

RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

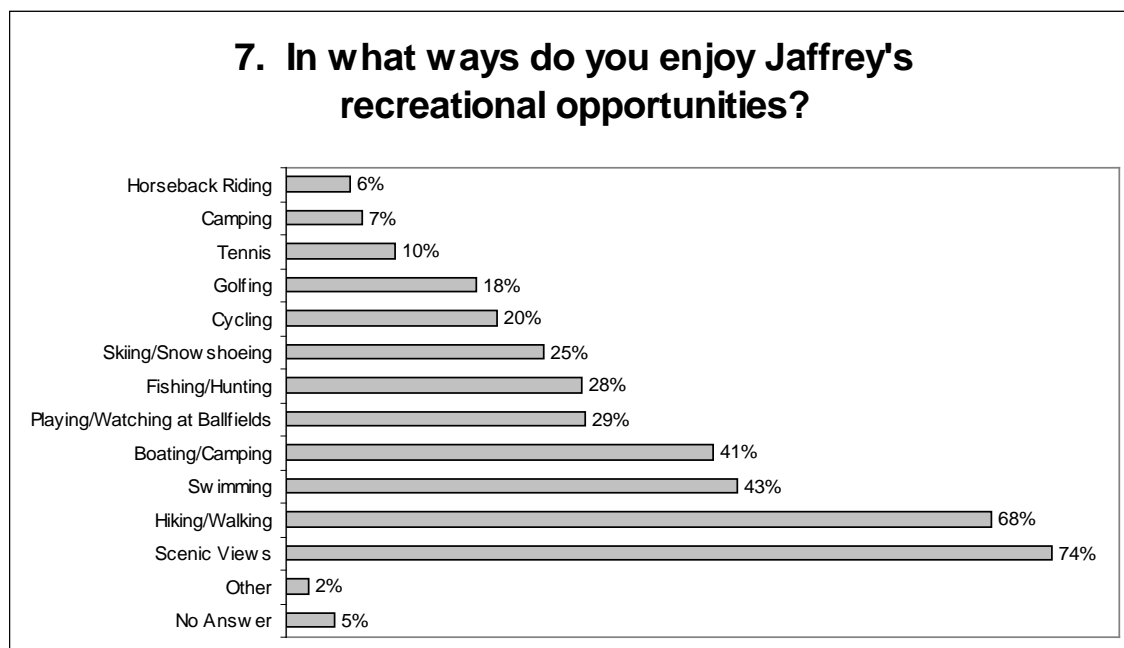
INTRODUCTION

Recreational and community resources are important to the life and vitality of any community. In Jaffrey, the two are linked more often than not. Jaffrey is the town that is host to Southwestern New Hampshire's name and symbol: Monadnock. Jaffrey has a direct interest and future stake in the recreational opportunities that Mount Monadnock and its environs have to offer.

The Town's devotion to recreational opportunities can be summarized through the mission statement adopted by Jaffrey's Recreation Department, "To create and sponsor recreational opportunities for all community members, which enhance the quality of life and provide a positive and safe environment for body, mind and spirit."

