



# TOWN OF MILAN

## Community Forest Committee

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## Vision for Milan Community Forest

Milan residents value their community for many reasons, including its natural beauty and abundant natural resources. Milan's character, award winning school, and high quality of life make Milan a very desirable place to live and raise a family. But Milan faces development pressures, population increases, industrial development, loss of farmland, forests and open space all of which could result in changing the town's character. Recognizing that future challenges are inevitable, especially as the regional economy struggles to grow, Milan residents have developed a Master Plan that identifies the value of open space in our community.

A community forest provides an avenue by which Milan's character and quality of life can be maintained and enhanced. The Milan Community Forest will be managed to ensure a sustainable flow of timber over, the long-term. It is an asset worthy of investment and which can provide many benefits when properly managed such as:

- Sense of connection and stewardship to forests and land
- Appreciation and invigoration of Milan's heritage as a logging and forest, as well as farming, related community
- Opportunities for residents to continue careers in forestry, logging and wood product manufacturing/production
- Increased opportunities for related economic growth in support sectors related to forestry, including agriculture, recreation and wildlife
- Educational enhancements via living classrooms to engage future generations of Milan residents
- Maintenance of open land for views of farm and forest lands
- Varied recreational options and opportunities for residents and guests
- Wildlife protection and enhancement
- Financial stability in times of decreasing state and federal assistance and support