

What do you value most about Shutesbury?

- Value elevations (cooler summer)
↳ climate
Snow winter
- Nature: ~~interest~~ what attracted 21 yrs ago.
↳ stayed for the community
- Role Rural Feel: Sense of space
w/n community
- Lake Wyola: Activity
↳ proximity / no/so p-to
- Institutions: School
: Town Hall (old) } Scale
: Administration
- Scale community & proximity to
larger 30K pop / Amherst 10min/20min
- Small population 2010 4,771
- Open Space → Ac. "Farming"
- Nature & community combination
↳ gathering spaces. (Nature)

What do you value most about Shutesbury?

- Rural setting: Beauty, Quiet, dark sky, Deer land, Wild life, Respect
- Open town mtg: ATM May: Every vote counts
- Public Safety
- Wild life
- Neighborhoods → interdependence
- Small town have opportunity for individual
◦ contribute / participate committees
- Library: Sponsors cultural activities Programs (lots)
- Sirios → 25/30 residents
- State Park → Shutesbury shares w/ everybody
- local mrkts / town hall
- State owned land
- Historical Resources
◦ old town hall → holds a lot of history
- Education → School system well supported

What do you value most about Shutesbury?

- Rural character: Experience of Beauty
- Historic Resources: Buildings
 - ↳ Connection: Stone walls
 - : Dams / Foundations
- Connection to people
 - ↳ You are known / not anon
 - ↳ Connectivity w/ea other
- Spaciousness → Nature, Physical space
- Nature / Trails /
 - ↳ Library →
- Nurturing: Happy / Joyful / Grounding
- Progressive minded / Considering Greater good
- Large / open tracts of land / trails
- Quiet / Dark Skys → Peaceful
- Elem. Schools w/ local control
 - ↳ 50 staff / 120 students
- Natural Resources available to residents; non-residents
- Volunteerism

What do you value most about Shutesbury?

- People: Well-educated
- Neighborly
- Involved
- Explore history
- Families w/ generational connection

- Variety of ways to connect
- Socially

- Lake Wyda → Activities
Social Summer

- Rural / location wooded / Amherst

- "The Hill" → Bicycle
- Community building opportunities

- Sirius Community

- Woodlands → Beauty, hiking exercise

- Diversity of population → Backgrounds
- Space → Surroundings
→ Rural character
→ Splendor
→ Knowledge
- Voter turnout → everyone participated
- Natural Resources

- Environment(s) for raising school-aged/ grandchildren → Range
- Reservoir →

- Familiar Faces → Know many

- Feeling of safety

- Tenacity of getting thru conflicts:

- Elementary School; library as resources

- Proximity to 5 college communities
- Educational Culture ← Amherst in Mass Hampshire Mt. Holyoke

What do you value most about Shutesbury?

- 90ac SIRIUS organic gardens
- eco. village
- educational workshops
- 35 years. Baker Rd.
- Educational center
- close to Quabbin Res.
- Lake Wyola
- 3 conf centers / retreats
- Privacy of setting
- ↳ surroundings
- Community / Knowledge of people
- Shutesbury Athletic Club
- Sirius community w/in Shutesbury
- Natural Beauty

- Independent thinking →
- Families - generational history / presence.
- ↳ presence.
- Library → Kayak
- Heartstone Village

● ● ● ● ●
Lack of cell service/internet

● ● ● ● ●
Property tax burden

invasive plants

Spending cars on dirt roads

● ● ● ● ●
Lack of public spaces
for competitive informal
- dependence on cars

● ● ● ● ●
- fine works (illegal)
- struck holding

● ● ● ● ●
Too much shade to solar panel
settle the connections

● ● ● ● ●
Air quality and noise from
equipment at town hall

● ● ● ● ●
Spending money built at
Lake Wyalpa
Lack of constructive conversation
engaging with respect

● ● ● ● ●
Lack of new library

Small meeting spaces

● ●
Not

No muching hard
elder friendly

Community building hard

● ● ● ● ●
need to drive for
everything

● ● ● ● ●
drive for
everything

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drive for
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Absence of an accepted funny when conflict can be white washed

Lack of industry/
tax base
commercial

Lack of a place to
gather. ●●●●

Under utilized commons

- Bad sides of a small town to
- Divisiveness + Polarization as a result of disagreement over issues (ie. the library)

Old vs. New - conflicting opinions about continuing growth, gentrification, increasing taxes

(A+)

Debates where people don't feel listened to or heard.

Determining of desire to understand other people's POV.

What is your least favorite thing about Shutesbury?

