

Policies:	Strategies:	Implementation:
<p>NATURAL AND WATER RESOURCES:</p> <p>Winthrop's land and water assets provide a necessary buffer against environmental degradation and support for resource-based economic activity such as forestry. Water-based assets provide a basis for recreation and tourism, as well as sustaining life. Protection of these assets from overdevelopment is an important function of this Plan.</p> <p>State Goal for Natural Resources: To protect the State's other critical natural resources, including without limitation, wetlands, wildlife and fisheries habitat, sand dunes, shorelands, scenic vistas, and unique natural areas.</p> <p>State Goal for Water Resources: To protect the quality and manage the quantity of the State's water resources, including lakes, aquifers, great ponds, estuaries, rivers, and coastal areas.</p>		
Policies:	Strategies:	Implementation:
Natural Resources Policies and Strategies Below:		
<p>1. To conserve critical natural resources in the community.</p>	<p>1.1: Ensure that land use ordinances are consistent with applicable state law regarding critical natural resources.</p> <p>1.2: Designate critical natural resources as Critical Resource Areas in the Future Land Use Plan.</p> <p>1.3: Through local land use ordinances, require subdivision or non-residential property developers to look for and identify critical natural resources that may be on site and to take appropriate measures to protect those resources, including but not limited to, modification of the proposed site design, construction timing, and/or extent of excavation.</p>	<p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Code Enforcement Officer. Short term.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Conservation Commission. Short term.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council, CEO. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board,</p>

Policies:	Strategies:	Implementation:
	<p>1.4: Through local land use ordinances, require the Planning Board (or other designated review authority) to include as part of the review process, consideration of pertinent Beginning with Habitat (BwH) maps and information regarding critical natural resources.</p> <p>1.5: Educate the public about the town's natural resources to raise awareness and improve protection efforts.</p> <p>1.6: Encourage the development of an Open Space Plan.</p> <p>1.7: Minimize the fragmentation of large parcels of undeveloped land, seek to preserve a variety of different habitats and seek to ensure that wildlife travel corridors connect wildlife habitats.</p> <p>1.8: Ensure the floodplain management ordinance receives regular review and is updated to keep current with state and federal guidelines with specific attention to protecting natural resources.</p>	<p>Town Council, CEO. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Council, Town Manager, Conservation Commission, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Council, Town Manager, Conservation Commission. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, CEO. Ongoing.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, CEO. Ongoing.</p>

Policies:	Strategies:	Implementation:
2. To coordinate with neighboring communities and regional and state resource agencies to protect shared critical natural resources.	2.1: Initiate and/or participate in interlocal and/or regional planning, management, and/or regulatory efforts around shared critical and important natural resources.	Town Manager, Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council, Conservation Commission. Ongoing.
	2.2: Pursue public/private partnerships to protect critical and important natural resources such as through purchase of land or easements from willing sellers.	Town Manager, Town Planner, Town Council, Conservation Commission. Mid-term.
	2.3: Distribute or make available information to those living in or near critical or important natural resources about current use tax programs and applicable local, state, or federal regulations.	Town Manager, Assessor's Agent, Executive Assistant. Mid-term.
	2.4: Cooperate with the state, relevant organizations, and other communities to protect lakes and lands from invasive species.	Town Manager, Town Council, Conservation Commission. Ongoing.
	2.5: Maintain membership in the Cobbossee Watershed District (CWD) and Kennebec Land Trust (KLT), and continue to work with other organizations devoted to protection of natural resources in Winthrop.	Town Manager, Town Council, Conservation Commission. Ongoing.
Water Resources Policies and Strategies Below:		

Policies:	Strategies:	Implementation:
	<p>5.2: Encourage landowners to protect water quality. Provide local contact information at the municipal office for water quality best management practices from resources such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Soil and Water Conservation District, Maine Forest Service, and/or Small Woodlot Association of Maine.</p> <p>5.3: Consider amending local land use ordinances, as applicable, to incorporate Low Impact Development (LID) design standards.</p> <p>5.4: Maintain up-to-date and flexible regulatory standards for land-use activities to protect lake water quality. Such standards should include measures such as buffers, erosion and stormwater runoff controls, and Low Impact Development (LID) design standards to minimize phosphorus contamination.</p> <p>5.5: Incorporate LID standards into the Land Use Ordinance to manage stormwater runoff.</p> <p>5.6: Maintain standards for earth-moving and land-clearing activities in lake watersheds.</p> <p>5.7: Utilize the Department of Environmental Protection's handbook, <i>Phosphorus Control in Lake Watersheds</i>, to aid in</p>	<p>Town Planner, Conservation Commission, CEO. Ongoing.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, CEO. Short term.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, CEO. Short term.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council, CEO. Short term.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, CEO. Ongoing.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, CEO. Ongoing.</p>

Policies:	Strategies:	Implementation:
	<p>establishing density, design and development standards to meet lake water quality goals.</p> <p>5.8: Continue to work with the Cobbossee Watershed District to control phosphorus loading of lakes.</p>	<p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council, CEO. Ongoing.</p>
<p>6. To minimize pollution discharges through the upgrade of existing public sewer systems and wastewater treatment facilities.</p>	<p>6.1: Adopt water quality protection practices and standards for construction and maintenance of public and private roads and public properties and require their implementation by contractors, owners, and community officials and employees.</p> <p>6.2: Through local ordinance, require the documentation of septic inspections reports for town records when there is a title transfer of properties in shoreland districts.</p> <p>6.3: Seek funds to assist homeowners in voluntary upgrading of inadequate septic systems.</p>	<p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council, CEO. Short term.</p> <p>Town Planner, Planning Board, Town Council, Public Works Director, CEO. Short term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Town Council. Ongoing.</p>
<p>7. To cooperate with neighboring communities and regional/local advocacy groups to protect water resources.</p>	<p>7.1: Participate in local and regional efforts to monitor, protect and, where warranted, improve water quality.</p> <p>7.2: Provide educational materials at appropriate locations regarding aquatic invasive species.</p>	<p>Town Manager, Town Council, Conservation Commission. Ongoing.</p> <p>Conservation Commission. Mid-term.</p>