



Newton Conservators E-Bulletin

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

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



Hello Summer! Street Trees Webinar Tonight!

As Spring winds down, our Webinar Series has one event left this evening with an interesting presentation by City Forester. Marc Welch, on [Newton's Street Trees: Past, Present, and Future.](#)

Many of our past webinars are now available on our [YouTube channel](#) including Russ Cohen's session on [Nibbling on Native Plants in Your Backyard and Beyond](#) and Annise Dobson's on [Jumping Worms in Fields and Forest.](#) Also, Doug Tallamy's recent presentation on [Sustainable Landscape Design: Nature's Best Hope](#) is also available courtesy of cosponsor, Newton Free Library.

Our Invasives Removal group continues its aggressive schedule of invasive pulls with additional events through July and listed below in our [Events](#) schedule including one this Saturday at [Dolan Pond.](#)

- [Saturday, June 14, 9:30 - Noon - Knotweed Pull at Dolan Pond](#)
- [Saturday, July 9, 2022 1-3 pm, Cold Spring Park Invasives Pull](#)
- [Sunday, July 10, 2022 1-3 pm, Crystal Lake/Centre Street Invasives Pull](#)
- [Saturday, July 16, 2022 9:30 -Noon, Quinobequin/Hemlock Gorge Inv. Pull](#)
- [Sunday, July 17, 2022 1-3 pm, Quinobequin/Hemlock Gorge Invasives Pull](#)

Our [Summer 2022 Newton Conservators Newsletter](#) has been published and is online at our website with an article about the redesign of Hammond Pond Parkway and coverage of our Annual Meeting and Keynote Presentation:

- [Reinventing Hammond Pond Parkway](#)
- [Presidents' Message at Annual Meeting](#)
- [Annual Meeting 2022](#)
- [Newton: Land of the Massachusetts](#)
- [Volunteers Needed](#)

And a special welcome to our many new subscribers who learned of us at recent events! It was great to see you at our walks or some of the recent public events around Newton such as the Earth Day at Chestnut Hill, Family Funfest at City Hall, Waban Village Day, Nonantum Village Day, and this past weekend at Newton Highlands Village Day. Look for us again at the upcoming [West Newton Family Fun Day](#) at the Nathaniel Allen House on Saturday, June 25 where we will be having mini-tours of Dolan Pond (see below for full info). Check out other interesting events as well!

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

You can subscribe to this eBulletin by sending an email to ebulletin@newtonconservators.org or unsubscribe by clicking the unsubscribe link at the end of this email.

Hoping to see you out and about in Newton's green spaces!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, June 15, 2022 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

[Newton's Street Trees: Past, Present, and Future](#)

Presenter: Marc Welch, City Forester

Newton Conservators Spring Webinar Series - 2022

Sign up: <https://bit.ly/3s3DCsv>



Trees growing along the roadways of Newton have been a part of the fabric of the community for over 100 years. How did these trees get here? What is their importance? What can we expect in the future? The City's street trees provide incredible benefits to the public but also require thoughtful care, planning and perspective. We will look at how the trees and their care have evolved over the years. We also will discuss ways to ensure these trees remain assets to the community.



Street Trees in Newton

Marc Welch is the City Forester and Deputy Commissioner of the Newton Parks, Recreation & Culture Department. He is a Massachusetts Qualified Tree Warden and Massachusetts Certified Arborist. Marc is entering his twentieth year managing the City's trees. Co-sponsored by The Newton Tree Conservancy.

Saturday, June 18, 2022 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Knotweed Removal at Dolan Pond

Dolan Pond Conservation Area

near 76 Webster Park, Newton, MA

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/knotweed-pull-at-dolan-pond-4/>



We will work to control knotweed at a number of locations in this conservation area - particularly in the area near the Webster Park entrance. Bring shovels and clippers and wear long pants and garden gloves. We will have special tools for chopping down knotweed. We may also do some milkweed planting. Park on the inside of the Webster Park circle (a street of Webster Street in West Newton). Leaders are Ted Kuklinski tkuklinski@aol.com and Katherine Howard 617-721-2571.



