
14	thanks for all your hard volunteer work.	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
15	Drug abuse and climate change affect us all. Now, of course we have covid 19 to add to the list. I have no doubt that Appleton will do her part to meet the challenge.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
16	Appleton is a free and wonderful place. Please keep it simple. Paradise is often lost, as well-meaning folks move around the planet and gradually push paradise out of the reach of the simple folk like me.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
17	It would be nice to get more of the residents to participate in town government and town activities	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
18	none	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
19	Keep it Simple	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
20	This may seem "random," but I need to say that Becky and Pam, in the town office, perfectly represent the benefits of small-town life (as opposed to the urban nightmare). Both women are simultaneously personable and professional. Both go well above and beyond their job descriptions to help make the "town business" portion of our lives in Appleton not only bearable but enjoyable. I don't know what this town would do without them; I only know that I couldn't have managed without their help, support, and sense of humor. We, as a community, need to do EVERYTHING possible to make sure they don't leave us for something more challenging and rewarding.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
21	No	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
22	Ham radio towers should be exempt from 32 foot height restriction as long as they comply with FCC and FAA regulations.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
23	I believe the school system along with the town school is sucking the town dry of funds. There are more employed at the school than students enrolled.. Costly	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
24	No.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
25	none	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
26	The town should be doing everything possible to promote renewable energy and business development. The school costs are out of control, they must be curtailed. The most effective method of doing this is to close the Appleton Village School.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
27	Appleton should protect land along the St. George River and along Appleton Ridge from overdevelopment	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
28	No. Thank you for allowing us to comment.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
29	no	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
30	What this info used for and by whom	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
31	I really appreciate the residents who volunteer their time for the good of the town. We're lucky to have people with high integrity and dedication. Thanks!	2/14/2020 7:59 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

32	Overall I am happy with the Town government and the community of Appleton. Thanks to those of you who step up to serve on our Boards...	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
33	Thank you for taking on this thankless task.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
34	A restoration incentive could be a way to encourage people to move to the area and buy existing homes to fix up and live in or to run businesses out of. This would encourage small businesses, cultivate a unique look for the town, and discourage further development of the land.	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
35	Thank you for your work. Please publicize meetings so I can be involved in the next steps.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
36	Good luck	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
37	Why does the town website state this survey is due by March 15th and the paper mailing states April 15th?	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
38	Thank you for asking.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
39	Quit funding/duplicating already existing state and county services. If we have to pay state taxes to fund a service there is NO need to pay town taxes to do the same thing.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
40	Firstly I believe there should be assistance for our elderly tax breaks on top of priority. Appleton is driving the local residents to other locations. The taxes are absurd and there is no reason for this. Volunteer fire department and a public library, and no other services. Each and most all of have to leave this town to commute to work daily. I also believe taxes for everyone should be looked at. Not everyone is paying to the same standards and why?	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
41	I work in Belfast and Liberty- option not given.	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
42	I wish that more roads had hard shoulders, to facilitate and encourage bicycle use for transport and exercise.	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
43	Appleton ridge road	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
44	Thank you for taking the time to hear my thoughts. Peter DeWalt The Appleton Retreat	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
45	Good work!	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
46	Roads need to be repaired. Constant damage to vehicles is costly.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
47	Thank you for taking the time to ask these questions	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
48	N/A	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
49	Some questions didn't have comment fields. Some questions should have had an "I don't know" box	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
50	no high speed internet access on Collinstown Rd. Thank you!!	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
51	I hope that the town can continue to be beautiful with rugged history. I hope that the people who move here because of its peacefulness and beauty do not make changing it their first priority.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
52	Appleton has sufficient space to allow it to develop more housing, etc., naturally, without additional regulations,	1/25/2020 1:25 PM
53	I think we should turn our school district from a Union into an RSU so we can share resources between schools	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
54	The town needs to have a L.U.O. and online digital tax maps like our neighboring communities. The town needs to figure out how to get citizens involved in town governance. What are the best capital investments for the town?	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Appendix A

Maps

Table of Contents

Summary

Beginning with Habitat Maps

A. Town Framework

A-1 Location

A-2 Transportation

A-3 Public Facilities

A-4 Historic Places and Archaeology

A-5 Shoreland Zone

B. Land Framework

B-1 Topography

B-2 Land Cover

B-3 Farmland Soil

B-4 Hydric Soil

B-5 Soil Suitability for Low Density Development

C. Environmental Maps & Beginning with Habitats

C-1 Conserved Lands

C-2 Watershed & Stream Classification

C-3 Undeveloped Habitat Blocks

C-4 Wetland Characteristics

C-5 Water Resources & Riparian

C-6 High Value Plant & Animals Habitats

C-7 Co-occurrence

D. Future Planning

D-1 Proposed Growth Area

Summary

The maps included in Appendix A of this plan show Appleton's roadways, topography, public facilities, soils, critical habitat, water resources, land cover, existing land use, Shoreland Zoning, historic places, and proposed land use. The information used to create these maps has been derived from multiple sources. The maps as provided are for reference and planning purposes only and are not to be construed as legal documents or survey instruments.

All maps found in the Comprehensive Plan can be accessed on the Town of Appleton website.

Beginning with Habits

The Beginning with Habitat program cooperates with state and federal agencies, conservation groups, and regional organization in Maine. As part of the Comprehensive Planning process, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry provided maps to the Town of Appleton that highlights different parts of the area that contain highly valuable habitats and natural resources.

Water Resources and Riparian Habitats:

Wetlands are highly productive areas that are important for many wildlife species, including waterfowl and wading birds, frogs, turtles, snakes, and marine resources. These habitats are easily threatened by nearby developments that can force wildlife species to move to smaller habitats.

Riparian Habitats are transitional zones between open water and wetland habitats and upland habitats. These include riverbanks, shores, and the upland edges of wetlands. The wider the riparian buffers are maintained, the greater the water quality, in-stream habitat, and wildlife corridor benefits will occur; however, they do not guarantee healthy streams and water quality.

The Water Resources and Riparian Habitats map from Beginning with Habitat notes the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), Riparian Habitats, Shellfish Growing Areas, and Shellfish Growing Areas within the boundaries of West Bath. These boundaries and highlighted areas are typically depicted on municipal Shoreland Zoning maps to provide buffer zones and protections for sensitive areas.

High Value Plant & Animal Habitats:

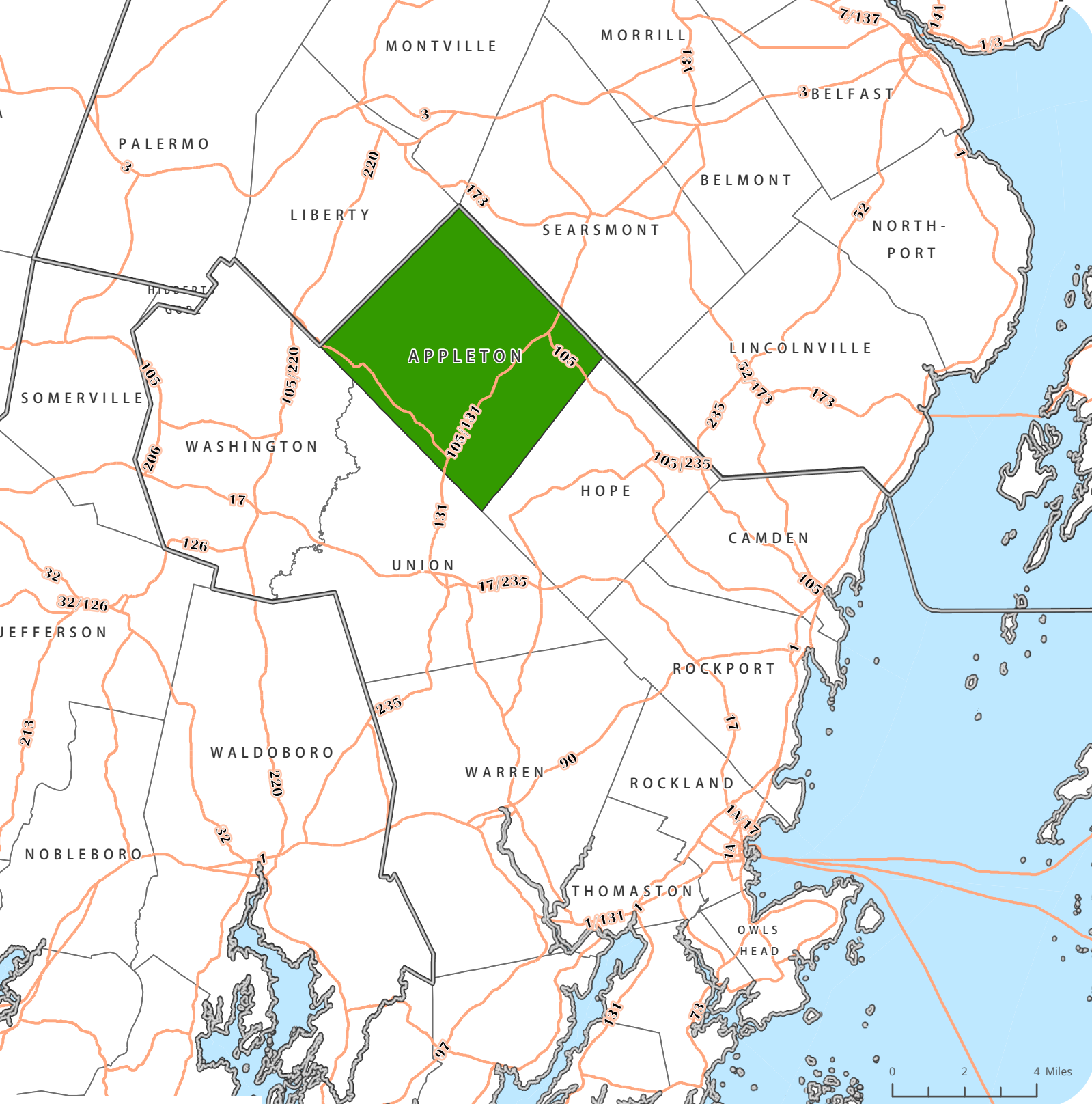
The "High Value Plant & Animal Habitats" map provided by Beginning with Habitat provides areas that have wildlife that is considered rare, threatened, or endangered; rare or exemplary plants and natural communities; essential wildlife habitats; and significant wildlife habitats for inland waterfowl/ wading birds, deer wintering areas, seabird nesting islands for communities that have applicable areas, tidal waterfowl/ wading birds, and significant vernal pools. This map also depicts Atlantic Salmon Spawning/ Rearing locations.

Undeveloped Habitat Blocks & Connectors and Conserved Lands

The value of undeveloped land for wildlife habitat varies considerably depending on the location. Rapid development is a massive threat to natural habitats through direct loss and fragmentation of existing large habitat areas. With decrease in the size of natural habitat areas, the links between the blocks has become narrower. The “Undeveloped Habitat Blocks Connectors and Conserved Lands” map from Beginning with Habitat outlines the notable habitat connectors that face high levels of vehicular traffic and breaks down the ownership of the conserved land based on the type of owner (private/ non-profit, federal, state, municipal, and voluntary easements). In West Bath, the largest blocks of conserved land are three separate areas surrounding Back Cove through voluntary easements from private landowners.


Co-occurrence of Natural Resources


These maps show areas where valued habitat features converge. Each feature is assigned a weight (1 to 4), and the sum of those values is depicted as a different shade of green (the larger the sum, the darker the color). These maps provide a helpful overview for locating concentrations of natural resources in Appleton.





