



Great Meadows Conservation Trust, Inc.
P. O. Box 171
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www.gmct.org

GMCT Brisk Winter Walk Schedule

See page 3 or WWW.GMCT.org for details....

Saturday, Jan 5, 10:00 a.m., Wood Parcel – Wethersfield

Saturday, Jan 12, 10:00 a.m., Wolf Parcel – Wethersfield

Saturday, Jan 12, 10:00 a.m., Wolcott, Crilly Parcels – Weth.

Sunday, Jan. 27, 1:00 p.m., Coal Dock – Glastonbury

Saturday, Feb 2, 9:00 a.m., Crow Point – Wethersfield

Saturday, Feb 9, 9:00 a.m., Hickenam Meadows – East Hartford

Saturday, Feb 16, 10:00 a.m., Finnegan-Fox, Hale – Wethersfield



Great Meadows Conservation Trust, Inc.
Glastonbury, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, Connecticut

Vol. XXVIX no. 1

Winter 2013

Brisk Winter Walks 2013

Start the year off right — Fresh air plus “agricultural, scenic, archeological and wetland riches”

New sign beckons and informs Wood Parcel walkers, and new gate welcomes Wolf Parcel walkers.

The first walk of the year, in the **Wood Parcel**, offering views of the snow covered brook, marsh, and fallow farm fields of the Great Plane area. will set out at 10 a.m., Sat. Jan. 5, but a work party tasked with cleaning a wood duck box, and clearing an area for a new bench will start at 8:30 a.m.

The second walk the following Saturday, Jan. 12, in the **Wolf Parcel** offers views of the cove, Folly Brook nature area, and an extended walk out to the river on the dike.



The sign at the Wood Parcel took shape in June with the help of many volunteers. The construction crew, headed by Bob Ludwig, assembled oak planks donated by Mark Packard, planed by Steve Hammer at his woodshop, lettering by Bob Ludwig and Jim woodworth, and logo donated by John Oldham Studios. On the back of the sign, walkers can find a map of the parcel and information about the Trust.

Oldham Studios' logos grace sign and gate

John Oldham's graphic designer Todd Gorman and workers transformed the GMCT logo into beautiful and durable outdoor medallions.



The new gate at Hartford Avenue is the skilled handiwork of neighbor Jim Arnold, with funds generously donated by neighbors Bill and Candace Holmes and Charlie and Beth Stewart. Lettering by Jim and Bob, and logo by Oldham Studios.

Volunteers wanted!! —

Just a reminder that the Great Meadows Conservation Trust is a 100% volunteer, donation supported, non-profit corporation.

Memberships, donations, bequests, and grants provide the funding, but volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization.

Whether you're a policy leader or a hands-on outdoor person, the Trust can use your help. Consider membership in our "Operations Committee" that meets on the 4th Thursday of the month, jointly with the Board of Directors.

Or join us Saturday morning at 8:30a.m. at the Wood Parcel ready for work!

To donate to the Stewardship fund — visit <http://www.gmct.org/membership/donate.html>

September Source to the Sea Cleanup Leaves Cove, River and Wood Parcel Cleaner—but far from Clean

GMCT volunteers Linda Nielson and Sheila Wells load Bob Ludwig's boat to the gunnels with trash from the I91 side of the Wethersfield Cove during Source to the Sea Cleanup, Sept. 29, 2012.



Hauling Away Rusted Hulks

Corona Autoparts flatbed drivers Dwayne and José transported rusted wrecks pulled out of the river and off the flood plain to the salvage yard. They also picked up a stranded 6 cylinder Olds that an MDC right of way clearing contractor had pulled to the edge of the field from GMCT's Wood Parcel.



Tom Kehoe and Penny Rusnak to lead walk from Ferry Landing to Coal Wharf

Glastonbury Board Members Penny Rusnak and Tom Kehoe will lead one of our most popular walks from the Glastonbury Ferry Landing upriver to the 19th Century coal wharf, a Trust conservation easement. (Sunday, January 27)



Betty Schmitt brings the history of the 19th Century coal wharf alive for the crowd of walkers.



Map shows location of 50 years of litter from I91 combined with 50 years of the Folly

Brook Flush, which also litters West and South sides of the Cove, areas that are cleaned often.

Fishing Cars from the River

Jacqueline Talbot, River Steward for the CT River Watershed Council, enlisted the help of the State Police Dive Team and Corona Autoparts salvage team to pull car wrecks from the River off Elm Street Extension. The Dive Team located more than 12 submerged vehicles in murky 40' water with a strong current. They hooked a line from the wrecker to a Honda Civic and a Chevy Van. Jon Corona, and wrecker drivers Ziggy and Mike ease the "Catch o' the Day" out of the River



GMCT Brisk Winter Walks 2013

This is the schedule for the Great Meadows Conservation Trust winter walks for 2013, co-sponsored with the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Glastonbury and the Eleanor Buck Wolf Nature Center in Wethersfield.

