

Introduction

The Town of Wilmington comprises 42,086 rural acres in the northern half of the six million acre Adirondack Park (see [Map 1](#)). The history, economic and cultural character, and quality of life in Wilmington are strongly centered on its access to the West Branch of the Ausable River, which is part of an extensive watershed in this mountainous region. In order to protect and enhance this important asset, the Town embarked upon the process of a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program in late 2005, hiring a local non-profit, Adirondack Sustainable Communities (see www.adksc.org), to facilitate the process. Community members from residents to business owners to planning board members committed their time and energy to assist in the formulation of this plan. They attended monthly committee meetings, hosted multiple public discussions, conducted surveys, supported an informational web site and outreach days, invited relevant State and local agencies to meetings, and contributed hundreds of volunteer hours. See Appendix 4 and the Project web site for more about community input. The result is a document that focuses closely upon the needs and wishes of the community of Wilmington and outlines a set of policies and actions that will help Wilmington succeed in meeting these goals.