

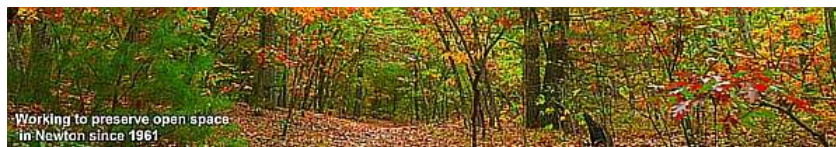


Newton Conservators

E-Bulletin

Monday, October 29, 2018

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



Late Fall Happenings!

October is almost over and we have had a great season so far with our fall walks and invasive events - not to mention the Red Sox. But we wanted to call your attention to a great lecture coming up on Tuesday evening at the library (10/30) on "Trees and People Around the World." On May 8 next year we will have our annual dinner meeting. However that is a long time to wait to eat - so perhaps you would like to help the Newton Conservators out on Thursday, November 8 at Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza in Newton where they will donate 20% of the proceeds to the Conservators if you mention "Newton Conservators" when you order (either take-out or eat-in)! Check out some other interesting upcoming events and lectures in our calendar below.

Some of you may be reading this e-Bulletin for the first time - if so, Welcome! Recently we have been reviewing and consolidating our email lists of members of the Newton Conservators and non-member readers as well who have expressed some interest in our work. If you are receiving this email in error, you may unsubscribe from the address where you received it easily at the end of this email by clicking the "unsubscribe" link. Or please send us a note at ebulletin@newtonconservators.org to take your email off the list or to change it to an alternate email. We do hope you find this occasional e-Bulletin useful in keeping you in touch with open space related activities around Newton! Wishing you a fun late season Fall in Newton's open spaces!

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, October 30, 7 pm

**Trees and People Around the World: An Historic Perspective
Lecture by Matthew Foti, Arborist
Druker Auditorium, Newton Free Library, Homer Street**

Matthew Foti, President of Matthew R. Foti Landscape Design & Construction, Inc., will explore the relationship of trees and people around the world as well as the historic significance of some of our very own native trees. As the featured arborist for WGBH's This Old House from 1988 to 2015, Matt provided tree care advice to millions of viewers. This program is cosponsored by the Newton Tree Conservancy, Green Newton, the Newton Free Library, and the Newton Conservators.

http://www.newtonconservators.org/events/2018_10_30_trees.pdf.



Wednesday, October 31

Newton Conservators Fall Grants Deadline

The Newton Conservators provides grants to Newton's schools, educational institutions, groups, and institutions for the purpose of fostering its mission. The grants are generally modest in size; requests of between \$250 and \$750 may receive priority, although smaller and larger grants will be given full consideration. They can be made for a single event, a longer-term project, or for multiple year funding. Projects for multiple year funding must be reported upon and resubmitted annually.

Applications are reviewed and grants are awarded twice a year, with application deadlines of October 31 and February 28. However, proposals may be submitted at any time, and grants are sometimes awarded before the next regular review cycle begins.

<http://www.newtonconservators.org/grants.htm>



Saturday-Sunday, November 3-4, 10 am - 5 pm

**Free Admission to Historic Newton's Museums
Jackson Homestead and Durant-Kendrick House**



Enjoy free admission to both of Historic Newton's museums, the Jackson Homestead and Museum, 527 Washington Street, and the Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds, 286 Waverley Avenue on



Saturday, October 6 & Sunday, October 7 | 10:00am - 5:00pm. The Jackson Homestead and Museum displays rotating and permanent exhibits about the history of Newton, Massachusetts, and the Underground Railroad. The Durant Kendrick House is a 1734 farmhouse, restored and renovated in 2013 with the addition of a large, modern educational space. <http://www.historicnewton.org/>

Thursday, November 8, Lunch and Dinner
Eat Pizza! Raise Some Dough for the Newton Conservators!
Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza, 180 Needham Street



Join the Newton Conservators at Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza (180 Needham Street) on Thursday, November 8th. Enjoy great pizza or other Italian fare and help support the Conservators. Anthony's will donate 20% of all purchases made that day by those mentioning the "Newton Conservators" when ordering food. This applies to lunch and takeout as well as to dinner. Just be sure to mention the Conservators when you order and pay for your meal. Bring your friends and join your fellow Conservators. Several of the Board members plan to dine at Anthony's that evening--around 7 to 7:30 pm. In case you don't know, Anthony's features classical thin crust pizza and other Italian specialties cooked in a traditional hot open-hearth oven.

