



Name: _____

A Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats Analysis—or SWOT Analysis—is a useful technique for understanding the strengths and weaknesses of your town forest, and for identifying both the opportunities open to your community and the threats your town forest faces. SWOT Analysis is used throughout the recreation and natural resources planning arena to help you explore areas for change and preservation, which can help with visioning and goal setting for your town forest.

Please complete the following questions individually and return to the committee chairperson.

STRENGTHS

1. What values or resources do you cherish most in your town forest?

2. What are the most unique features or resources in your town forest?

3. How does this town forest “fit” with other parks and/or natural areas in your town and/or region?



4. What has been the greatest achievement to date for those helping to manage your town forest (town, volunteers, partner organizations, etc.)?

WEAKNESSES

1. What could use improvement in your town forest?

2. What knowledge, skills and/or resources is your community lacking to effectively management of your town forest?

3. What disadvantages does your town forest have compared to other parks and/or natural areas in your town and/or region?



OPPORTUNITIES

1. Is there an unmet need in your community for parks, open spaces, and natural areas?

2. How have the recreational needs in your community been changing?

3. How can you take advantage of those changes?

4. Who are the community partners that might help you address community recreation needs in the town forest?



5. How would you support them and how might they support you?

THREATS

1. What are the top three obstacles you face in the management of your town forest?

2. What are the current factors (i.e. politics, neighbor issues, funding, climate change, etc.) that most negatively affect your ability to manage the town forest?

3. In the future what factors might challenge your ability to manage the town forest?

4. Are you aware of any local, regional or state standards, policies, and/or legislation that negatively impact your town forest?
