

Project Ideas from Commission Members

Middlefield's Future Meeting

June 20, 2023

Selectmen

June 22, 2023

Purchase Town Green - if available

- Sensible addition to town center property



Market Middlefield

- **Nickname/tag line for town?**
 - Heart of Connecticut
 - Eat/Shop/Stay/Play
 - CT's Playground
- **Welcoming entrance signage**



- **Signage - point direction to businesses/tourist destinations/open spaces?**



Establish Overall Vision for Town Future

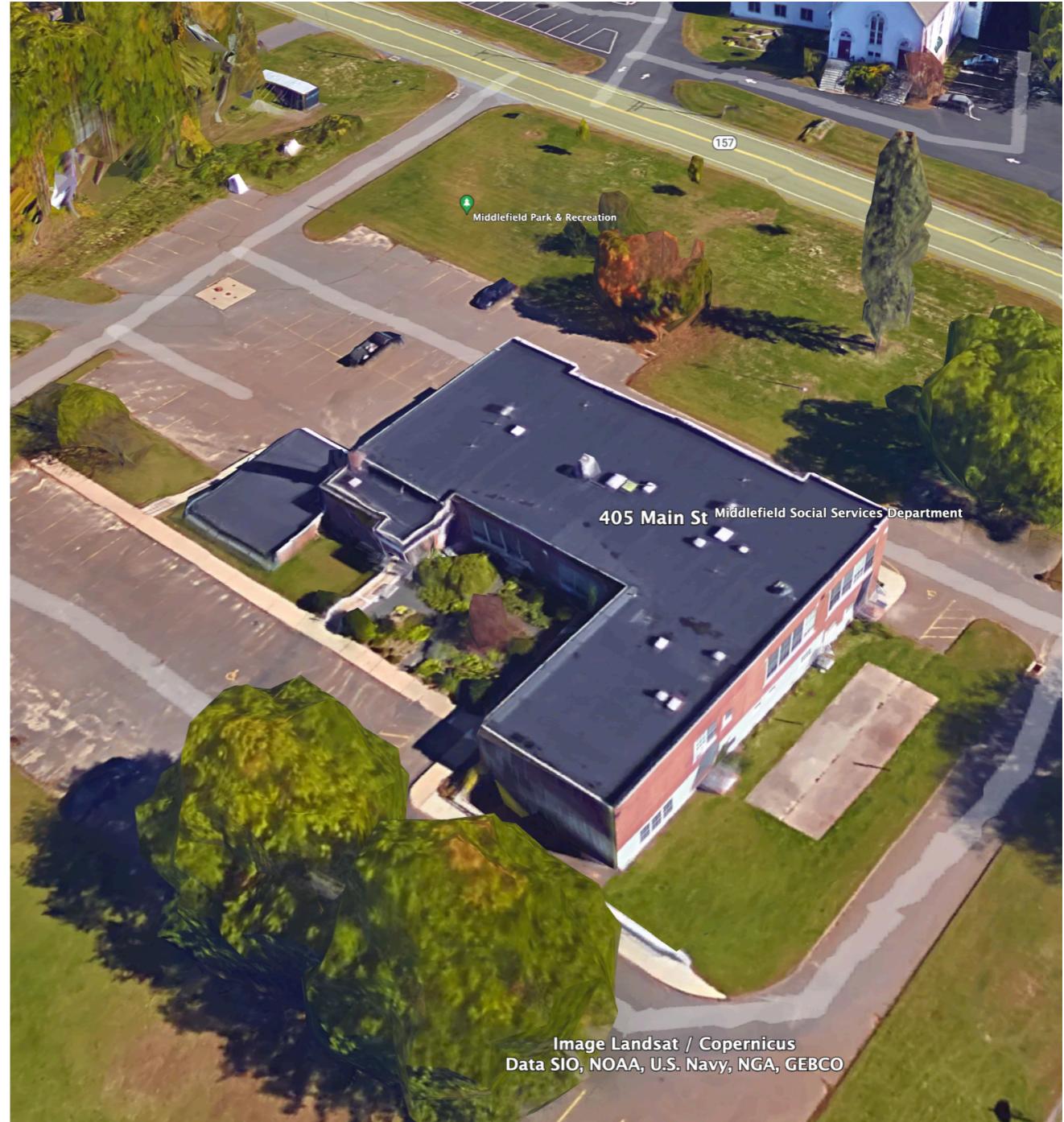
Draft Vision Statement:

We envision Middlefield as a diverse and sustainable community that maintains our community's rural character and expands our residents' quality of life, while welcoming businesses and visitors to our historic, scenic, and playful community.



