

Town of Granby: Plan of Conservation and Development February 2005

FUNDAMENTAL VALUES: INTRODUCTION OF GRANBY'S FUNDAMENTAL VALUES

This Plan of Conservation and Development is rooted in Granby's Fundamental Values, those aspects of the Town that are treasured by the community. It is the overall objective of this Plan to protect and build upon these values.

The Town's recognition that change and growth are inevitable and even necessary, together with concern for how this will impact the existing quality of Granby, are the basis for this Plan. Recognizing that growth and change can be either positive or negative, it is imperative that the town residents and governmental officials plan and promote the positive changes. Granby faces the challenge of maintaining its rural character, charm, tradition, and values, while providing cultural, recreational, housing, educational, commercial and employment opportunities.

Planning can encourage the preservation of open space and farmland, foster the restoration and the preservation of historic sites and structures, preserve our scenic views, support the construction of a variety of housing types and commercial services that benefit the community, anticipate and prepare for growth and technological advances, foster the economic, social and racial diversity of the community, and preserve Granby's Fundamental Values.

Statement of Granby's Fundamental Values

Agricultural: Our Town's rural character has its roots in the tradition of New England agriculture; the small farm, the fruit orchard and the dairy. While the land areas dedicated to agriculture remain relatively abundant overall, agricultural activity has changed over time. Commercial farms that provide the primary livelihood of a farm family are now few in number. However, through inclusive zoning and supportive government, a great number of our local homeowners keep livestock, own substantial acreage and maintain large fields and vegetable plots. Together these commercial and family farmlands carry on the Town's agrarian tradition. The visibility of these areas reminds us of our roots and distinguishes our Town from the encroaching suburbia of nearby municipalities. The Town's farmlands and open spaces offer an inviting atmosphere and a local source of fruits and vegetables. Viewing the livestock, smelling manure, experiencing the changing scenery of the fields from the first seeding to the maturation of the crops and the harvesting and the re-growth of winter rye is a treasure that will be missed if it is allowed to disappear.