No survival center
Services for poor

Dirt roads
Road maintenance

What is your least favorite thing about Shutesbury?

Town of Shutesbury Community Planning Workshop

Library too Small

(No Bike paths (road))

Library adequate to serve community

Lack of awareness of economic diversity - lack of understanding of economic disadvantaged.

High Property Taxes

Lack of physical infrastructure (senior ctr., library, boys + girls club, comp. access)

Large Public accessible space

- Walking on roads - no place to walk - need sidewalks

- No Broadband

- No Town Center - functional down town - no barber shop/coffee shop

- Far from normal conveniences

- No Take out

- Divisive Communication over issues people are passionate about

- Us vs. Them, Old vs. New

- No assisted living (empty in place)

- No public transportation

Lack of action on building maintenance

What is your least favorite thing about Shutesbury?

VERIZON
Corporations



(Confederate flag on mortgage Red)

- Having to drive everywhere
- Lack of services - limited library, internet
- Lack of open government and tolerance
- citizens are judgmental
- We have a hard time understanding
- Lack of common narrative
- no Broadband

What is your least favorite thing about Shutesbury?

● Lack of Internet

● Painful Politics

● Lack of Transportation / Car dependence

● Lack of basic needs -
convenience goods
co-op

● Fine facade + men had dog papers
● lose, unlearned, banking days

● Lack of a gathering place

● Poor cell phone service

● Steadily ↑ property taxes

● Lack of interest in bringing revenue into town
● Business, sole-project
● Revenue that brings in

● Small volunteer pool

● Poor access to
historical facility

● Lack of opportunity for inter-generational
learning

● Poor upkeep of town facilities
● Poor town facilities
● Potential for isolation
e.g. as people age

What would you change about Shutesbury?

Butter on popcorn closer to ocean

Nice big library / community meeting space ●

More adequate town buildings - functional, contemporary, better maintained, modern facilities

Place less restrictive housing / family restrictions - extended

Shared living accommodations

More aging in place services

Ensure access to basic staples - bread, milk, etc

Coffee shop

Better internet + cell service

Change dynamics around issues

improve public discourse

engagement of younger people - gov't, social, recreation

Public transportation

Ability to bike, walk, run safely on roads

More fire & ambulance service

More opportunities for social gatherings / activities ●

Comfortable meeting / activity space

More utilization of senior lounge ● ●

● Erase us vs them attitudes - find common ground ●

Attract young families to town

More affordable housing

Raise awareness of economic differences

Shelter for those who have those needs

Practical services for people in need

Apply for more grants

Rely less on volunteers more on paid employees

Have a makers space ●

Replace school auditorium curtain

What would you change about Shutesbury?

Have a little store ●●●●

Bike/walking paths on main streets

Limit motor boats on Lake Wyola - size, speed

Lower property taxes ●

Make Internet happen

Bring more people to farmers market

More sustainable energy - homes, public land, geothermal ●●

Charging stations

Public transportation ●

Get more people volunteering (cleaning)

More community space

New library ●●●●●●●●●●

More municipal solar farms ●●●●

Long range planning for self sustaining energy

Senior housing

More aging in place services

Support services for elderly/disadvantaged/neighbors

More family attractions

Space for small business + artists to work

More public gardens

Get rid of invasive species

Get rid of mold in buildings

●● More connection between town + State

●● More gathering spaces - adult ed/recreation ●

Town of Shutesbury Community Visioning Workshop

What would you change about Shutesbury?

● Lower taxes

● Less polarized town

● Better cell + Internet reception

● Unmoldy community gathering space

Pleasant " " "

● Increased civic engagement

Lower energy costs

Encourage small businesses

Internet cafe

● Cushman type location (Cushman Market)

● Bigger library w/ cafe, internet

● Better Senior Services - housing, meals on wheels

● ~~Encourage~~ Attract young families to live here

● "Take it or leave it" location

● Less invasive species

● Take better care of dirt roads

● Post police blog

What would you change about Shutesbury?

IMPROVE INTERNET SERVICE

Encourage Local business - have locals shop here - general store

public transportation
increase utilization of town buildings including school

public water supply well for clean water
private drinking water protection assistance

more respectful dialog/transparency
more places for community events

Greater inclusion of Sirius residents
Car pooling

Visiting nurse service

Increase Intergenerational Support
increase community participation

create needs + offering system/directory
provide child care @ town events

Town sponsored Workshops + Events (CPR, 1st Aid)

Ongoing town communication group

What would you change about Shutesbury?

