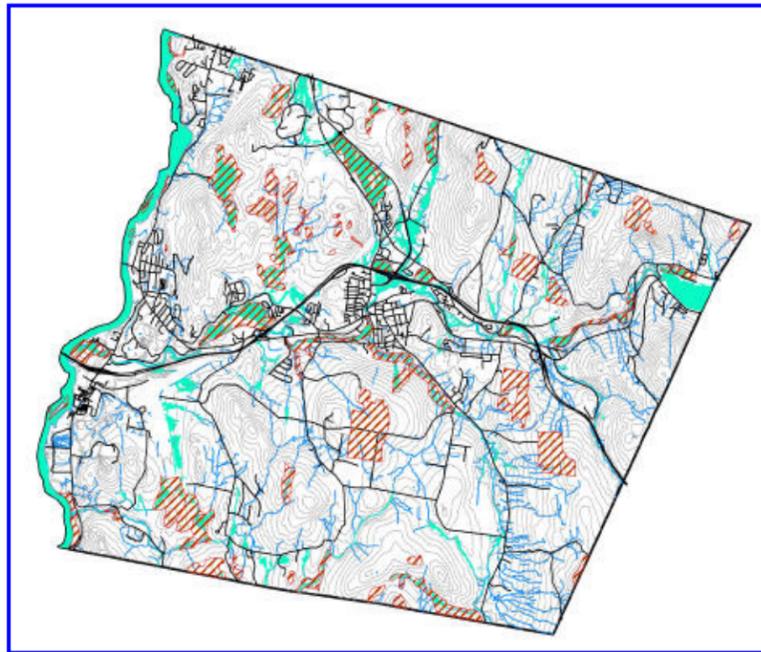


Natural Lebanon Natural Lebanon

Results of the Phase II
NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY
Of the
City of Lebanon, NH



Prepared for the
LEBANON PLANNING DEPARTMENT
And the
LEBANON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Foreward

In December of 2004, Lebanon completed a Phase I Natural Resources Inventory. The foundation for the Phase I work included the general statement of purpose from the 2002-2006 Master Plan which states, "With this plan, the City of Lebanon shall manage its physical, social, and economic development in such a way as to bring about a more refreshed ecology; a more enriched cultural presence; a more sound economy; and a more just society." This statement, along with statements from Chapter 5 Conservation and Preservation of Natural Resources initiated the Phase I Natural Resources Inventory. The Phase I work was one of the first steps to bringing "about a more refreshed ecology" in Lebanon. By maintaining the rural character and natural resources in Lebanon, the City can maintain the sustainability of the socio-economic status of current and future residents and businesses.

"Natural Lebanon," is Phase II of the Natural Resources Inventory. This phase, funded by the Conservation Commission's LOST (Lebanon Open Space Trust) fund, began in July of 2008 and was completed in September of 2010. This Phase II Natural Resources Inventory shows, in more detail than ever obtained before, the valuable natural areas of Lebanon that are worth considering in planning for Lebanon's future.

In September of 2008 the Lebanon Planning Office compiled a brochure entitled "Lebanon's Landscape." This document outlined some of the unique natural features in Lebanon as well as an analysis of the existing degree of development in the City. The purpose of this brochure illustrated the status of where the City stands in terms of preservation of natural areas and the progression of build-out over the past decades. This document brought together the two components of the community, the natural setting and the cultural overlay. The City was able to see how development, or the cultural component, impacted the quantity and quality of undisturbed natural areas.

The documents described above will be contributors to the Lebanon Open Space Plan and the Lebanon Master Plan. These documents can then provide the rational nexus from which the Zoning Ordinance can be formed. In addition, they provide valuable information for policy decisions relative to issues surrounding natural resources of regulatory importance such as steep slopes and wetlands.

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