Sunday, June 19, 12 to 4 pm

Juneteenth 2022

Newton North High School

www.forjnnhs.org/events

The 2022 Juneteenth celebration takes place at Newton North High School. Historic Newton is collaborating with the New Arts Center for a public reading of Frederick Douglass' 1852 speech about the meaning of July 4. Also learn more about the history of Juneteenth at the event. This year, Juneteenth celebrations hosted by FORJ NNHS will be at the Walnut Street side of Newton North High School. Vendors including Black-owned businesses, food trucks, performers, DJs, kids' activities, and art exhibits will make this a fantastic family day out (it's also Father's Day!



Tuesday, June 21, 2022 2 pm

Opening Reception for Flutter Butterfly Art
Newton City Hall

<https://www.newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/cultural-development/public-art-1653>

A new public art project, Flutter has landed in Newton's parks! The goal of this project is to not only enrich the community and improve our quality of life but to ignite the imagination, encourage thought, and to prompt dialogue with one another. Butterflies have lives of transformation and resilience, an appropriate reminder for us in our current climate. This whimsical addition to the City's common spaces, invites the public to see the world around us in new and unexpected ways. Flutter will remain on view from June through September in the following locations: Newton City Hall, Kennard Park, Cold Spring Park, Upper Falls Greenway, Coletti-Magni Park, and Farlow Park. There is a reception on Tuesday, June 21st at 2:00pm at Newton City Hall. Participating Flutter artists are: Howie Green, Ruth Henry, Jenn Houle, Faith Lyons, Sarah Tomkins, and Ngoc-Tran Vu. Newton Conservators did butterfly



activities at the Newton Family Fun Fest when the butterflies were being painted.



Stop by to celebrate this new temporary public art exhibition, the amazing artists who participated, and coming together in community. RSVP to let us know you're coming! This event is FREE and open to all, we ask that you register so we can ensure we have enough refreshments for everyone. This is an outdoor event and masks are optional. RSVP at at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/flutter-public-art-reception-tickets-348992655427>

Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 6:30 pm

The Bounty of the Season: A Wampanoag Dinner by Chef Pocknett
A Fundraiser for Indigenous Peoples Day Newton
Eliot Church, 474 Center Street, Newton MA 02458

Please join the Indigenous Peoples Day Newton Organizing Committee for a delicious five-course dinner by Chef Sherry Pocknett featuring local Indigenous ingredients of the late spring and early summer seasons. Chef Sherry is a member of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and the Chef Owner of Sly Fox Den catering and restaurants in Rhode Island and Connecticut. She is excited to share her Indigenous foods and history with us. \$150 per Individual, \$250 per Couple (Please contact the planning committee for information on discounted ticket prices at indigenouspeoplesdaynewton@gmail.com). For the Eventbrite link to register for the dinner click [HERE](#).



NOTE: This event previously announced has been POSTONED to a future DATE to be determined



Tuesday, June 21st, 7-8 PM
Charles River Flood Model Priority Project Solution
Charles River Watershed Association Virtual Event

Join CRWA to discuss flooding in the Charles River watershed and provide input on a creative solution Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA) and your community are exploring to manage local and regional flooding impacts! This meeting will focus on a flood storage option at Albemarle Field in Newton. Join them to learn about a solution for climate change in Newton!

[Registration link](#)



Thu-Sat, June 23-25, 2022

West Newton Festival Weekend

Newton Cultural Alliance

Nathaniel Allen House, Webster and Cherry Streets, West Newton

https://newtonculture.org/nca-news/?mc_cid=5f373f1b16&mc_eid=9b26ce7b0e

Join the Newton Cultural Alliance and our collaborative partners for the first West Newton Festival Weekend, June 23-25! to



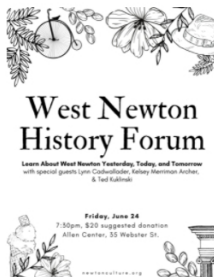
celebrate arts, culture, and

history in West Newton all weekend long. The festivities will include food, drink, live music, lawn games, guest lectures, historic tours, contests, prizes, & more.

Indoor and Outdoor events will be at the beautifully renovated historic Nathaniel Allen House. Tickets for prize drawings will be available throughout West Newton Festival Weekend at all events.