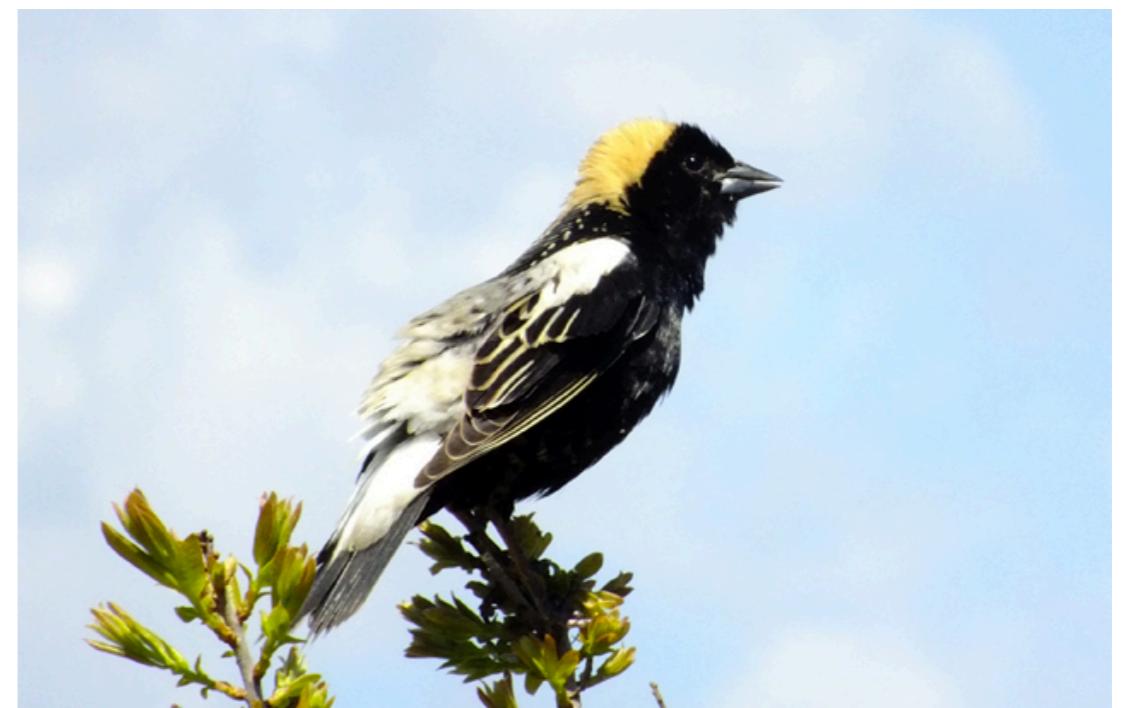
Update Community Center Facility

- Repaving parking lot
- Carpeting upstairs needs to be updated
- Update Furnace/HVAC systems
 - Split systems - DMYFS and Historical Society rooms (outer wall for cond. drain)
- Two large meeting rooms cleaned top-btm disinfected/wiped down
- New screen in auditorium
- Small conference room returned/ storage somewhere else
 - Emergency management room?
 - Stage side storage room upgraded?
- Update up/downstairs men's/women's restrooms
- Can hear wind through windows
- Remove Junk



