

Newton Conservators Invasive Plant Sessions Spring 2019

Newton Conservators sponsors walks and also fights invasive plant species to promote the native habitat at our parks and conservation areas. Call the leader if in doubt about the weather. Check newtonconservators.org for the separate Walks calendar and for updates to this schedule.

Sunday, April 21, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Buckthorn demonstration project, Cold Spring Park.

We will continue the work, started two years ago in collaboration with horticulturalist Bruce Wenning and ecology professor Eric Olson, to save the red maple swamp, believed to be one of the oldest forested areas in Newton. The maple and oak swamp is in danger of dying out due to its understory being shaded out by invasive nonnative buckthorn. We will maintain and expand the buckthorn-free demonstration areas to allow the forest to survive. *Leaders are Bruce Wenning, 617-962-0646, Alan Noguee, 617-564-1664 and Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.*

Sunday, April 28, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Garlic Mustard Pull at Dolan Pond (NewtonSERVES Project). 76 Webster Park, Newton, MA 02465
www.newtonconservators.org/5dolan.htm

Meet at Webster Park (a street off Webster Street) entrance of the Dolan Pond Conservation Area. (Park there or at the other entrances at Stratford Road and Cumberland Road.) Come help us eradicate this soil-damaging invasive garlic mustard from this gem of a pocket park. We also continue to control the Japanese Knotweed; every year it gets easier. We will also do some nature study, so bring binoculars for observing birds and other creatures that make this vernal pool area home. Wear long pants and garden gloves. *Leader is Ted Kuklinski, 617-332-7753.*

Sunday, April 28, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Cold Spring Park Invasives Pull (NewtonSERVES Project). 1200 Beacon Street, Newton, MA 02461
www.newtonconservators.org/14coldspring.htm

The park is being invaded by garlic mustard, knotweed, buckthorn, and other species. We will keep the Cochituate Aqueduct walk under control after previous years' pulls, and work on the meadow and Beacon Street parking lot areas. Wear long pants and garden gloves. The invasive plant material will be properly disposed of as trash, not as yard waste. Enter at the Beacon Street entrance. Turn left and go to the far end of the parking lot (circle) to meet group. *Leaders are Alan Noguee, 617-564-1664 and Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.*

Sunday, April 28, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Invasives Pull at Blue Heron Bridge (NewtonSERVES Project) near Super Stop & Shop, 700 Pleasant St., Watertown, MA 02472
www.newtonconservators.org/4charlesmoody.htm

We will work along the Charles River Greenway at this bridge site, and will do nature study as time allows. Wear long pants and sleeves, sturdy shoes and garden gloves. Park at the Watertown Super Stop & Shop (700 Pleasant St.) at the corner farthest from the store. There is a path entrance: turn left to the Blue Heron Bridge. Or, park at Albemarle Rd. or Nevada St. a block away

from the river. *Leaders are Ron Joseph and Anndy Dannenberg, 617-694-9674.*

Sunday, May 5, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Invasives Pull at Sawmill Brook Conservation Area. Opposite 120 Vine St., Newton, MA 02467
www.newtonconservators.org/26sawmill.htm

Sawmill Brook Park is a lovely, long, natural trail connecting Newton to West Roxbury. It has garlic mustard and black swallow-wort infestations at its entrances and along Lagrange St. and Wayne Road borders. We will work at each entrance and along Lagrange and Wayne, and patrol previously worked areas. Wear long pants and garden gloves. The invasive plant material will be properly disposed of as trash, not as yard waste. Meet at the Vine Street entrance. *Leaders are Francesco DiTullio and Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.*

Sunday, May 12, 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

Invasives Pull at Blue Heron Bridge #2 (repeat visit). Near Super Stop & Shop, 700 Pleasant St., Watertown, MA 02472
www.newtonconservators.org/4charlesmoody.htm

We continue to work along the Charles River Greenway at this bridge site, and will do nature study as time allows. Wear long pants and sleeves, and sturdy shoes and garden gloves. Bring digging tools and clippers if you can. Park at the Watertown Super Stop & Shop (700 Pleasant St.) at the corner furthest from the store. There is a path entrance: turn left to the Blue Heron Bridge. Or park at Albemarle Rd. or Nevada St., a block away from the river. *Leader is Eric Olson, 617-872-9928.*

Saturday, May 18, 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

Cold Spring Park Invasives Pull #2 (repeat visit). 1200 Beacon Street, Newton, MA 02461
www.newtonconservators.org/14coldspring.htm

Cold Spring Park is being invaded by garlic mustard, knotweed, and other species. We will spend a few hours keeping the Cochituate Aqueduct walk under control after previous years' pulls, and work on the meadow and Beacon Street parking lot areas. Wear long pants and garden gloves. The invasive plant material will be properly disposed of as trash, not as yard waste. Enter the park at the Beacon Street entrance. Turn left and meet at the far end of the parking lot (circle). *Leaders are Nyssa Patten, 617-763-7194, Alan Noguee, 617-564-1664 and Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.*