TOWN OF APPLETON
Comprehensive Plan
Maps

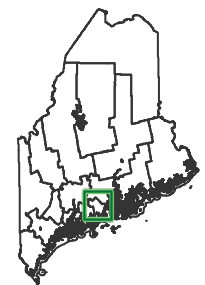
LEGEND

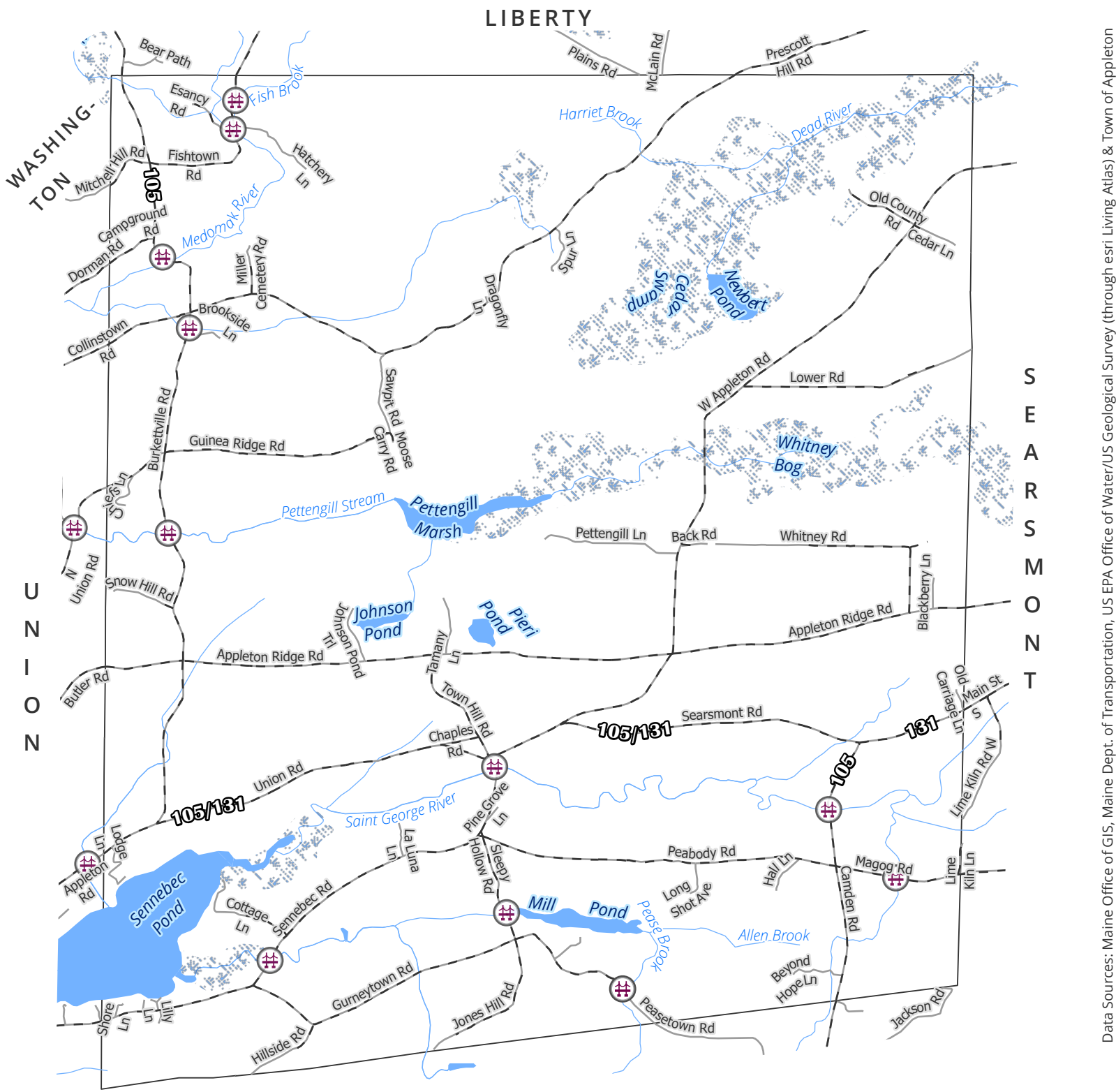
 Town of Appleton

 County Boundary

 Municipal Boundary

 State Roads





TOWN OF APPLETON

Comprehensive Plan Maps

Provided by Knox County

Emergency Management Agency GIS Program

301 Park Street, Rockland, ME 04841

207.594.5155

LEGEND

-- Public Roads

— E911 Roads

Wetland

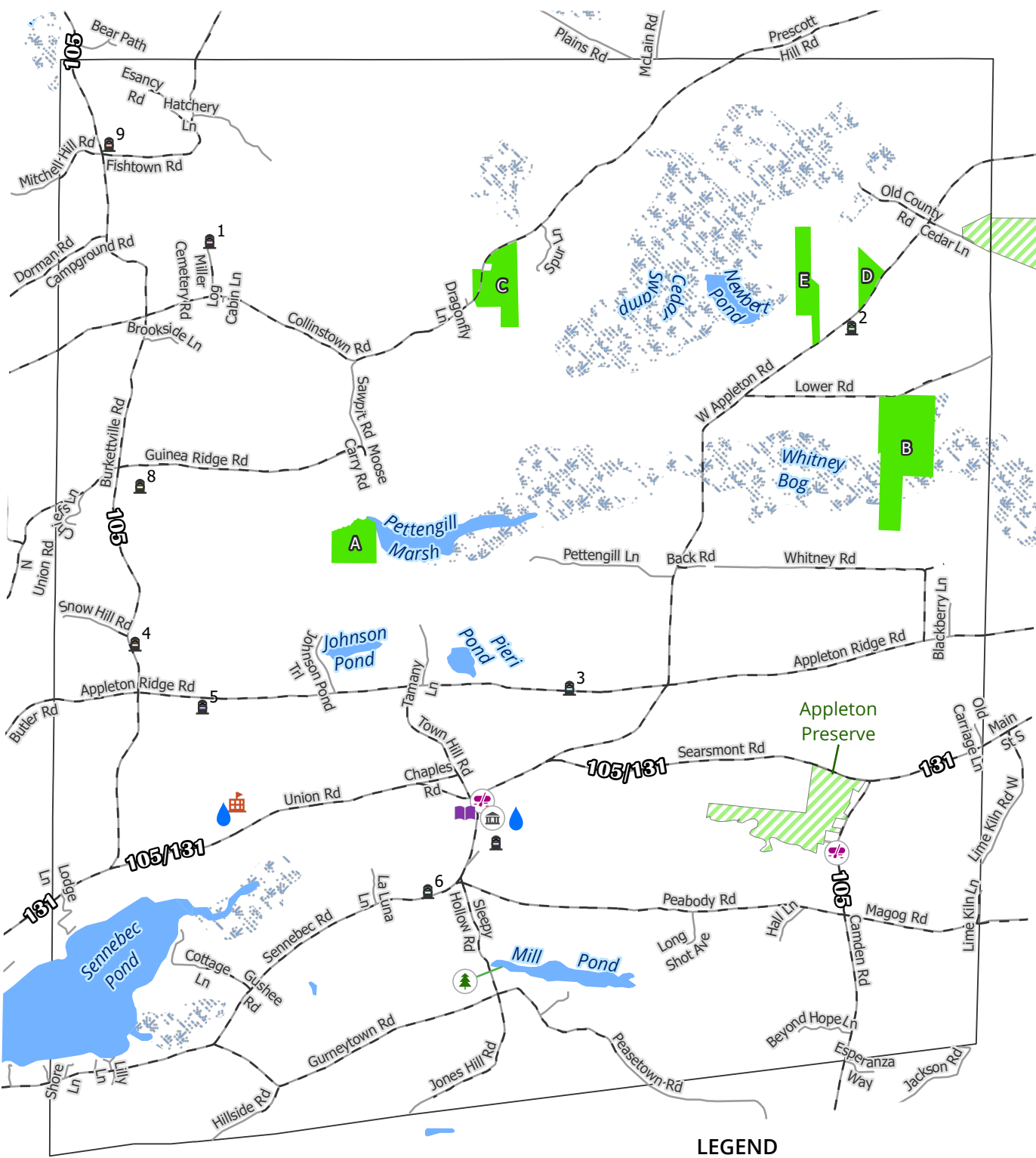
Water

Rivers and Streams

Bridges

See Table 10-5 in the Transportation section for more information.

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer



Data Sources: Maine Office of GIS, Maine Dept. of Transportation, US EPA Office of Water/US Geological Survey (through esri Living Atlas) & Town of Appleton

Public Facilities

Appleton Town Hall & Fire Station

School

Appleton Library

Town Forests

A - Herb Collamore Farm

B - Bert Lot & Fred Collins Farm

C - Fred Lamont Farm & Leander Pease Cole Lot

Cemeteries

1 - Miller Cemetery

2 - Weymouth Cemetery

3 - Sprague Cemetery

4 - Clark Cemetery

5 - Hart Cemetery

6 - Quaker Cemetery

7 - Pine Grove Cemetery

8 - Metcalf Cemetery

9 - Esancy Cemetery

Publicly accessible conservation land with Georges River Land Trust.

Boat Launch (hand carry)

Town Well

Getchell Family Park

-- Public Roads

— E911 Roads

— Rivers and Streams

Wetland

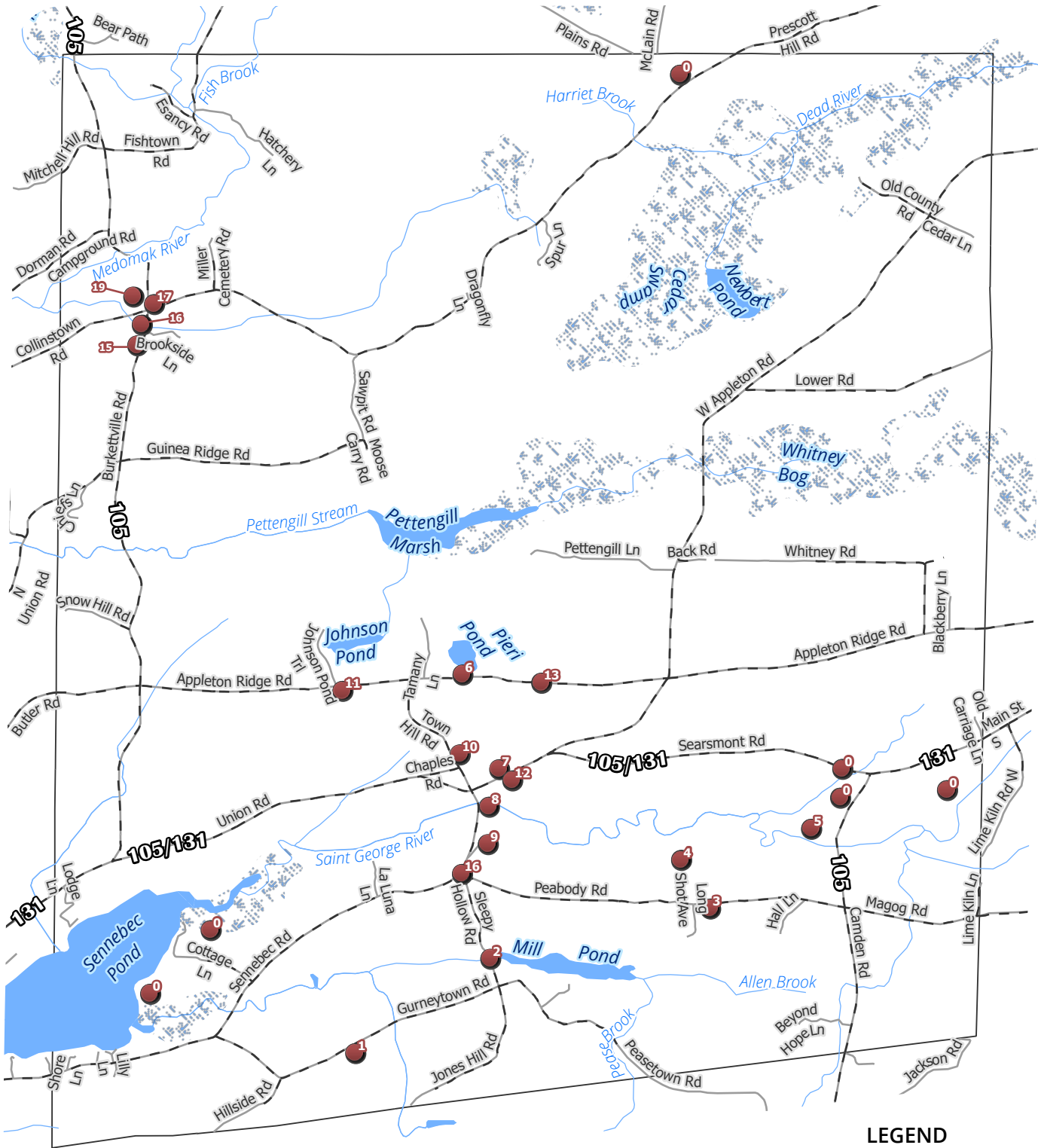
Water

0 0.5 1 Miles

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer

Map A-4 Historic Places

Map Revised: ##DATE## **DRAFT - September 2023**



LEGEND



Historic Places



Public Roads



E911 Roads



Wetland



Water



Rivers and Streams

TOWN OF APPLETON
Comprehensive Plan
Maps

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 - Appleton Mining & Smelting Co. | 8 - The Former Appleton Village School |
| 2 - Sherman's Saw & Stave Mill | 9 - Meeting House |
| 3 - John Hall's Lime Kiln | 10 - Town House |
| 4 - Lime Quarry | 11 - Oakes Mansion |
| 5 - St. George River Canal | 12 - Odd Fellow Hall |
| 6 - Cattle Pound | 13 - First Town Hall |
| 7 - Appleton Baptist Church | 14 - Medomak Valley Grange |
| | 15 - The Former Burkettville Store |
| | 16 - Gushee's Corner Vertans' Memorial Tablet & Flag Pole |
| | 17 - Burkettville Memorial Stone |
| | 18 - Burkettville School |

Provided by
Knox County
Emergency Management Agency GIS Program
301 Park Street, Rockland, ME 04841
207.594.5155

