

The background features a stylized landscape. The top half consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent green triangles of varying shades, creating a mountain range effect. The bottom half is a solid, bright yellow field, suggesting a field of wildflowers or a meadow. The overall aesthetic is clean and nature-oriented.

Waltham Land Trust's Stewardship Training

April 13, 2024

WLT's Mission

The Waltham Land Trust's mission is to create a legacy of land conservation in Waltham by promoting, protecting, restoring, and acquiring open space.

We envision growth in public appreciation of natural resources, preservation and restoration of native habitat, and increased biodiversity to foster a healthier environment.

Waltham Land Trust's People

- Founded in 1999 by neighborhood associations (HPA, PHAG, Beaver Brook, Island), community activists, environmentalists, and “just plain folks”
- Currently 11 Board Directors, 7 Advisors
- 1 Executive Director, 30 hours/week
- 6 committees of board members, ED, others
- 450 paying members receive *The Journal*
- 3000 supporters receive upcoming event e-blasts
- 350 trained volunteer stewards--including you!

WLT's Funding

- Membership dues (individuals and businesses) and individual contributions
- Major special events -- *Green Space Blues Jam* June 9 band, snacks, drinks, auction. *WG5K* in October.
- Grants from local foundations, family foundations, the Commonwealth
- Fundraisers: Tue. 4/30 *Jake n JOES* by Market Basket, WLT gets 20% of sales marked "fundraiser"

