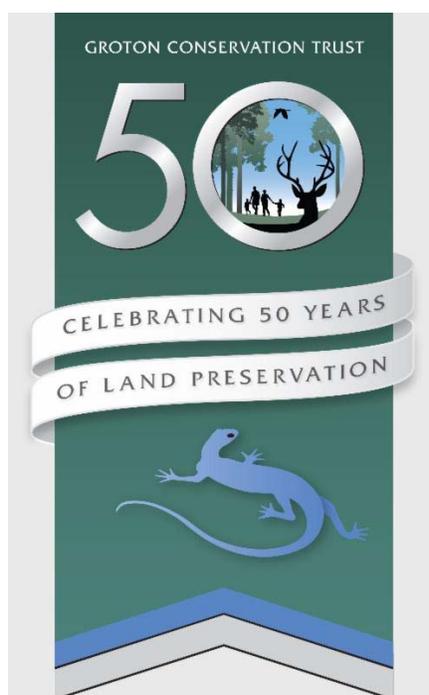


[gctrust.org](http://gctrust.org)



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Your donation to the GCT helps us manage over 1400 acres of conservation lands, protecting valuable habitat and creating recreational opportunities for all.



Dear Susan,

## Annual Meeting May 1

We begin celebrating our 50th anniversary with our annual meeting on May 1, at 6:30 at Lawrence Academy, in the MacNeil Lounge. In addition to the regular business meeting, we are pleased to present [Ted Elliman](#), Sr. Botanist from the New England Wild Flower Society. Ted will be speaking about the invasive species that are in our area and what is being done to contain them. Please join us for this kickoff celebration. [Register here](#) to attend. The program is free.

### Quick Links

[How you can help](#)

[Our Properties](#)

[Contact Information](#)

[Trustees and Founders](#)

[Groton Trails Website](#)

### Friend-Raiser!

For our 50th anniversary, we have a goal to bring on 50 new members at a \$50/family membership. Your membership says you care about the beautiful open spaces in Groton and you enjoy the recreation, the peace, the natural habitat that is possible by maintaining these open spaces. Your annual



Trustees, land stewards, neighbors and friends recently worked to clear Buckthorn and Multiflora Rose from Still Meadow. These are two of the abundant invasive plants that are crowding our properties and taking over the wooded areas. Invasive plants also inhibit the growth of other species in the area that are critical to the habitat. Ted Elliman will speak about these and others.

## More Speakers Coming Up!



We also have events planned throughout the year that you won't want to miss. Please note these on your calendar and visit our [50th Anniversary](#) page on our website. All programs are free.

- **June 14, [Tom Wessels](#)** brings his "forest forensics" program to Groton and leads a hike. Tom is an ecologist and founding director of the master's degree program in Conservation Biology at Antioch University New England. Of his many books, *Reading the Forested Landscape* endures as a classic forest guide. *This program is made possible through a grant from the Groton Commissioners of Trust.*
- **November 8, GCT Birthday Party at Williams Barn.** Family-friendly activities including a visit by the creature teacher [Richard Roth](#) with his "pets", a contra dance with the Contra Banditos, bird-feeder making and a walk.

## The Throne



Throne Hill, or "The Throne" is a 120-acre woodland donated by L&S Builders in 1984 and one of the largest properties owned by the GCT. The name refers to an area of higher elevation sitting on an underlying bedrock near the surface. Having been

membership helps us keep these properties beautiful, enjoyable, and most important, protected.

If you are not a member, just add \$50 to the other column and [join today](#). Already a member? Send a friend our way! Help us make our friend-raiser goal!



**50th Anniversary:**  
Family/\$50.00

## How can you help with the GCT?

There are many ways volunteers can help with the work of the GCT:

- monitor properties by becoming a land steward
- assist with special projects like our 50th anniversary events
- volunteer with work groups for clearing and invasive control
- lend expertise to the work of Trustees

Interested? Contact [Susan Hughes](#) for details.

## Guided Hike on Throne Hill



stand of mountain laurel.

logged in the past, the secondary growth has produced a beautiful and varied woodland that includes oaks, white pine, maples, hemlocks and a

The presence of an extensive network of vernal pools throughout the property lends particular ecological significance to the area. These pools provide habitat to several state-listed rare species dependent on them. The Throne is designated as a Priority Habitat by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program and has been mapped as Estimated Habitat of Rare Wildlife by that agency.

Access the upper property from the end of Rockwood Lane off Townsend Road. (This is the hike led by the AMC and the Groton Trails Committee at the right.) A 2-mile loop can also be accessed at the end of Castle Lane, off Pepperell Road. Park in the cul-de-sac and follow the signs. Most of this trail was cut by former GCT trustee Dann Chamberlin and Olin Lathrop with Dann's son, Jeff, and Todd Allen, in partial fulfillment of their community service requirements at Groton-Dunstable Regional High School.

### From the GCT President:



As we prepare for our annual meeting on May 1, here are some interesting pieces of GCT history:

- The original Agreement and Declaration of Trust in 1964 was signed by Robert N. Gosselin, Joseph S. Hayes, Richard M. Hinchman, Francis P. Nash and Melvyn F. Rowan.
- The GCT is run by an all volunteer board.
- One Trust property was a still in a former life.
- Another was a schoolhouse.

### Sun, April 13

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Throne Hill Trails

Join members of the Groton Trails Committee and the Appalachian Mountain Club on an early spring guided hike through the woods on the trails of Throne Hill in West Groton. The Throne is a conservation area is owned by the Groton Conservation Trust and is one of the largest contiguous undeveloped parcels in the area. The Throne provides habitat for deer, bears, porcupines, fishers, moose, and beavers. It features upland forest and some interesting wetlands. Our walk on the Throne trails will take about two hours and is suitable for families with children.

Dogs must be kept under owner's control, and leashed upon request. The hike will be held unless it is stormy. Take Townsend Rd. in Groton to Rockwood Lane. Meet at the end of Rockwood Lane at the top of the hill. 42.62968N, 71.64003W.  
Olin Lathrop,  
(978) 742-9014.

### GCT at Events



April 27, 1-5 PM

Earth Day at Williams Barn

June 8, 11 - 5 PM

Greenway River Festival  
Nashua Boat Launch

- Yet another was the Nashua, Acton, and Boston Railroad, known as the Red Line.
- Rare and endangered plant life has been found and protected on a GCT property.
- The GCT donated land to build the first Habitat for Humanity house in Groton.

Come see us!

It is a rich history we will celebrate on May 1, and a proud tradition we will carry forward for years to come.

Thank you for being with us!

Daniel Wolfe  
President

*Celebrating 50 years of land preservation*



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. If you no longer wish to receive this email, click [HERE](#) and note "remove me" in the subject line. Thank you.

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