The events start on **Thursday, June 23, 5 pm to 8 pm with the 8th Annual Strawberry Festival**, a celebration of summer, community, and arts and culture in Newton. NCA invites the community to don their fancy hats and come to the grounds of the historic Nathaniel Allen House in West Newton. Celebrate summer with live music, food, drink, lawn games, and more! Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased [HERE](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/strawberry-festival-2022-tickets-358565136977).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/strawberry-festival-2022-tickets-358565136977>



On Friday, June 24, at 7:30 pm. join NCA at the Allen Center for the West Newton History Forum. Learn about the West Newton of yesterday and today with Lynn Cadwallader, Kelsey Merriman Archer, and Ted Kuklinski. Suggested donation is \$20 at the door. Ted Kuklinski will be discussing open spaces in West Newton with a focus on two hidden gems of West Newton, Dolan Pond Conservation Area and Wellington Park.

On Saturday, June 25, 12- 5 pm is the West Newton Family Fun Day. Join the Newton Cultural Alliance and their partners for free family friendly activities including lawn games, live music, prize drawings, and guided tours, Saturday, June 25 as part of the 2022 West Newton Festival Weekend. Family Fun Day Historic Tours include:zzz

- **Allen Center:** 1:00-4:00pm tours and exhibit An Uncommon Education: The Allen School presented in collaboration with Historic Newton.
- **West Parish Burial Ground:** 1:00-2:30pm tours. Registration is full. Join us for other Family Fun Day activities!
- **Dolan Pond:** 1:00pm and 3:00pm tour start times. Meet on the Allen Center lawn.



- **Wellington Park:** 2:00pm and 4:00pm tour start times. Meet on the Allen Center lawn.

The festivities will include food, drink, live music, lawn games, guest lectures, historic tours, contests, prizes, & more. Here are details on the Dolan Pond and Wellington Park tours:

Saturday, June 25, 1 pm & 3 pm

Dolan Pond Mini Nature Tour to Dolan Pond

Take a short and architecturally interesting three block route from the Allen Center to the nature rich Dolan Pond Conservation Area, featuring accessible trails, a boardwalk and four vernal ponds, which is home to nesting wood ducks, mallards, herons, woodpeckers, vireos, orioles, owls, turtles, frogs, toads, muskrats, fox, and lots more. We'll look for ducklings, listen for birds, and visit the newly planted pollinator gardens. Discover West Newton's hidden gem for yourself!



Saturday, June 25, 2 pm & 4 pm

Wellington Park Butterfly Mini Garden Tour

Take a short 5-minute walk from the Allen Center to the delightful two-acre Wellington Park, dating back to 1932, featuring amenities for all ages - beautiful gardens, open fields, walking path with benches, play structure, basketball and tennis courts, a Little Library, and more. We'll visit the Butterfly Gardens and Monarch Waystation there to see many native pollinator plants including three types of milkweed, on which we'll look for Monarch eggs and tiny striped caterpillars as well as other pollinators.



Saturday, July 9, 2022 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Cold Spring Park Invasives Pull

Cold Spring Park Beacon Street trailhead

1200 Beacon Street, Waban, MA

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/cold-spring-park-invasives-pull-12/>

Cold Spring 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. Leaders are Alan Nogee, 617-564-1664 and Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.

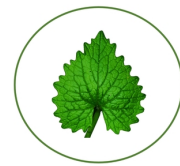


Sunday, July 10, 2022 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Crystal Lake/Centre Street Invasives Pull Centre St near 1429 Centre St, Newton MA

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/crystal-lake-centre-street-invasives-pull-2/>

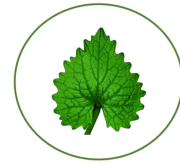
We will work at the city's small pocket park along Centre St just outside of Newton Center, next to the house at 1429 Centre St. Wear long pants and garden gloves. Some tools and gloves are available but bring your own digging tool and loppers if you can. Leader is Katherine Howard, 617 721 2571.



Saturday, July 16, 2022 9:30 am - 12:00 pm Quinobequin/Hemlock Gorge Invasives Pull Hemlock Gorge Ellis Street lot 2 Ellis Street, Newton, MA

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/quinobequin-hemlock-gorge-invasives-pull-8/>

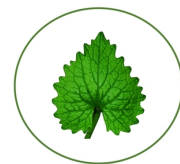
We will control garlic mustard, knotweed, and black swallow-wort infestations inside beautiful Hemlock Gorge, and the adjoining walking trail along the Charles River at Quinobequin Rd. Help keep the invaders out of these beautiful parks! Wear long pants and garden gloves. Trash bags will be provided;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



Sunday, July 17, 2022 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Quinobequin/Hemlock Gorge Invasives Pull Hemlock Gorge Ellis Street lot 2 Ellis Street, Newton, MA

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/quinobequin-hemlock-gorge-invasives-pull-9/>

We will control garlic mustard, knotweed, and black swallow-wort infestations inside beautiful Hemlock Gorge, 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. Leaders are Jerry Reilly and Katherine Howard, 617-721-2571.