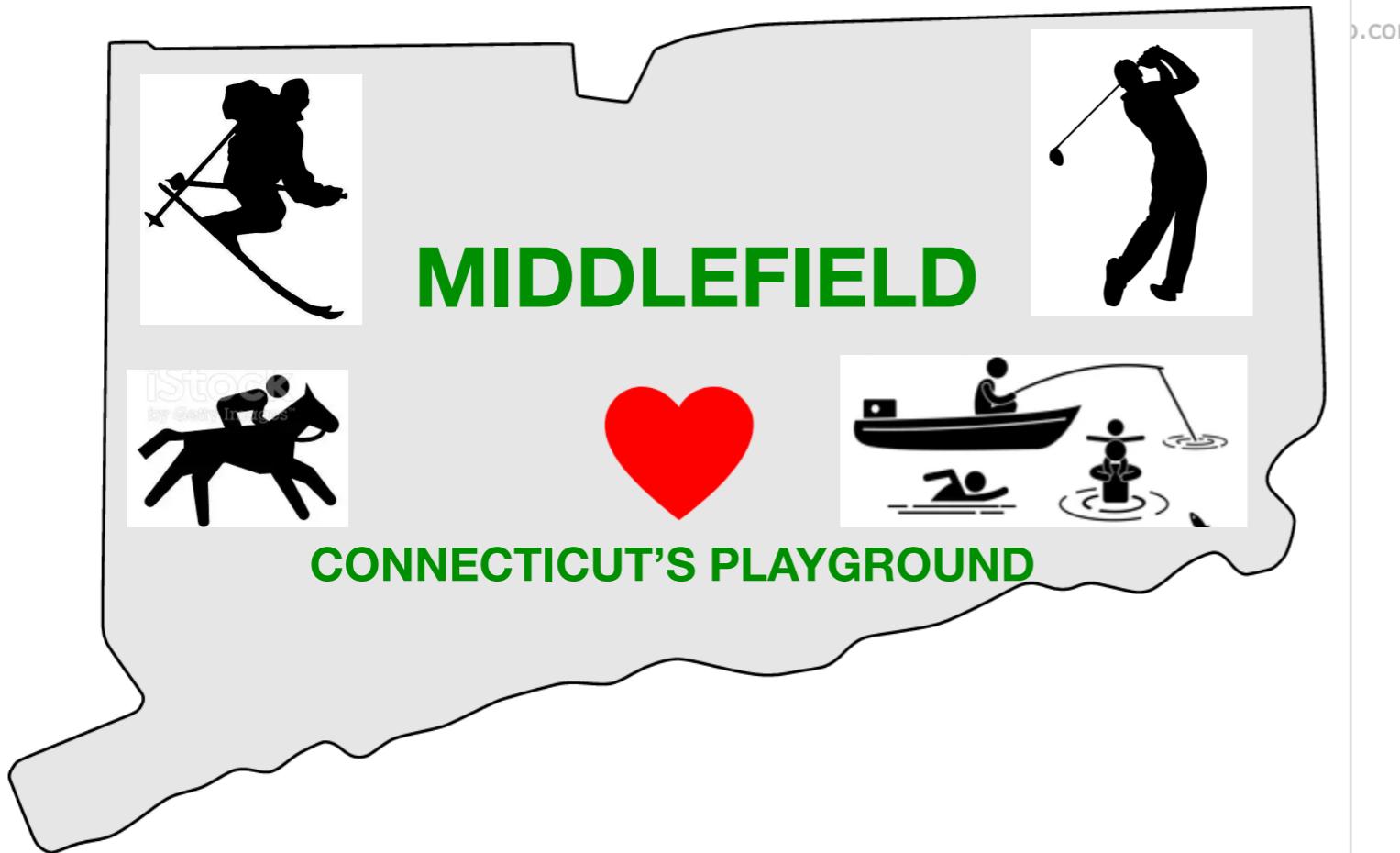
Agri/Eco-Tourism in our Open Spaces

- Manage open space haying for bird fledging
 - Bobolinks build their nests on the ground in hayfields
 - Farmers mow their fields during the nesting season for most valuable crop
 - Results in a complete loss of eggs and nestlings.
- Alternative: farmers manage/ cultivate their fields for grassland birds
 - Pay farmers to cultivate for bird nesting and early or late haying
- Return to CT Audubon Tourism Path



Nickname for the Town?

- Create a new tag line for Middlefield branding
 - Heart of CT
 - Eat/Stop/Stay/Play
 - Central CT's Playground



MIDDLEFIELD



THE HEART OF CONNECTICUT

- Useful for promotion
- Create merchandise / swag with town name and tag
- Driver for contests, fund raisers, specific campaigns
- Painted artifacts could be created by town organizations



Increased Security Access in Town Bldgs

- How many townspeople have keys to the Community Center?

