



Hunting News

Grafton Land Trust

Preserving Grafton's open spaces since 1958

December 2013



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Submit Your Pics!

Got a cool photo from a recent hunting trip in Grafton? Send it to hunting@graftonland.org and we'll publish it in the "Photo of the month" section of *Hunting News*.



We are a member supported organization that relies on you - *hunters* - as well as hikers, equestrians and other recreational users to manage our lands. Please [become a member](#) today!

Dear Hunter,

RE: Safety During Shotgun Season for Deer

On the eve of one of the most anticipated hunting days of the year, we should all pause to remind ourselves that safety is of paramount importance on every hunt, and especially during the shotgun season for deer when large numbers of hunters venture out in hopes of filling their tags.

When you enter the woods tomorrow morning, please remember that your actions can have either a positive or negative effect on the hunting community at-large. Safety can be assured by following these simple guidelines:

- Be sure of your target and what lies beyond it.
- Wear more than the minimum amount of hunter orange.
- Wear a bright head lamp or carry a bright flashlight while walking into and out of the woods during hours of limited daylight.
- Observe legal shooting times.
- Keep your eyes open for the non-hunting public; they may not realize it is hunting season and they may not be wearing hunter orange. They may also be on trails with companion animals such as dogs or horses.
- As a reminder, the use of shotgun buckshot is strictly prohibited on all Grafton Land Trust properties.

By working together we can ensure a safe and successful hunting season on GLT properties. If you see an unsafe act, please [report it](#) to the GLT.

See you in the field,

Troy Gipps
 Vice President & Hunting Program Coordinator
 Grafton Land Trust
hunting@graftonland.org

Safety First: You can't wear too much orange

Hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts are encouraged to check out a 5-minute video titled, "The Effectiveness of Blaze Orange." The footage shows how wearing fluorescent "blaze" orange in the woods makes you highly visible to others. Watch the [video](#) today.



Be Safe. Be Seen. Go Orange.

Busy Beavers in Grafton, MA



Trailcam video by Troy Gipps

Reminder for shotgun season deer hunters

All deer harvested during shotgun season **MUST** be checked at a [traditional check station](#). Online checking will **NOT** be available during this time (December 2 - 14, 2013). Reporting deer at check stations during these two weeks allows biologists to collect valuable data needed for deer management.

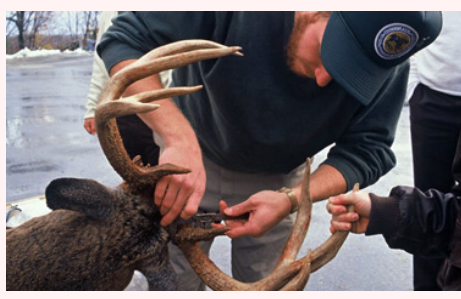


Photo of the month



The results of a successful afternoon of solo jumpshooting from a kayak on a small river in Upton, Massachusetts on November 27, 2013. GLT Hunting Program Coordinator Troy Gipps relies on [Kent Tungsten Matrix](#) shotshells in these types of challenging shooting situations. Tungsten Matrix is the only non-toxic shotshell pellet that is specifically designed to match the physical and ballistics properties of premium quality lead shot. According to Gipps, "The extra 10-15 yards of shooting distance these shells provide can make the difference between success and failure while solo jumpshooting." The two geese and drake mallard pictured above were each dropped by a single shot of 12 gauge 2-3/4" Tungsten Matrix loaded with 1-1/4 oz of No. 5 shot. A modified choke tube was used. The mallard was nearly 40 yards away when the shot was fired: a true testament to the effectiveness of tungsten. (Photo by M.T. Gipps)

What's in season this month?

Deer (Shotgun) ... Dec. 2 - 14, 2013
 Deer (Primitive Firearms) ... Dec. 16 - 31, 2013
 Gray Squirrel (Zones 1-9) ... Sept. 9 - Jan. 2, 2014;
 (Zones 10-14) ... Oct. 19 - Jan. 2, 2014
 Duck (Central) ... Dec. 21 - Jan. 11, 2014
 Goose (Central) ... Dec. 21 - Jan. 11, 2014
 Cottontail Rabbit ... Oct. 19 - Feb. 28, 2014
 Snowshoe Hare ... Oct. 19 - Feb. 5, 2014
 Coyote ... Oct. 19 - Mar. 8, 2014
 Raccoon ... Oct. 1 - Jan. 31, 2014
 Opossum ... Oct. 1 - Jan. 31, 2014
 Crow ... (Fri./Sat./Mon. only) July 2 - April 10, 2014
 Snapping Turtle ... Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2013



Complete 2013-2014 [Migratory Bird Regulations](#).

Open Season (year-round; except during shotgun season for deer) ... English sparrow, flying squirrel, red squirrel, chipmunk, porcupine, skunk, starling, weasel, woodchuck.

[Quick Guide to Hunting, Fishing & Trapping Dates](#).

The Grafton Land Trust is a private, non-profit, member-supported organization that preserves, maintains, and advocates for open space in Grafton, and promotes environmental education and stewardship.

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