

Policies:	Strategies:	Implementation:
<p><b>RECREATION:</b></p> <p>Winthrop’s recreational opportunities are largely provided by the Recreation Committee, the Kennebec Land Trust, the Bailey Public Library, local volunteer groups, and the regional school system, although plenty of self-guided, individual recreational opportunities exist as well.</p> <p>Two of the town’s greatest recreational assets are Mt. Pisgah, with an abundance of trails and breathtaking views, and Norcross Point, Winthrop’s waterfront beach and park. In addition to trails, boat launches, beaches, and sporting fields, Winthrop has many acres of preserved land coordinated across through both private, nonprofit, and municipal ownership.</p> <p><b>State Goal: To promote and protect the availability of outdoor recreation opportunities for all Maine citizens, including access to surface waters.</b></p>		
Policies:	Strategies:	Implementation:
<p>1. To maintain/upgrade existing recreational facilities and public water resources as necessary to meet current and future needs.</p>	<p>1.1: Create a list of recreation needs or develop a recreation plan to meet current and future needs. Assign a committee or community official to explore ways of addressing the identified needs and/or implementing the policies and strategies outlined in the plan.</p>	<p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p>
	<p>1.2: Continue to support the town’s community parks, ballfields, tennis courts, and community buildings, as well as looking for opportunities for expansion.</p>	<p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Ongoing.</p>
	<p>1.3: Investigate the possibility of coordinating with neighboring towns in the development of a shared community building to serve all ages.</p>	<p>Town Manager, Town Council, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p>
	<p>1.4: Support the efforts to build a new athletic turf field behind the grade school and town office buildings, including development and upgrade of related amenities,</p>	<p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p>

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	<p>restroom, bleachers, snack bar and more.</p> <p>1.5: Continue to improve school-based recreation facilities: middle school soccer field, high school track, high school fitness trail.</p> <p>1.6: Investigate options to gain hand-carry access to Winthrop's smaller waterbodies, including Lower Narrows Pond and Little Cobbossee Lake.</p> <p>1.7: Work collaboratively with the KLT in improving signage at Mt. Pisgah to better direct visitors.</p>	<p>Town Manager, School Superintendent, Recreation Committee, School Board. Ongoing.</p> <p>Town Manager, Town Council, Conservation Commission, Recreation Committee. Long term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Conservation Commission, Recreation Committee. Short term.</p>
<p>2. To preserve and develop open space for recreational use where appropriate.</p>	<p>2.1: Work with public and private partners to extend and maintain a network of trails for motorized and non-motorized uses. Connect with regional trail systems where possible.</p> <p>2.2: Work with an existing local land trust (KLT) or other conservation organizations to pursue opportunities to protect important open space or recreational land.</p> <p>2.3: Work with the Conservation Commission in exploring the possibility for developing an Open Space Plan to better manage the open space and prioritize future open space.</p>	<p>Town Manager, Town Council, Conservation Commission. Ongoing.</p> <p>Town Manager, Town Council, Conservation Commission, Recreation Committee. Ongoing.</p> <p>Town Manager, Town Council, Conservation Commission. Short term.</p>

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	2.4: Consider options to work with the KLT and private landowners to expand beyond the current trail system around Mt. Pisgah.	Town Manager, Town Council, Recreation Committee, Conservation Commission. Long term.
3. 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.	3.1: Provide educational materials regarding the benefits and protections for landowners allowing public recreational access on their property. At a minimum this will include information on Maine's landowner liability law regarding recreational or harvesting use, Title 14, M.R.S.A. §159-A.	Town Manager, Town Council, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.
4. Explore options for the development of activities, programs, and appropriate recreational opportunities for all generations, particularly, older residents.	4.1: Consider what deficiencies the town currently has in meeting the future needs of older citizens and anticipate ways to fulfil those deficiencies.  4.2: Consider recreational options for middle school and high school age students outside of school-sponsored offerings.  4.3: Evaluate Winthrop's current recreational offering for areas that seem to be lacking, for example, non-athletic enrichment programs, such as dance, gymnastics, and art.	Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Short-term.  Town Manager, Town Council, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.  Town Manager, Town Council, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.
5. Work to establish a calendar of year-round community events.	5.1: Investigate hiring a part-time events coordinator for the Winthrop Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce, and fund-raising activities to support the calendar of events.	Town Manager, Town Council, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.  Town Manager,

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	<p>5.2: Incorporate events into promotional literature, town newsletters, and websites.</p> <p>5.3: Work with the Winthrop Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce to coordinate events with downtown store hours, parking demand, sidewalk use, etc.</p> <p>5.4: Continue to support summertime music concerts at Norcross Point.</p> <p>5.5: Promote future endeavors at Norcross Point such as more concerts and theatrical offerings in the open-air stage.</p> <p>5.6: Coordinate downtown activities with Norcross Point activities.</p> <p>5.7: Develop and promote annual events, such as art shows, summer festivals, Fourth of July celebrations, holiday parades, and townwide celebrations.</p>	<p>Executive Assistant, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Short-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Short-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Short-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Short-term.</p>
<p>6. Improve and continue to promote Norcross Point.</p>	<p>6.1: Continue to work toward the improvements needed at Norcross Point by applying for grants and pursuing public input.</p> <p>6.2: Work with the DEP and Cobbossee Watershed District in implementing this plan.</p>	<p>Town Manager, Town Council, Recreation Committee. Short term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Short term.</p> <p>Town Manager,</p>

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	<p>6.3: Promote Norcross Point and the walkability of the downtown by investigating walking paths, sidewalks and trails that make accessible connections to popular locations and sites around downtown.</p> <p>6.4: Develop the facilities and management structures to continue to attract a variety of family entertainment.</p> <p>6.5: Seek out private vendors to provide canoe and kayak rentals.</p> <p>6.6: Improve visibility and access to the town beach through Norcross Point.</p>	<p>Town Planner, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p>
7. Promote green spaces and small parks in the downtown area for those who wish to recreate with limited time.	7.1: Revitalize the small park and picnic area behind the mill.	Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Short term.
8. Ensure public buildings and recreation facilities meet current ADA standards to provide handicapped access to people of all ages.	8.1: The town should explore the possibility of doing an assessment of town-owned buildings and properties to determine ADA accessibility.	Town Manager, Town Council. Short term.
9. Promote Winthrop as a bike-friendly town.	<p>9.1: Explore options to create bike trails throughout town or manage current trails in a way as to make them accessible for bike traffic.</p> <p>9.2: Consider the development of an off-road trail system, including linking popular destinations such as schools, the town beach, and the downtown area.</p> <p>9.3: Ongoing review and update of the 2011 Bike and Pedestrian Plan.</p>	<p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p> <p>Town Manager, Recreation Committee. Mid-term.</p>

