

Sunrise: 06:34 AM
 Sunset: 07:51 PM
 Moon Rise: 11:49 AM
 Moon Set: 01:08 AM

Groton, MA Updated: 01:23 PM
62 °F
 Mostly Cloudy
 Humidity: 28%
 Visibility: 10 miles
 Wind: NW at 13 mph
 WEATHER UNDERGROUND
 Click for Forecast

The Groton Line

All Groton, All The Time

Green » Conservation » Groton Conservation Trust Celebrates 50 Years of Stewardship

Adam Arrives A Little Early At ALPrime

Wynn and Talbot Place in KofC Free Throw Regionals

May 03 2014 Groton Conservation Trust Celebrates 50 Years of Stewardship

By Mary J. Metzger

Robert Gosselin was singled out for recognition Thursday evening (May 1) at the Groton Conservation Trust's Annual Meeting, part of its year-long 50th Anniversary celebration. Gosselin was one of the five original trustees, and he paid tribute to the vision he and Joseph S. Hayes, Richard M. Hinchman, Francis P. Nash, and Melvyn F. Rowan shared when they started the private non-profit land trust in 1964. Over the past 50 years, the trust has become the steward of more than 40 properties totaling over 1,400 acres.

But rather than linger on the past, the keynote speaker at the meeting took guests directly into present-day problem solving — dealing with the state's invasive species.

"Of the 3,500 vascular plants in New England, 1,000 have been introduced from elsewhere, but only about 100 are considered invasive," Ted Elliman told the group. Elliman, Senior Botanist with the New England Wildflower Society, identified the most common invasives. These non-native plants spread rapidly and aggressively, displacing the native flora, and persist in the natural landscape. Once established, they often offer no benefits to wildlife.

Some of the plants, like Norway Maple, Burning Bush Euonymus, Autumn Olive, and Japanese Barberry were deliberately introduced as exotic and useful landscaping specimens. Some, like Oriental Bittersweet and Glossy Buckthorn, have been spread by birds, who eat the nutrition-less, and often cathartic berries.

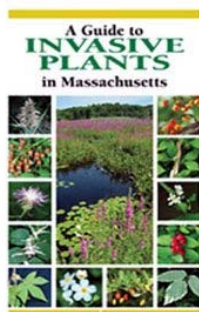
Since 2009, Massachusetts has banned the sale, propagation and importation of all plants considered invasive. This list is constantly updated as Early Detection Species, like Amur Cork Tree, Porcelain Berry, Mile-a-Minute Vine, and Giant Hogweed are just now spreading. Elliman stated that there are even six populations of the southern vine, Kudzu, growing in the state's warmer coastal areas.

In light of global warming, the state is actively monitoring these new-to-New England invasives as they move farther north.

Methods of invasive plant control include manual, mechanical, chemical and biological controls. A weed wrench is useful in removing the total root systems of plants like Multiflora Rose. Round-up can be used in wetland areas, but only with special permits and expertise to prevent damage to other sensitive native plants. The Galerucella beetle has been used successfully in Groton to help control Purple Loosestrife. Fire is a slow labor-intensive method that works if the entire root crown can be burned. And grazing goats have been used to combat invasives in the Minute Man National Park in Lexington.

Two websites focusing on invasive plants are provided by [The Invasive Plant Atlas of New England](#) and the [Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group](#). A pamphlet suitable for field use is published by the [Division of Fisheries & Wildlife](#), "A Guide to Invasive Plants in Massachusetts" costs \$5, and is available through the Groton Public Library's regional library system.

Information on the Trust's additional 50th year celebration activities is on its website.