Recent Webinar Videos of Interest

Check out our YouTube video channel at www.tinyurl.com/videoconservators for

a large collection of our own videos on many nature related topics!

[Nibbling on Native Plants in your Backyard and Beyond](#)

Russ Cohen - Expert Forager

Presented on Wednesday, April 6, 2022

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4iqw6fi6okY>

A webinar with Russ Cohen, expert forager and author of *Wild Plants I have Known... and Eaten*, features at least two dozen species of native edible wild plants suitable for adding to your own landscape, or nibbling on as you encounter them in other locales. Keys to the identification of each species are provided, along with edible portions, seasons of availability and preparation methods, and guidelines for safe and environmentally responsible foraging. Since his retirement as the Rivers Advocate for the Mass. Dept. of Fish and Game's Division of Ecological Restoration, Russ has more time to pursue his avocation, which is connecting to nature via his taste buds – and assisting others in doing the same. He has set up a small nursery in Weston where he grows over 1,000 plants that he propagates from seed.



[Jumping Worms in Field and Forest](#)

Dr. Annise Dobson, Yale School of the Environment

Newton Conservators Spring Webinar Series - 2022

Presented on Wednesday, April 20, 2022

<https://youtu.be/m4gBYXtEUJY>

Nearly all earthworms in New England are introduced from Europe and Asia. While some species of earthworms benefit some species of plants, invasive earthworms have caused major shifts in North American plant communities. Jumping worms alter the structure and chemistry of the soil dramatically, leaving a grainy soil full of worm excrement (castings), and they can damage lawns, landscapes and forest habitat. This talk will presented the impacts and history of earthworms (and jumping worms in particular) and provided information on identification of jumping worms. It was presented by Dr. Annise Dobson, a postdoctoral researcher at the Yale School of the Environment. Currently, she is working to identify the movement of jumping worms through New York City and assessing their impacts on urban plant communities. Check out this and other of our webinars on our YouTube channel at www.tinyurl.com/videoconservators



[Sustainable Landscape Designs: Nature's Best Hope](#)

Virtual Lecture

Professor Doug Tallamy, University of Delaware

Presented on Thursday, May 26, 2022

us02web.zoom.us/j/70t32Lae40ltffbYDhJvEOolWkDp0-vLhdfojKDM1kJSxTGyqmSpvbDe5rDpoXp.vYbK9g7iWSY6O46V

Renowned expert Doug Tallamy reveals how ineffective our current landscape designs have been at preserving the plants and animals that sustain us. Recent headlines about global insect declines and three billion fewer birds in North America are a bleak reality check and a wakeup call for homeowners to create landscapes that enhance local ecosystems rather than degrade them. Learn how native plant communities that sustain food webs, sequester carbon, maintain diverse native bee communities and manage our watersheds, can empower everyone to play a significant role in the future of the natural world. Doug Tallamy is the T. A. Baker Professor of Agriculture in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, where he has authored 106 research publications and has taught insect related courses for 41 years. He is the author of several books, including his most recent, *The Nature of Oaks*. In 2021 he co-founded Homegrown National Park with Michelle Alfandari, a 20 million acre network of viable habitats that will provide vital corridors connecting the few natural areas that remain. This program was part of the Green Newton series and was cosponsored by Newton Free Library, Green Newton, Newton Conservators, and Newton Tree Conservancy.



Help Wanted - Be a Newton Conservators Volunteer!

Newton Conservators is an all-volunteer organization and we accomplish a great deal with the assistance of individual volunteers. Volunteering with us can take many forms. You are probably familiar with our extensive schedule of Invasive Removal projects for instance under Katherine Howard's guidance (see our schedule above for those events.) However, we have many other needs throughout the year. Perhaps you are a whiz at social media or video production or might like something physical like trail maintenance? Or perhaps you would like talking to folks at some of our Community Outreach events (e.g. Village Days, etc.) , or writing or editing articles for our newsletter or other publications, or leading a walk or online webinar (or helping arrange them). We would love to hear from you.



