

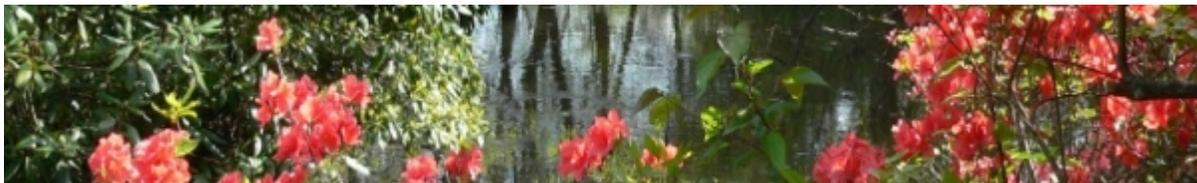
Archived: Saturday, June 07, 2014 9:41:27 AM
From: Newton Conservators
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 11:18:00 PM
To: danielsbrody@gmail.com
Subject: E-Bulletin - June 6, 2014 - Invasives Weekend!
Importance: Normal



Newton Conservators *E-Bulletin*

Friday, June 6, 2014

... Newton's land trust working to preserve open space since 1961



June is Busting Out All Over!

It was a great May this year for nature in Newton. We have a few invasive pulling sessions left with two this very weekend on Saturday at Hammond Pond and on Sunday at Cold Spring Park. And as garlic mustard goes to seed after flowering, there is still time to pull it and dispose of the plants before they spread and start another cycle. If you have always been curious about ferns, there is none better to enlighten you than fern expert Don Lubin on Saturday afternoon this weekend. We have listed a number of other interesting events to keep you outside and busy this summer. If you have noticed all the holes in your leaves, and the resulting poppy seed like droppings, it has been the work of the winter moth caterpillars. On the bright side, migrating birds seemed to have a field day gobbling them up. Enjoy the longer days and get outside to enjoy Newton at its finest.

Events: June-July 2014

The Newton Conservators is Newton's land trust and open space organization and sponsors walks and activities in the spring and fall. Please note that the activities meet at different times. Some are weather dependent; please call leader if in doubt. There is no charge for attending our trips and activities. Included here are both walks and invasive removal events. Check out our website at www.newtonconservators.org for updates to this schedule. We have also included some additional

events from other organizations which might be of interest to our readers.

Saturday, June 7, 9 am - Noon
Japanese Knotweed Pull at Hammond Pond
Near 309 Hammond Pond Parkway, Newton, MA 02467
www.newtonconservators.org/18webster.htm
Newton Conservators Invasive Plant Pulls

Japanese Knotweed is a bamboo-like invader from Asia that can create dense 8' tall single-species stands. It is a tough adversary, not because it's spiny or strong or even particularly hard to pull, but any small root fragments left behind spring back to life the following year. Scientists seek biological control agents, but until they find some, we are stuck controlling the plant by hand. Persistence pays with this species, and eradication is possible, but it takes several years to truly finish the job. Bring pitchforks, garden spades, and hand pruners if you have them. Meet at small parking lot off Hammond Pond Parkway at Route 9 adjacent to pond at "the Street" mall. Leader is Eric Olson, 617-872-9928.



Saturday, June 7, Noon - 2 pm (Rain Date: Sunday, June 8)
Fern Walk at Cold Spring Park
Newton Conservators Walk Series



This large green space south of Beacon St. is a good compromise between an accessible park with developed trails and a wild conservation area with interesting native plants. We will see nearly a dozen different ferns and one horsetail and discuss how to identify each one. Wear long pants, and bring a hand lens if you have one. And bring a frond of any fern you would like to have identified. The



walk will be led by Don Lubin, who leads field trips for the New England Wild Flower Society. Visit his website at <http://nefern.info>. Meet at Plymouth Rd. near the aqueduct, between Kingston Rd. and Endicott St., at the south end of the park. Trip leader is Don Lubin, 617-254-8464.

