

Groton's (Fledgling) Interactive Trails

**Paul Funch, Chairman
Groton Trails Committee
5 May 2013**

Who Does the Work?

❖ **Groton Trails Committee**

- Chartered by Selectmen in March 1998
- Originally 15 members appointed; 9 since 2001

❖ **Trail Volunteers**

- E-mail list notifications of projects to 100+ community volunteers
- Community Service Days (Groton School, Lawrence Academy)
- "Adjunct" Trail Committee Members with special skills, notably IT, GIS, and surveying
- Eagle Scout Service Projects
- Others (Mtn. bikers, land stewards, etc.)

Our Goals

- ❖ To develop a network of trails, sidewalks/pathways, and dirt roads to provide safe and scenic connections between all neighborhoods of Groton for all non-motorized uses
- ❖ To research titles, easements, and boundaries to protect lawful public access to trails
- ❖ To educate the public on where they can find the public trails and where they go (and don't go)
- ❖ To educate the public on the history of the land they pass over and what they can see and do on the trails



What Do We Do?

- ❖ Build new trails
- ❖ Mark and maintain trails
- ❖ Offer monthly guided hikes
- ❖ Sponsor trail races in Town Forest (#16 in October 2013)
- ❖ Maintain a website to provide maps and information on trails and parcels
- ❖ PR: Man booth at GrotonFest and RiverFest; write articles for local newspapers

Who Owns the Trails?

	Number of Parcels	Acres	Miles of Trails*
APRs, CRs	20	949	6.3
Massachusetts Audubon Society#	1	422	1.7
Dunstable Rural Land Trust#	1	10	0
Groton Conservation Commission	82	1,873	22.2
Groton Conservation Trust	35	1,447	25.0
Commonwealth (DCR, MW, etc.)	8	734	12.5
New England Forestry Foundation	7	1,039	11.8
Groton Town Forest	1	513	16.2
Town of Groton	17	619	3.1
Water Districts#	12	266	0
Totals	184	7,872	98.7

No permission, except in Town Forest area (WGWD)

* GPS'ed to date

Our Website

<http://www.grotontrails.org>

- ❖ **Maps (pdf)**
- ❖ **Interactive map**
- ❖ **Videos**
- ❖ **Sign-up**
- ❖ **Quests**

Our Trail Signs



Trail Markers

White: Through
Yellow: Loop
Blue: Connector
Purple: Spur



QR Code

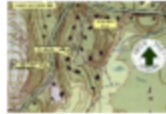
Attached to posts only
at trailheads

QR Landing Website



Welcome to the
Groton Trails Network

Interactive Maps



PDF Maps

Create your own [Maprika](#) map



Download Maprika App for



Post current trail conditions

Join our Email List



Email us questions
and suggestions

Be safe and happy trails!

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Our Database

❖ Conservation Parcel Database

- Descriptive Info
- Donator/Seller and Date of Donation/Purchase
- Historical Info
- Acreage
- Miles of Trails
- Recreational Activities Recommended
- Future Info: Geological, Biological, Botanical, ??

What's In Our Future?

- ❖ **Develop new trails as opportunities arise**
- ❖ **Continue to maintain/enhance existing trails**
- ❖ **Continue development of interactive maps**
 - Complete collection of GPS tracks of all public trails in Groton and neighboring towns
 - Clearly identify private property trails
 - Edit and add database information to maps
- ❖ **Support/lead efforts to develop Complete Streets**
- ❖ **Support/lead efforts to further develop pathways along roadways to key community locations**



Questions?

Thank you!