

## Groton Conservation Trust Hunting Information - 2019

Most Groton Conservation Trust properties are open to hunting. The Trust recognizes both the traditional and historical role of hunting in Groton and its value as an ecological management tool. Much land in Groton has been conserved with financial assistance from the state's Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, which holds deed restrictions ensuring those properties will remain open to hunting. In addition, overpopulation of some species, especially white-tailed deer, is a serious ecological problem in Groton and where it is safe the Trust tries to keep our properties open to hunting.

Hunting seasons popular in Groton occur only a few weeks each year; recreational use of our properties by both hunters and non-hunters during those weeks is encouraged. A few guidelines can make it easier for both groups to be comfortable enjoying our properties.

- ALL hunting is prohibited in Massachusetts on Sundays. Legislation proposed a few years ago would have changed this, but that legislation was not passed.
- Popular hunting seasons in Massachusetts begin in late October and run until the end of the year. You shouldn't be surprised if you encounter a hunter with a bow or shotgun during this period. Rifle hunting is not permitted in Massachusetts.
- Hunting, discharge of firearms or the release of any arrow is prohibited by state law within 150 feet of any road or within 500 feet of any house. For some Trust properties, this effectively prohibits hunting regardless of any other regulation.
- All hunters must wear blaze orange during the shotgun and muzzleloader seasons for deer, which run from the Monday after Thanksgiving to the end of the year. Non-hunters are strongly encouraged to do the same during any fall hunting season.
- It's always a good idea to keep dogs under control on our properties. You may wish to have them wear an orange collar whenever you're wearing orange.
- Individual permission is not required to hunt on Groton Conservation Trust property, but if you are hunting please tell us so we can better understand how our properties are used. You can send email to [hunting@gctrust.org](mailto:hunting@gctrust.org) to let us know.
- Tree stands are permitted on our properties, but they must be portable (not screw-in) and must be removed at the end of the season. You must ask permission at [hunting@gctrust.org](mailto:hunting@gctrust.org) first, and you must label your stand with contact information. Any stands installed without permission or left after the end of the calendar year may be removed and discarded.

## **Groton Conservation Trust Hunting Permission by Property - 2019**

The list below indicates which Groton Conservation Trust properties are open to hunting in 2017. This list may change from year to year; a current map of our properties is available at <http://www.gctrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/2013-property-Map.pdf>

Hunters may wish to print this list and leave it visible in their vehicle or carry it with them. Other recreational users may think hunting is prohibited on our properties, and having this list may be helpful. Anyone with questions about hunting on Trust properties should contact us at [hunting@gctrust.org](mailto:hunting@gctrust.org)

### **Hunting Permitted**

Baddacook Conservation Land	Macys' Fen
Blackman Field and Woods	Mason Back 100
Bruner Land	Reynolds Tract
Fitch-Woods	Riley Land
Gamlin Crystal Spring	Shepley Hill
Genthner Woods	Throne Hill
Lawrence Land (on the Throne)	Valentine Hollingsworth
Lotz Land	West Throne

### **Hunting Prohibited**

Angus Acre	Moors Schoolhouse
Bates Land	Perry Land
Blackman Land	Red Line Path
Cronin Land	Sabine Memorial Woods
Cronin-Massapoag	Skinner Forest
Duck Pond	Skitapet
Gamlin Picnic Site	Still Meadow
Hayes Woods	Taplin Wildlife Sanctuary
Lawrence Woods (opposite Groton Place)	The General Field
Lost Lake Conservation Area	Wattles Pond
Martins Pond Brook	