

A Pocket Guide to Properties in Groton with Trails

A good online map of Groton Trails is available at: https://www.grotontrails.org/Interactive_Maps.html#map=13/42.60800/-71.57200. Look for an update to the Groton Conservation Trust's map of conservation land in Groton soon.

Please Remember:

All dogs are to be leashed during this Covid time.

Take precautions against ticks and insects.

Bring smart phone for navigation and emergencies. You can always leave it off.

A small pack with water, a bit of food, a map, and a jacket are often **very** helpful.

Getting lost can be fun but not everyone likes it: look at a map of the trails and general features of the area that you are about to enter. Understand the roads and rivers that bound it.

Respect the land and the land owner.

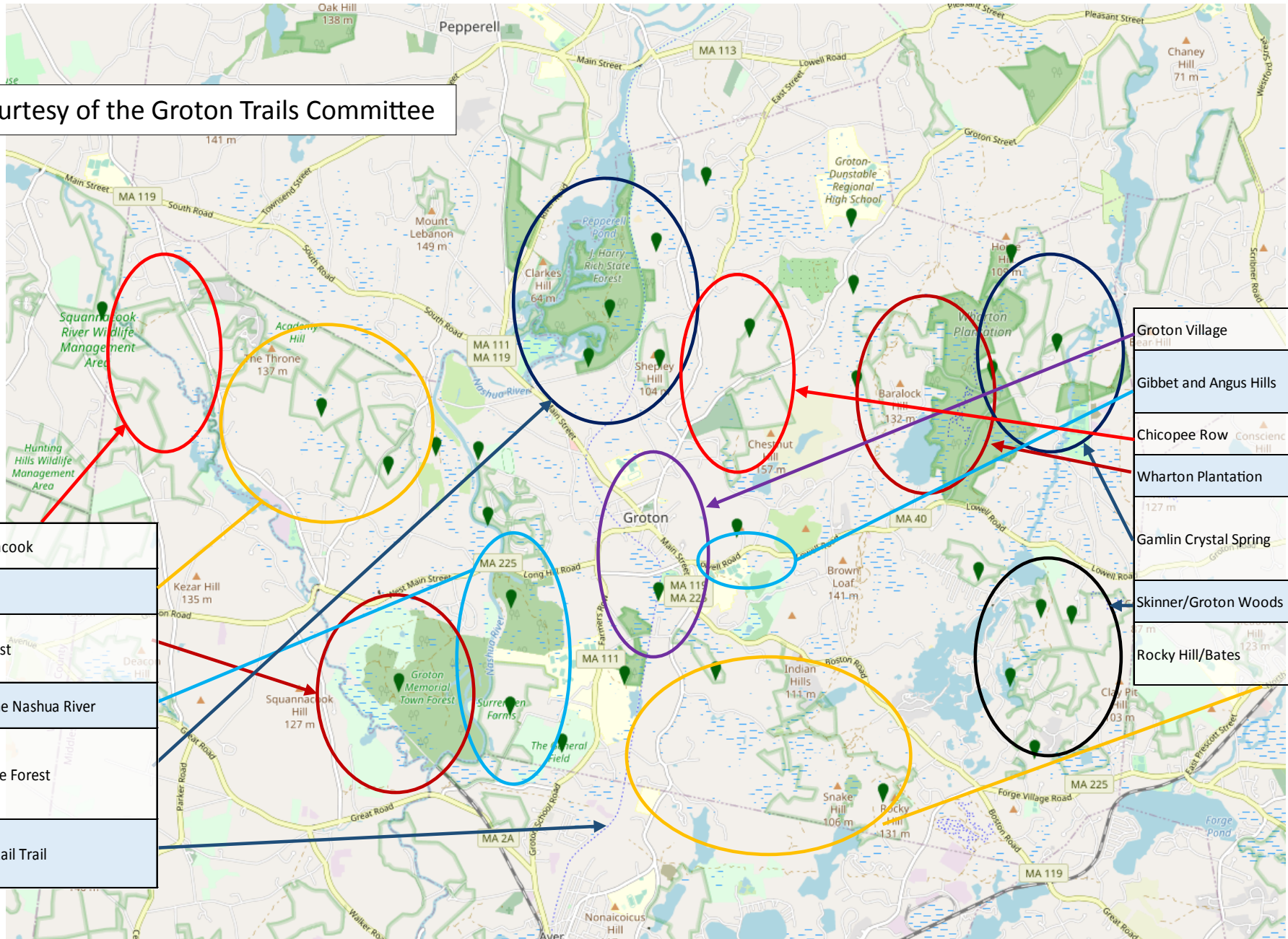


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Property Group (Group = Contiguous Conservation Properties Totaling a Couple Hundred Acres or More with Trails, Often with Different Owners*)	Major Property(ies)	Features										Typical Terrain	Parking	Notes
		Distant Views	Lots of Trails	Potential Crowds	River(s)	Mountain Biking	Extraordinary Wildlife Habitat	Swamps/Marshes	Ledges/Boulders/Quarries	Cellar Holes, etc.	Connected to Other Groups?			
Upper Squannacook	Squannacook River WMA (a.k.a. Bertozzi)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flat	Off Townsend Rd.	Connected to trails in Townsend and Shirley
The Throne	Academy Hill, Throne Hill, Hayes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	Hayes, Castle Dr., Rockwood Ln.	Access to the Town Forest via several routes, Fitch's Bridge allows a loop around the river
The Town Forest	The Town Forest		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Highly Mixed	The Groton Center, TF Parking Lot	Easy to get confused, note the designations at each intersection. The kettle holes are beautiful and quiet.	
East Bank of the Nashua River	The General Field, Surrenden Farm, The Groton Place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	Groton Place and the General Field	Historic properties with a great variety of habitat and grand views	
Harry Rich State Forest	Harry Rich State Forest, Shepley Hill, Cronin Conservation Area		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flat	Two Lots on Sand Hill Road	Accessible trail leads to picnic area with views of the Nashua River. Several parcels along the Rail Trail are unusual with scrub oaks, a soap stone quarry, and sandy slopes.	
