

## Highlights from 2025



*CGLT high school intern Nick Sweet shows off the huge rootball of an invasive Buckthorn shrub that he pried out of the ground with a Weed Wrench! David Prouty High School Environmental Science students worked with CGLT on many occasions this year, eradicating invasive plants and planting native shrubs and trees at Greenville Pond and Kettle Brook Path.*



### Leicester Library Pollinator Pathway

CGLT is transforming this poorly growing “lawn” in front of Leicester Library into a **Pollinator Pathway Garden** with native plants that support declining pollinators. The soil here is lean, dry and acidic, and conventional plants have never done well. Regionally native plants were chosen for their ability to thrive in such poor soils. Planting began this fall, with the remaining to be planted in 2026. Visit [CommonGroundLT.org/Leicester-Library-Pollinator-Pathway.html](http://CommonGroundLT.org/Leicester-Library-Pollinator-Pathway.html) to learn what is being planted and the wildlife they support! And watch for an announcement in 2026 for a Pollinator Pathway coming to Spencer!

### Welcome to New Members:

- Brandon Leblanc
- Kelly Stimson
- David Taberner
- Mark Tolman
- Leicester Rod & Gun Club
- James and Shaunette Barnett

## CGLT's Mission

As an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, our mission is long-term preservation of natural resources in Leicester & Spencer for natural ecosystem services, food security, recreation and educational benefits for town residents and the region.

Contact us at:

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Visit our website at:  
[COMMONGROUNDLT.ORG](http://COMMONGROUNDLT.ORG)

## CGLT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Baker-Wood, *President (S)*

Jan Parke, *Vice-Pres. (L)*

Joanne Savignac, *Treasurer (L)*

Ellen Sousa, *Secretary (S)*

Sandy Snow (S)

Patricia Faron (L)

Jeremey Snow (S)

Lou Anna Hinckley (S)

Kurt Parliment (L)

*L=Leicester, S=Spencer*

## News from the Board of Directors

CGLT held its 2025 Annual Meeting October 28th in Leicester High School's beautiful cafeteria, beginning with a delicious pancake breakfast! Some changes to the Board were voted: **Jan Parke** (*pictured*) has stepped down as President after 15 years of service, but remains on the Board as Vice-President where she will continue to process and acknowledge donations and memberships. **Mary Baker-Wood** has moved from VP to the President's position, and **Kurt Parliment** agreed to join our Board as a nominated write-in candidate! Kurt is no stranger to community service, as a member of Leicester's Open Space Committee, Parks & Recreation, Leicester Arts Council and a long-time volunteer for the Recycling Center. We warmly welcome Kurt back to our Board (he served for a short time about 2009)!



CGLT has received many donations in memory of **Ruth Kaminski** of Leicester, who passed away on November 11, 2025. Ruth was a founding Board Member of CGLT in 2006, and served as Treasurer for several years. She was a dedicated public servant serving her town and state for over 40 years, including the Select Board, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, plus writing Wetlands, Forestry and Stormwater town by-laws, and helping to revise the state Wetland by-laws. All this while working full-time and founding/running the all-volunteer Leicester Recycling Center!

The day after Thanksgiving (**Green Friday**) found 14 hardy souls



and a dog who braved snow and wind for a guided riverside walk on the **Small Farm Memorial Trail**. The trail has been closed since September because of people walking through the active farm crops instead of staying on the trail. New signage will be installed along the trail and we hope the trail can re-open in 2026 with clear signs to prevent future trespass in the farm fields.