

Tuesday, July 9, 6:30 pm Walking Tour of Oak Hill Park

# Shuman Center, 675 Saw Mill Brook Parkway, Newton, MA, 02459 http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/historic/events/walking.asp



Oak Hill Park, a little-known corner of Newton, was built in the late 1940s by a public-private partnership not just to house but to honor recently returned WWII veterans. Boston Globe architecture critic Robert Campbell in 1995 wrote, "The greenbelt system is what's unique about Oak Hill Park. There's nothing else like it in Massachusetts. And it's still intact. Even in today's privatized world, nobody has chopped the Oak Hill Park greenways into private, fenced barbecue patios." Led by Paul

Eldrenkamp, Oak Hill Park resident of 26 years, the tour will show us what Campbell found so appealing about this close-knit neighborhood, and what's changed since Campbell wrote so compellingly of its charms. Suggested donation, \$10 per person. Register in advance or come to the start of the tour. Register at (http://www.newtonma.gov /gov/historic/events/walking.asp)

Saturday, July 13, 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. IN-River Cleanup of the Charles River Have Boat: Woerd Ave Boat Launch, Waltham, MA Need Boat: Charles River Canoe & Kayak, 195 Moody Street, Waltham, MA https://newtonconservators.org/events/waltham-charles-in-river-cleanup/

Help out with the an In-River cleanup of the Charles. With the support of Charles River Canoe and Kayak/Paddle Boston, canoes and kayaks will be provided to those who need watercraft. People who have their own should start at the Woerd Ave boat launch. Grabbers will be supplied for getting hard-to-reach items, as well as trash bags, gloves, granola bars, and awesome water bottles. Power boats will gather trash from the manual boats. Lunch with sandwiches, ice cream and snacks for all volunteers near the Woerd Ave boat launch afterwards. Learn more and register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/walthamcharles-in-river-cleanup-tickets-58934888839. Sponsored by our friends at Waltham Land Trust (www.walthamlandtrust.org).



# Saturday, July 13, 1-3 pm The World of Insects at Prospect Hill Park Prospect Hill Park Lodge, 314 Totten Pond Road, Waltham



Join naturalist/teacher Linda Graetz in this fun and entertaining program that starts with slides and a hands-on look at some common groups of insects. We'll learn their unique characteristics and how to recognize them. Then Linda will lead an easy walk up Prospect Hill to discover insects in the wild. Flowers should be blooming, so expect to see many butterflies, dragonflies, interesting beetles and more! Suitable for families and folks of all ages who want to learn and explore. Sponsored by the Walham Land Trust (walthamlandtrust.org).

# Monday, July 15, 7-8 pm Friends of Webster Woods Information Session Altman Residence - 180 Elgin Street, Newton MA

The Friends of Webster Woods are having an important meeting to discuss the efforts to save the woods. Learn more, and RSVP if you're planning on attending, on the Friends' Google Group page at https://groups.google.com/forum/#!msg/FriendsofWebsterWoods /-n95mZ\_Yu90/GRCV49mmDAAJ.



# Sunday, July 21, 2:00pm Who Inspired Our School Names - Newton Cemetery Walk Newton Cemetery & Arboretum

https://newtonconservators.org/property/newton-cemetery/



Newton's two high schools simply use North and South for identification, but many elementary and middle schools are named after a notable person from Newton. Stroll through the Newton Cemetery to see the final resting places and learn more about the lives of Dr. Henry Bigelow, F.A. Day, William Clafin and others whose legacy continues in our public schools.

others whose legacy continues in our public schools. Meet in front of the chapel just inside the main gate, 791 Walnut Street, Newton Centre. Park in the lot to the left of the chapel. Suggested donation \$10 per person. Register at historicnewton.org or come on tour day.

Monday, July 22, 6:00-8:30 pm Dinner on the Farm Newton Community Farm, 303 Nahanton Street https://newtonconservators.org/events/dinner-on-the-farm/

Visit Newton Community Farm for an evening at the farm featuring delicious food from Gourmet Caterers who've created a delicious produce-forward menu for all to enjoy. Tickets are NOW on sale. Register at https://ncfarm.z2systems.com/np/clients/ncfarm /eventRegistration.jsp?event=10218&.



Tuesday, August 6, 6:30 - 8:00 pm Fields of Green - Newton Community Farm Newton Community Farm - 303 Nahanton Street - meet on the deck of the Barn

#### https://newtonconservators.org/events/fields-of-green-newton-community-farm/



Did you know that 150 years ago, much of Newton was active farmland? Come learn about the last active link to our agricultural past! This tour, led by Historic Newton and Newton Community Farm, covers the history of a site that has been farmed continuously for over 300 years. Explore different time periods, including the influence of Italian immigration to Newton. Finish the evening with a freshly harvested snack in the historic sometimes fill up; pre-register on the Historic

barn. Walk is sponsored by Historic Newton. Walks sometimes fill up; pre-register on the Historic Newton website (www.historicnewton.org).

