TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY

SOMERSET COUNTY
NEW JERSEY

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN ELEMENT OF THE MASTER PLAN

JULY 2023

Prepared by:

Lori Savron, PP, AICP
Montgomery Township Planning Director
NJPP License #5741

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN ELEMENT
JULY 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY…….…….....1

MUNICIPAL LAND USE LAW…….……2

GREEN ACRES REQUIREMENTS...….……..2

PRIOR PLANNING EFFORTS……..3

GOALS……...….……9

INVENTORY……15

NEEDS ANALYSIS……..30
Trends……...…….30
Facility Needs……...…….31
Opportunities……..…….……...37

RESOURCE ASSESSMENT……47
Recreation Resources...……...……...48
Resource Management and Conservation…….……..……...50

RECOMMENDATIONS……...……67

ACTION PLAN……...……..67
Pathways…..……..…….……..…….67
Otto Kaufman Community Center…..……...…..……..……71
Park Improvements…….…….……..71
Athletic Field Repurposing……..……..74
Acquisitions…...……...…….75
Stewardship of Open Space……...……75
Increase Awareness & Access……..…..…….80
Partnerships……...…….81
Potential Acquisitions/Conservation Easements….……..…….82
Implementation Approaches and Resources…….……..…….……..85

ADDENDUM I: Guidelines for Evaluating Proposed Open Space Dedications or Lands Offered for Township Purchase

ADDENDUM II: Description of Inventory of Existing Open Space Lands

ADDENDUM III: Natural Resources Inventory Adoption August 16, 2021 Planning Board resolution
September 27, 2021 Planning Board resolution

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN ELEMENT
JULY 2023

LIST OF MAPS

PAGE

Parks and Preserves……8
Existing Parks and Recreation Resources……26
Existing Open Space……29
Parks and Recreation Resources with Future Opportunities……33
Pedestrian-Bikeway Corridor Plan……40
Montgomery Township Pathway Loops and Connectors……42
Belle Mead Loop……43
Skillman Loop……44
Van Horne Loop……45
Critical Areas……58
Rock Brook C-1 Stream Corridor……59
Rock Brook Greenway……60
Rural Corridor Viewshed……63
NJDEP Landscape Project……66
Conservation Plan……84

LIST OF TABLES

PAGE

Table 1 Summary of Parks Improvement Program (2015-2020)……6
Table 2 Township-Owned or Leased Lands by Block and Lot……16
Table 3 Board of Education Sites by Block and Lot……20
Table 4 County Owned Sites by Block and Lot……21
Table 5 State Owned Sites by Block and Lot……23
Table 6 Summary of Open Space……28
Table 7 Survey Results – Active Recreation – January 2023……34
Table 8 Balanced Land Use Concept……47
Table 9 Recreational Programs in Montgomery……49
Table 10 Recommendations for Open Space Acquisitions……83

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN ELEMENT
JULY 2023

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Otto Kaufman Community Center...4
Figure 2: playground at Hobler Park ...5
Figure 3: playground at Bessie Grover Park...7
Figure 4: preserved Pariso farm on Fairview Road...10
Figure 5: Sourland Conservancy volunteers planting trees at Rock Mill Preserve, October 2021...11
Figure 6: Skillman Road pathway at County Route 601, looking east ...12
Figure 7: Mill Pond Park entrance on Dead Tree Run Road...13
Figure 8: Rec-n-Crew campers at Orchard Hill Elementary...14
Figure 9: playground at former Municipal Building...17
Figure 10: Montgomery Veterans Park upper field with cricket pitch...18
Figure 11: blue bells along Stonebridge pathway...19
Figure 12: pickleball court at Woods Edge Park...20
Figure 13: Skillman Park pathway...22
Figure 14: preserved Johnson Farm, Bridgepoint Road...27
Figure 15: picnic table and benches at Bessie Grover Park...32
Figure 16: Girls on the Run program at Village Elementary School, June 2023...35
Figure 17: Parks & Recreation Department logo...36
Figure 18: volunteers planting trees at Skillman Park...38
Figure 19: Cub Scouts planting trees along Rock Brook at Skillman Park...39
Figure 20: Trails Day at Hobler Park, June 2022...50
Figure 21: Rock Brook at Zion Crossing...51
Figure 22: Rock Brook at Rock Mill Preserve...52
Figure 23: deer density survey of Montgomery Township conducted by Steward Green, April 2021...53
Figure 24: view of deer browse line along landscape buffer...54
Figure 25: deer exclosure at Rock Mill Preserve constructed by Eagle Scout Rohan Shah, October 2021...55
Figure 26: vernal pond at Cherry Brook Preserve...56
Figure 27: Rock Brook at Zion Crossing...57
Figure 28: viewshed of Route 518 corridor looking east toward Route 601 and Village of Blawenburg...61
Figure 29: viewshed along Route 518 looking northwest at Township preserved lands near intersection of Spring Hill Road ...62
Figure 30: steep slope along Rock Brook at Bessie Grover Park...64
Figure 31: gazebo at Harlingen Green, June 2023...73
Figure 32: Kate Graves' sculpture installation at Hobler Park...77
Figure 33: English ivy at Zion Crossing...78
Figure 34: Ailanthus trees along pathway at Cherry Brook Preserve...79
Figure 35: Cherry Brook Preserve parking area along Cherry Hill Road...81
Figure 36: Trails Day 2018 – a partnership of the Health Department, Police Department, Recreation Department and Open Space Committee ...82

TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
June 2023
OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN ELEMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Parks and open space lands are one of the most valuable assets of a municipality. These spaces, when preserved, can provide shared equal access to green space, bring people in the community together, promote inclusion, and foster a healthy lifestyle. Parks can add value to nearby property and provide much-needed amenities to the surrounding community, and as in the case of protected agricultural lands, provide locally produced food. The coronavirus global pandemic heightened the public's awareness of the importance and value of parks and open space. As we reopened, the public realm became an even more critical asset to our workplaces and neighborhoods since workers and residents alike have valued park space and demand these amenities for their well-being.

Montgomery Township has developed a large and diverse system of parks and recreation facilities to meet the active and passive recreational needs of residents, and open space that permanently preserved environmental and scenic features, biodiversity, species protection, and habitat. The open space, parks, and recreation facilities make a substantial contribution to the quality of life experienced by residents and enhance its desirability as a community in which to live, work and visit. These public recreation facilities and open spaces provide opportunities for exercise, social and community events, conservation and preservation of important natural resources, and help balance the pressures of growth in a desirable municipality like Montgomery.

Despite intense development pressure over the last forty years, the Montgomery Township Committee with recommendations from the Open Space Committee and partnerships with nonprofit organizations (NJ Conservation Foundation, D&R Greenway, Montgomery Friends of Open Space, Sourland Conservancy), the County of Somerset and the State of New Jersey, has preserved 38% of the municipality to date. While additional preservation efforts must continue, there will also be a greater demand for stewardship, monitoring, maintenance and expanded public access to these protected lands. Montgomery Township has a vision for a culture of active living in which walking and biking are preferred and easily accessible options for transportation, recreation and connecting with nature for all of our neighborhoods. A plan that can achieve this overall goal must show a greenway-like network with links to all areas of the community.

Parks and open space require regular maintenance, investment, upgrading and improvements, and periodically a redesign to ensure that it is culturally relevant, easily accessible, and demonstrates a purpose for the users. In 2015, the Township made it a priority to renovate existing parks and recreation facilities that were aging, and to make modifications, as necessary, to meet the changing needs of Township. Moving forward, the Township is focused on expanding the pathway and sidewalk system, with a focus on completing important missing links in the system, as well as connecting residential neighborhoods with retail areas and the park system. The Township will continue to invest in maintenance of parks and open space and adapt facilities to meet current demands.

MUNICIPAL LAND USE LAW

The New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL) governs all land use planning activities in the State. The MLUL notes the master plan is intended to "guide the use of lands within the municipality in a manner which protects public health and safety and promotes the general welfare," and that a master plan shall comprise "a statement of objectives, principles, assumptions, policies and standards upon which the constituent proposals for the physical, economic and social development of the municipality are based."

This Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) combines the Township's recreation and conservation plan elements into a single comprehensive plan. The MLUL allows for the adoption of a recreation plan element which must show a "comprehensive system of areas and public sites for recreation." A conservation plan element must provide "for the preservation, conservation and utilization of natural resources, including, to the extent appropriate, energy, open space, water supply, forests, soil, marshes, wetlands, harbors, rivers and other resources, and which systematically analyzes the impact of each other component and element of the master plan on the present and future preservation, conservation and utilization of those resources."

GREEN ACRES REQUIREMENTS

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection created the Green Acres Program in 1961 to assist counties and municipalities throughout the State in enhancing existing recreation facilities and acquiring land for preservation and recreation purposes. In this mission, the Green Acres Program administers a variety of program areas. To participate in the Planning Incentive (PI) funding program, a municipality must have a Green Acres approved OSRP to be eligible for PI funding. In addition, matching grants are only awarded for preserved lands identified in an open space and recreation plan. This updated OSRP is developed consistent with the OSRP Guidelines provided by the New Jersey Green Acres Program including public input to gather the needs and desires of the community. Public meetings were held, a community survey and a variety of interviews were conducted.

Open Space Tax

An open space tax provides a local revenue stream to fund open space preservation and recreation projects, and also makes a municipality eligible for a 50% matching PI grant, whereas without a tax and plan, a municipality is only eligible for a 25% grant. A local government qualifying for Planning Incentive funding "must have established, and be collecting an open space tax, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:12-15.7d. Under this law, counties and municipalities may assess a tax, approved by voter referendum…". In 1998, Montgomery Township voters approved a four cent open space tax. The tax can be used to acquire, develop and maintain lands for recreation and conservation purposes; acquire agricultural lands for farmland preservation; preserve and acquire historic properties, structures, facilities, sites, area or objects for historic preservation purposes; and pay debt service on indebtedness issues or incurred by the Township for any of the above-named purposes.

Open Space and Recreation Plan Components

The items listed below are required components of an open space and recreation plan in accordance with the Green Acres Program. The organization and level of detail given to each of these items is at the discretion of the implementing local government.

1. Executive Summary: a summary of the plan's origin, purpose, planning processes and findings, major goals it establishes, and actions it proposes.

2. Goals and Policies: the local government's goals and policies should be clearly stated and relate to the applicant's philosophy of open space and recreation.

3. Inventory: documentation of existing public and private open space and recreation resources and opportunities. The inventory is to include the size, location, ownership, and usage.

4. Needs Analysis: an analysis of the adequacy of the current open space and recreation system, as documented in the Inventory, to satisfy present and future needs.

5. Resource Assessment: the assessment of lands with open space and recreation potential and interest, and this lands ability and opportunity to meet the public's needs.

6. Action Plan: a program of actions to guide the orderly and coordinated execution of a plan's goals and policies.

7. General Open Space System Map: a map of the open space and recreation system showing the location and general configuration of all existing public and private open space and recreation resources and sites identified as having open space and recreation potential.

8. Additional Parcel Data Requirements: data required to maintain a statewide map of existing and planned open space.

9. Public Participation: a discussion of the public participation process.

10. Planning Adoption: plan adoption by the local government's Planning Board as an element of the local master plan. A statement of planning board adoption is to be included in the OSRP. The local unit must adopt the OSRP as part of its master plan the next time the OSRP or master plan is updated.

PRIOR PLANNING EFFORTS

Master Plans

The 1983 Recreation Master Plan described seven (7) planning districts with three (3) hierarchical parks: community park would be 20 acres or more; district park would be 3-20 acres and neighborhood parks less than 5 acres. The Township set out to acquire land and other means to develop the park system that is present today.

In 1991, the Township adopted a combined Recreation and Conservation Plan during the first residential construction boom period for Montgomery Township. Lands were identified throughout the Township to provide for the development of public recreational facilities, most of which have been constructed and are operational. Another critical plan component was the policy to preserve open space throughout the Township, including sensitive environmental areas, and to provide public access to those natural resources. Significant lands were preserved using low interest bonds, NJDEP Green Acres grants, partnerships with nonprofit organizations and dedications by developers. Inspection and management of those open spaces is a current focus for the Township.

The open space and recreation inventories have been updated over time and adopted in various reexamination reports (1998 and 2001). Since the last Open Space and Recreation update, many new recreational facilities were developed. Two large-scale parks were developed - Skillman Park, owned and maintained by Somerset County, and Van Horne Park, owned by Somerset County, and maintained by Montgomery Township and Rocky Hill. The Otto Kaufman Community Center, which includes the Montgomery Senior Center, is located in a building that was adapted from a commercial facility and opened in 2005. Two dog parks were established – one by the former municipal building and the other at Skillman Park. Montgomery High School, also opened in 2005, includes an indoor pool which offers community memberships and recreational classes to the public.

Figure 1: Otto Kaufman Community Center (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

In 2010, the Recreation Committee prepared a report that updated the inventory of recreation facilities and identified needs. Due to the aging park facilities, the Township Committee funded a multi-year parks improvement program to address deterioration, safety issues and outdated facilities at all the Township parks. The improvements are listed in Table 1 on the following page.

Parks Improvement Program (2015 - 2020)

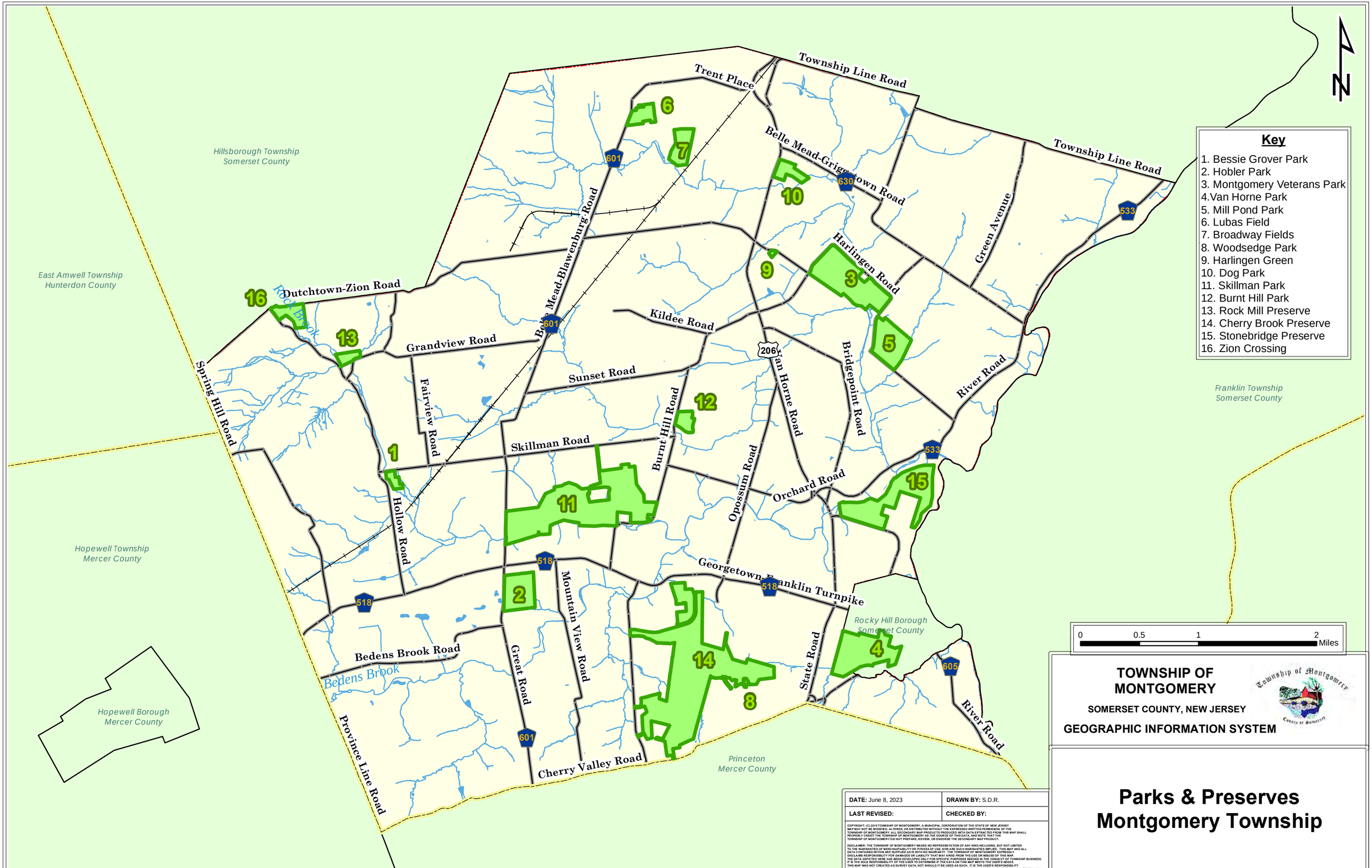
The Township Committee, with guidance from the Recreation Committee, undertook a multi-year program to invest in a wide variety of parks improvements to address the needs of the 2010 Recreation Committee Report. Significant accomplishments include updating playground equipment and safety surfacing; providing additional restrooms and drinking fountains; pave, delineate and increase the parking at parks where needed; implementing a consistent and attractive signage program to identify all Township parks; improve the overall appearance of all parks; and expanding the park facilities to include picnic shelters, game courts, community ball fields, and other facilities as coordinated with the neighborhoods.

Figure 2: playground at Hobler Park (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Table 1. Summary of Parks Improvement Program (2015-2020)

PARK	IMPROVEMENTS
System-Wide	Designed and produced new park and open space signage
Montgomery Veterans Park	Paved parking lot Added new playground equipment & upgraded surfacing of playgrounds Replaced firepit and enhanced area Added a new picnic grove (handicapped accessible) Benches and swing near stream Replaced grills Upgraded and added electric at pavilion Improved concession stand and rebuilt bathrooms New pathway to Veterans Memorial and the new 9/11 Memorial
Mill Pond Park	Paved Parking lots Added new playground equipment New shade structure Trees and plants Picnic tables and benches, grill
Lubas Field	Removed softball backstop & infield mix and planted grass Installed new 10' fencing New playground (November 2017) New grill (November 2017) Create a multi-purpose field (Spring 2018) Plantings
Woodsedge Park	2 new playgrounds New shade structure Resurfaced 2 tennis courts Resurfaced 1 basketball court and 1 pickle ball court and Repurposed for pickle ball court Refurbished the rest rooms
Van Horne Park	Installed Wall Ball Paved the pathway from Princeton Avenue
Hobler Park	New playground & swing set Regrading to prevent flooding
Bessie Grover Park	New playground & swing set New benches & grills Upgraded parking area
Tennis Courts	Full reconstruction of eight (8) tennis courts (partnership with BOE)
Former Municipal Building Green Acres	Covert Drive CCM Playgrounds Installed shade at the dog park Removed municipal vehicles and upgraded parking Constructed pathway and footbridge that spans 1 mile to connect to Montgomery Veterans Park

Figure 3: playground at Bessie Grover Park (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)


Key
1. Bessie Grover Park
2. Hobler Park
3. Montgomery Veterans Park
4.Van Horne Park
5. Mill Pond Park
6. Lubas Field
7. Broadway Fields
8. Woodsedge Park
9. Harlingen Green
10. Dog Park
11. Skillman Park
12. Burnt Hill Park
13. Rock Mill Preserve
14. Cherry Brook Preserve
15. Stonebridge Preserve
16. Zion Crossing
N
0 0.5 1 2 Miles
Township Line Road
Trent Place
Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Harlingen Road
Green Avenue
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Rock Brook
Grandview Road
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Kildee Road
Sunset Road
Van Horne Road
Bridgepoint Road
River Road
Spring Hill Road
Fairview Road
Skillman Road
Burnt Hill Road
Opossum Road
Orchard Road
Hollow Road
Mountain View Road
Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
Bedens Brook Road
Bedens Brook
Great Road
State Road
Province Line Road
Cherry Valley Road
Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
East Amwell Township
Hunterdon County
Franklin Township
Somerset County
Hopewell Township
Mercer County
Hopewell Borough
Mercer County
Rocky Hill Borough
Somerset County
Princeton
Mercer County
601
630
533
206
518
605
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Township of Montgomery
County of Somerset
Parks & Preserves
Montgomery Township
DATE: June 8, 2023
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:
CHECKED BY:
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2015 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP.
THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS.
THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA. NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

GOALS

It is the intent of this Plan to serve as a guide for the acquisition, stewardship and maintenance of land for open space and recreational purposes, continued agricultural opportunity, sustainable biodiversity and species protection, clean air and water to increase the Townships residents' quality of life and maintain Montgomery as a desirable community. The Open Space and Recreation Plan Element sets forth the following goals and policies that will guide the future of open space, parks and recreational facilities and programming.

Goal 1: Preserve open space for the preservation of the rural feel and character of the community; connect preserved corridors to ensure biodiversity of species; protection of air & water quality, environmentally sensitive lands and flora and fauna habitats; and fulfillment of the Township's conservation plan.

The policies and actions that support this goal include:

a. Evaluation of preservation projects utilize the "Guidelines for Evaluating Proposed Open Space Dedications or Lands Offered for Township Purchase", (see Addendum I), the Township's Natural Resource Inventory and the New Jersey Conservation Blueprint;

b. Employ a variety of land preservation mechanisms including, but not limited to, municipal acquisition, deed restriction, easements, common open space, and private donations;

c. Partner with Somerset County and the State of New Jersey and other government agencies, as well as non-government organizations, including the Montgomery Friends of Open Space, the D&R Greenway, Sourland Conservancy and the NJ Conservation Foundation;

d. Maintain the open space tax and leverage those funds with various financing options including bond financing, grant funding, partnerships with nonprofits, bargain sales, land donations, or creative financing such as timed payments.

e. Utilize sound planning and land use regulations, including, but not limited to, cluster and conservation design subdivisions, and deed restrictions or conservation easements on critical environmentally sensitive lands and habitat conservation;

f. Coordinate farmland preservation with the Township's Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan;

g. Provide public access, where appropriate, for the public's enjoyment and health, and to foster an appreciation of the Township's open space program.

Figure 4: preserved Pariso farm on Fairview Road (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Goal 2: Practice good land stewardship of Township open space and conservation easements to protect and restore these areas.

The policies and actions that support this goal include:

a. Create management plans for Township open space that utilize best management practices for the protection and conservation of natural resources including restoration of degraded areas, maintenance and enhancement of biological diversity, employment of practically targeted invasive species control, providing public education opportunities and serving as model land stewards.

b. Ensure that any proposed uses of, or adaptations to, open space should be consistent with the rationale and criteria for preservation of the property.

c. Monitor conservation easements, enforce violations and support property owners in their efforts to be good land stewards.

d. Consult with ecologists, naturalists, engineers, environmental professionals, The Watershed Institute and other experts as needed to inform decision making.

Figure 5: Sourland Conservancy volunteers planting trees at Rock Mill Preserve, October 2021 (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Goal 3: Manage a multi-use bicycle and pedestrian network that is safe and widely available to all Township residents and provides opportunities for all neighborhoods.

The policies and actions that support this goal include:

a. Secure the necessary land through dedications of right-of-way and easements during development approval or open space acquisitions, in order to effectuate the Township's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and in furtherance of the Township's Complete Streets policy;

b. Construction of sidewalks, bike lanes and pathways by the Township or others (developers, non-profit organizations and County and State Government), that are constructed to accommodate the broadest range of users;

c. Maintain pathways, sidewalks and bike lanes in good condition;

d. Ensure that network linkages are provided to neighborhoods, schools, parks, civic facilities, retail centers, surrounding municipalities and other destinations;

e. Provide the necessary accommodations (e.g. signage, bike racks, cross-walks) for user safety, comfort and convenience, as well as interpretive and interactive attractions to enhance the user experience; and

f. Promote the use of the network and the benefits of active living by executing a multi-faceted publicity campaign.

Figure 6: Skillman Road pathway at County Route 601, looking east (*photo by Stephen Rock*)

Goal 4: Provide an exceptional parks system that meets the needs of present and future residents.

The policies and actions that support this goal include:

a. Encourage partnerships to develop new, or expand or repurpose existing facilities and programs;

b. Maintain the facilities in good condition;

c. Survey the community every 5 years;

d. Ensure that every resident is aware of the parks through active marketing and hosting of community events; and

e. Parks are accessible by walking and biking.

Figure 7: Mill Pond Park entrance on Dead Tree Run Road (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Goal 5: Provide dynamic recreational programming that meets the needs of present and future residents.

The policies and actions that support this goal include:

a. Remain well-informed of recreation trends in order to deliver new and innovative recreational programming that serve as feeder programs for high school sports (i.e. fencing, volleyball and football began as recreational programming);

b. Establish reasonable programming fees to provide residents with affordable access to a safe and enjoyable active environment;

c. Maintain a good working relationship with the Board of Education for use of their facilities to run programs which benefit residents;

d. Retain high quality instructors, including teachers and coaches in the school district, and administer background checks for the safety of all program users;

e. Ensure that every resident knows about recreational programming through active marketing – expand creative ways to let the residents know about the vast programs that are offered; and

f. Survey the residents every five years.

Figure 8: Rec-n-Crew campers at Orchard Hill Elementary (*photo by Montgomery Recreation Department*)

INVENTORY

The inventory of open space and recreation lands in Montgomery Township includes Township-owned properties, as well as lands owned by Somerset County, the State of New Jersey, the Montgomery Township Board of Education and privately owned facilities. Parks and Recreational Facilities offer various active and passive recreational amenities, improvements and facilities with designated access points. These sites are actively managed and maintained for public use.

Township Lands

Montgomery Township offers a variety of Township-owned or leased recreational facilities for residents. These include active sport facilities for soccer, baseball, flag football, lacrosse, cricket and other team sports as well as passive recreational areas that encourage activities such as hiking, birding, fishing and enjoying the natural environment. These combined resources provide an enhanced quality of life for residents by offering a variety of recreational activities to cater to a variety of preferences and abilities. The following is a summary and inventory of Township-owned lands.