Visit <https://newtonconservators.org/volunteer/> or send an email to president@newtonconservators.org/

Arful Pianos Around Newton

If you happen to see one of the nine pianos in Newton's villages and green spaces, sit down and play a tune. Newton Community Pride along with local artists have teamed up to place these decorative pianos throughout the city for all to enjoy. These pianos act as a centerpiece of music, community, and art during the summer. The goal of this project is to create an interactive experience for the public to connect with their creativity and each other.



The artful pianos are out and about across the city for all to enjoy and play. Stop by between now and Labor Day weekend to make music on one of these vibrantly painted pianos, or just pause to admire the art. If you'd like to plan an event at a piano, email Lisa Rucinski,



lrucinski@newtonma.gov. Here is where you can find the pianos:

1. **Entrance to the Upper Falls Greenway
(next to the now-closed Depot Café)**
2. **Coletti-Magni Park on Watertown St. in Nonantum**
3. **City Hall grounds (Homer Street side near War Memorial steps)**
4. **Auburndale Library front lawn**
5. **Newton Centre Green**
6. **Newton Highlands
at the Lincoln Street entrance to Hyde Community Center / playground**
7. **Waban Library front patio**
8. **Captain Ryan Park, next to the police station in West Newton**
9. **Farlow Park in Newton Corner, near Eldridge St.**

The City Hall Piano is cared for by a group of "Piano Pals" from Newton Conservators and the Newton Pollinator Group (Eric Bender, Cindy Callaway, Mark Feldhusen, Ted Kuklinski, and Jared Tausig). Also check out this NewTV story about the Artful Pianos project:

<https://newtv.org/newto-news/6952-newton-artful-pianos>

Newton Conservators Newsletter

Our Summer 2022 Newsletter is now available at <https://newtonconservators.org/newsletters>.



NEWSLETTER

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

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Reinventing Hammond Pond Parkway

The reconfiguration of Hammond Pond Parkway between Beacon Street and Route 9 is now closer to becoming reality having recently been approved by The City of Newton Conservation Commission. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) owns the parkway, and therefore is responsible for the design, permitting, and construction of the project.

Turning the Parkway into a Destination

Few pedestrians and bicyclists currently use the parkway because it is unfriendly, uninviting, and somewhat dangerous with no space designated for pedestrians or bikers and two narrow lanes of automobile traffic in each direction. Pedestrians trying to cross Hammond Pond Parkway face a daunting task crossing four lanes of traffic moving fast, particularly during peak traffic hours. In contrast, the woods on either side of the roadway are quite popular with walkers and joggers from all parts of the city and beyond. The trails



Hammond Pond Parkway looking north toward Beacon Street.



Pull-off areas used by visitors to explore the adjacent woods.

provide inviting spaces to enjoy nature and exercise away from vehicular traffic. A goal of this redesign is to welcome pedestrian and bike traffic to the parkway and integrate it more with the adjoining public open spaces as the parkway becomes safer and more inviting.

Peter Reed of Build, Support, and Protect Group (BSC) asked attendees at a public meeting in January 2021 to "imagine what this [will] be. We [will] turn this into a destination." DCR's Dan Driscoll said that it's their aim to create a "family friendly facility" that is also environmentally sensitive.

The Project

This roughly one-mile stretch of road will become significantly more environmentally and pedestrian / biker friendly as the roadway is reduced from four lanes to two and a shared use 12-foot-wide pedestrian / bike pathway is added to the west side (closer to Newton

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The Summer 2022 [Full Issue](#) contains the following interesting articles and features:

- [Reinventing Hammond Pond Parkway](#)
- [Presidents' Message at Annual Meeting](#)
- [Annual Meeting 2022](#)
- [Newton: Land of the Massachusett](#)
- [Volunteers Needed](#)

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW YOUR NEWTON CONSERVATORS 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 <https://newtonconservators.org/renewal-2020/>. 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 securely via our website at <https://newtonconservators.org/ways-to-give/>. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, we also accept donations for a number of affiliated local open space groups including Friends of Webster Woods, Friends of Houghton Garden, the Riverside Trails Working Group, Trails Fund, and others. As part of the donation process, you can specify specific funds. 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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E-Bulletin June 15, 2022 - Webinar Tonight on Street Trees!

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