HAVE LOST TRACK

- Vulnerability includes town records, equipment, vandalism, personal safety
- Key card or combination access with entry recording could maintain awareness

WHO'S ENTERING WHEN

- 4 would be needed for Community Center

REPRESENTATIVE OPTION



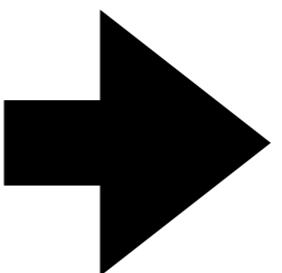
SCHLAGE CO-200

Proximity + Keypad Card Access Lock

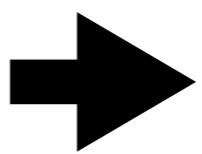
[Customer Questions \(5\)](#)

\$1,087.28 – \$1,141.48

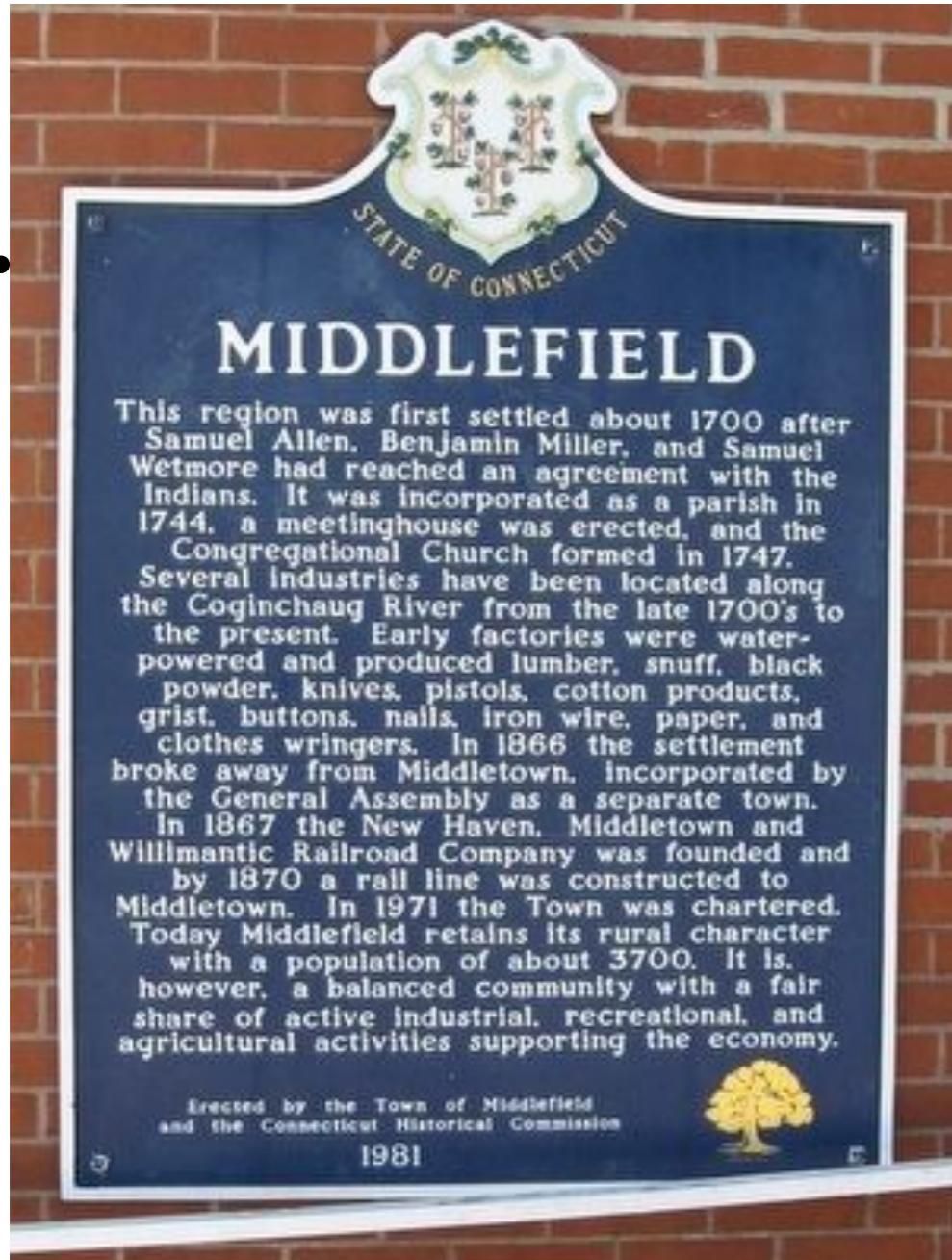
Improved Signage Exiting Rte 9 and US 91



Town Center Visual Upgrade - e.g. Chester



Historical Markers on Bldgs./Landmarks



- Identify sites for additional designation of historical landmark recognition
- Describe significance on viewable plaques

Engage Businesses with Possible Magnet School

- A magnet school is an entire school with a special focus.
- A business like Zygo would have scientists capable of teaching as adjunct faculty in a high technology school
- Could be located on land parcels north of current Zygo location