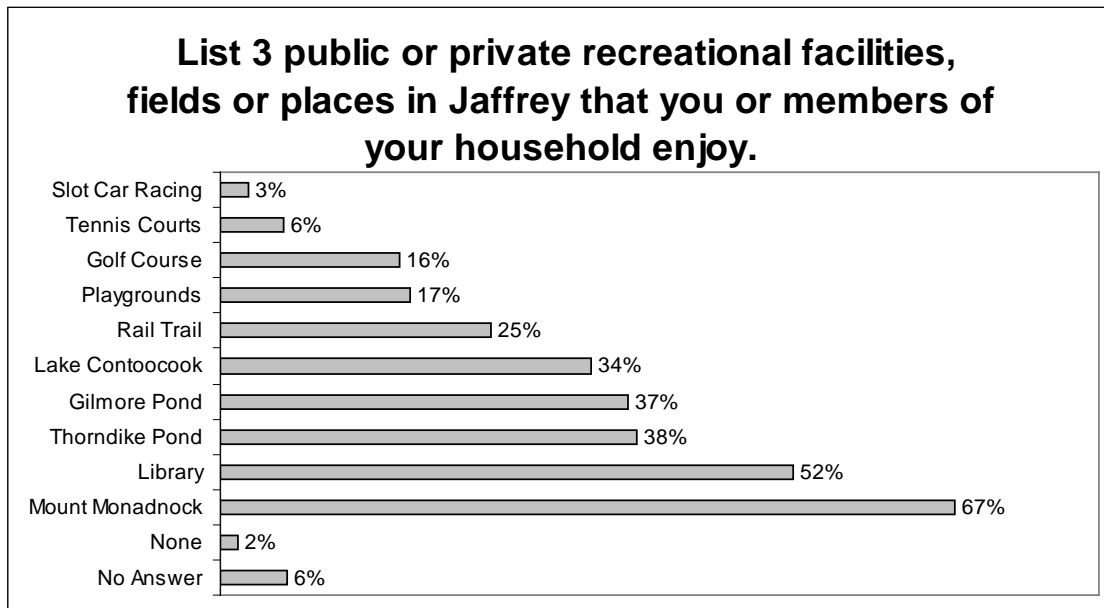
Jaffrey's 2005 Community Survey contains responses and valuable information indicative of trends on how people in Jaffrey spend their recreational time. When asked, "In what ways do you enjoy Jaffrey's recreational opportunities?" citizen responses were as follows:

Figure 11



The 2005 Jaffrey Community Survey also asked residents to list a total of three recreational facilities (public or private) enjoyed by their household. When compiled, the responses reveal that Mount Monadnock, the Jaffrey Public Library, Thorndike and Gilmore Ponds, and Lake Contocook comprise the overall majority of "enjoyed recreational facilities".

Figure 12



When asked, “Is the town doing enough or not enough to protect natural, cultural, and historic resources in Jaffrey?” approximately three quarters of the responses were almost evenly split between “Enough” at thirty-six percent and “Not Enough” at thirty-eight percent. Seventeen percent had “No Opinion” and roughly two and a half percent stated that the Town does “Too Much” in its protection of natural, cultural, and historic resources.

INVENTORY OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Parks and Recreation Department

Jaffrey’s Parks & Recreation Department, located at 31 Howard Hill Road, provides a number of year-round recreation programs and services. The Department is staffed by a Recreation Department Director, Program Director, Administrative Assistant, Maintenance Supervisor, Senior Program Coordinator, and A.F.T.E.R. Coordinator, as well as a number of seasonal staff to support programs offered by the Department.

Recreational facilities include the following:

Humiston Field

Humiston Field has approximately 3,900 youth and adult users annually, many of whom come from other communities. The facility includes a playing field (multi-sport), playground, basketball courts, skating rink, office, youth center, and parking lot. The facility is open from dawn to dusk seasonally with some evening events, and is staffed by a full-time Director, part-time Assistant Director, full-time maintenance support, and part-time clerical support. Recent renovations include the addition of a covered pavilion and picnic tables in 1998, parking lot addition and repaving of the court surface in 1999, and addition of an irrigation well in 2003. The facility is publicly funded at a cost of \$30,000 annually.

Contoocook Lake Beach

The Contoocook Lake Beach has approximately 4,000 youth and adult users annually. The facility includes a swimming area, changing rooms, rest rooms, concession stand, swimming lessons, volleyball court, horseshoe pit, and covered picnic pavilion. The facility is open seasonally, at which time it is staffed by a number of part-time lifeguards and concession stand operators. Recent renovations include the addition of the Concession stand and covered pavilion in 1998, and the volleyball court and horseshoe pit in 2001. The facility is publicly funded at a cost of \$22,000 annually. Facility and staff are reported to be adequate at this time.

Shattuck Park at Thorndike Pond

The Shattuck Park at Thorndike Pond has approximately 2,000 youth and adult users annually. The facility includes a swimming area, grills, picnic pavilion and tables, boat landing, and portable toilets (seasonal). The facility is open from dawn to dusk seasonally, and is staffed by part-time lifeguards. Recent renovations include improvements to the access road in 1997 and renovation of the covered picnic pavilion in 2005. The facility is publicly funded at a cost of \$7,500 annually. Facility needs include the addition of permanent restroom facilities.