Table 2. Township-Owned Recreation Facilities by Block and Lot

Block	Lot	Description	Acres
4001	28.04	McKnight Baseball Complex	23.59
4007	12	Lubas Field	18.74
4012	1	Broadway Fields	27.29
6001	12 & 16	Former Municipal Complex Green Acres	21.63
10001	1, 1.01, 2, 3, 4, 7, 7.01, 8	Zion Crossing Preserve	21.9
10001	20	Rock Mill Preserve	10
14001	36	Otto Kaufman Community Center	7.33
15001	70	Fieldcrest	11.69
16012	1.02 & 1.03	Sunset Park	17.46
16014	17	Red Fox Run	8.71
17001	7	Montgomery Veterans Park *(formerly known as Montgomery Park)*	100.05
17002	2	Harlingen Green	1.7
18026	23	Mill Pond Park	57.16
23001 29001	13 5 & 5.01	Stonebridge Preserve	131
25001	7 & 7.01	Bessie Grover Park	8.37
27001	7	Washington Well	62.7
32001	1	Hobler Park	49.41
34001	13.02, 13.03, 14, 15, 22, 30, 35, 35.01, 35.06, 36, 37.02, 38.02, 42.39, 43.02, 43.03, 43.04	Cherry Brook Preserve	327.55
34023	73	Woods Edge Park	1.66
		TOTAL	**907.94**

Facilities

McKnight Baseball Complex is located on Reading Boulevard. The land is leased to the Montgomery Baseball League and has 5 baseball fields with lights, concession stand and bathrooms.

Lubas Field is located on Route 601. The park was converted from a softball field to a multi-purpose field with lights. There is also a playground and grills.

Broadway Fields is located on Broadway. The park was converted from two softball fields to 1 cricket field.

Former Municipal Building Green Acres is located on Covert Drive. The park has a dog park, playgrounds and pathways.

Figure 9: playground at former Municipal Building (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Zion Crossing is located at the intersection of Hollow, Zion-Wertsville, & Dutchtown-Zion Roads and contains 21.9 acres of forest and Rock Brook. The property has a waterfall, picnic areas, birding and fishing. Portions of the property are included in the municipal deer management program.

Rock Mill Preserve is located on Grandview Road and contains 10 acres consisting of forest and Rock Brook stream corridor. The property has fishing, picnicking, hiking and birding. The property is included in the municipal deer management program.

Otto Kaufman Community Center is located at 356 Skillman Road. The building contains the offices of the Parks & Recreation Department, 3 meeting/conference rooms, 1 computer room, senior center, commercial kitchen, food pantry, game room, dance studio, small-sided gymnasium. The grounds contain an outdoor patio and picnic area, bocce court, and meditation garden.

Fieldcrest is a small neighborhood park on Fieldcrest Avenue with a pathway along Back Brook.

Sunset Park is located along Route 601 at the intersection with Sunset Road. Artists donated and loaned artwork to display along the loop pathway. An Eagle Scout built a bench to overlook the wetland area and also constructed and installed a kestrel house.

Red Fox Run is a linear open space with a pathway along Back Brook, connecting multiple neighborhoods.

Montgomery Veterans Park, formerly known as Montgomery Park, is located on Harlingen Road. The park has hiking, fishing, birding, 3 softball fields, 1 soccer field, 1 sand volleyball court, 1 cricket pitch, updated playgrounds, bathrooms, 2 basketball courts, concession stand, picnic pavilion and grills, firepit, the 9/11 Memorial, the Veterans Memorial and the Arboretum of Native Flora. The Montgomery Arboretum is a natural area which can be accessed from the lower parking lot where there is signage. This is a growing specimen collection of over 150 species of trees and shrubs, some quite rare, native east of the Mississippi.

Figure 10: Montgomery Veterans Park upper field with cricket pitch (NearMap, June 29, 2022 image)

Harlingen Green is located on Harlingen Road and has a gazebo located in the center of historic Harlingen Village.

Mill Pond Park is located on Mill Pond Road. The park has 6 soccer fields, 1 multipurpose field, concession stand, bathrooms, picnic pavilion with grills, pathways, updated playground, and bird watching.

Stonebridge Preserve is located on Montgomery Road. The property has walking, hiking, biking, birding, bee colony, and fishing. Portions of the property are leased to a farmer and areas are included in the municipal deer management program.

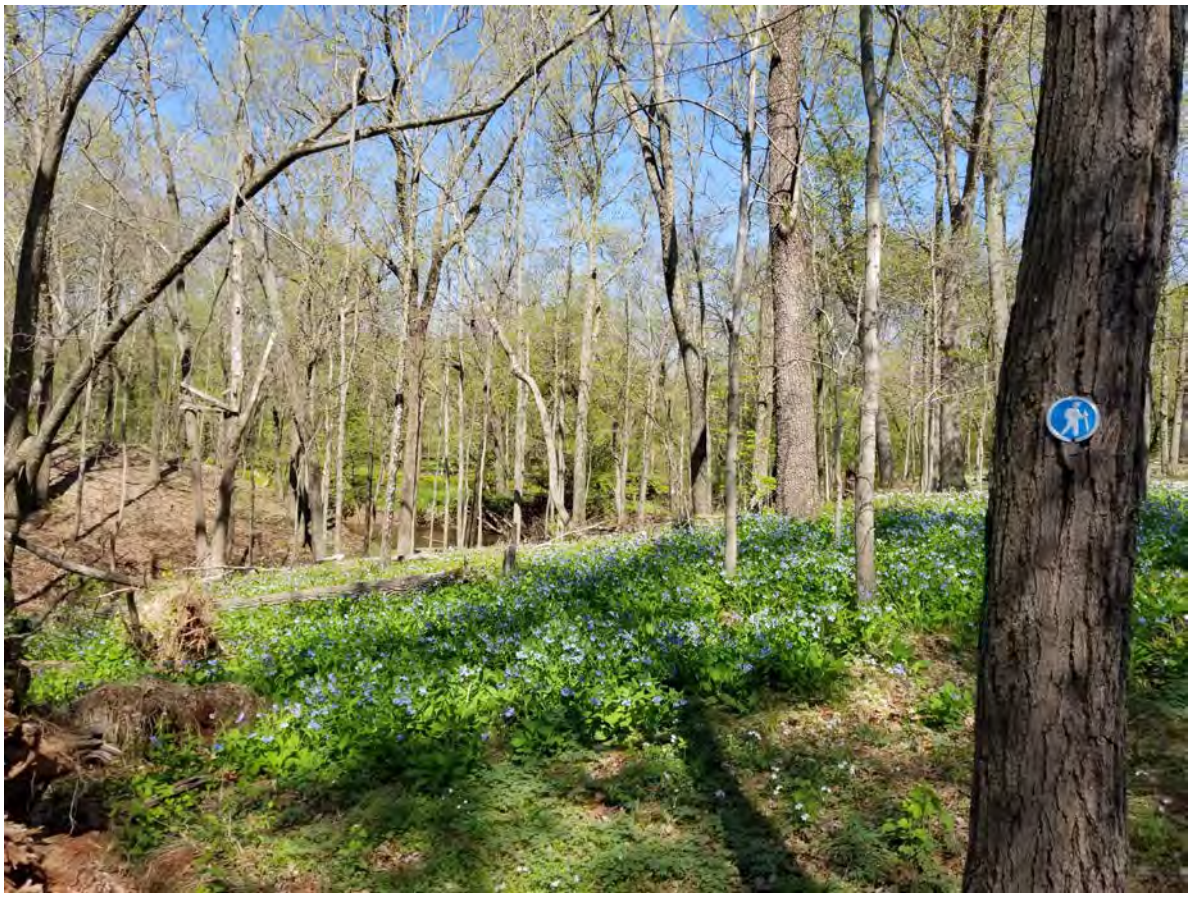


Figure 11: blue bells along Stonebridge pathway (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Bessie Grover Park is located on Camp Meeting Road. The park has an updated playground, picnic area with grills and fishing. An additional 7 acres was purchased by the Township in 2019 to add to the park area. A natural pathway along Rock Brook was marked with trail signage in January 2020.

Washington Well Park is located on Burnt Hill Road. The park is undeveloped but is used for sledding in the winter.

Hobler Park is located on The Great Road and contains 50 acres of managed meadow and stream corridor. The park has a picnic pavilion, multi-use field, pathways, birding, geocaching, memorial trees, free library, hawk houses, playground and sculptural displays.

Cherry Brook Preserve is located on Cherry Hill Road with additional access from Pine Brae Drive, Birchwood Drive and Linton Drive. The property has a pond, pathways, hiking, biking and birding. A reforestation project on 25 acres was initiated in 2007. Portions of the property are leased to a farmer and areas are included in the municipal deer management program.

Woods Edge Park is located on Harvard Circle. The park has 2 tennis courts, 1 basketball court, 1 pickleball court, playgrounds and restroom.

Figure 12: pickleball court at Woods Edge Park (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

School Lands

Table 3. Board of Education Sites by Block and Lot

Block	Lot	Description	Acres
19001	8.34	Upper Middle School	71.60
19001	12	Lower Middle School	59.86
19001	14, 15	Orchard Hill Elementary	35.25
25001	27.02	Montgomery High School	74.05
26001	1.06	Village Elementary	12.11
		TOTAL	**252.87**

Facilities

Upper Middle School is located on Burnt Hill Road. The property has a 6 lane, all-weather track, 1 baseball field, 1 field hockey field, 1 softball field, 1 regulation indoor basketball court, open fields/multi-use, cross country course, tennis courts, multi-purpose field (Pop Warner/Flag Football). The 8 tennis courts and 2 Pickleball/Tennis Court Combo are available to the public on weekends, all day in the summer and after 3 pm during the school year as part of a shared services agreement between the Township and the Board of Education.

Lower Middle School is located on Burnt Hill Road. The property has a total of 3 multipurpose soccer / lacrosse fields, 1 regulation indoor basketball court, 1 regulation baseball field with batting cages, 1 playground.

Orchard Hill Elementary School is located on Orchard Road. The property has 2 playgrounds (Pre-Teen and Tot), 1 open field, 1 multi-use field, 1 baseball field, 1 softball/little league size field, 2 non-regulation basketball courts within a multipurpose gymnasium.

Montgomery High School is located on Route 601. The property includes Cougar Stadium – artificial turf with lights (football; soccer; field hockey; lacrosse), 2 soccer fields, 1 lacrosse / field hockey field, 2 softball fields, 1 baseball field, 3 indoor regulation basketball courts, 6 tennis courts, 6 lane, all-weather track, auxiliary gym (gymnastics/wrestling, cheerleading, dance), swimming pool (6 lane, 25 yd. regulation), weight training room and a cardio room (treadmill and exercise bikes). Community memberships and recreational classes are offered at the indoor swimming pool.

Village Elementary School is located on Main Boulevard. The property has a gymnasium with basketball court, open multi-purpose fields and playground.

County Lands

Somerset County owns a variety of recreational facilities throughout the Township that offer residents access to a range of recreational activities. The following is an inventory of County owned lands in the Township.

Table 4. County Owned Sites by Block and Lot

Block	Lot	Description	Acres
1001	1	Sourland Mountain Preserve	478
35002 5* 10* 14*	11 16,20,21,26 19 1, 9	Van Horne Park^	94
26001	1.10	Skillman Park	247
		TOTAL	**819**

*Within Rocky Hill Borough
^Leased and maintained by Montgomery Township and Rocky Hill Borough

County-Owned Facilities

Sourland Mountain Preserve is located on East Mountain Road. The property has a large network of hiking trails, birding and bouldering.

Van Horne Park has access from Benjamin Boulevard via Route 206 or from Princeton Avenue. Van Horne Park is owned by Somerset County, but is developed/improved, maintained and operated by a partnership between Montgomery Township (80%) and Rocky Hill Borough (20%). The park has 2 basketball courts, 2 softball fields, 2 multi-purpose fields, 1 wall ball, playgrounds, covered pavilion, picnic tables, grill, restrooms, paved walking paths, bird watching, bocce court, and gazebo.

Skillman Park is located on the Great Road (Route 601) and Burnt Hill Road. The property has a 2.4 mile loop, multi-purpose trail, leash-free dog park, and bird watching. The Open Space Committee has partnered with the County Park Commission on a multi-year reforestation project of the Rock Brook stream corridor that runs through the south end of the park. Montgomery Township partnered with the County to install an exercise par course in the park.

Figure 13: Skillman Park pathway (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

State Lands

The Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park is a linear park that accommodates both pedestrian and bicycle users on the towpath and recreational water users including canoes and kayaks and fishing in the D&R canal and Millstone River.

Table 5. State Owned Sites by Block and Lot

Block	Lot	Description	Acres
9001 23001 38001	Various Lots	D&R Canal State Park	356.078
25001 27001	27 7.01	NJ Department of Corrections Brookview Farm & Skillman Dairy	400.69
		TOTAL	**756.768**

State-Owned Facilities

The Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park

The Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park is one of central New Jersey's most popular recreational corridors for canoeing, jogging, hiking, bicycling, fishing and horseback riding. The canal and towpath are part of the National Recreational Trail System. The 70-mile linear park is a valuable wildlife corridor connecting fields, forests and water habitats. With its 19th-century bridges, bridgetender houses, past and present locks, cobblestone spillways and hand-built stone-arched culverts, the canal is a tremendous attraction for history lovers. The upper reach of the feeder canal wanders through quaint New Jersey towns along the Delaware River such as Stockton and Lambertville, and continues through Titusville and Washington Crossing Park. The main canal passes the Port Mercer canal house, through the charming village of Griggstown to Blackwells Mills, ending up in New Brunswick. Canoes can be rented at points from private concessionaires. Most of the canal system remains intact today and is a reminder of the days when the delivery of freight depended upon a team of mules or steam tugboats. Nearly 36 miles of the main canal and 22 miles of the feeder canal still exist, with many historic structures along the canal.

Facilities & Activities include: Cook Natural Area (South Brunswick, Middlesex County), Six Mile Run site (Franklin Township, Somerset County), Trails, Picnic tables, Fishing, Boating/Canoeing, Cross-country skiing, Hiking, Horseback riding, Mountain biking, and Biking.

Former Brookview Farm & Skillman Dairy Farm

In 1988, the State of NJ placed State-owned farmland under a special legislative restriction. This included these two properties identified as Block 25001, Lot 27 on Route 601 (Brookview Farm) and Block 27001, Lot 7.01 (Skillman Dairy Farm) located on Burnt Hill Road.

According to the NJ Department of Treasury, Division of Property Management and Construction, these lands were former Department of Corrections facilities that are now considered surplus with the possible intention to sell the property. These lands are important for expanding the Rock Brook Greenway and public access connecting Skillman Park to the Township pathway system and community center.

Private Recreational Facilities

There are numerous privately owned recreational facilities in the Township including:

Mattawang Country Club located on Township Line Road. The facility has an 18-hole golf course, clubhouse, putting and driving facilities.

The Bedens Brook Club located on Rolling Hill Road. The facility has an 18-hole golf course, tennis and paddleball, clubhouse, social and banquet facilities, and swimming.

Nassau Tennis Club located on Route 206. The facility has 5 outdoor, 10 indoor tennis courts, 8 indoor pickleball courts, outdoor swimming pool, and clubhouse.

Province Line Swim Club is located on Provinceline Road. The facility has an outdoor swimming pool, toddler wading pool, bathhouse with restrooms and changing areas, picnic area with grills, swim lessons, horseshoes. Membership is limited to 40 families.

Cherry Valley Country Club located on Country Club Drive. The facility has an 18-hole golf course, 8 tennis courts and 2 platform tennis courts, swimming, clubhouse, social and banquet facilities, and pathways.

Pike Run Community Center is located on Pike Run Road. The development has a swimming pool, clubhouse, 2 tennis courts, playgrounds and pathways.

Kings Crossing Community Center is located on Devon Drive. The development has a swimming pool, clubhouse, 2 tennis courts, and pathways.

Princeton Hill Apartments is located on Blue Spring Road. The development has 2 Tennis courts and a swimming pool.

Montgomery Walk / Montgomery Glen is located on Blue Spring Road. The development has 2 tennis courts, playground and picnic tables.

Manors at Montgomery is located on Blue Spring Road. The development has 2 Tennis courts and a playground.

Princeton Village is located on Blue Spring Road. The development has 1 platform tennis, playground, and picnic area with grills.

Montgomery Hills is located on Blue Spring Road. The development has 1 basketball court, 3 Tennis courts, 1 volleyball court, and playgrounds.

Montgomery Woods is located on Blue Spring Road. The development has 4 tennis courts and a playground.

Tapestry at Montgomery is located on Bedford Drive. The development has 2 tennis courts, a swimming pool, clubhouse and pathways.

Hillside at Montgomery is located on Mystic Drive. The development has a half-court basketball court, multi-purpose playing field, playground and pathways.

Nearby Recreational Opportunities

In addition to the municipal and county parks, and private facilities, there are a number of notable unique recreational opportunities nearby which residents can use and enjoy. These include, but are not limited to:

Camp DeWitt is situated on 152 acres in the Sourland Mountains in Hillsborough Township of Montgomery Road. It is owned and operated by the Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey Council (GSHNJ). The facility offers a wide variety of camping facilities, a swimming pool, archery, ziplining, low ropes course, geocaching and trails. Sites can be reserved through GSHNJ by scout groups, as well as other non-profit and family groups.

Six Mile Run State Park is located in neighboring Franklin Township. There are extensive mountain biking trails managed and maintained by the Jersey Off Road Bicycle Association (JORBA). Access points are from Canal Road near Blackwells Mills Causeway and Route 27 at the Jersey Knights Soccer Complex parking lot.

Kayaking and Canoe Rentals at D&R Canal State Park at the Griggstown Causeway.

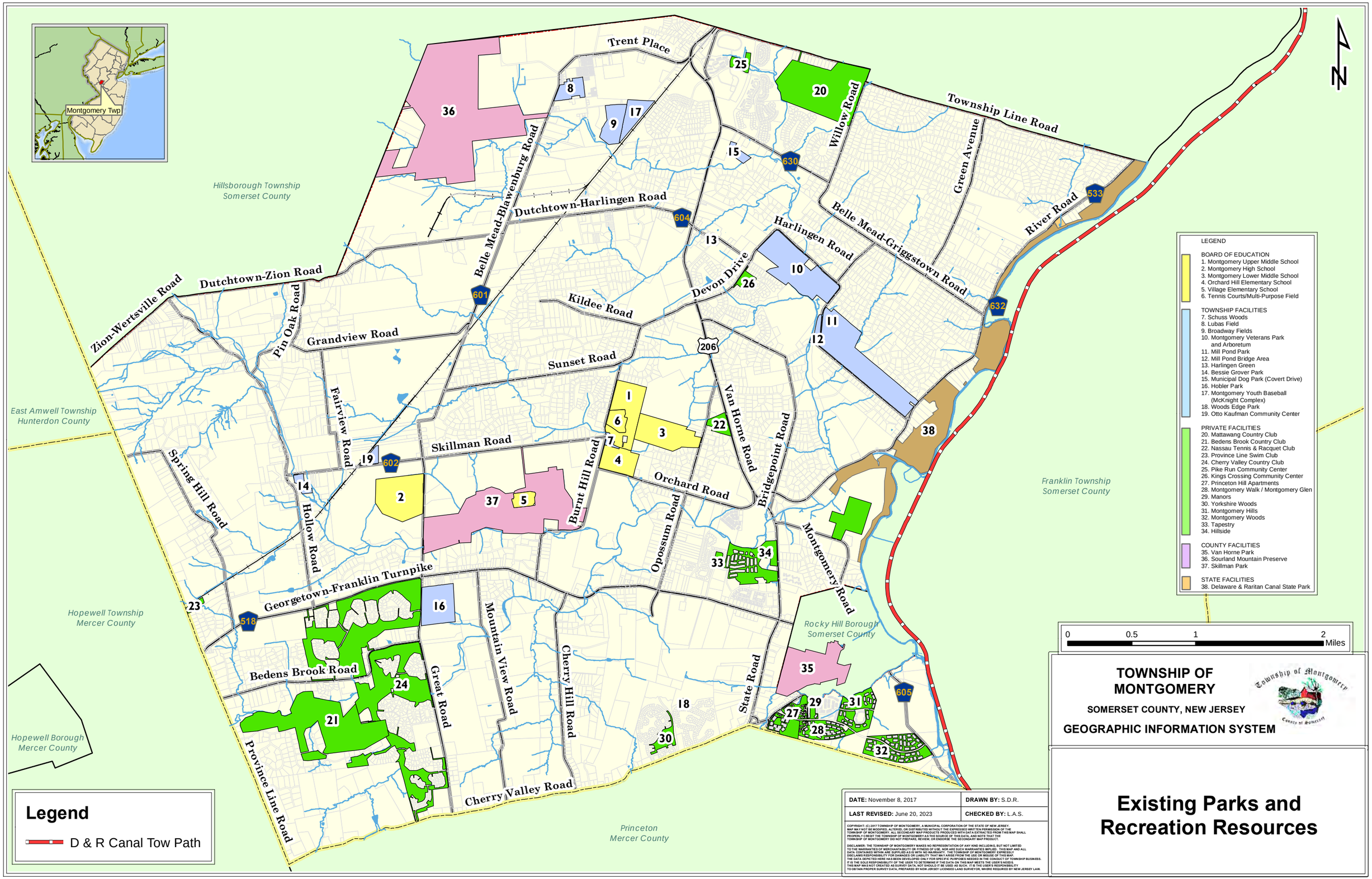
Duke Farms is located on Dukes Parkway in Hillsborough Township and offers extensive biking and hiking, nature programs; educational programs, café, weekend farmers market and geocache.

Princeton Community Pool is located in Princeton and season passes are available to non-Princeton residents.

Crystal Springs is a community pool in East Brunswick that offers day passes in addition to season passes.

Spraygrounds are located in Somerville and at Colonial Park in Franklin Township.

Iron Peak is located on Mountainview Road in Hillsborough and offers indoor playing fields, rock climbing wall and other recreational amenities.


Montgomery Twp
Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
East Amwell Township
Hunterdon County
Hopewell Township
Mercer County
Hopewell Borough
Mercer County
Princeton
Mercer County
Franklin Township
Somerset County
Rocky Hill Borough
Somerset County
Trent Place
Township Line Road
Willow Road
Green Avenue
River Road
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Dutchtown-Harlingen Road
Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Harlingen Road
Devon Drive
Kildee Road
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Zion-Wertsville Road
Pin Oak Road
Grandview Road
Sunset Road
Fairview Road
Skillman Road
Van Horne Road
Bridgepoint Road
Burnt Hill Road
Orchard Road
Opossum Road
Spring Hill Road
Hollow Road
Montgomery Road
Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
Mountain View Road
Cherry Hill Road
Great Road
Bedens Brook Road
State Road
Province Line Road
Cherry Valley Road
206
630
604
601
533
632
602
518
605
0
0.5
1
2
Miles
LEGEND
BOARD OF EDUCATION
1. Montgomery Upper Middle School
2. Montgomery High School
3. Montgomery Lower Middle School
4. Orchard Hill Elementary School
5. Village Elementary School
6. Tennis Courts/Multi-Purpose Field
TOWNSHIP FACILITIES
7. Schuss Woods
8. Lubas Field
9. Broadway Fields
10. Montgomery Veterans Park and Arboretum
11. Mill Pond Park
12. Mill Pond Bridge Area
13. Harlingen Green
14. Bessie Grover Park
15. Municipal Dog Park (Covert Drive)
16. Hobler Park
17. Montgomery Youth Baseball (McKnight Complex)
18. Woods Edge Park
19. Otto Kaufman Community Center
PRIVATE FACILITIES
20. Mattawang Country Club
21. Bedens Brook Country Club
22. Nassau Tennis & Racquet Club
23. Province Line Swim Club
24. Cherry Valley Country Club
25. Pike Run Community Center
26. Kings Crossing Community Center
27. Princeton Hill Apartments
28. Montgomery Walk / Montgomery Glen
29. Manors
30. Yorkshire Woods
31. Montgomery Hills
32. Montgomery Woods
33. Tapestry
34. Hillside
COUNTY FACILITIES
35. Van Horne Park
36. Sourland Mountain Preserve
37. Skillman Park
STATE FACILITIES
38. Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park
Legend
D & R Canal Tow Path
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Township of Montgomery
County of Somerset
DATE: November 8, 2017
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED: June 20, 2023
CHECKED BY: L.A.S.
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2017 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP. THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS. THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.
Existing Parks and Recreation Resources

Preserved Farmland

The Township has a rich farming history and the preservation of farmland in the Township is abundant. Farmland Preservation is part of a separate preservation process through the County Agriculture Development Board (CADB) and the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC). Preserved farmland is privately owned and not accessible to the public. The preservation of large contiguous tracts of farmland provides valuable opportunities to support continued agricultural production, protect valuable farmland soils, create grassland habitat, and provide conservation of natural resources. Preserved farmland also retains the rural character of the community and enhances the quality of life for residents. The Township currently includes 2,281 acres of preserved farmland.