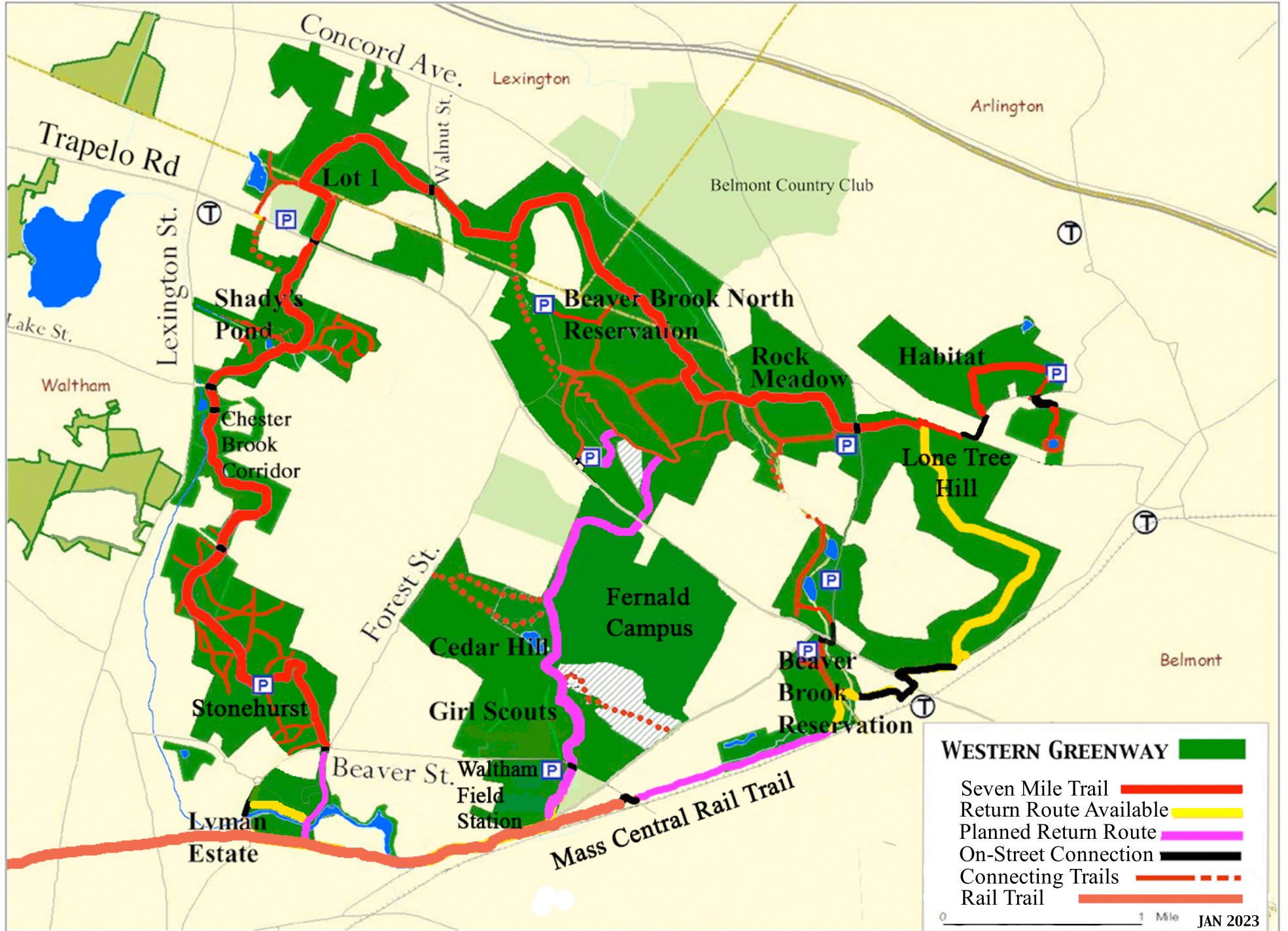
WLT's Volunteer Stewards

- Regularly monitor section of trail
- On your own or with others
- Complete [Reporting Form online](#) every time
- Remove trash (we provide bags & gloves)
- Can remove invasive plants once trained

WLT's Stewardship Projects

Western Greenway Trail

- Stewards established 2012
- In Waltham, from Metropolitan Parkway west to Lot 1, south to Beaver Street (map on next slide)
- Easements "owned" by WLT
- Waltham Police, Fire, and Public Works help out
- Online Reporting Form goes to Sonja
 - No "official" receives report if problem



WLT's Stewardship Projects

Prospect Hill Park

- Stewards est. 2014
- Owned by City of Waltham
- Work closely with Ranger, Recreation Dept., Rec. Board
- Online Reporting form goes to Ranger Adam Green

Charles River paths (including Woerd Woods)

- Stewards est. 2014
- Owned by MA Dept. Conservation & Recreation (DCR)
- Online Reporting Form goes to Sonja
 - DCR (Erica) receives if problem needs addressing

WLT's Stewardship Projects

Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) *CURRENTLY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC*

- Stewards est. 2015
- Owned by MBTA, leased by DCR

Beaver Brook North and Historic reservations

- Stewards est. 2015
- Owned by DCR
- Online Reporting Form goes to Sonja
 - DCR receives if problem

WLT's Stewardship Projects

Hardy Pond wetlands, shoreline, Smith Point, and Lakeview Avenue properties

- Stewards est. 2017
- Hardy Pond itself, wetlands and shorelines owned by public
- Lazazzero and Graverson parks owned by City of Waltham, Recreation Dept.
- Smith Point and Lakeview Ave properties owned by WLT
- Online Reporting Form goes to Sonja
 - No "official" receives report if problem

WLT's Stewardship Projects

Wellington Fields

- Located at 775 Trapelo Road next to historic house
- Stewards est. 2021
- Owned by City of Waltham
- Work closely with Ranger, Recreation Dept., Rec. Board
- Lots of corporate/group volunteer work sessions
- Online Reporting Form goes to Sonja
 - No "official" receives report if problem

Becoming an Official WLT Steward

All must complete WLT interest form

Once WLT gets form, added to the stewards e-list:

- mainly used by me to remind folks of activities
- stewards use it to organize small cleanups, ask ?s
- sometimes can be lots of emails
- "digest" option link at bottom of each email

