

# The Greater Worcester Land Trust

## Who We Are

The Greater Worcester Land Trust (GWLT) is a nonprofit organization with the mission to preserve critical open space in the Greater Worcester area. We accomplish this through land purchases, accepting gifts of land, and other conservation practices. Our mission is made possible by securing grants and donations from our supporters, including generous individuals. GWLT is run by a board of trustees, a small office staff and gracious volunteers.

Open space and natural preserves enhance the quality of life in our cities, serving as antidotes to the stresses of urban life. They protect water resources and biodiversity, mitigate urban pollution, and bolster property values. They provide us with spiritual and physical benefits as well, by helping to connect each of us with our natural environment.

Since its inception, GWLT has preserved more than 2,000 acres of land in the Greater Worcester area for the purposes of resource protection, scenic beauty, and passive recreation. All of these lands are accessible to the public. You can find locations and descriptions of our properties, along with hiking maps, on our website – **gwlt.org.** 

### Membership and Volunteering

You can support GWLT in many different ways — with time or donations. We welcome your help!

#### Become a Member

Your membership dues are used to support the goals of the GWLT. Annual membership dues for an individual start at \$25/year and are tax deductible. Check out our website at **gwlt.org** to donate securely online or email us at mail@gwlt.org or call 508-795-3838 for more information.

#### Volunteer

You can also volunteer your time and talents. Throughout the year, we schedule trail clearing, blazing and maintenance activities to keep our conservation areas easily accessible to the public. We also have ongoing property signage projects that include sign layout, timber hewing, routing and installation.

We can use donations of administrative skills as well. Visit our website to send us a message about how you can volunteer your talents. We need you!

#### **Trail Steward**

If you frequently use the trails on the Trust's lands, consider becoming a Trail Steward. Trail Stewards adopt a trail or segment of a trail for light maintenance such as brush and tree trimming and keeping the trail free of litter. Trail maps are available at **gwlt.org**.

#### **Conservation Ranger**

Conservation Rangers monitor, protect and manage our lands by conducting monthly evaluations of current conditions such as wildlife and habitats, uses and abuses, and documenting observations in field journals with maps, and photos. GWLT provides Conservation Rangers with training, materials and ongoing education. Ranger input contributes to the Trust's decisions about projects related to property improvements, wildlife management, burns, signage and more.

You can email us at mail@gwlt.org or call us at 508-795-3838 for more information on any of these opportunities.



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