Figure 14: preserved Johnson Farm, Bridgepoint Road (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Conservation Easements

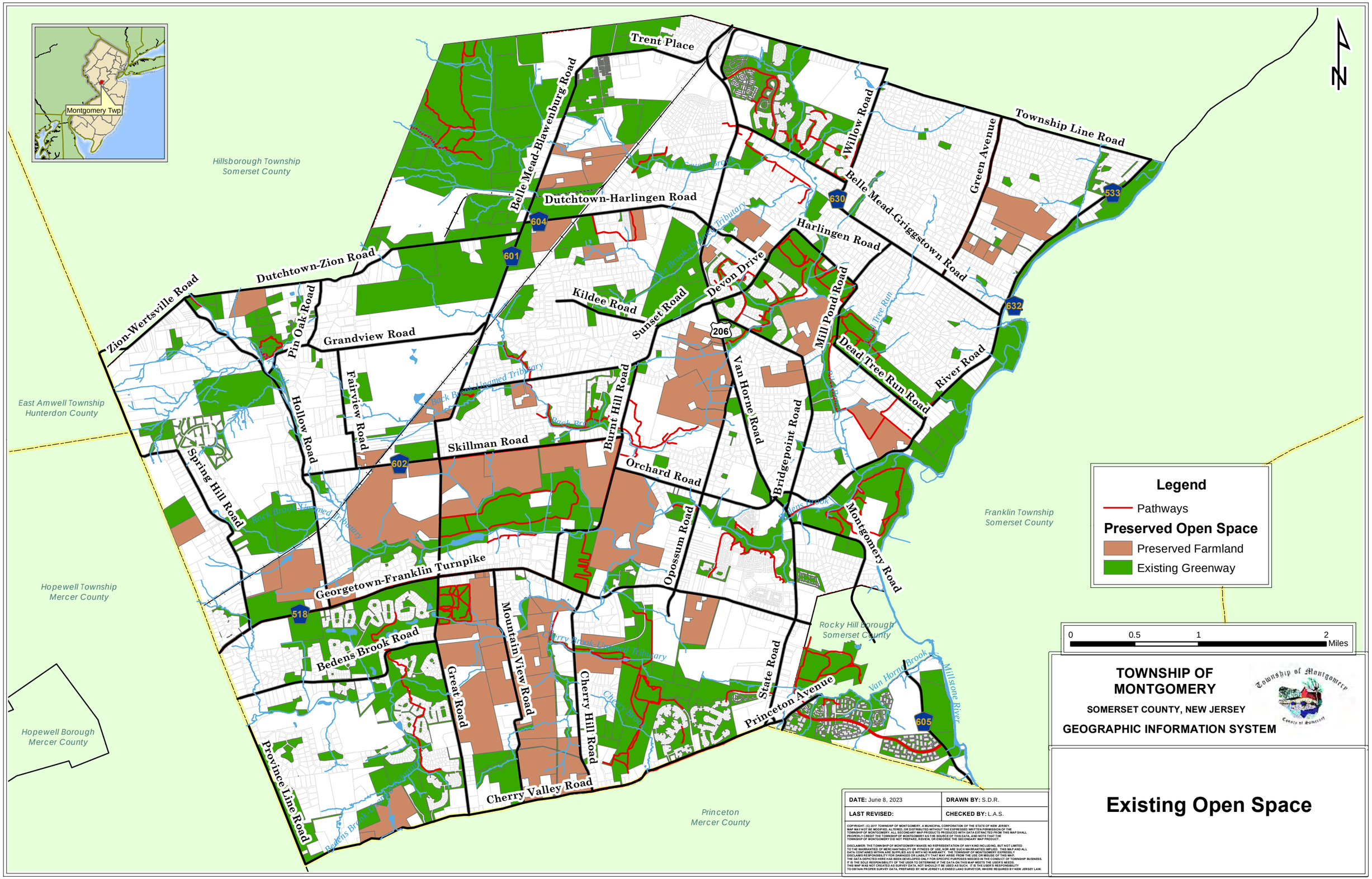
Conservation Easements are important tools in the preservation of significant agricultural and open space areas. Conservation easements prohibit or limit future development and generally consist of properties where the development rights to the property have been purchased or where the easement has been voluntarily placed by landowners and dedicated to the Township or another conservation or preservation entity. Easements are typically not open to public access but do provide further conservation and preservation efforts and may provide linkages to other resources. Easements can include a portion of or the entire property. There are 580 acres of conservation easements in the Township helping to protect valuable natural resources such as stream corridors areas, wetland areas, and valuable forests.

Table 6. Summary of Open Space

Category	Acreage
Public Open Space	4,040.99
Non-Profit Open Space	2.07
Common Open Space	1,067.98
Private Open Space	579.94
Preserved Farmland	2,281.62
Total	**7,972.60**

Summary of Open Space and Recreation Areas

The preceding analysis indicates that 38% of the Township's land is dedicated to open space and recreation. For a detailed listing of preserved parcels by block and lot, see Addendum II.


Montgomery Twp
Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
East Amwell Township
Hunterdon County
Hopewell Township
Mercer County
Hopewell Borough
Mercer County
Franklin Township
Somerset County
Rocky Hill Borough
Somerset County
Princeton
Mercer County
Trent Place
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Dutchtown-Harlingen Road
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Zion-Wertsville Road
Pin Oak Road
Grandview Road
Kildee Road
Sunset Road
Devon Drive
Willow Road
Harlingen Road
Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Green Avenue
Township Line Road
Mill Pond Road
Dead Tree Run Road
River Road
Van Horne Road
Bridgepoint Road
Burnt Hill Road
Hollow Road
Fairview Road
Skillman Road
Orchard Road
Spring Hill Road
Opossum Road
Montgomery Road
Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
Bedens Brook Road
Great Road
Mountain View Road
Cherry Hill Road
State Road
Princeton Avenue
Cherry Valley Road
Province Line Road
604
601
630
533
632
206
602
518
605
Legend
Pathways
Preserved Open Space
Preserved Farmland
Existing Greenway
0
0.5
1
2
Miles
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Existing Open Space
DATE: June 8, 2023
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:
CHECKED BY: L.A.S.
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2017 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL
PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL
DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY
DISCLAIMS ANY LIABILITY FOR ANY ACTS OR DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE USE OF THIS MAP OR THE DATA.
THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS.
IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS.
THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY
TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

NEEDS ANALYSIS

A needs analysis is a planning tool which may be utilized to determine the adequacy of a municipality's existing open space and recreation system relative to the community's present and projected demand. Future needs and facility demand were based upon an analysis of the inventory including site inspections, public input from a community survey and stakeholder meeting, and interviews with the Parks & Recreation Director, Recreation Committee, PLAY Committee, Open Space Committee and other stakeholders like the Montgomery Friends of Open Space. Gathering local experience, knowledge of the population, and recognition of the unique character of the Township is important, as well as balancing needs with fiscal realities.

It also takes into account previous studies and reports including:

- Montgomery Friends of Open Space Stewardship Report 2017
- Montgomery Township Landscape Management Plan by Andropogon Associates 2004
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Accessibility Assessment 2006
- Cherry Brook Management Area Plant Study by Dr. Leck 2006
- Somerset County Walk, Bike, Hike Study 2019
- Natural Resources Inventory 2020
- OKCC Renovation & Expansion Study 2017 by Spiezle Architecture Group

This needs analysis also estimates the land area which should be owned and controlled by the Township and dedicated for public use and access for outdoor recreation. Standards act as guidelines for determining the quantity of park, recreation and open space areas and facilities that may be necessary in a community. Facility standards should be perceived as flexible and changing with the needs and attitudes of the public. This plan identifies Montgomery Township as being adequately served by existing recreation and open space facilities. However, standards should be adapted to local circumstances and local demand levels, as is the case in Montgomery.

Trends

Health & Resiliency One of the strongest emerging trends is the focus on health and health equity. The movement toward health as well as mental and physical well-being continues beyond the pandemic and brings greater focus on meeting the social needs of communities. Most new parks will be designed with resiliency in mind. Parks are seen as multi-benefit landscapes that protect against flooding, clean and filter stormwater, produce shade and prevent heat island effects, and promote not just environmental resiliency, but also social resiliency.

Active Senior Citizens The increasing populations of senior citizens will pose challenges to park and recreation providers. It is expected that future senior citizens will be an active class of people and more physically fit, which means that they will continue to demand recreation programs and services. The Township will need to consider design features and programs that accommodate the physical capabilities and recreation preferences of this population. This is evidenced in Montgomery in that there has been an increase in senior citizen participation at the Township Senior Center, and they are a more active group than they were ten years ago. The Township has expanded programming from bingo and other more sedentary options, to include dance, exercise and yoga. Indoor pickleball is now accommodated in the community center gym

during the winter months. However, there is a demand for outdoor activities at the center including bocce and walking trails.

Importance of Outdoor Play Research indicates that children who explore, learn, and play outside on a regular basis are healthier, happier, smarter, more cooperative, more creative and more fulfilled. Their well-being is enhanced while they develop a sense of place and bond with family, community and their environment. Children will continue to require open space and recreation resources. While many facilities already exist, they will need to be upgraded and improved to service another generation.

Changes in Recreation Programming According to the Montgomery Parks & Recreation Department, Township recreation programming has changed over the years. There has been a decrease in certain sporting activities and an increase in others such as tennis. Also, there is much higher demand for science and computer programming. The Township has responded by expanding programming offerings to include a wider variety of programs.

Facility Needs

Montgomery Township recognizes that the success of the parks relies on the user experience while visiting and enjoying the facilities and amenities. When the facility is not properly maintained or updated, users will be less inclined to return. The Township will improve maintenance by conducting monthly inspections and will routinely upgrade and improve the aesthetic character of the parks by the addition of plantings, site furnishings and other amenities. In order for the park system to continue to meet the needs of the community, the Township will add facilities to and/or repurpose fields at existing parks, and/or add new recreational programs, to the extent practicable, in accordance with the recommendations of the Open Space and Recreation Plan Element. The Recreation Committee should conduct a public survey every five years. The last survey conducted in January 2023 asked respondents to rank their desire for additional facilities with the results summarized in Table 7. A total of 273 responses were received, and respondents could select multiple answers.

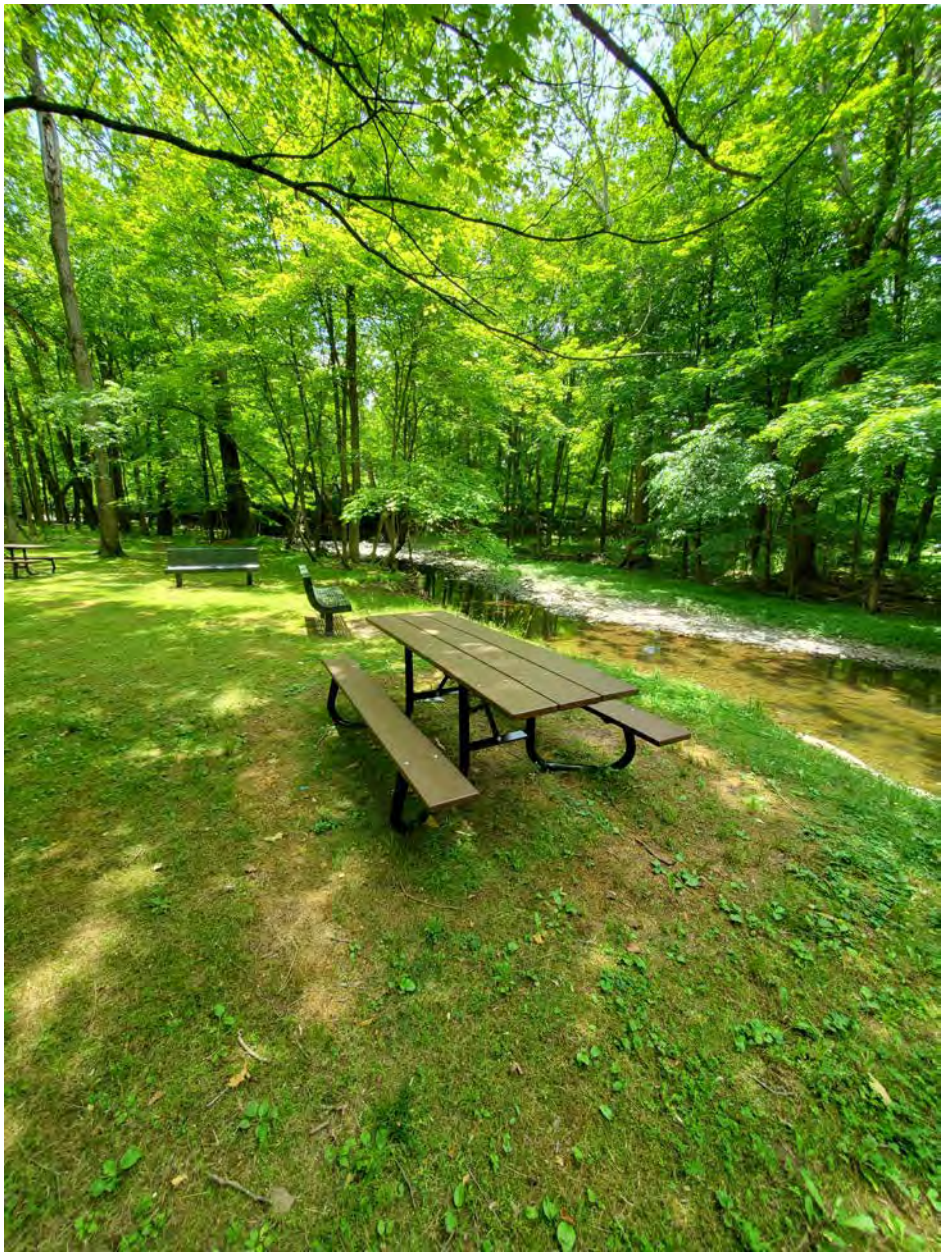


Figure 15: picnic table and benches at Bessie Grover Park (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

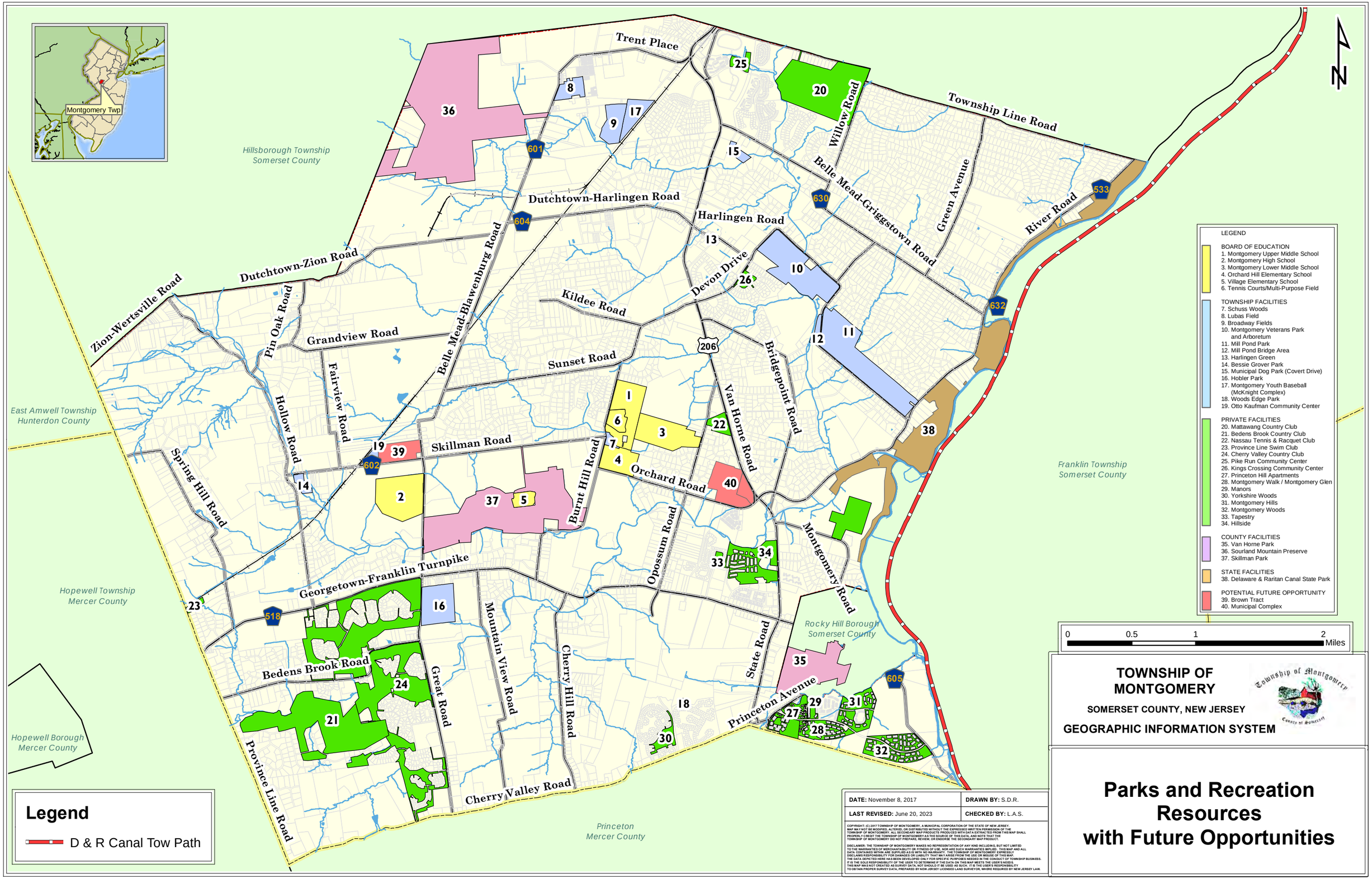

Montgomery Twp
Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
East Amwell Township
Hunterdon County
Hopewell Township
Mercer County
Hopewell Borough
Mercer County
Princeton
Mercer County
Franklin Township
Somerset County
Rocky Hill Borough
Somerset County
Trent Place
Township Line Road
Willow Road
Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Green Avenue
River Road
Dutchtown-Harlingen Road
Harlingen Road
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Zion-Wertsville Road
Pin Oak Road
Grandview Road
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Kildee Road
Devon Drive
Sunset Road
Fairview Road
Hollow Road
Spring Hill Road
Skillman Road
Van Horne Road
Bridgepoint Road
Orchard Road
Burnt Hill Road
Opossum Road
Montgomery Road
Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
Mountain View Road
Cherry Hill Road
State Road
Princeton Avenue
Bedens Brook Road
Great Road
Province Line Road
Cherry Valley Road
601
604
630
533
632
206
602
518
605
LEGEND
BOARD OF EDUCATION
1. Montgomery Upper Middle School
2. Montgomery High School
3. Montgomery Lower Middle School
4. Orchard Hill Elementary School
5. Village Elementary School
6. Tennis Courts/Multi-Purpose Field
TOWNSHIP FACILITIES
7. Schuss Woods
8. Lubas Field
9. Broadway Fields
10. Montgomery Veterans Park and Arboretum
11. Mill Pond Park
12. Mill Pond Bridge Area
13. Harlingen Green
14. Bessie Grover Park
15. Municipal Dog Park (Covert Drive)
16. Hobler Park
17. Montgomery Youth Baseball (McKnight Complex)
18. Woods Edge Park
19. Otto Kaufman Community Center
PRIVATE FACILITIES
20. Mattawang Country Club
21. Bedens Brook Country Club
22. Nassau Tennis & Racquet Club
23. Province Line Swim Club
24. Cherry Valley Country Club
25. Pike Run Community Center
26. Kings Crossing Community Center
27. Princeton Hill Apartments
28. Montgomery Walk / Montgomery Glen
29. Manors
30. Yorkshire Woods
31. Montgomery Hills
32. Montgomery Woods
33. Tapestry
34. Hillside
COUNTY FACILITIES
35. Van Horne Park
36. Sourland Mountain Preserve
37. Skillman Park
STATE FACILITIES
38. Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park
POTENTIAL FUTURE OPPORTUNITY
39. Brown Tract
40. Municipal Complex
0 0.5 1 2 Miles
Legend
D & R Canal Tow Path
DATE: November 8, 2017
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED: June 20, 2023
CHECKED BY: L.A.S.
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2017 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP. THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Township of Montgomery
County of Somerset
Parks and Recreation Resources with Future Opportunities

Table 7. Survey Results – Active Recreation - January 2023

Facility	Number of Responses
All-inclusive playground	154
Multipurpose Turf Field	97
Additional Pickleball Courts	93
Additional Sand Volleyball Courts	63
Additional Cricket Pitches	33

Demand has outgrown the OKCC including the current half-size indoor gym. The Township does not have any facilities to support other indoor programs such as basketball. The Parks & Recreation Department relies on the Montgomery Township Board of Education (BOE) for these facilities. Time and space for these programs in BOE facilities is getting less and less over the years as the BOE before school and after school programming is expanding. There are also ongoing costs associated with the Township use of BOE facilities. The Township needs an indoor facility to continue to be able to provide the level of programming and services the residents are accustomed to and the Township has the ability to provide with available facilities. Demand for indoor swimming remains strong, especially laps for exercise.

Montgomery has a robust selection of independent sports leagues however trends are showing a decline in participation rates in certain sports. Baseball participation is declining, and Pop Warner has disbanded since the last Recreation Master Plan was drafted. Soccer has also seen a decline since the Mill Pond Complex was constructed to accommodate the robust league. Flag football and lacrosse participation are increasing; both have healthy participation levels that are rising. Tennis, cricket and pickleball facilities remain in demand, and the Township is considering starting a cricket league for kids, possibly beginning with small clinics to test interest level. In fact, the Township Parks & Recreation Department has served as the spring board for other sports over the years including fencing, volleyball and football. Additionally, when the schools were going to cancel the track and field and cross country programs in 2011, the Township Recreation Department stepped in and started running it. Now, the schools are offering it once again and both cross-country and track and field have high levels of participation, and the Township's Girls on the Run program is always in demand.

Figure 16: Girls on the Run program at Village Elementary School, June 2023 (*photo by Diane Bardes Fay*)

Lighted fields and all-weather turf fields remain in very high demand. Other than the turf field at the high school, which has limited access, there are no other turf fields. A municipal turf field, preferably with lights, would provide recreation regardless of weather and daylight conditions and is in high demand in Montgomery.

The public has invested their tax dollars, both locally and through our State funding partners for acquisition and preservation of open space and farmland. As such, a focus of the Open Space Committee has been to provide access to many of these properties in the form of pathways, benches at scenic overlooks, and picnic areas. As the Township purchases property, a stewardship plan for each property should be created to identify the existing conditions of the property, suitability for parking, pathways, and other future uses (e.g. camping, cycling), and any stewardship recommendations, such as invasive species removal. Properties or areas where exceptional value natural resources are present should be identified and disturbance and access to these areas should be limited and minimally intrusive.

The Township conducted a survey of residents in 2016 and the majority of residents were not aware of the Township's pathway system, and even fewer actually used the pathways. Based upon these results, the Township undertook a plan to increase the visibility of these amenities by standardizing entrances with uniform signage, plantings and fencing. The Township began

hosting an annual Trails Day event in 2018 to increase awareness and partnered with the Montgomery Friends of Open Space on events in parks and on pathways.

When comparing the 2023 survey to the previous 2016 survey, a vast majority of respondents had visited a park in the past 12 months (97.8%) compared to 88.6% in 2016. Open Space and pathways use saw a drastic increase with over 68% of respondents having visited a pathway or open space property in the past 12 months, compared to only 26% in 2016. About 85% of respondents indicated a desire for more pathways, bikeways and sidewalks to increase walkability. The upgrades to park facilities, playgrounds, updated uniform signage at parks, open spaces and pathways and the covid pandemic all likely contributed to increased awareness and usage of the Township's recreational amenities. The Township needs to continue to better delineate these pathways in the field, focus on maintenance, and make trailheads more obvious from the roadway through a combination of signage, parking, fencing and plantings, as appropriate.

Management plans for Township open space is critical to maintain biodiversity and healthy ecosystems. These plans include baseline data of the property, identify locations for public access, address stewardship issues, land uses for the property and opportunities to partner with local nonprofits and neighbors.

The Township has several needs in terms of stewardship, including managing invasive species, planting native species as part of reforestation efforts, supplementing existing plantings and naturalizing and cleaning up any disturbed areas on open space properties.

Department Reorganization

Because of the close relationship between parks, recreation and open space, the Township reorganized and combined the departments in 2022 to streamline coordination of maintenance and programming within the parks, open space and pathway systems. Other benefits include use of shared equipment and provide oversight of routine safety inspections of playground equipment.

Figure 17: Parks & Recreation Department logo

Opportunities

Green Infrastructure

Parks are a key element in the built environment, providing benefits that include reducing the urban heat island effect, cleaning the air, managing stormwater and improving human health and well-being. The Township should look for opportunities to demonstrate green stormwater management techniques. Parks could serve as a demonstration site for future green infrastructure approaches to stream restoration and, thereby, engage local communities more in the health of the local watershed.

Partnerships

There are many approaches to a municipality working in partnership with other organizations to accomplish shared goals including land preservation, stewardship and restoration projects, outdoor education and events, and sharing facilities. The approach can vary from handshake agreements to formal written agreements. Organizations can partner on publicity and community events that promote health, wellness and fitness for the message to reach more members of the community. Sharing of equipment where municipalities can jointly purchase and share an expensive piece of park maintenance equipment that is not used every day. Shared recreation facilities can be sports field complexes, children's play areas, basketball courts, swimming pools, recreation centers, ice skating rinks, jogging/walking trails, outdoor amphitheaters, tennis courts and picnic pavilions. A number of factors affect the decision to share recreation facilities. These include identified needs of the community, public and private facilities already in place and the size of the population to use and support the facility. Combining resources enables communities to consider facilities not within their reach as separate municipalities.

A few of the recent partnerships in Montgomery Township include:

- Co-hosting events like a dance for children with special needs between Montgomery & Princeton Recreation Departments.
- Shared management responsibilities between Montgomery Friends of Open Space and Montgomery Township on open space preserves.
- Facility leases with youth sports leagues.
- Montgomery Cricket Club donated funds to cover costs of labor and materials for a cricket field at Broadway.
- Agreement with Board of Education for public usage of the middle school tennis courts.
- Van Horne Park partnership between Somerset County, Montgomery Township and Rocky Hill Borough.
- Nonprofit land trusts including D&R Greenway, The New Jersey Conservation Foundation, the Sourland Conservancy, and the Montgomery Friends of Open Space have been funding partners on land preservation projects.

- Montgomery Business Association and the Nassau Racquet Club sponsored a Pickle ball tournament.
- Shared services with Board of Education for community membership to the indoor swimming pool at the high school, as well as ability for the Parks & Recreation Department to offer swimming lessons.
- Moms in Business nonprofit hosted a youth triathlon at Skillman Park.
- Open Space Committee has partnered with the County Park Commission on a multi-year reforestation project of the Rock Brook stream corridor that runs through the south end of the park.

Figure 18: volunteers planting trees at Skillman Park (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

- Sourland Conservancy planted 25,000 trees in the Sourland Mountain region including on Township open space lands.
- Eagle Scouts and Girl Scouts
- The Watershed Institute hosts annual stream cleanup events, rain barrel workshops and advises the Township on policies & proposed ordinances.

