

Groton Conservation Trust Hunting* Information - 2024

Most Groton Conservation Trust properties are open to hunting. The Trust recognizes both the traditional and historical role of hunting in Groton and its value as an ecological management tool. Much land in Groton has been conserved with financial assistance from the state's Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, which holds deed restrictions ensuring those properties will remain open to hunting. In addition, overpopulation of some species, especially white-tailed deer, is a serious ecological problem in Groton and where it is safe the Trust tries to keep our properties open to hunting.

Hunting seasons popular in Groton occur only a few weeks each year; recreational use of our properties by both hunters and non-hunters during those weeks is encouraged. A few guidelines can make it easier for both groups to be comfortable enjoying our properties.

- ALL hunting is prohibited in Massachusetts on Sundays. Legislation proposed a few years ago would have changed this, but that legislation was not passed.
- Popular hunting seasons in Massachusetts begin in late October and run until the end of the year. You shouldn't be surprised if you encounter a hunter with a bow or shotgun during this period. Deer hunting by rifle is not permitted in Massachusetts.
- Hunting, discharge of firearms, or the release of any arrow is prohibited by state law within 150 feet of any road or within 500 feet of any house. For some Trust properties, this effectively prohibits hunting regardless of any other regulation.
- All hunters must wear blaze orange during the shotgun and muzzleloader seasons for deer, which run from the Monday after Thanksgiving to the end of the year. Non-hunters are strongly encouraged to do the same during any fall hunting season.
- The Town of Groton requires **ALL** dogs to be on leash on our properties at all times. You may wish to have them wear an orange collar whenever you're wearing orange.
- Individual permission is not required to hunt on Groton Conservation Trust property, but if you are hunting please tell us so we can better understand how our properties are used. You can send email to hunting@gctrust.org to let us know.
- Tree stands are permitted on our properties, but they must be portable (not screw-in) and must be removed at the end of the season. You must ask permission at hunting@gctrust.org first, and you must label your stand with contact information. Any stands installed without permission or left after the end of the calendar year may be removed and discarded.

* All references to "hunting" in this document refer to all legal hunting and trapping.

Groton Conservation Trust

Hunting Permission by Property - 2024

The list below indicates which Groton Conservation Trust properties are open to hunting in 2024. This list may change from year to year; a current map of our properties is available at <http://www.gctrust.org>.

Hunters may wish to print this list and leave it visible in their vehicle or carry it with them. Other recreational users may think hunting is prohibited on our properties, and having this list may be helpful. Anyone with questions about hunting on Trust properties should contact us at hunting@gctrust.org

Hunting Permitted

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Baddacook Conservation Land | Lotz Land |
| Blackman Field and Woods | Macys' Fen |
| Bruner Land | Mason Back 100 |
| Carters' Folly | Reynolds Tract |
| Fitch-Woods | Riley Land |
| Gamlin Crystal Spring | Shepley Hill |
| Genthner Woods | Throne Hill |
| June's Wood (Pepperell Road) | Valentine Hollingsworth |
| Lawrence Land (on the Throne) | West Throne |

Hunting Prohibited

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|--|---------------------------|
| Angus Acre | Moors Schoolhouse |
| Bates Land | Perry Land |
| Blackman Land | Red Line Path |
| Cronin Land | Sabine Memorial Woods |
| Cronin-Massapoag | Skinner Forest |
| Duck Pond | Skitapet |
| Gamlin Picnic Site | Still Meadow |
| Hayes Woods | Taplin Wildlife Sanctuary |
| Lawrence Woods (opposite Groton Place) | The General Field |
| Lost Lake Conservation Area | Wattles Pond |
| Martins Pond Brook | |