

Open Space is Highly Valuable!



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- **Avoids future costs to taxpayers**

Even including the initial cost of acquisition, open space is less costly to taxpayers over both the short and long term than development of the same parcel

- **Reduces public costs for flood protection and water supply**

Natural systems such as wetlands and floodplains provide water purification and help prevent floods

- **Increases property values**

Natural areas and greenways with trails usually make neighboring properties more valuable

Open Space is Utterly Essential!



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- **To ensure the health and diversity of wildlife and plant communities**
- **To prevent increased flooding caused by additional impervious landcover**
- **To help lessen pollution by absorbing contaminants from air and water**
- **To ensure natural, tranquil places exist to fish, swim, hunt, ride, birdwatch, picnic, play and hike**
- **To preserve our connection with the natural world**