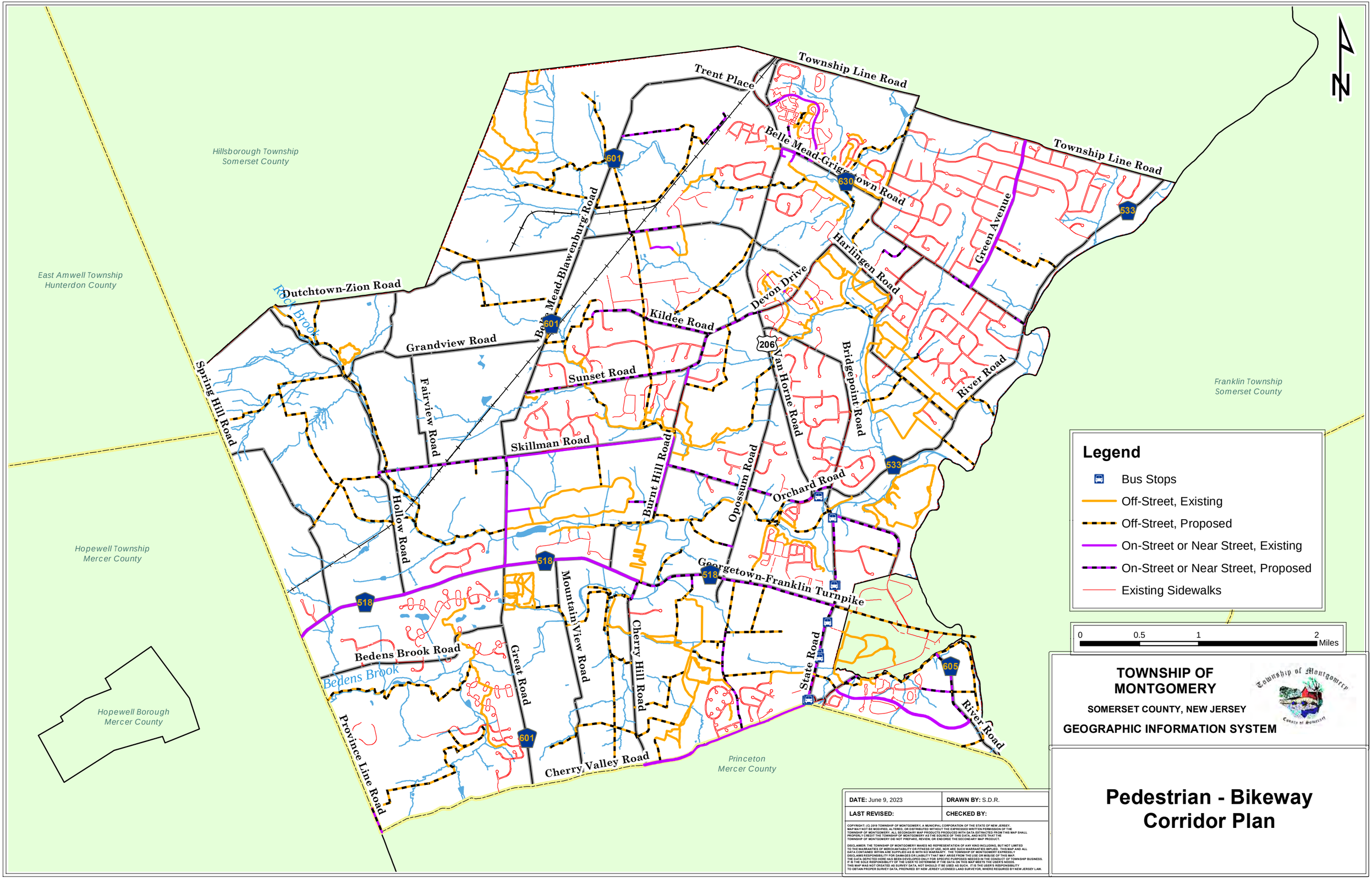
Figure 19: Cub Scouts planting trees along Rock Brook at Skillman Park (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Pocket Parks

Pocket Parks are small outdoor space, usually no more than ¼ of an acre, most often located in an urban area surrounded by commercial buildings or houses on small lots with few places for people to gather, relax, or to enjoy the outdoors. These types of parks in commercial areas could provide open space and recreation in more densely developed areas of the Township. With the new mixed use and multi-family developments in the vicinity of the 206/518 intersection (Rocky Hill node), parks and green spaces add attractive and complementary expansions of development projects, offer active or passive gathering areas for both employees and visitors, as well as make strong statements toward incorporating public art and a commitment to the environment in urban settings.

Pedestrian & Bicycle Connectivity

There is an increasing demand for opportunities to walk, jog, hike and bike in Montgomery. With the ongoing development of pathways, there is a need to focus on connectivity of the pathway system and linkages to parks, retail centers, the Municipal Complex and Montgomery Library, as well as other destination locations. Connectivity can be created through construction of new segments of pathway, installation of crosswalks, striped bike lanes, small sections of sidewalk and other means. A more in-depth look at their potential is underway.


Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
East Amwell Township
Hunterdon County
Hopewell Township
Mercer County
Hopewell Borough
Mercer County
Princeton
Mercer County
Franklin Township
Somerset County
Trent Place
Township Line Road
Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Green Avenue
Harlingen Road
Devon Drive
Kildee Road
Van Horne Road
Bridgepoint Road
River Road
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Fox Brook
Grandview Road
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Spring Hill Road
Fairview Road
Sunset Road
Skillman Road
Burnt Hill Road
Opossum Road
Orchard Road
Hollow Road
Mountain View Road
Cherry Hill Road
Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
State Road
Bedens Brook Road
Bedens Brook
Great Road
Province Line Road
Cherry Valley Road
601
630
533
206
518
605
Legend
Bus Stops
Off-Street, Existing
Off-Street, Proposed
On-Street or Near Street, Existing
On-Street or Near Street, Proposed
Existing Sidewalks
0
0.5
1
2
Miles
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Township of Montgomery
County of Somerset
Pedestrian - Bikeway Corridor Plan
DATE: June 9, 2023
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:
CHECKED BY:
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2019 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP. THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS. THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

Hubs & Spokes Additionally, through feedback from the public, the staff and Open Space Committee, identified three target areas with important destinations including shopping areas, parks, municipal center and the schools. These key destination points serve as "hubs" – with key linkages radiating out towards population centers - "spokes". Ultimately, the Township would like to connect each of these hubs to create a fully accessible, pedestrian and bicycle community. The primary "hubs" and "spokes" are:

Municipal Complex on Orchard Road

- Orchard Road & Schools to the West
- Residential & Commercial Areas to the South
- Bridgepoint Road & Residential Neighborhoods to the East

518/206 Intersection

- Route 518 West
- South to Van Horne Park & Blue Spring Road Residential
- North to Municipal Center
- East to Rocky Hill Borough

Skillman Park & Otto Kaufman Community Center

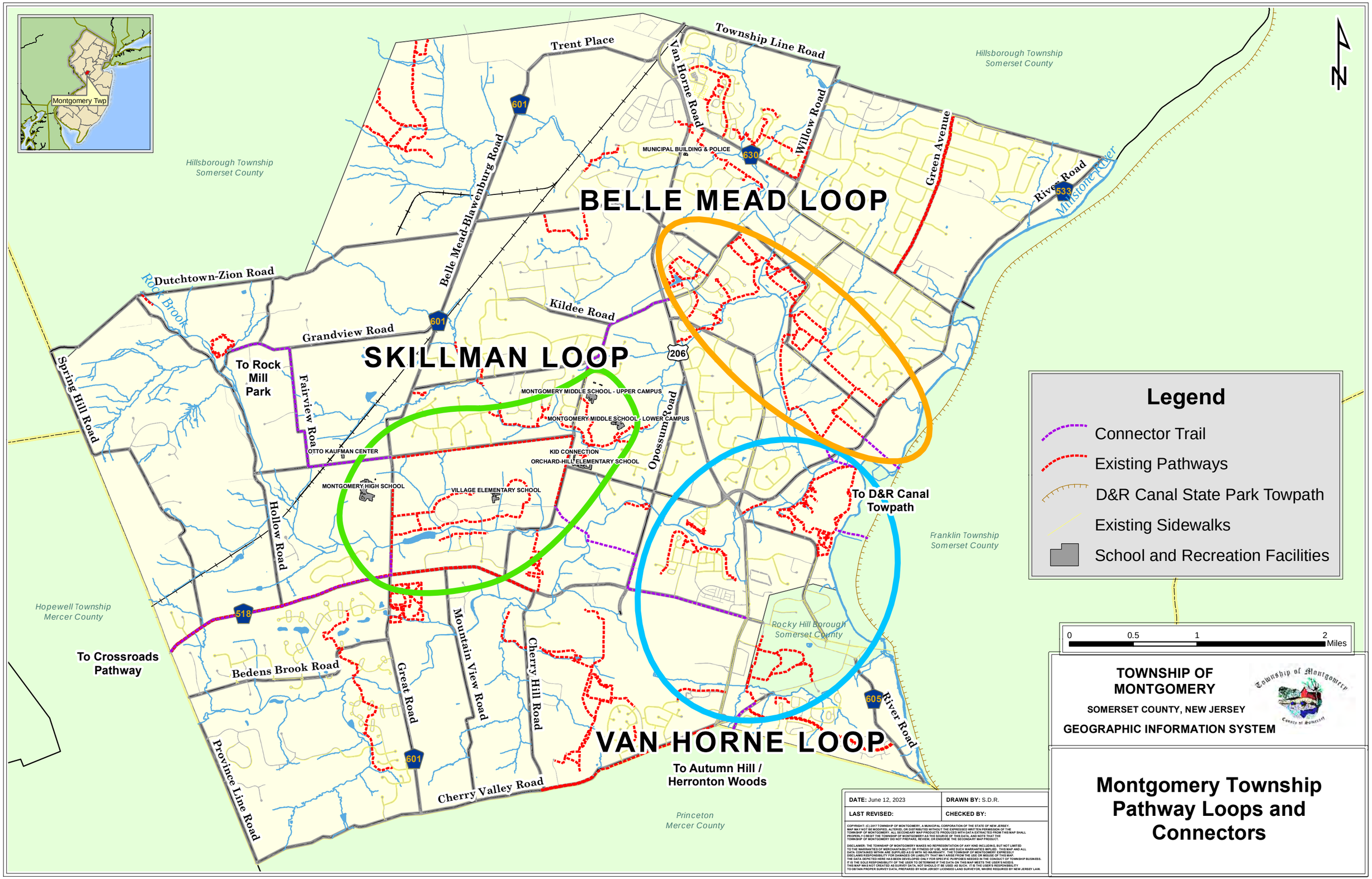
- Skillman Road
- Public Schools
- Blawenburg Village

Loops The Township has an extensive pathways network with 40 miles of existing paths, however, based on feedback from the online survey and public meetings, residents and other users are seeking "loop" pathways for a more interesting and user-friendly experience. The Township is working to identify existing pathways that can be interconnected to create these desirable loops by providing connections through some on-street connections, and potential construction of new segments of pathway to fill in gaps.

Belle Mead Loop Pike Run Planned Unit Development community to the new retail center in the Belle Mead node, the former location for the Municipal Building and Municipal Building Green Acres, continuing off road along the Cruser Brook to Montgomery Veterans Park, the historic Mill Pond, continuing on the boardwalk along Pike Brook, onto the pathway at the preserved Campbell farm, out to Summit Road, north to the Dead Tree Run open space, into Mill Pond Park, over to Harlingen Road to connect to sidewalks on Belle Mead-Griggstown Road and ending back at the Pike Run community.

Skillman Loop Create a continuous multi-mile loop that includes Skillman Park and outer arterial spokes to the schools, Otto Kaufman Community Center, Blawenburg Village, Hobler Park and the Dale/Washington Well open space property on Route 518. A pathway through the Department of Corrections lands would provide a critical connection between the Skillman Loop and Van Horne loop, enabling residents of the dense residential development along Route 518 to walk to Skillman Park and the Community Center.

Van Horne Loop Create a continuous multi-mile loop that includes Van Horne Park, access from the Blue Spring Road area, Rocky Hill, open space around Stonebridge on Montgomery Road, and residential and commercial development on the west side of Route 206.


Montgomery Twp
BELLE MEAD LOOP
SKILLMAN LOOP
VAN HORNE LOOP
Trent Place
Township Line Road
Van Horne Road
Willow Road
Green Avenue
River Road
Minisink River
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Rock Brook
Grandview Road
Kildee Road
Spring Hill Road
To Rock Mill Park
Fairview Road
Opossum Road
Hollow Road
Bedens Brook Road
Great Road
Mountain View Road
Cherry Hill Road
Cherry Valley Road
Province Line Road
To Crossroads Pathway
To Autumn Hill / Herronton Woods
To D&R Canal Towpath
MUNICIPAL BUILDING & POLICE
MONTGOMERY MIDDLE SCHOOL - UPPER CAMPUS
MONTGOMERY MIDDLE SCHOOL - LOWER CAMPUS
OTTO KAUFMAN CENTER
KID CONNECTION
ORCHARD-HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL
VILLAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Hillsborough Township Somerset County
Hopewell Township Mercer County
Franklin Township Somerset County
Rocky Hill Borough Somerset County
Princeton Mercer County
601
630
533
206
518
605
Legend
Connector Trail
Existing Pathways
D&R Canal State Park Towpath
Existing Sidewalks
School and Recreation Facilities
0 0.5 1 2 Miles
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Township of Montgomery
County of Somerset
Montgomery Township Pathway Loops and Connectors
DATE: June 12, 2023
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:
CHECKED BY:
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2017 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP. THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

Grayson Drive
Handler Court
Carriage Trail
Black Horse Run
Stacy Drive
Green Avenue
Bunker Drive
Ellis Drive
533
630
Covert Drive
Stone House Court
Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Covert Dr. Dog Park & Playground
Montfort Drive
Jamestown Road
Marian Drive
Van Doren Way
Grist Mill Drive
Veteran's Memorial
Kingswood Drive
Wilshire Drive
Tree Ring Kiosk
Spruce Lane
Cairns Place
9/11 Memorial
Montgomery Veterans Park
Ridgeview Drive
De Hart Drive
604
Harlingen Road
Rutland Road
Devon Drive
Mill Pond Road
Windmill
Doyle Lane
River Road
Bridgepoint Run Farm
Mill Pond Park
Matthews Farm Road
Dead Tree Run Road
Historic Mill Pond Bridge
Summit Road
Labaw Way
Bridgepoint Road
Van Horne Road
Boardwalk
Platz Drive
Richmond Drive
Oriole Lane
Durham Road

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

Legend

Belle Mead Loop

- Existing Loop
- Proposed
- Existing Branching Pathways
- Pathway Bridge
- D&R Canal State Park Towpath
- Preserved Farmland
- Township Owned Property

TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY

SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

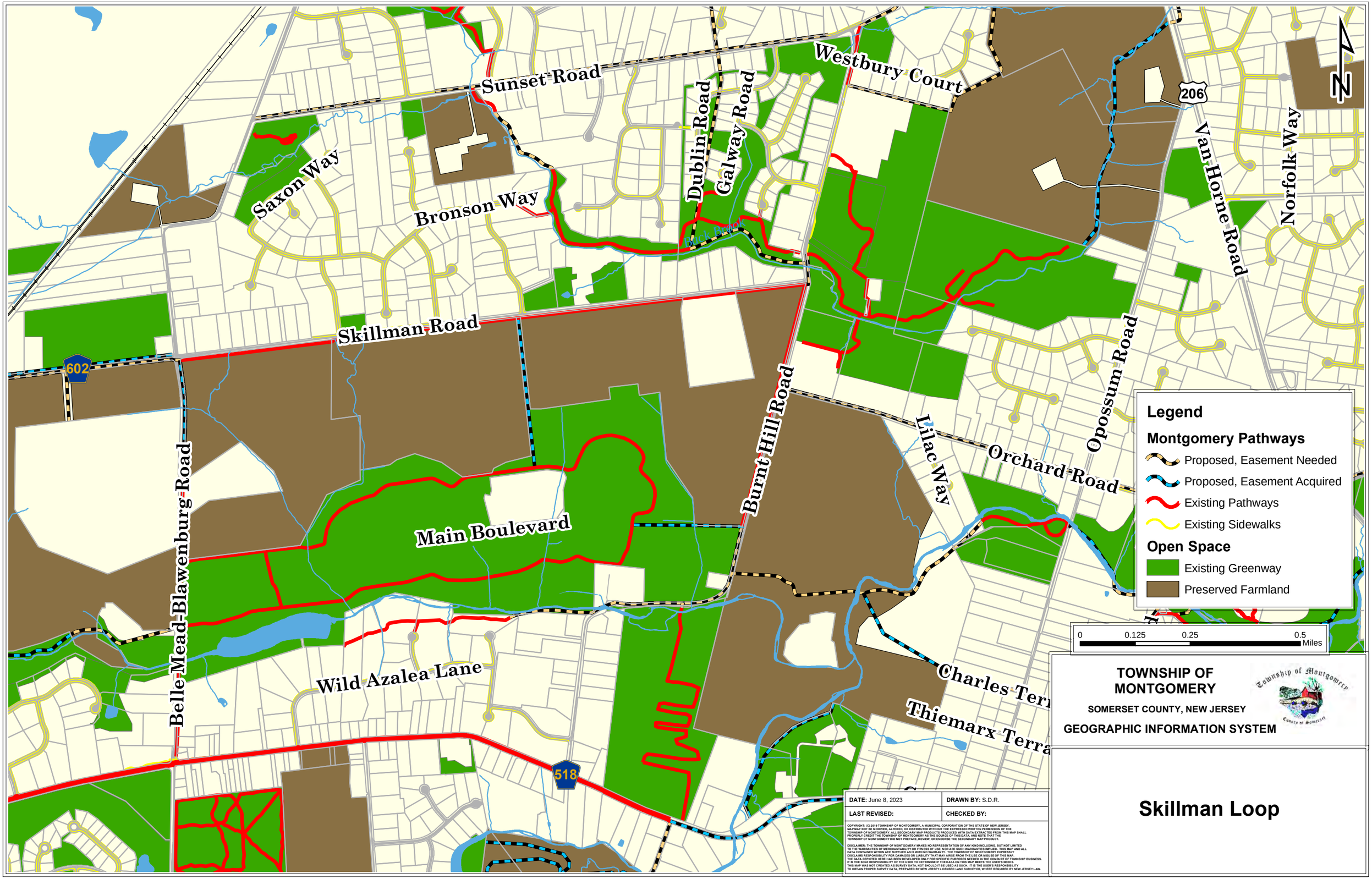
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

DATE: June 30, 2023	**DRAWN BY:** S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:	**CHECKED BY:**

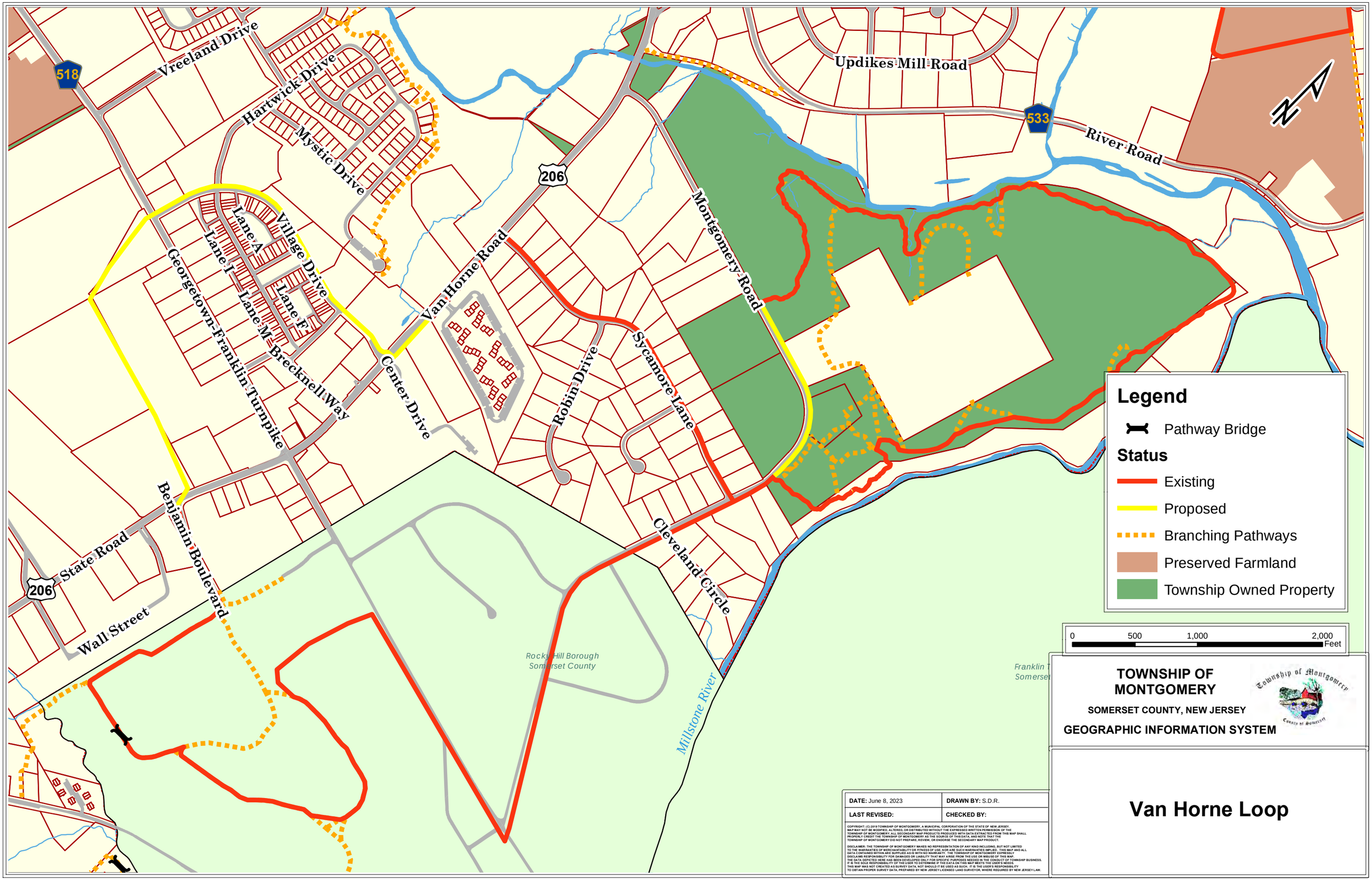
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2019 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.

DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP. THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS. THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS A SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

Belle Mead Loop



Skillman Loop



Van Horne Loop

Regional Connections are an important facet of providing pedestrian and bikeway connections for residents. There is a strong desire for residents to access regional amenities just beyond Montgomery's borders.

Princeton These regional connections were contemplated in the original 1991 Recreation & Open Space Plan and the Township is in active conversations with Princeton to identify possible routes.

- Continue to include bicycle and pedestrian amenities as Cherry Valley Road reconstruction is designed in future phases
- East end of Township from Blue Spring Road neighborhoods to Autumn Hill Reservation and Herrontown Woods
- West end of Township to newly preserved 150+ acre property preserved by Princeton, Ridgeview Conservancy, NJCF, Friends of Princeton Open Space
- Connections along Transco pipeline

D&R Canal State Park/Towpath The ability to access the towpath has been long desired by residents who currently have to get in a car to access a trailhead.

- Connection via Campbell Farm pathway easement
- Connection at Causeway
- Connection at south end of River Road to Route 518

Lawrence-Hopewell Trail The Lawrence-Hopewell Trail (LHT) has evolved into a 22 mile long, heavily utilized multi-use trail in neighboring Hopewell and Lawrence. A connection from Montgomery to this resource would greatly expand recreational opportunities for residents.

- Make connection over Cherry Valley Road, Provinceline Road

Additionally, there are discussions about designating three (3) categories of pedestrian and bicycle mobility throughout the municipality. The current concept is:

- <u>Bikeways</u>: ability to bike from one end of town to the other
- <u>Walkways</u>: ability to walk from one end of town to the other, using sidewalks and pathways
- <u>Hiking trails</u>: trails that don't necessarily provide a "thru" connection, but are for recreation

Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan

A Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan should be developed to more fully examine opportunities to enhance the existing bicycle and pedestrian network and improve signage and infrastructure to support and increase in safe pedestrian and bicycle transportation options. The Plan could include a bicycle compatibility assessment, sidewalk inventory and assessment, bicycle and pedestrian crash analyses, intersection assessments, and develop mapping of existing and proposed regional bicycle facilities. The plan should focus on specific active transportation improvements and a plan for implementing the improvements.

NJDEP Balanced Land Use Concept

For planning purposes, it can be helpful to compare a municipality's resources with a planning benchmark. The Balanced Land Use Concept (BLUC) is a tool used to determine the minimum amount of open space that a municipality should set aside for recreation purposes. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection endorses this method that a municipality should target a minimum 3% of the developed or developable land to be set aside for recreational use. Land deemed developable is exclusive of slopes greater than 12%, wetlands, federal, state and county owned lands along with other environmentally sensitive land that is not suitable for development.

A variety of data sources were employed and analyzed using the Township's Geographic Information System (GIS). Data sources included the NJDEP 2015 Land Use/Land Cover information, a United States Geological Survey Digital Elevation Model and the Open Space and Recreation Inventory. The results are reported in Table 8.

Table 8. Balanced Land Use Concept

Item	Area in Acres
Developable land in Township [1]	13,498.46
Steep Slopes (greater than 15%) in developable areas [2] (subtract)	455.56
Land within County, State and Municipal Parks (subtract)	10,831.47
Developed land [3] (add)	9,521.33
Total Developed and Developable	12,019.55
3% of Total Developed and Developable	**360.59**

The BLUC indicates that 12,019 acres of developed and developable land remain, being agricultural, forest and barren land categories. Currently 10,831 acres are protected by the State, County and Township. Finally, 455 acres are removed from the calculation due to steep slope constraints.

The BLUC calculation indicates that Montgomery Township should have a minimum of 360 acres of land set aside for recreation purposes, to include both active and passive recreation lands. Currently, the Township owns or leases approximately 2,105 acres not including conservation easements, which could be applied toward this figure. Therefore, the Township exceeds the minimum guidelines set by the State. However, these guidelines only depict a minimum set aside and are not indicative of the Township's goals and objectives.

RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

Recreation Resources

Montgomery Township is home to a variety of private and public recreational facilities for residents and visitors to enjoy. The Township's Parks & Recreation Department manages a

1 NJDEP 2015 Land Use/Land Cover: cumulative sum of agricultural, forest and barren land categories.
2 USGS DEM approximation of slopes greater than 15% not including those located in protected open space.
3 NJDEP 2015 Land Use/Land Cover: urban category

popular recreation program offering a wide range of sports and activities. The Parks & Recreation Department is award-winning, and their mission statement communicates their passion and dedication to the health and welfare of those they serve:

> The Parks & Recreation Department's mission is to respond to the needs of the community we serve and enrich the lives of the residents through well-balanced recreational offerings and lifelong learning. We strive to offer quality recreational and educational programs for personal and professional development, and have a premier system of well-maintained and modern active recreational facilities that meets the needs of our community.

