



GROTON CONSERVATION TRUST

gctrust.org



The General Field in fog. Courtesy of Sally Reed.

Dear Susan,

We have several great events coming up, and many chances to see you. We hope you find something you like, come see us and support the GCT! And despite the rain today, Saturday's forecast is beautiful so come out to [GrotonFest!](#)

Upcoming Events: September

GrotonFest: Saturday, Sept. 23

Come see us at our booth. We have free window decals (like the image at right) for every new and renewed membership. Remember, a family membership



Your support helps us protect Groton's open spaces.

[Renew your membership now](#)

September is also time to renew your GCT membership!

How can you do that? Several ways!

- Easiest is to [donate online](#), it is quick, easy and safe.
- Visit us at GrotonFest, we are

MEMBER

is only \$50 for the year and your contribution helps us conserve properties, maintain areas for recreation and preserve the natural beauty of our town.

Eyes on Owls: Sept. 30, 1 PM, Williams Barn, free

We are excited to bring a barn-full of beautiful owls for you to view up close. The great folks of Eyes On Owls bring a variety of owls for you to see up close. Chances are you'll meet New England's tiniest owl, the Northern Saw-Whet Owl (weighing in at 4 ounces) along with the world's largest owl, the Eurasian Eagle Owl (check out that five foot wingspan!). Other species that figure prominently in their program can include Eastern Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Barn Owl, Great-horned Owl, Snowy Owl and Spectacled Owl. Space is limited, and this event is almost full! Please [sign up](#) for this **free** event.



Full Harvest Moon Hike: October 4, 5:30 PM, Bates Land.

We will meet at the Old Ayer Road parking lot, hike then watch the harvest moon rise.

Tree ID Walk: October 29, 1 PM, Shepley Hills

Trustee Michelle Ruby will lead us along this beautiful stretch and help cure our "tree blindness" by giving us tips to quickly identify the trees we see along the way. Meet at the rail trail parking lot on Sand Hill Road. We will lead these throughout the seasons to help get an idea of how trees change.

Tom Wessels and OptOutside Hike: November 24, 1 -3 PM Throne Hill

Plans to spend the day after Thanksgiving outside with us instead of shopping. We are very pleased to bring back Tom Wessels to Groton to lead us on walking history tour of [The Throne Hill](#). Located at the top of Rockland Road, off of Townsend Road in West Groton, this 121 acre parcel provides a wide variety of forest landscape.



always happy to talk with you and renew your membership. **BONUS:** We have thank you gifts for anyone renewing at your booth!

- Mail in your donation (still using checks?) to us: PO Box 395, Groton, 01450.

No matter how you renew know that your membership helps our all-volunteer board acquire and maintain over 30 properties in Groton. Thank you!

Property Signs

Thanks to your contributions, our all volunteer group of trustees are able to buy and replace many of the signs that mark our property entrances. The Bates Land is one of 5 properties getting a new sign this fall, just in time for the Full Moon Hike on October 4.



Quick Links

[Amazon Smiles](#)

Mr. Wessels' talk is made possible with a grant from the Groton Commissioners of Trust Funds.



(where Amazon donates to the GCT with every purchase!)

Harlan is waiting...



Harlan the gnome is still hiding among the forest trees. He is beside a beech tree surrounded by a number of white oak trees. White oaks (*Quercus alba*) are dropping their acorns now. This provides food for wildlife to stock up on to prepare for the lean months of winter.

White oaks get their name from the underside of the leaf that has a whitish tone. The tips of the leaves are rounded and leaf lobed. They are a magnificent big wide spreading tree. It is also called Stave Oak because the wood is outstanding in making tight barrels for whiskey and other liquids. In colonial times the wood was important in ship building. They do not transplant well so unless a squirrel plants one for you they are hard to get growing in your yard.

Harlan is not on a trail marked with the round medallion arrow signs put up by the Groton Trails committee but he is not that remote. Look for Harlan among the squirrels scurrying about collecting acorns. Watch our [Facebook](#) page for clues.

The Groton Conservation Trust is a private, non-profit land trust in Groton, Massachusetts. It was founded in 1964 to acquire, preserve, and provide public access to lands with significant conservation value. The Trust is governed by a Board of Trustees made up of Groton residents with varied backgrounds, occupations and interests.

You are receiving this email as an interested member of the GCT.

Groton Conservation Trust, PO Box 395, Groton, MA 01450

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