

Chapter 1

Vision Statement

The Town of Rindge and its residents are committed to protecting the Town's natural assets and preserving its small town rural character. We should strive to achieve our vision for Rindge by balancing the rights of property owners, environmental concerns and residential and commercial needs through the active participation of members of our diverse community.

The Town is served by private water and sewer systems. It is imperative that our existing water resources, such as wetlands, aquifers and watersheds, be protected to assure the continuous and adequate supply of clean water for present and future generations.

Chapter 2

Land Use

Rindge's desired future land use should be driven by the Vision Statement which speaks of increased levels of natural resource protection, and retaining a sense of rural character rather than uniformly spreading residential, commercial, and industrial activity across the entire community. The Town's future land use should be driven by the need to protect open space, rights of property owner's and groundwater resources. Future land use needs to take into consideration the potential development that Rindge may experience, and respond to it by providing opportunities that are consistent with the vision statement.

The nature of anticipated growth and development, and its placement on the landscape, will be driven by market forces, by individual landowner's preferences, and by the Town's land use policies: Zoning Ordinance, Site Plan and Subdivision Regulations, Capital Improvement Plan, and other land use documents. The following is a written summary of those desired future outcomes.

As envisioned by the residents of Rindge, growth could best be accommodated while retaining the essential community character, meeting market forces, and protecting the community's natural resources, through the following measures:

1. By encouraging the continuation of the Center Village, which is the civic center of the community, the West Rindge Village and East Rindge Village as traditional villages.
2. By encouraging frontage or secondary access roads along U.S. Route 202 and N.H. Route 119 within the commercial, business-light industry and gateway districts.
3. By encouraging employment of innovative land use regulations, such as open space development, to develop mixed use, gateway and commercial areas and to ensure that adjacent natural resources and open space are protected.
4. By coordinating and cooperating with neighboring Towns to preserve and protect the Town's important water resources, wetlands, aquifers and open space.
5. By documenting and maintaining a survey of lands suitable for agricultural purposes and preservation. Recognizing, publicizing and promoting on-going agricultural activities and enterprises should also be considered a continued priority for the Town.
6. By identifying, documenting, respecting and limiting impact to private property owners. Although the Master Plan does not legally infringe on property rights, it can be viewed as an enabler and therefore must clearly consider conflicts between property rights and proposed future land use initiatives.

7. By encouraging non-residential development that reflects traditional New England character.