Meet at office/tool shed for supplies and orientation

Trail Steward Resources @walthamlandtrust.org

The screenshot shows the Waltham Land Trust website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for "Join/Renew" and "Donate". Below this is a main navigation menu with links for "Home", "About", "Projects", "Trails", "Connect", "Store", "News", "Events", and "Pics". A search icon is also present. The main content area features a large banner for a fundraiser at Jake 'n' Joe's, with the text "Jake 'n' JOE'S S...ndraiser" and "Raise money for land conservation Tuesday, April 30th." Below the banner is a button labeled "Event Details". To the right of the banner is a vertical list of projects and resources, including "Lawrence Meadow", "Save Waltham Wildlife", "Welling Fields Restoration", "Storer Land, Paine Estate, & Chesterbrook Woods", "The Western Greenway", "Hardy Pond", "Open Space Inventory", "Volunteer Trail Stewards", "Invasive Plants", and "Conservation Restrictions". The website footer includes the URL "walthamlandtrust.org/trail-stewards/".

WALTHAM LAND TRUST

Join/Renew Donate

Home About Projects Trails Connect Store News Events Pics

Lawrence Meadow

Save Waltham Wildlife

Welling Fields Restoration

Storer Land, Paine Estate, & Chesterbrook Woods

The Western Greenway

Hardy Pond

Open Space Inventory

Volunteer Trail Stewards

Invasive Plants

Conservation Restrictions

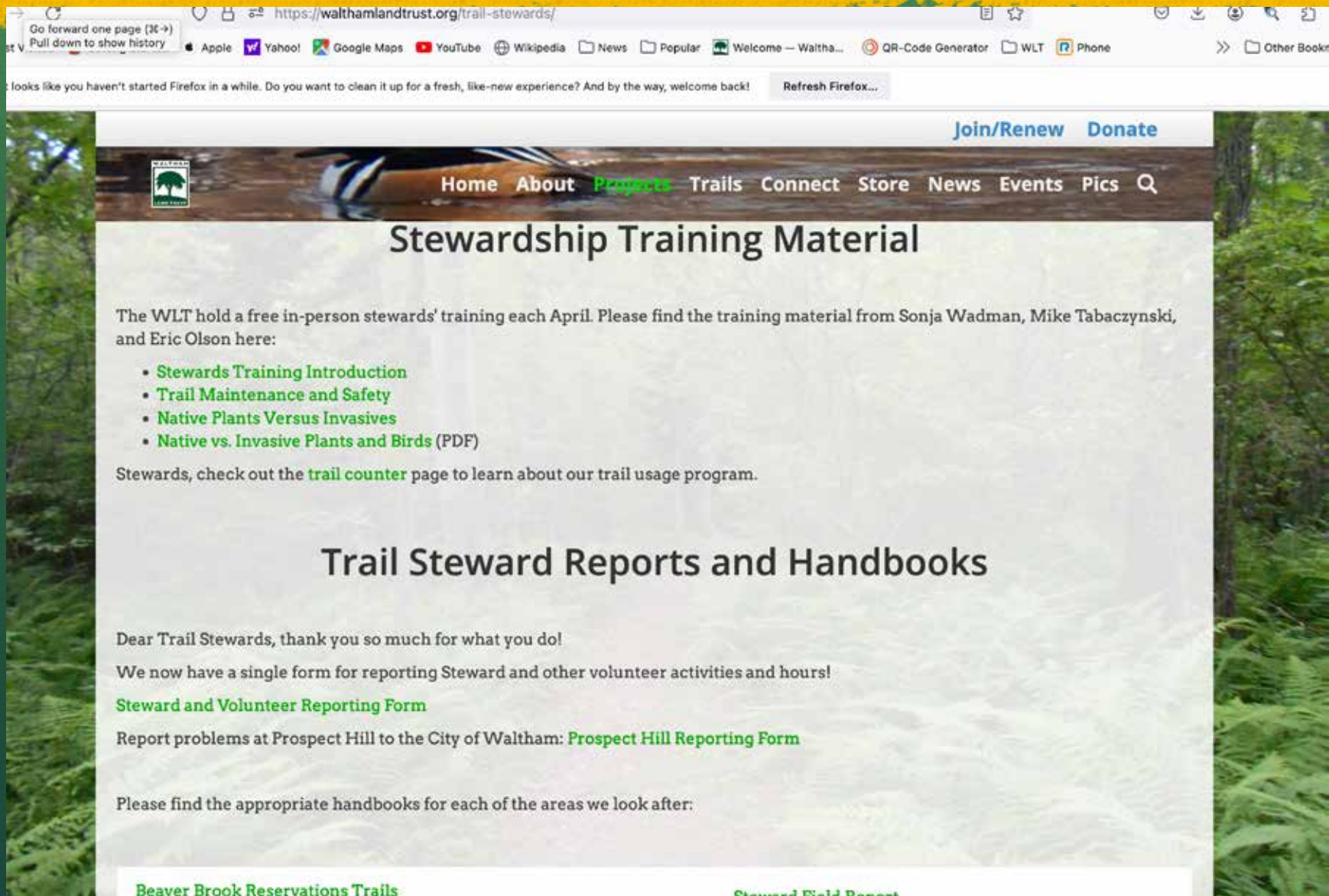
Jake 'n' JOE'S S...ndraiser

Raise money for land conservation Tuesday, April 30th.

Event Details

walthamlandtrust.org/trail-stewards/

Trail Steward Resources @walthamlandtrust.org



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the website <https://walthamlandtrust.org/trail-stewards/>. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website's header includes a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Projects, Trails, Connect, Store, News, Events, and Pics. A search icon is also present. The main content area is titled "Stewardship Training Material" and contains the following text and links:

The WLT hold a free in-person stewards' training each April. Please find the training material from Sonja Wadman, Mike Tabaczynski, and Eric Olson here:

- [Stewards Training Introduction](#)
- [Trail Maintenance and Safety](#)
- [Native Plants Versus Invasives](#)
- [Native vs. Invasive Plants and Birds](#) (PDF)

Stewards, check out the [trail counter](#) page to learn about our trail usage program.

Trail Steward Reports and Handbooks

Dear Trail Stewards, thank you so much for what you do!

We now have a single form for reporting Steward and other volunteer activities and hours!