In addition to those facilities outlined above, the Recreation Department offers a number of programs, some of which are seasonal, including youth sports (i.e. basketball, ski club, baseball, swim lessons, etc), summer camps, spring break and winter day programs, and special events (such as a bus trip to a holiday show in Boston).

American Legion Field

This baseball/softball field is located on private property adjacent to the American Legion Post on Webster Street. Use of the field, along with some of the maintenance and operating costs for the field are donated by the American Legion to the community group that organizes youth baseball in Jaffrey and Rindge. Legion Field is the primary field for approximately 15 Cal Ripken League baseball and Jenny League softball teams of players aged 12 and under.

Jaffrey Civic Center

The Jaffrey Civic Center is a regional host to many activities and events such as art displays, poetry readings and meetings, historical lectures, scout meetings and art classes. Further information on the Civic Center may be found in the Community Facilities chapter.

Jaffrey Meetinghouse

The Meetinghouse in Jaffrey Center, built in 1775, was originally used for Town Meetings and church services. Today, the Meetinghouse is still publicly owned and continues to be used for meetings as well as entertainment and plays. The Meetinghouse can be rented by private organizations and individuals for special events, subject to certain use restrictions (no food or drink, etc.) due to its historic nature. Further information on the Meetinghouse may be found in the Community Facilities chapter.

The Jaffrey Public Library

The Jaffrey Public Library is used for presentation of a film series, book discussion groups, story hours, special programs, internet access, school visits, and a meeting room for community use. Further information on the library may be found in the Community Facilities chapter.

Mount Monadnock State Park

Six major trailheads with parking at each trailhead provide hiking access to the mountain from the towns of Jaffrey and Dublin. Four of these trailheads are located in Jaffrey; the Marlborough Trail Head, Old Toll Road Trail Head, Main Park Entrance, and Gilson Pond Picnic Area. A fifth trailhead in Jaffrey is also planned for the Royce Trail on the south side of the mountain.

Mount Monadnock has year-round hiking and camping. All trails are open during the spring, summer and autumn months. During the winter there are sixteen miles of backcountry skiing and hiking at the park headquarters. This is the only automobile access open, plowed and maintained during the winter months. There are twenty-eight campsites located at the main entrance of Mount Monadnock; ten of the sites are by reservation only; 7 are for youth group reservations; and 11 are for first-come/first-served campers.. Mount Monadnock's busiest season is middle September through middle October with all of the beautiful fall foliage.

Rails to Trails

The Monadnock railroad was acquired by NH DOT for use as a recreational trail from the Massachusetts state line in Rindge through Rindge and Jaffrey. The trail continues through Peterborough and into Hancock. The rail trail essentially parallels US 202 through Jaffrey and passes through downtown at the intersection of NH 124, US 202 and Squantum Road at the east end of the "202 dogleg". The rail trail is used through four seasons by walkers and cyclists, cross country skiers, equestrians and snowmobiles. Although motorized uses are prohibited during the summer, unauthorized rail trail use by ATV's can create conflicts among trail users and trail abutters. Currently the trail is missing one bridge to cross a stream crossing of a tributary to Cheshire Pond across US 202 from the rest area at the Pond.

The initial trail construction phase completed in 2003 includes 1.5 miles of hard-packed trail from the Rindge town-line to Downtown Jaffrey. The initial project was funded through Transportation Enhancement funds from the NH Department of Transportation. The trail is planned to expand from downtown Jaffrey toward the Town of Peterborough. Funds have been acquired for the short stretch of trail through the downtown area, ending behind the former W.W. Cross building. Construction of this stretch of trail is planned for 2007. The trail is maintained by the Jaffrey Recreation Department.

Future Community Center

The Town of Jaffrey recently purchased a site located in downtown Jaffrey for use as a future Community Center. The area, approximately 9 acres in size, borders the Rails to Trails path and the Contoocook River. The site is also in close proximity to Children's Woods. Immediate plans include the construction of a ball field. A \$40,000 Land and Water Conservation Funds grant from the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation was secured in 2004-2005 for that purpose. Construction of the field is expected to be completed in the Fall of 2006. Another grant application for completion of a feasibility study, estimated to cost \$12,000, will be submitted in 2006. Future plans for the site include the addition of a Community Center for use by all Jaffrey residents. The vision statement for development of the Community Center is "To develop a multi-purpose, flexible, expandable and timeless facility created by the community as a gathering place for the youth, young adults, parents and grandparents of the community."