Sunday, June 8, 9 am - Noon
Cold Spring Park Invasives Pull #3 (repeat visit)
1200 Beacon Street, Newton, MA 02461
www.newtonconservators.org/14coldspring.htm
Newton Conservators Invasive Plant Pulls

Cold Spring Park is being invaded by Garlic Mustard. We will spend a few hours checking the Cochituate Aqueduct walk to keep it under control after previous years' pulls and working on the meadow and parking lot areas. In case of poison



ivy, wear long pants and garden gloves. Trash bags will be provided; the plants must be disposed of as trash, not as yard waste. Enter the park at the Beacon Street entrance. Turn left, and go to the far end of the parking lot (circle) to meet group. Leader is Katherine Howard, 617-527-1796 (home) or 617-721-2571 (cell).

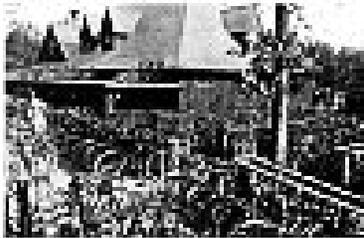


Sunday, June 8, 2-4 pm

A Summer Bike Tour:

Following in the Path of 1890's Cyclists along the Charles

Parking Area on Norumbega Road in Weston (across from Marriott)



Ride with Larry Finison, author of *Boston's Cycling Craze, 1880-1900*, and discover where the 1890s cyclists went and what they did in the Charles River Lakes District. Explore how they raced, toured, steam-boated, and picnicked... and then took the train home. Learn about some famous Newton cyclists as well on this leisurely 2 hour ride. *Meet in the parking lot at the duck feeding area on Norumbega Road in Weston, across the river from the Marriott.* Free. Sponsored by Historic Newton - info at

<http://historicnewton.org/>

Tuesday, June 10, 7 pm

The History of Greater Boston's Waterway

Druker Auditorium, Newton Free Library, Homer Street



Author Ted Clarke will speak about his new book, *The Charles River: A History of Greater Boston's Waterway*. The Charles River defines a good portion of Newton's boundary and has been entwined with the city's history from its founding. Serving as a source of waterpower, transportation and recreation for Newton and the other 23 towns and cities along its route, the story of the Charles includes many notable American figures. The program is cosponsored by Historic Newton and the Newton Free Library. The talk will be followed by a book signing.

Sunday, June 15, 9 am - Noon

Charles River Quinobequin / Hemlock Gorge Garlic Mustard Pull

Near 2 Ellis Street, Newton, MA 02464

www.newtonconservators.org/21hemlock.htm

Newton Conservators Invasive Plant Pulls



We have expanded our efforts to control beginnings of infestations inside beautiful Hemlock Gorge Park and also in the adjoining lovely walking trail along the Charles River at Quinobequin Rd. Help us keep the Garlic Mustard out of these beautiful parks! In case of poison ivy, wear long pants and garden gloves. Trash bags will be provided; the plants must be disposed of as trash, not as yard waste. Meet at the parking lot at corner of Quinobequin Rd and Ellis St at the Route 9 intersection. Leaders are Jerry Reilly and Katherine Howard, 617-527-1796 (home) or 617-721-2571 (cell).

Sunday, June 15 (Father's Day)
Thirteen Villages, One Community - Second Annual Tour de Newton
A 20 mile bicycling tour of all 13 of Newton's villages

In spite of the fun a number of hardy folks had biking on a cold, rainy day last October, it was decided to move the Tour de Newton to a warmer month. The route and idea are the same: bike as much or as little of a 20 mile route through all 13 of Newton's villages as you like, stopping at each to experience a little of each village's hospitality. Get a free, unique pin at each village! Get a free brightly colored Tour de Newton t-shirt! Meet other Newtonites! Celebrate Father's Day this year on wheels! Registration is now open at:

<http://bikewton.org/services/tour-de-newton-registration/>.

Tour de Newton has a modest fee this year to cover expenses (but the t-shirts and buttons are free for participants!) Adults can register for \$10, children for \$5, or families (up to 7 people) for \$25. Every participant-even infants in carriers-must be registered in order to participate. Some ride leaders are needed; if you are an experienced ride leader, please contact Lois Levin, Newton's Bicycle Coordinator, via email at: llevin@newtonma.gov or cell: [617.283.5077](tel:617.283.5077).



Saturday, June 21, 9 am - Noon
Canoeing for Clean Water
Pull Invasive Water Chestnuts
2401 Commonwealth Ave, Newton MA



This summer CRWA will hold six water chestnut pulls open to the public. These events are ideal for individuals and small groups. Here are the dates and times:

Saturday, June 21 | 9am-Noon, Saturday, June 28th | 9am-Noon, Wednesday, July 9th | 5pm-7pm, Sunday, July 13th | 9am-Noon, Saturday, July 19th | 9am-Noon, Sunday, July 27th | 9am-Noon, Saturday, August 2nd | 9am-Noon.