Municipal Recreation Programs

The Montgomery Township Parks & Recreation Department offers a variety of indoor and outdoor programming throughout the year for children and adults in the Township, and cooperates with youth and adult sports leagues. Sports include basketball, baseball/softball, lacrosse, cheerleading, football, wrestling, soccer, volleyball, and track & field. Flag Football, cricket, and lacrosse are especially popular activities in the Township. A large array of academic programs are offered as well such as chess, spelling bee, coding and more.

The Montgomery Parks & Recreation Department has a cooperative agreement with the Somerset County Park Commission's Therapeutic Recreation (TR) Department to provide recreation and leisure opportunities for children and adults who have a developmental disability. By providing a variety of social, cultural, artistic, culinary, sports, fitness, community outings, horticulture, and special events throughout the year, individuals can recreate year-round. Programs are adapted to meet the participants' needs. The TR department also conducts a summer camp for children who have a learning disability or Aspergers Syndrome. The goal of the TR department is to promote an active leisure lifestyle that improves social, physical, cognitive and emotional functioning and health while enhancing each participant's abilities.

A summary of the current recreation programs is listed in Table 9.

Table 9. Recreational Programs in Montgomery

Independent Sports Leagues	Adult Programs	Community Events	Youth Programs
Montgomery Baseball League Montgomery Basketball League Montgomery Flag Football Montgomery Girls Softball League Montgomery Lacrosse Montgomery Wrestling Montgomery Travelers Soccer Club Montgomery Special Olympics	College Planning Move U Yoga Pilates Tennis Sewing **Senior Center Programs** Silver Strength Beginner & Intermediate Ukulele Lessons Forever Young Readers Theatre Club Yoga with Elizabeth Exercise for Arthritis Creative Wellness Move Today Ageless Grace Fitness Program Let Your Yoga Dance	Fireworks Trunk or Treat Tree Lighting Holiday House Decorating Competition Movies in the Park Concerts in the Park Trails Day Spring Fling – Festival of Colors	Marlins Swim Team Rec N Crew Summer Camp Code Ninja Classes Coder School Classes Mad Science Young Rembrandts Drawing Class Chess Class Piano Cooking Class Geography Bee Girls on the Run Speed and Agility Track & Field Tennis Soccer T-Ball

Figure 20: Trails Day at Hobler Park, June 2022 (*photo by Nick Christoff*)

Resource Management and Conservation

The Township retains many valuable natural resources and important habitats that will benefit substantially from continued conservation efforts. The benefits of acquiring open space go far beyond creating additional recreational facilities. Safeguarding open space ensures the viability of fragile ecosystems that support the high environmental quality, and quality of life, that residents associate with living in Montgomery Township. The forests, wetlands, edge habitats, stream corridors and other environmentally sensitive features are interconnected components that create an overall healthy environment. Montgomery Township is host to a variety of environments and habitats that make protection of these areas not just a recreational incentive but also an important step to maintain the future ecological and biological base of the region and the State. The Township prepared an extensive Natural Resource Inventory in 2020, which can be referred to for any additional information on the natural resource base of the Township. The Planning Board adopted the NRI report and voted to append it to the Master Plan in September 2021.

Figure 21: Rock Brook at Zion Crossing (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Forested Areas

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) publication titled, "Protection and Care of Urban Forest" provides a detailed list of the resources that are protected and benefits offered by forested areas which:

- Modify local climatic conditions near and within their boundaries
- Create a feeling of privacy
- Serve as recreational facilities
- Provide habitats for plants and animals
- Reduce surface runoff because of the high moisture holding capacity of the forest soils and tree canopy
- Enhance the visual characteristics of scenic corridors
- Reduce noise pollution
- Produce oxygen

The Township retains large tracts of contiguous areas. While there are no virgin forests, the Township does contain many mature second and third growth deciduous woods. These contiguous areas of forested land provide an interconnected series of woodland habitat that allows for unrestricted movement for many wildlife species. There still remain many larger unprotected tracts of the Township that should be considered for preservation. Larger patches of

forested areas are in the Sourland Mountain region on the west side of the Township and another large section in the southwestern portion of the Township near Princeton.

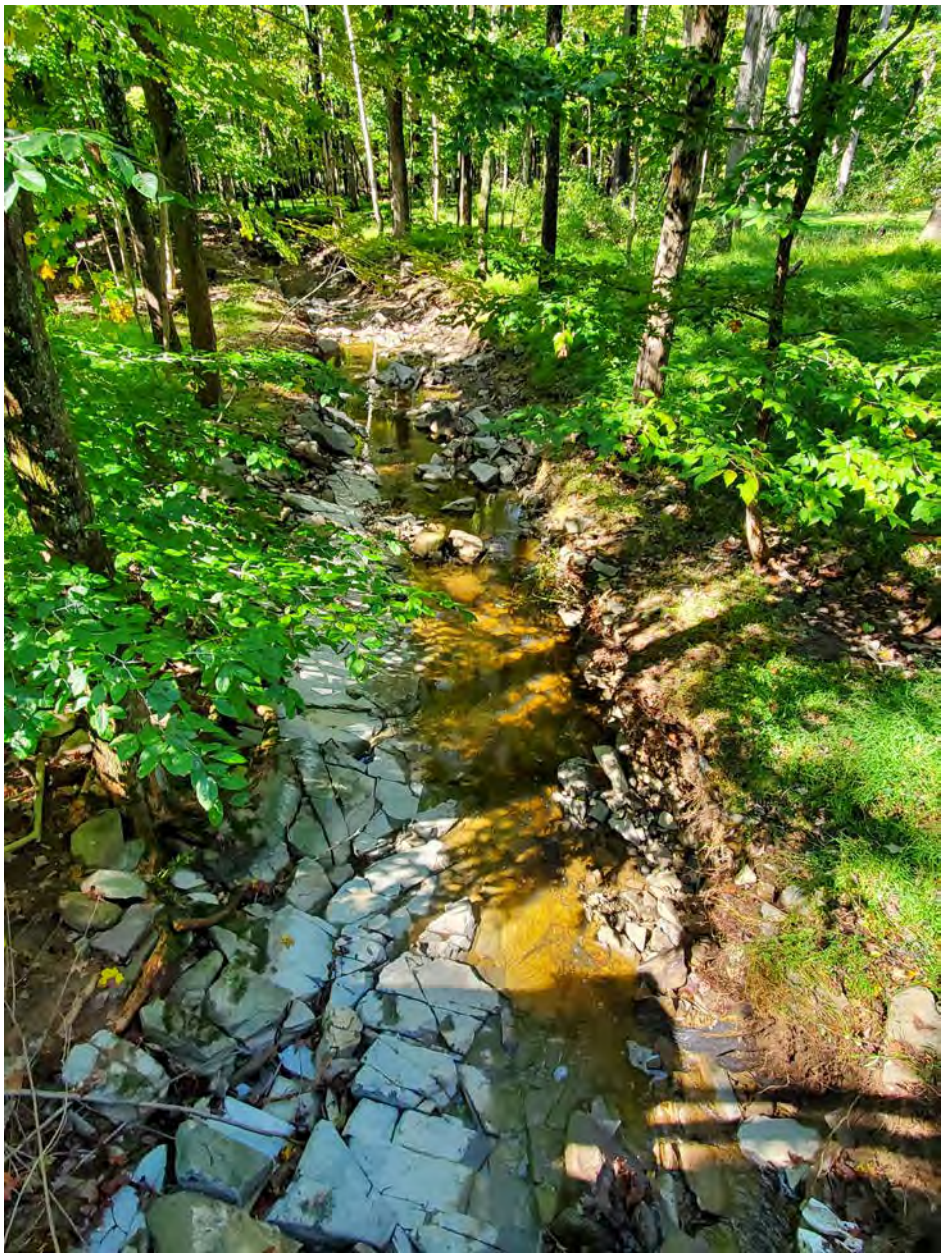


Figure 22: Rock Brook at Rock Mill Preserve (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Deer Management

Montgomery's forests are impacted by an overpopulation of deer. The density of the deer population is described as super-abundant due to the tremendous imbalance between the number of deer and the capacity of the forest to sustain that population. The Township contracted with Steward Green to complete an infrared survey of the entire Township in April 2021. The survey arrived at an overall density of 69 deer/mi^2. The highest density (88 deer/mi^2) was observed on the east side of Route 206, where residential development is most densely concentrated. In the northwest section of the Township (Sourland Mountain region), the lowest density was observed at 51 deer/mi^2, and the southwest section of the Township at 73 deer/mi^2. These densities are

less than the 89 deer/mi^2 that was observed by a 2001 infrared survey. Many factors have contributed to this condition including the absence of predators and the proliferation of suburban landscapes.

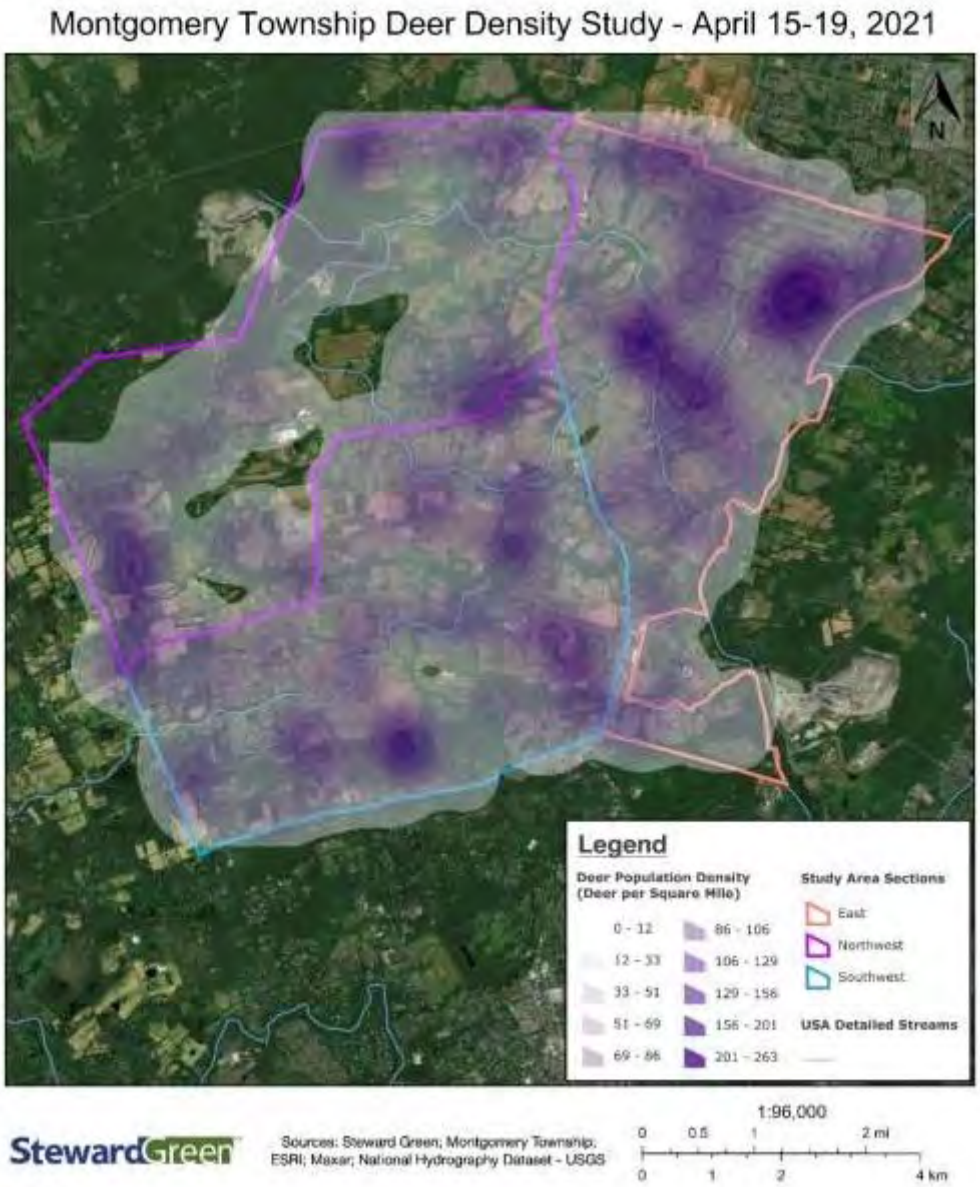


Figure 23: deer density survey of Montgomery Township conducted by Steward Green, April 2021

At the densities present in Montgomery Township, deer cause severe degradation of the forest ecosystem by feeding on or damaging tree seedlings and saplings which prevents forests from naturally regenerating. Plant abundance and diversity decline rapidly. This leads to a cascade of negative impacts. The shrub and herbaceous layers also disappear, leaving a barren woodlot of trees rather than a healthy, functioning forest. This creates the opportunity for invasive plant species, which deer do not eat, to proliferate. The lack of leaves falling to the ground each autumn results in poor quality soils, increased erosion, and a lack of nutrients required for plant growth and reproduction. As deer increase in abundance, browsing pressure reaches a tipping point, where individual plants cannot recover from the damage.

Habitat changes caused by over browsing are also detrimental to native birds, small mammals, and invertebrates. Many birds nest in native vegetation on or close to the forest floor, while others rely on the constant supply of insects within the leaf litter and in vegetation to feed themselves and their young. The absence of nuts and berries in over browsed forests also leads to a decrease in food supply for small mammals and migratory birds, making it difficult for them to survive at critical times during the year. Management of deer populations in the Township's forests is an essential element of sound forestry management.

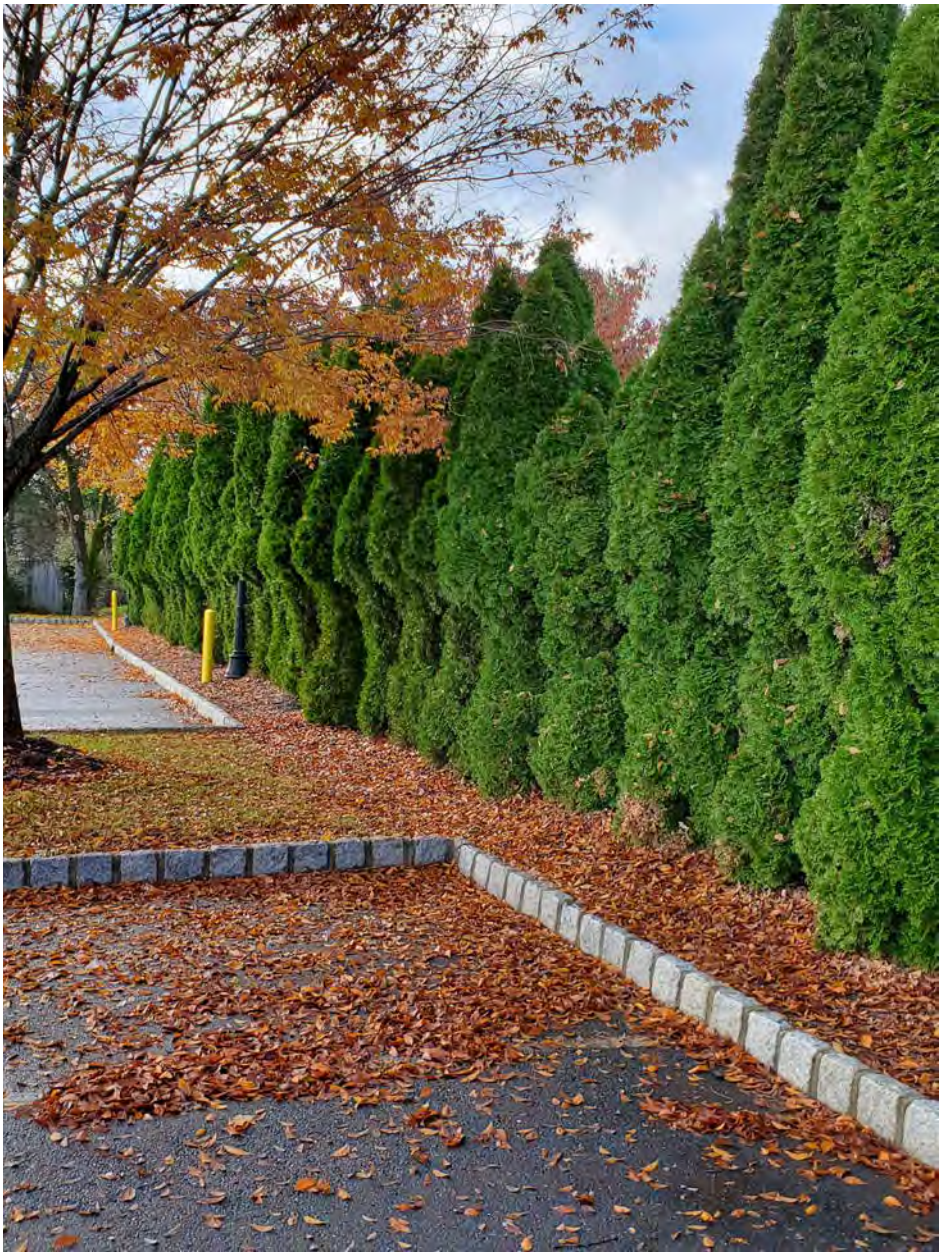


Figure 24: view of deer browse line along landscape buffer (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Measures to control the deer population are limited. The Township has implemented a hunting program on its open space. The number of deer culled annually through this program represents over 35% of the total deer culled Township wide (including private properties). However, the program is limited to access to Township property, representing less than 8% of the overall Township land base. Since 2018, 584.35 acres have been added to the program after a thorough

examination of all Township-owned lands by the Wildlife Committee. Any reforestation projects require installation of deer exclosure fencing. This may be effective on a limited scale, but larger fencing efforts are expensive and difficult to maintain. Other methods such as using repellants or chemical sterilization are likely not practical for Montgomery. The neighboring municipality of Princeton has engaged sharpshooters to help cull the deer. There may be ways to educate and encourage hunting on private property. The Township should continue to work with deer management experts to explore all options.

Figure 25: deer exclosure at Rock Mill Preserve constructed by Eagle Scout Rohan Shah, October 2021 (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Wetlands

The New Jersey DEP places a high priority on the protection of wetlands. Wetlands perform many valuable functions that help to maintain balance throughout surrounding ecosystems.

- Wetlands protect drinking water by filtering out chemicals, pollutants, and sediments.
- Wetlands soak up runoff from heavy rains and snow melts, providing natural flood control. Wetlands release stored flood waters during droughts.
- Wetlands provide critical habitats for a major portion of the State's fish and wildlife, including endangered, commercial and recreational species.

Figure 26: vernal pond at Cherry Brook Preserve (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

The Township's largest areas of wetlands are found along most of the stream corridors with smaller isolated wetlands dispersed throughout the municipality.

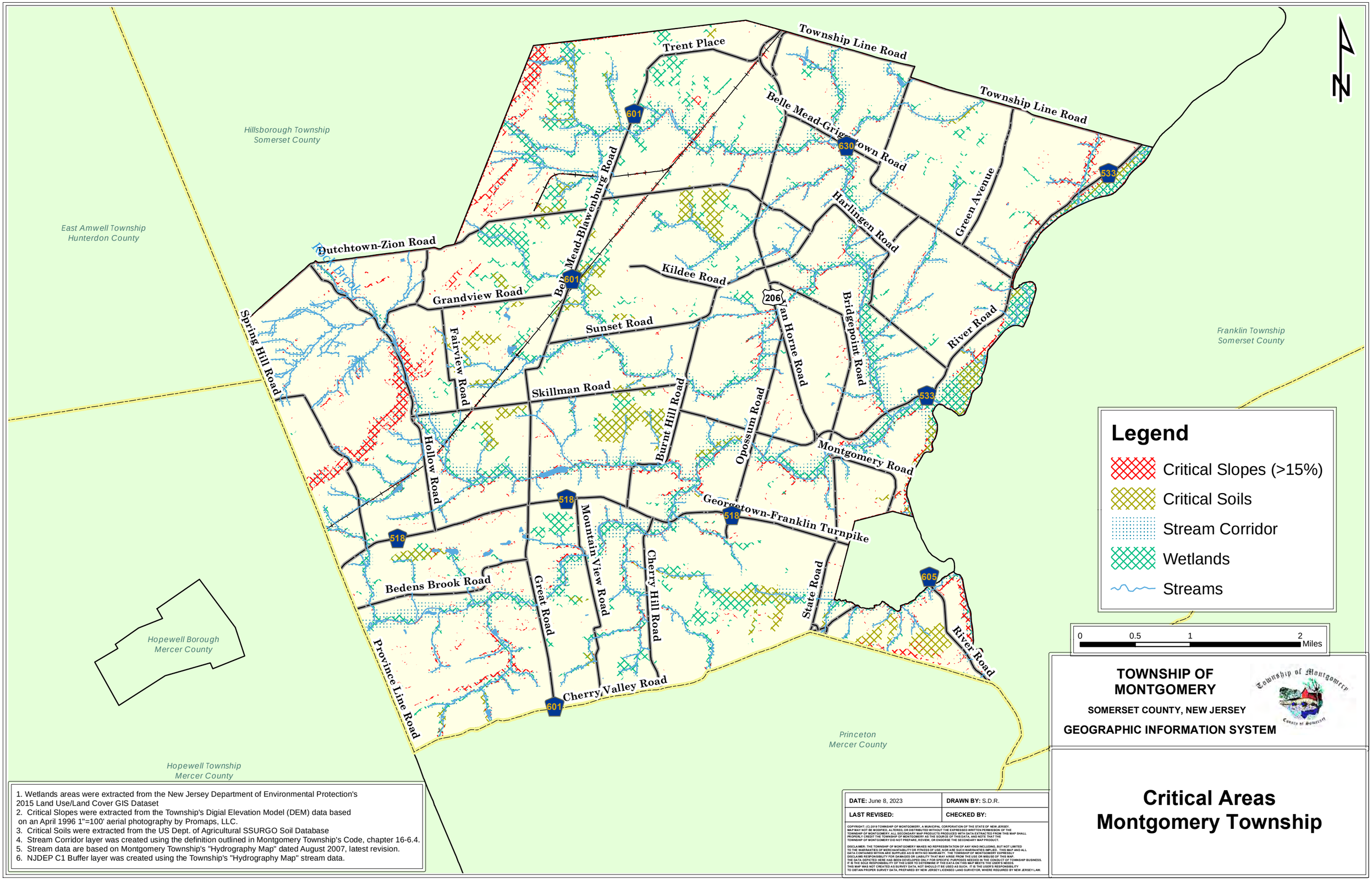
Streams and Stream Corridors

Stream corridors are important features that provide aquatic habitat, semi-aquatic habitat, drinking and bathing water and allow for movement of various species throughout an ecosystem. Stream corridors are vital to the health of streams by protecting the watercourses through erosion control, pollution filtration and providing protected habitat for aquatic and semi-aquatic habitat. Stream corridors in the Township run through a variety of habitats including forests, grasslands and residential areas. There are a number of streams in the Township.

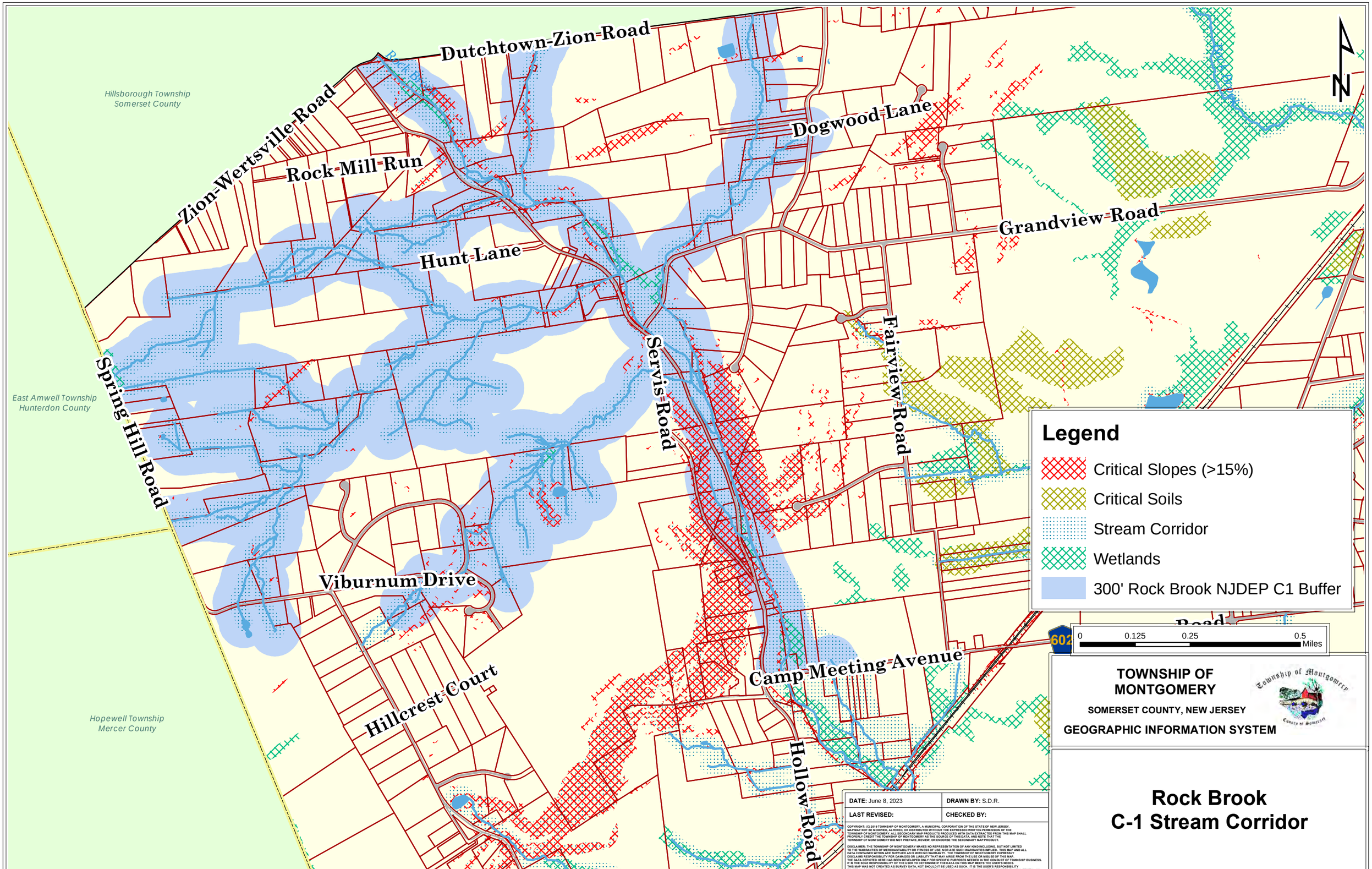
In recent years, the Open Space Committee has targeted the Rock Brook stream corridor for preservation. Rock Brook is Montgomery's highest quality stream (reclassified as Category One in March 2020 from its headwaters in Hillsborough to Camp Meeting Avenue), and flows through the environmentally-sensitive Sourland Mountain region. Several properties along Rock Brook have been purchased or protected through easements by the Township and our funding partners (Green Acres, Montgomery Friends of Open Space, Sourland Conservancy and D&R Greenway).

