

LAND USE



DID YOU KNOW?

Milford's existing land use pattern is characteristic of a **NEW ENGLAND MILL TOWN**, with its downtown, commercial/industrial development oriented around the Souhegan River, and major commercial corridors. Its residential areas are located throughout town, in both denser neighborhoods and in the rural outskirts, and range from single-family to multi-family housing.



There are

15,262 acres

of land within Milford's municipal boundaries that are used for a variety of purposes.

SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES are the dominant land use category in town (covering 44% of the town), which is often the case in New Hampshire communities.

Most **MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES** are found in the downtown area, with a smaller number scattered throughout Milford.



There are **8 primary zoning districts** in Milford. These districts are distinct from each other and each have their own goals for guiding land use.

ZONING AND THE MASTER PLAN

Zoning regulates the use, pattern, and appearance of development through zoning districts, dimensional regulations, use requirements and other regulations. Smart, inclusive zoning supports a community's goals for economic development, social cohesion, and environmental protection.

THE PURPOSE OF ZONING

- Implements the Master Plan
- Regulates property use in accordance with community standards and values
 - Sets standards for development
 - Identifies land for appropriate uses
- Promotes public safety, health, and general welfare
- Protects the environment, property rights, and property values

PAST OUTREACH EFFORTS have shown residents desire balanced growth in the future, respecting Milford's rural character while addressing housing and infrastructure needs.

MILFORD'S EXISTING LAND USES		
SOURCE: MILFORD ASSESSING AND NH GRANIT GIS DATA		
Land Use Category	Acres	Percent of Town
Single-Family Residential	6,649	44%
Tax-Exempt Land (includes governmental lands, institutional uses, etc.)	2,807	18%
Farm and Forest	2,177	14%
Commercial	1,529	10%
Industrial	789	5%
Multi-Family Residential	725	5%
Undeveloped	548	4%
Unknown	88	0.2%