

Woodside Watershed

Overview

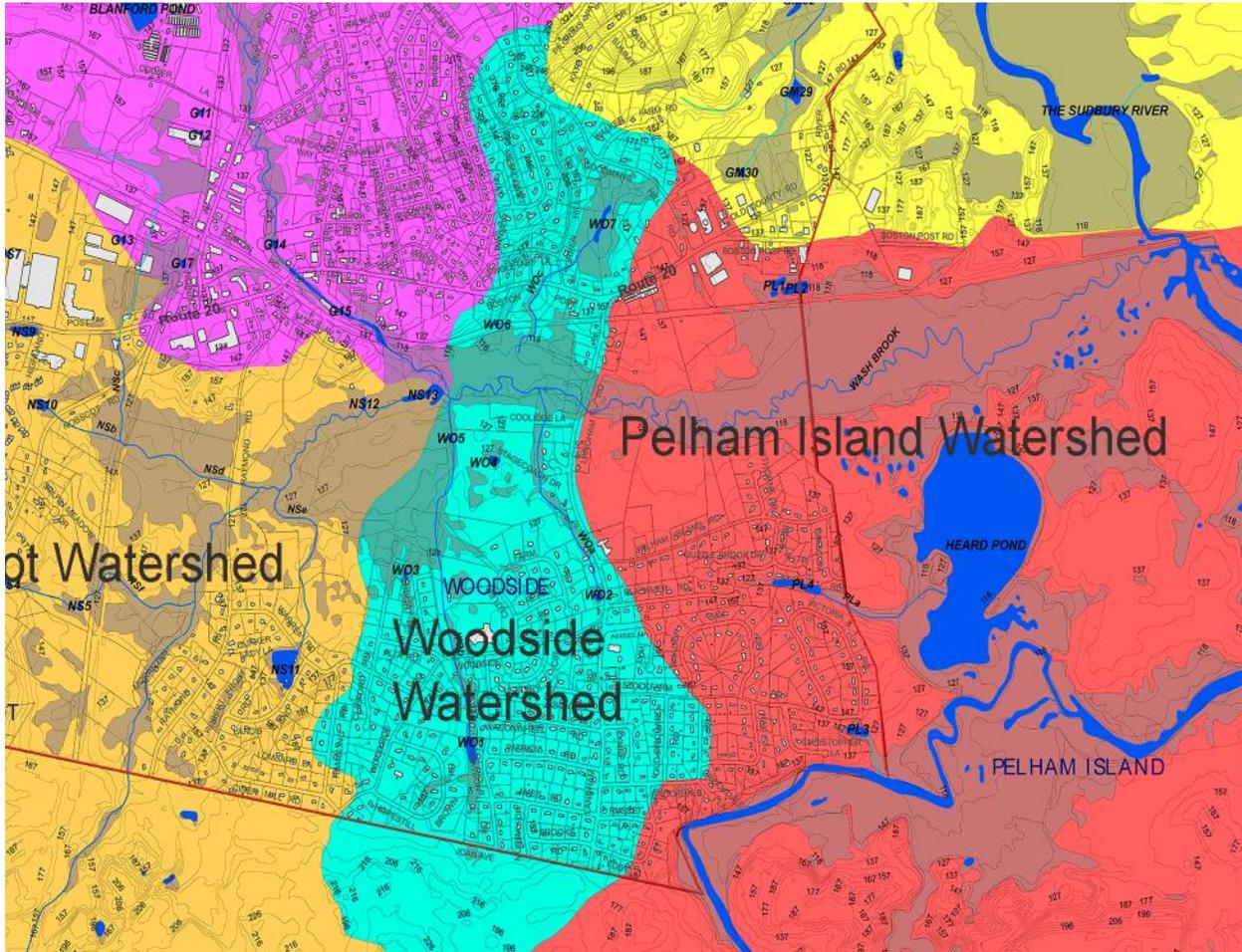
The Woodside Watershed is located on the southerly Town boundary and extends into Framingham. It abuts the Nobscot Watershed to the west and Pelham Island Watershed to the east. Allowance Brook flows northeasterly through the Nobscot Watershed, and enters the Woodside Watershed at a confluence with Hop Brook, forming Wash Brook, and flowing easterly to the Sudbury River and the Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge. Wash Brook and its adjacent wetlands complex is the Woodside Watershed's most prominent and significant hydrological feature.

The Lyons-Cutler Reservation, which is owned by the Sudbury Valley Trustees, is located along the Allowance Brook adjacent to a Sudbury Water District parcel and lands owned by the Town of Sudbury. The contiguous open space totals more than 340 acres and includes a three-mile trail system that is open to the public.

The upland area of Lyons-Cutler contains a variety of red maple, mixed oak and white pine. Old ditches, possibly used as property boundaries, border some edges of the reservation and also run through the middle of the upland region. The upland forests descend gently to a red maple swamp to the south and east, and shrub swamp along the banks of Allowance and Hop Brooks on the north and west. There are large areas of blueberry, buckthorn, and cinnamon fern.

Two secondary streams run northerly within the district and empty into Wash Brook. The first (WOa) begins at a small pond on private land adjacent to Landham Road (W01) and runs northerly over private parcels before emptying into Wash Brook north Coolidge Lane. The second significant stream (WOb) begins at a small private pond (W01) on Hopestill Brown Road, and crosses Woodside Road at the westerly edge of the Loring School property. The stream forms the boundary between Town-owned land and private property located on the easterly side of Wright Road, before entering the Lyons-Cutler reservation and eventually Wash Brook. The area framed by these streams is Wash Brook and its adjacent wetlands complex. This area provides both a rich wildlife habitat and highly valuable groundwater maintenance. A Sudbury Water District pumping well is located within the Nobscot district to the immediate west. An active blue heron rookery is the most visible illustration of the area's quality and diversity.

PWC Master Plan



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