

Final Draft

Chapter 10

REGIONAL COORDINATION

The Town of Bridgton has worked closely with other towns in the region and the county on provision of services and on the preparation of this update to the Comprehensive Plan.

MobilizeMe – the town is on the steering committee for this effort to mobilize the region for improved economic vitality.

Regional Workshops – a draft of this document will be presented to abutting communities and the Greater Portland Council of Governments, as well as Cumberland County and Western Maine Economic Development Council for their review and comment.

Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce – a draft of this document will be presented to our regional chamber.

Lakes Environmental Association – a draft of this document will be presented to this local private organization, tagged for tasks therein.

Loon Echo Land Trust – a draft of this document will be presented to this private regional conservation entity for their review and comment.

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife – made a presentation of Beginning with Habitat and discussed habitat issues with the committee on January 28, 2013. See Beginning with Habitat maps in the Appendix of this Plan.

Healthy Lakes Coalition – a draft of this document will be sent to this regional public health organization for review and comment

Provision of Services and other coordinated efforts:

Fire

The Bridgton Fire Department has worked towards regional coordination with many neighboring fire departments for many years. One example of regional coordination that has occurred is the Formation of the Cumberland/Oxford Fire Chiefs Association to coordinate and improve mutual aid response in all 13 regional communities.

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This group has worked together for nearly 25 years on projects such as:

- A. Establishing and coordinating automatic and mutual aid throughout the region.
- B. Coordinating and sponsoring annual regional training academies for new personnel.
- C. Joint purchases of supplies such as foam, hose, training materials etc. to obtain better pricing and standardize regionally.
- D. Joint traffic management plans for large events, both planned and emergency, that involve more than one community.
- E. Joint training on such subjects as water supply to benefit all involved towns.
- F. Coordinating major equipment purchases allowing communities to compliment each on emergency scenes.
- G. Establishing and coordinate operations of a regional water rescue/dive recovery team with members from several of the communities.
- H. The group is looking at the possibility of future radio frequency sharing among the communities that use Cumberland County Regional Comm. Center.
- I. This group is also looking to build and manage ongoing a regional training facility for area fire, police and emergency medical services departments.
- J. Established close working relationships with other groups such the Cumberland County Fire Chiefs, Oxford County Fire Chiefs, Western Maine Firefighter Association, Maine State Federation of Firefighters and Maine Fire Chiefs Association.

Police

The Police Department works closely with the Sheriff's office at the County level, as well as with the State Police. We use Cumberland County for dispatch.

Solid Waste

The town of Bridgton is a member of the Regional Waste Systems (RWS) in Portland and works with other members of RWS on management issues related to RWS.