

Town of Brighton
Monroe County, New York

Open Space Index Update

2006-2007



Preface

The 1995-1996 Open Space Update was a detailed and intensive investigation of Brighton's open space areas, utilizing the skills and extensive efforts of numerous groups and individuals. For the 2006-2007 Open Space Index Update, the structure and much of the text of the 1995-1996 update have been substantially retained and have been revised only as necessary to include new information and to note changes that have occurred over the intervening years.

Perhaps the most significant difference in methodology between the 1995-1996 and current investigations is in the technology that is now available to assist in site assessment and mapping. The maps and much of the data in the current update have been produced using the Geographic Information System (GIS) that was installed by the Town in 2003. The advances in technology that have taken place since 1996, and that are incorporated in the GIS installation, provide faster, more accurate, and more detailed mapping and data gathering capabilities than were available using the US Census Tiger Files and hard copy maps previously available.

Acknowledgments

The Town of Brighton gratefully acknowledges the work of all those involved with the preparation of the 1995-1996 Open Space Index Update, whose extensive efforts form the basis of the 2006-2007 Update. The following boards and individuals contributed to the preparation and review of the 2006-2007 Update.

Town Board

Sandra L. Frankel, Supervisor

James R. Vogel

Raymond J. Tierney III

Sherry S. Kraus

Louise Novros

Conservation Board

Dennis Adams - Chairman

Jessie Werner

Erinn G. Ryen

Sara Rubin

Audrey Mck. Fernandez

James Howe

Karen Plaut Berger

Building & Planning Department Staff

Ramsey Boehner, Town Planner

Rick DiStefano, Planner

Paul White, Planning Technician

Town of Brighton
Monroe County
New York

Open Space Index Update **2006-2007**

Table of Contents

1. Background	1
2. Introduction	2
3. Purpose	9
4. Changes Since 1996 Affecting Open Space	9
5. Methods of Open Space Preservation and Management	13
5.1 Acquisition	13
5.2 Easements	14
5.3 Protective Zoning	15
5.4 Agreements	17
6. Methods and Resources	18
6.1 Real Property Tax Maps/Tax Assessment Records	19
6.2 U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle Maps	19
6.3 New York State Freshwater Wetlands Maps	20
6.4 National Wetland Inventory Maps	20
6.5 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and Flood Hazard Boundary Maps	21
6.6 Environmental Protection Overlay District Maps	22
6.7 Town of Brighton Sewer Record Maps	23
6.8 Zoning Map	23
6.9 Land Use	23
6.10 Aerial Photographs	23
6.11 Monroe County Soil Survey	23
6.12 Water Quality Classification	24
6.13 Other Sources	26
7. Physiographic and Vegetation Resources of Brighton	26
7.1 Physiographic Features	26
7.2 Vegetation	27
8. Special Features of Brighton's Open Space Sites	31
8.1 Values of Open Space	31
8.2 Economic Benefits	31
8.3. Social Benefits	32
8.4 Environmental Benefits	32
8.5 Open Space Preservation and Management Opportunities	34
9. References	36

Figures	8
Figure 1: Open Space Inventory Sites	
Figure 2: Steep Slope EPOD & Floodplain Areas, Sites 1, 4-7	
Figure 3: Woodlot EPOD & Wetland Areas, Sites 1, 4-7	
Figure 4: Steep Slope EPOD & Floodplain Areas, Sites 3, 8, 11-16, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 28	
Figure 5: Woodlot EPOD & Wetland Areas, Sites 3, 8, 11-16, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 28	
Figure 6: Steep Slope EPOD & Floodplain Areas, Sites 2, 17, 18, 21, 26, 27	
Figure 7: Woodlot EPOD & Wetland Areas, Sites 2, 17, 18, 21, 26, 27	
(See also maps of individual inventory sites included with Open Space Inventory Site Information and including identification of Town/public/private ownership)	

Tables

Table 1: Summary of Open Space Inventory Sites	6
Table 2: Hydric Soils and Soils With Potential Hydric Inclusions	24
Table 3: Vegetation Communities of Brighton	28

Open Space Inventory Site Information

Site 1. Weymouth Creek Gully	37
Site 2. Lynch Woods	41
Site 3. Pinnacle Hill	45
Site 4. Corbett's Glen	59
Site 5. Brighton Landfill	51
Site 6. Heberle Estate	59
Site 7. Heberle Stables	63
Site 8. Elmwood Avenue Borrow Pit	67
Site 11. Heatherstone Area	71
Site 12. French Road Canal Area	75
Site 13. Gonsenhauser-Groos Tract	79
Site 14. Meridian Centre Tract	83
Site 15. Town Line/Canal Tract	87
Site 16. Town Park Area	91
Site 17. RIT Lands	97
Site 18. West Brighton Open Space	101
Site 19. Brookside Area	105
Site 20. Persimmon Park	109
Site 21. Stowell Conservancy	113
Site 22. St. John's Home/Maxion Farms	117
Site 24. Edgewood Avenue - Canal Area	121
Site 25. French Road Radio Station	125
Site 26. Rustic Village Area	127
Site 27. UR Lands - Lehigh Valley Railroad	131
Site 28. Wilson Family Farm	135

(Note: 1995/1996 Inventory Sites 9, 10 & 23 have been removed from the Inventory List, see page 9)

Appendix: List of Actions Added to State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) List of Type I Actions by Town of Brighton Local Law - November 12, 1997