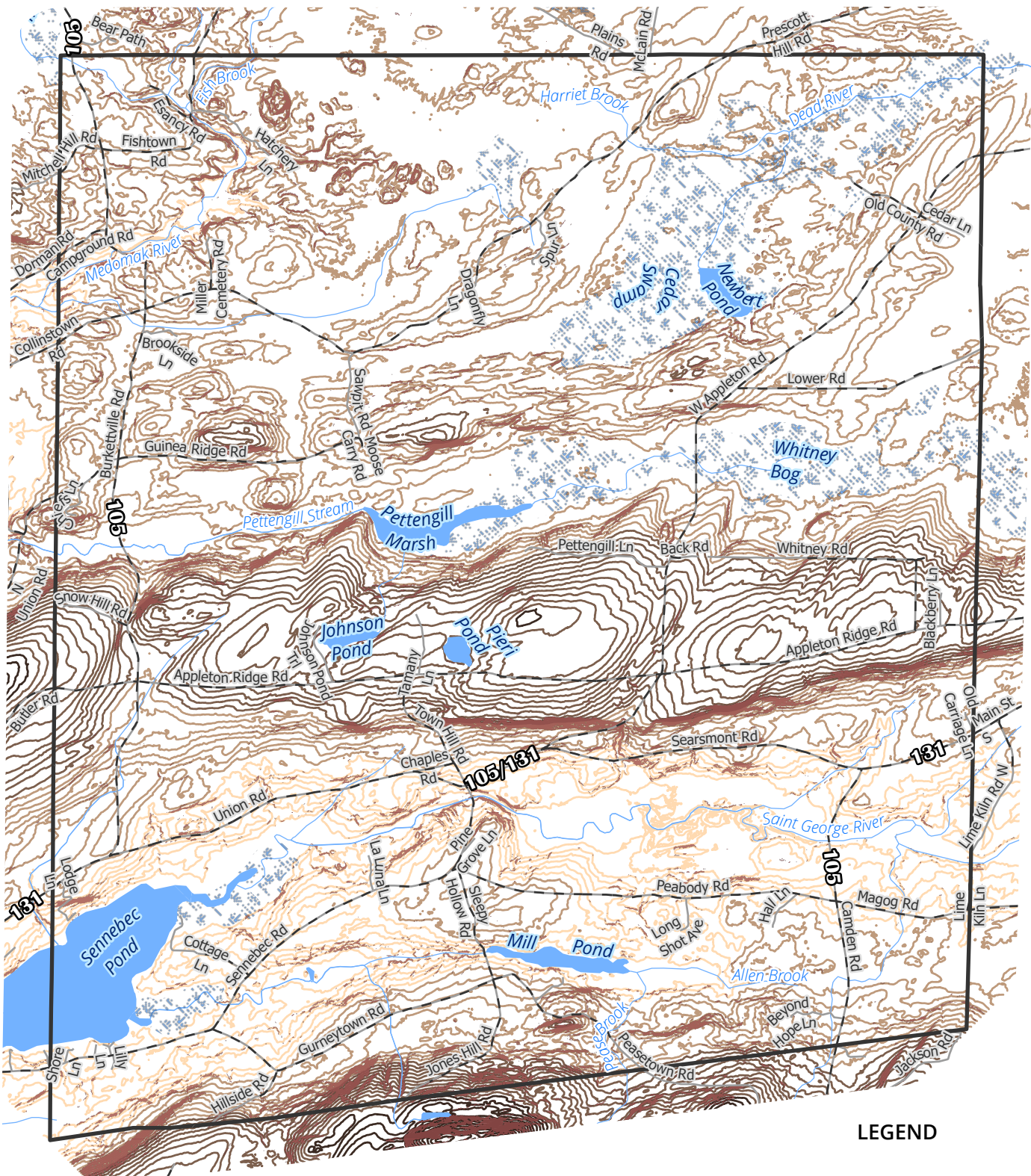


0 - Archaeological Sites per Maine Historical Preservation Commission

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer

Data Sources: Maine Office of GIS, Maine Dept. of Transportation, US EPA Office of Water/US Geological Survey (through esri Living Atlas),
Maine Historic Preservation Commission & Town of Appleton

Map B-1 Topography



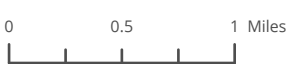
LEGEND

- Public Roads
- E911 Roads
- Wetland
- Water
- Rivers and Streams
- Contour Elevation (FEET)
- 100 - 220
- 220.1 - 380
- 380.1 - 620
- 620.1 - 980
- Areas with 25% or greater slope

TOWN OF APPLETON

Comprehensive Plan
Maps

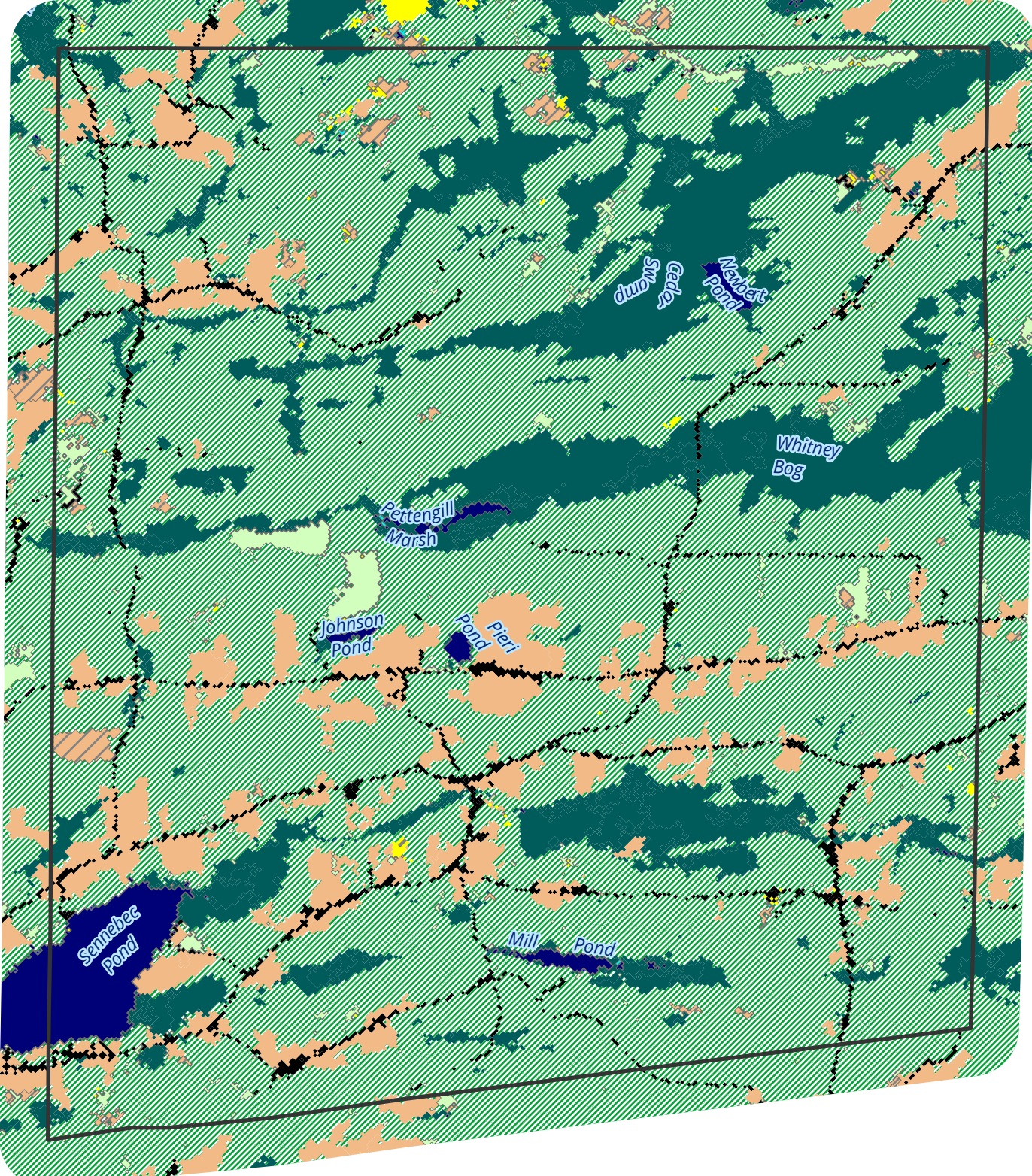
Provided by
Knox County
Emergency Management Agency GIS Program
301 Park Street, Rockland, ME 04841
207.594.5155



Contour interval is 20 feet.
Pixel size of the percent slope grid is 5 square meters.

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer

Data Sources: Maine Office of GIS, Maine Dept. of Transportation, US EPA Office of Water/US Geological Survey (through esri Living Atlas), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/US Geological Survey & Town of Appleton



Data Sources: Maine Office of GIS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration & Town of Appleton

TOWN OF APPLETON

Comprehensive Plan

Maps

Provided by

Knox County

Emergency Management Agency GIS Program

301 Park Street, Rockland, ME 04841

207.594.5155

LEGEND

Grouped C-CAP Land Cover (2016)

Developed

Scrub/Shrub

Open Water

Barren Land

Forest

Palustrine Aquatic Bed

Agriculture

Wetlands

Grassland/Herbaceous

Unconsolidated Shore

0 0.5 1 Miles

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer



Data Sources: Maine Office of GIS, Maine Dept. of Transportation, US EPA Office of Water/US Geological Survey (through Esri Living Atlas), US Dept. of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Services (through Esri Living Atlas) & Town of Appleton.

TOWN OF APPLETON

Comprehensive Plan
Maps

Provided by
Knox County
Emergency Management Agency GIS Program
301 Park Street, Rockland, ME 04841
207.594.5155

LEGEND

Public Roads

E911 Roads

Wetland

Water

Rivers and Streams

Soil Classification

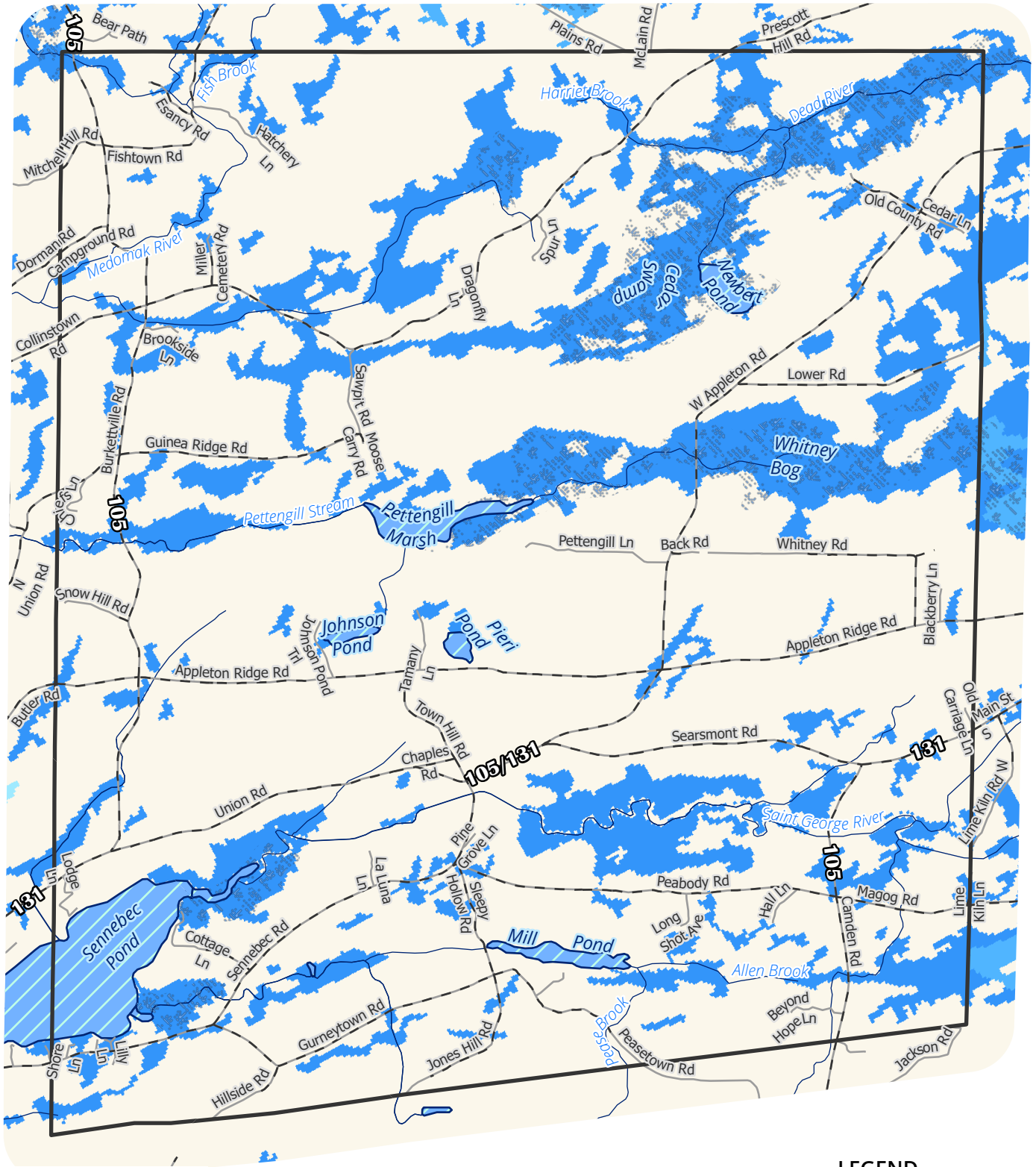
Prime Farmland

Farmland of Statewide Importance

Not Prime Farmland

0 0.5 1 Miles

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer



Data Sources: Maine Office of GIS, Maine Dept. of Transportation, US EPA Office of Water/US Geological Survey (through Esri Living Atlas) & US Dept. of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Services (through Esri Living Atlas) & Town of Appleton