ZYGO - Precision Optical Metrology



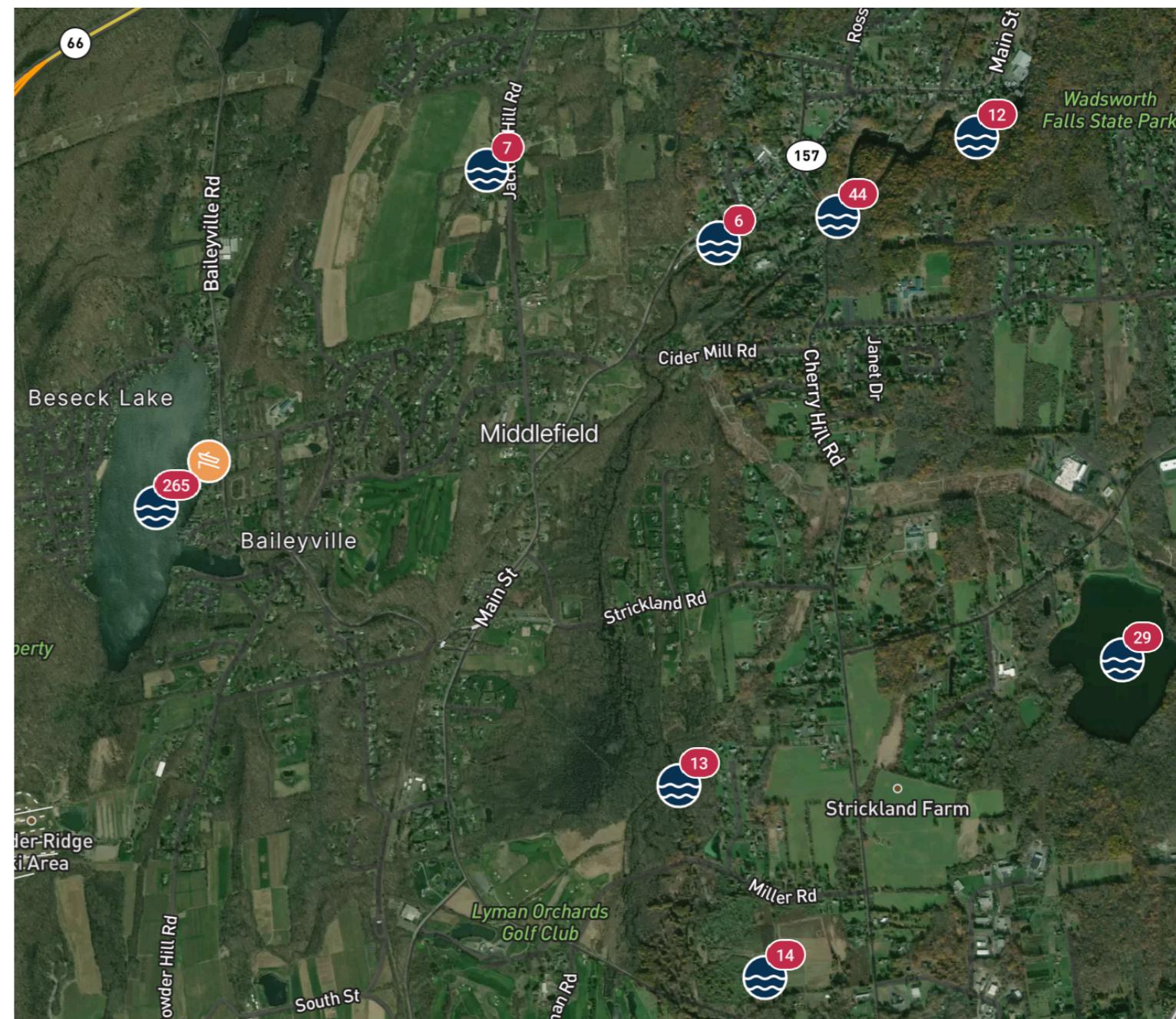
Re-look at Trout Unlimited Plan for River

- Sites with (btm to top) 14, 13, 6 and 44 are # of catches along Coganchaug River in Middlefield
- No catches between Lyman Meadow Brook and Hans Brook / Wadsworth Falls
- Need revitalization and accessibility plan for river course