Figure 27: Rock Brook at Zion Crossing (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

The cultural heritage values of the Rock Brook Stream Corridor flowing down from the Sourlands lie all along as it courses through the sites of historic Zion and Zion Crossing, Bessie Grover Park, Rock Mill, the True family farmstead (now an African-American Heritage Museum) and on to the historic village of Skillman at Camp Meeting Avenue embracing the territory of the infamous railroad disputes – the Frog Wars. The greenway continues through Skillman Park, which was formerly the State Village for Epileptics. The Village was designed as a self-contained and self-sustaining community with impressive brick buildings and a well-designed landscape plan. It was important both for the history of epilepsy treatment and for institutionalized medical care. Inspired by the Bielefeld Epileptic Colony that has been established in Germany in 1869, the New Jersey Village became a model for more progressive institutional care in the United States. Patients performed much of the construction, landscaping, and farming for this self-sustaining community, proving that apart from their tendency to have unpredictable fits and seizures, epileptics could lead productive and meaningful lives.



1. Wetlands areas were extracted from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's 2015 Land Use/Land Cover GIS Dataset
2. Critical Slopes were extracted from the Township's Digial Elevation Model (DEM) data based on an April 1996 1"=100' aerial photography by Promaps, LLC.
3. Critical Soils were extracted from the US Dept. of Agricultural SSURGO Soil Database
4. Stream Corridor layer was created using the definition outlined in Montgomery Township's Code, chapter 16-6.4.
5. Stream data are based on Montgomery Township's "Hydrography Map" dated August 2007, latest revision.
6. NJDEP C1 Buffer layer was created using the Township's "Hydrography Map" stream data.



Rock Brook
C-1 Stream Corridor

Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Rock Brook
Spencer
Pin Oak Road
Rock Mill Preserve
Grandview Road
Zion Crossing
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Back Brook
Kildee Road
Devon Drive
Bridgepoint Road
Mill Pond Road
Sunset Road
Fairview Road
Van Horne Road
Legend
Bedens Brook
Rock Brook
Rock Brook Greenway
OKCC
Skillman Road
Elementary School
Middle School
Upper & Lower Campuses
Camp Meeting Avenue
Spring Hill Road
Burnt Hill Road
Orchard Road
River Road
High School
Bessie Grover Park
Skillman Park
Wismer
Opossum Road
Stonebridge
Montgomery Road
Hollow Road
Rock Brook-Unamed Tributary
Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
Business Park Drive
Van Horne Road
Bedens Brook-Unamed Tributary
Mountain View Road
Cherry Brook
Cherry Hill Road
Great Road
Bedens Brook Road
Bedens Brook
Hopewell Township
Mercer County
0
0.25
0.5
1
Miles
TOWNSHIP OF
MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Township of Montgomery
County of Somerset
DATE: June 8, 2023
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:
CHECKED BY:
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2019 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL
PROMINENTLY INDICATE THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL
DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY
DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP.
THIS MAP IS INTENDED FOR USE AS A GENERAL REFERENCE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY BUSINESS.
IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS.
THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA. NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY
TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.
Rock Brook Greenway

Scenic Corridors & Viewsheds

Montgomery's roots are as a rural, primarily agriculturally-based community. Planning principles over the years have largely preserved that rural character, with development set back from roadways, heavy landscape buffering requirements, and an aggressive open space & farmland preservation program.

Preserving views of significant topographic features, natural, rural and historic landscapes and landmarks is an important goal of the Open Space Plan. As such, the Open Space Committee has designated several roadway segments throughout the Township as "Rural Corridor Viewsheds", making adjoining parcels a target for open space and farmland preservation.

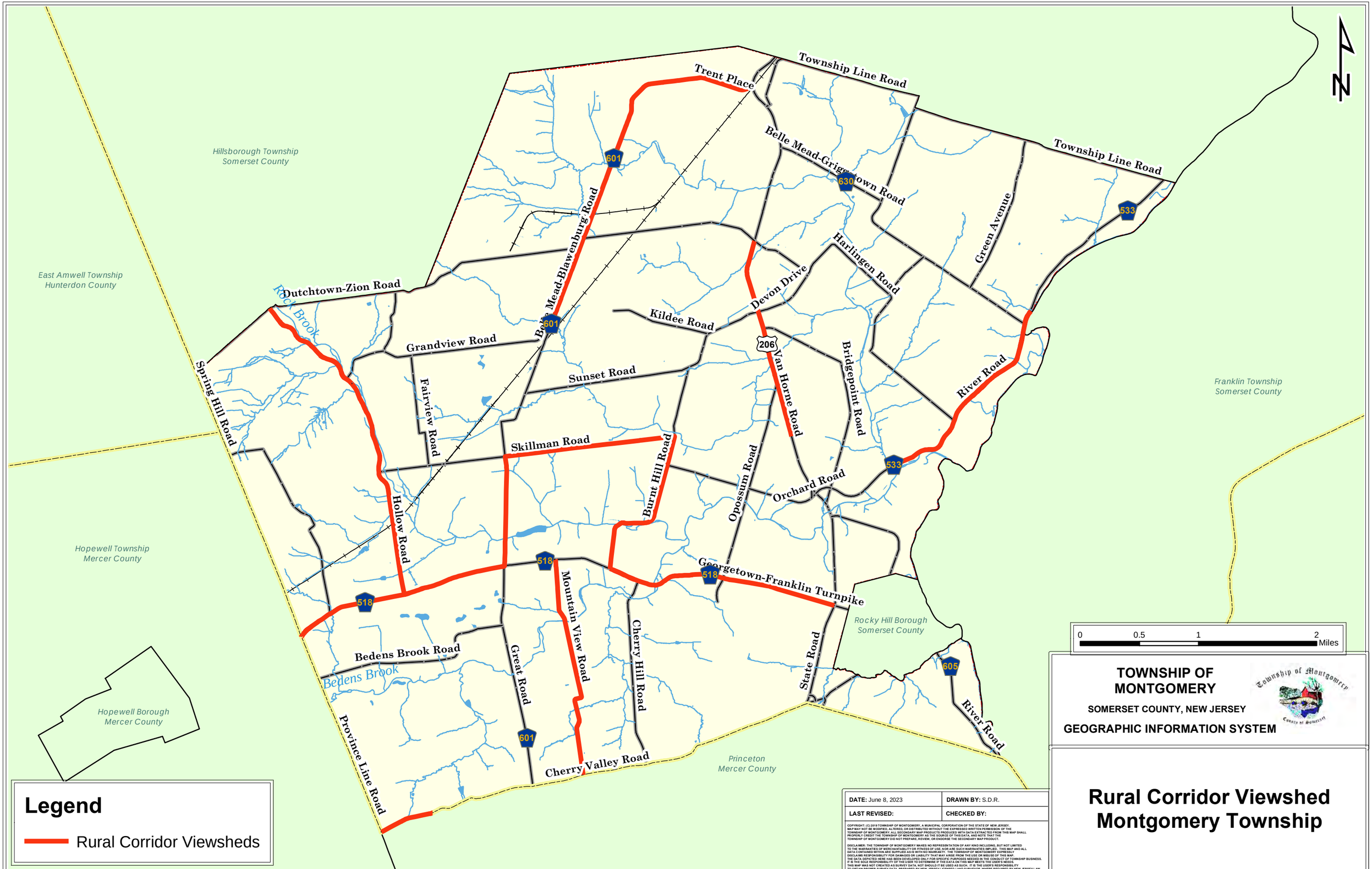
Rural Corridor Viewsheds:

- Route 206 from Dutchtown-Harlingen Road south to the preserved McAlpin farm
- Route 601 from Route 206 south to Grandview Road
- Route 518 from the Hopewell border east to Route 601, and Burnt Hill Road to Route 206
- Hollow Road - entire length
- Skillman Road from Route 601 east to Burnt Hill Road
- Burnt Hill Road from Skillman Road south to Route 518
- Mountainview Road - entire length
- Cherry Valley Road from the Hopewell border east to the preserved Raymond farm
- River Road from the Weingart farm north to the Griggstown Causeway

View to Hobler Park, Green Flash Farm, and Princeton Ridge

Figure 28: viewshed of Route 518 corridor looking east toward Route 601 and Village of Blawenburg (photo by Clem Fiori)

Figure 29: viewshed along Route 518 looking northwest at Township preserved lands near intersection of Spring Hill Road (*photo by Clem Fiori*)



TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY

SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

Rural Corridor Viewshed Montgomery Township

DATE: June 8, 2023	**DRAWN BY:** S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:	**CHECKED BY:**

COPYRIGHT: (C) 2019 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.

DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP.
THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS.
IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS.
THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS A SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

Steep Slopes

Steep slopes are environmentally sensitive features that merit special protection. Forested steep slopes provide protection from many devastating environmental consequences. Loss of cover on slopes can:

- Increase soil erosion and sedimentation
- Decrease surface water quality
- Decrease soil fertility
- Increase overland flow and decrease ground water recharge
- Alter natural drainage patterns

Figure 30: steep slope along Rock Brook at Bessie Grover Park (*photo by Jay Watson*)

Montgomery Township offers a contrasting topography which provides for a variety of viewsheds. While much of the Township has slopes less than 15%, there are areas of slopes that exceed 25%. The steepest slopes occur in the northwestern section of the Township in the Sourland Mountain region.

New Jersey DEP Landscape Project

In order to address habitat loss, NJDEP's Endangered and Non-Game Species Program (ENSP) needed to grasp the extent and suitability of remaining resources in the State. To accomplish this, they partnered with the Center for Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis (CRSSA) at Cook College, Rutgers University. Utilizing Landsat Thematic Mapper satellite imagery, CRSSA mapped land cover for the entire State of New Jersey, broken down into 20 different habitat/land cover types. After generalized cover types were classified, detailed methodologies were developed to address the habitat suitability issues for each focus category, including beach/dunes, emergent wetlands, forested wetlands, forested areas and grasslands.

After reclassifying data based on standards developed for each category, the habitat data was intersected or combined with the Natural Heritage Program's Biological Conservation Database (BCD). This database is a Geographic Information System (GIS) coverage that provides information on the sighting of threatened and endangered species, based on the field-work of ENSP scientists and sightings reported by members of the public. It is the most comprehensive data available in digital form on the location of threatened and endangered species.

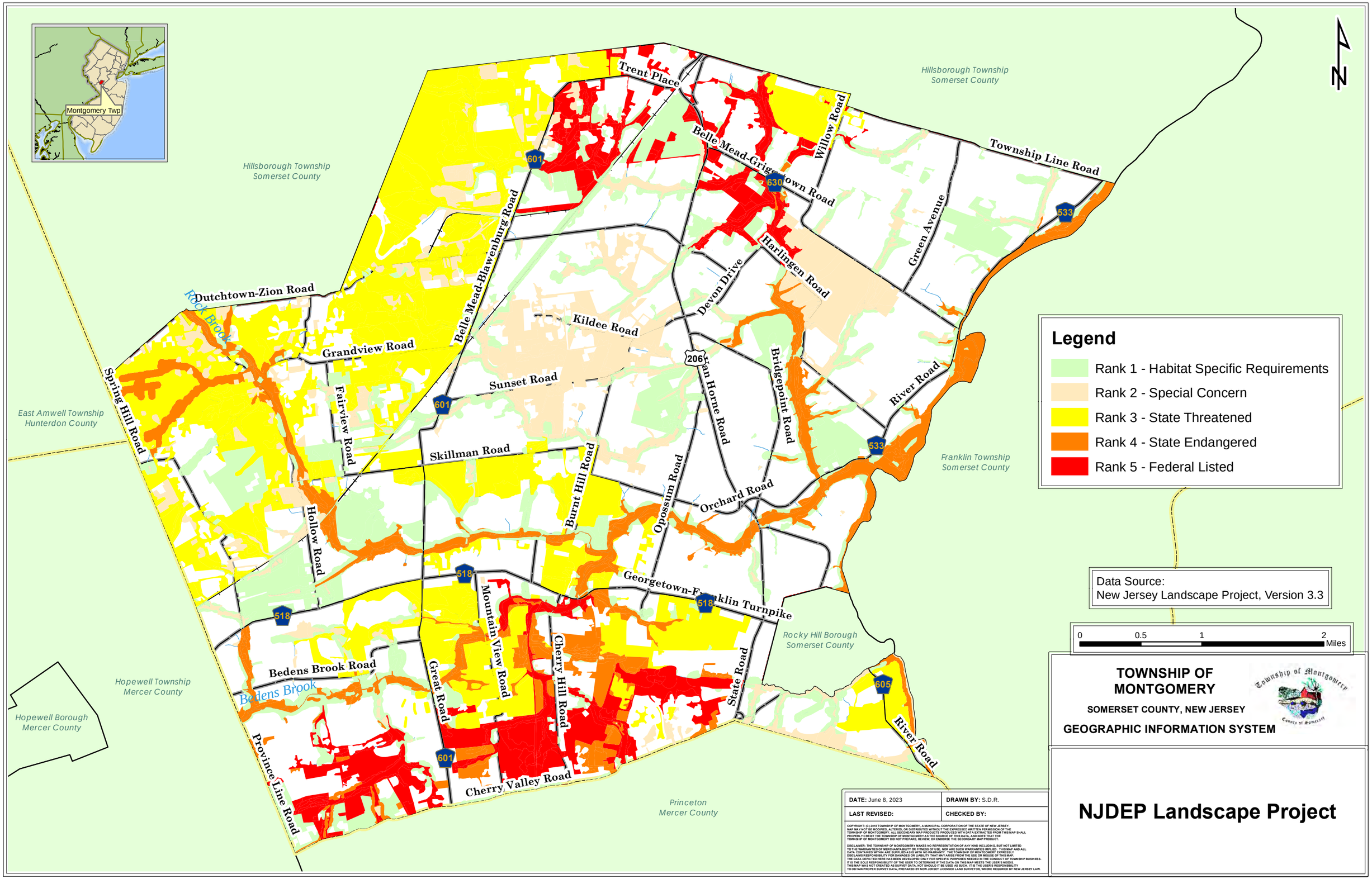
The Landscape Program data was intended to aid municipalities, County and State governments, conservation agencies and citizens in determining the extent of critical habitat within their respective jurisdictions and communities. After identifying critical habitat, a variety of means can be employed to protect it, including the following:

- Prioritizing open space acquisitions based on the presence of habitat for threatened and endangered species
- Adopting regulations aimed at protecting critical habitat
- Adopting management policies for open space that are consistent with protection of critical habitat
- Permitting flexibility in development techniques that can accommodate the protection of critical habitat
- Promoting land stewardship practices that are consistent with the protection of critical habitat

Montgomery Township has chosen to utilize the New Jersey Landscape Project data to further define priorities for preservation, in keeping with the goals and policies of this plan.

NJ Conservation Blueprint

NJ Conservation Blueprint is a data-driven, interactive mapping tool intended to help guide and inform land use and conservation decisions. The Blueprint's science-based prioritization models identify the most critical open space, farmland, and community greenspaces to be preserved (not developed) in New Jersey and match conservation partners that work in the region. It is a partnership of The Nature Conservancy, Rowan University, and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, together with a collective of 21 conservation-focused groups, both governmental and non-profits.


Montgomery Twp
Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
East Amwell Township
Hunterdon County
Hopewell Township
Mercer County
Hopewell Borough
Mercer County
Princeton
Mercer County
Rocky Hill Borough
Somerset County
Franklin Township
Somerset County
Trent Place
Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Willow Road
Township Line Road
Green Avenue
Harlingen Road
Devon Drive
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Rock Brook
Grandview Road
Kildee Road
Sunset Road
Van Horne Road
Bridgepoint Road
River Road
Spring Hill Road
Fairview Road
Skillman Road
Burnt Hill Road
Opossum Road
Orchard Road
Hollow Road
Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
Mountain View Road
Cherry Hill Road
State Road
Bedens Brook Road
Bedens Brook
Great Road
Province Line Road
Cherry Valley Road
River Road
601
630
533
206
518
605
Legend
Rank 1 - Habitat Specific Requirements
Rank 2 - Special Concern
Rank 3 - State Threatened
Rank 4 - State Endangered
Rank 5 - Federal Listed
Data Source:
New Jersey Landscape Project, Version 3.3
0
0.5
1
2
Miles
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Township of Montgomery
County of Somerset
DATE: June 8, 2023
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:
CHECKED BY:
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2018 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF USE, NOR ARE SUCH WARRANTIES IMPLIED. THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY WARRANTY THAT THE DATA WILL BE ERROR FREE OR THAT THE USE OF THE DATA WILL BE ERROR FREE. THE DATA SERVED HEREIN WAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR GENERAL PURPOSES IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS. THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.
NJDEP Landscape Project

RECOMMENDATIONS

During the preparation of this plan, seven (7) items were identified as being necessary to meet the current and projected future open space and recreation demand and provide a higher level of service in Montgomery Township.

1. Explore expansion of the Otto Kaufman Community Center to accommodate a full-size gym and provide additional programming and activity rooms
2. Continue to improve park facilities
3. Repurposing of existing athletic fields to accommodate present day needs
4. Connectivity and visibility of the pathways and sidewalks and support intermodal opportunities
5. Maintain support for open space preservation
6. Expand stewardship efforts of open space
7. Increase awareness of parks and recreational programming

ACTION PLAN

The Plan offers an updated set of strategies and a timetable to implement the goals and recommendations for the Township. The action plan suggests specific tasks that the Township may take in order to implement the goals. The activities listed in the short term are the most urgent and will further the Township's program immediately (0-5 years). The "mid-term" recommendations are focused on longer-term objectives that will serve to accomplish the Township's needs in the next 5-10 years. The "long-term" projects (10 years+) will be achieved as the program continues to mature and as these opportunities arise. "Ongoing" activities are items that will continue throughout the period, with regular review if not continual attention. The action items summary is not a static document, and should be periodically reviewed.

Pathways, Sidewalks and Intermodal

Montgomery Township has prepared an extensive pedestrian and bicycle circulation plan that connects residential neighborhoods with important destinations including retail, jobs, public transit, schools, parks and municipal government services. To date, the Township has 28 miles of trail system, and 155 miles of sidewalks. Over the years, the Township has used Open Space Trust funds, grants from NJDOT, NJDEP and others, and contributions from land developers to develop the system. Filling in those last "gaps" has been the most challenging part of plan implementation.

The primary action items to expand walking and biking on roadways is to fill sidewalk and bicycle facility network gaps, construct new or enhanced crossings, improve sidewalk conditions, introduce accessibility enhancements, slow vehicular speeds, improve access to transit, and make complete streets enhancements.

Pedestrian Connections

Sidewalks

The Open Space Committee and staff from Planning/Zoning, Parks & Recreation and Engineering should continue to work cooperatively to identify opportunities to incorporate Complete Streets principles when road projects are designed, including adding missing sections of sidewalk, upgrading ramps & signage, and creating connections to the existing pathways network.

The Open Space Committee in their role in the development review process should continue to advocate for sidewalks in new residential and nonresidential development (as is required by Township Code Section 16-5.14C) to improve pedestrian circulation in and around the Township.

When the Township needs to retrofit sidewalks, it becomes very expensive. For example, the Township is now adding sidewalks along Orchard Road from Bridgepoint Road (east of the Route 206 intersection) to the new Municipal Complex driveway. The project is currently under construction and slated to cost more than $325,000 in design, permitting and construction for approximately 0.4 miles of new sidewalk. The off-street pathway along Skillman Road and Burnt Hill cost over $785,000 in construction, design and permitting fees for 2 miles of new asphalt pathway, completed in 2021.

Pathways

A summary of the two main pedestrian/bicycle hubs and their status is listed below:

<u>Northeast Hub</u> - *Completed in 2021*
Most recently, the Township completed a 1-mile multi-purpose trail that connects the Pike Run and Country Club Estates Planned Residential Communities with two new retail centers, a new park, the former municipal building, and Montgomery Veterans Park – the most widely utilized municipal park. This project was completed over a 14-year period of time, due in large part to the need to leverage municipal funds with private developer contributions.

<u>Orchard Road Hub</u> – *Underway – Subject of the Round 1 ARP Funding Request*
The Township has planned for pedestrian/bicycle connectivity to the schools and the new municipal complex which includes the municipal government services, new municipal fully accessible playground and a County library. The property was purchased by the Somerset County Improvement Authority and the Township has a lease-purchase agreement.

The Orchard Road Hub project is broken down into three phases:

- **"East Link – Municipal Complex to Bridgepoint Road"**
    - Project Underway
    - Project involves sidewalk & crosswalks; will connect affordable housing development that lacks access to new library and recreational amenities
    - Total estimated project cost $500,000
        - Awarded $379,000 from NJDOT 2021 Local Aid Awarded
        - $0 requested in County ARP funds
        - Remaining costs covered by Montgomery Township

- **"West Link – Connect All Public Schools, Community Center & Senior Center with new County Library, Municipal Building & Accessible Playground"**
    - Project involves off-street trails, sidewalk extensions, easement acquisition, crosswalks
    - Project will direct pedestrian/bicycle access from all Montgomery public schools to the new municipal complex and library
    - Total estimated project cost $1,555,000
        - $550,000 requested in County ARP funds

- **"South Link – Connect Inclusionary Housing Developments with the County Library, Municipal Building & Accessible Playground and the downtown retail area"**
    - Project involves off-street trails, sidewalk extensions, easement acquisition, crosswalks and pedestrian footbridge
    - Total estimated project cost $1,300,000
        - $350,000 requested in County ARP funds

Bike Lanes

As stated above, departments should work cooperatively during design of road projects to identify opportunities to incorporate bike lanes, sharrows and any other bicycle facilities. Similarly, the Township should coordinate with developers and the County and State to add facilities as roadways outside of the Township's jurisdiction are modified, reconstructed, etc.

Pathways, Sidewalks & Intermodal Action Plan

Item	Timeframe
Continue the implementation of the Township's trail plan that includes bike paths and pedestrian trails that link preserved public open space, recreation areas, and community facilities.	ongoing
Identify and update major destinations and missing links	short
Develop maintenance schedule and budget for pathways	short
Maintenance of footbridges and boardwalks at Hobler, Cherry Brook Preserve, etc.	ongoing
Request Somerset County construct a pathway connecting Skillman Road into Skillman Park within the public access area	short
Develop a "bikeways" plan to identify on-street bike lanes that connect from one end of the municipality to the other	mid
Develop a "walkways" plan to identify on-street sidewalks and off-street pathway connections that allow pedestrians to walk from one end of the municipality to the other	mid
Develop additional "hiking trails" that don't necessarily provide a "thru" connection, but are standalone recreational destinations	mid
Complete feasibility study for pedestrian connections to new Municipal Complex from southern neighborhoods	short
Connect surrounding neighborhoods and the schools to the new municipal complex and public library on Orchard Road	mid
Request the State provide a footbridge over the Millstone River to connect Montgomery with the D&R Canal Park towpath	mid
Provide connection to Lawrence Hopewell Trail	mid
Develop implementation schedule and cost estimate for completion of the "Belle Mead loop" pathway system	short
Develop implementation schedule and cost estimate for completion of the "Skillman loop" pathway system	mid
Develop implementation schedule and cost estimate for completion of the "Van Horne loop" pathway system	mid
Work with Engineering to get bike lanes and sidewalks included in all road reconstruction projects	ongoing
Monitor the success of the porous pavement sections at the Skillman Road pathway	short-mid
Given results of the Skillman path porous pavement, evaluate replicability and consider additional locations for use	mid
Repair Dead Tree Run boardwalk	short
Increase communication with Public Works as pathways are constructed and maintenance is required	short
Update the pathways specification in the ordinance	short

Additionally, Montgomery Friends of Open Space reported the following gaps in the pathway network that were high priority:

- Campbell farm to trails on south across River Rd. / D&R Canal State Park / Stonebridge
- Connect Hobler Park to Mayo Tract
- Connect Cherry Brook Preserve to Skillman Park area
- Skillman Park to neighborhood to south
- Bessie Grover Park to Rock Brook Estates
- Broadway fields to Montgomery Chase, under RR
- Montgomery Chase to old Municipal Building Complex
- McAlpin farm to schools
- Redfox Run North to Burnt Hill
- Township School Complex to Opossum
- Skillman Road/Skillman Park to Stonebridge
- Rt 206 to Van Horne Park
- Access to "downtown" Montgomery near 518/206

Otto Kaufman Community Center

The OKCC is undersized and can benefit from an expansion to provide additional, flexible program space and activity rooms, and enlarging to provide a full size gym for year round and multi-group use. A 2017 study by Spiezle Architectural Group estimated upwards of $9 million to accommodate various options and costs related to expansion. Beyond budgetary restrictions, there are constraints on the property including the limitations of the well water, lack of sewer service, age of the building, cost of propane and location of the railroad.

Item	Timeframe
Walking path for Seniors	short
Connect to public water	short
Explore feasibility of expansion or relocation	mid
Expand or relocate community center; Consider relocating the senior center and food pantry which would free up space to reconfigure or expand the community center	long

Park Improvements

Mill Pond Park

Item	Timeframe
Replace playground	mid

Ned Brown Tract

The Township-owned property is adjacent to the Otto Kaufman Community Center and across the street from the high school. It is currently leased to a local farmer. The location makes it ideal to invest in several uses that would enhance the community center and benefit the high school as well.

