



Winter time at Blackman Land. Photo courtesy of Kirsta Davey.

Dear Susan,

How will you spend your winter?

So many GCT properties look completely different



Join us in protecting Groton's open spaces. [Renew](#)

in the winter months. In snow, the exploration is endless. When you go, remember the [guidelines around hunting season](#) and wear bright colors.

No hunting on Sundays means you can take advantage of the guided hike listed at the right.

Enjoy the season!



Blackman Forest Bells Fund

We are grateful indeed to the many friends and fans of Arthur Blackman, our beloved former trustee. Donations made this year in his honor, including his own generous bequest from his estate, have enabled us to create the Blackman Forest Bells Fund. This fund will pay to for the upkeep and restoration of the [Forest Bells](#), located in the forest of the Blackman Field and Woods property.

The Forest Bells were created by local artist and craftsman Paul Matisse in 1995, commissioned by the inaugural Artist's Valentine project, and installed on land owned by Arthur and Camilla Blackman. The Blackmans donated the land to the GCT in 2000, and the Trust has been the steward of the land and bells since then.



This fund will ensure future generations will have the bells to discover and enjoy.

If you haven't been to the bells, take Indian Hill Road until the very end and follow the dirt road on the left. When the woods road forks, bear left and take the trail uphill to the right and keep your eyes

[your membership now!](#)

Guided Winter Hike

Sunday, December 20 1:00pm - 3:00 pm

Groton Town Forest

Description:

Join members of the Groton Trails Committee and the Appalachian Mountain Club on a guided hike through the Groton Town Forest, which has been managed as a forest reserve for over 90 years. We will explore the varied topography and habitats of this scenic woodland, including eskers, kettle holes, dry upland, marsh, the Dead River, and more. Our hike will be at a moderate pace and will take about two hours. Leashed dogs are welcome. The hike will be held unless it is stormy. Take West Main St. (Rt. 225) in Groton to Town Forest Rd. Meet at the end of Town Forest Rd. 42.5973N, 71.6052W. [Olin Lathrop](#) (978) 742-9014.



open!

Your Membership Matters!

No matter the season, protected open space benefits us all. During the past 50 years the Trust has become the steward of over 40 properties, from complex ecosystems such as Throne Hill to simple, lovely vistas like the Taplin Wildlife Sanctuary. In total this is over 1,400 acres, yet we remain an all-volunteer, single-town entity. That means the work of maintaining properties, fighting invasive plants and ensuring we all are able to enjoy these beautiful places falls to us. And we could not do it without your help!

You don't have go far to see what [your support has accomplished](#) in the last year because every dollar benefits Groton. From sign posts to invasive removal to meadow clearing, your contribution means so much.

Please take a moment to [renew your membership now](#). Our work is important and we cannot do it without your annual contribution. Since contributions from our membership continue to be our only source of annual income, we are counting on you to keep us moving forward.

Thank you!
Susan, Ted, Ed and David for the Membership Committee.

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.

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Groton Conservation Summit 2016

The next summit is hosted by the Groton Conservation Commission and is February 3, 2016 at Lawrence Academy. Stay tuned for details.