

Natural, Environmental & Scenic Resources



Mettawee River, Village of Granville

The Village of Granville has an abundance of natural, environmental resources that are significant to the community's unique character, environmental health and economy. The colored slate quarries and the Mettawee and the Indian Rivers are the Village's most important natural resources. In addition, the Village has many areas that are scenically and aesthetically valuable. These assets include scenic views of the surrounding open valley, the nearby Adirondack and Green Mountain range, the quiet tree lined streets, and historic Victorian homes that give the Village its beauty and charm. In order to maintain the Village's quality of life, these natural and scenic resources must be protected and enhanced for aesthetics, recreation and the good of the local economy.

Goal 1: Protect and enhance environmentally significant water bodies in order to minimize adverse impacts due to man-made development.

Recommendations/Actions:

1. Develop regulations to control erosion of the Mettawee and Indian River's stream banks for public safety and health.
2. Develop regulations to ensure the integrity of the public water supply by discouraging pollution of the underground aquifer.
3. Prohibit inappropriate development within the floodplains of the Mettawee and Indian Rivers for public safety and the protection of the public water supply.
4. Work with the Town of Granville, Washington County, and the State of Vermont to develop a regional watershed protection plan.

5. Cooperate with the Army Corps of Engineers, the New York State Department of Health, and the Poultney-Mettawee Watershed Partnership to improve the environmental conditions of the Mettawee River for the protection of the public water supply source.
6. Regularly maintain and upgrade the Village storm water and wastewater drainage systems to avoid water pollution.
7. Sponsor an annual “River Clean-up Day” to remove litter and debris from the banks of the Mettawee and Indian Rivers.
8. Enhance the annual Arbor Day celebration to include the planting of native tree species along riverbanks to control erosion and improve aquatic habitat.

Goal 2: Preserve and enhance the many scenic resources within the Village.

Recommendations/Actions:

1. Inventory and map scenic views within the Village and consider drafting a scenic overlay district with guidelines to protect these areas.
2. Where feasible, bury pre-existing utility wires.
3. Initiate a program for tree planting along Village streets.
4. Coordinate with the Town of Granville to form a Scenic Vista Protection Plan.
5. Develop sign guidelines to limit the use of signs that detract from the Village’s scenic beauty.

Goal 3: Preserve and protect areas of open space that are important to the Village for use as public recreational or leisure purposes.

Recommendations/Actions:

1. Conduct an inventory to identify the remaining sensitive natural areas or opens spaces in the Village and create a priority list for protecting and managing these areas.
2. Preserve and protect areas that serve as important natural drainage channels for floodwater.
3. Promote local natural resource protection by cooperating with local schools to educated students of the importance of natural areas.
4. Develop strategies to protect the Village's remaining open space including funding sources and partnerships with conservation groups.