Item	Timeframe
Install a track around the perimeter	mid
Install an exercise station circuit	mid
Develop an artificial turf field	long
Explore possibility of two cricket fields	short
Install playground	mid
Install pavilion and bathroom facilities	long

New Municipal Complex

Item	Timeframe
Develop multi-phase recreation, open space and pathways plan in concert with overall master plan for the municipal complex	short
Locate, design and cost estimate for accessible playground at the new municipal building site	short
Construct pathways on site, and provide adjacent neighborhood connections	mid
Other uses to consider for multi-phase park plan include pickleball, cricket and a picnic pavilion	Short
Manage field as meadow for grassland birds and pollinators	Ongoing

All Parks

Item	Timeframe
Annual inspection	ongoing
Review facility usage requests	ongoing
Conduct safety inspections of playground equipment	ongoing
Survey the residents	every 5 years
Evaluate future demand for municipal pool	Long
Define goals & objectives for the new Parks & Recreation Department	short
Look for opportunities to demonstrate green stormwater management techniques	short
Look for areas to replace manicured lawn with naturalized meadows	short
Promote methods to reduce impervious cover and nonpoint source pollution of waterways in order to maintain the water quality	short
Establish a stream assessment and stewardship plan to improve water quality and habitat in municipal parks in coordination with The Watershed Institute	Mid
New parks designed sustainably could be submitted for certification by the Sustainable Landscapes Initiative (SITES) program, a sustainability rating system that has sometimes been called "LEED for landscapes."	Long
Consider benefits, location and cost of providing an outdoor amphitheater	Mid

Community Garden

Item	Timeframe
Gauge community interest	Short
Locate site	Mid
Install community garden	Mid

Pocket Parks

Item	Timeframe
Explore opportunities for small "pocket parks" in areas with mixed-use development and redevelopment areas	mid
Invite local artists to provide input into incorporating public art installations and murals into the commercial areas or other appropriate locations	Mid
Refurbish gazebo at Harlingen Green	Mid

Figure 31: gazebo at Harlingen Green, June 2023 (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Outdoor Amphitheater

Item	Timeframe
Gauge community interest	Short
Locate site and establish budget and funding source	Mid
Construction	Long

Outdoor Athletic Fields & Facilities

Item	Timeframe
Irrigate fields and add lights, where possible, to maximize use	mid
Develop one or more synthetic turf fields to be used by all sports at a new or existing park	mid
Develop two or more cricket fields	short
Develop two pickleball courts	short

Athletic Field Repurposing

The repurposing and alteration of existing playing fields to accommodate present day needs is an efficient and cost effective way to address changes in facility demand. Consider preparing an annual report to the Recreation Committee to evaluate prior year facility usage requests and opportunities for repurposing.

Item	Timeframe
Review facility usage requests & independent sports league participation rates	Ongoing
Monitor usage at McKnight Baseball Complex	Ongoing
Monitor usage at Lubas Field (lighted field)	Ongoing
Monitor usage at Broadway cricket field and explore opportunities for second cricket field	Ongoing
Monitor usage at Montgomery Veterans Park fields	Ongoing

Acquisitions

The Township's 10-year capital plan for acquisition of open space provides for the acquisition of more than 25 properties, comprising approximately 1,431 acres, at an estimated cost of almost $31 million.

Item	Timeframe
Maintain acquisition list/map	ongoing
Continue to evaluate acquisitions based on criteria	ongoing
Continue to seek funding partners and grant opportunities for land acquisition.	ongoing
Prepare and update 10-year capital plan	annually
Create viewshed protection plan and identify key properties to preserve views of significant topographic features, natural, rural and historic landscapes and landmarks	short
Encourage landowners to seek counseling from financial professionals on the potential benefits of donation, bargain sales and timed payments. This will help the Township to further stretch its Open Space Trust Fund dollars to be able to protect additional lands.	ongoing
Communicate with Public Works and Parks & Recreation Department staff as properties are acquired.	ongoing
Work with Somerset County to acquire the State-owned property known as the "Skillman Dairy Farm" which is critical for Somerset County Park Commission staging of maintenance at Skillman Park, and also an important pathway connection between Skillman Park and a large population center of Tapestry/Hillside/etc. and the Van Horne Loop trail system. This property also has potential for future athletic fields and facilities such as cricket fields and pickleball courts, in the event that repurposing of existing fields is not an option.	short
Continue to review development applications and request pathways, conservation easements or deed restricted areas on sensitive critical areas, mature hedgerows and other features.	ongoing
Suggest innovative practices, such as the Township's Conservation Design Subdivision optional development alternative which permits development to be clustered on parcels greater than 25 acres in size in the R-5 or MR (Mountain Residential) zoning districts with the remainder of the property to be preserved as open space (Twp Code Section 16-6.5g).	short

Stewardship of Open Space

Management of Township-owned facilities and areas should be assessed for optimum benefit to users and habitat maintenance. Additionally, there is also a need to set forth policy for the continuing maintenance of open space areas. For example, an open field purchased for preservation should be maintained by the Township to allow for continued grassland habitat and not be allowed to go fallow. Finally, monitoring of privately held conservation easements should be instituted in order to assess if the easements are properly managed. These steps will help to ensure proper long-term care of the Township's open space and recreation areas.

All Open Space Preserves

Item	Timeframe
Assess existing conditions, identify access and maintenance needs	Short-mid
Create stewardship & maintenance plans for passive recreation open space properties	mid
Improve maintenance of facilities though interdepartmental coordination and development of a maintenance schedule, hiring of private contractors and volunteers.	short
Management of invasive species through a variety of techniques including repeated mowing, manual removal, chemical treatment with concentrated glyphosate, and planting native species to crowd/shade the invasive plants. The Township needs to continue to monitor properties for emerging invasive species, and stay up-to-date on new invasives.	ongoing
Continue native planting projects at Hobler Park, Stonebridge, Cherry Brook Preserve, in the Sourlands and along the Rock Brook stream corridor.	short
Recruit Pathway Volunteers (residents adopt a pathway to periodically inspect and perform light maintenance) and establish recognition of their efforts.	short
Consult with Wildlife Committee on Township White Tailed Deer Management program, including status of hunting on existing open space properties, and suitability of hunting for new acquisitions.	ongoing
Apply to the Stewardship Grant program through Green Acres for natural resource and conservation projects.	short
Establish a stream assessment and stewardship plan to improve water quality and habitat in open space preserves.	mid
Develop opportunities to partner with the Health Department and Greater Somerset Public Health.	short

Stonebridge Preserve

Item	Timeframe
Identify areas that would be suitable for reforestation, supplementing existing plantings, managing meadows, etc.	short
Assess condition of plantings and deer exclosures at Stonebridge.	short
Continue to delay mowing in certain areas of the property to provide habitat for nesting birds.	ongoing
Restore open space that may have debris or degradation.	ongoing
Invasive species management	ongoing
Monitor previous reforestation / edge plantings	mid
Establish a pollinator meadow	long
Provide an outdoor learning lab	mid
Establish geocaching	short

Hobler Park

Item	Timeframe
Identify areas that would be suitable for reforestation, supplementing existing plantings, managing meadows, etc.	ongoing
Enlist volunteers to help maintain birdhouses at Hobler Park	short
Restore open space that may have debris or degradation	short
Invasive species management (callery pear, russian olive, mugwort)	ongoing
Improve restroom facility (e.g. composting toilet)	short
Continue to add sculpture and art installations	ongoing

Figure 32: Kate Graves' sculpture installation at Hobler Park (*photo by Clem Fiori*)

Zion Crossing

Item	Timeframe
Invasive Species Management (e.g. English ivy)	ongoing
Restore open space that may have debris or degradation	short
Improve road frontage and views into property	short
Add small gravel parking area on Dutchtown-Zion Road side	mid

Figure 33: English ivy at Zion Crossing (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Cherry Brook Preserve

Item	Timeframe
Assess current survival rate of the 1,000 saplings at the Cherry Brook Preserve that were planted nearly 15 years ago within a 25-acre reforestation of a former agricultural field and whether there is a need for any additional plantings or maintenance	short
Identify area(s) that would be suitable for reforestation, supplementing existing plantings, managing meadows, etc.	ongoing
Restore open space that may have debris or degradation	ongoing
Continue invasive species management including Ailanthus & Russian olive in reforestation area, bamboo on Cherry Hill Rd	ongoing
Tree plantings to supplement reforestation area	Short-mid
Improve public access from south end on Cherry Hill Road and Woodsedge/Yorkshire Woods neighborhoods and across Cherry Valley Road	mid
Examine wet areas and possible need for more boardwalks and maintenance of existing boardwalks	long
Assess feasibility of restoration of the pond	long
Interactive displays along trails like Arboretum Tree Slice working with Share Tree Committee and science experiment displays at the Cherry Brook Preserve (incorporating STEM into open space preserves)	Short
Incorporate geocaching	mid

Figure 34: Ailanthus trees along pathway at Cherry Brook Preserve (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Rock Mill Preserve

Item	Timeframe
Identify areas that would be suitable for reforestation, supplementing existing plantings, managing meadows, etc.	ongoing
Restore open space that may have debris or degradation	ongoing
Determine management plan for cleared area as meadow or reforest	short
Utilize existing well for water source (water fountain or pump)	mid
Add restroom facility (e.g. composting toilet)	long
Add benches along stream	short
Add geocaching	short

Rock Brook Greenway

The 2001 Master Plan Reexamination Report expanded the original conservation plan to include larger, regionally-significant "greenways" to include forested areas, scenic viewsheds and vistas, recreational resources, and environmentally sensitive lands. The Rock Brook Greenway was one of the areas identified to concentrate preservation efforts. The Rock Brook has been designated a Category One (C-1) stream by the NJ DEP.

Item	Timeframe
Continue to explore partnerships with SSAAM and Sourland Conservancy to further mutual goals surrounding historic and environmental education and preservation	ongoing
Protect the contiguous forest to decrease fragmentation	ongoing
Expand public access to the trout stocked Rock Brook	ongoing
Protection of the stream corridor to decrease negative impacts of erosion, and provide areas for flood attenuation and groundwater recharge	ongoing
Continue reforestation/restoration efforts along Rock Brook	ongoing

Increase Awareness & Access

Item	Timeframe
Continue adding and updating park identification signs, interpretive signs and displays	ongoing
Increase content on the Township website	short
Expand use of social media platforms to promote parks and recreation programs and capture a diverse demographic of community members	short
Continue to make open space easy to identify by standardizing entrances with parking, signage, kiosks, fencing and plantings as appropriate	Short-mid
Seek grant opportunities to publish printed sets of pathway maps, develop smartphone app and/or mobile-optimized webpage	short
Continue to host guided walks and volunteer work days, as well as support Scout projects and other public service projects, which allows residents to become familiar with the landscape and foster a sense of community involvement and ownership	ongoing
Improve the streetscape so the properties are attractive to the public. Downed trees, vines, old "No Trespassing" signs should be removed.	ongoing
Publicity of trails with ribbon cuttings, special events, signage	ongoing
Host events on the pathways, and work with local non-profits to host events.	ongoing
Host seasonal community events	ongoing
Celebrate open space acquisitions with press release or community event	ongoing

Figure 35: Cherry Brook Preserve parking area along Cherry Hill Road (*photo by Lauren Wasilauski*)

Partnerships

Item	Timeframe
Maintain dialogue with Board of Education regarding sharing facilities and partnering on new facilities	ongoing
Maintain dialogue with the independent sports leagues	ongoing
Continue to advise Somerset County on improvements to Skillman Park, such as adding Bike Share facility	ongoing
Explore Cub/Boy/Girl Scout use at Cherry Brook Preserve	mid
Collaboration with other entities including the State, County and nonprofit land trust organizations such as D&R Greenway, Montgomery Friends of Open Space and NJ Conservation Foundation can provide additional opportunities for open space acquisition	ongoing
Remain eligible for Green Acres Planning Incentive funding	short
Explore partnerships with the Montgomery Health Department and Somerset County	ongoing
Create greenway plans to further connect adjacent municipalities through interconnecting trail systems	mid
Develop and foster relationships with adjacent municipalities with possibility for shared services, facilities and/or equipment	short

Figure 36: Trails Day 2018 – a partnership of the Health Department, Police Department, Recreation Department and Open Space Committee (*photo by Clem Fiori*)

Potential Acquisitions/Conservation Easements

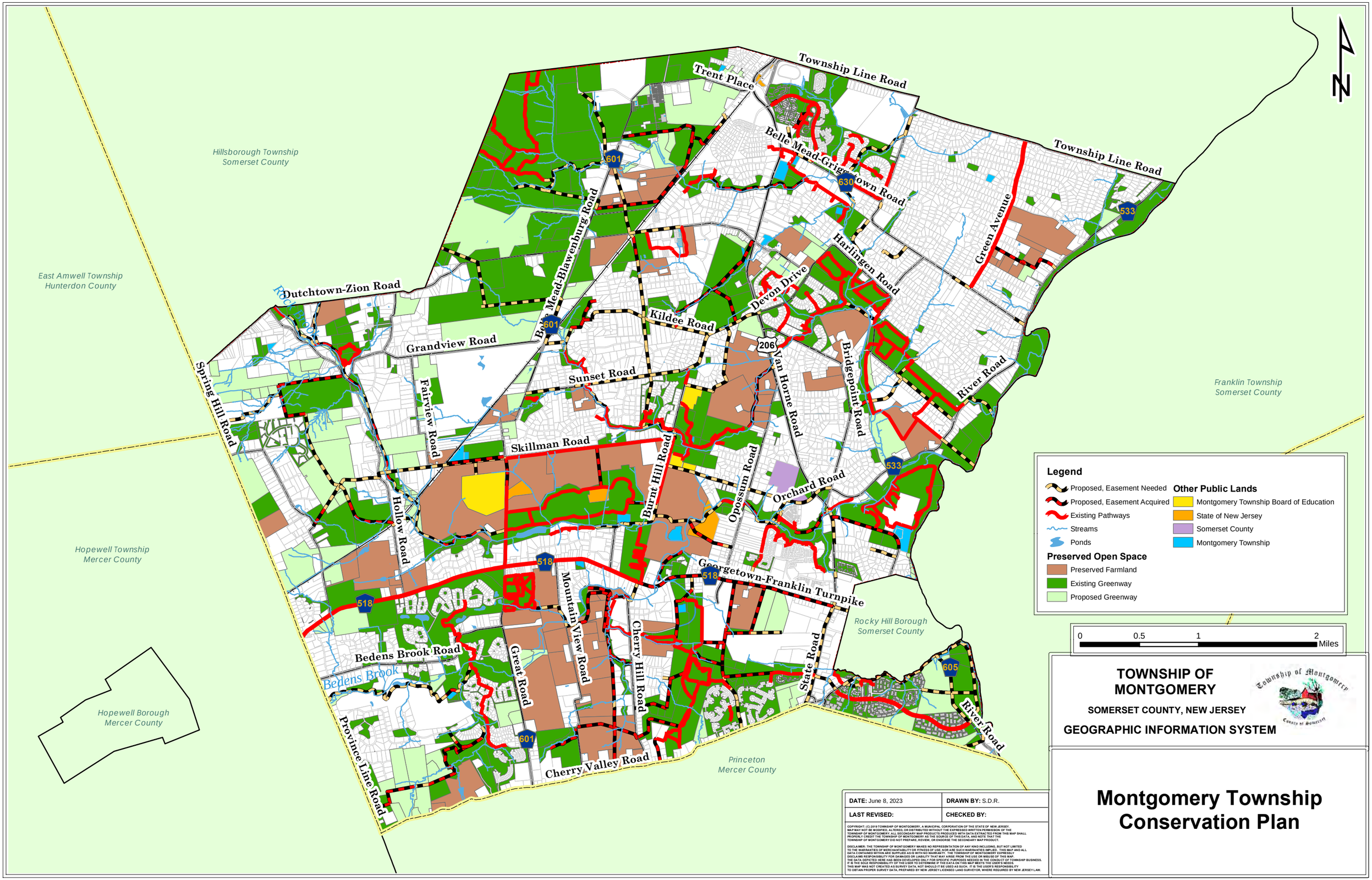
The "greenway" concept that has driven the Township open space planning in the past remains a sound foundation for future acquisition efforts. There are key connecting parcels that link existing preserved land that should continue to be targeted for purchase. These parcels become more important as the Township pursues the creation of a comprehensive trails network connecting state, local and private preserved lands with the neighborhoods and the planned town center. This cohesive network of trails is achievable with the purchase of a limited number of tracts. They are smaller parcels and, in many cases, may only need the purchase of a trail easement or corridor necessary to make the connections.

Parcels that connect existing or proposed open space or expand existing or proposed greenways/linkages are valuable additions to the overall open space system in the Township. A linear or contiguous system of open space that provides access for the greater population and preserves uninterrupted habitat, is a stated goal and important to protect.

The Open Space Committee has identified parcels that are important to meeting the Township-wide goal of protecting environmentally sensitive resources and the needs of Township residents. While these parcels have been deemed important for potential acquisition, it should be noted that as parcels become available or goals change, so the plan and future acquisitions should also be flexible to meet needs at that time. Table 10 lists some of the larger candidate sites identified for preservation. The Open Space Committee uses a set of guidelines in evaluating proposed land dedications or purchases of land and has been included as Addendum I. These lands can be acquired or protected through a variety of means.

Table 10. Recommendations for Open Space Acquisitions

Block/Lot	Location	Acreage	Block/Lot	Location	Acreage
3006/14 & 18 3007/14.01	Ludlow Avenue	10.66	14001/1	Grandview Road	20.4
4001/8 &8.01	Broadway	32	16012/13	Route 601	9.3
4002/1	Route 601	4.74	20001/10.05	Orchard Road	11.5
4001/28	Route 601	103.51	22001/20.01	River Road	52
5001/2 & 3	Township Line Road	155	24001/26	Spring Hill Road	56.87
6001/43	Harlingen Road	10.8	25001/27 27001/7.01	Route 601 and Burnt Hill Road	400
11001/57	Spring Hill Road	21.1	30001/9	Route 518	40.21
11002/38	Rock Mill Run	8.5	31010/10,12,13	Cherry Valley Road	70.02
11001/46	Hillcrest Court	115	31010/15	Cherry Valley Road	18.8
11001/35	Servis Road	8.75	31007/30.01, 30.02	Great Road	25.68
12001/15	Fairview Road	33.55	34001/44,46	Route 518	57.4
12001/20	Camp Meeting Ave	19.6	37002/2	River Road	15.01
13001/1	Pin Oak Road	17			
13001/15	Grandview Road	125.71			


Hillsborough Township
Somerset County
East Amwell Township
Hunterdon County
Hopewell Township
Mercer County
Hopewell Borough
Mercer County
Franklin Township
Somerset County
Rocky Hill Borough
Somerset County
Princeton
Mercer County
Township Line Road
Trent Place
Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
Harlingen Road
Green Avenue
Devon Drive
Dutchtown-Zion Road
Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road
Kildee Road
Grandview Road
Sunset Road
Van Horne Road
Bridgepoint Road
River Road
Spring Hill Road
Fairview Road
Skillman Road
Burnt Hill Road
Opossum Road
Orchard Road
Hollow Road
Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
Mountain View Road
Cherry Hill Road
Bedens Brook Road
Bedens Brook
Great Road
State Road
Province Line Road
Cherry Valley Road
601
630
533
206
518
605
Legend
Proposed, Easement Needed
Proposed, Easement Acquired
Existing Pathways
Streams
Ponds
Preserved Open Space
Preserved Farmland
Existing Greenway
Proposed Greenway
Other Public Lands
Montgomery Township Board of Education
State of New Jersey
Somerset County
Montgomery Township
0
0.5
1
2
Miles
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
Township of Montgomery
County of Somerset
Montgomery Township Conservation Plan
DATE: June 8, 2023
DRAWN BY: S.D.R.
LAST REVISED:
CHECKED BY:
COPYRIGHT: (C) 2015 TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
MAP MAY NOT BE MODIFIED, ALTERED, OR DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT THE EXPRESSED WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY. ALL SECONDARY MAP PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITH DATA EXTRACTED FROM THIS MAP SHALL PROPERLY CREDIT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AS THE SOURCE OF THIS DATA, AND NOTE THAT THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY DID NOT PREPARE, REVIEW, OR ENDORSE THE SECONDARY MAP PRODUCT.
DISCLAIMER: THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE WARRANTIES OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR USE OR MERCHANTABILITY, WITH RESPECT TO THE DATA OF THIS MAP AND ALL DATA CONTAINED WITHIN ARE SUPPLIED AS IS WITH NO WARRANTY. THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS MAP.
THE DATA DEPICTED HERE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED ONLY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES NEEDED IN THE CONDUCT OF TOWNSHIP BUSINESS. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER TO DETERMINE IF THE DATA ON THIS MAP MEETS THE USER'S NEEDS.
THIS MAP WAS NOT CREATED AS SURVEY DATA, NOT SHOULD IT BE USED AS SUCH. IT IS THE USER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN PROPER SURVEY DATA, PREPARED BY NEW JERSEY LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR, WHERE REQUIRED BY NEW JERSEY LAW.

Implementation Approaches and Resources

A coordinated open space and recreation effort should integrate environmental protection strategies as core elements of the preservation effort. The Township will utilize this approach, as outlined in this plan. The programs and approaches outlined below represent a menu of implementation strategies which the Township will research in order to determine their merit and application in Montgomery's continued efforts.

Open Space Tax

These revenues can be used to fund the acquisition of land for open space preservation and recreational purposes. The Open Space Tax generated approximately $1,600,564.17 in 2022. The Montgomery Township Open Space & Stewardship Director annually prepares a 10-year capital plan on spending of the Open Space Trust Fund.

Somerset County Open Space Program

The Township partners with Somerset County on open space acquisitions that abut County roadways and are adjacent to County parks or other County preserved lands. The Township will request funding on a property specific basis.

Somerset County Recreation Grant

Any Municipality or other public entity could make a request to the Open Space Advisory Committee for a recreational grant in the form of a letter and may make a presentation to the Committee. All requests need to be in writing and should contain at a minimum a description of the project, timeline, cost estimate and list of all approvals needed. The request is to be considered by the Open Space Advisory Committee and a recommendation is to be made to the Board of County Commissioners.

Eligible projects include development of recreational facilities including, but not limited to, athletic fields (synthetic and natural turf), playgrounds, gardens or nature areas, trails, picnic areas and shelters, parking and buildings ancillary to the recreation and conservation use. Maintenance of existing facilities is not considered an eligible project. Demolition projects are eligible only as part of a recreational development project or for structures located in flood prone areas that do not meet the criteria of the Somerset County Flood Mitigation Funding Program.

Eligible project costs include design, permitting, construction and other associated costs deemed appropriate by the Board of Commissioners. Municipal staff salaries are not considered to be eligible costs. The proposed recreational improvement must relate, in some way, to a local public open space plan or meet a municipal or regional recreational need. Projects that encourage economic development are strongly encouraged and the benefits should be highlighted.

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program

In 1999 the State Legislature passed the Garden State Preservation Trust Fund, securing funding for a state-wide open space plan for New Jersey. In order to provide support to local governments who have adopted an open space tax and prepared an Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), the Green Acres Program developed the Planning Incentive Grant (PIG). This program provides 50% matching grants to local governments for the acquisition of land for recreation and conservation purposes. To be eligible for funding, local governments must have a Green Acres approved OSRP, and either an open space tax, or an approved alternative funding source which is stable and sufficient, such as an annual tax levy. The Township has an active program that is funded by a Green Acres PIG grant. The Open Space Committee continues to solicit landowners in an effort to identify properties that could potentially be preserved.

- State direct acquisition program
- Local government acquisition grant
- Nonprofit acquisition grant
- Local government stewardship grants for natural resource and conservation project
- Nonprofit stewardship grants for natural resource and conservation project
- Local governments seeking to make improvements to recreation facilities (such as ballfields) may apply for Green Acres park development funding under the Local Assistance Program

Recreational Trails Program

NJDEP provides financial assistance for developing and maintaining trails and trail facilities for non-motorized, motorized and multi-use purposes. The maximum grant award is $25,000. Projects are funded on an 80% federal share and 20% matching share basis.

Montgomery Recreation Dedicated Trust

Facility fees collected can fund improvements at Township parks.

Montgomery Education Foundation

Montgomery Education Foundation funded the high school football field and track and stadium.

Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC)

ANJEC provides a $1,500 grant to environmental commissions for open space stewardship projects.

US Fish & Wildlife Habitat Restoration Program

U.S. Fish and Wildlife provides technical assistance to private landowners, non-profit organizations, as well as local, state, and federal agencies. The habitat restoration program is able to deliver turnkey services, including habitat evaluation, surveying, engineering design, hydraulic analysis, contracting, project implementation, and monitoring.

New Jersey Department of Transportation

The NJDOT has several grant programs that fund sidewalks and recreational trails including:

- NJDOT Bikeways
- NJDOT Municipal Aid
- NJDOT Safe Routes to Schools
- NJDOT Transportation Alternatives Program
- NJDOT Transportation Enhancement

Sustainable Jersey

- Sustainable Jersey grant funded by the PSE&G Foundation in the amounts of $20,000 and $10,000 grants towards certification projects.

ADDENDUM I

The Open Space Committee developed ranking criteria, which is updated from time to time, listed below.

TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATING
PROPOSED OPEN SPACE DEDICATIONS OR LANDS OFFERED
FOR TOWNSHIP PURCHASE
Rev. 12/5/2022

This list of general criteria represents a working set of guidelines for the Open Space Committee in evaluating proposed land dedications or purchases of land. The Open Space Committee will reference this list, as well as the attached Farmland Preservation criteria from the Township Master Plan, in making recommendations to the Township Committee.

1) What is the relationship of the property proposed for dedication or acquisition to already existing preserved or planned open space? Could the property be a link in our Pathways or Greenbelt plan? Conversely, is the property in an "underserved" area of the Township with no proximal preserved open space?

2) Does the property have potential for active or passive recreation? Does it lie in a district where there are projected recreational needs?

3) Does the property afford a unique scenic vista or have other special natural resources or environmental features that could only be preserved by municipal stewardship via either conservation easement, conservation deed restriction, or direct acquisition?

4) Does the land have development potential? Could this benefit the Township or be a negative factor? What "ultimate benefit" would the Township realize by owning the land?

5) Is the land a bargain? Will tax revenues lost, along with maintenance and possible improvement expenses, be worth the long-term benefit? If the land is being offered for purchase, is it a bargain?

6) Does the land provide a valuable buffer to either scenic, natural resource, historic, recreational, residential, or existing or proposed conservation areas? Even though it may be a tract with some development potential, does it provide a valuable buffer that would serve as such only if maintained as undeveloped open space?

7) Is it a tract where good faith attempts are being made for preservation; where the landowners have expressed a strong desire for preservation, and where we have had ongoing negotiations?

8) Will preservation of the land protect environmentally sensitive features such as streams, wetlands, critical soils, steep slopes, contiguous forest network etc., or help maintain the viability of agriculture in our community?