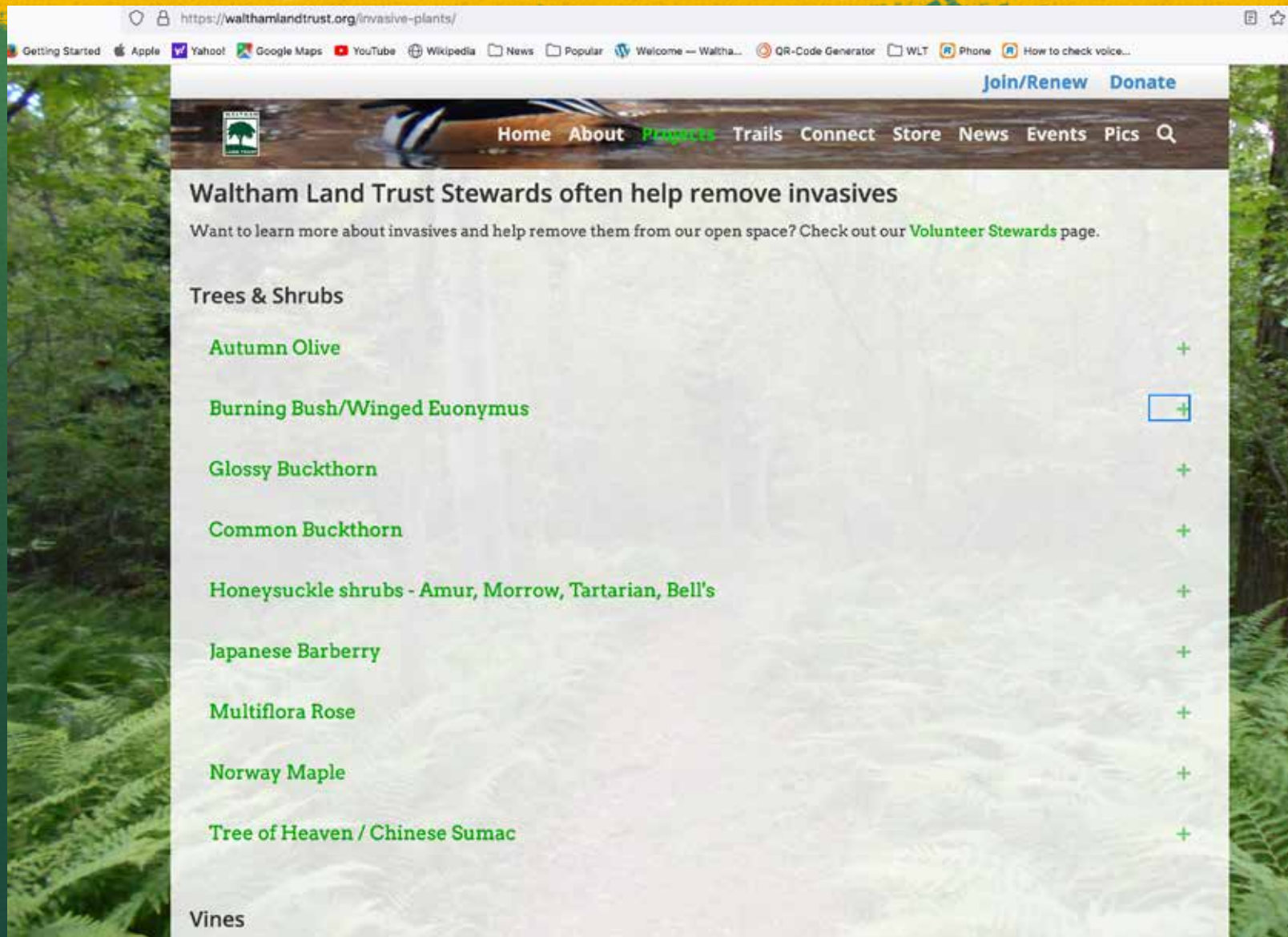
[Steward and Volunteer Reporting Form](#)

Report problems at Prospect Hill to the City of Waltham: [Prospect Hill Reporting Form](#)

Please find the appropriate handbooks for each of the areas we look after:

[Beaver Brook Reservations Trails](#) [Steward Field Report](#)

https://walthamlandtrust.org/invasive-plants/



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://walthamlandtrust.org/invasive-plants/>. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website's navigation menu includes links for Home, About, **Plants**, Trails, Connect, Store, News, Events, and Pics. There are also buttons for 'Join/Renew' and 'Donate'. The main content area features a header image of a boat on water and a sub-header: 'Waltham Land Trust Stewards often help remove invasives'. Below this, a text block invites visitors to learn more about invasives and help remove them, with a link to the 'Volunteer Stewards' page. The primary content is a list of invasive plants under the heading 'Trees & Shrubs'. Each item in the list is followed by a green plus sign (+) in a small box, indicating that more information is available for each plant. The plants listed are: Autumn Olive, Burning Bush/Winged Euonymus, Glossy Buckthorn, Common Buckthorn, Honeysuckle shrubs - Amur, Morrow, Tartarian, Bell's, Japanese Barberry, Multiflora Rose, Norway Maple, and Tree of Heaven / Chinese Sumac. At the bottom of the visible list, the heading 'Vines' is partially visible.

Join/Renew Donate

Home About **Plants** Trails Connect Store News Events Pics Q

Waltham Land Trust Stewards often help remove invasives

Want to learn more about invasives and help remove them from our open space? Check out our [Volunteer Stewards](#) page.

Trees & Shrubs

- Autumn Olive +
- Burning Bush/Winged Euonymus +
- Glossy Buckthorn +
- Common Buckthorn +
- Honeysuckle shrubs - Amur, Morrow, Tartarian, Bell's +
- Japanese Barberry +
- Multiflora Rose +
- Norway Maple +
- Tree of Heaven / Chinese Sumac +


Vines

Online Reporting Form

Your Information

Name *
First Last

Email *

Date * / / 
MM DD YYYY

What and where?

