

**Dan Brody**

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**From:** Newton Conservators <Newton\_Conservators@mail.vresp.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 2:30 PM  
**To:** dbrody@keefecompany.com  
**Subject:** E-Bulletin - Sept 17, 2014 - Fall Events!



## Newton Conservators *E-Bulletin*

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

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



### Autumn is upon us!

The days are getting cooler and the kids are back in school. It's also a great and comfortable time to get out and enjoy the fall with the Newton Conservators canoeing, birding, and walking events. On Thursday we have a great lecture by Brooks Mathewson featuring extraordinary avian and nature photography. Also listed are a number of other interesting events to keep you outside and busy this fall. Sadly, a rabid raccoon was recently found in West Newton near Dolan Pond - details on precautions in dealing with wildlife can be found in this issue as well. See membership info and details on our paper newsletter too!

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### Events: Fall 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. Check out our website at [www.newtonconservators.org](http://www.newtonconservators.org) for updates to this schedule. Newton Conservators events have a partial **BLUE** heading. We have also included some additional events from other organizations which might be of interest to our readers.

**Thursday, September 18, 7 pm**  
**Warblers, Waders and Woodlands**  
**Lecture by Ecologist / Photographer Brooks Mathewson**  
**Newton Conservators sponsored**

Join ecologist, photographer and natural history educator Brooks Mathewson as he presents his photography and shares the stories behind how he produced some of his favorite images, while also relating the fascinating natural history of his subjects. Over the past six years Brooks Mathewson, has been working on three photographic projects: studying the Neotropical



migratory songbirds that pass through eastern Massachusetts during the spring and



fall, the shorebirds and wading birds of a salt pond and barrier beach in southern Rhode Island, and the flora and fauna of the woodlands and freshwater wetlands of Harvard Forest in central

Massachusetts. Brooks will present his beautiful photography and relate the fascinating natural history of his subjects.

Brooks Mathewson is an award-winning nature photographer and ecologist holding a Master's Degree in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Biology and a Master's Degree in Forest Science from Harvard University. His research has been published in scientific journals, while his photography has appeared in numerous magazines, journals, textbooks, field guides, and calendars and has been exhibited at the National Science Foundation headquarters. For a preview of his photography please visit his website -



[www.AvianArtImages.com](http://www.AvianArtImages.com). The lecture is co-sponsored by the Newton Conservators, Green Decade Newton and the Newton Free Library.

**Tuesday, September 23, 2014, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**  
**Public Meeting on the Emerald Ash Borer in Massachusetts**  
**Arnold Arboretum Visitors Center - Hunnewell Building**  
**125 Arborway, Boston 02130**

At this meeting, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), in cooperation with the Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR), the U. S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), and the USDA's Forest Service, will address the implications surrounding the recent discovery of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Suffolk County. Central to this meeting is the issue of establishing a quarantine that would restrict the movement of certain wood products under certain conditions. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a question-and-answer session, and general feedback will be elicited to help guide the state's actions as it moves forward with responding to the discovery of this destructive pest. If you have questions about the public meeting, please call 617-626-4974 or email [DCR.Updates@state.ma.us](mailto:DCR.Updates@state.ma.us). For more information, see <http://masstreewardens.org/eab-public-meeting-at-arnold-arboretum/>. For background on the Boston EAB find, which occurred at the Arnold Arboretum last July, see <http://arboretum.harvard.edu/emerald-ash-borer-detected-in-the-arboretum/>

**Sunday, September 28, 1 pm**  
**Canoe Trip at Nahanton Park**  
**Trip Leaders: Bill & Dottie Hagar**  
**Newton Conservators Walk Series**



This canoe/kayak trip will start at the Nahanton Park area. This is a beautiful section of the Charles River from which you can go upstream against the current to the far reaches of Needham, Dedham and Wellesley. Interested nature lovers can bring their own canoe or kayak to use or can rent one of them at the canoe/kayak rental stand that is located at Nahanton Park. The area up-stream is a region of significant beauty with almost pristine conditions of local marshes and tree lines. Cutler Marsh is particularly impressive with different patterns of wildlife overlapping the background tree line and marsh views. The trip from Nahanton Canoe/Kayak dock towards Millennium Park goes through several bends in the river where canoes and kayaks glide silently through the isolated wilderness areas of Massachusetts. You will slowly paddle upstream towards the park whilst passing by numerous wonders of nature. The fall is an especially good time to view the massive numbers of turtles along the shore along with other wildlife that have successfully been born to this unique stretch of water.

