

Wednesday, October 21

7 pm - 8:30 pm

Newton Conservators Virtual Annual Meeting

featuring

Caterpillars, the Whole Story

Sam Jaffe Founder - The Caterpillar Lab You are cordially invited to the **59th Annual Meeting of the Newton Conservators** (originally scheduled for May 6) which will be held virtually this coming **Wednesday**, **October 21**, **2020 at 7 pm**.

As is customary at our annual meeting, it will feature a financial report, the election of officers, an annual update on Conservators' activities (in pictorial form this year), and announcements of our annual awards with special guest **Mayor Ruthanne Fuller**.



We will be announcing our prestigious Environmentalist of the Year Award, which is given to the individual or group that has made the greatest contribution to the protection of Newton's

environment. In addition the Charles Maynard Johnson Award, to recognize efforts to improve biodiversity, habitat reclamation, and natural resource protection, will be announced along with several Directors' Awards to individuals who have made significant contributions to the preservation of open space in Newton.

Following this shorter than usual business meeting (about 20-25 minutes), will be a fascinating program featuring Newton's own caterpillar expert, Sam Jaffe, Director of **The Caterpillar Lab**. Sam will present "**Caterpillars: The Whole Story**," which will explore butterflies, moths, plants, parasitoids, and the many caterpillars that are positioned at the center of it all. To tell the story, Sam's multimedia presentation (with



photos and live microscope) will show a variety of caterpillars found during the seasons.



Sam is a naturalist, photographer extraordinaire, and educator who has been working with native insects since an early age. He grew up in Newton chasing birds, mucking through ponds, and turning over leaves. For the last twelve years, he has been photographing and filming caterpillars to

educate the public about these special creatures.

In 2013, he founded <u>The Caterpillar</u> <u>Lab</u>, a nonprofit educational organization based in Marlborough, NH, and he now travels across the country working with museums, nature



THE CATERPILLAR LAB

centers, schools, and individual teachers to show them the critical role of native insects in our lives. When he is not behind the camera or tending his zoo of caterpillars, you can invariably find Sam up to his waist in vegetation. To view some of Sam's amazing photographs and videos, please check out his website at <u>The</u> <u>Caterpillar Lab</u>.



This year's virtual meeting is FREE to attend and we welcome both members and non-members. Alas we can't offer the usual delicious dinner, and dress is casual for this Webinar style meeting (you won't be on-screen!), along the lines of our recent successful Fall Webinar Series. We will conduct our required members election of our officers, board,

and advisors via online polling. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions of our speaker or make comments through our moderator in this webinar format. The event is expected to finish around 8:30 pm.

Please register as soon as possible by clicking the Register button below or visit our **Event Page**. After registering you will receive a special unique Zoom link by email which will admit you to the virtual event. Please save this email so you can find it on Wednesday. We will send out another reminder before the event. Hope to see you there!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

or if the following is easier if you have to type it in: <u>https://tinyurl.com/NC-Annual-Meeting</u>

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



We would be very grateful for your continued support by joining Newton Conservators or renewing your membership. Perhaps, consider renewing at a higher level, adding an extra donation, or purchasing a gift membership for someone else who is passionate about open space.

You can renew or join the Newton Conservators online at <u>https://newtonconservators.org/renewal-2020/</u>. A link to our annual members' renewal letter outlining last year's activities can also be found at the above link.

Donations may be made at our secure

link <u>https://newtonconservators.123signup.com/donation/21167</u>. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, we also accept donations for a number of affiliated local open space groups including Friends of Webster Woods, Friends of Cold Spring Park, Friends of Houghton Garden, the Riverside Trails Working Group, a Trails Fund, and others. As part of the donation process, you can specify a group in the "Comments" section of the form. Thanks so much!

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.

- E-Bulletin Editor & President Ted Kuklinski, Newton Conservators (ebulletin@newtonconservators.org)

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