



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

## GCT June News

1 message

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The Wildflower view at the General Field courtesy of Susan Fry.

### Dear Susan,

Like many other groups, we enjoy seeing you at the outdoor events over the summer. At the GCT table, we like to show off the [map of conservation land](#) in Groton and to connect with people who use these beautiful parcels. We can also renew your membership on the spot. And if you are joining us as a member for the first time, we have thank you gifts: either note cards with pictures from our properties or NE wildflower seeds. Stop by!

#### Wildflowers and full moons

If you haven't seen the wildflower meadow at The General Field (pictured above) go now. Not only are the views gorgeous, the flowers are in bloom and the trails are mowed. On the recent Strawberry full moon night, there were many

Your support is

necessary in protecting

Groton's open spaces.

[Renew your membership](#)

[now](#)

**Why I am a member of the GCT**

*by Olin Lathrop*

I'm a proud member of

visitors enjoying the cool summer breezes and cheering the arrival of the moon. Thank you to all the photographers who shared your beautiful pictures. This shot is courtesy of Owen



Shuman. Please remember there are no dogs allowed on this parcel.

the GCT because of what the Trust does for the town. Many, probably most of us live in Groton because of the rural character, the many undeveloped spaces and lands open to the public.

The Trust has been and continues to be a key force in keeping Groton that way. It's easy to see a forest and forget that it wouldn't be there without the hard work and generosity that keeps it from being built on. This does not happen by accident, nor does it come for free. My membership is one small way to help with that.

### Guided Hikes with Michelle: July 10



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 July hike will take place on **Sunday July 10** at 10am at the Mason Back 100. We will meet at the gate on Blood Rd off of Old Dunstable Road. Park at the Gamlin Crystal Spring parking area and walk about 500 feet north to the Mason Back 100 sign.

Dogs are welcome, on leash.

### Purple Loosestrife Project Update

Trustee David Black and his Groton School students have been monitoring the populations of purple loosestrife along the rail trail since the release of the Galerucella beetle in 2006 (which we reared as part of a [Commonwealth funded project](#)). This year, alas, the permanent plots established were mowed, which may cause problems in the future, but while we do not know the exact locations of the plots, we reestablished more in the general area so that we will continue to be able to monitor this. We have also recorded dispersal by the beetles of more than 400m since the release, and I suspect that they have gone still further. David finds these encouraging developments. More information on this

### Annual Meeting Presentation

Many people asked for a copy of Michelle's excellent presentation on the [treatment of invasive species on conservation land](#) (follow this link). Many were surprised by the list of invasive species found, which is at the end of this report.



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study will come in future newsletters and on our website.

### Membership Renewal!

Please take a moment to [renew your GCT membership now](#). The important work we do is not possible without your annual contribution. Since dues from our membership continue to be our largest source of annual income, we are counting on you to keep us moving forward together.

Our current [membership list](#) recognizes everyone who has contributed already in 2016. Thank you! Please [contact us](#) if you don't see your name correctly or even better -- make a donation today!

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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**Keep up** with all our [events and activities](#) including many summer hikes and festivals, by visiting us online. There is something for everyone just about every weekend in June. We hope to see you out there!