Their website with menus and details can be found at <https://acfp.com/location/newton/>. Anthony's is located on the SE side of Needham St. next to the Rockland Bank, across from the new Nexus Mall. The phone number is 617-467-4250. There is plenty of free parking. Please join us!



Thursday, November 8, 15, 29, Monday, November 19, 5 pm - 6:30 pm
Hello Washington Street - Drop-In Office Hours
Newton City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Ave

"Hello Washington Street!" is the City of Newton's initiative to plan proactively the future of Washington Street in a community-based process with residents, local businesses, and City Councilors, with the help of the Principle Group, the planning firm under contract with the City of Newton. The thirteen-month process, started in April 2018 and anticipated to go until May 2019, will result in a vision plan and draft zoning recommendations for the areas that link West Newton to Newtonville to Newton. The planning team is also considering how to improve existing public spaces and create new ones, how to repair the street to improve transportation for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians, and looking at options to mitigate the Mass Pike. Visit the city's website to learn more at http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/lrplan/washington_street_vision.asp. A presentation of the preliminary draft plan was done at Newton North High School on Oct 24. A video of that presentation is available on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/iSTRtkVl4tk>. Drop-in office hours to take a look at the draft plans are listed above. For questions please contact washingtonstreet@newtonma.gov, 617-796-1120. In addition, recent survey results for a survey done by the Newtonville Area Council can be found at <http://www.newtonma.gov/civicax/filebank/blobload.aspx?t=57710.68&BlobID=92144>.



Tuesday, November 13, Newton Inspires 7 to 9:30 pm
The Effects of Climate Change on the Plants and Animals of Thoreau's Concord
An invited talk by Richard Primack, Professor of Biology, Boston University
Session 1 of Newton Inspires - An Evening of Ideas and Community
Newton South High School

Henry David Thoreau was a climate change scientist! For the past 15 years, Professor Richard Primack (Boston University) and his team have been using Thoreau's records from the 1850s and other Massachusetts data sources to document the earlier flowering and leafing out times of plants and the more variable response of migratory birds. Most noteworthy, plants in Concord are also changing in abundance due to a warming climate. This work has received extensive media coverage and is now being extended to the neglected autumn season. What would Thoreau tell us to do about global warming if he were alive today?



Richard Primack is a professor of biology with a specialization in plant ecology, conservation biology, tropical rain forest ecology, and climate change biology. He is the author of two widely used conservation biology textbooks; local co-authors have helped to produce 36 translations of these books with local examples. For nine years, he was the editor-in-chief of the journal Biological Conservation and served as the president of the Association



for Tropical Biology and Conservation. Professor Primack is the author and editor of books about tropical rainforests and has written a popular book about his Concord research: *Walden Warming: Climate Change Comes to Thoreau's Woods*. In addition, Professor Primack is a lifelong resident of Newton, having graduated from Bowen Elementary School, Weeks Junior High School, and Newton South High School. He wrote his undergraduate thesis on flora of Newton's Hammond Woods and Webster Woods. He is also a frequent contributor to the Newton Tab and a member of the Board of Advisors of the Newton Conservators.

Register for this and other informative lectures and presentations by Newton's best at the annual Newton Inspires event - <http://www.newtonschoolsfoundation.org/newton-inspires> - sponsored by the Newton Schools Foundation. Sessions

Saving the Planet in Your Own Backyard
Wednesday, November 28 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Waltham Public Library, 735 Main St, Waltham MA 02451

It's almost winter! Brrrr... Why are we talking about butterflies and caterpillars? In this informational and entertaining program, you'll find out why it's important to plan for spring and the arrival of hungry bees and butterflies. You can learn how to save pollinators in your backyard and why to think about it now. You'll learn something new! Only certain kinds of plants—native plants—provide food and habitat for beleaguered pollinators and help the environment. Learn the benefits of planting perennial native plants wherever possible—but especially in your own backyard. Native plants are species that were on this continent before the arrival of colonists. Many insects and pollinators evolved with those plants and can only exist alongside them. Native plants play an essential role in our ecosystems by supporting pollinators, insects and local wildlife, critical elements of the food web that supports all life. This program is sponsored by Meadowscaping for Biodiversity (www.meadowmaking.org) and Mass Audubon (www.massaudubon.org). For more information, please call 781-209-0052.