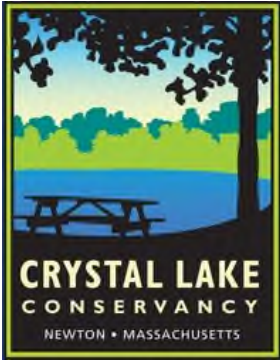
There are numerous fish in this part of the Charles, including pickerel, bass and carp. Pickerel and bass when they are larger are piscivores and have other fish in their diet, but carp even as adults are primarily bottom feeders. You can see the tails of carp out of the water while their head is poking through the mud looking for food. We also will be observing the numerous birds that make their spring/summer/fall homes in this appealing habitat. We will pass by Powell's Island, Millennium Park, and the large Dedham Ditch and then stop for lunch on Cow Island. The trip back will be similar except we will have the current helping to carry canoeist and kayakers back. It is an interesting trip for adults and children that usually is completed within three hours. Trip Leaders will be Bill & Dottie Hagar (617-964-2644).

**Sunday, September 28, 2 pm**  
**Great Old Trees of Newton Centre - Historic Newton**  
**Walks**  
**Newton Centre Playground**



Newton has many beautiful old trees, and they can tell the story of the city's development just as well as its buildings. Marc Welch, Director of Urban Forestry for the City of Newton, and Beth Wilkinson, local resident and member of the Newton Tree Conservancy will lead us through the history of one of Newton's many leafy neighborhoods, drawing out the stories of the place through its historic trees. Meet at the Newton Centre Playground, at the corner of Centre Street and Tyler Terrace. Free.

**Sunday, September 28, 2 pm - 4:30 pm**  
**(Weather Permitting - No Rain Date)**  
**Paddles and Pumpkins**  
**Crystal Lake Bathhouse, 20 Rogers Street, Newton**  
**Highlands, MA**



The Crystal Lake Conservancy and the Newton Parks and Recreation Department invite you to join them for a Sunday afternoon of activities on Crystal Lake. Participants can sign up for half hour slots between 2-4:30 pm to enjoy the pleasures of canoeing / kayaking / paddleboarding (\$10 per canoe/kayak/paddleboard). A lifeguard will be on duty and all participants will be required to wear life jackets and sign a waiver. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. In addition all can enjoy catching strung up donuts, drinking fresh cider and decorating your own free pumpkin!! Learn about Crystal Lake Conservancy's ongoing initiatives in water testing and watershed education. Learn about the new NO Phosphorus law and how decreasing pollutants flowing into the Lake will reduce the possibility of future algae blooms. See the newly posted watershed signs up on every street in the Crystal Lake Watershed. Volunteer Awards will be presented to Sophia Autor (NSHS student) and Hal Lichtin. Learn about ongoing testing and watershed activities to protect Crystal Lake!! Visit the CLC's website at [www.CrystalLakeConservancy.org](http://www.CrystalLakeConservancy.org) or call Janice Bourque at 617-967-0797. Support Crystal Lake Conservancy's efforts to keep Crystal Lake healthy

**Sunday, September 28, 11 am - 3 pm**  
**Newton Community Farm Fall Festival**  
**Newton Community Farm - Nahanton / Winchester**  
**Sts.**

Visit the Newton Community Farm for this popular annual event! Enjoy live music, farm tours, children's activities, farm produce, baked goods, delicious food, and more. There is free admission and you can purchase tickets at entrance for food and some of the activities. New this year will be a Pie Judging Contest - Bake your best apple pie and enter it in the first pie judging contest. Pies must be delivered to the farm between 9am-10am on the day of the event. Judging will take place at 1:30pm by a small group of local "celebrity" judges. After pies are judged they will placed on sale at the bake sale. There will also be a Prized Vegetable Contest - Enter a tomato, an eggplant, and/or a squash grown in your home garden. Vegetables will be judged by Farmer Greg and a few other farm "experts". Vegetables must be brought to the farm between 9am-10am on the day of the event. Vegetables and ribbons can be picked up at the end of the event. Please direct any questions to Mara at [admin@newtoncommunityfarm.org](mailto:admin@newtoncommunityfarm.org)