LEGEND

Public Roads
E911 Roads

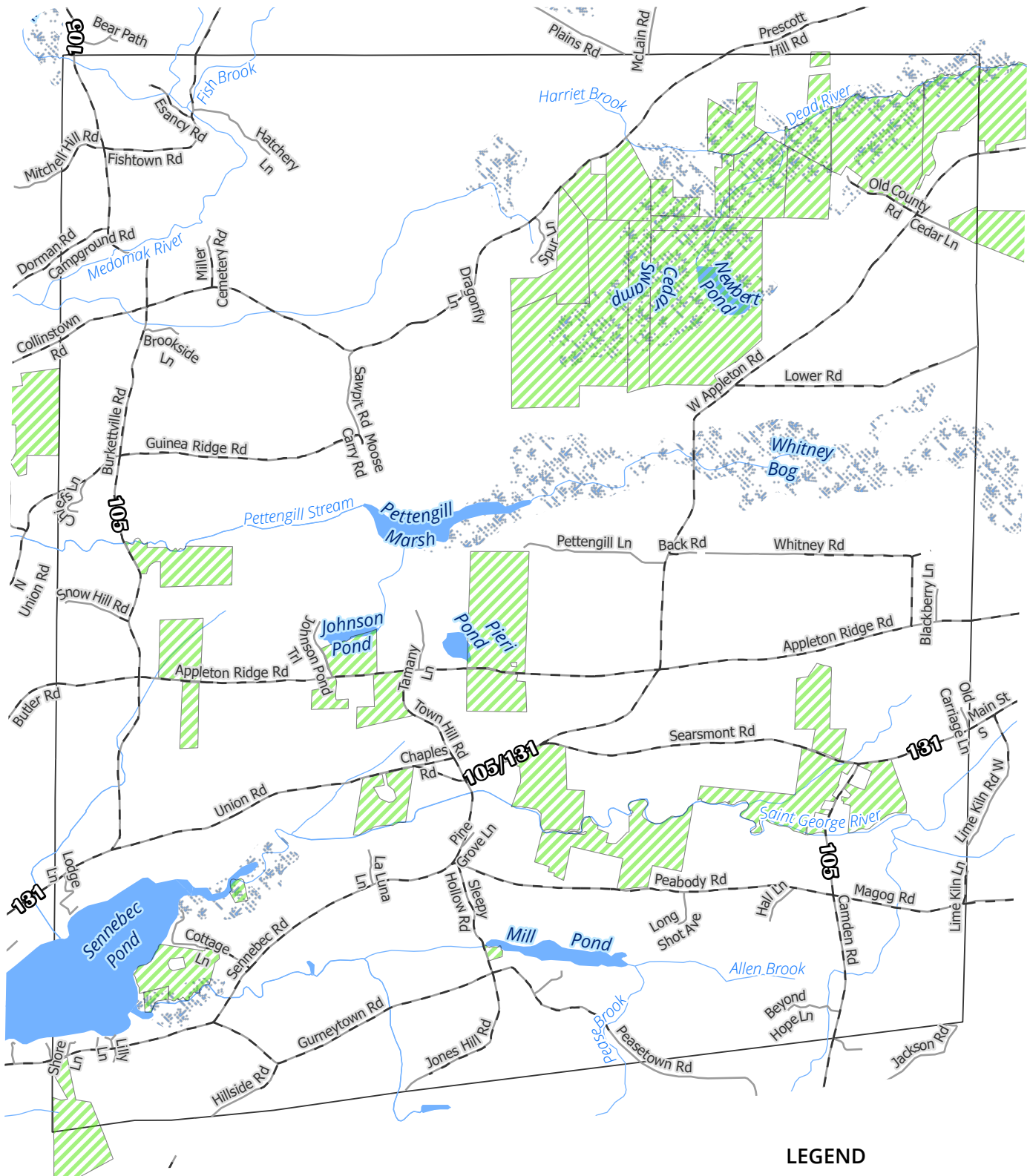
Wetland
Water
Rivers and Streams

Soil Classification

Not Hydric
Partially Hydric (1 - 25%)
Mostly Hydric (51 - 75%)
Mostly Hydric (76 - 95%)

0
0.5
1 Miles

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer



Appleton

- Political Boundaries
- Lakes & Ponds
- Watershed Boundaries
- Wastewater Outfalls
- Overboard Discharges



Significant Aquifers

- 10-50 gallons/min.
- > 50 gallons/min.

Transportation Routes

- Private & Parkways
- State & Local Roads
- Toll Highway

Land Use Risk on High Yield Sand & Gravel Aquifers

- Moderate Risk
- High Risk

Classifications

Rivers & Streams

- AA Estuarine & Marine
- A
- B
- C
- SA
- SB
- SC

Nonpoint Source Priority Watersheds

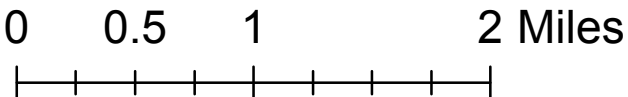
- Impaired Watershed Boundaries
- Threatened Watershed Boundaries

Note: Watershed boundaires have not been field varified.

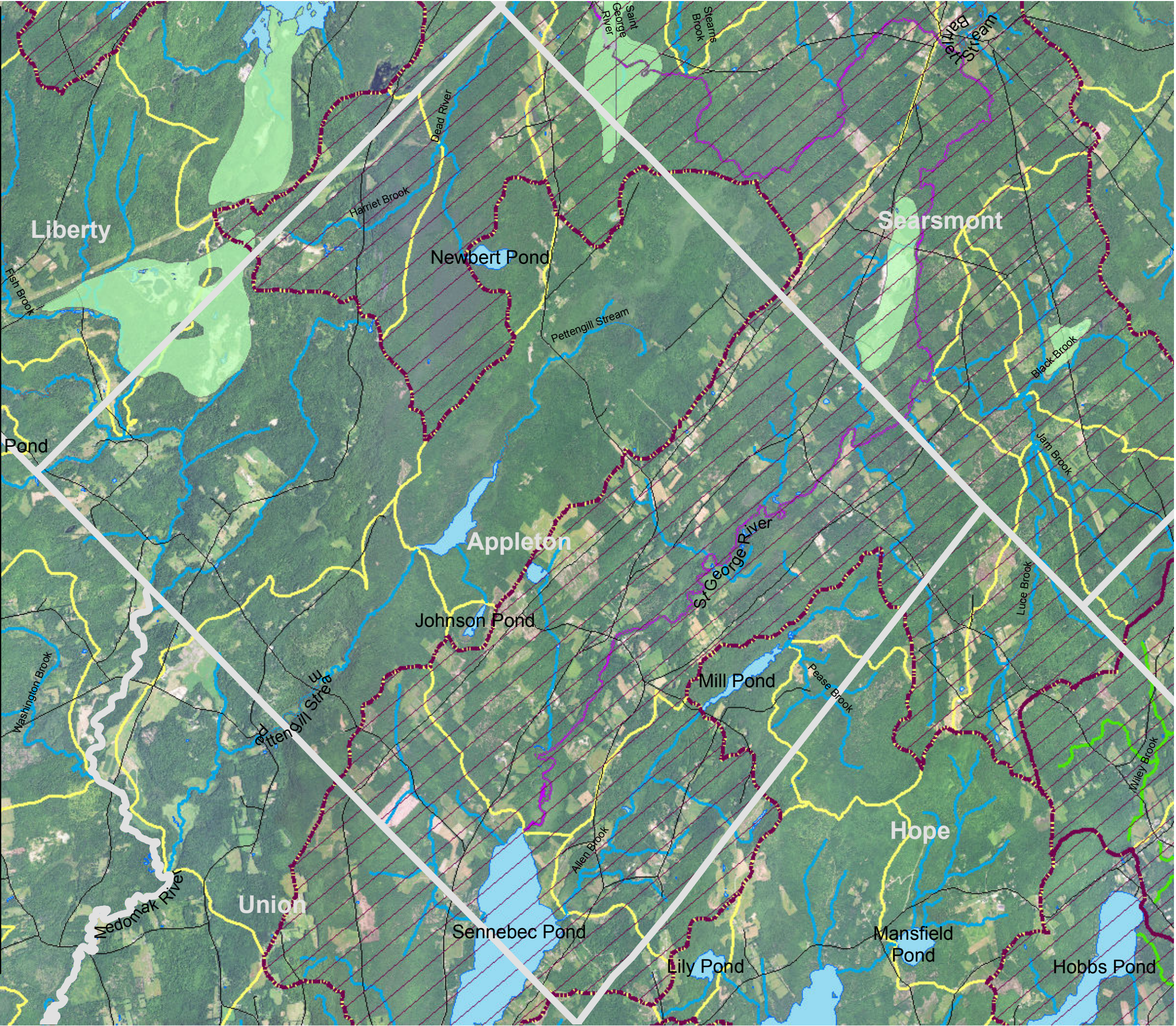
Does Not Meet Classification

- Impaired Stream
- Impaired Lake or Pond

Note: The official list of impaired waters is available in the Integrated Report, available on the DEP website: www.maine.gov/dep/water/monitoring/305b/ To confirm whether any waterbody is meeting its classification, check on the official list.



Map compiled by Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Environmental Assessment, 2021



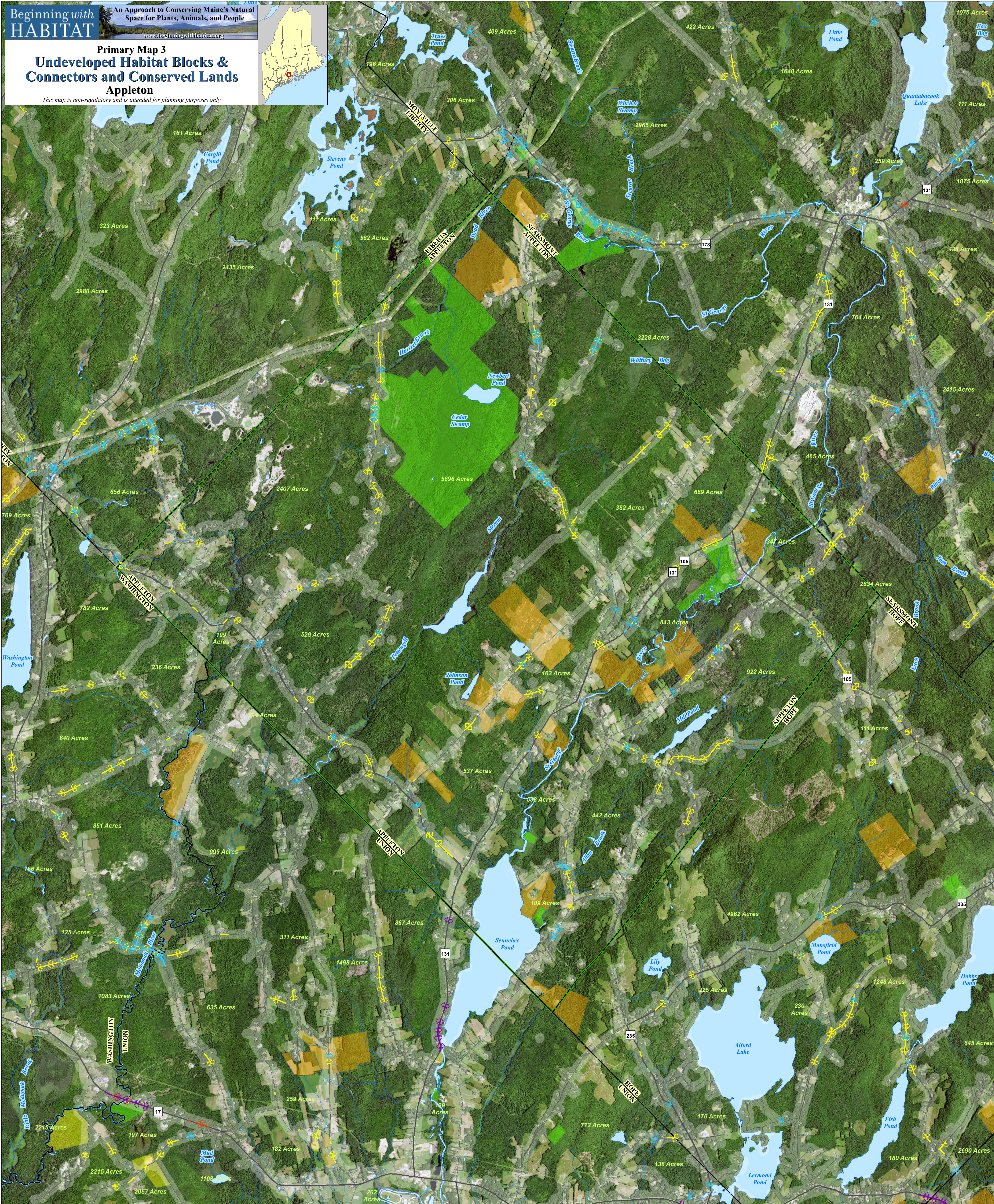
Beginning with
HABITAT

An Approach to Conserving Maine's Natural Space for Plants, Animals, and People

www.beginningwithhabitat.org

Primary Map 3
Undeveloped Habitat Blocks & Connectors and Conserved Lands
Appleton

This map is non-regulatory and is intended for planning purposes only



LEGEND

This map highlights undeveloped natural areas likely to provide core habitat blocks and habitat connections that facilitate species movements between blocks. Undeveloped habitat blocks provide relatively undisturbed habitat conditions required by many of Maine's species. Habitat connections provide necessary opportunities for wildlife to travel between preferred habitat types in search for food, water, and mates. Roads and development fragment habitat blocks and can be barriers to moving wildlife. By maintaining a network of interconnected blocks towns and land trusts can protect a wide variety of Maine's species—both rare and common—to help ensure rich species diversity long into the future. Maintaining a network of these large rural open spaces also protects future opportunities for forestry, agriculture, and outdoor recreation.

- Organized Township Boundary
- Unorganized Township
- Selected Town or Area of Interest

Habitat Blocks

Development Buffer (pale transparency)
250-500 foot buffer around improved roads and developed areas based on development intensity.
Undeveloped Habitat Block
Remaining land outside of Development Buffers. Blocks greater than 100 acres are labeled with their estimated acreage.

Approximate Road Crossing Habitat Connections

Represented habitat connections identified through computer modeling highlight locations where quality habitat is likely to occur on both sides of a given road between undeveloped habitat blocks greater than 100 acres and between higher value wetlands. These representations are approximate and have not been field verified.

Undeveloped Block Connectors

Likely road crossing areas linking undeveloped habitat blocks greater than 100 acres. The threat of habitat fragmentation and animal mortality corresponds to traffic volume.
 Yellow lines represent habitat road crossings with daily traffic volumes less than 2000 vehicles per day.
 Red lines represent habitat road crossings with daily traffic volumes greater than 2000 vehicles per day.

Riparian Connectors

Likely crossing locations for wetland dependent species moving between waterways and wetlands divided by roads

Blue lines represent riparian road crossings with daily traffic volumes less than 2000 vehicles per day.
 Purple lines represent riparian road crossings with daily traffic volumes greater than 2000 vehicles per day.

Highway Bridge Connectors

Highway bridges along I-95 and I-295 that span riparian habitat connecting adjacent but separated habitat blocks. These are locations where species are likely to take advantage of infrastructure to move between habitat blocks.

Conserved Lands

The State of Maine's conserved lands database includes lands in federal, state, and non-profit ownership. It does not include many privately owned conservation lands, especially those protected by local land trusts, or town owned conservation lands. For the most accurate and current information about land ownership, consult with the local assessor and/or other local land management agencies. If public access potential to any of the properties displayed here is uncertain, landowners should be contacted to determine if permission is necessary.