Saturday, Jan 5, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Wethersfield. Meet Jim Woodworth at 160 Middletown Ave, south of Maple St, on GMCT's **Wood Parcel**. Cross the new bridge and follow the trail along the marsh and around the loop past the 18th century house site. Hike will continue along the edge of the farm fields that once hosted the original "Pyquag" Native American summer camp and along the marsh.

From I-91 south take exit 25 S to route 3 south, or from Glastonbury take route 3 south over the Putnam Bridge. At the second light turn left onto Middletown Ave. From I-91 north take exit 24 to route 99 north. Take route 99 1.3 miles to a traffic light. Turn right onto route 3 north. At the first light turn right onto Middletown Ave. Make a U turn and park on the left side of Middletown Ave.

Saturday, Jan 12, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Wethersfield. Meet Jim Woodworth at 412 Hartford Ave, corner of Jordan La, for a short walk through our new gate to our **Wolf Parcel** and DeMille easement. See habitat improvements made with the help of a WHIP grant and volunteer work. Stay for a longer walk up Hartford Ave. and out along the Hartford dike that divides the Folly Brook Nature area from the South Meadows Industrial Park.

Saturday, Jan 19, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Wethersfield. Meet Larry Lunden at 258 Elm St, at the underpass under I-91. A long hike to our **Wolcott and Crilly parcels** in the Wethersfield Meadows. Maybe Bacon or Woodhouse also. From I-91 south take exit 25 S to route 3 south, or from Glastonbury take route 3 south over the Putnam Bridge. Go past the first traffic light, make a U turn and come back to this traffic light. Turn right onto Elm St and park at the highway underpass.

Sunday, Jan 27, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Glastonbury. Meet Penny Rusnak and Tom Kehoe at Ferry Park, 263 Ferry Lane. Walk upstream along the Connecticut River through farm fields to explore the Trust's easement on the late 19th Century **coal wharf** once owned by the South Glastonbury Steamboat Wharf Company. From route 17 (Main St) in South Glastonbury, take route 160 (Water St) over bridge onto Tryon St. Continue straight then take right onto Ferry Lane to end. Ferry Park is on the left just before the ferry slip.

Saturday, Feb 2, 9:00 am to 11:00 am, Wethersfield. Meet Jim Woodworth and Goodwin College's Bruce Morton, Program Director of Environmental Studies, at the Putnam Park parking lot, 100 Great Meadow Road, just north of the Putnam Bridge. We'll peel away the centuries to imagine the river bank before the bridge, and explore the 300+ acre Crow Point property owned by Goodwin College. We'll observe the process of nature reclaiming the land and waterways excavated for fill to build the highway across the ancient farmland and wetlands of the great meadows. Christopher Shepard, Nature Center director, will help shuttle the group from the parking lot along Great Meadow Road into the meadows. From I91 N, take exit 25/26 and bear right on Exit 26 to Wethersfield. At the end of the ramp, turn left under the Putnam Bridge to the parking lot. From I91 S, take exit 26, Marsh St. /Old Wethersfield. At the end of the ramp, turn left under the highway, and right at the T toward the Putnam Park lot. From Route 3N/ Maple Street, take the exit toward I91 north, but bear right to exit onto Great Meadow Road, and turn right toward the parking lot. From Route 3S, take the I91N exit at the end of bridge, but bear right to exit onto Great Meadow Road, and turn right toward the parking lot.

Saturday, Feb 9, 9:00 am to 11:00 am, East Hartford. Meet Jim Woodworth and Goodwin College's Bruce Morton, Program Director of Environmental Studies, at Hockanum Park, 324 High St. Explore our **Wilson-Carvalho and Hockanum Meadows parcels** in the "Wethersfield Triangle" of land marooned on the east side by the meandering of the river. Goodwin College students are studying environmental science here, experimenting with invasive species control and habitat enhancement. From route 2 west, take exit 5 A, Main St. At the second traffic light take a left, and then another left and under the highway onto High St. From route 2 east, take exit 5 A, High St. Once on High St, follow it south, past the elementary school, to the park on the left.

Saturday, Feb 16, 10:00 am, Wethersfield. Meet Larry Lunden south of the Putnam Bridge at 154 Great Meadow Rd, next to the highway exit. Access via Marsh St. A long hike to our **Packtor, Wolcott, Finnegan-Fox and Hale parcels**.

Dress for the Weather and ground conditions. Many places will be muddy. Weather and water conditions may revise or cancel. This area is used for hunting, so wear an orange vest if you have one. Call the CT Audubon Society for the latest information, 860-633-8402. Free.