Primary Activity * Trail Stewarding
 Trash Pickup
 Invasive Plant Removal
 Chainsaw Crew
 Other

Number of hours *

Area * Mass Central Rail Trail
 Beaver Brook Reservations
 Western Greenway
 Prospect Hill Park
 Charles River Paths
 Hardy Pond
 Other

Specific Location *

Weather *

Condition of location *

Online Reporting Form

Follow Up Actions Performed/Recommended

- Actions performed/recommended** No maintenance needed
 I performed required maintenance
 I'll contact WLT Stewards to assist
 There's a serious issue and an official should receive this report

Pictures

- Pictures accompanying field report?** Yes
 No

Questions

Please contact Sonja at swadman@walthamlandtrust.org or 781-893-3355 regarding the Waltham Land Trust Stewardship Project.

I'm not a robot



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SUBMIT

Stewardship Handbooks

I. About This Document

The purpose of this Handbook is to:

1. Define the Beaver Brook Reservations (North and Historic) Stewardship Program.
2. Outline the responsibilities of the Stewards.

We wish to acknowledge that most of this instruction has been adapted from the *Lexington Conservation Stewards Handbook*, 2005, written by Ery Largay, Lexington Conservation Assistant, Keith Ohmart, Lexington Stewards, Mike Tabaczynski, Lexington Stewards, and Tom Whelan, Lexington Stewards.

Adaptations were made by Sonja Wadman, Waltham Land Trust Executive Director, for the first training of volunteer stewards in Spring 2012. Adaptions were revised for subsequent trainings. Background has been provided by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) website <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/beaver-brook-reservation.html>. Comments and suggestions for improving this Handbook can emailed to Ms. Wadman at swadman@walthamlandtrust.org.