9) Does the property provide an opportunity to protect or improve water quality? This could be achieved by preventing clearing or development near a stream, and identifying opportunities for stewardship to restore streambanks through naturalization and plantings. Will preservation of the property provide space for groundwater recharge, flood prevention and protection?

10) Does the property provide unique wildlife habitat, or for a diversity of wildlife habitat in an area of monoculture? For example, the opportunity to protect a mature woodland area in a region characterized by development or agriculture. Are there opportunities to create or restore habitat such as reforesting stream corridors?

These criteria, as working guidelines, will evolve over time. They are not intended to represent the only basis on which proposed dedications or acquisitions will be considered. Indeed, the Township Committee may choose to accept or reject dedications or buy land based on considerations wholly outside the criteria represented here.

ADDENDUM II

DESCRIPTION OF INVENTORY OF EXISTING OPEN SPACE LANDS

(Updated Through February 2, 2023)

I. PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

"Public Open Space" means an open space area conveyed or otherwise dedicated to a municipality, municipal agency, board of education, State or county agency, or other public body for recreational or conservational uses.

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP	3007	10	4.2997	Conservation
	3007	11	1.58	Conservation
	4001	28.04	23.59	Ballfields
	4001	44	22.66	Open Space/Conservation
	4002	2-9, 13, 18-45	13.501	Open Space & Recreation
	4003	1-9, 13-29, 32-33		
	4004	1-12, 14-32		
	4005	1-16, 23-24, 27-32		
	4006	1-3, 7-32		
	4007	1-10		
	4002	46	0.26	Vacant
	4002	47	0.24	Vacant
	4007	11	0.264	Vacant
	4007	12	18.74	Lubas Field
	4008	13	6.18	Vacant
	4008	32	0.20	Vacant
	4009	14	10.77	Vacant
	4010	1 & 2	0.46	Vacant

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP	4010	3	8.12	Vacant
	4010	5	1.13	Vacant
	4011	1	12.10	Vacant
	4012	1	27.29	Broadway Fields
	4065	16	17.55	Conservation
	5001	24	14.77	Open Space
	6001	12 & 16 (Portion)	21.63	Open Space At Municipal Complex
	6001	24	15.5	Open Space
	6001	26.07	5.96	Passive Recreation
	6001	27.16	2.31	Detention Basin
	6007	5	1.11	Detention Basin
	6009	6	4.46	Detention Basin
	7004	22	2.7	Detention Basin
	7007	40	2.15	Detention Basin
	7019	63	3.39	Vacant
	7021	31	2.08	Detention Basin
	7021	38	2.60	Detention Basin
	7033	7	4.23	Detention Basin
	8001	38	1.89	Detention Basin
	8005	9	2.54	Vacant
	10001	1,1.01,2,3&4	7.032	Vacant

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP	10001	7	3.896	Vacant
	10001	7.01	5.932	Vacant
	10001	8	5.013	Vacant
	10001	20	9.994	Open Space
	11001	33.13	1.94	Detention Basin
	11001	55	61.964	Open Space
	11001	56	62.80	Open Space/Agriculture
	11001	61	45.26	Open Space/Agriculture
	11002	40	2.38	Vacant
	12001	10.11	2.72	Passive Recreation
	12001	10.12	0.77	Detention Basin
	12001	17	4.07	Public
	12001	38	2.20	Vacant
	12001	39	5.04	Vacant
	14001	7	24.05	Vacant
	14001	37	26.652	Open Space/Agriculture
	15001	1	28.87	Open Space
	15001	24.01	8.65	Detention Basin
	15001	26	33.82	Open Space/Agriculture
	15001	29	61.14	Open Space/Agriculture
	15001	31 & 32	66.31	Open Space/Agriculture

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP	15001	34	20.63	Open Space/Agriculture
	15001	43	16.40	Vacant
	15001	43.10	8.74	Detention Basin
	15001	70	11.69	Public Open Space
	15004	9	5.54	Open Space/Agriculture
	15004	15	2.57	Detention Basin
	15008	7	2.64	Detention Basin
	15009	1-4	11.15	Vacant
	15009	6-8	13.57	Vacant
	15009	21	2.69	Conservation
	15010	7	5.30	Detention Basin
	16001	7.03	0.13	Cemetery
	16009	8	2.72	Detention Basin
	16010	20	1.49	Detention Basin
	16012	1.02	8.10	Detention Basin
	16012	1.03	9.36	Park
	16014	17	8.71	Open Space
	17001	5	10.00	Park
	17001	6.87	7.11	Stream Corridor
	17001	6.88	9.55	Stream Corridor
	17001	7	100.05	Montgomery Veterans Park

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP	17001	13	1.17	Mill Pond
	17001	14	0.92	Mill Pond
	17001	19	4.64	Mill Pond Park
	17002	2	1.70	Harlingen Green
	18020	24	2.00	Detention Basin
	18022	9	1.32	Detention Basin
	18022	22	3.08	Detention Basin
	18024	1	2.21	Detention Basin
	18026	20-24; 27	134.47	Mill Pond Soccer Fields & Agriculture
	18026	27.01	0.42	Cemetery
	19001	8.11	1.32	Detention Basin
	19001	8.14	4.34	Detention Basin
	19001	13	7.45	Schuss Woods
	20001	4	6.20	Vacant
	20001	7.09	1.70	Detention Basin
	20001	7.24	1.00	Detention Basin
	20001	10.06	10.18	Vacant
	21001	1.14	4.42	Stream Corridor
	21010	8	2.52	Detention Basin
	21012	1	2.46	Detention Basin
	21017	1, 2 & 3	4.09	Vacant

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP	22001	5	12.06	Vacant
	22001	10 & 11	21.89	Open Space/Agriculture
	22001	12.02	3.82	Vacant
	22001	12.03	1.99	Vacant
	23001	13 & 15	113.122	Open Space/Agriculture
	25001	7	6.662	Open Space
	25001	7.01	1.39	Bessie Grover Park
	25001	28.08	11.627	Conservation
	25001	28.13	25.23	Detention Basin & Open Space
	27001	1 & 6	63.32	Open Space/Agriculture
	27001	12	13.80	Vacant
	27001	19.01, 19.02 & 19.03	13.27	Vacant
	28001	7.01	0.99	Vacant
	29001	5 & 5.01	17.87	Open Space/Agriculture
	30001	9.01	33.483	Open Space
	30001	16.33	9.71	Open Space
	30001	16.44	1.13	Detention Basin
	30004	5	10.07	Detention Basin & Open Space
	31010	9.03	44.30	Open Space/Agriculture
	31010	31.02	18.56	Open Space/Agriculture

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP	31036	44	5.16	Detention Basin
	32001	1	49.41	Hobler Park
	32001	1.01	0.09	Vacant
	32001	24	60.44	Open Space/Agriculture
	33004	1	9.20	Vacant
	34001	13.02	9.56	Vacant
	34001	13.03	10.32	Vacant
	34001	14,15,22&30	36.515	Open Space
	34001	35,35.01&35.06	116.59	Open Space/Agriculture
	34001	36	16.1166	Open Space
	34001	37.02	94.95	Open Space/Conservation
	34001	38.02	14.00	Conservation
	34001	42.39	16.28	Conservation/Recreation
	34001	43.02 & 43.03	8.29	Vacant
	34001	43.04	4.64	Vacant
	34001	43.07	8.12	Open Space/Pathway
	34023	72	28.38	Conservation
	34023	73	1.66	Active Recreation
	37002	2.01	6.06	Open Space/Conservation
	37002	3	2.41	Vacant
		Subtotal:	**2,104.9933 Acres**	

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
SOMERSET COUNTY	1001	1	478.38	Sourland Mountain Park
	1001	10,11,13,17 18,19,20,26 31,44,46,47&49	153.5872	*Former 3M property*
	1001	14.01	122.402	*Former Carrier Clinic property*
	1001	34	25.612	*Wnek farm*
	1001	35.02	27	Open Space
	1001	42	27.93	Open Space
	1001	42.02	0.94	Open Space
	1001	45.02	21.645	*Former 3M property*
	1002	1, 2	9.06	*Former 3M property*
	2001	1, 5	53.26	*Former Carrier Clinic property*
	3001	1, 2	58.256	Agriculture, conservation
	4001	12 & 12.01	66.658	*Former 3M property*
	13001	13	44.384	*Former 3M property*
	13001	14	245.516	Reserved Open Space
	20001	10.05	2.26	Conservation Easement
	26001	1.10	247.023	Skillman Park
	35002	11	5.10	Open Space
	Subtotal:		**1,589.0132 Acres**	

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	9001	1	8.25	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	9001	2	37.04	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	9001	5.02	0.32	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	9001	6	2.85	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	9001	6.01	0.73	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	9001	6.04 & 6.05	1.13	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	9001	7-14	14.65	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	1, 1.01 1.02, 2	46.87	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	3.02	2.70	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	3.04	0.89	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	3.09	0.24	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	4	44.02	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	8, 8.01-8.03	13.37	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	8.05	0.04	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	8.07, 8.08	41.27	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	9	23.00	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	23001	11	11.179	
	23001	13.01, 13.02	22.23	Delaware & Raritan Canal

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	23001	17.01	7.78	Delaware & Raritan Canal
	38001	3, 4 & 5	77.519	*Former Trap Rock Property*
		Subtotal:	**356.078 Acres**	

II. NON-PROFIT OPEN SPACE

"Non-Profit Open Space" means lands held by a land trust or other non-profit organization for open space, conservation, recreational purposes.

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Montgomery Friends of Open Space	11003	6	2.07	Conservation
		Subtotal:	**2.07**	

III. COMMON OPEN SPACE

"Common Open Space" means an open space area within or related to a site designated as a development, and designed and intended for the use or enjoyment of residents and owners of the development. Common open space may contain such complementary structures and improvements as are necessary and appropriate for the use or enjoyment of residents and owners of the development.

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Country Club Meadows	4020	66	32.943	Common Open Space
Millers Grove	5004	1	53.11	Common Open Space
Millers Grove	5005	1	4.09	Common Open Space
Millers Grove	5006	1	3.75	Common Open Space
Millers Grove	5007	1	3.77	Common Open Space

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Pike Run	5008-5027	Various	137.53	Common Open Space
Country Club Meadows	5016 5023	2 (p/o) 2 (p/o)	4.516 3.910	Common Open Space
Westwinds/East Country Development	16002 16003 16007	9.01 9 19	31.094 12.938 2.703	Common Open Space
Kings Crossing	17001	6	21.81	Common Open Space
Kings Crossing	17001	6.89	10.98	Common Open Space
Kings Crossing	17005	1	18.93	Common Open Space
Kings Crossing	17006	1	5.75	Common Open Space
Kings Crossing	17007	1	8.10	Common Open Space And Recreation
Kings Crossing	17008	2	6.46	Common Open Space
Kings Crossing	21001	1	6.92	Common Open Space
Sharbell/Tapestry	28002 28003 28004	14 162,207, 221, 221.01 6	76.42	Common Open Space
Sharbell / Montgomery Crossing	28008	108 109 110	3.53 1.79 2.01	Common Open Space
Sharbell / Montgomery Crossing	29009	1 3	1.11 2.54	Detention Basin
Montgomery Knoll (Condo Ownership)	29004	1	13.24	Common Open Space
Cherry Valley Country Club	30001; 31001	Various	361.87	Common Open Space

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Colfax Homeowners Association	31001	14	2.02	Detention Basin
Colfax Homeowners Association	31003	30	11.64	Common Open Space
Colfax Homeowners Association	31006	9	4.71	Common Open Space
Larken Assoc.	34001	58	18.19	Open Space
Montgomery Commons	34001	58.02	6.00 (App.)	Common Open Space
Woodsedge	34021	1	6.54	Common Open Space
Woodsedge	34022	1	7.31	Common Open Space
Woodsedge	34023	1	18.58	Common Open Space
Woodsedge	34023	71	1.20	Common Open Space
Yorkshire	34001	42	11.90	Detention Basin & Common Open Space
Yorkshire	34001	42.38	3.91	Detention Basin & Common Open Space
Yorkshire	34017	1	4.41	Common Open Space
Yorkshire	34018	1	13.95	Common Open Space & Recreation
Yorkshire	34019	1	8.25	Common Open Space
Kingsway Commons (Condo Ownership)	35003	1	2.55	Common Open Space
The Manors at Montgomery H.A.	37001	4	5.83	Common Open Space

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
The Manors at Montgomery H.A.	37002	4	6.96	Common Open Space
Montgomery Hills	37002; 37003; 37004	Various	42.12	Common Open Space
Montgomery Woods H.A.	37002	1	19.12	Common Open Space
Montgomery Woods H.A.	37003	1	11.83	Common Open Space
Calton Homes; Montgomery Walk	37002	1	11.14	Conservation
	37005	1	2.25	Common Open Space
	37006	1	1.70	Common Open Space
Woodbridge Construction Corporation	37003	2	3.54	Common Open Space
Woodbridge Construction Corporation	37004	1	10.52	Common Open Space
		Subtotal:	**1,066.194 Acres**	

IV. PRIVATE OPEN SPACE

"Private Open Space" means any parcel or area of land or water essentially unimproved and set aside, dedicated, designated or reserved for public or private use or enjoyment or for the use and enjoyment of owners and occupants of land adjoining or neighboring such open space; provided that such areas may be improved with only those buildings, structures, streets and off-street parking and other improvements that are designed to be incidental to the natural openness of the land.

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Country Classics at Foxbrook	6001	5.02,5.03,5.04 5.05,5.06,5.07 5.08,5.09,5.10	4.375	Conservation & Public Pathway Easement

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Handler	6001	8	1.4856	Conservation & Public Pathway Easement
Handler	6001	8.12,8.13,8.16	15.1870	Conservation Easement
Donald Long	6001	26.05-26.08	5.92	Conservation Easement
Koplik/Roberts	6002	7	2.727	Protected by Township Conservation Easement
Riverside Farms	7004	22	2.70	Detention Basin
Stony Brook Developers	7007	40	2.15	Detention Basin
Grayson Estates	7012 7033 7034	15, 16 19, 20 7-10, 18, 19	5.07	Conservation Easement
North Hills	7019	61.09	1.31	Detention Basin
North Hills	7019	61.02-61.05, 61.18-61.26	9.9	Conservation Easement
Camp	8001	17	0.636	Conservation Deed Restriction
Kings Court	8001	38	1.89	Detention Basin
Compte	9001	4	2.086	Conservation Easement to DRCC

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Wengel	10001	11, 13, p/o 14 16, 19	29.43	Protected by Township Conservation/Forest Stewardship/Pathway Easement
Hamlet	10001	25.01-25.05	27.8	Conservation Easement
N.J. Beagle Club	11001 11003	30 1	101.56 1.03	Beagle Club (Woods) - Protected by Township Conservation Easement
Cedardale	11001	31.01, 31.02, 31.04	22.25	Conservation Easement
Spring Hill	11001 11004	33.04-33.12 33.14-33.18 1-7	28.75	Conservation Easement
Sourland Hills	12001	28-31	2.58	Conservation & Drainage
Thompson Realty	12001 12002	36 9	1.74	Conservation Easement
Picone	14001	20	7.25	Conservation Easement
Crawford House	15001	6	6.945	Conservation Easement
Gamarello	15001	30	21.24	Open Space/Agriculture
Hidden Estates II	15004	15	2.57	Detention Basin
Dabek	15015	8	0.618	Conservation Deed Restriction

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Abou-Sabé	16001	11.02	6.531	Conservation & Agriculture
Red Fox Run	16009	11.16	2.56	Detention Basin
Farr/Yonge Street	17009	1	0.39	Conservation Easement
Hanson	19001	16	7.99	Conservation Easement
Riversedge IV	18020	36	4.90	Detention Basin
Larkin	21016	1	2.20	Detention Basin
Juleo	22001	5.01	5.19	Conservation & Pathway
Montgomery Devel.	22029	10	4.36	Detention Basin
D&R Canal State Park	23001	3.03, 3.06, 3.07 3.10, 3.11	1.97	Conservation Easement
Wilson	24001	13.01	22.53	Conservation Easement
Planter's View	24001	29	3.55	Detention Basin
Planter’s View	24001	29.01,29.06-29.10	3.38	Conservation Easement
Rock Brook Estates	25001	28.06-28.12 28.15-28.18 28.20 & 28.21	11.9	Detention Basin & Conservation Easement
DeRochi	27001	10.01, 10.02 & 10.03	21.978	Conservation & Public Pathway Easement

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Rock Brook School	28001	1	5.78	Conservation Easement
Pavilions	28001	3 & 4	10.73	Conservation Easement
JER/Herring	28001	5.02	20.3796	Protected by Township Cons/Ped Easement
JER/Herring	28001	5.03	10.899	Conservation & Public Pathway Easement
Bedens Brook Valley	31001	11 & 11.06	11	Conservation & Pedestrian Easement
Highridge	31001	44	5.16	Detention Basin
Raymond	31010	20 (portion)	34.204	Protected by Township Conservation & Pathway Easement
Brown, A.	31010	31.01	26.87	Protected by Township Conservation Easement
Montgomery Fire #2	33001	15	1.63	Conservation Easement
Cherry Hill Acres	33001	28.03,28.04,28.05 28.07,28.08,28.09, 28.10,28.11	23.4	Conservation & Public Pathway Easement
Waldorf School	33001	28.02	7.98	Conservation & Pedestrian Easement
Mother of God	33001	29	2.533	Conservation & Public Pathway Easement

Owner Or Development	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Use
Attica	35002	7	0.2	Conservation Easement
Apts.	37001	3 (Portion)	6 (App.)	Common Open Space
Apts.	37002	3.02 (Portion)	1 (App.)	Common Open Space
		Subtotal:	**576.3942 Acres**	

V. PRESERVED FARMLAND

Preserved Farmland means any agriculturally used lands which have been protected from development and preserved in perpetuity for agricultural purposes.

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Type of Protection
Pederson	4001	10.01 10.02 10.03	80.28	Township Agricultural / Conservation/Pathway Easement
Summerskill	6001	37	29.70	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Reading	6001	42	5.60	Township Conservation Easement
Staats Farm	8001	1	74.7696	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Lloyd Staats	8001	5 (part) & 7.01	20.65	Township Agricultural/ Conservation Easement
Brzyski	8001	20	6.54	Township Conservation Easement
Mueller	8001	21, 22.01(part) & 22.02	15.47	Township Conservation Easement
Rhoda	10001	22	28.99	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Medina	11001 25001	62, 65 & 68 26	 133.00	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Type of Protection
Farkas	14001	17 & 36	22.5768	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Pariso	14001	27	11.933	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Tucker	15001	27	36.00	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Raymond	15001	45	18.629	Township Agricultural/ Conservation Easement
Seidel	15001	84	16.87	Township Agricultural/ Conservation/Pathway Easement
Drift	16001	6	16.15	Township Agricultural/ Conservation/Pathway Easement
Johnson	17001	11.02	68.97	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Matthews	17004	1.01	7.4702	Township Agricultural/ Conservation/Viewshed Easement
McAlpin	19001	4, 11	194.2	Township Agricultural/ Conservation/Pathway Easement
Howard	21007	6 & 7	31.197	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Campbell	22001	21.01 & 21.02	61.63	Township Agricultural Conservation/Pathway Easement
Wilson	24001	13	22.04	NJ Conservation Foundation Agricultural/Conservation Easement

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Type of Protection
State Of N.J.	25001	27 (Portion)	152.97	Easement Granted by Assembly Bill A-3401
Princeton Show Jumping	26001	1.02	101.465	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Selody	26001	1.03, 1.04	169.22	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
State Of N.J.	27001	7 (Portion)	161.59	Easement Granted by Assembly Bill A-3401
Raymond	31010	20, 20.01	57.329	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Gallup	32001 32002	2, 4, 4.01, 4.02, 4.03, 5.02, 5 & 6 20-23		NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Webster	33001	21.01 & 23	375.00	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Mayo	33001	17, 18 & 21 (part)	51.3	Township Agricultural/ Conservation Easement
Firmenich	33001	22 & 22.01	29.451	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Rossmassler	33001	24 (part) & 32	55.954	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Vartan	33001	26.01, 26.02	129.33	Township Conservation/ Forest Stewardship/ Agricultural & Pathway Easement
Hillaire	34001	13.01	16.42	Township Agricultural/ Conservation Easement

Owner	Block	Lot	Approximate Acreage	Type of Protection
Dressler	34001	13.04	27.57	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program
Drake/Huebner	34001	43.05	51.37	NJ State Farmland Preservation Program

Subtotal: 2,281.6346 Acres

SUMMARY TOTALS

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE:	4,050.0845 Acres
NON-PROFIT OPEN SPACE:	2.07 Acres
COMMON OPEN SPACE:	1,066.194 Acres
PRIVATE OPEN SPACE:	576.3942 Acres
PRESERVED FARMLAND:	2,281.6346 Acres
TOTAL:	**7,976.3773 Acres**

NOTES:

*Acreage figures for common open space are approximate.

Detention basins not located on a separate lot have not been included in this description or the acreage totals.

Sources: Montgomery Township 2022 Tax Maps, Township Tax Assessor Maps, Montgomery Township Open Space GIS dataset & Township Open Space & Stewardship Director.

ADDENDUM III

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING BOARD
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY,
IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY,
SCHEDULING A SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING ON
THE 2020 NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY TO CONSIDER
APPENDING THE MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1 et seq. (the "MLUL") authorizes municipalities under Article 3, 40:55D-28, under the direction of the Planning Board, to prepare and, after public hearing, adopt or amend a master plan or component parts thereof, to guide the use of lands within the municipality in a manner which protects public health and safety and promotes the general welfare;

WHEREAS, a Natural Resources Inventory is a comprehensive study of the natural resources within a municipality and is an important reference document in master planning, site plan review and land use ordinance development; and

WHEREAS, the Township caused Kenyon Planning, LLC (the "Planning Consultant") to prepare a revision and update of the Natural Resources Inventory plan originally drafted by Banisch Associates, Inc. in March of 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Consultant prepared such revision entitled "2020 Natural Resources Inventory" (the "NRI"), presented the NRI to the Montgomery Township Environmental Commission on February 4, 2020 and the Commission accepted the report in final form; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Consultant presented the NRI to the public at a public forum on March 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the MLUL requires that the Planning Board adopt by resolution at a public hearing upon review any elements of the master plan; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that an NRI be appended to a municipality's master plan given the important content and information that is documented within the report; and

WHEREAS, the Township Planning Director, Lori Savron, PP, AICP, informally presented the Natural Resources Inventory Plan to the Planning Board at a regular meeting on August 16, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Township Planning Director will formally present the Natural Resources Inventory Plan to the Planning Board at a special public hearing to be held on September 27, 2021 at which time the Board may consider appending the NRI report to the official master plan; and

WHEREAS, at its September 27, 2021 special meeting, the Planning Board intends to review the Natural Resources Inventory Plan and consider the testimony of the Planning Director ; and

WHEREAS, the Township, in seeking recertification by the Sustainable Jersey municipal program, believes it can elevate its certification from the current Bronze level to Silver level, and has submitted the first round of documents to the Sustainable Jersey municipal program on June 6, 2021; will submit remaining documents by September 10, 2021; and will require the additional points that would be awarded by Sustainable Jersey when an NRI is appended to a municipal Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Board of the Township of Montgomery, as follows:

Section 1. The aforementioned recitals are herein as though fully set forth at length.

Section 2. The Planning Board hereby (a) preliminarily finds that there are no provisions of the Natural Resources Inventory that are inconsistent with the Township's Master Plan and (b) will hold a public hearing on September 27, 2021 in which it is anticipated that the Board will recommend that the Natural Resources Inventory be included in its totality to the Montgomery Township Master Plan.

Section 3. The Secretary of the Planning Board has scheduled the special meeting of the Planning Board for September 27, 2021, and will provide official public notice. A copy of the NRI will be available on the Township's website prior to the public hearing.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING BOARD
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY,
IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY,
APPENDING THE 2020 NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY
TO THE MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1 et seq. (the "MLUL") authorizes municipalities under Article 3, 40:55D-28, under the direction of the Planning Board, to prepare and, after public hearing, adopt or amend a master plan or component parts thereof, to guide the use of lands within the municipality in a manner which protects public health and safety and promotes the general welfare;

WHEREAS, a public hearing for the presentation to append the 2020 Natural Resources Inventory to the Montgomery Township Master Plan was duly noticed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:55D-13 and held on September 27, 2021, at a special meeting of the Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, a Natural Resources Inventory is a comprehensive study of the natural resources within a municipality and is an important reference document in master planning, site plan review and land use ordinance development; and

WHEREAS, the Township contracted with Kenyon Planning, LLC (the "Planning Consultant") to prepare a revision and update of the Natural Resources Inventory plan originally drafted by Banisch Associates, Inc. in March of 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Consultant prepared such revision entitled "2020 Natural Resources Inventory" (the "NRI"), presented the NRI to the Montgomery Township Environmental Commission on February 4, 2020 and the Commission accepted the report in final form; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Consultant presented the NRI to the public at a public forum on March 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township, in seeking recertification by the Sustainable Jersey municipal program, believes it can elevate its certification from the current Bronze level to Silver level, and has submitted the first round of documents to the Sustainable Jersey municipal program on June 6, 2021; submitted remaining documents on September 10, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the MLUL requires that the Planning Board adopt by resolution at a public hearing upon review any elements of the master plan; and

WHEREAS, the Township Planning Director, Lori Savron, PP, AICP, presented the Natural Resources Inventory Plan to the Planning Board at a special meeting on September 27, 2021; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the 2020 Natural Resource Inventory be appended to a municipality's Master Plan given the important content and information that is documented within the report; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Board of the Township of Montgomery, as follows:

Section 1. The aforementioned recitals are herein as though fully set forth at length.

Section 2. The Planning Board hereby finds that there are no provisions of the Natural Resources Inventory that are inconsistent with the Township's Master Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning Board recommends the 2020 Natural Resource Inventory be appended to the Master Plan.

Roll Call Vote

Those in Favor: Battle, DeRochi, Glockler, Keenan, Mani, Matthews, Roberts, Schuldiner and Wilson

Those Opposed: None

The foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Planning Board of the Township of Montgomery at its meeting on September 27, 2021.

The within resolution memorializes action that was taken by the Planning Board of the Township of Montgomery at its meeting on September 27, 2021.

LORISAVRON
PLANNING BOARD SECRETARY
TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY