

You're Invited: Wild Edibles Walk at Fruitlands Museum



Guide:
Russ Cohen
 June 7th — 6 to 8 pm

Fruitland's Museum

Fresh off his enthusiastic talk "Foraging for Food in Your Own Backyard" at the Trust's annual meeting in November, Russ Cohen will lead a walk at Fruitlands to look for wild edibles. Russ is a professional environmentalist and wild foods enthusiast. Tasty edibles that participants may find include: Common Barberry, Canada Mayflower, Dewberry, Fox Grape, Hazelnut Partridgeberry, Plantain, Sassafras, Sheep Sorrel, and Wild lettuce.

Free to members of HCT and/or Fruitland's Museum; \$10 for nonmembers. Space is limited so registration is required by calling or emailing Ginger Watts at (978) 456-3924 x239 or education@fruitlands.org



Harvard Conservation Trust Upcoming Events

Day & Date	Time	Activity	Place
Thursday, May 3rd	6-8 pm	Earth Day Fair	Hildreth Elementary School Gym Open to the public
Saturday, May 5th Sunday, May 6th	8am-12pm 10am-1pm	Tree-for-All Selection - Tupelo	Transfer Station Town Center
Sunday, May 6th		Trails Clean Up Day You choose the time!	Spruce up a trail of your choice
Thursday, June 7th	6-8 pm	Wild Edibles Walk with Russ Cohen	Fruitlands Museum Registration required, space is limited
Wednesday, Aug. 8th	tba	Audubon Ark	Harvard Public Library
Sunday, September 9th	2pm	Run for the Hills 5K	McCurdy Track, Harvard

We hope to see you around town . . .

Member Registration

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 re-new 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> event planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lands | <input type="checkbox"/> trail maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> membership |
| Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> land monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> finance | Discovery | <input type="checkbox"/> website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> walks & talks | <input type="checkbox"/> photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> archives | <input type="checkbox"/> tree-for-all | <input type="checkbox"/> graphic design / posters |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> newsletter & writing | <input type="checkbox"/> printing / mailing |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> education | |



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Harvard Conservation Trust Legacy Review

President: Molly Cutler
Trustees: Laura Andrews, Tim Arnold, Pam Durrant, Steve Finnegan, Glen Frederick, Pete Jackson, Ginger Kendall, Ted MacMahon, Robin Malloy, Jed Mannis, Margaret Nestler, Jim Saalfeld, 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 are: Marylynn Gentry, Robin Malloy, Margaret Nestler, Marion Kerr
Design: Karen Polcaro (karenpolcaro.com)

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, re-new or join on-line.



Trust membership helps to insure that bucolic scenes such as this remain preserved and protected for future generations.

Note from the Executive Director

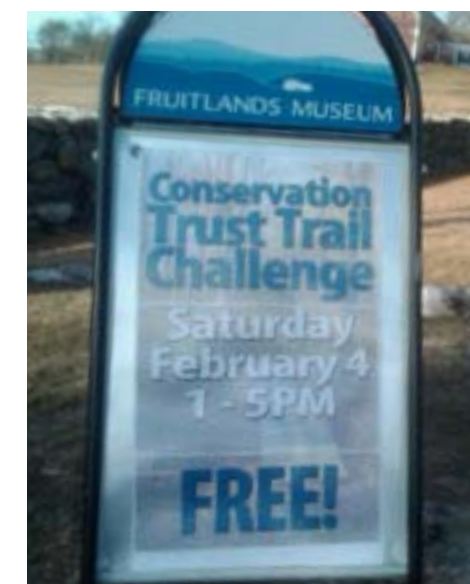
Greetings!

April 22 is the 42nd anniversary of Earth Day and the Trust is pleased to have played a part in protecting a small corner of the earth here in Harvard; over 700 acres since its founding in 1973. I recently pulled the Trust's very first newsletter, published in the spring of 1994, because I was curious to see what the Trust found worthy of reporting to its members. Articles included outlining the differences between the Trust and the Conservation Commission, highlighting a planned nature walk, and giving an update on their land protection work. It made me chuckle because that is exactly what we had planned for this issue! So, sit back, relax and enjoy reading our recycled version; 18 years later! – *Marylynn Gentry*

Game, Set... Match Our \$10,000 Challenge!

Back in the fall, friends of the Trust were issued a challenge where we all win! For any new member, or existing member who increases their contribution, an anonymous donor will match that donation up to \$10,000

We are pleased to report that members have responded generously and we are up to \$8,000 in increased contributions! It is not too late to contribute. If you have not renewed or want to join the Trust, every bit you give will go a long way towards closing that gap and help us further our mission to add more protected land to the map!



The Trust partnered with Fruitlands Museum to add a Trail Challenge to Winterfest

Introducing New Trustees

The Trust is honored to announce that the following members of our community were elected to be members of the Board of Trustees at the annual meeting last November: *Laura Andrews, Ginger Kendall, Pete Jackson, Mark Finnegan, Lucy Wallace, Pam Durrant, and Glen Frederick*

You've seen us around town



New Years Day walk



Audubon Ark

Spotlight on Conservation:

How does the Trust protect land?

In the early years, the Trust's primary activity was to acquire land and hold it until the Town could purchase it as conservation land. This activity has evolved to include accepting outright gifts of land; purchasing land to hold in fee; receiving gifts or purchases of a conservation restriction; buying options; limited development to protect a larger piece of open space; applying for grants and finding donors to help with land protection projects; and working in concert with other organizations to preserve valuable pieces.

What other organizations has the Trust partnered with for projects?

One example is the Watt Farm. The Trust worked with several committed parties in placing the 128 acre Watt Farm in Still River under the permanent protection of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, thus expanding the Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge. In 1999, the Selectmen asked the Trust to help purchase the first lot and secure an option on the remainder of the farm. Through the combined efforts of the Watt family, the Town, the Harvard

Conservation Trust, and the Trust for Public Land, the property was permanently protected.

How does the Trust find land to protect?

It varies. Sometimes a landowner or like-minded conservation organization will contact the Trust and sometimes there is direct outreach to the landowner.

How does the Trust decide what land warrants protection?

The Trust reviews each property and weighs its conservation value against several considerations: linkage potential to other conservation lands, ecological value, viewshed and wildlife corridors, agricultural land, size, and available funding to name a few.

Who decides what projects to pursue?

There is a conservation committee composed of Trustees and members who review each project and decide which ones to recommend to the Board of Trustees for approval.

What is the Trust working on now?

The Trust has four projects in the pipeline right now. As it turns out, they are still in



Audubon Ark

Harvard Hikes:

- Black Pond
- Fruitlands Museum
- Hermann Orchard
- Pin Hill

"Come forth into the light of things, let nature be your teacher."

—William Wadsworth

the confidential stage, but there is a positive feeling that all or most will come to fruition and hopefully be celebrated by the end of the year.

How does the Harvard Conservation Trust differ from the Harvard Conservation Commission?

Since the Trust is a non-profit, its work complements but operates differently from the Town's governmental body, the Harvard Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission is a Town board appointed by Selectmen and tasked with regulatory functions and the maintenance of Town-owned conservation land. The Trust is an independent non-governmental organization that can devote its time to creatively pursuing potential acquisitions. We focus specifically on protecting land, taking care of the land we own and hold conservation restrictions on, and holding events that promote our outdoor world.

Many thanks to our Conservation Committee members: *Pam Durrant, Chair, Molly Cutler, Mark Finnegan, Jed Mannis, Jim Saalfeld, Susan Tarrant, and Lucy Wallace*

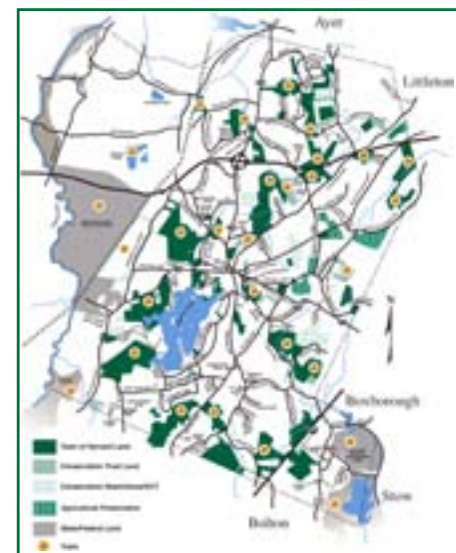
New to the Website: an Interactive Trails page!

We are pleased to announce the launch of an interactive Trails page on our website. Now you can print out a map before you visit any conservation land, or use your smart phone to pull up the map as you walk. Simply visit our site at www.HarvardConservationTrust.org and click on the "Trails" tab. A map of all the conservation land in town will appear. Scroll your mouse over the page and at each "Maple Leaf" icon, the name of the conservation area will pop up. Click on the icon and a PDF of the trail map will open. Now you are ready to print and go, or, smart phone users can just go!

Explore the trails!

Stop by our office for:
Trail Guides \$10
(also at the General Store & Town Hall)
HCT baseball caps \$10

We're at:
102 Prospect Hill Road
(Fruitland's Museum)
978.456.9292
info@HarvardConservationTrust.org



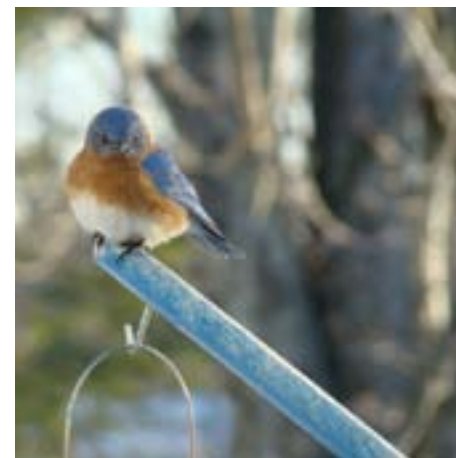
Calling all Photographers

Please send us a photo of a mature Tree-For-All specimens. We would like to see how these trees have grown and will publish a couple in our fall newsletter. Submissions can be made by mail or email to mgentry@HarvardConservationTrust.org.



Sketches from Barry Van Dusen

The Trust is continuing to showcase sketches from the artist Barry Van Dusen for whom we are grateful for his gift of numerous bird illustrations. This spring, we include the "Carolina Wren", a more common species of wrens found in this area. The upperparts are rufous brown, and the under-parts a strong orange-buff. It is the second largest wren behind the Cactus Wren in size. Their habitat is sites with dense undergrowth, either in mixed forests or in wooded suburban settings.



The Harvard Conservation Trust welcomes . . .

Our newest members!

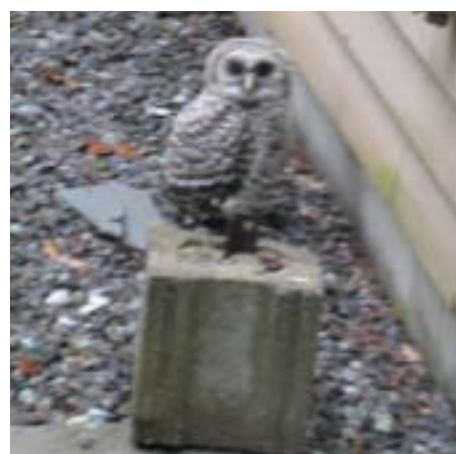
Chris & Tina Ashley
Kent & Mary Jo Boynton
John & Vicki Burns
Didi Chadran & Paige O'Brien
Collins Family
Andra Evans
Elizabeth Brittany Hogan
Deborah Keller, Cheshire Barn
Marion Kerr
Karl Kreeb & Pamela Spear
Maureen Lemieux
Karen & Steve Morris
Margaret Murphy
Asha Ramakrishna
The Shlimak Family
Merton Thompson & Jaylyn Joss
Kenneth Van Wormer

Appreciating a commitment to conservation . . .

Won't you join us?

Submit Nature Sightings photos

Don't forget! If you have a nature photo you would like to share, send it to the Trust and we will put it on the website! We have had some wonderful photos from members including a bluebird from Dave Guy, a red fox taken by Susan Johnson, and a barred owl submitted by Dorothy Solbrig. Send in any choice picture in a JPG format as an attachment to mgentry@HarvardConservationTrust.org and we will publish it on the website.



Tree-For-All

"He plants trees to benefit another generation." —Caecilius Statius

In the Trust's 1995 newsletter, Erhart Muller wrote: "This quotation, dating from about 200 BC, expresses the essence of conservation, for it is only in the long term that the consequences of our actions make themselves felt. Will our children be able to enjoy the world that we now enjoy?"

The Harvard Conservation Trust started the Tree-For-All program in 1981 to express appreciation to its members for their support, but also, as Erhart Muller so aptly wrote: "Tree planting well symbolizes the purpose of the Trust because it is not done for immediate gratification but for future benefits."

This year we are happy to give our members the Tupelo or Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*).

The Tupelo is an American Native found growing from Texas to Maine. The

common name, Tupelo, is derived from a Creek Indian word meaning 'Swamp Tree'. It is considered one of our most beautiful indigenous trees. Often found growing along stream banks or wetlands in the wild, Tupelos will resist drought or short term flooding once they are established and are adaptable to dry habitats. They are a good choice for residential landscapes growing into medium to large sized specimens 30' to 50' tall. Attractive in every season, the stunning fall color of these trees as they turn intense yellow, orange, scarlet and even purple is a true autumn highlight.

The young form is finely textured and symmetrical with horizontal branching that looks lovely covered in snow. In summer, the waxy dark green leaves compliment any garden style. Although the flowers are not noticeable because they tend to be hidden by the leaves, they are beloved by pollinators. Tupelo honey is prized for delicious flavor. Female trees produce bluish



Trust Awards at the Bromfield Science Fair



High School Top Prize to Seniors Patrick Ware, Alyssa Swindells and Scott Blackwell for their project: The Effect of Polymers On Plant Growth in Soil Contaminated with Hydrocarbons



High School Honorable Mention to Seniors Julia and Jessica Berger for their project: Health of Harvard Forests II and Top Prize Middle School to eighth grader Hannah Kline for her project: The Effects of pH on the Coloration and Growth of Basil Plants.

Conservation:

It is our task in our time and in our generation to hand down undiminished to those who come after us, as was handed down to us by those who went before, the natural wealth and beauty which is ours.

—John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Stewardship:

If one way be better than another, that you may be sure is nature's way.

—Aristotle

Discovery:

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

—Native American Proverb

black fruit in the fall that is a food source for many birds and mammals. Tupelo fruit is a main food source for migrating robins.

These trees thrive in acidic soil at the wetland edge and in dry uplands. They grow well in full sun and tolerate partial shade. Plant them in a permanent spot because they develop a deep tap root making them very difficult to move successfully. Be sure to pick up your sapling on Saturday, May 5th at the Transfer Station or Sunday, May 6th in the Town center.

Trail Challenge

The Trust is in the process of establishing a Trail Challenge to encourage people to get out walking the trails. A red control punch (shown in the photo below left) will be placed on various trails around the Town of Harvard. The punches are designed with a serious of pins which, when stamped on paper, will each make a distinct and different design. The challenge will be to collect as many punches as possible, evidencing that the collector has visited numerous trails around town. Control cards made out of Tyvek material (shown in the photo below right) will be available at the Trust's office and, hopefully, in other locations around town. Look for an article in the local newspapers announcing the start of the Trail Challenge.