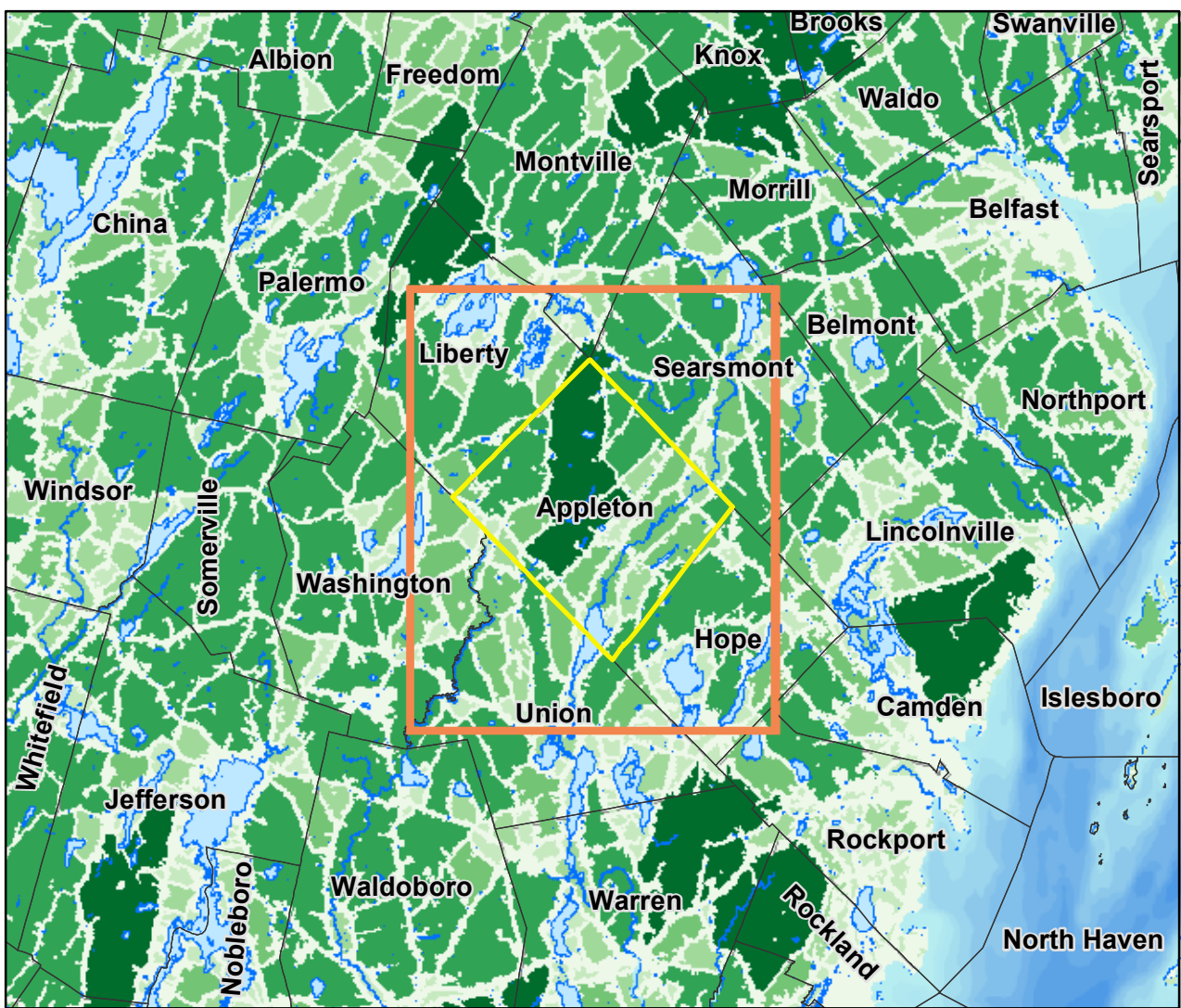
Ownership Type (transparent layers)

- Federal**
National parks, forests, and wildlife refuges. (Includes Canadian conserved lands.)
- State**
Wildlife Management Areas and other properties managed by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, state parks, and parcels managed by the Bureau of Parks & Lands.
- Municipal**
Town parks, water district properties, community forests, etc.
- Private Conservation**
Properties owned and managed by private (usually non-profit) organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Maine Coast Heritage Trust; Trust for Public Land, and local land trusts.
- Easement**
Voluntary legal agreements that allow landowners to realize economic benefit by permanently restricting the amount and type of future development and other uses on all or part of their property as they continue to own and use it.

Aerial Imagery

Aerial imagery is often the best tool available to visualize existing patterns of development and resulting changes in the natural landscape. By depicting undeveloped habitat blocks, habitat connectors and conserved lands with aerial photos, the map user can more easily identify opportunities to expand the size and ecological effectiveness of local conservation efforts.

Regional Undeveloped Blocks



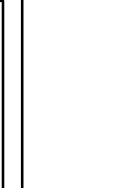
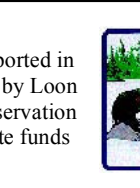
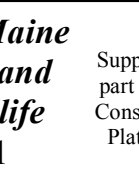
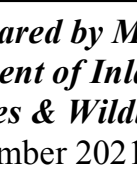
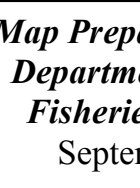
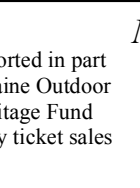
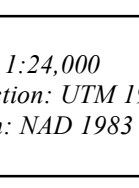
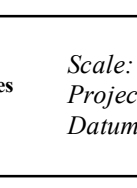
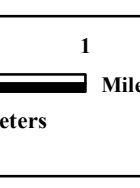
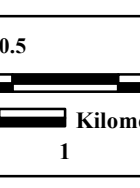
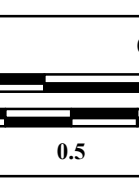
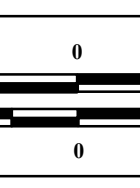
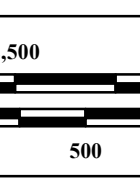
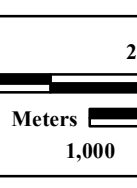
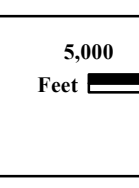
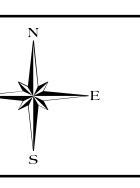
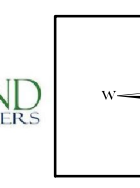
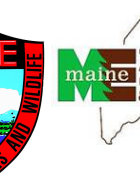
Data Sources

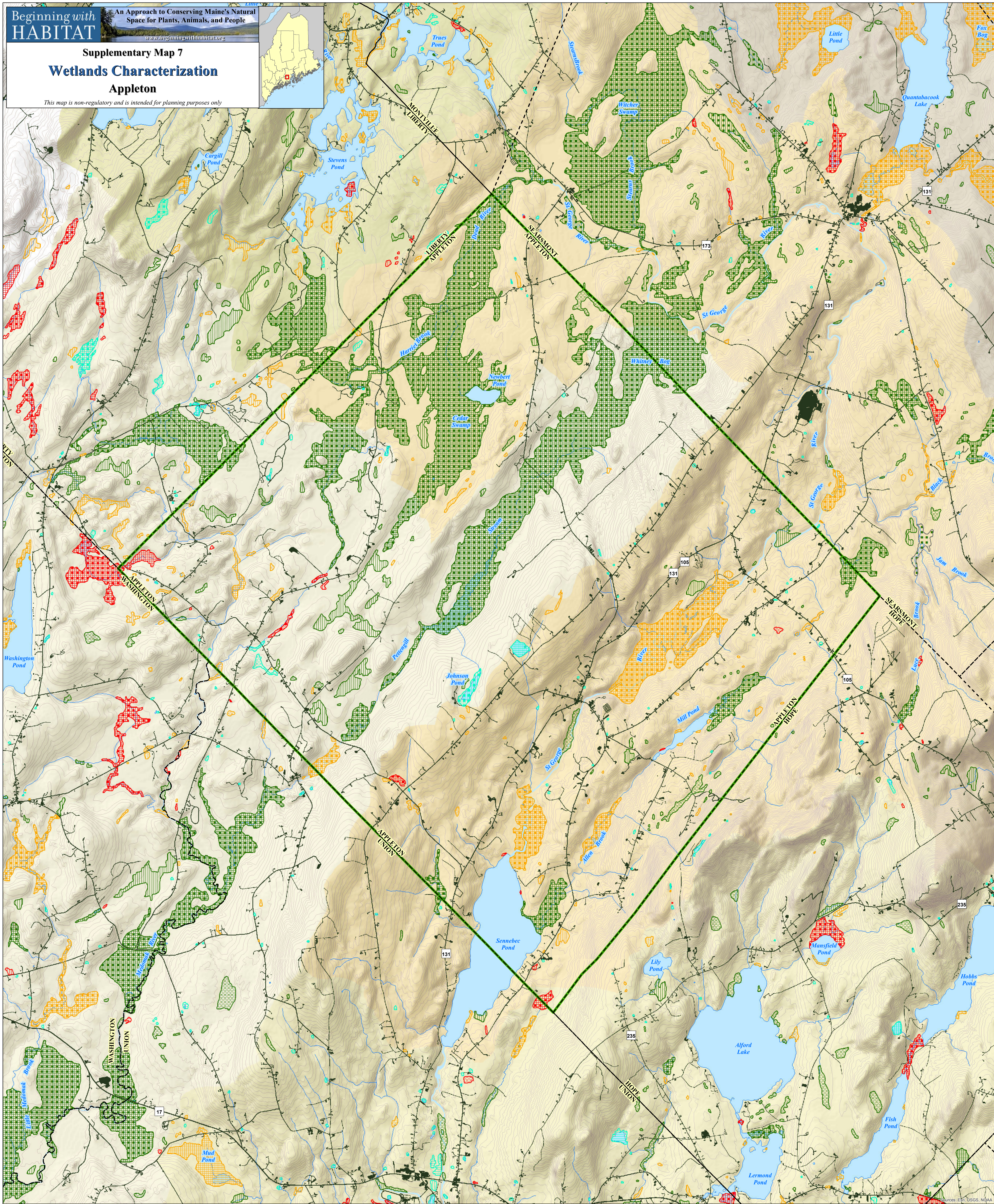
DATA SOURCE INFORMATION
TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES
Maine Office of GIS: metwp24 (2021)
ROADS
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Transportation: medotpub (2021)
HYDROLOGY
U.S. Geological Survey: NHD_Maine (2012)
UNDEVELOPED HABITAT BLOCKS, DEVELOPMENT BUFFER, CONNECTORS
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (2020)
CONSERVATION LANDS
Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, Land Use Planning Commission, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife:
Conserved Lands (2021)
AERIAL IMAGERY
U.S. Department of Agriculture: NAIP 2015 - state-wide 1-meter color orthoimagery

DATA SOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION
Maine Office of GIS - <http://www.maine.gov/megis/catalog/>
Maine Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry - <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/>
Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife - <http://www.maine.gov/ifw/>
Maine Department of Transportation - <http://www.maine.gov/mdot/>
Maine Department of Environmental Protection - <http://www.maine.gov/dep/>

DIGITAL DATA REQUEST

To request digital data for a town or organization, visit our website.
http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/the_maps/gis_data_request.html





Beginning with HABITAT

An Approach to Conserving Maine's Natural Space for Plants, Animals, and People

www.beginningwithhabitat.org

Supplementary Map 7 Wetlands Characterization Appleton

This map is non-regulatory and is intended for planning purposes only



LEGEND

This map depicts all wetlands shown on National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, but categorized them based on a subset of wetland functions. This map and its depiction of wetland features neither substitute for nor eliminate the need to perform on-the-ground wetland delineation and functional assessment. In no way shall use of this map diminish or alter the regulatory protection that all wetlands are accorded under applicable State and Federal laws. For more information about wetlands characterization contact Elizabeth Hertz at the Maine Department of Conservation (207-287-8061, elizabeth.hertz@maine.gov).

The Wetlands Characterization model is a planning tool intended to help identify likely wetland functions associated with significant wetland resources and adjacent uplands. Using GIS analysis, this map provides basic information regarding what ecological services various wetlands are likely to provide. These ecological services, each of which has associated economic benefits, include: floodflow control, sediment retention, finfish habitat, and/or shellfish habitat. There are other important wetland functions and values not depicted in this map. Refer to www.maine.gov/dep/water/wetlands/ipwetv2.html for additional information regarding wetland functions and values. Forested wetlands and small wetlands such as vernal pools are known to be underrepresented in the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) data used to create this map. The model developed to estimate the functions provided by each wetland could not capture every wetland function or value. Therefore, it is important to use local knowledge and other data sources when evaluating wetlands, and each wetland should be considered relative to the whole landscape/watershed when assessing wetland resources at a local level.

- Organized Township Boundary
- Unorganized Township
- Selected Town or Area of Interest
- Developed: Impervious surfaces including buildings and roads

Subwatersheds - The shaded, background polygons are subwatersheds (areas that drain to a particular lake, wetland, pond, river, stream, or the ocean). The subwatersheds are shaded to show topographic relief. This "hills shading" assumes the sun is shining from the northwest, so ridgetops and northwest-facing slopes appear light, whereas valleys and southeast-facing slopes appear dark. Because many areas of Maine are relatively flat, the topographic relief shown here has been exaggerated to make the details easier to see.

