**1. Water Resources**

One of the most important issues facing Poland over the next 10 years will be the continued protection of its surface and ground water resources. Poland’s lakes (Upper, Middle, and Lower Range Ponds, Worthley Pond, Tripp Pond, and Thompson Lake) are an important resource, and have served to attract a number of children’s camps, private recreation facilities (including golf courses and campgrounds), and private institutions. In addition, year round and seasonal homes along their shorelines add significantly to the Town's tax base. A number of lake associations have played a major role in monitoring water quality, and the Town has incorporated strict phosphorus control provisions into the Comprehensive Land Use Code.

Poland’s ground water resources; have made Poland Spring a household word in many parts of the country.

Finally, Poland has a number of streams that have been rated as being high value fisheries habitat. These have already been zoned resource protection, and will continue to be designated that way.

**Town Goal:**

***Protect the quality, and manage the quantity of the Town’s water resources, including lakes, aquifers, rivers and streams.***

| POLICIES | ACTION STRATEGIES | RESPONSIBILITY | STATUS |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. That the conversion of seasonal dwellings to year-round dwellings do not impact water quality.  2. That agricultural and forestry activities minimize nutrients carried by run-off that may reachsurface waters.  3. That erosion and sedimentation of surface waters does not occur.  4. Minimize the threat of the spreading of invasive aquatic species into lakes and ponds.  5. Protect the quality and quantity of ground water resources.  6. Work with surrounding communities to protect common water resources.  7. To minimize phosphorus loading as the result of development and other land use activities within watersheds. | Amend the CLUC to require that prior to the issuance of a conversion permit, any unstable site conditions creating erosion and sedimentation are corrected.  Conduct an inventory of all farms, golf courses, nurseries, and orchards in the watershed areas of the Town’s great ponds to locate potential sources of nutrient.  Inspect development sites to ensure compliance with approved erosion and sediment control plans.  Conduct/update lake watershed surveys  Seek grants to correct erosion and sedimentation issues in lake watershed  Provide training to the highway department in soil erosion and storm water control practices and implement such practices  Place all significant inlet streams to great ponds in stream protection districts under Shoreland zoning  Develop an education and inspection program that will control the introduction/spread of invasive species.  Strictly administer and enforce provisions in the CLUC relating to ground water protection.  Review existing standards in the CLUC relating to ground water protection and propose needed amendments  **Enforce CLUC and other standards** for protecting and enhancing shared surface and ground water resources. **~~and work for the passage of similar protection strategies~~**.  With the towns of Casco, Mechanic Falls, New Gloucester, Otisfield, Oxford and Raymond develop common standards for phosphorus export in shared lake watersheds.  Strictly administer and enforce provisions in the CLUC relating to phosphorus loading.  Review and revise if needed the Post Development Phosphorus Export amounts contained in the CLUC. | Planning Board  Town Meeting  CEO  Soil Conservation  CEO  Lake Associations  Lake Associations  **~~Selectpersons~~**/  Road Commissioner  Planning Board  Town Meeting  Lake Associations  Planning Board/CEO  Planning Board  **CEO**  Planning Board  Planning Board/CEO  Planning Board | Complete  Complete  Ongoing  Ongoing  Ongoing  Ongoing  Complete  Ongoing  Ongoing  Ongoing  **Ongoing**  **Complete for Poland**  Ongoing  Complete |
|  | COMPLETED PRIOR PLAN STRATEGIES |  |  |
| 1. That the conversion of seasonal dwellings to year-round dwellings do not impact water quality. | Amend the CLUC to require that prior to the issuance of a conversion permit, any unstable site conditions creating erosion and sedimentation are corrected. | Planning Board  Town Meeting | Complete |
| 2. That agricultural and forestry activities minimize nutrients carried by run-off that may reachsurface waters. | Conduct an inventory of all farms, golf courses, nurseries, and orchards in the watershed areas of the Town’s great ponds to locate potential sources of nutrient. | CEO  Soil Conservation | Complete |
| 3. That erosion and sedimentation of surface waters does not occur. | Place all significant inlet streams to great ponds in stream protection districts under Shoreland zoning | Planning Board  Town Meeting | Complete |
| 7. To minimize phosphorus loading as the result of development and other land use activities within watersheds. | Review and revise if needed the Post Development Phosphorus Export amounts contained in the CLUC. | Planning Board | Complete |