**Sunday, October 5, 8 am**  
**Fall Bird Walk at Nahanton Park**  
**Trip Leader: Haynes Miller**  
**Newton Conservators Walk Series**



Nahanton Park offers a mix of woodlands, wetlands, edge habitat, and meadows along the Charles River, making it one of the best birding spots in Newton for fall migrants as well as resident species. Meet at the Nahanton Street entrance off Nahanton St. between the JCC and the Charles. Parking is available inside the park. Bring binoculars if you have them. Beginners as well as experienced birders are welcome. Walking shoes are recommended. Co-sponsored by Friends of Nahanton Park and the Newton Conservators. Trip cancelled in steady rain but ok if light rain or drizzle. If in doubt call Trip Leader, Haynes Miller (617-413-2419). Meet at the Nahanton Street entrance next to the river. Parking is available inside the park.

**Saturday, October 18, 8 am**



**(Rain Date, Sunday, October 19, 8 am)**  
**Fall Bird Walk at Cold Spring Park**  
**Trip Leader: Pete Gilmore**  
**Newton Conservators Walk Series**

Fall is an excellent time to look for birds. We'll explore the various habitats at Cold Spring Park. Parking is available inside the park - park at the Beacon Street parking lot and meet at circle. Bring binoculars if you have them. Beginners as well as experienced birders are welcome. Boots are recommended. In case of steady rain, rain date is October 19. If in doubt, call Trip Leader, Pete Gilmore (617-610-2477).



**Saturday, October 18, 9 am**  
**Know Your Infrastructure: A Field Trip to the Quabbin Reservoir**  
**(Green Decade Sponsored)**  
**Leader: Eric Olson**



Did you know that Newton and 43 other cities and towns in Massachusetts are served by one of the finest water systems in the world? That the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority prepares and delivers award-winning drinking water to our homes with a carbon footprint of just 0.04 grams/liter -- less than 1 ten-thousandth that of bottled water? Brandeis ecologist and Green Decade Board Member Eric Olson will lead a tour of the magnificent Quabbin Reservoir, first to the Visitor Center at the Windsor Dam for a presentation by MWRA staff, then for a fall hike in the forest that protects the Quabbin. Cost determined as rental plus fuel divided by participant number, and should be

well under than \$20 per person (no fees are charged by MWRA). The trip will be departing Newton by rental van at 9 am. Return time of about 3 pm at the latest. Bring a brown bag lunch. To sign up or request more details email to [info@greendecade.org](mailto:info@greendecade.org) or call 617-965-1995.

**Sunday, October 26, Time TBA 2:00 PM**  
**Webster Conservation Area: The Other Side of the Tracks**  
**DCR parking lot behind The Street**  
**Trip Leader: Dan Brody**

**Newton Conservators Walk Series**



The MBTA Green Line bisects the large open space made up of the city's Webster Conservation Area and the DCR's Hammond Pond Reservation. Most park visitors stay on the south side of the tracks unless they're visiting Houghton Garden in the northeast corner. This 2.5-mile walk explores the parklands on the north side of the tracks, including the former "deer park" and a rock outcrop offering distant views. The area was described in an 1889 guidebook as including "walls of conglomerate rock, as tall and straight as castle-bastions, crowning the hill-tops, and menaced by storming-parties of

trees, whose green banners have been planted in the crevices far up their mighty steeps." The walk will begin at Hammond Pond, where we'll consider DCR's imminent construction of a floating walkway. Meet at the DCR parking lot behind The Street—Chestnut Hill, off Route 9: <http://goo.gl/maps/ASM35>.