The Shattuck Golf Club

The Shattuck Golf Club is a country club that is open to the public and is located on Dublin Road in Jaffrey.

The Woodbound Inn

The Woodbound Inn is a four-season family resort and convention center located on Contoocook Lake, straddling the boundary between the towns of Jaffrey and Rindge. It offers a restaurant, par 3 golf course, nature walks, hiking trails, swimming, tennis, and cross-country skiing.

Kimball Farm Ice Cream

This regionally-known restaurant and ice cream stand attracts visitors for the food, as a social meeting spot, and for Cruise Night events showcasing classic cars during the summer months. It is also a destination for "fly-in" gatherings due to its location adjacent to the Jaffrey Municipal-Silver Ranch Airport.

Jaffrey Municipal-Silver Ranch Airport

This airport provides services for charter and private small aircraft. Seasonally, charter aircraft are available

for scenic rides around the Monadnock area.

Silver Ranch Livery Stable

This equestrian center offers horseback riding, horse-drawn carriages and seasonal hayrides and sleigh rides.

The Grandview Inn & Resort

The Grandview Inn is a four-season resort and function center located adjacent to Mount Monadnock in Jaffrey. It offers dining and banquet services, hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, day spa services and an equestrian center.

Monadnock Bible Conference

The Bible Conference is a youth group and function center located adjacent to Monadnock State Park. Its function rooms and swimming pool are available for group rentals, and the swimming pool is also available for fee-based community use from September to June.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Trail-Oriented Activities

Many of the recreational activities enjoyed by Jaffrey residents and visitors revolve around the use of trails and unmaintained roads located on conservation lands or other undeveloped areas of the town. These activities can include hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and mountain biking on most conservation lands. Class VI town roads are also utilized for these activities, as well as snowmobiling and ATV riding. The primary conservation lands and Class VI roads appropriate for these activities are listed below:

Conservation Land	Protecting Agency
Monadnock State Park & Vicinity	NH Dept. of Resources & Economic Dev. (DRED) Society for the Protection of NH Forests Town of Jaffrey
Gap Mountain Reservation	Society for the Protection of NH Forests
Meade Brook Land	The Monadnock Conservancy
Andrews/ Fairbanks/Russell Lands	Society for the Protection of NH Forests
Blaine Forest	Society for the Protection of NH Forests
Children's Woods & Carey Park	SAU 47 & Town of Jaffrey
Bradley-Draper Memorial Forest	New England Forestry Foundation
Morgan Forest	Society for the Protection of NH Forests
Haven State Forest	NH Dept. of Resources & Economic Dev. (DRED)

Class VI Roads

The following roads are also used to varying degrees for recreational purposes:

- Brigham Rd
- Chadwick Rd
- Chamberlain Rd
- Fiske Rd
- Gap Mountain Rd
- Gibbs Rd
- Jaquith Rd
- Milliken Rd
- Mower Rd

- Old County Rd
- Red Gate Rd
- Sanders Rd
- Scott Pond Rd
- Turner Rd
- Woodbury Hill Rd

Boating

Jaffrey has one lake and a number of small to medium-sized ponds suitable for small boats and fishing activities. Public access boat launches are located on Mountain Brook Reservoir, Thorndike Pond, Gilmore Pond and Frost Pond and on the Contoocook River in downtown Jaffrey.

Camping

Camping opportunities are available in Jaffrey both in campground settings and at youth-oriented summer camps. Campgrounds are located at Monadnock State Park (summer and winter camping) and at the private Emerald Acres Campground on Cheshire Pond. Summer camps include Camp Wa-Klo, Camp Wanocksett Boy Scout Camp, Monadnock Environmental Dance Camp (at Monadnock State Park), and Camp Sunshine at the Monadnock Bible Conference.

Swimming

Outdoor swimming is provided at seasonally supervised beaches on Lake Contoocook and Thorndike Pond, as well as at unsupervised locations on many of the ponds in town. Indoor swimming is available to the public for a fee at the Bible Conference swimming pool during the winter months.

