

2014 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, November 19 at 7:00 pm.
Volunteers Hall at Harvard Public Library.

BACK TO HARVARD BY POPULAR DEMAND! Join HCT for their Annual Meeting and featured speaker Mary Holland at 7:00 pm in Volunteers Hall at the Harvard Public Library. There will be a short business meeting, followed by our speaker with the traditional gingerbread and cider served afterward.

Mary Holland is a Vermont naturalist, photographer, columnist and author, and has had an abiding passion for natural history all her life. She was born and raised in Massachusetts on a turkey farm. Mary attended the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and has worked for various state agencies as a resource naturalist. In addition, she has designed and presented her own hands-on "Knee-High Nature Programs" for libraries

and elementary schools throughout Vermont and New Hampshire. Currently, Mary writes a nature column (also "Naturally Curious") for several newspapers and magazines which she has been doing for the past 10 years. Her articles and/or photographs have appeared in The Valley News; Northern Woodlands; "The Outside Story"; Upper Valley Life; Here in Hanover; Woodstock magazine; The Harvard Press; The Vermont Guardian; and The Rutland Herald. The event is free and open to the public.



Dedication of Elizabeth May Hawthorn Trees

Sunday, June 1

It was a beautiful day and the Hawthorn trees were in full bloom, as the Trust and family members honored Elizabeth May, beloved member, past president and community leader.



Molly Cutler greeting everyone

Corporate Volunteers

Vertex Pharmaceuticals volunteered on September 11, to help clear the Brown property of invasive plants and create a trail system.

Many thanks to organizer Trish Hurter and to all the hard working Vertex volunteers!



The cleared field at the Brown Land

Explore the trails!

Stop by our office for: Trail Guides \$10 (*also at the General Store & Town Hall*)
HCT baseball caps \$20
We're at: 102 Prospect Hill Road (Fruitland's Museum)
978-456-9292 | info@HarvardConservationTrust.org
Office hours 9 am to 1 pm Monday through Thursday.

Harvard Conservation Trust Upcoming Events

<i>Wednesday, November 19, 2014</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>	<i>HCT Annual Meeting</i>	<i>Volunteers Hall, Harvard Public Library</i>
<i>Thursday, January 1, 2015</i>	<i>12:00 pm</i>	<i>Annual New Year's Day walk</i>	<i>Place: TBA</i>

Would you Like to Become a Member? Need to Renew?

Yes, I want to preserve the unique character of the town of Harvard by joining the Harvard Conservation Trust.

Membership is on a calendar-year basis and is tax deductible. Make check payable to "Harvard Conservation Trust" and send to PO Box 31, Harvard, MA 01451, or save a stamp and renew or join online at www.HarvardConservationTrust.org.

___ \$25 Individual ___ \$50 Family ___ \$100 Friend ___ \$250 Associate ___ \$500 Sustaining Other _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Email _____

If your employer will match your contribution, please enclose the application form.

The following committees of the Trust invite your participation. Please check any that interest you.

Conservation	Stewardship	_____ event planning
_____ lands	_____ trail maintenance	_____ membership
Administration	_____ land monitoring	_____ publicity
_____ finance	Discovery	_____ website
_____ fundraising	_____ walks & talks	_____ photography
_____ archives	_____ tree-for-all	_____ graphic design/posters
	_____ newsletter & writing	_____ printing/mailling
	_____ education	



HARVARD
CONSERVATION
TRUST

PO Box 31
HARVARD, MA 01451

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO. 24
Harvard, MA 01451

Rural Route Patron or Boxholder



Plaque

Celebrating 41 Years

Fall 2014



President: Molly Cutler

Trustees: Laura Andrews, Tim Arnold, Robin Carlaw, Peter Dorward, Pam Durrant, Mark Finnegan, Glen Frederick, Michele Girard, Pete Jackson, Ginger Kendall, Jim Lee, Ted MacMahon, Kim Manning, Susan Tarrant, Lucy Wallace

Trustees Emeriti: Frank Coolidge, Larry Finnegan, Erhart Muller, Edward Squibb
Honorary Trustee: Audrey Ball

This is a publication of the **Harvard Conservation Trust**.

Contributors to this issue:
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Design: Karen Polcaro

Membership is open to all. To join the Trust, send your tax-deductible check for dues with the remittance at the back page of this Legacy Review. Alternatively, renew or join online.

Harvard Conservation Trust
PO Box 31
Harvard, MA 01451
Tel: 978.456.9292
www.HarvardConservationTrust.org

Note from the Executive Director

Greetings! Harvard has been witness to some beautiful autumn days; clear skies with a crisp feel to the air. It is a wonderful time to go walk in the town's woods and fields and drink in the glory of nature. If you didn't see it, the *Boston Globe* recently published an article about the town of Harvard. One of the article's main themes was the abundance of conservation land. The Trust is grateful to all of its members over the years that made the work of protecting Harvard's open spaces possible. We celebrate all of you who support this organization. Thank you. *Marylynn Gentry*

Harvard Conservation Trust Legacy Review



Another Land Protection Project!

