



Susan Hughes &lt;susahughes@gmail.com&gt;

## GCT March News

4 messages

**Susan Hughes** <susanh@gctrust.org>  
Reply-To: susanh@gctrust.org  
To: susahughes@gmail.com

Thu, Mar 31, 2016 at 12:03 PM



Spring at The General Field courtesy of Owen Shuman.

**Dear Susan,**

Welcome to spring in New England. Even though the weather can be all over the place, we have several activities planned to get you outside.

Our friends at the MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife will be in town April 16 to lead us on a walking tour of vernal pools. Spring is the perfect

**Join us in protecting  
Groton's open  
spaces. [Renew your  
membership now!](#)**

**Why we are  
members of the**

time to find blue-spotted salamander eggs, fairy shrimp, turtles, fingernail clams and many more creatures. You will also learn why these pools, and this property, is so ecologically significant. This is a perfect family-friendly event. Details are on our [website](#).

Trustee Michelle Ruby continues her guided hikes. If you haven't been to the Lost Lake area, April's hike is a great place to start exploring! See her column at the right.

Plus, the AMC has a family hike planned for the Forest Bells on the Blackman Field and Woods. See the notice below for details.

See you outside!

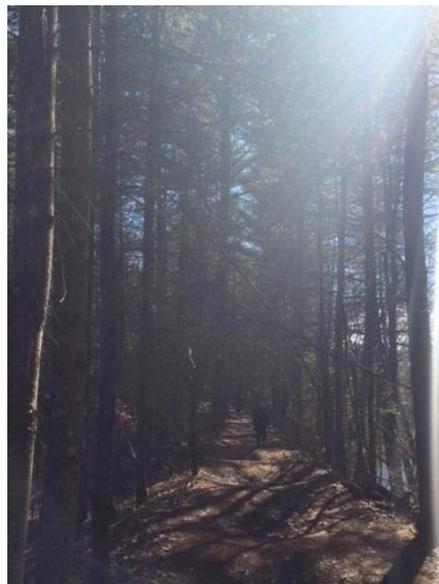
### **Membership Renewal Starts Now!**

The spring is also a time of renewal with our membership. It is a time to reflect on what you enjoy most about the open spaces and to be a part of keeping them open and available for use. We offer a simple family membership of \$50 year, but of course any gift is welcome.

Why is it important to support the GCT? During the past 50 years the Groton Conservation Trust has become the steward of over 40 properties, from complex ecosystems such as the Throne Hill to simple, lovely vistas like the Taplin Wildlife Sanctuary.

In total the GCT protects over 1,400 acres, yet we remain an all-volunteer, single-town entity. That means the work of maintaining properties, fighting invasive growth and ensuring we all are able to enjoy these beautiful places falls to us. And we could not do it without your help!

Please take a moment to [renew your membership now](#). It is important work and we cannot do it without your annual contribution of \$50. Since dues from our membership continue to be our



### **GCT**

*by Jeff and Olga Box*

There is such a wonderful variety of trails and landscapes to wander just outside our doors. Olga and I benefit from this characteristic of our town daily, whether walking, running, biking, or even in the views and serenity that we can enjoy driving thru town.

The landscapes and trails of Groton are a strength and make the town special.

As the years go by, Groton will continue to stand out and will further emerge as a gem of a place for outdoor recreation, wildlife, scenery, and agriculture.

The Groton Conservation Trust, through the efforts of their members and staff provide advocacy, stewardship, and outreach - they invite us to take advantage of these sweet spaces, and care for these spaces for the enjoyment of all, people and critters alike.

Groton is our home, and we are anticipating many years and many footsteps over the landscapes and trails of Groton.

### **Guided Hikes with Michelle**

only source of annual income, we are counting on you to keep us moving forward.

### Hike to the Forest Bells with the AMC

Join the AMC on a family friendly hike to the bells on the [Blackman Field and Woods](#) on **April 10 at 1pm**. The hike will cross both the Bates and Blackman Land with some fantastic views and then over to the wonderful bells found on the Blackman Field and Woods property. Registration is required and all the details are available on the [AMC website](#).



Harlan the GCT Gnome has been enjoying his winter vacation, but he is getting itchy to get outside. Come Spring, we will set him free so he can once again hide out on our properties, waiting for you to find him.



#### Quick Links

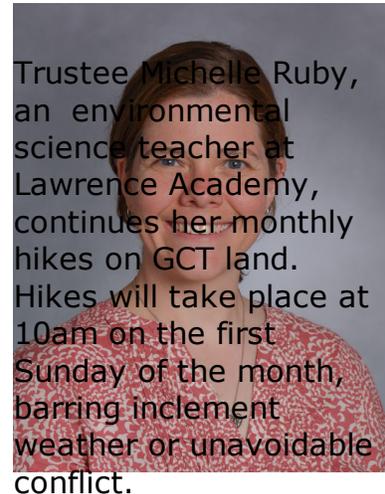
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[Groton Trails Website](#)



Trustee Michelle Ruby, an environmental science teacher at Lawrence Academy, continues her monthly hikes on GCT land. Hikes will take place at 10am on the first Sunday of the month, barring inclement weather or unavoidable conflict.

The April hike will take place on **Sunday April 3** at 10am at [Skitapet](#). We will meet in the Lost Lake fire department parking lot. Leashed dogs are welcome. This is a hilly hike!

Looking ahead, the May 1 hike will be on the Red Line Path.

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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**Susan Hughes** <susanh@gctrust.org>  
Reply-To: susanh@gctrust.org  
To: susanh@gctrust.org

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[Quoted text hidden]

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**Rick Muehlke** <rmuehlke@gmail.com>  
To: susanh@gctrust.org

Thu, Mar 31, 2016 at 12:16 PM

Susan,  
Nice work!  
PS: do you know what the red tree in the foreground is?  
Rick

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 31, 2016, at 12:03 PM, Susan Hughes <susanh@gctrust.org> wrote:





Spring at The General Field courtesy of Owen Shuman.

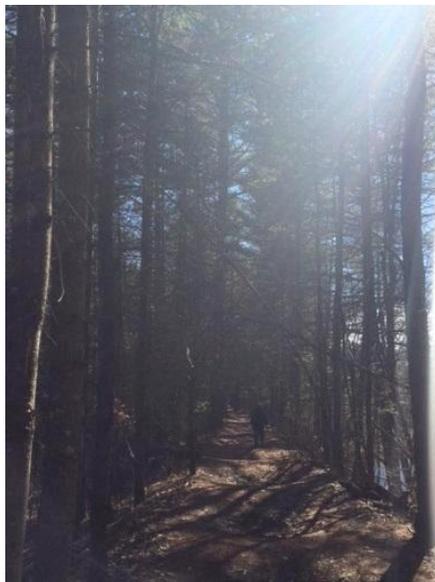
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**Susan Hughes** <[susahughes@gmail.com](mailto:susahughes@gmail.com)>  
To: Rick Muehlke <[rvmuehlke@gmail.com](mailto:rvmuehlke@gmail.com)>

Thu, Mar 31, 2016 at 8:44 PM

I don 't do you?

Thanks,  
Susan

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