Coganchaug River Watershed

| Town | Total Acres in Town | Total Town Acres in Watershed | Percent of town in Watershed |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Durham | 14,912 | 12,130.80 | 81.3% |
| Guilford | 30,464 | 1,663.04 | 5.5% |
| Madison | 23,232 | 399.10 | 1.7% |
| Meriden | 30,720 | 34.30 | 0.1% |
| Middlefield | 8,512 | 7,104.60 | 83.5% |
| Middletown | 27,456 | 3,214.00 | 11.7% |
| North Branford | 17,152 | 177.90 | 1.0% |
| Wallingford | 127,360 | 199.80 | 0.2% |

Recent Reported Fish Catches - Coganchaug River

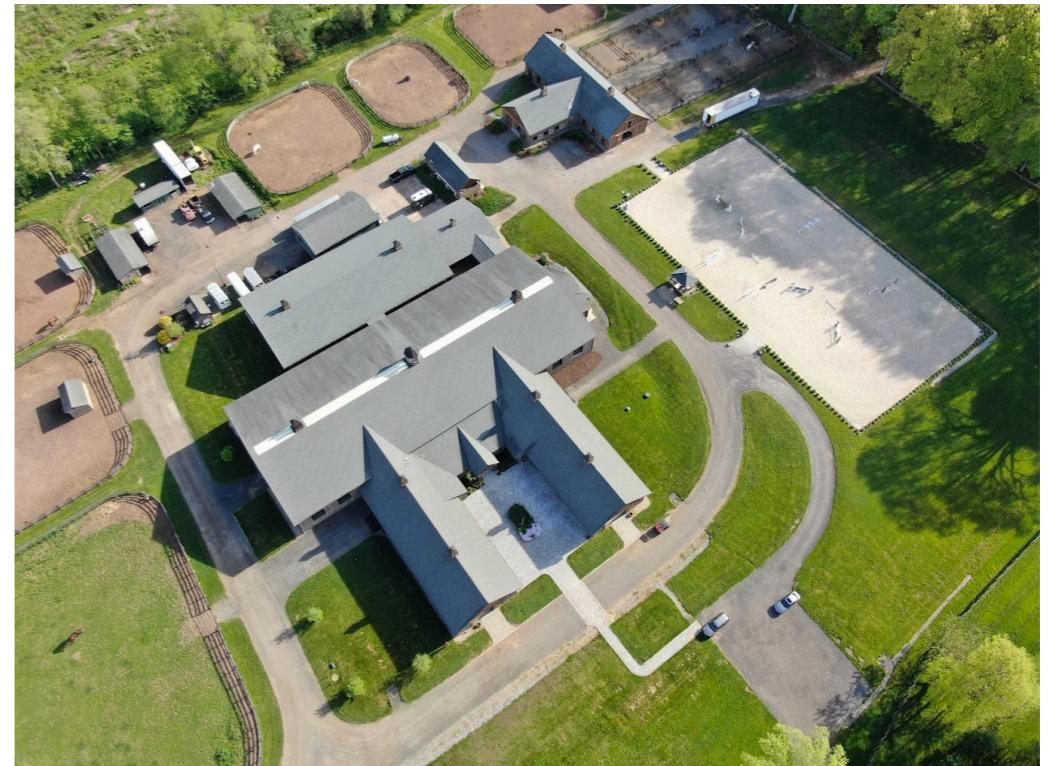


Mobilize Equestrian/Horse Farms Group

- Horse Farms
 - Triangle A Stables - Jackson Hill Road
 - Epic Farms - Cherry Hill Road
 - Rolling Meadows Farm - Miller Road
 - Ridgeland Farm - Powder Hill Road



Epic Farms Facility



- Riding trails and lessons
- Boarding
- Create new riding trail to attract equestrians?

Lyman School as Possible Affordable Hsg.



For Example

Northpointe Development Corp. to convert the former Smith Elementary School to an affordable housing project. (Wisconsin)



Christmas Market in Peckham Park

- Christmas Markets are community gathering opportunities
- Craftspeople, shop keepers offer goodies and wares to evening attendees
- Typically held post Thanksgiving to mid Dec.
- Could be holiday weekends activity for town-visitors



Create Middlefield Swag

- Fundraising, community building opportunity
- Careful not to encroach on Durham Pharmacy or Perrotti's store "Middlefield" named merchandise



Electronic Activities Sign - Town Green

- Communication of town messages and activities is critical
- Besides social media / websites - a programmable, town center sign would be another highly visible method



EXAMPLES