The Trust has had a busy summer with yet another land protection project! The organization is working hard to protect the Lawton land; 15.2 acres on Old Littleton Road. The property is composed of a beautiful upland mature white pine forest with an existing house that is adjacent to 44 acres of previously conserved forest and active agricultural land. Without the Trust's intervention, a 5 lot subdivision had been planned.



is a national lending organization for land trusts.

Because of the impact the five proposed large houses would have had on the area and on an existing trail, several neighbors have stepped forward to help protect the property. These generous abutters will buy individual parcels from the Trust. The parcels will have Conservation Restrictions in place to ensure the land will never be developed. In addition, the town Conservation Commission is purchasing some of the land to protect the trail corridor.

Since the Trust had to borrow money for the purchase, the remaining house lot will be sold on the open market to help pay back the loan. The lender, the Conservation Fund,

Protecting the Lawton property is a strategic purchase that will help to create linkages to already conserved abutting land. The parcel connects to other protected land via a trail system that crosses part of the property. The long term plan is to protect the entire trail as it winds through this part of the town. Hopefully by the time you are reading this the Trust will have closed on the property and another 15 acres in Harvard will have been permanently protected!

We’ve seen you around Town at our events:

Den 5 Cub Scouts cleared the Ohlin land and Holy Hill for Trail Day held April 13.



At Ohlin Land: Den 5 (l-r): Nick Thornton, John Babcock, Ryan Bilalfer, Timur Sahin, Ben Molnar, Andrew Hopper



Left: Den 5 at Ohlin Land overlooking Bowers Brook.

Above: At Holy Hill: Den 6 (l-r): Jason Morin, Nathan Woolcock, Zack Pelak, Gavin Maddalone

Women's Hiking Series
Co-sponsored by the Harvard Conservation Commission and the Harvard Conservation Trust

The Women’s Hiking Series offered hikes on Harvard Conservation land on the second Tuesday of each month from May to October beginning at 9:00 am. Hikes were on average from 1 to 2 hours, depending on the location.

These well attended hikes were led by the Conservation Commission’s Agent, Liz Allard, and the Trust’s Executive Director, Marylynn Gentry. The walks were held on different conservation areas including Holy Hill, Bowers Spring/Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, Oxbow national Wildlife Refuge, Williams land, Prospect Hill and the Clapp-Scourgie Tufts land. Hikers experienced the changes in flora and fauna over three seasons - a great way to spend a Tuesday morning!



Take the Trail Challenge

The trail challenge has another finisher! The Trail Challenge was recently completed by Frank Heim of Ayer Road in Harvard. Congratulations Frank on your new HCT hat! Anyone interested in taking the trail challenge, visit the Trust’s website at www.HarvardConservationTrust.org for details.

Joint walk with Park and Rec

“Work off those Tax Paying Blues” was held on April 21 at the Brown property. It was a beautiful day and thanks to all who participated.



Visitors hike by a glacial erratic



Trustee Michele Girard led the Work off those Tax-Paying Blues walk.

Birding with Pat White

May 3, at the Williams property



Mushroom Walk

On a gorgeous September afternoon, 25 enthusiasts, led by veteran mycologists Al Ferry and George Davis, examined mushrooms in a HCT sponsored ramble through the woods off of Stow Road. Besides identification, Al and George discussed all manner of mushroom information, from spore patterns and ecology to the process for dyeing fabric with fungi pigments. Once again we were reminded of how lucky we are to have open space and big hearted volunteers in Harvard.



Chicken mushroom



Gnome & Fairy Homes



Run for the Hills

This was our best year ever! Over 250 runners representing 5 states and 60 towns participated. Thank you to organizer Trustee Ted MacMahon, Kim Manning, our volunteers, and all who came out to support the Trust!



Three-category winner Robert McWaters with wife Anne and children Benjamin and Grace



Peter Kane and Anya Priestler – “It’s awesome, beautiful trails!”



Banner of our sponsors



Volunteers Liza Toll and Fiona Morrison



Paul Chapman and Ryell Deruijter – “It’s a feeling of accomplishment”



Mischa Deruijter and Luke Jones – “It’s really fun, especially running with friends

Tree-for-All
May 3 and 4:
Black Chokeberry –
Aronia melanocarpa



The Harvard Conservation Trust welcomes and thanks our newest members!

- Suzie Allen
- Olivier Beauchemin
- Bob Blonck
- Emma Blydenburgh
- Beth Clark
- Heather Daly
- Jim Essury
- Johnathan Feist
- Jennifer Finch
- Rachael Mead
- Howard Nichols
- Bill Spacciopoli
- Kate Stamm
- Sarah Stoddard
- Jonathan Zittrain

Appreciating a commitment to conservation . . . **Won't you join us?**



Can you find the creature in this photo?

If you think you can see the creature, contact Executive Director Marylynn Gentry at mentry@HarvardConservationTrust.org . The first correct responder will win a prize!”

Many thanks to those who correctly answered the last “Where are We?” contest. Those who identified the Scourgie-Clapp conservation land include:

Margaret Kusher – first to respond correctly but a past winner so she received a mug...

Jim Burns – second to respond correctly but also a past winner so he received a mug...

Brian Noble – third to respond correctly so he won the hat!