

## **CROCKER CONSERVATION AREA**

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### **Overlook Reservoir Conservation Restriction.**

In 1994, **North County Land Trust** received a gift of 127 acres of open and forested land located one-half mile from Fitchburg's upper common. The Crocker family had owned this land for generations. The Crocker Conservation Area abuts the 350-acre Audubon Flatrock Wildlife Sanctuary and hundreds of acres of watershed land owned by the city of Fitchburg.

In 1999, **NCLT** learned that 30 acres of this city-owned land, containing the 17 acre Overlook Reservoir and a smaller reservoir would be decommissioned, placing the land at risk for conversion by the city to other uses. In order to protect this important open space next to the Crocker Conservation Area, **NCLT** offered to give the city 1.5 acres of conservation land on which to construct a water tank, in exchange for a conservation restriction on the city's land. This conservation restriction required state legislative approval and it was approved and granted to **NCLT** in March 2000.