

FALL WALKS 2019

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/>

Please note: Walks meet at different times. Some trips are weather dependent. Please call trip leader if in doubt.
The website has more information, including maps.

Newton Conservators is a nonprofit working to protect and to preserve natural areas, such as parks, playgrounds, forests, and streams that are open or may be converted to open spaces for the benefit of the environment and the enjoyment of the citizens of Newton. It further aims to share information about these and other environmental matters. Our walks program is part of that effort — and a great way to enjoy nature with the help of knowledgeable guides. We hope that you will attend one or more of the following walks and consider becoming a member to join us in our work to preserve open space in Newton: <https://newtonconservators.org/membership>

Sunday, Sept. 15 at 2:00 pm

TOUR OF RIVERSIDE TRAILS WITH HISTORIC NEWTON

Explore sites of canoeing activity 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 (where we will look inside). For those interested, after returning to the Lasell Boathouse, the walk will continue south to Riverside Station and across I-95 to the Leo J. Martin Golf Course. This second portion of the walk lasts approximately one hour and has more challenging terrain.

Meet at the Lasell Boathouse, 107 Charles St., Auburndale.

Note: Historic Newton, our co-sponsor, suggests a \$10 donation. You may just show up on the day of the walk or register with them in advance through newtonma.gov/HNwalks.

For more information contact Historic Newton at 617-796-1450.

Saturday, Sept. 28 at 1:00 pm

CANOE AND KAYAK TRIP AT NAHANTON

This canoe/kayak trip will start in Nahanton Park. We'll paddle upstream on the Charles against the current to the far reaches of Needham, Dedham, and Wellesley. Bring your own canoe or kayak, or rent one at the canoe/kayak rental stand in Nahanton Park. The area up-stream is a region of significant beauty and almost pristine conditions. Fall is a good time to view the many turtles and other wildlife along this stretch of water. We should see numerous fish, including pickerel, bass, and carp. We also will see many birds that make their spring/summer/fall homes in this habitat. We'll pass by Powell's Island, Millennium Park, and the large Dedham Ditch, then stop for lunch on Cow Island. On the return trip, the current will help carry us back. It's an interesting trip for adults and children and usually is completed within three hours.

Trip Leaders: Bill & Dottie Hagar (617-964-2644)

Saturday, Oct. 19 at 8:00 am

FALL BIRD WALK AT COLD SPRING PARK



PHOTO: KEN MALLORY

Fall is an excellent time to look for birds. Take an easy walk on fairly flat woodland trails to look for fall migrants like warblers and vireos as well as early winter birds such as White-throated Sparrows and our resident birds such as Northern Cardinals.

Park at the Beacon St. parking lot and meet at the circle. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Beginners as well as experienced birders are welcome. Boots are recommended. If in doubt about the weather, please call.

Trip Leader: Pete Gilmore (617-610-2477)

Sunday, Oct. 20 at 2:00 pm

NEWTON AQUEDUCTS HIKE

Join a five-mile hike through woods, meadows, and fields along the Newton sections of the Sudbury and Cochituate aqueducts. This is a steady but not fast hike. Participants should be in sufficiently good shape to keep up with the group (there are cutoffs for those who wish to shorten the hike). Meet in front of the Starbucks coffee shop near the Waban MBTA station.

Trip Leader: Henry Finch (617-964-4488)

Saturday, Oct. 26, 9:00 am - noon

BEDROCK GEOLOGY OF NEWTON AND ENVIRONS

The bedrock geology of the Newton area tells a fascinating story of a time about 585 million years ago when Newton was part of the great southern continent of Gondwana and not far from the south pole. The rocks record a history of great volcanic eruptions and sedimentary basin deposits (the famous puddingstone!) in areas between the volcanoes. Join us and learn a bit about how the rocks tell us their story.

This trip will not be one of the usual Conservator "walks" since we will need to carpool to different sites in and around Newton to see the different rock types. If there is time and interest, we may choose to go a bit beyond Newton to view rocks within a volcanic caldera from that time.

Meet in the parking lot at the entrance to the Hammond Pond MDC Reservation area-east, at the west end of Hammond Pond off of Hammond Pond Parkway near Rt. 9, behind "The Street" complex — near the movie theatre (see *Newton Conservators' Walking Trail Guide*, pg. 35). We will first visit rocks in the woods near here, then carpool to the other exposures. Trip will about 3 hours. If there is moderate rain or worse, the trip will be cancelled. You can call the leader the evening before if in doubt. Most stops are close to a road, but at one stop we will walk a few hundred yards into the woods, and there is a bit of scrambling to reach the exposure.

Trip Leader: Chris Hepburn (617-964-1137)