### Sunday, August 11, 2:00 pm Two Scenic Spots: Hemlock Gorge and Echo Bridge Elliot and Chestnut Streets (near the old mill) http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/historic/events/walking.asp



Explore the geology, trees, plants and history of DCR Hemlock Gorge Reservation, one of the first five parks acquired by the Metropolitan Parks Commission in 1893. Learn about the National Register listed Echo Bridge and plans to restore its historic railings. This guided tour will include stairs and an uphill trail segment over rocky terrain so proper footwear is recommended. Location: Meet at the corner of Elliot and Chestnut Streets near the old mill (a.k.a. Echo Bridge Mall). Park on nearby streets. Sponsored by Historic Newton.

#### Saturday, September 7, 9:30 - 12:30 pm Adventures in Monarchy Workshop Newton Farmer's Market Elm Street (between Washington and Border Streets), West Newton

Come to the Elm Street Farmer's Market to learn about Monarch Butterflies in a featured workshop! These colorful creatures are not as abundant as in the past due to lack of suitable milkweed for their egg-laying and as a caterpillar food source. Learn about different types of native milkweed and invasive imposter plants. We will discuss and the interesting life cycle (and likely display live examples at various stages), steps you can take to help them grow the population, and their incredible fall migration. You will even learn how to identify and collect monarch eggs and raise them through caterpillar, chrysalis, and butterfly stages with a free handy guide. Ted Kuklinski (617-332-7753) will be leading this workshop.



### Sunday, September 15, 2:00 pm

#### Riverside Trails with the Newton Conservators and Historic Newton Lasell Boathouse, 107 Charles Street, Auburndale



Explore sites of canoeing from the early 20th century and the proposed new Riverside Trail System by following some old pathways from the Lasell Boathouse to the former MDC Police Station on Commonwealth Avenue. For those interested in an optional second part, the walk continues south to Riverside Station and across I-95 to the Leo J. Martin Golf Course.

# Please Help the Monarch Butterflies

Have you seen the pea-like pods of the black-swallow-wort climbing up fences and plants all over Newton? We're asking for your help to remove them.



Why do we care so much about removing these plants?

As you probably know, the population of monarch butterflies in Massachusetts has declined significantly in the past decade. They, like bees, are important pollinators in our enverionment. Milkweeds, such as our native common milkweed, are the only plants that monarch larvae can eat, and loss of meadow habitat in the state has led to a loss of available native milkweed to feed the caterpillars.

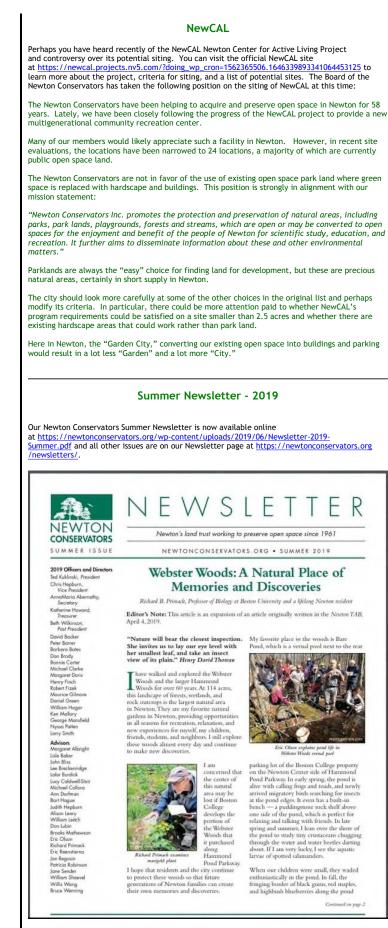
To make their situation worse, to the female monarch butterflies, black swallow-wort appears to be a fine plant on which to lay their eggs. It is in the same family as common milkweed. However, when the monarch larvae hatch, they do not recognize the plants as food, and they starve to death.

Please look for the black swallow-wort vines, and remove them, or at least their banana shaped pods. ook in your yards and the edges of fields, parks and parking lots for small purple flowers that turn to pealike pods hanging from vines with glossy leaves. Then,

dig up, pull up, cut down, or as a last resort just pull off the pods - and get the plants and pods into trash bags and dispose as trash - before the pods burst!

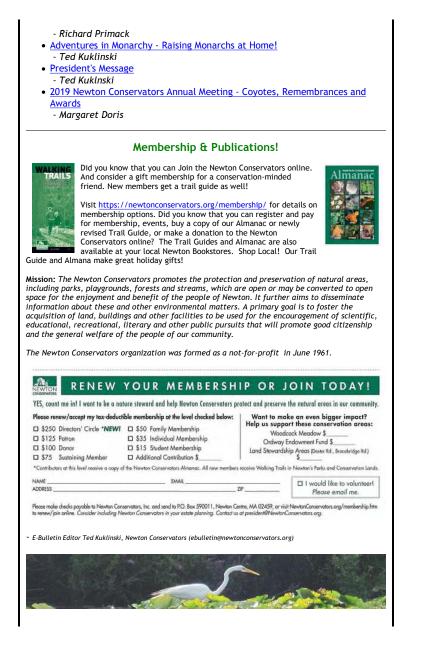
If you are interested in monarch butterflies, check out the article on raising monarch butterflies in our latest newsletter or perhaps attend one of our Farmer's Market workshops on Saturday, July 6 or Saturday, September 7 in West Newton.





Check out the following articles in this issue:

Webster Woods: A Natural Place of Memories and Discoveries



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