Sunday, December 16, 7 am (Note: awaiting confirmation on the date!)
Annual Newton Christmas Bird Count (CBC)
Meet at 1 Raeburn Terrace, Newton Highlands

This year's annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) in Newton takes place on Sunday morning. After all, the early birder gets the birds counted! This is the 119th year of the CBC and helps to measure changes in population of our avian species (and perhaps more global trends such as climate change). In Newton, birders will meet at 7 am at 1 Raeburn Terrace in Newton Highlands (Raeburn is off Hillside which is off Walnut). Owlers (the real early birds) usually meet at the same location at 5 am. The group usually hits a few good spots and tries to call in the owls. At 7 am, groups will be formed to go off to various open spaces throughout the city to count all the birds that they see.



Great Horned Owl

The most common question of course is "how do you know you don't count the same bird twice?" Well you can't know for certain but we try our best! Beginners are welcome to accompany some of the more experienced birders (bring binoculars and dress warmly). Most of the counting is done in the morning. You are welcome to join the counting for a short time if you like. Tallies are made by afternoon and consolidated with tallies from other areas within a 15 mile Greater Boston count circle. Check out <http://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count> for details on the history of the count and past national results. Your questions about the count can probably be answered at <http://www.audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-bird-count>. Hope you can join us! Watch for further details in the next e-Bulletin.

Tuesdays - 1:30 pm - Dusk
Saturdays - 9:30 am - 1:00 pm
Newton Community Farm Stand Fall Hours
303 Nahanton Street, Newton MA 02459

Missing the fresh produce at the Newton Farmer's Markets in Cold Spring Park and Elm Street? You can still get some fresh local veggies at the Newton Community Farm. They have Farm Stand hours on Tuesday and Saturday. Learn more about our local city farm at www.newtoncommunityfarm.org!



Newton Conservators Newsletter

The Newton Conservators publishes its newsletter approximately four times a year. It is distributed by mail to the membership and is available online. Extra copies are also available at the Newton Free Library. Our Fall 2018 Newsletter has been printed and mailed to members and is posted on

our website at <http://www.newtonconservators.org/newsletter.htm>. Here are some of the articles in the current issue to check out!

- [The Canada Goose in Newton](#)
- [Introduction to the Bedrock Geology of Newton](#)
- [Beyond Boundaries: Public Art in the Upper Falls Greenway](#)
- [President's Message](#)
- [Peter Kastner](#)
- [Invasive Plant Sessions Fall 2018](#)
- [Fall Walks - 2018](#)



NEWSLETTER

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

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The Canada Goose in Newton



PHOTO: PETER ROBERTS
Adult Canada Goose seen on a walk in Hammond Pond Woods

There are geese, and then there are geese. Let me explain.

Back in the late 1970s when I sailed the Chesapeake Bay with friends on fall "Goosing Expeditions," we would see huge flocks of Canada Geese, Snow Geese, and even swans migrating down the Eastern flyway in their distinctive V patterns. We would awaken at dawn after mooring in an estuary on the Eastern Shore of Maryland to the soft honking of Canada Geese — it almost sounded like dogs barking. I also recall enjoying watching flocks of birds come in for landing in the late evening — those geese would perform like acrobats with barrel rolls and wing waggles. But fall and spring were the only time we saw large numbers of these geese back in the 1970s.

Now there are Canada Geese everywhere there are lawns: at Crystal Lake and the Newton Cemetery, and at all the Newton playing fields and golf courses. The Canada Geese are making headlines, too. They

downed a plane in New York in 2009. They aggressively defend nests in shopping malls. They are blamed for fouling children's playing fields and swimming holes, as well as public water supplies. *And they don't seem to migrate anymore.*

What happened?

To begin to understand the answer, let's explore some facts about this very large bird.

There are, according to the Cornell Ornithology Lab's website, "At least 11 subspecies of Canada Goose although only a couple are distinctive." Here in Newton we see the most common goose, *Branta canadensis*. This is one of the largest birds you will commonly encounter with a wing span of 4 - 5.5 feet and a length of 2.5 - 3.6 feet, weighing in at 6.6 pounds on the low end to nearly 20 pounds! They compare roughly to a wild turkey but may have a longer wing span. And I'm told they are tasty, too, although I've never tried a wild

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Membership & Publications!



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? The Trail Guides and Almanac are also available at your local Newton Bookstores. Shop Local! Our Trail Guide and Almanac make great holiday gifts!



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 in June 1961.

- E-Bulletin Editor Ted Kukulinski, Newton Conservators (ebulletin@newtonconservators.org)



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