

Friends of Worcester welcomes you
to a community presentation
and discussion

WHAT IS WORCESTER'S FUTURE?

November 14, 2005



Friends of Worcester

We are working –
**To educate citizens
and government
To preserve open
space
To conserve
Worcester's historic
resources
To protect our future**



We know Worcester residents value open space and look to a future that will preserve as much of it as possible.



Why Is Open Space Important?

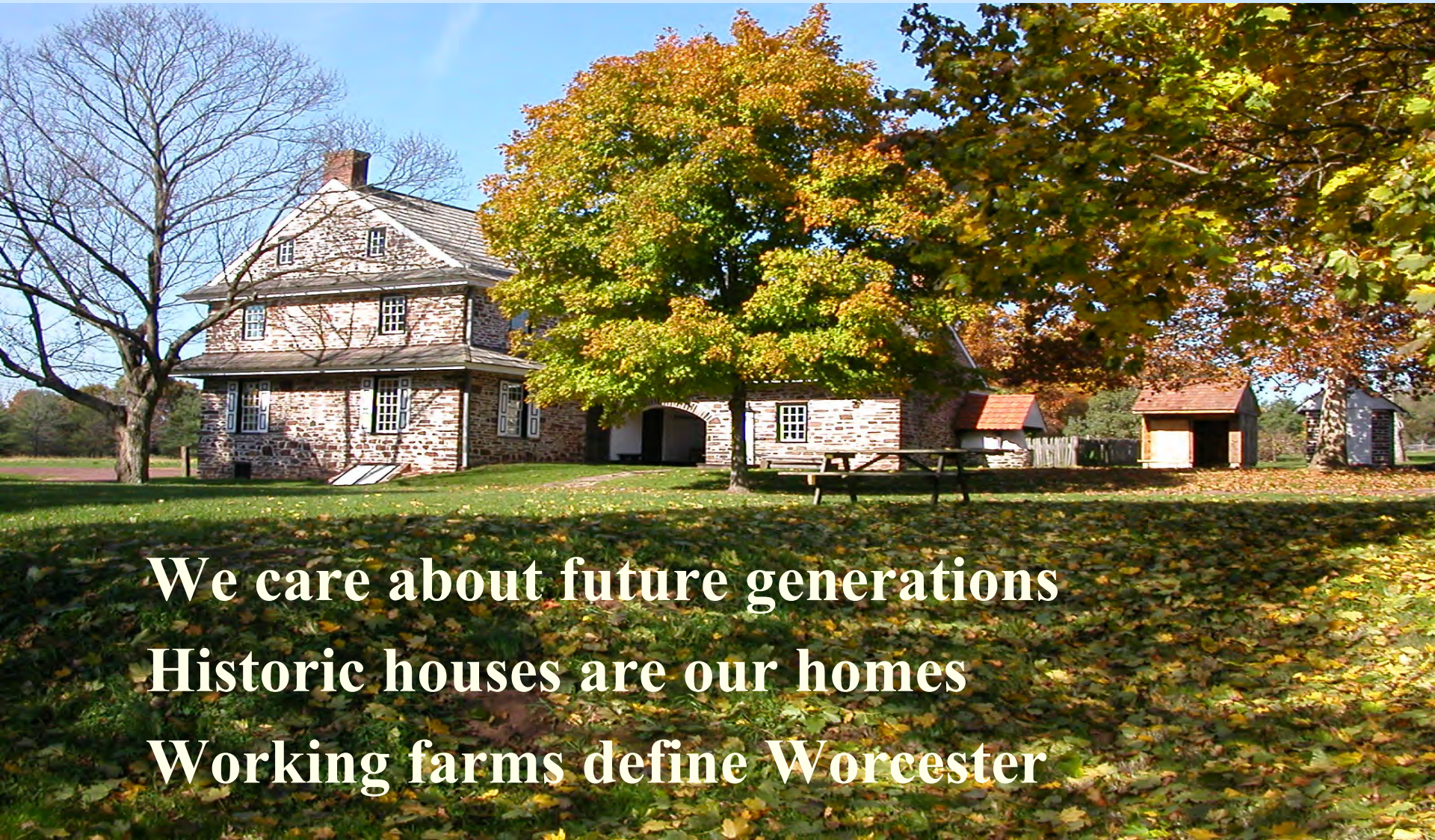
1. Quality of life
2. Preserve Worcester's rural & historic heritage for future generations
3. School taxes - control the increase

1. Quality of Life

- # Open space feels like home
- # We don't need more traffic
- # Protect natural habitat – birds, animals, fish, even insects
- # Recreation opportunities
 - Walking & jogging
 - Horseback riding
 - Birding & fishing
 - Family activities



2. Preserve Worcester's Rural and Historic Heritage



We care about future generations
Historic houses are our homes
Working farms define Worcester

3. Control the Growth of School Taxes

The average home in Worcester ...

SENDS	0.8	children to school
COSTS	\$8643	to educate 0.8 child
PAYS	<u>\$5475</u>	in school taxes

**COSTS ALL
TAXPAYERS (\$3168) each year**

What do school taxes really cost us?



**A 50-acre farm could become 22 homes,
each costing taxpayers \$3168 per year.**

**That's a total tax
burden of \$69,696
each year, from just
one development!**



So preserving these 50 acres can --



Save Worcester taxpayers \$69,696 in school taxes each year.

Avoid increased local taxes for municipal services such as

- Police force
- Road improvements
- Sewer authority
- Snow plowing

It's true what they say ...

Saving Land Saves Money