-Redevelop Pelham Hill rd to the way it was-

Sidewalks/Bike paths

● Build town center - gen. store, fountain, bandstand parky,

● Change the way we have discussion about divisive issues - build consensus ●

Better communication

Better communication about new issues

Find ways to access/inform public about issues

Elderly support

Frame problems

Greater involvement of residents

● Ability to agree on common ground → vision

● Make town more affordable

● Lower property taxes ● ●

Find different funding sources

What about Shutesbury should stay the same?

- rural/living in the woods → walk in woods w/o being in someone's backyard.
- population (not more, not fewer) → but grow w/ young families ←
not smaller (tax base).
- Keepers > school independent → control, big asset to community, independence, local (↓ in school pop)
→ just driving home (experience)
→ nights are dark (no light pollution), Lake Wyoda, Sunset @ top of hill @ town hall
→ temp chg in ... → summer hiking paths, ponds
- Community spirit → Celebrate Shutesbury, dancing + dinners @ AC, uke lute jam

Large tracts of forested land ●●

listening to the community

- Volunteer involvement

- governance largely by volunteers
(not professionals)

Civil servants - fire, police → helpfulness + pleasantness of people at library + Town Hall

four season recreational opportunities
skiing, biking, hiking, swimming
paddling, snowshoeing, sledding] Keep paths + trails we have

Shutesbury Athletic Club

Library + Kayak → active + interesting library

What about Shutesbury should stay the same?

lack of traffic

open woodlands — trees, quiet, wildlife understory

hiking trails

Lake Wyola — ~~beautiful~~ ● ●

rural character — wooded, night sky, dirt roads
control

beautiful
own elementary school — local ~~school~~, great, ●

quiet ● ●
Clean drinking water ● ●

Safety — crime rate is low, safe to raise children ●

Climate — always cooler

Programs — school, library, COA, Hist. Comm. CCK (Community Network for Children)

Library programs — (but not buildings)

Local control — long tradition, independence, self-governing, self-reliance
volunteerism (including town gov.)

New zoning — open space, ~~then control~~

low density (building) (population)

Artsy nature (studio art tour, holiday market)

farmers market

well-kept secret

neighborliness

Supportive nature of fire + police

friendly police dept. ●

What about Shutesbury should stay the same?

Natural resources ●

trash collection: curbside ●●

nature - paths, access to out door,

diverse population - different backgrounds

large volunteer participation in Town government

liberal spirit

location → Queen Rte, commercial location, distance to Boston

● participation + access to State college community

unposted private land - no "No Trespassing" signs

Lake → access to Lake Wyola (swimmers/kayakers); Wendell State forest ●●

● kayaker fine library also fishing rods

Farmers Market (or grow)

Garden Tours - attract visitors

●● hiking trails, skiing, (X-country out back door)
↳ welcoming

privacy of settings of homes (low density of development)
(zoning)

● Bulky Waste Day

Community Traditions -

Halloween Pancake Breakfast
Dancing Spaghetti Supper
Celebrate Shutesbury

● Athletic Club - good resource, live music, meetings
Holiday Fair

● Rural Road Network (small-time roads)

●● Annual Town Meeting - open
Population (sustain)

● Unfragmented Back Land - huge blocks
open areas

● Historic Assets - buildings + landscapes

Monument on Green, Church, school houses

History still part of present

What about Shutesbury should stay the same?

Elementary - heart of community; no lead → public water supply is clean → attractive for families

historic → old time New England, unpainted, buildings

People

woods, stars, abundant wildlife

- Athletic Club - free live music, benefits, food nights
- Library - historic building (but size)
- Lousy phone lines (buses + cracks)
- Dirt roads that drop off (discourage cut throvs)
- Main roads in great shape (Town maintenance)
- Inadequate fire dept, police dept
- Bulky Waste Days - community, ~~swap week~~ Swap week
- Garbage pickup (curbside pickup)
- Post Office - original instructions
- School house, Old Town Hall
- Daniel Shays - owned property
- Drinking Water
- Neighborhood nears Sirius → attract outside (green building)
- Lake Wyola - state beach
- Fire work shows - 3rd of July, parade boat
- Bearfest - Craft Brewers
- Town Common
- Celebrate Shutesbury
- Farmers Market
- Small, home-based businesses - variety
- People not on top of each other
- Quiet, Clean Air at Night
- Montague, Road.
- Village Co-op
- Dan, Tom Wendell

What about Shutesbury should stay the same?