Wetland Functions: Fill Pattern

- RUNOFF / FLOODFLOW ALTERATION**
Wetlands provide natural stormwater control capabilities. As natural basins in the landscape, wetlands are able to receive, detain, and slowly release stormwater runoff. Wetland shelves along stream banks naturally regulate flood waters by providing an area for swollen stream flows to expand and slow, thereby protecting downstream properties. This map assigns Runoff/Floodflow Alteration Functions to wetlands that are contained in a known flood zone, (b) associated with a surfacewater course or waterbody, and (c) with slope < 3%.
- AND/OR EROSION CONTROL / SEDIMENT RETENTION**
Wetlands act as natural sponges that can hold water, allowing suspended particles such as sediment to settle out. The dense vegetation in most wetlands helps to stabilize soil and slow water flows, thereby reducing scouring and bank erosion. This map assigns Erosion Control / Sediment Retention functions to wetlands with (a) slope < 3%; (b) emergent vegetation; and (c) close proximity to a river, stream, or lake.

- FINFISH HABITAT**
Wetlands with documented finfish populations, including wetlands adjacent to a river, stream, or lake.
- AND/OR SHELLFISH HABITAT**
Inland wetlands and streams can directly affect the status of coastal shellfish harvest areas. Fecal coliform bacteria and waterborne nutrients resulting from land use changes away from the coast can travel via surface water to harvestable flats. One failed septic system near a stream could close a mudflat several miles away. Excessive nutrients can reduce water clarity and stimulate epiphytic growth that degrades eelgrass meadows. Conservation of freshwater wetlands and stream buffers in coastal watersheds is a key component in marine resource conservation. This map assigns a Shellfish Habitat function to wetlands within 0.5 miles of (a) identified shellfish habitat, (b) identified shellfish closure areas, or (c) mapped eelgrass beds OR palustrine wetlands directly connected by a stream of < 0.5 mile in length to (a) identified shellfish habitat, (b) identified shellfish closure areas, or (c) mapped eelgrass beds.

- PLANT/ANIMAL HABITAT**
Nearly all wildlife species, and many of Maine's plant species, depend on wetlands during some part of their life cycle. For the purposes of this map, wetlands containing open water or emergent vegetation, 3 or more wetland vegetation classes (see below), and within 1/4 mile of a known rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal occurrence, within 1/4 mile of a mapped significant or essential habitat, or within 1/4 mile of a rare or exemplary natural community have been assigned this function. Rare element occurrences and mapped habitats can be found on Map 2 High Value Plant & Animal Habitats.

- OTHER FUNCTIONS**
CULTURAL/EDUCATIONAL Wetlands within 1/4 mile of a boat ramp or school have been assigned this value as these wetlands are likely candidates for use as outdoor classrooms, or similar social benefit. Wetlands rated for other functions listed above may also demonstrate cultural/educational values although not expressly shown.
OR
NO DOCUMENTED FUNCTION. The basis of this characterization is high altitude aerial photos. Photo quality often limits the information that can be interpreted from small wetland features, or those with dense canopy cover. Although not assigned a function under this study, ground surveys may reveal that these wetlands have multiple functions and values.

Wetland Class: Fill Color

- Aquatic Bed (floating or submerged aquatic vegetation), Open Water
- Emergent (herbaceous vegetation), Emergent/Forested Mix (woody vegetation >20 ft tall), Emergent/Shrub-Scrub Mix (woody vegetation <20 ft tall)
- Forested, Forested/Shrub-scrub
- Shrub-scrub
- Other (rocky shore, streambed, unconsolidated shore, reef, rocky bottom)

National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps (the basis of wetlands shown on this map) are interpreted from high altitude aerial photographs. NWI Wetlands are identified by vegetation, hydrology, and geography in accordance with "Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats" (FWS/OBS-79/31, Dec 1979). The aerial photographs document conditions for the year they were taken. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, State, or local government. NWI maps depict general wetland locations, boundaries, and characteristics. They are not a substitute for on-ground, site-specific wetland delineation.

Data Sources

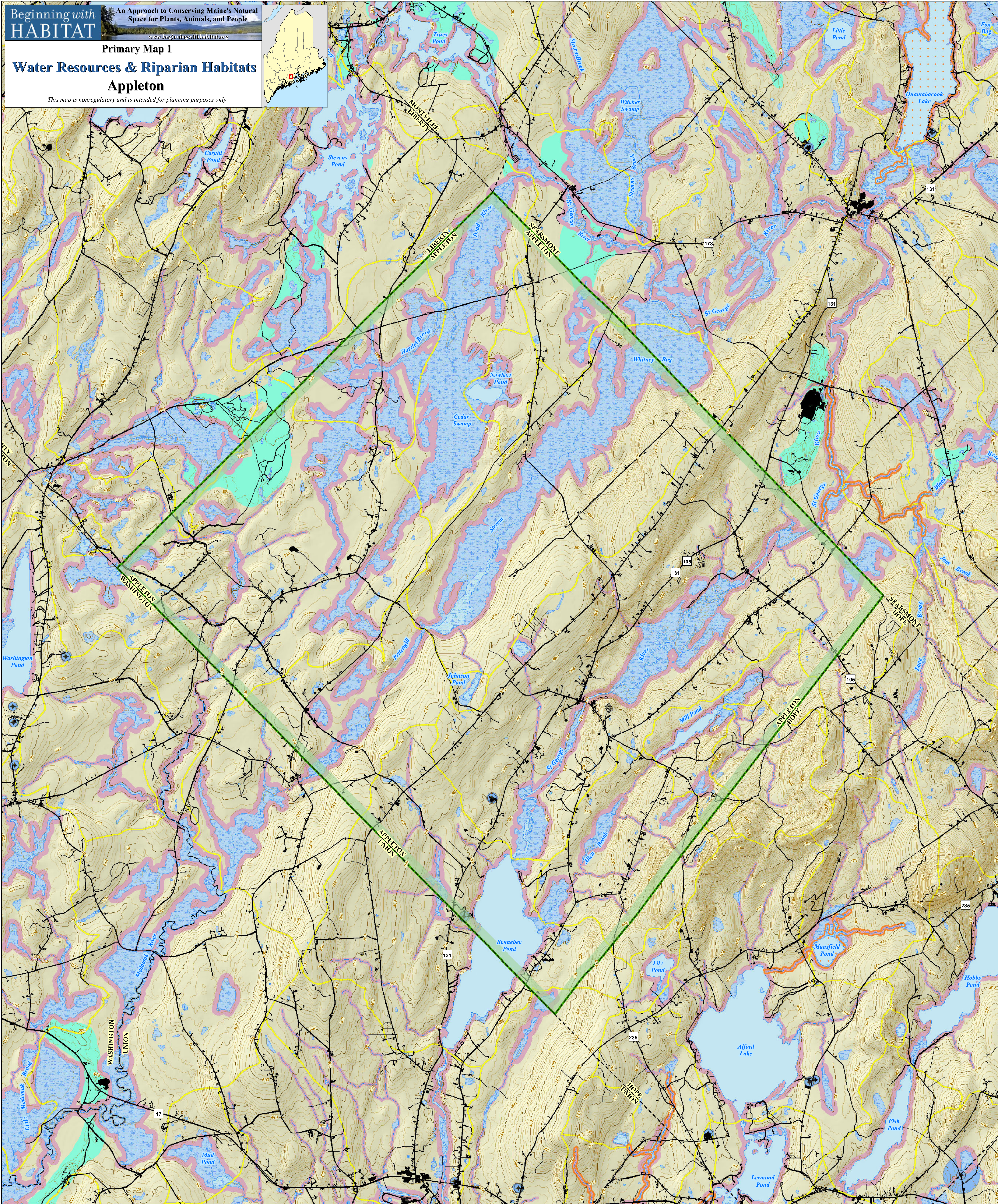
- DATA SOURCE INFORMATION**
(note: italicized file names can be downloaded from Maine Office of GIS)
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES**
 - Maine Office of GIS (2015); *metwp24*
 - ROADS**
 - Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Transportation (2015); *medotub*
 - HYDROLOGY**
 - Maine Office of GIS, U.S. Geological Survey (2010); *NHD*
 - DEVELOPED**
 - Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (2015)
 - NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY (NWI)**
 - Maine Office of GIS (2015); *NWI*
 - DRAINAGE DIVIDES**
 - Maine Office of GIS (2015); *medrdiv*
- DATA SOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION**
Maine Office of GIS: <http://www.maine.gov/mgis/>
Maine Department of Transportation: <http://www.maine.gov/mdot/>
Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry: <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/planning/index.html>
Maine Geological Survey: <http://www.maine.gov/doc/nrm/mgs/mgs.htm>

DIGITAL DATA REQUEST
To request digital data for a town or organization, visit our website. http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/the_maps/gis_data_request.html

Beginning with
HABITAT

An Approach to Conserving Maine's Natural
Space for Plants, Animals, and People
www.beginningwithhabitat.org

Primary Map 1
Water Resources & Riparian Habitats
Appleton
This map is nonregulatory and is intended for planning purposes only



LEGEND

This map depicts riparian areas associated with major surface water features and important public water resources. This map does not depict all streams or wetlands known to occur on the landscape and should not be used as a substitute for on the ground surveys. This map should be used as a planning reference only and is intended to illustrate the natural hydrologic connection between surface water features. Protecting riparian habitats protects water quality, maintains habitat connections, and safeguards important economic resources including recreational and commercial fisheries.

- Selected Town or Area**
- Organized Township Boundary**
- Unorganized Township**
- Developed**- Impervious surfaces including buildings and roads
- Drainage divides** - These are the smallest hydrologic units mapped in Maine. They contain watershed boundaries for most ponds and rivers in Maine.
- NWI Wetlands** - National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) uses aerial photographs to approximate wetland locations. NWI data is not a comprehensive mapping of wetland resources and typically under represents the presence of wetlands on the landscape. The presence of wetlands needs to be determined in the field prior to conducting activities that could result in wetland disturbance.
- Riparian Habitat** - depicted using common regulatory zones including a 250-foot-wide strip around Great Ponds (≥10 acres), rivers, coastline, and wetlands ≥10 acres and a 75-foot-wide strip around streams. Riparian areas depicted on this map may already be affected by existing land uses.
- Shellfish Growing Areas** - The Maine Department of Marine Resources maps growing areas for economically important shellfish resources. This map depicts softshell and hard clam resources in order to illustrate the relation of these resources to streams and shoreline areas vital to their conservation.
- Brook Trout Habitat** - Streams and ponds, buffered to 100 feet, where wild Brook Trout populations have been documented, or managed to enhance local fisheries.
- Public Water Supply Wells**
- Source protection area** - Buffers that represent source water protection areas for wells and surface water intakes that serve the public water supply. Their size is proportional to population served and/or by the type of water supply system. These buffers range from 300 to 2,500 feet in radius.
- Aquifers** - flow of at least 10 gallons per minute

Regional View of Watersheds

A watershed includes all of the land that drains to a common waterbody. The areas within the watershed are linked ecologically by the water, sediment, nutrients, and pollutants that flow through them. For the purpose of mapping "hydrological units," watersheds are often grouped into larger drainages or divided into smaller ones depending on the map's scale. Drainage divides (shown on this map as yellow lines), are the smallest hydrological units and generally drain into small ponds, wetlands, or streams. These units are grouped into subwatersheds (HU12) and are represented on the inset map above by the yellow-brown outlines.

- Main Map Extent**
- Selected Town or Area**
- Subwatersheds**

1 inch = 4 miles

Relationship of Ground Water and Surface Water

Precipitation is the source of all water. Surface water and ground water are related. Drinking water can come from either source. Ground contaminants can affect both. The relationship between ground water and surface water is part of the **hydrologic cycle**. **Precipitation** that falls from the atmosphere as rain or snow reaches the land surface and recharges rivers, lakes, wetlands, and other surface bodies of water directly through **overland runoff**. Surface water also seeps into the ground through **infiltration** and eventually reaches the ground water or through **evaporation** returns to the atmosphere. Water evaporates from leaves and stems of plants through **transpiration**.

Shoreland Zoning

Maine's Mandatory Shoreland Zoning Act is intended to protect water quality, conserve wildlife habitat, and preserve the natural beauty of Maine's shoreline areas. Successful implementation requires local awareness of and appreciation for surface water resources and effective enforcement of setback and buffer requirements.

At a minimum, Maine's shoreland zones include all land within:

- 250 feet of the high-water line of any pond over 10 acres, any river that drains at least 25 square miles, and all tidal waters and saltwater marshes;
- 250 feet of a freshwater wetland over 10 acres (except "forested" wetlands); and
- 75 feet of a stream that is either an outlet stream of a great pond, or located below the confluence of two perennial streams as depicted on a USGS topographic map.

