

**ACTON CONSERVATION TRUST AND  
SUDBURY VALLEY TRUSTEES  
CR MONITORING REPORT**

1. Property name: Donald CR
2. Location (street address): Minot Avenue, Acton, Mass. 01720
3. Date of inspection: June 25, 2015
4. Date of last inspection: June 12, 2014
5. Size in acres: 11 acres
6. Year conservation restriction recorded: 2001
7. Owner name: Town of Acton
8. Owner address: 472 Main St., Acton, MA 01720
9. Length of present ownership (years, months): 13.5 years
10. Is owner the grantor?: No
11. Did the owner of the property accompany you on the inspection? Yes, the Town CR Coordinator, Fran Portante, accompanied us.
  - Identify how notice of visit was given or permission obtained:

Susan Mitchell-Hardt, Acton Conservation Trust (ACT), on behalf of the inspection team comprised of SVT and ACT, co-holders of the CR, emailed and called ahead to Fran Portante, Town of Acton CR Coordinator, Dr. Donald, and Laura Mattei, Director of Stewardship, SVT to schedule the walk on the property for a mutually convenient time. The Inspection team consisted of David Hardt (ACT), and Fran Portante, Town of Acton CR Coordinator, SVT MassLIFT AmeriCorps Land Stewardship Coordinator, Jesse Koyen, and Susan Mitchell-Hardt, (ACT

Describe the details of your inspection (where you walked, etc.)

David, Susan, Sue, Jesse, Fran, and Dr. Donald met at 8 AM at 42 Taylor Rd. We walked down Taylor Road to Minot Avenue on a new sidewalk put in by the town. We observed a new wooden guard rail set into the side walk above a new culvert between the two N/S stonewalls which bound the CR'd land. The first N/S stone wall now comes to a point at the sidewalk. One can see a red flagged pipe bound inside of the wall.

We paused at the end of the newly constructed stone wall bounding the CR. Dave walked down the stone wall boundary (along the West side of the property) part way. He observed the wire and white flags signifying the dog fence on the adjacent property; no encroachment was noted.

We continued down Minot Avenue to the eastern boundary of the CR on Minot Avenue and proceeded walking on the north/south trail. Here is where we observed large piles of oak leaves in several locations on the left side of the trail approximately 10-20 yards in from the road. It appears that the leaf piles might have come from any of the four closest homes as oak trees are present at all four.

The path from Minot Avenue was a bit wet after recent rain. This has led to a secondary trail on higher ground. There was a concern that the higher secondary trail might be unstable. Dr. Donald commented that it has been stable for 50 years.

We walked the trail to the west of the esker that borders the CR and then turned toward the center of the property on the trail bordering the large wetlands to the West.. We followed the path walking across the area covered with rocks to provide a water crossing and came to the large stone pile and stone culvert, which signify the Western end of the CR'd area. We continued on a private trail to Dr. Donald's historic home at 42 Taylor Road.

(Walking the boundaries of the CR glossy buckthorn and other invasives were observed; we picked up a few pieces of trash along the road. Concern was expressed that the invasives would take over if they weren't managed. This is something the Town and the Grantees should discuss.)

12. Present use of restricted property: Conservation, passive recreation, and education.

13. Note any possible violations of the terms of the conservation restriction (be as specific as possible): At the north/south trail at the eastern boundary of the CR on Minot Avenue we observed large piles of oak leaves in several locations on the left side of the trail approximately 10-20 yards in from the road. (See attached picture)

14. Present use of abutting properties (including the owner's unrestricted lands): Conservation, passive recreation, and education. Residential.

15. Describe examples of uses permitted by the terms of the restriction which have taken place since the last inspection: Passive recreation.

16. Describe any rare or unusual plant or sign thereof: None noted.

17. Additional remarks (particularly as to the present condition of the property).

The general condition is good. Fran observed meadow rue, Jack in the pulpit, and holes in maple tree leaves caused by winter moth. Skunk cabbage grew near the stone culvert; there was evidence that deer ate jewel weed near the stone culvert.

Invasive plants are beginning to take over, and it would be helpful to have a plan for their management.

