

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2018

# Mission Statement

The Glocester Land Trust is dedicated to the preservation of Glocester's natural resources, rural heritage, and scenic beauty as an environmental, educational, and recreational resource for all who live, work, or visit the Town of Glocester. Our members recognize the historical and cultural heritage of our community and endeavor to protect it for education and enjoyment of present and future generations. *Adopted 2013*

***“This Strategic Plan is intended to set a direction over the next several years that the trustees of the Glocester Land Trust established to further its work as identified by its Mission.”***

*- Stephen Mitchell,  
Chair*



Top of Steere Hill in Harmony Photo credit: Steven St. Pierre

### Strategic Plan

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Hawkins Mill Pond in West Glocester Photo Credit: Stephen Mitchell

### **The Glocester Land Trust Strategic Plan**

This Strategic Plan provides a direction with clear focus and purpose for the Glocester Land Trust to pursue over the next three years 2015-2018. This plan developed by the GLT Trustees, through a collaborative and consensus decision-making process, was undertaken during 2014 and adopted in February 2015. This plan reflects what the Trustees of the Glocester Land Trust envision for our organization in the future as well as a pathway of how we hope to get there.

By working collaboratively to conserve and enhance our natural areas and former working farm lands, the Glocester Land Trust seeks to maintain the coexistence of people, animals, and the natural habitats that sustains us all.

This plan also is a commitment to the long-term stewardship of all conserved properties within the Town of Glocester, Rhode Island.

Over the past twenty-seven years, and with the financial assistance through grants from the Department of Environmental Management, Natures Conservancy, Trail Advisory Grants, and through local real estate tax stamp monies, the Glocester Land Trust has been able to conserve three thousand two hundred and thirty-six acres of open-space land. Landowners have been willing to conserve their properties when they know that a local partner will help ensure that land uses and habitat values are maintained for present and future generations according to their wishes.

## **Our Future**

The Glocester Land Trust has partnered with the local Chepachet Boy Scout Troop to host several Eagle Scout Projects. The Trust also has engaged a group of high school students to form a student leadership council to work on the various Trust properties. The group is expanding in numbers and we envision their involvement in more robust activities that promote conservation. What better way to engage our future generation than to provide opportunities for them to enhance their appreciation of our natural habitat within the Town of Glocester.



Eagle Scout Project at Hawkins Dam



## Glocester Land Trust Trustees

Stephen E. Mitchell,  
Chair Term 2018

Steven St. Pierre,  
Vice Chair Term 2016

Roy Najecki, Treasurer  
Term 2016

Gene Cavaliere Term  
2017

George Charette  
Term 2016

Russell Gross Term  
2018

Rebecca Schultz  
Term 2017

## Strategic Goals and Strategies

The trustees of the Gloucester Land Trust established four short-term goals that will be completed within a two-year timeframe as well as three long-term goals that will entail defined actions of time that are greater than two years.



Sprague Farm Town Forest Tour

### Short-Term Goal 1: Review and Update Management and Forestry Plans on a rotating five-year basis

#### Strategies

1. Select three properties annually to review and update
2. Present updated management and forestry plans to trustees for approval
3. Post updated management and forestry plans on GLT Website and submit copies to RI Department of Environmental Management

### Goal 2: Develop and Implement a Trail Inspection Protocol

#### Strategies

1. Establish subcommittee to review, develop, and implement a TIP to be approved by GLT
2. Institute an approval process to create new trails

### Goal 3: Prioritize list to institute a maintenance timeline and stewardship of GLT properties

#### Strategies

1. Establish a maintenance timeline of GLT properties
2. Identify two GLT properties each year for work to be undertaken and finalized
3. Solicit volunteer engagement for clean-up activities, perimeter boundary walks, trail inspections, signage, etc.

### Goal 4: Investigate and establish a Youth Leadership Council

#### Strategies

1. Explore options to initiate and create a Youth Leadership Council in collaboration with district high school
2. Invite Foster Land Trust to participate in YLC activities
3. Organize and implement activities and events of YLC in collaboration with GLT

## **Long-Term Goal 1: Complete Baseline Documentation for all GLT Properties**

### **Strategies**

1. Establish and implement criteria for items to be placed in baseline document property folder
2. Identify and complete process of baseline documentation for two-to-three properties annually

## **Goal 2: Pursue and achieve National Accreditation through the Land Trust Alliance and adopt the Standards and Practices of the Land Trust Alliance as its guiding principles to guarantee future preservation of our beautiful properties**

### **Strategies**

1. Work on processes and procedures to move forward with national accreditation application
2. Conduct a pre-assessment against the full set of standards
3. Identify improvements in the assessment to be planned for completion and/or to demonstrate compliance with accreditation indicator practices
4. Identify gaps in existing documents or lack thereof to demonstrate compliance against the Documentation checklist
5. Develop and implement a plan to fill those gaps
6. Register to apply for accreditation once GLT can demonstrate that it is meeting the practices

## **Goal 3: Institute a process to seek alternate funding sources for Trust properties to upgrade parking lots, signage, informational brochures, trails, and trail markers for public information**

### **Strategies**

1. Develop and initiate timber harvesting plan to manage GLT properties as part of stewardship activities
2. Monitor and apply for DEM, Foundation Grants, Champlin Foundation Grants, Nature's Conservancy Grants, Trail Advisory Grants, RI General Assembly Grants, and other alternative grants to support work of GLT
3. Seek and secure alternative funding to purchase future properties for GLT

## **Contact Us**

Visit us on the web at  
[\*www.GlocesterLandTrust.org\*](http://www.GlocesterLandTrust.org)

**Glocester Land Trust**  
PO Box HH  
Chepachet, RI  
02814

Email: [\*\*chair@glocesterlandtrust.org\*\*](mailto:chair@glocesterlandtrust.org)