

***Protecting Open Space
New Paltz, NY***

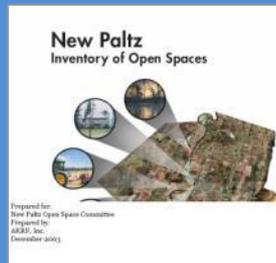
**Biodiversity Conservation Roundtable October 19, 2012
Cara Lee – Clean Water Open Space Protection Commission**

Open Space Timeline

2000

New Paltz
Open Space
Committee
Formed

Inventory of
Open Spaces



2004

Community
Survey

Open Space Plan



Build-out
Fiscal
Analysis

Bond

2008

Clean Water
and Open Space
Protection
Commission

Town of New Paltz Open Space Vision

A Cooperative Partnership: Landowners and the Community

Shawangunk Ridge

Key wildlife corridor and unfragmented high-quality habitat west of the "break-in-slope"

- Partner with landowners and conservation organizations to permanently protect remaining ridge habitat not currently part of the Mohonk Preserve
- Protect ridge views (views to and from the ridge) from the impacts of new development
- Connect habitat corridors to adjacent lands

Scenic Landscapes

Rural, traditional and historic character: views from scenic roads, rural hamlets, historic cultural landscapes and traditional village settlement pattern (located throughout town)

- Protect the "village-to-ridge" scenic gateway (Route 299 and beyond)
- Protect and expand access (visual and/or physical) to scenic vistas and historic and cultural landmarks
- Maintain and protect scenic roadway corridors throughout the town
- Protect the character of historic hamlet and settlement areas

Butterville-Canaan Foothills

Woodlands and open lands at the base of the ridge

- Conserve active farmlands and agricultural heritage
- Utilize conservation design for new development to maintain open lands and views
- Develop transition "buffer" in land use along break-in-slope

Walkkill River Greenbelt

Farms, floodplain and tributaries in the heart of the valley that serve as a primary wildlife corridor and greenbelt

- Conserve river-edge forest habitat
- Expand passive recreation (kayaking and canoeing, eg.) and trail links
- Conserve floodplain for farming production

North Woods and Eastern Wetlands

Large natural areas and wildlife corridors (forest, woodlands, streams and wetlands)

- Protect large "patches" of habitat; minimize fragmentation of woodlands and wetlands
- Create a greenbelt along the town's eastern edge
- Utilize conservation design for new development; use model of cooperative partnership (eg. Mill Brook Preserve)

Heart of New Paltz

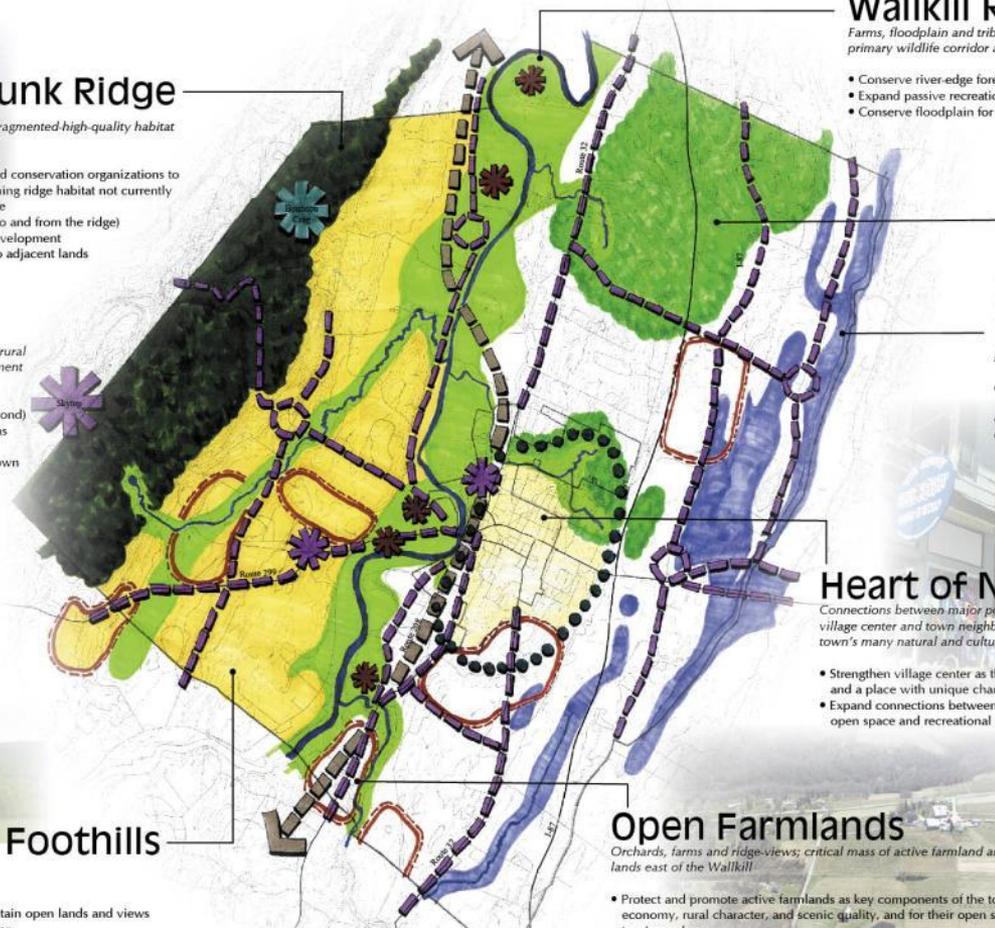
Connections between major population centers such as the village center and town neighborhoods, linking people to the town's many natural and cultural resources

- Strengthen village center as the "heart of the town" and a place with unique character
- Expand connections between the village and the town's open space and recreational amenities

Open Farmlands

Orchards, farms and ridge-views; critical mass of active farmland and open lands east of the Walkkill

- Protect and promote active farmlands as key components of the town's economy, rural character, and scenic quality, and for their open space and tourism value
- If development is to occur on farmlands, seek to minimize impacts through conservation design; obtain open space and trail amenities as feasible



Vision Map Legend

- Major Historic Landmark
- Major Natural Landmark
- Core Farming Area
- Core Farming Area in Walkkill Plains
- Rural Hamlet
- Walkkill Rail Trail
- Scenic Roadway





Vote “Yes” to Protect New Paltz Drinking Water Sources

“PROPOSAL NUMBER FIVE” will provide funds to purchase land to that protects drinking water sources that are vital to providing clean, safe drinking water for our families. By voting “Yes” on the proposal, you are voting “Yes” to protect our drinking water sources.

Protecting the Water Quality of Rivers and Streams

Our rivers and streams in New Paltz are an important part of our quality of life. A “Yes” vote for “PROPOSAL NUMBER FIVE” is a “Yes” vote to protect the water quality of our rivers and streams.

Preserving Open Space from Development

Because development can lead to a dramatic increase in the need for local government services such as schools, roads, sewers, police, and fire, preserving open space can help keep taxes from going up.

Annual Public Audit to Ensure Funds are Properly Spent

The proposal mandates an annual public audit of how funds are spent. Land will **only** be purchased from **willing sellers** on a voluntary basis.

Clean Water and Open Space Protection Commission

- Eleven-member volunteer commission
- Appointed by Town Board
- Broad representation of town interests, geography
- Assists with implementation of bond
- Advisory role to Town Board

