

**With 22.5% of Atkinson protected from development,
have we reached our goal?**

Our success is not a goal to be reached but an accomplishment to be celebrated, and Atkinson should feel very proud of the Town’s conservation accomplishments over the past 50 years! Our achievements in preserving our open spaces and natural resources are one of the things that make this town special, and we should not be comparing ourselves with our neighbors – they should be comparing themselves with us!

So, is there more that can be done? Your Conservation Commission certainly thinks so. While the opportunities are becoming limited, we still feel a strong commitment to preserving our rich natural resources and rural character. No conservation organization in the world would ever set a goal and then stop, and we don’t intend to do so either. Continued funding of our Conservation Fund from the Land Use Change Tax is a sensible way to help us continue our mission to keep Atkinson a great place to live.

Thank you for your continued support!

Paul Wainwright, Chair
Atkinson Conservation Commission

Summary of Conserved Land in Atkinson		
September 1, 2024		
Method of Conservation	Size (Acres)	Percent of Total
Town-Owned	606.3	9.1%
Cluster Open Space	677.9	10.2%
Privately-Owned with Easements	74.5	1.1%
Southeast Lsnd Trust Owned	140.2	2.1%
	1,498.9	22.5%
All Tax Parcels (excludes streets)	6,663.7	