

Committed to the future. Grounded by the past.

Economic Development

Massachusetts

Grafton



Economic Development

Town of Grafton



Economic Development Commission

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Why Grafton?



Centech Park



Highfields Golf Course



Grafton Town House

Opportunity

Whether looking for sites for village-oriented commercial/retail or office use, or to site larger office/light manufacturing and/or industrial uses, Grafton provides opportunity. The Town is part of the **Blackstone Valley Economic Target Area (ETA)** with available local and state incentives for investment. In addition, the Town is rated a **"Platinum" BioReady Community**, and provides expedited permitting in priority development districts.

Quality of Life

As part of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, which celebrates the region as the "Birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution", the Town has a rich historical and cultural history. Grafton continues to have a strong commitment to open space, historic preservation, and economic development.

Location

The Town of Grafton is strategically located in central Massachusetts with easy access to major state and federal highways, including the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), I-290, I-190, I-495, and state route 146. In addition, the Town hosts an MBTA commuter rail station on the Worcester to Boston line.

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The history of Grafton is the history of the Blackstone Valley, recognized nationally as the "Birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution." Characterized then by farms, villages, and factories, the built landscape has changed over time, particularly in the past decade, when the Town was one of the fastest growing communities in Central Massachusetts. Fortunately, the Town has taken active measures to support its historic landscapes. In addition, the town has the **Grafton Land Trust** (www.graftonland.org) which independently, and in partnership with the Town, has worked to preserve significant open space and promote its active use.

The historic villages of New England Village in North Grafton. The town center Grafton Common, and the South Grafton villages of Saundersville, Fisherville, and Farnumsville continue to provide opportunities for retail and commercial activity. The town is working to apply more entrepreneurial mixed use zoning within these villages to provide more options for investment in existing historic structures.

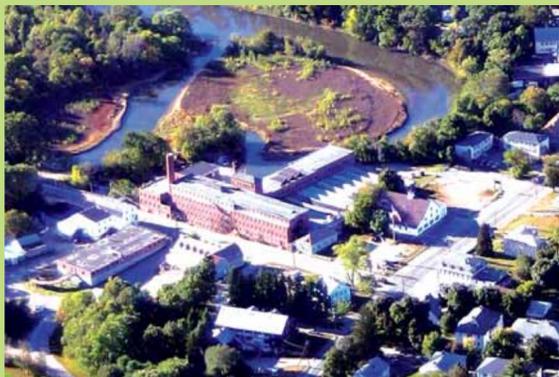
Adjacent to the Grafton MBTA commuter railroad station, **Centech Park** (www.worcesterbdc.com/centech.asp) hosts five high technology companies, with development opportunities on two additional available lots. Centech Park is the result of a strong business partnership between the Town of Grafton and the Worcester Business Development Corporation.

The town also boasts a number of businesses that represent the best of the past and the promise of the future. For example, the **Washington Mills Company** (www.washingtonmills.com) in New England Village adapted a former early 18th century grist mill site for their business as a "world leader in the manufacture and distribution of abrasive materials and fused mineral products."

The **Wyman-Gordon Company** (www.wyman-gordan.com) moved to Grafton in 1946. A subsidiary of Precision Castparts, the company is one of the largest producers of forgings and castings -- the metal and composite material parts used in aerospace turbine engines, land-based gas turbines, and power plants.

Temp-Flex (www.tempflex.com) was established in South Grafton in 1985 and recently made the decision to expand its existing facilities in town. Temp-Flex is a manufacturer of specialty wire & cable for, among others, the Medical, Aerospace, Military, and Electronics industries.

The **Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University** (www.tufts.edu/vet/) located on 594 acres in North Grafton, is the only veterinary school in New England. The Cummings School is recognized internationally for faculty contributions to the study of zoonotic infectious diseases—illnesses that move from animals to people and recently received a grant from the NIH for the construction of a Regional Biosafety Laboratory (NE-RBL) for work with these infectious disease organisms.



Grafton Science Park (www.tufts.edu/vet/nerbl/grafton_science_park.html) The Grafton Science Park is bringing biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device and animal health companies to the region, and the NE-RBL—the first building located in Grafton Science Park—is a magnet for those companies. The park also gives companies in Tufts Biotechnology Transfer Center a place to grow. Private capital investment in the park is leveraging past Tufts and federal investments in the Biotechnology Transfer Center, state investment in its infrastructure and current federal investment in the nearby Department of Labor's Job Corps program. Tufts active program of technology transfer, collaborative research, and real estate development with an experienced developer partner make it a unique catalyst for economic development in Grafton.



Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University



Willard Clock Museum

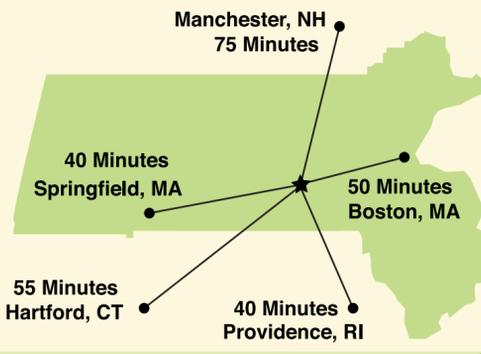


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Grafton's manufacturing heritage dates back to Revolutionary times due to the water power of the Quinsigamond River. Today, Grafton connects to the outside world from Boston's Logan International Airport, less than an hour away. And yet, the Town retains the pleasures and virtues of a New England village.