● Nature - walks in the woods, living amidst trees, open area wildlife

● Mixture of ages + backgrounds in town

● Lake - healthy, accessible ^{public}

● Rural feel - dirt roads, lots of trees, working farms, no streetlights

● Elementary school - great facility; community of kids, kids are known
lifelong friends

● Self-sufficiency, independent thinking ^{need} → openness to new people + ideas

● Sense of cooperation when people go in ^{need}

● Extensive forest - big blocks of unbroken forest
(Quinn watershed)

● Informality (familiarity in community)

● Bridge Library Services

● Hire Town Meeting

● Focus on alternative energy sources - interest in continuing to make progress

related to size

real open space (forests)

not Amherst - congested
whole town

Coming back up the hill

● Historical buildings

● Quality of air, water, environment

● S-curves

● Athletic Club ● ● ● ●

● Trails

● People are friendly

● Library - small but vibrant, meets needs kept, other resources

● Post office

● Police + fire doing a great job

● Farmers Market (bit gross)

● Cider + doughnuts on Halloween

● Senior potluck 1st Tuesday

● level of volunteerism -
giving of themselves to make
Shutesbury work

November 3rd 2010

What factors will challenge Shutesbury now and in the future?

Internal

Too much growth
Not enough growth

● Attracting young families

School population

● Broadband issue

● Cell Service issue

● Property Tax burden

● Ability to attract volunteers to Town Gov't

● Ability to communicate over differences

● Aging Population - Aging in place Challenges

● Inadequate/aging

● Community building structure

External

Climate Change

U Mass Changes

Water Shortage/drought

Regionalization Changes
ie Schools

Lack of viability of small businesses

Closure of businesses in Leverett/Wendell

State infrastructure
State support for services

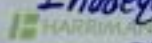
→ Lake Wyola water quality

Protecting Water Sources

Reliance on fossil fuels

land share's air quality
Attractions toward change

inability to Marketing homes with limited technology



What factors will challenge Shutesbury now and in the future?

Internal

- Declining School Pop
- Lack of internet/Broadband ←
- Decrease in property values →

- Water Contamination
- Aging population / lack of infrastructure to age in place

• How to make Shutesbury more attractive to families

• Need for continued expertise in town government (Volunteers) encouraging young people

• Developing a common narrative that respects differences

External

• Increase of cost of living / raising children

- Climate Change
- Energy prices

• Regional school issues ie lead in H₂O

• Attracting more diverse population

• Lack of Federal / state funding

What factors will challenge Shutesbury now and in the future?

Internal

Broad band

High Taxes / Budget

Deteriorating infrastructure

Cell Signal - Lack of

Too much increase/decrease in
Population

Dirt Road issues

Lack of volunteers

Ageing Population - Lack of
of services ~~and~~ Transport
medical etc. support

Lack of Gathering Space / ^{coffee} shop

Library size problematic

Supporting School

External

Drug Problems

Politics

Regionalization of Schools
K-12

Sharing High Schools

Public Ownership of land
Potential ~~financial~~ financial
issues

Resource Exploitation
i.e. clearcuts

Drought / Water issues

Waste disposal issues

What factors will challenge Shutesbury now and in the future?

Internal

● Aging of town volunteers
(replacements?)

● Lack of central meeting
Place

● Lack of informal social
gathering places ●●

● Lack of marketplace
Venues/retail economy
gas/food etc.

● Lack of commercial tax base

● Healing from past divisive
issues

External

Public Policy - State/Federal
mandates

Regionalization pressures
State of larger economy

What factors will challenge Shutesbury now and in the future?

Internal

- Broadband
- Population Chg
- Taxes/infrastructure
lack of consensus

Divergence between median income / Property taxes

• Declining enrollment in School

Cost of pensions and obep

• Civil discourse / communication

Rural character changes/definitions
gentrification

External

- State Budget
- Climate Change
- School Funding

lack of consensus / agreement to deal with

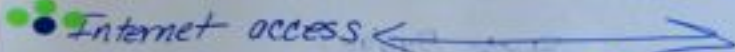
loss of people in town / people in town / loss of people in town

loss of people / loss of people

loss of people / loss of people

Internal

External



- Internet access
- Aging Population
- Challenge of paying property taxes
- Lack of commercial enterprises to support tax base

- Change in Revenue
 - non sustainable funding
- Loss of State Revenue
- Climate Change
- Ecological Sustainability

- Divisiveness among people in ~~town~~ town
- re: issues eg. school - library municipal bldgs.

Decrease in school age Population

Animal habitat loss animals encroaching

- Population Growth / loss
- Affordability for young people
- Availability / sustainability of Natural Resources
- Water Quality issues / drought

Fear of Change

- Adapting to non-fossil fuel paradigm
- new economic imperatives
- Changes w/ 5 Colleges (employers)