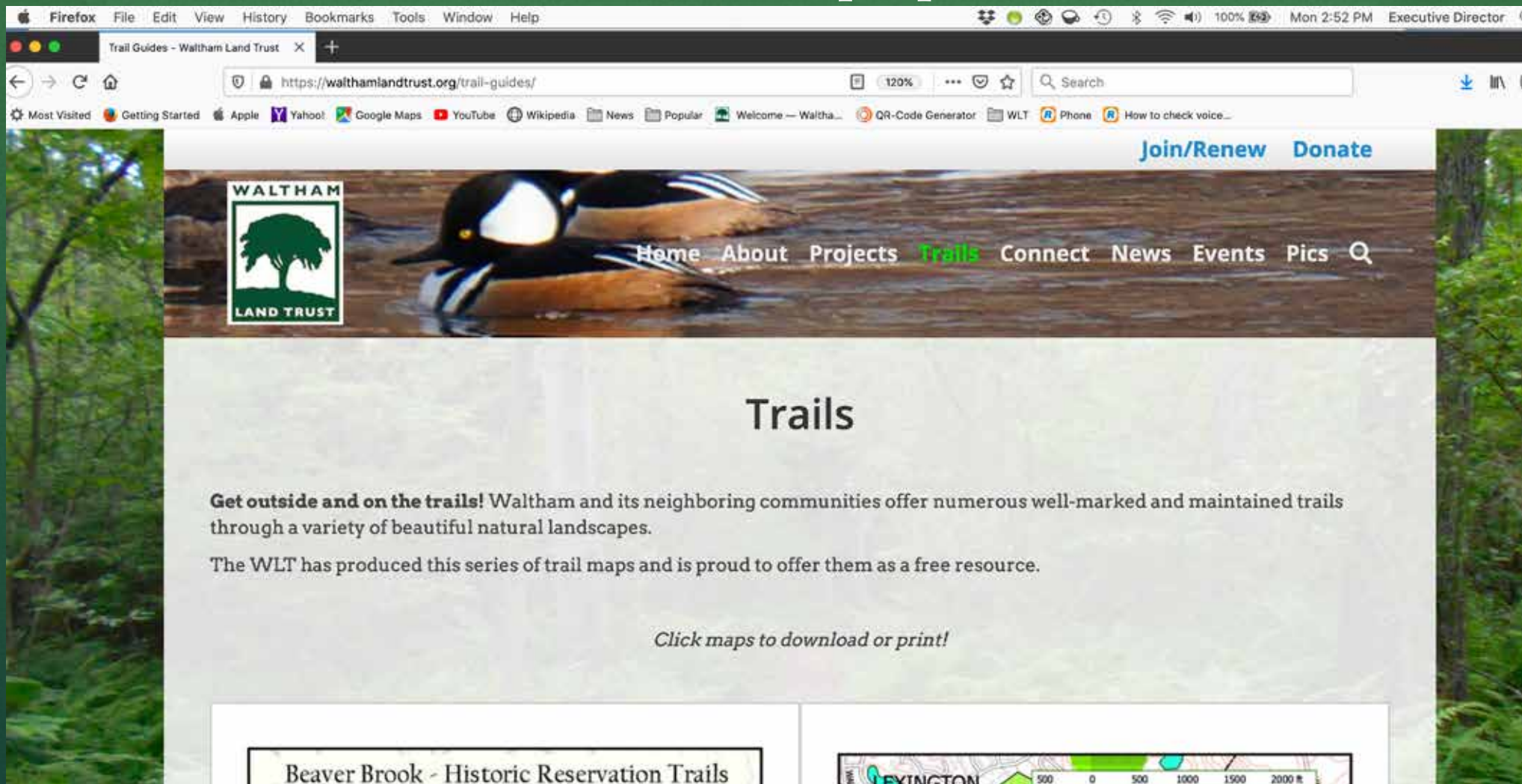
II. Introduction

Beaver Brook Historic (BBH) Reservation is the first reservation established by the Metropolitan Parks Commission, later the MDC, which is now the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) in 1893. It is still managed by the DCR and is 59 acres of open fields, wetlands and woodlands. Ponds, fields, marsh, and a cascading waterfall make the park's north section along Mill Street in Belmont a delightful place to walk or picnic. The more developed south section along Trapelo Road features ballfields, a wading pool, and a tot lot. Beaver Brook's historic significance includes reminders of its past; the remains of a 19th century fulling mill, the historic Robert Morris Copeland House (c.1835) and a monument to the Waverly Oaks, perhaps the most famous trees of the 1890's.

Beaver Brook North (BBN) Reservation represents a 254-acre transfer of a portion of the former Metropolitan State Hospital (MSH) property and former Middlesex County Hospital to the DCR. The MSH property acquisition also includes a 54-acre parcel under a conservation easement. The expanded reservation is strategically located amidst a series of open space parcels including Belmont's Rock Meadow Conservation Land, Massachusetts Audubon Society's Highland Farm, Waltham's Waltham Woods, Middlesex County Hospital open space, and Lexington's Concord

Trail Guides & Maps @walthamlandtrust.org

Trails → Choose the proper locale



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Waltham Land Trust website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://walthamlandtrust.org/trail-guides/>. The website's header features the Waltham Land Trust logo on the left, which includes a tree icon and the text "WALTHAM LAND TRUST". To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "About", "Projects", "Trails" (highlighted in green), "Connect", "News", "Events", and "Pics". In the top right corner of the header, there are links for "Join/Renew" and "Donate". Below the header is a large banner image of a duck on water. The main content area is titled "Trails" and contains the following text: "Get outside and on the trails! Waltham and its neighboring communities offer numerous well-marked and maintained trails through a variety of beautiful natural landscapes. The WLT has produced this series of trail maps and is proud to offer them as a free resource." Below this text is a call to action: "Click maps to download or print!". At the bottom of the page, there are two map thumbnails. The left one is titled "Beaver Brook - Historic Reservation Trails" and the right one shows a map of Lexington with a scale bar from 0 to 2000 feet.