## **Rabies Caution for Dolan Pond Area, West Newton September 16, 2014**



*The following is a press release from Linda Walsh in the Newton Department of Health and Human Services concerning a rabid raccoon found near Dolan Pond Conservation Area in West Newton. Please read carefully and follow precautions if you are in this area - especially regarding pets.*

**A raccoon captured on September 11, 2014 has tested positive for rabies.** The raccoon was found near the Auburndale Ave entrance of the Dolan Pond conservation area in West Newton. If you, or your pet, may have had an encounter with a raccoon in this area on or around the above date, please contact the Massachusetts Epidemiology Program at (617) 983-6800 or the Newton Health & Human Services Department at (617) 796-1420.

Rabies is a very serious viral disease that affects the brain and spinal cord of mammals. The virus is spread when an animal with rabies bites or comes into salivary contact with another animal or person. The virus can also spread if the affected animal's saliva gets into a scratch or other wound, or the eyes, nose or mouth of another person or animal.

Newton residents who live around or regularly visit the Dolan Pond Conservation Area should ensure that their household pets have been recently immunized against the rabies virus. If pets have not been recently vaccinated, please ensure that they are vaccinated with the rabies booster as soon as possible to prevent the virus from spreading. For more information, please refer to the following tips, courtesy of the Massachusetts Division of Animal Health.

### **If you are bitten or scratched by an animal:**

- Wash the wound with soap and water right away for ten minutes.
- Call your health care provider or local board of health. They can help you determine if you need to be treated for a rabies exposure.

### **If your pet is bitten or scratched by another animal:**

- Call your veterinarian to help you determine if the animal needs medical attention.
- In some cases, it may be necessary to confine your animal and watch it to see if it develops signs of rabies. Animal Control can help you determine if this is necessary (617-796-2109).

### **How can you prevent rabies in Massachusetts?**

- Teach children to never approach animals they don't know - even if they appear friendly.
- Report any animal that behaves oddly to your local animal control official.
- Enjoy wild animals from a distance. Do not keep wild animals as pets. This is against the law in Massachusetts.
- Make sure your pets are vaccinated against rabies. By law, all dogs, cats and ferrets must be regularly vaccinated against rabies.
- Don't feed or water your pets outside. Even empty bowls will attract wild and stray animals.
- Keep your pets in a fenced yard or on a leash, and do not let them roam freely.

- Keep your garbage securely covered. Open garbage will attract wild or stray animals.
- Keep your chimney capped and repair holes in attics, cellars, and porches to help keep wild animals like bats and raccoons out of your home

Health and Human Services Department  
 City of Newton  
 Linda Walsh, Interim Commissioner  
 1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
 Newton, MA 02459  
 Telephone 617.796.1420  
 Fax 617.552.7063  
 TDD/TTY 617.796.1089

<http://village14.com/newton-ma/2014/09/city-issues-rabies-alert-for-dolan-pond-area-in-west-newton/#axzz3DZjyhg2U>

## Notes from Here and There

### Current Exhibitions at Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds

Not your typical historic house! Step back in time with fun games, multimedia and audio programs, hands-on activities, and 100-year-old specimen trees. Gain insight into today's issues of equality, sustainability, politics and protest. Built in 1734, the site explores the lives and contributions of three families over three centuries. The Durant story investigates colonial life and the events leading up to the American Revolution. The Kenricks were leaders in the horticultural revolution in the nineteenth century. And the Dewings were pioneers in historic preservation. The tranquil grounds showcase remnants from the Kenrick's booming 19th-century nursery, which introduced fruit and ornamental tree varieties still enjoyed today. The Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds is open noon to 4:00 PM Wednesday through Friday, and 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Saturday and Sunday. If you need special assistance, please call 617-641-9142.



A PLACE TO DIG, LEARN, AND GROW



### Newton Community Farm Fall Happenings

Buy Newton Community Farm's fresh, locally-grown seasonal produce at our on-site farmstand on Winchester Street on Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1 pm. The farmstand is also open Tuesday through Friday from 1:30 to 6 pm. NCF is located at the corner of Winchester Street and Nahanton Street. Also visit NCF's stand at Newton's Elm Street Farmers' Market on Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm in July through October. The Farm accepts cash, checks, Master Card, and Visa.