Peter Williams, Washington Mills Company
www.washingtonmills.com

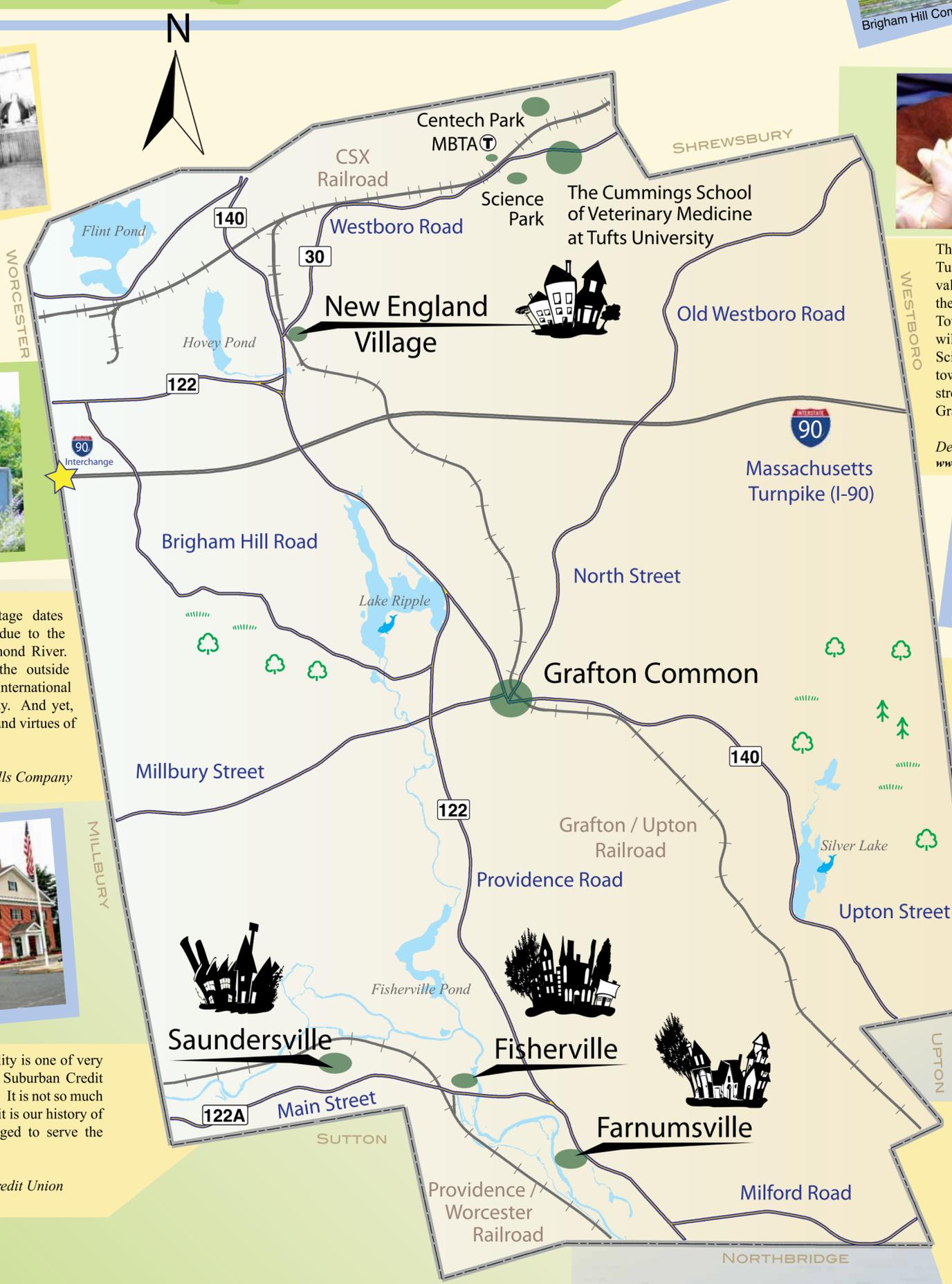


The Town of Grafton's personality is one of very special collaboration. Grafton Suburban Credit Union enjoys a central role here. It is not so much because of our financial size as it is our history of collaboration. We feel privileged to serve the members of this community.

Ed Lopes, Grafton Suburban Credit Union
www.graftonsuburban.com



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The Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University is proud to call Grafton home and values the partnerships that have grown between the school and the Town. The commitment of the Town to careful planning and expedited permitting will be key factors in the success of the Grafton Science Park. As the second largest employer in town, Tufts believes our people are our greatest strength and we are grateful to count many from Grafton within those ranks.

Dean Deborah Kochevar, Tufts University
www.tufts.edu/vet/



The Suburban Group, Inc was established in 1968 as a temporary staffing company supporting local businesses along the newly constructed route 495 corridor. Since our move to Grafton, our business has experienced a growth in both volume and variety of services. Grafton provides the best of both worlds. We avoid the hustle and bustle of a heavy traffic area and we have quick access to major highways. One long time employee stated we should have moved to Grafton 18 years ago! She was right!

Nancy Carlson, The Suburban Group
www.suburbangroup.com



"Family" this is why we love the Town of Grafton. The townspeople project a sense of family and community and genuine care and concern for each other. Our Temp-Flex family tree was started in Grafton and will continue to grow here as we respect and support one another.

Ray Baril, Temp-Flex Cable, Inc.
www.tempflex.com

Grafton Fast Facts

- General**
 - Population of 6+ million within 50 miles
 - 60 minutes to Boston by commuter rail
 - A regional hub of education with 16 colleges and universities
- Business**
 - Member community in the Blackstone Valley Economic Target Area with available local and state incentives for investment
 - A large, well-educated and highly skilled labor force
 - Affordable office and industrial space, as well as an attractive housing market
 - A state designated "Platinum" BioReady Community
 - Expedited permitting in priority development areas
- Life**
 - Part of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, providing unique and historic landscapes
 - Over 40 cultural venues within the greater Worcester area
 - Active recreation opportunities from parks to trails to lakes and rivers