More Trail Guides



Chesterbrook Corridor



Middlesex County Hospital

More Trail Guides

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Two trail maps are displayed side-by-side:

- Prospect Hill Park Trails:** A topographic map of Prospect Hill Park showing various trails. The legend includes: Parking (P), Picnic Area (PA), Scenic View (V), Rest Rooms (R), Picnic Shelter (PS), Information Kiosk (IK), Handicap Parking (HP), Water Tanks (WT), Main Road (thick line), Secondary Road (No Vehicular Access) (dashed line), Paved Trail (dotted line), Trail (solid line), Vernal Pool (VP), Wetland (W), 10-foot contours (dashed line), and MBTA stops (M). A scale bar at the bottom indicates 0, 500, 1000, 1500, and 2000 feet. A disclaimer at the bottom right states: "MAP FOR REFERENCE ONLY - NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT. This map is provided free to the public solely for recreational use. Trails depicted are accessed at the user's own risk. The Waltham Land Trust is not responsible for damages or liability that may arise from the use of this map for any purpose. Contact the City of Waltham for official maps and their use agreement or permission. Information for this map was obtained from Mass GIS (Version 30-03-09-09). www.walthamlandtrust.org"
- Storer Conservation Land Trails:** A map of Storer Conservation Land showing various trails. The legend includes: Greenway Trail (thick solid line), Gold-blazed trail (dotted line), Green-blazed trail (dashed line), Blue-blazed trail (dotted line), Red-blazed trail (dotted line), Yellow-blazed trail (dotted line), Unblazed trail (solid line), Paved Trail (dotted line), Handicap Accessible Trail (dotted line with wheelchair icon), Wetlands (W), Vernal Pools (VP), 10-foot contours (dashed line), Parking (P), Locked Gate (LG), and MBTA stops (M). A scale bar at the bottom indicates 0, 250, 500, 750, and 1000 feet. A disclaimer at the bottom right states: "MAP FOR REFERENCE ONLY - NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT. This map is provided free to the public solely for recreational use. Trails depicted are accessed at the user's own risk. The Waltham Land Trust is not responsible for damages or liability that may arise from the use of this map for any purpose. Contact the City of Waltham for official maps and their use agreement or permission. Information for this map was obtained from Mass GIS. Created 2010-11-11."

Upcoming Group Events

- Charles River Earth Day Cleanup Sat. April 20, 10-noon, park/meet @ Shaw's, 130 River St. *ATTENDANCE HIGHLY DESIRED*
- Hardy Pond Earth Day Cleanup Sat. April 20, 2-4 pm, park/meet @ WLT Lakeview Preserve, 141 Lakeview Ave
- New Friends of PHP kickoff event Sat. April 27, 1-3:30 pm
- We encourage stewards to self-organize small events on your own (with WLT support/supplies)
- Active stewards will organize work parties
 - Hardy Pond area and Wellington (Betty MacKenzie)
 - Woerd Woods @ Charles River (Jarek Reihner)

Stewardship Supplies



WALTHAM

LAND TRUST

Volunteer *Sonja*
Trail Steward

Waltham Land Trust, Inc.
P.O. Box 541120
Waltham, MA 02454-1120
781-893-3355
info@walthamlandtrust.org
www.walthamlandtrust.org

Protecting Waltham's land ... forever.

TICK IDENTIFICATION CARD

				
nymph	male	female	male	female
Deer ticks			American dog ticks	
(actual size)				

MA Department of Public Health
1-800-452-6000

Supplies & Meetings

Trash bags, gloves, WLT Steward business cards, Band-Aids, poison ivy & antibiotic wipes, WLT safety vest

Hand tools: small loppers, a few Nifty grabbers

Monthly (optional) Stewards meeting

- Second Wednesday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm
- Virtually via Zoom for now...

Email Sonja (swadman@walthamlandtrust.org) or call office (781-893-3355) to schedule appointment

THANK YOU FOR HELPING OUR TRAILS!