Sunday, May 19, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Nahanton Park Invasives Pull. Near 507 Winchester Street, Newton, MA 02461
www.newtonconservators.org/30nahanton.htm

Many native habitats, including the grassland Woodcock Meadow, home to threatened American Woodcock, and open

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woodland habitats, are threatened by invasive plants. They out-compete native plants, reduce biodiversity and negatively impact birdlife. Nahanton Park has invasions of black swallow-wort, multi-flora rose, Tree of Heaven, buckthorn, garlic mustard, and black locust. Join us to improve the beauty and diversity of this special park (and help the American woodcock) by spending a few hours cutting back/removing these invasive species. Sturdy shoes, long pants, long sleeves and work gloves recommended. Meet in the large parking lot off Winchester Street. **Leaders are Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571 and Suzette Barbier.**

Sunday, May 26, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Japanese Knotweed Pull at Hammond Pond. Near 309 Hammond Pond Parkway, Newton, MA 02467
www.newtonconservators.org/18webster.htm

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 1, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Houghton Garden/Webster Invasives Pull. Opposite 210 Suffolk Rd., Newton, MA 02467
www.newtonconservators.org/19houghton.htm

We are tackling garlic mustard and black swallow-wort near the entrance of Houghton Garden where it borders the T Track crossing to Webster Woods. Help keep these invaders out of Houghton Garden! Wear long pants and garden gloves. Trash bags will be provided; the City will dispose properly as trash, not as yard waste. Meet at the entrance to the garden/T crossing. **Leader is Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.**

Sunday, June 2, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Cold Spring Park Invasive Plant Educational Walk. 1200 Beacon Street, Newton, MA 02461
www.newtonconservators.org/14coldspring.htm

Join horticulturist Bruce Wenning for training in identifying the invasive species that are found in this park as well as in everybody's yards! Learn the traits of invasive species, how and why they are so successful and hurt the native ecosystems, and how you can identify and control them in your own yards and neighborhoods. Wear long pants and closed shoes. Repeat session is on June 9. **Leader is Bruce Wenning, 617-962-0646.**

Sunday, June 2, 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

Cold Spring Park Invasives Pull #3 (repeat visit). 1200 Beacon Street, Newton, MA 02461
www.newtonconservators.org/14coldspring.htm

Cold Spring Park is being invaded by garlic mustard, knotweed, and other species. We will spend a few hours checking the Cochituate Aqueduct walk, to keep it under control after

previous years' pulls, and work on the meadow and parking lot areas. Wear long pants and garden gloves. Trash bags will be provided; the City will properly dispose 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, 617-721-2571.**

Sunday, June 9, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Cold Spring Park Invasive Plant Educational Walk. 1200 Beacon Street, Newton, MA 02461
www.newtonconservators.org/14coldspring.htm

Join horticulturist Bruce Wenning for training in identifying the invasive species that are found in this park as well as in everybody's yards! Learn the traits of invasive species, how and why they are so successful and hurt the native ecosystems, and how you can identify and control them in your own yards and neighborhoods. Wear long pants and closed shoes. (The same walk is offered June 2.) **Leader is Bruce Wenning, 617-962-0646.**

Sunday, June 9, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Charles River Quinobequin/Hemlock Gorge Invasives Pull. Near 2 Ellis St., Newton, MA 02464
www.newtonconservators.org/21hemlock.htm

We will control garlic mustard, knotweed, and black swallow-wort infestations inside beautiful Hemlock Gorge Park, and the adjoining walking trail along the Charles River at Quinobequin Rd. Help keep the invaders out of these beautiful parks! Wear long pants and garden gloves. Trash bags will be provided; the City will properly dispose as trash, not as yard waste. Meet at the parking lot at corner of Quinobequin Rd. and Ellis St. at Rt. 9 intersection. **Leaders are Jerry Reilly and Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.**

Sunday, June 16, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Charles River Quinobequin/Hemlock Gorge Invasives Pull (repeat visit). Near 2 Ellis St., Newton, MA 02464
www.newtonconservators.org/21hemlock.htm

We will continue our control of garlic mustard, knotweed, and black swallow-wort infestations inside beautiful Hemlock Gorge Park and the adjoining lovely walking trail along the Charles River at Quinobequin Road. Wear long pants and garden gloves. Trash bags will be provided; the City will properly dispose as trash, not as yard waste. Meet at the parking lot at corner of Quinobequin Rd. and Ellis St. at Rt. 9 intersection. **Leaders are Jerry Reilly and Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.**

Sunday, June 23, 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Knotweed Pull at Dolan Pond. 76 Webster Park, Newton, MA 02465
www.newtonconservators.org/5dolan.htm

Meet at Webster Park (a street off Webster Street) entrance of the Dolan Pond Conservation Area. (Park there or at the other entrances at Stratford Road and Cumberland Road.) We will work to control knotweed along the path through the Conservators C/R (Conservation Restriction) area of this gem of a pocket park. Bring shovels and clippers and wear long pants and garden gloves. **Leader is Ted Kuklinski, 617-332-7753.**

► To learn more about Plant Invaders, go to page 11 and view pictures and descriptions of the most common invasives.