Nashua River Rail Trail	Nashua River Rail Trail			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flat	Various	Busy but still terrific. Consider early mornings or late evenings. Non-road connections among several groups.	
Groton Village	-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flat	Various	Don't sell the village short: great views, sidewalks, interesting history	
Gibbet and Angus Hills	Gibbet and Angus Hills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hilly	Shattuck St.	Did we mention Little Women? Please stay on the trail at on Angus Hill, it is an active horse property	
Chicopee Row	Williams Barn, Cox-Walker, Fitch Wood, Sawtell		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mixed	Williams Barn	Very quiet woods with vernal pools and short steep ridges.	
Wharton Plantation	Wharton Plantation, Ripley Forest, Baddacook Parcels		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	Rocky Hill Rd., Raddin Rd.	NEFF has a very large parcel with many types of trails and habitats.	
Gamlin Crystal Spring	Gamlin Crystal Spring, Mason Back 100, Redline Path		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mixed	Cowpond Road, Gamlin Crystal Spring	Boulders, a quarry, ponds, a very tall esker; awesome storm damage in May 2020; access to similar properties (and a bigger quarry) in Dunstable	
Skinner/Groton Woods	Skinner, Skitapet, Groton Woods, Flavell Crossing		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	Lost Lake Fire Station, Various cul-de-sacs	Who knew that it is this easy to walk from Route 40 to Route 225?	
Rocky Hill/Bates	Bates, MA Audubon Rocky Hill, Hurd, Blackman Field & Woods	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hilly	Indian Hill Road, Rocky Hill	Hidden bells, two big heron rookeries, connections to similar properties in Ayer. MA Audubon doesn't allow dogs/mountain bikes.	

* Thanks to the many landowners that allow public trails on their properties including: the New England Forestry Foundation; the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; the Town of Groton; Massachusetts Audubon Society; the Groton Conservation Trust; and others.

Map Courtesy of the Groton Trails Committee



- Upper Squannacook
- The Throne
- The Town Forest
- East Bank of the Nashua River
- Harry Rich State Forest
- Nashua River Rail Trail

- Groton Village
- Gibbet and Angus Hills
- Chicopee Row
- Wharton Plantation
- Gamlin Crystal Spring
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