Please register

at <http://www.crwa.org/canoeing-for-clean-water-public-sign-up>

Saturday, July 5, 10 am - 2 pm (Saturdays through October)
Elm Street Farmers Market - Opening Day

The California Street Farmers' Market on Fridays will not be happening this year. The market has been struggling for years, and the City has decided to make a number of changes. There will be a new Elm Street Farmers Market on Saturdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on Elm Street (which will be closed off between Washington St and Border St) in West Newton. There will be an exciting new group of farm vendors including the Newton Community Farm. Hopefully the new day, time, and location will all combine to make this a much more vibrant market. As with the Cold Spring market, the new Elm Street market will run from the beginning of July through the end of October. This market replaces the California Street Farmers' Market on Fridays which had been struggling for recent years. Please



come out and support this new market!

Tuesday, July 15, Evening Dinner on the Farm Newton Community Farm



Join the folks at Newton Community Farm for a casual summer evening on the farm. Enjoy conversation, drinks, music, and delicious food! This farm-to-table dinner is prepared by a professional chef and it features produce grown at Newton Community Farm. Proceeds from the event support NCF's education and outreach programs. Watch for further details at <http://newtoncommunityfarm.org/events/>. Their Fall Festival will be on Sunday, September 28.

Keep Wildlife Wild - Leave Young Wildlife Alone - Mass Wildlife Newsletter

The arrival of spring means the arrival of newborn and just-hatched wildlife. These youngsters soon venture into the world on shaky legs or fragile wings and are discovered by people living, playing, or working nearby. Every year, the lives of many young wild creatures are disturbed by people who take young wildlife from the wild in a well-intentioned attempt to "save" them.

These well-meant acts of kindness tend to have the opposite result. Instead of being left to learn their place in the world, young wildlife removed from the wild are denied important natural learning experiences which help them survive on their own. Most people quickly find that they can't really care for young wildlife, and many of the animals soon die in the hands of well-meaning people. Young wildlife that does survive human "assistance" miss experiences that teach them to fend for themselves. If these animals are released back into the wild, their chances of survival are reduced. Often, the care given to young wildlife results in some attachment to humans and the animals may return to places where people live, only to be attacked by domestic animals, or hit by cars. Some animals become nuisances and people have been injured by once-"tamed" wildlife.

Avoid these problems by following one simple rule when coming upon young wildlife: If You Care, Leave Them There! It may be difficult to do, but this is a real act of compassion. Generally young mammals are visited by the adults only a few times a day to avoid leaving traces that attract predators. For instance, a nest of bunnies will only be visited by the adult female twice per day to nurse the young. The young wildlife are quite safe when left alone because their color patterns and lack of scent help them remain undetected. Avoid nest and den areas of young wildlife and restrain all pets. What if you find a young bird that has fallen from a nest? Baby birds found on the ground may be safely picked up and placed in a nearby bush or tree. Adult birds (and other kinds of wildlife) are not disturbed by human scent and will not abandon their young if handled by people.

Only when young wildlife are found injured or with their dead mother may the young be assisted, but must then be delivered immediately to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator. Due to the difficulty in properly caring for them there are no rehabilitators licensed to care for fawns. It is illegal to possess most wildlife in Massachusetts without a permit. Information on young wildlife and a list of wildlife rehabilitators is posted on the [MassWildlife website](#).

Help MassWildlife Count Turkeys

Got turkey families in your neighborhood? Sportsmen and



-women, birders, landowners, and other wildlife enthusiasts are encouraged to assist the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW) only count turkey flocks containing hens and their young poults (broods) this summer. DFW conducts an annual wild turkey brood survey from June through August. "The brood survey serves as a long term index on reproduction," explains Dave Scarpitti, Turkey Project Leader. "It helps us determine productivity and allows us to compare long-term reproductive success." Scarpitti also points out that citizen involvement in this survey is a cost-effective means of gathering useful data, and he encourages all interested people to participate. A [turkey brood survey form](#) is posted on the agency website. Information needed includes date, town, number of hens seen, and number of poults and the poults' relative size compared to the hens. Multiple sightings of the same brood can also be noted. The survey period runs from June 1 - August 31. Completed forms should be mailed to: Brood Survey, DFW Field Headquarters, 100 Hartwell Street, Suite 230, West Boylston, MA 01583.