A Guide to Invasive Plants in Massachusetts

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Art Campbell Jonathan Klein Elected President of Groton School's Board, a new story, is live on The Groton Line -- The Groton... <http://t.co/ortvER6Sid>
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Art Campbell At the High School: Art, Improv, Sports, and a Huge Yard Sale, a new story, is live on The Groton Line -- Yard... <http://t.co/BJim47y7Kj>
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GD Athletic Boosters Today is a great day to be a GD "super fan" for the home teams! Girls & Boys V/JV lax; boys V baseball, girls V tennis & unified track meet!
1 hours ago

WHS Rangers Westborough Girls Golf vs Groton/Dunstable at 3:15 at Westborough CC
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Art Campbell Dear Editor: A 'Thank You' For Auction Help From NRWA, a new story, is live on The Groton Line -- Dear Editor,... <http://t.co/wp0NytzgN5>
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Hudson Post 100 RT @tgsports: BASEBALL: Marlboro 10, Groton-Dunstable 2: Rumney collects two hits, drives in three to boost Panthers: <http://t.co/leOJTDBtdf>
2 hours ago

Latest Classifieds

Lawn Care and General Labor Service Available

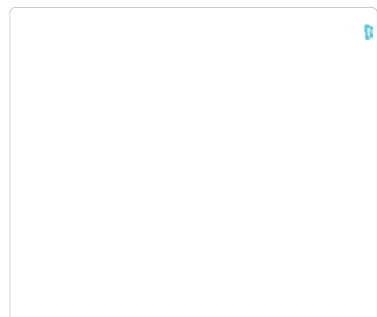
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Deb Baker Gray on Silent Solidarity At Lawrence Academy

Ipswich_Vol on Dear Editor: I would like to let people know why I am supporting Anna Elliot for Selectman

Pete Carson on HR Director Mitchell Cut From Groton-Dunstable Administration

Janet Shea on Groton-Dunstable Laxers Drop Rematch to Algonquin

The Groton Line Polls

Should the town's excess buildings and property be widely marketed in order to attract the highest bidder?

Yes -- It should be standard operating procedure to reach a wide audience. (84%, 53 Votes)

Not sure / need more information. (3%, 2 Votes)

No -- Keep it small and local, even if the town loses money on the sale. (13%, 8 Votes)

Total Voters: **63**

[Polls Archive](#)

Add An Event To The Groton Community Calendar

If you have an event you'd like to add to the Groton Community Calendar, click here.



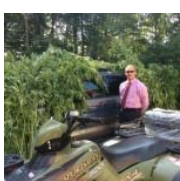
• [Arbor Day Means Magnolia, and Free Elderberry and Persimmons This Year](#)



• [Groton Farmers Market Kicks Off 10th Season On Friday, 07/05](#)



• [Groton Police Uproot Weed In Groton Field](#)



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Last reply was 1 day ago

The Groton Line Menu
Community Calendar **Town Meetings**

Events on May 6, 2014

SHP: Open Community Hours
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
More details...

Book Worms
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm
More details...

More Than Honey: A Film on the Disappearance of Honeybees, Plus Honey Tasting
6:15 pm - 8:30 pm
More details...

Spanish Conversation Group
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
More details...

From the Tropics to Your Backyard: The Wonders of Spring Bird Migration Free NRWA Presentation
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
More details...

Events on May 7, 2014

BNY: BNY Vinyasa Flow
9:30 am - 10:45 am
More details...

Life Long Learning: HERSTORY: Women's Rights Movement - 1960-Present
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
More details...

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Betsy Fitzgerald

Inspiration: Open the Door May 4, 2014
When Kick Comes to Start April 23, 2014
Want Spring? March 23, 2014

The Itinerant Biologist

Fieldwork Blog: Seafood Wars, The Papaya Incident, and On Being Digested By A Jungle March 17, 2014
More Mefloquine Dreams March 13, 2014
Updates from the Smithsonian Mammal Survey Field Crew: Waterfalls, mean geese, and broken boots March 10, 2014

LettersHead

The Man in the Blue Oxford Shirt March 4, 2014
Two Steps Back: "The Week" is weak. January 7, 2014
September 11 Heralds the Value of Collaborative Storytelling September 11, 2013

Summer Camp At Home

Printing with Styrofoam April 8, 2014
Rain Gauge March 12, 2014
Surface Tension and Cargo Boats March 8, 2014

Unkety Brook

Honor flight, honoring Korean Veterans arriving at DC for a... May 3, 2014
Marine's nighttime parade - Marine Barracks DC! #marine... May 3, 2014
Marine barracks Washington DC - night parade! #military #marine... May 3, 2014