
Princeton Land Trust

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PrincetonLandTrust.us

November 2017



Fieldstone Farm Update

Most of the Fieldstone Farm project was completed in 2016. Below is an update on progress made in 2017 and one open item to complete.



To fulfill a promise to the Town, an additional 10 acres of back land adjacent to the Town owned Calamint Hill Conservation Area was deeded to the Town under the care of the Princeton Conservation Commission.

We continue to work with the state environmental agencies to fully fund the agricultural restriction on the 60 acres of farm land. Mass Audubon and the Princeton Land Trust remain fully committed to finalizing this critical component.

The two parcels of land were sold in 2016 to provide the town with a balance of housing and conservation. A new home has been built and sold at the corner of Calamint Hill Road North and Hubbardston Road. The owner of the second parcel located off Hubbardston Road will begin construction of a new home this Fall.

Mass Audubon has completed a trail to connect Goodnow Road through the hayfields on Fieldstone Farm to Route 62, Hubbardston Road.

The Princeton Conservation Commission is presently working on trails within the Calamint Hill Conservation Area. The small parking lot on Calamint Road North is marked by the sign shown below.



Conservation Easement Monitoring

The Calamint Hill Conservation Area owned by the Town is subject to a Conservation Easement held jointly by the State DCR and the City of Worcester. PLT is responsible for annual monitoring of the Easement.

The field work for the 2017 monitoring report was carried out on October 7, 2017. The monitoring team hiked the property, observing a majority of the property bounds. No violations of the easement were observed. PLT will post monitoring hikes on the website in the future. Any resident of the Town is welcome to participate.

Annual Meeting

will be on
November 7, 7:00 pm in the
Coppertop Lounge
at the
Wachusett Mountain Ski Area

Jonathan Thompson
Senior Ecologist at
Harvard Forest

*"Wildlands & Woodlands:
Conservation Vision for
New England Forests"*

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Princeton Hikes! Exploring PLT Trails

The Princeton Open Space Committee has initiated a twice-a-month hiking series to showcase Princeton Hiking trails and get people out and socializing. Princeton Land Trust trails have been used for two of the hikes done since April 8th.

The first hike of the series was enjoyed by 26 people, walking along the Midstate Trail through PLT properties near the intersection of Thompson, Gates, and Old Colony roads

The second hike on the tour showcased the trails through the Bullock/McElroy properties, from Krashes Field to Bullock Lane, and the Peabody/Metcalf and Poor properties down to the beaver pond on the south side of Route 62. This hike was enjoyed by 30 (mostly) townspeople – see photo below.

At both hikes, time was taken to explain the PLT mission and review some recent projects.

The Princeton Hikes! program will continue through the winter and we will be repeating hikes through PLT properties. Watch for news in the Landmark or through Facebook (Trail Around Princeton). Or join the mailing list by writing to TrailAroundPrincetonMa@GMail.com.



Princeton Land Trust Trails Blazed in Blue!

Over the summer, three key PLT trails in the center of town were given blue blazes. As a result the trails are a little easier to follow, and in some cases we have been able to get rid of the ribbons that we've used in the past.

The three trail areas are:

Peabody/Metcalf/Poor properties: Park off Sterling Road just east of Merriam Road near the Princeton Land Trust sign. There is parking for four or five cars. The trail is a one-mile loop down to a large isolated beaver pond.

Gregory Property: Park along Prospect Street, near the sign for the Gregory Trail. The loop is short but includes a spur that goes down to the Gregory Spring. We plan to connect this to East Princeton Road soon.

Bullock/McElroy properties: Park off Bullock Road in the field on the left (there is a break in the wall). Walk down through the first field to the right, then to the kiosk. From there the trail loops, left and right of the kiosk, down to Krashes Field.

More information about these trails can be found on our website (click the History link; the link to the Trails brochure is found at the bottom of the page).

