3. Insulating and growing slowly- needle shaped leaves and antifreeze are ways to keep the water inside from freezing- look for evergreens

- Can you find an animal using some of these strategies?
  1. Insulating by adding extra feathers, fur and fat- birds fluff up to catch and heat up a layer of air beneath their feathers that helps keep them warm.
  2. Changing diets – almost all animals that stay around for the winter change their diets. Can you find someone eating a winter meal?
  3. Hibernating – can you find a good place for a salamander, toad, chipmunk or other animal that sleeps most of the winter to curl up?
  4. Overwintering- look for cocoons or crevices where insects are waiting out the cold

- Look out for tracks - ‘reading the clues’ left behind by animals can be interesting and challenging! Try to figure out who made the tracks and what was going on.

- What’s the poop? Try to find some scat and figure out who might have left it behind? (Rule of thumb: Herbivores have round droppings, carnivores are tubular and omnivores are irregular- oval or oblong).

- While the snow lasts, find a place untouched by human footprints- these are the prettiest scenes!

If you do go on a scavenger hunt, please post a message and/or photos on our Facebook page and let us know how it went. Add to our scavenger hunt if you have other ideas of things that can be found!
Thank you for your memorial donations in memory of Fred R. Tripp!

Jeff and Susan Allen
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Starkweather and Shepley
Philip and Barbara Tabor
Paul and Norma Taubman
Kurt D. Watson
Extending the Classroom – Investigations in the Field

The BLCT is excited to deepen our relationship with the public schools with the help of a $2,500 grant from the CVS/Caremark Charity Classic. The grant was awarded late in 2013 to help the BLCT and the public schools leverage the use of outdoor spaces to invigorate the science curriculum with authentic field research opportunities for students starting in the elementary grades.

The grant money will be used this spring for a pilot program at Nayatt Elementary School. Our work will center around designing and implementing one or more project-based extensions to the existing science curriculum that allow students to collect data as field scientists and analyze the information they gather to better understand ecological processes.

The BLCT is hopeful that these age-appropriate field research extensions will be an exciting and memorable part of our children’s first experiences in science and encourage students to explore and question the world around them. We see the opportunity to work with teachers as an excellent complement to the Land Trust’s other research and conservation efforts such as the Diamondback Terrapin Project. Our hope is to develop a partnership with the schools that encourages children to explore their world and helps foster an appreciation for the landscape of habitats we enjoy here in Barrington. Thank you CVS/Caremark!

February 4, 2014
Walk at Rayner Refuge at Nockum Hill:

Melissa Hayden (District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS), Charlotte Sornborger and Pete McCalmon met to discuss obtaining a grant to remove some trees that are shading one of the nesting sandpits on the refuge.
HIGH MOON OWL PROWL
SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH AT 6:30PM
VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Get in the spirit of the coming spring with an early evening walk through one of our town's best kept secrets, Veterans Memorial Park.

The Land Trust has worked for many years with the Town, the Bayside Y and many local partners and volunteers to improve the trails system at this large red maple swamp in the heart of Barrington. In fact, we are looking for trail team volunteers for our next round of trail projects in 2014.

But this evening, we'll look and listen for great horned and screech owls 'who' should be particularly active as this is their breeding season. Owls will often perch along the vernal pools to proclaim their territory. If weather is clear, our way will be lit by a high first quarter moon.

Bring a flashlight, wear outdoor clothes appropriate for the day's weather and sturdy shoes. This is an easy level walk, but if there has been recent rain, sections of the trail may be soggy. Park in the Town/Bayside YMCA parking lot and we'll meet at the stone pillars at the entrance to Veterans Memorial Park at the bend in West Street near the ball field.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to volunteer for the Town Trails Team, please contact Helen at helen@acornnpsolutions.com or 401-480-8329.

Sowams – A National Heritage
Thursday, May 1st at 7:00 PM
Barrington Public Library
Auditorium

Sowams Woods – Layers of Heritage
Sunday, May 4th at 2:00 PM
Sowams Woods
(Rain date: Monday, May 5th at 6:00 PM)

Come rediscover Sowams and our national heritage. We will look backwards and forwards to gain a broader perspective, highlighting some of the Pokanoket places in our community such as Mussachuck Creek and Scamscamuck Spring. Take a virtual walk and a real walk to come away with a new appreciation for this place called Sowams. Learn about renewed protection efforts and the proposed national heritage district. This is a joint event with the Barrington Preservation Society.

Parking for Sowams Woods: Meet at Sowams Woods sign on South Lake Drive, off of Washington Road. Please park on Tallwood Drive, Spinnaker Drive or Lighthouse Lane. (No parking is permitted on South Lake Drive or Washington Road)

Any questions, please contact Helen Tjader at helen@acornnpsolutions.com or 401-480-8329.
On January 8th, a frigid, clear morning, Steve Reinert, Charlotte Sornborger, Peter McCalmont, and Peter Burke joined Wenley Ferguson from Save the Bay on the ice-covered marsh at the Johannis Farm Wildlife Preserve to discuss ways to drain impounded water on the marsh and improve the overall health of this magnificent marsh that borders the Palmer River.

Thank You to Frerichs Farm for mowing the tall grasses at PIC-WIL!

Picture Perfect Barrington

Another reason to get outside this winter and take a closer look is our ‘Wild’ Barrington Photo Contest.

The BLCT is challenging members to share what you see outdoors within our community by snapping a picture of a plant, an animal or a natural landscape in Barrington.

Please email your photo submissions to info@blct.org. The pictures will be shared on the BLCT Facebook page and the winners from each category (plant, animal, landscape) will grace the BLCT Spring newsletter!
Clip-out Membership Form

Make Check Payable To:
Barrington Land Conservation Trust
Mail To: PO Box 324
Barrington, RI 02806-0324

Name:_______________________________________
Address:______________________________
City:____________________ State:____________
Zip:________________  
Email:_____________________________
Phone:__________________________

Membership Categories
Life Member $1,000  ___ I’d like to volunteer
Benefactor $500
Conservator $250  ___ I’d like information
Patron $100  on donating stock
Sponsor $50
Family/Friend $35
Other ___

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PO Box 324, Barrington, RI 02806

See all of Barrington’s protected conservation land at www.BLCT.org