The fall educational programs at Newton Community Farm are now open for registration. Sign-up for the final gardening class of the year or choose from a number of cooking and home brewing classes. For families, the popular Fall Farm Sprout program returns, running through to December and if you have a budding chef in your midst, why not join the Kids Farm Cooking? For more info

and to register visit [www.newtoncommunityfarm.org/education](http://www.newtoncommunityfarm.org/education) (Pre-registration is required).

## Walk or Bike for Recycling Project

With more than 16,000 green bins labeled by our outstanding crew of volunteers, Green Decade and Newton's Dept. of Public Works invite you to join us to continue placing "recycling education stickers" onto residential green bins. The "Recycle Sticker Project" reminds everyone of what may or may not be placed in the green bins. Funding for this project was provided by Green Decade, Whole Foods Markets Newton and Waste Management with a goal to raise awareness about recycling...not only to benefit our environment, but to also reap substantial financial savings on the cost of disposing the City's trash. If you want to help increase participation in Newton's recycling program and enjoy early morning walks or riding your bike, please contact Green Decade's Recycling Committee at [info@greendecade.org](mailto:info@greendecade.org)



## Birds of the World Gallery at the Harvard Museum of Natural History

With over 10,000 species, birds are the most diverse land vertebrates on the planet. In celebration of these feathered marvels, the museum will open the new Birds of the World gallery on Saturday, September 20. The bright, newly remodeled gallery captures the staggering diversity of birds with hundreds of stunning specimens and redesigned displays that reveal the very latest in surprising scientific discoveries about the evolution of these modern dinosaur descendants. This exhibit is made possible by a generous gift in memory of Melvin R. Seiden.

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## Newton Conservators Spring 2014 Newsletter

Our most recent newsletter was sent out in June and is available online as well at <http://www.newtonconservators.org/newsletters/jun14.pdf>. Articles include: *Taking Care of Hammond Pond*, *Profile of Jennifer Steele*, *President's Message*, *Annual Meeting Awards Recap*, *Update on Newton's New Tree Ordinance*, *Ferns are Important*, *The Birds of Summer*, *"Eh, What's Up, Doc?"*, *Mysteries of Cold Spring Park*. The fall newsletter is in the final stages of preparation and will be available in the near future.



**NEWTON CONSERVATORS** NEWSLETTER  
 Newton's land trust working to preserve open space since 1961  
 WWW.NEWTONCONSERVATORS.ORG • SUMMER 2014

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### Taking Care of Hammond Pond

By Joseph Don, Senior Environmental Planner for the City of Newton

When we think of a pond as well, a pond – a lovely expanse of water nestled in the landscape that provides like all ecological resources are integrally connected to much larger regional wetland systems. Hammond Pond, a shallow 22-acre freshwater pond in Chestnut Hill, is no exception. A large wetland system to the north drains to the pond. A piped creek flows eastward to Small Brook and eventually to the Charles River. Hammond Pond, like all ponds here in Massachusetts, is undergoing a slow natural succession. It is progressing from an "early" form of glacial pond, through its "middle age" as a vegetation-covered pond, to its "old age" as a shallow marsh, to its ultimate metamorphosis into a wet meadow and wetland.

The pond's neighbors, however, have had a real effect on the natural progression. The two surrounding wetlands and associated meadows have accelerated many of the natural processes. The watershed to Hammond Pond is approximately 167 acres in Chestnut Hill and Newton. The pond receives 75% of its water from surrounding floodplains. 30% of the watershed is covered in impervious surfaces (rooftops and pavement); most of that is commercial space.



#### The Chain and Cycle of Ecological Problems



Continued on page 2

## Newton Conservators e-Bulletin

This e-Bulletin is a service of the Newton Conservators, Newton's open space advocates since 1961. If you wish to subscribe, just send a note with your request to subscribe to the Newton Conservators e-Bulletin to [dolanpond@aol.com](mailto:dolanpond@aol.com) or [emallist@newtonconservators.org](mailto:emallist@newtonconservators.org). The current edition of our paper newsletter (for those who don't receive it in the mail) can be easily downloaded in PDF form at <http://www.newtonconservators.org/newsletters/>. Event listings for our e-Bulletin can be sent to [dolanpond@aol.com](mailto:dolanpond@aol.com).



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](mailto:dolanpond@aol.com))



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