

INTRODUCTION

The objective of this Master Plan is to provide comprehensive planning for the Town of Holderness. The Master Plan Committee, all community volunteers, has spent two and a half years compiling the Master Plan. The Committee built on work done in the first Master Plan of 1984. They again used the information at hand in order to plan for sensible development in harmony with existing conditions, geography and citizens' desires.

This planning document provides a sound basis for making decisions for the next five to ten years. It has been written as a tool for the Selectmen, Town officials and employees, Planning Board, Zoning Board, Conservation Commission, Parks Board, Budget Committee, White Oak Solid Waste District Committee, School Board, Library Board, Town Hall Committee, and of course for the citizenry at large.

The inventory covers seven areas, each a chapter: *Population, Housing, Economic Base, Town Departments and Facilities, Conservation and Preservation, Transportation, and Land Use*. The Master Plan is not a legal document, and as needs and conditions change, it should be updated again. This plan should be purposefully administered; it will not happen without the work of the committees and boards mentioned above and interested citizens of Holderness.

The eighth and last chapter, *Goals, Objectives, and Recommendations* is meant to be used as a convenient reference, so that officials and committees will be able to work from its format. The recommendations are the same as those listed at the end of the chapters themselves and are NOT prioritized. The Master Plan Committee did not undertake the responsibility of deciding which was the most important to implement.

The Committee thanks the many people who have taken an interest in this Plan. There were 414 residents, including property owners whose primary residence is not Holderness, who answered the November 1989 Community Survey; 55 interested year-round and summer residents who attended the August 1991 Open Workshop; and 38 business people who came to the May 1992 breakfast. Input has been gathered at numerous hearings of the Planning Board. The Committee has used this data in developing the Plan. Summaries of the survey and the two workshop results can be found in Appendices B, C, and D. The Planning Board welcomes any additional information, suggestions, and comments, hoping that it will assist the boards and committees of the Town in implementing this Plan.