18. Names of monitoring team members:

David Hardt (Clerk, ACT), Susan Mitchell-Hardt (President, ACT), Sue Kennedy (VP ACT) Fran Portante, (Town of Acton CR Coordinator) Jesse Koyen (SVT MassLIFT AmeriCorps Stewardship Coordinator)

Time spent on property: 1 hour

Inspection team leader: David Hardt

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Hardt". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Date sent: 8/11/15

Attachments:

Map of Donald CR with Route of Walk

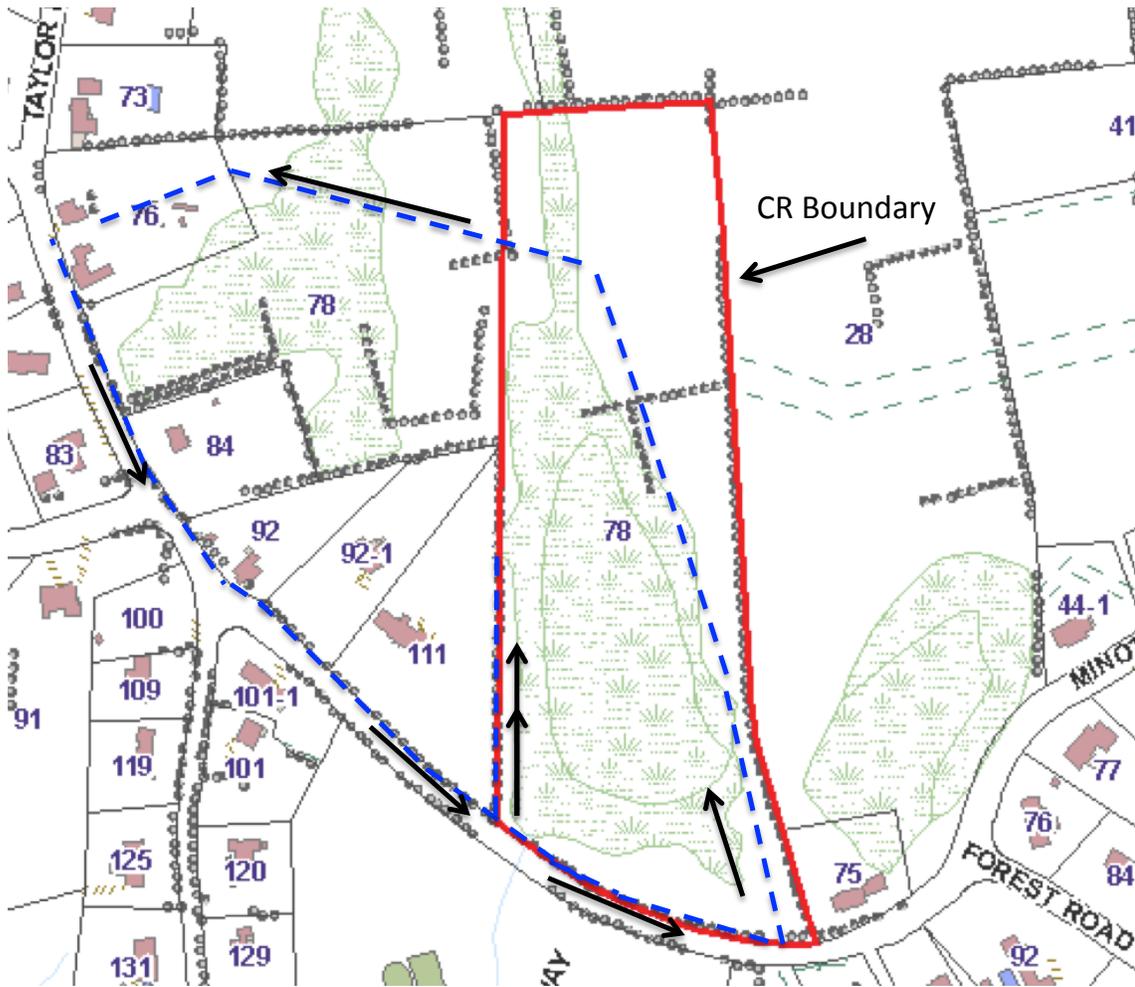
Picture of Leaf Pile near Southeast Entrance from Minot Avenue.

Donald CR Inspection

June 25, 2015

Line of Walk -----

Direction of Walk ->





Picture of Leaf Piles Found at SW Trail Entrance from Minot Avenue