Rock and Ice Climbing

The summit of Mount Monadnock includes selected short pitches appropriate for technical rock and ice climbing.

LOCAL EVENTS

Annual and ongoing events in Jaffrey include the following:

- Monadnock Arts Auction
- Jaffrey Winter Carnival
- Easter "Eggstravaganza"
- Memorial Day Parade & Honoring of War Vets at town cemeteries
- Riverfest, Downtown
- Annual Booksale, Jaffrey Public Library
- Jaffrey Farmer's Market, Saturday mornings 9am-12noon, Monadnock Plaza
- July 4th in Jaffrey: Reading of the Declaration of Independence, Ice Cream Social, Strawberry Shortcake Bazaar, Band Concert & other events held throughout town
- Annual Jaffrey Garden Tour
- United Church of Jaffrey Annual Fair
- Amos Fortune Forum at the Jaffrey Meetinghouse
- Concerts on the Common, Downtown
- First Church Annual Fair, Jaffrey Meetinghouse Common

- Festival of Fireworks, Jaffrey Airport
- Oktoberfest & Golf Tournament
- Scarecrows on the Common
- Community Spring & Fall Cleanup Days
- "Christmas in Jaffrey" - a full week of seasonal community activities including house tours,
- Tree lighting, entertainment, church bazaars and other events held throughout town
- Southern NH Scottish Games and Celtic Music Festival at Silver Ranch
- Annual Polo Game at the Grandview Inn
- Annual International Dinner at the Shattuck Golf Club
- May Day Festivities

LOCAL LODGING

The Benjamin Prescott Inn

Surrounded by picturesque 500-acre farm., the Benjamin Prescott Inn offers fine hospitality in a beautifully restored 1853 home. The Inn is located at 433 Turnpike Road, Route 124.

Telephone: (603) 532-6637

Toll Free: (800) 952-6637.

More Information: www.benjaminprescottinn.com

Email: innkeeper@benjaminprescottinn.com.

The Currier's House

The Currier's House is an 1810 country bed and breakfast. Located in Jaffrey Center at 5 Harkness Road.

Telephone: (603) 532-7670

More Information: www.thecurriershouse.com

Email: curriers@monad.net

The Grand View Inn & Resort

The Grand View Inn & Resort is a 19th-century country mansion set on 330 acres at the base of Mount Monadnock. Located at 580 Mountain Road, it also offers a restaurant, day spa services and an equestrian center.

Telephone: (603) 532-9880.

More Information: www.TheGrandViewInn.com

The Inn At Jaffrey Center

The Inn at Jaffrey Center is within sight of Mount Monadnock and is open throughout the year.

Located at 379 Main Street.

Telephone: (877) 510-7019; (603) 532-7800.

More Information: www.TheInnAtJaffreyCenter.com

The Woodbound Inn

The Woodbound Inn is a family resort located on Lake Contoocook providing views of Mount Monadnock. Located at 62 Woodbound Road in Rindge.

Telephone: (800) 688-7770, (603) 532-8341.

LOCAL RESTAURANTS

Athens Pizza House
86 Peterborough St
Telephone: 603-532-4466

Aylmer's Grille, LLC
21B Main Street
Telephone: (603) 532-4949
Web Site: www.aylmersgrille.com
E-Mail: aylmer@aylmersgrille.com

Jade Ocean
5 Main St
Telephone: (603)532-6727

Jaffrey Pizza Barn
6 Blake Street
Telephone: (603) 532-8383
More Information: www.jaffreypizzabarn.com
E-Mail: npanagiotes@webryders.com

Kimball Farm
PO Box 382, Jaffrey, NH 03452
Telephone: (603) 532-5765

McDonalds of Jaffrey
85 Peterborough Street
Telephone: (603) 532-4517

Jaffrey's Country Café
172 Peterborough St, Jaffrey, NH
Telephone: (603) 532-6885

The Inn at Jaffrey Center
79 Main St, Jaffrey, NH Telephone: (603)532-7001

O'Brien's Food and Spirits
10 Turnpike Road
Telephone: (603) 532-9596