Newton Conservators Spring 2014 Newsletter

Our spring newsletter was sent out recently and is available online as well at <http://www.newtonconservators.org/newsletters/apr14.pdf>. The summer newsletter is in the final stages of preparation and will be available later this month.



NEWSLETTER

Newton's land trust working to preserve open space since 1961

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US Agriculture and the Coming Water Crisis

by Greg Kistner, Farm Damage North Community News




Farm Damage

Lack of water can affect the taste of vegetables

I recently heard a term used that drove the predicament of agriculture, and indeed our entire civilization, into a dark light: peak water. Pretty much everyone has heard of peak oil, but peak water? What's that? The book in which I read it used that something of a throw away phrase, but as I reflected on it, the implications of the term grew.

The soil and semi-arid western United States has already, I would argue, hit peak water. Farmers and municipalities are in bidding wars over limited water supplies.

One can provide water to farms, one can provide food to those same farms. There are battles between up-stream and down-stream communities over access to water and international disputes occur because rivers like the Colorado no longer match their historic outflows in the Gulf of Mexico. Living in New England, we can feel the wind from the west coast of the west, but it takes only a bit of hard thinking—when did that fill in your fruit or vegetable bin?—to realize how much everyone in the United States can or will be affected by peak water in the west.

What is water? It is referred to as agriculture as a "limiting" factor. It's not just that without enough water a plant dies; that's true, but an extreme. Without enough water (but just enough to live), a plant will grow more slowly, may not grow to full size, weight or might start out of its vegetative stage (during which it is actively growing) into its reproductive stage (when it tries to reproduce) prematurely. The latter is a common response to all kinds of environmental stress—organisms put all their energy into reproducing when they sense that they might not survive. For farmers, some of these outcomes are good.

Some farms don't really have a choice. They don't have water to irrigate, so they don't irrigate. There are the dry-land farms. Their fields get watered when it rains for mow, but otherwise the crops are left to grow what moisture they can from the soil. There are dry-land farms in the mid-west as well.



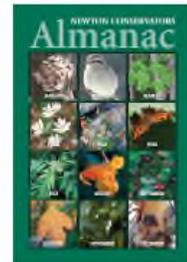
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Newton Conservators e-Bulletin

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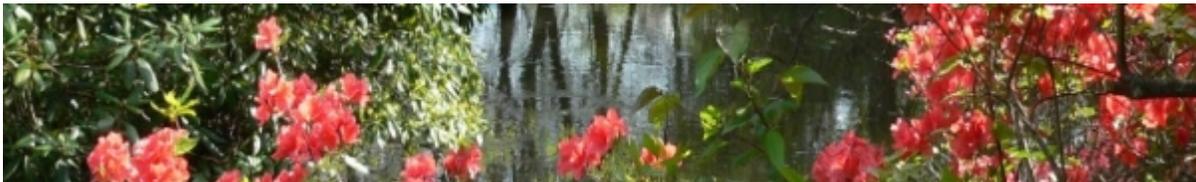
Did you know that you can Join the Newton Conservators online. And consider a gift membership for a conservation-minded friend (new members get a trail guide as well)! Visit <http://www.newtonconservators.org/membership.htm> for details on membership options. Did you know that you can register and pay for membership, events, buy a copy of our Almanac or newly revised Trail Guide, or make a donation to the Newton Conservators online?



Mission: *The Newton Conservators promotes the protection and preservation of natural areas, including parks, playgrounds, forests and streams, which are open or may be converted to open space for the enjoyment and benefit of the people of Newton. It further aims to disseminate information about these and other environmental matters. A primary goal is to foster the acquisition of land, buildings and other facilities to be used for the encouragement of scientific, educational, recreational, literary and other public pursuits that will promote good citizenship and the general welfare of the people of our community.*

The Newton Conservators organization was formed as a not-for-profit over 50 years ago (June 1961).

- E-Bulletin Editor Ted Kuklinski, Newton Conservators (dolanpond@aol.com)



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