Shoreland zoning encourages towns to provide greater protection to their local water resources by applying shoreland zone protections to additional resource types such as smaller streams and wetlands, and rare terrestrial features. For specific guidance regarding Maine's Mandatory Shoreland Zoning Act contact the Dept. of Environmental Protection Shoreland Zoning Unit: 207-287-3901 (Augusta), 207-822-6300 (Portland), 207-941-4116 (Bangor). www.maine.gov/dep/blw/docstand/szpage.htm

Data Sources

DATA SOURCE INFORMATION TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES Maine Office of GIS (2013); metwp24 ROADS Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Transportation (2015); medotpub HYDROLOGY USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) Maine (2012) DEVELOPED Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (2015); impervious_change_2015 NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (2015); NWI	SHELLFISH Maine Department of Marine Resources; softshell_clams, hard_clams RIPARIAN BUFFERS Maine Office of GIS, Maine Natural Areas Program (2011) WELLS, WELL BUFFERS Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Human Services-Drinking Water Program (2011); wells_wellbuf AQUIFERS Maine Office of GIS, Maine Geological Survey (2011); aquifer_polygons DRAINAGE DIVIDES Maine Office of GIS (1994); medrwd BROOK TROUT HABITAT Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife (2011)
--	--

DATA SOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION
Maine Office of GIS: <http://www.maine.gov/mgis/>
Maine Natural Areas Program: <http://www.maine.gov/dac/mnap/index.html>
Maine Department of Marine Resources: <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/>
Maine Department of Transportation: <http://www.maine.gov/dot/>
Maine Geological Survey: <http://www.maine.gov/dot/mr/mcgs/mgs.htm>
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife: <http://www.maine.gov/wildlife/index.html>

DIGITAL DATA REQUEST
To request digital data for a town or organization, please visit our website: http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/mcgs/gis_data_request.html

Beginning with
HABITAT

An Approach to Conserving Maine's Natural
Space for Plants, Animals, and People

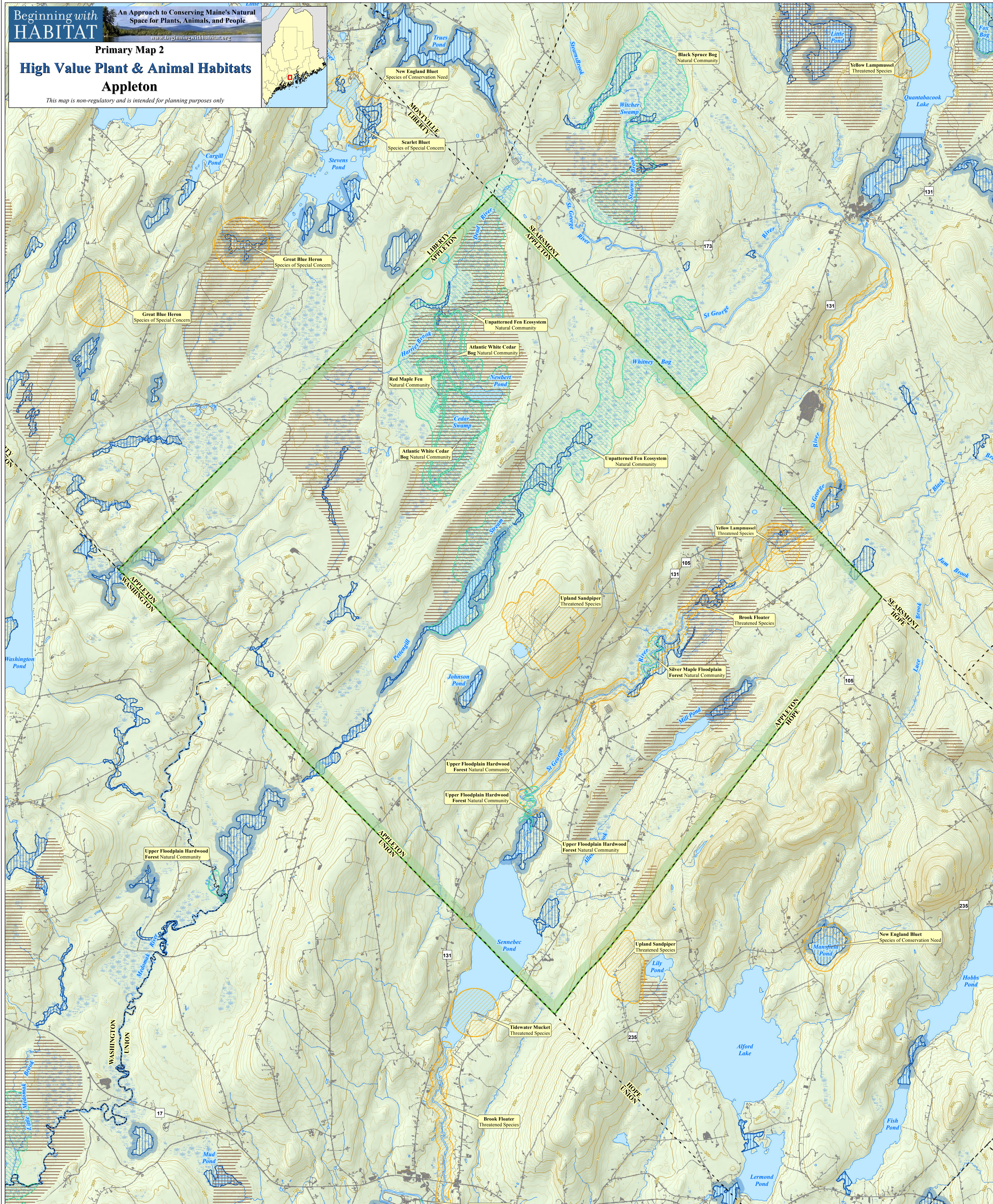
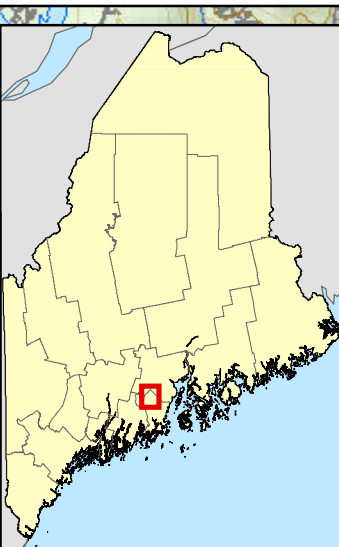
www.beginningwithhabitat.org

Primary Map 2

High Value Plant & Animal Habitats

Appleton

This map is non-regulatory and is intended for planning purposes only



LEGEND

Beginning with Habitat (BwH) is a voluntary tool intended to assist landowners, resource managers, planners, and municipalities in identifying and making informed decisions about areas of potential natural resource concern. This data includes the best available information provided through BwH's coalition partners as of the map date, and is intended for information purposes only. It should not be interpreted as a comprehensive analysis of plant and animal occurrences or other local resources, but rather as an initial screen to flag areas where agency consultation may be appropriate. Habitat data sets are updated continuously as more accurate and current data becomes available. However, as many areas have not been completely surveyed, features may be present that are not yet mapped, and the boundaries of some depicted features may need to be revised. Local knowledge is critical in providing accurate data. If errors are noted in the current depiction of resources, please contact our office. Some habitat features depicted on this map are regulated by the State of Maine through the Maine Endangered Species Act (Essential Habitats and threatened and endangered species occurrences) and Natural Resources Protection Act (Significant Wildlife Habitat). We recommend consultation with MDIFW Regional Biologists or MNAF Ecologists if activities are proposed within resource areas depicted on this map. Consultation early in the planning process usually helps to resolve regulatory concerns and minimize agency review time. For MDIFW and MNAF contact information, visit <http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/contacts/index.html>.

- Organized Township Boundary
- Unorganized Township
- Selected Town or Area of Interest
- Developed: Impervious surfaces such as buildings and roads

Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Wildlife

- Known rare, threatened, or endangered species occurrence and/or the associated habitats based on species sightings.

Consult with an MDIFW regional biologist to determine the relative importance and conservation needs of the specific location and supporting habitat. The names of some species have been masked with a "Rare Animal" designation on the map for further protection. For more information regarding individual species visit our website, http://www.maine.gov/fwf/wildlife/endangered/listed_species_me.htm, for species specific fact sheets.

The Federal Endangered Species Act requires actions authorized, funded, or carried out by federal agencies be reviewed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If your project occurs near an occurrence of the Atlantic Salmon, Roseate Tern, Piping Plover, Canada Lynx, New England Cottontail, Fish's Lousewort, or Small-whorled Pagonia contact the Maine Field Office, USFWS, 1168 Main St., Old Town, ME 04468.

Rare or Exemplary Plants and Natural Communities

- Rare Plant Locations

Known rare, threatened, or endangered plant occurrences are based on field observations. The names of some species have been masked with a "Rare Plant" designation on the map for further protection. Consult with a Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAF) Ecologist to determine conservation needs of particular species. For more information regarding rare plants, the complete list of tracked species and fact sheets for those species can be found at: <http://www.maine.gov/doc/nr/mna/features/planlist.htm>

- Rare or Exemplary Natural Community Locations

The MNAF has classified and distinguished 98 different natural community types that collectively cover the state's landscape. These include such habitats as floodplain forests, coastal bogs, alpine summits, and many others. Each type is assigned a rarity rank of 1 (rare) through 5 (common). Mapped rare natural communities or ecosystems, or exemplary examples of common natural communities or ecosystems, are based on field surveys and aerial photo interpretation. Consult with an MNAF Ecologist to determine conservation needs of particular communities or ecosystems.

Essential Wildlife Habitats

- Roseate Tern Nesting Area or Piping Plover-Least Tern Nesting, Feeding, & Brood-Rearing Area

Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife (MDIFW, www.state.me.us/fwf) maps areas currently or historically providing habitat essential to the conservation of endangered or threatened species as directed by the Maine Endangered Species Act. Identification of Essential Habitat areas is based on species observations and confirmed habitat use. If a project occurs partly or wholly within an Essential Habitat, it must be evaluated by MDIFW before state and/or municipal permits can be approved or project activities can take place.

Significant Wildlife Habitats

- Candidate Deer Wintering Area
Forested area possibly used by deer for shelter during periods of deep snow and cold temperatures. Assessing the current value of a deer wintering area requires on-site investigation and verification by IF&W staff. Locations depicted should be considered as approximate only.
- Inland Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat (IWWH) with 250' Buffer
Freshwater breeding, migration, feeding, and wintering waterfowl or wading bird habitats that qualify as Significant Wildlife Habitat under Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act.
- Wildlife Wetlands
Other wetlands valuable for wildlife that are not regulated as IWWH.
- Seabird Nesting Island
An island, ledge, or portion thereof in tidal waters with documented, nesting seabirds or suitable nesting habitat for endangered seabirds.
- Shorebird Areas
Coastal staging areas that provide feeding habitat like tidal mud flats or roosting habitat like gravel bars or sand spits for migrating shorebirds.
- Tidal Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitats (TWWH)
Breeding, migrating/staging, or wintering areas for coastal waterfowl or breeding, feeding, loafing, migrating, or roosting areas for coastal wading birds. Tidal Waterfowl/Wading Bird habitats include aquatic beds, eelgrass, emergent wetlands, mudflats, seaweed communities, and reefs.
- Significant Vernal Pools
A pool depression used for breeding by amphibians and other indicator species and that portion of the critical terrestrial habitat within 250 ft of the spring or fall high water mark. A vernal pool must have the following characteristics: natural origin, nonpermanent hydroperiod, lack permanently flowing inlet or outlet, and lack predatory fish.

Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act

Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA, 1988) is administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP; <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docstand/nrpapage.htm>) and is intended to prevent further degradation and loss of natural resources in the state, including the above Significant Wildlife Habitats that have been mapped by MDIFW. MDEP has regulatory authority over most Significant Wildlife Habitat types. The regional MDEP office should be consulted when considering a project in these areas.

Atlantic Salmon Spawning/Rearing Habitat

- Atlantic Salmon Rearing Habitat
- Atlantic Salmon Spawning Habitat
- Atlantic Salmon Limited Spawning Habitat

Mapped by Atlantic Salmon Commission (ASC) and US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) from field surveys on selected Penobscot and Kennebec River tributaries and the Dennys, Ducktrap, East Machias, Machias, Pleasant, Narragagus, and Sheepscot Rivers.

Data Sources

DATA SOURCE INFORMATION
TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES
Maine Office of GIS: Metwp24 (2019)
ROADS
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Transportation: Medotpub (2019)
HYDROLOGY
U.S. Geological Survey National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) Maine (2012)
DEVELOPED
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and multiple other agencies: Imperv (2015)
ESSENTIAL & SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE HABITATS
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife: DWA, ETSC, Ehlpmv, Ehltrm, IWWH, Sni, Shorebird, TWWH (2018-2020)
RARE NATURAL COMMUNITIES & PLANTS
Maine Natural Areas Program: MNAF_eos (2020)
ATLANTIC SALMON HABITAT
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: Ashab3 (2013)

DATA SOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION
Maine Office of GIS: <http://www.maine.gov/mgis/catalog/>
Maine Natural Areas Program: <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/index.html>
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife: <http://www.maine.gov/fwf/>
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Gulf of Maine Program: <http://gulfofmaine.fws.gov>
Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission: <http://www.maine.gov/asc/>
Maine Department of Transportation: <http://www.maine.gov/mdot/>

DIGITAL DATA REQUEST
To request digital data for a town or organization, please visit our website: http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/the_maps/gis_data_request.html

Beginning with
HABITAT

An Approach to Conserving Maine's Natural
Space for Plants, Animals, and People

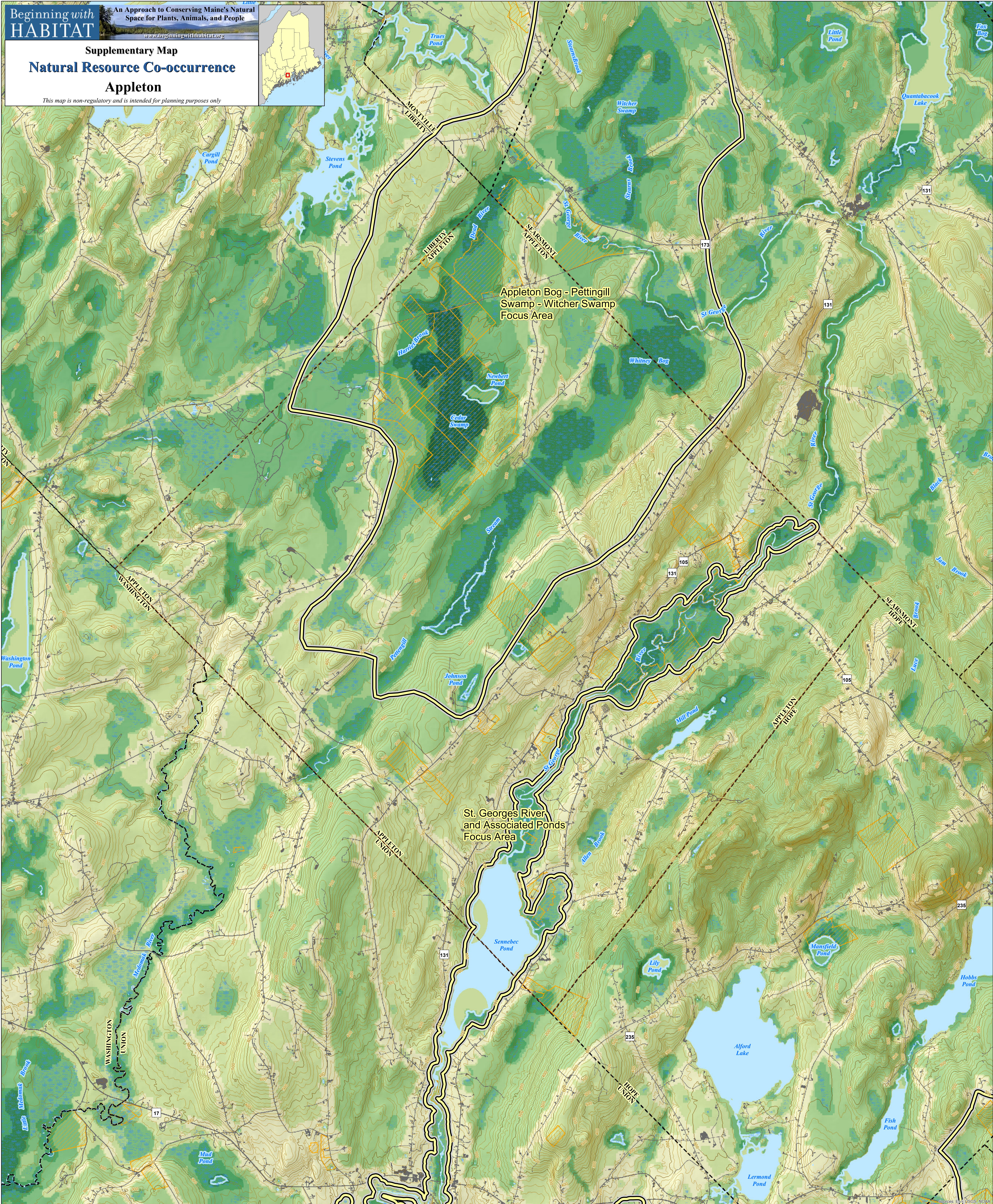
www.beginningwithhabitat.org

Supplementary Map

Natural Resource Co-occurrence

Appleton

This map is non-regulatory and is intended for planning purposes only



Legend

This map represents the concentration of selected environmental asset data layers overlaid on the landscape. Its purpose is to highlight a given area's relative conservation values as an aid in planning. It offers a generalized and subjective view and should be considered as a starting point for discussion. The layers on this map include buffer zones around water features, important natural communities, listed plant and animal species, areas of undeveloped land, and conserved properties. Some of these layer attributes have been weighted based on qualitative features, such as rarity or size, and are noted below. Cooccurrence modeling is extremely flexible, allowing for the addition, substitution, and relative weighting of data and attributes that best reflect the particularities and priorities of a given area or community. This map draws on data that is depicted on the standard Beginning with Habitat map set, but should still be considered as both supplementary and as work in development.

- Organized Township Boundary
- Unorganized Township
- Selected Town or Area of Interest
- Developed: Impervious surfaces such as buildings and roads
- Conservation Land

Selected Resource Layers and Assigned Values

Geographic Information System (GIS) software provides a ready means to help identify areas of high resource cooccurrence. The selected data layers of interest are assigned a relative weight, or value, and then overlaid on one another. The values are then summed, classified, and symbolized, revealing the concentration of attributes in a given landscape. (Some of the layers listed may not apply to, or be present on, the area represented by this map.)

Rare and Exemplary Natural Communities
S1 (Critically Imperiled). Value of 4
S2 (Imperiled). Value of 4
S3 (Rare). Value of 3
S4 and S5 with A or B viability (Exemplary). Value of 3

Rare Plants
S1 (Endangered). Value of 3
S1S2 - S2 (Threatened). Value of 2
S2S3 - S3 (Special Concern). Value of 1

Listed Animals
Endangered Species (with buffer). Value of 3
Threatened Species (with buffer). Value of 2
Species of Special Concern (with buffer). Value of 1

Significant Wildlife Habitats
Shorebird Habitat. Value of 3
Seabird Nesting Islands. Value of 3
Essential Wildlife Habitat. Value of 3
Wading Bird and Waterfowl Habitats (inland and tidal). Value of 2
Deer Wintering Areas. Value of 1
Significant Vernal Pools (with 500' buffer). Value of 1
Atlantic Salmon Habitat. Value of 2
Heritage Brook/Trout Waters. Value of 2
Shellfish Beds. Value of 1

Riparian Zones and Water Resources
Tidal waters 250' buffer. Value of 2
Great Ponds 250' buffer. Value of 1
Rivers 250' buffer. Value of 1
Streams 75' buffer. Value of 1
Wetlands greater than 10 acres plus 250' buffer. Value of 1
Wetlands less than 10 acres plus 75' buffer. Value of 1
Groundwater Aquifers. Value of 1

Undeveloped Habitat Blocks
Areas over 1200 acres. Value of 3
Areas of 600 to 1200 acres. Value of 2
Areas of 200 to 600 acres. Value of 1

Sum of Attribute Values

- 0
- 1-2
- 3
- 4-5
- 6-8
- 9-12
- Over 12

Focus Areas

Focus Areas of Statewide Ecological Significance
(note: not present in all regions)

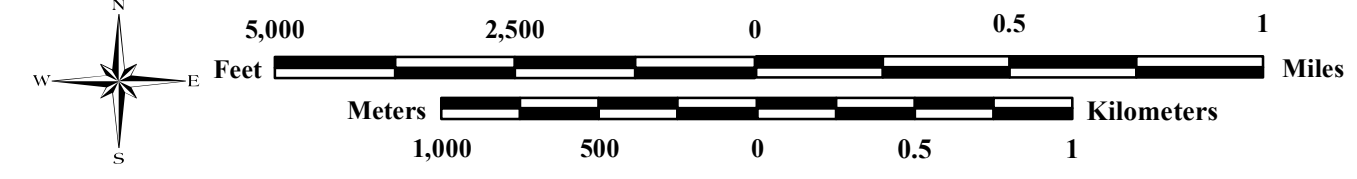
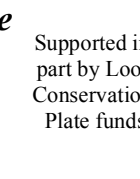
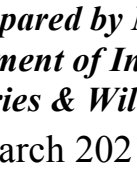
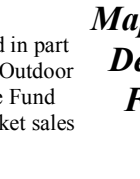
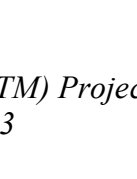
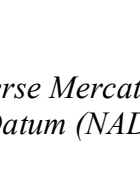
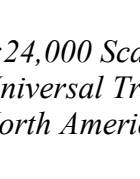
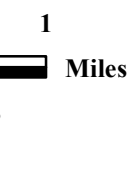
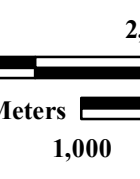
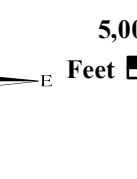
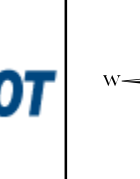
Focus Areas of Statewide Ecological Significance have been designated based on an unusually rich convergence of rare plant and animal occurrences, high value habitat, and relatively intact natural landscapes (the combined elements of Beginning with Habitat Maps 1-3). Focus area boundaries were drawn by MNAP and MDIFW biologists, generally following drainage divides and/or major fragmenting features such as roads. Focus Areas are intended to draw attention to these truly special places in hopes of building awareness and garnering support for land conservation by landowners, municipalities, and local land trusts. For descriptions of specific Focus Areas, consult the Beginning with Habitat notebook or the following website: <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/focusarea/index.htm>

Data and Information Sources

DATA SOURCES
TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES
Maine Office of GIS: *Metwp24* (2013)
ROADS
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Transportation: *Medotpub* (2015)
HYDROLOGY
U.S. Geological Survey National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) Maine (2012)
DEVELOPED
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and multiple other agencies: *Imperv* (2015)
ESSENTIAL & SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE HABITATS
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife: *DWA, ETSC, Ephem, Ephem, WWH, Sni, Shorebird, TWWH* (2003-2015)
RARE NATURAL COMMUNITIES & PLANTS
Maine Natural Areas Program: *MNAP_eos* (2015)
ATLANTIC SALMON HABITAT
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: *Ashab3* (2013)

DATA SOURCE CONTACTS
Maine Office of GIS: <http://www.maine.gov/megis/catalog/>
Maine Natural Areas Program: <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/index.html>
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife: <http://www.maine.gov/ifw/>
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Gulf of Maine Program: <http://gulfofmaine.fws.gov>
Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission: <http://www.maine.gov/ascc/>
Maine Department of Transportation: <http://www.maine.gov/dot/>

DIGITAL DATA REQUEST
To request digital data for a town or organization, please visit our website.
http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/the_maps/gis_data_request.html

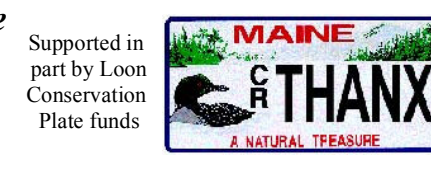


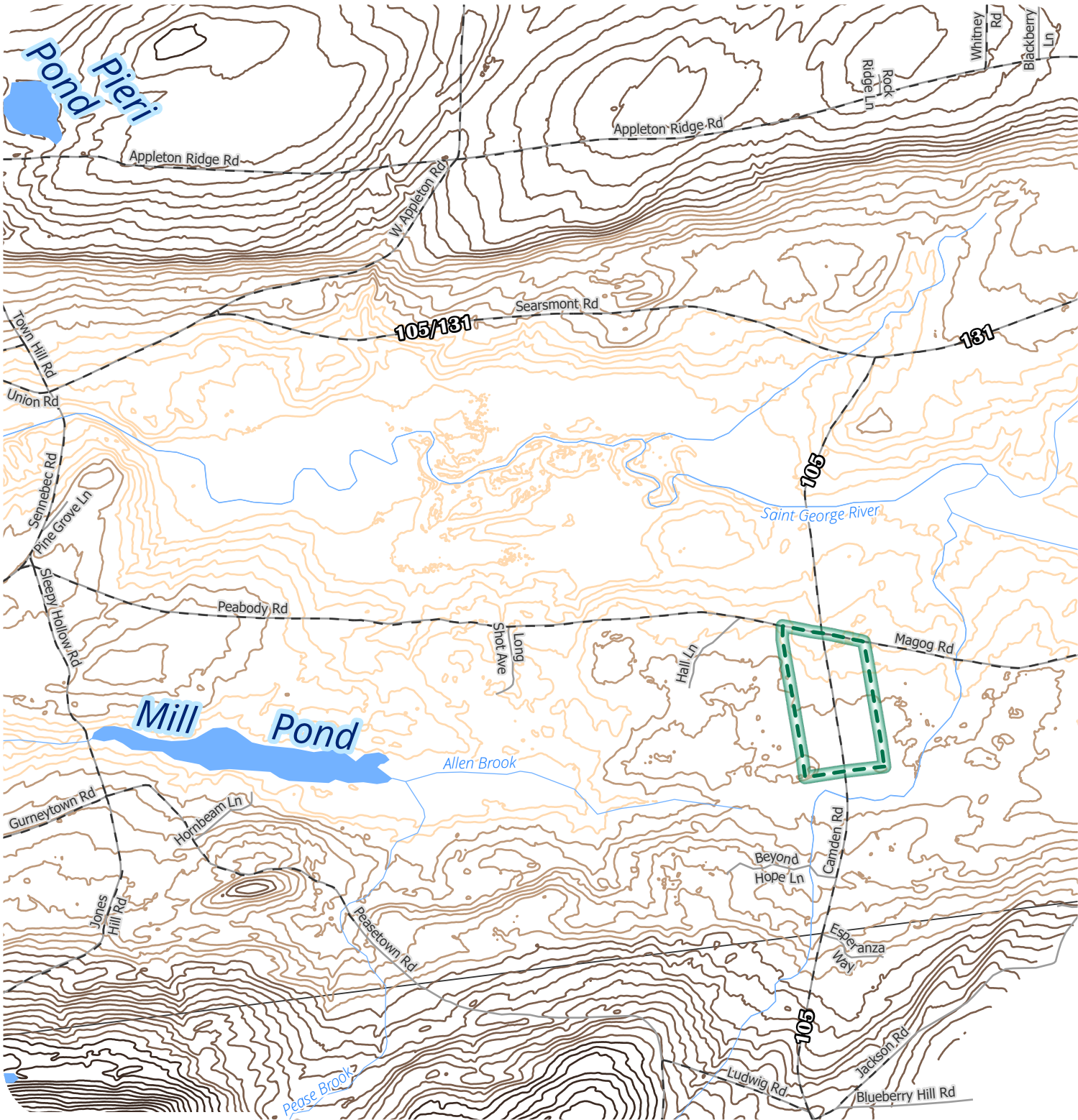
1:24,000 Scale
Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Projection
North American Datum (NAD) 1983



Supported in part
by Maine Outdoor
Heritage Fund
lottery ticket sales

Map Prepared by Maine
Department of Inland
Fisheries & Wildlife
March 2021





Data Sources: Maine Office of GIS, Maine Dept. of Transportation, US EPA Office of Water/US Geological Survey (through Esri Living Atlas), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/US Geological Survey & Town of Appleton

TOWN OF APPLETON

Comprehensive Plan
Maps

Provided by
Knox County
Emergency Management Agency GIS Program
301 Park Street, Rockland, ME 04841
207.594.5155

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

LEGEND

Proposed Growth Area

Contour Elevation (FEET)

100 - 220
220.1 - 380
380.1 - 620
620.1 - 980

- - - Public Roads
— E911 Roads
— Rivers and Streams
 Wetland
 Water

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer