



NEWTON
CONSERVATORS

SUMMER ISSUE

NEWSLETTER

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

NEWTONCONSERVATORS.ORG • SUMMER 2022

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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



PHOTO: RICHARD PRIMACK

Hammond Pond Parkway looking north toward Beacon Street.



PHOTO: RICHARD PRIMACK

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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Center) of the new roadway layout. The eastern side of the road will have a four-foot-wide gravel walkway adjacent to it. The pathway will also be separated from the roadway with a planting area that acts as a visual screen to soften the impact of the adjacent road as well as a safety buffer between the bikers and pedestrians and the cars on the road. More importantly though, this buffer acts as a drainage retention area for runoff from the pathway, infiltrating rainwater back into the ground and recharging the aquifer below.



Elevation of proposed redesign looking north.

The parkway will remain open during the two years it is expected to take to build the new design. Construction is expected to begin in late 2023.

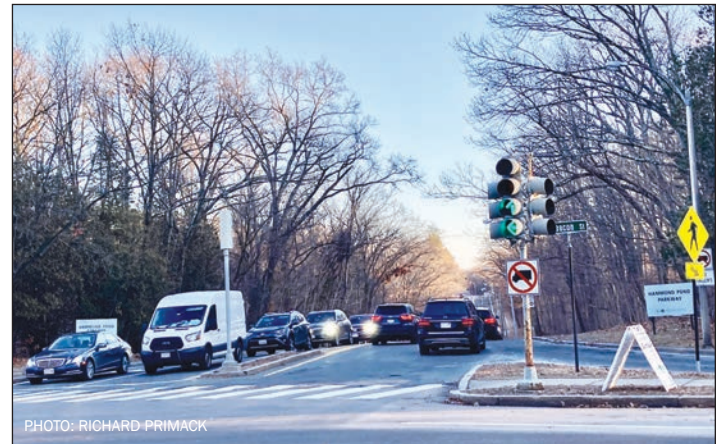
Project Details



Hammond Pond Parkway looking south from Beacon Street.

The cost of the project was estimated at \$6.5 million at the beginning of this year and is included in DCR's five-year budget plan. The current plan is a culmination of initial design by DCR, which is responsible for the parkway, and the BSC Group, a private design firm. In addition, public input was incorporated through a public meeting on

January 21, 2021, as well as multiple opportunities for online public comment and input from Mayor Fuller and the Newton City Council. This is the first significant change in Hammond Pond Parkway since it was initially constructed in 1934.



Crosswalks that will become more pedestrian friendly at the Beacon Street Intersection.

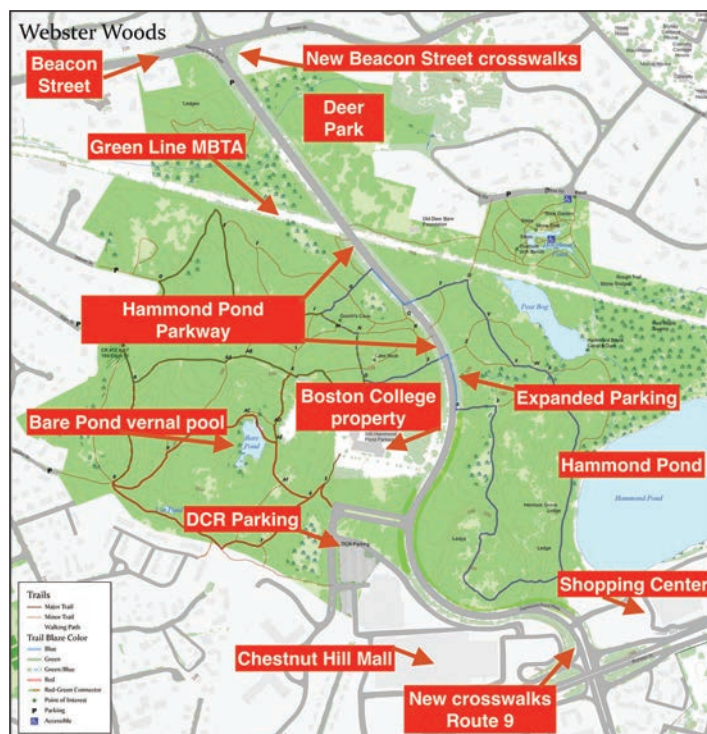
Crosswalks

The renovation requires a major redesign of the Beacon Street intersection where crosswalks will be revamped for increased safety, but little would change at the Route 9 intersection. Three new crosswalks will also be installed: one at the parking lot entrance to The Street mall just before the parkway intersection with Route 9; another will be at the entrance road to the Chestnut Hill Mall, and a third will be near the Boston College property. Four crosswalks versus the one currently in place at Beacon Street will greatly increase the ease and safety of crossing to/from Webster and Hammond Woods as well as giving easier bike and pedestrian commuter access to the two malls.

Parking

For safety reasons, parking along the roadway will no longer be allowed except in one designated area diagonally across from the former temple (now BC property). Lack of a clear line of site is a primary concern, as most of the roadway does not have a long enough distance for neither drivers to be able to see cars pulling off the side of the road, nor are those pulling out from a parked position able to see oncoming cars with enough time to avoid accidents. As more bikers, joggers, and walkers are attracted to the area with the redesign, everyone's safety becomes even more of a concern. To ensure that people do not park along the side of the road, granite curbing will be installed for the entire length of the renovated area.

Parking on the east side of the parkway opposite the Boston College property will be expanded and improved. In addition, DCR plans to use its parking lot adjacent to the Chestnut Hill Mall. This parking lot is located along the mall and Chestnut Hill Tower access road and includes the first group of spaces on the left as one drives in from the parkway. The lot looks like it is part of the Chestnut Hill Mall, but it is actually owned by DCR. (Currently, there is a clothing donation box on two of the DCR spaces.)



The Environment

DCR filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the Newton Conservation Commission (Newton Con Comm) in order to ensure that their design complied with the state Wetland Protection Act (WPA). The Newton Con Comm worked closely with DCR and their consultants as the commission reviewed the plans and modifications made at three separate hearings over the course of two months. The resulting design is significantly more environmentally friendly than the current layout. Not only is there substantially less asphalt, but also the drainage has been designed with deep sumps and subsurface chambers to catch road salts, other solids, and oils so they will no longer flow directly into the adjacent streams or nearby wetlands as they currently do. Oils and salt from roads are known to harm water quality. Existing drainage today is directed to the side of the road or directly into adjacent streams without any pretreatment.

In addition to pretreating the drainage at all locations along the new road before it is released along the side of the road,



the rate of flow of drainage water was reduced with bigger stone areas at headwalls of drain lines, thereby increasing water absorption and slowing the flow of the drain water so it does not scour the soil creating ravines with soil runoff that otherwise would have entered nearby Hammond Brook. Drainage structures were also relocated to preserve more trees in the conservation areas next to the road and path.

The new 15-foot-wide planted strip between the pathway and the road will capture stormwater runoff from the pathway, trap nutrients and sediment, and allow rainwater to infiltrate into the ground and recharge the aquifer below. The planting plan for the new vegetated strip between the roadway and the shared-use path was optimized for native habitat, stormwater treatment, and public safety. While the pathway will be lit, the fixtures will point downward and will focus the light on the pathway, keeping light in the areas where needed for safety and minimizing spill over into adjacent wetlands, vernal pool and habitat. As part of construction, DCR will also remove invasive plants around the new drainage they build, particularly around wetland buffers and drainage near Hammond Brook.

This roadway redesign is a great example of making our public spaces safer and more inviting, while at the same time making them more environmentally friendly. As City of Newton Chief Environmental Planner, Jennifer Steel said, "It was wonderful to work closely with DCR on this project, which will encourage people to engage in alternative transit, provide greatly expanded safe access to the City's Webster Conservation Area/Webster Woods and DCR's Hammond Pond Reservation for healthy outdoor recreation, and enhance water quality and wildlife habitat. This project truly is a win-win-win." ♦

— Daniel Green, *Newton Conservators' Board Member and Newton Conservation Commission Chair*



Presidents' Message at the Annual Meeting



Co-President Bill Hagar presented the following report.



We are finally breaking out of the changing patterns of winter-spring weather into a more consistent growing time of year. We are pleased to have the opportunity to honor our awardees and learn about both our region's history and its future from two representatives of the Massachusetts Tribe at Ponkapoag, whose ancestors lived here for thousands of years before European settlers gave Newton its current name.

This past year, Newton Conservators worked hard to keep our environmental goals intact while developing plans for the future. We thank our member volunteers, board of directors, and advisors for all the hours they invested in preserving and protecting our open spaces and educating people about them.

Our "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice" team has been dedicated to making our open spaces and organization open and welcoming to all and worked on updating our mission, values, and goals. They have been sharing experiences with like-minded organizations in the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition.



Barbara Bates shares nature with a young naturalist.



Children on a nature walk at Dolan Pond watch an approaching duck.



Children express excitement at something they see at a Dolan Pond nature walk.

Despite the pandemic, Newton Conservators continued to encourage nature-oriented activities in Newton's open spaces. Our successful and well attended Fall Walk Series included weekend events at Dolan Pond, Houghton Garden, the Charles River, Cold Spring Park, the Aqueducts, and Webster Woods. This spring, walk leaders Barbara Bates and Samantha Corbin designed walks with experiential games and activities to engage kids and their parents. Recent walks have explored the fauna and flora of Webster Woods, Dolan Pond, and Riverside Park. At Bare Pond, Newton's largest vernal pool, kids learned how animals use camouflage, saw and heard wood frogs, and examined pond creatures under field microscopes.



Webinar presenter Pete Gilmore talked about warblers in Cold Spring Park in May.

Our popular Spring and Fall Webinar Series on Wednesday evenings covered such topics as Cold Spring Park, vernal pools, birding, owls, salamanders, planting for pollinators, and "Nibbling on Native Plants." We continue making these webinars available at no charge and post them on our YouTube channel for those who cannot attend "live."

In addition to continuing support for the popular Environmental Science Program for teens, our Grants Committee also supported the pollinator garden at City Hall and an Eagle Scout in creating an orienteering course at Kennard Park.



PHOTO: TED KUKLINSKI

An invasive plant team shows what they gathered around Dolan Pond.

to native plants for gardens, installed a demonstration Pollinator Garden at City Hall, supported Story Walks on pollinators and “their” plants at parks throughout the city, held our first MonarchFest, and provided several newsletter articles and webinars on the benefits of native species.

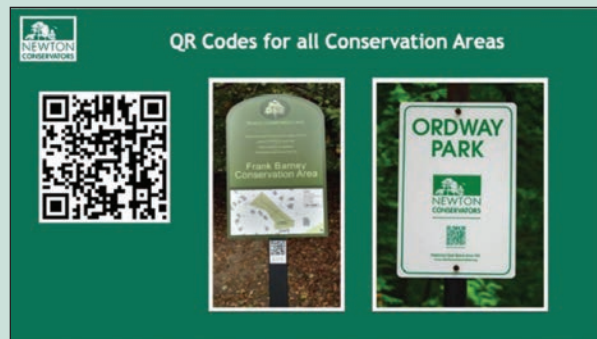
We continue to work to limit the spread of invasive species and encourage native ones. Bolstered by added trained volunteers, our invasives team managed an aggressive schedule of public invasives removal events for NewtonSERVES with other local scout and church groups and built a new reference section on our website for identifying invasive flora and fauna. As an active partner in a new city Pollinator Working



PHOTO: MARGARET MALLORY

One of the Monarchs on display at the Monarch Fest.

Group, we also added to our website a “Pollinator Toolkit” guide



Our expanded website, newtonconservators.org, has become the go-to resource for map, trail, and background information on our local open spaces, current nature-related events, historical information, and much more. Our published Trail Guide is widely used in search of new and interesting places to explore outdoors. The next edition of the Trail Guide, now in development, will include updated maps aligned with the City’s computerized Geographic Information System, add QR codes, and include new open spaces! Our printed quarterly newsletter continues to teem with informative articles by local experts.

We continue to support the owners of permanently protected conservation land by holding and monitoring Conservation Restrictions (CRs), to guard against problems such as encroachment and dumping. Newton Conservators currently holds CRs on eight city-owned properties and one private property. Additional CRs on Kessler Woods and Webster Woods are in process with the City Law Department, with another planned for Nahanton Park. Our volunteer teams visit these sites annually and report back to the landowners about current conditions and recommended maintenance or enforcement actions.



PHOTO: KEN MALLORY

The Pony Truss Bridge at the Riverside Greenway.

Pedestrian and bicycle paths help to knit Newton’s open spaces and parks into citywide and regional networks. We are proud to partner with the Riverside Greenway Working Group (RGWG), the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), and the City of Newton in developing new — and in some cases restoring old — trail connections along the Charles River.

In June, we celebrated the grand opening of the beautifully restored Pony Truss Bridge and Trail. As part of their special permit for a mixed-use development at the current Riverside MBTA station, Mark Development has agreed to provide

\$3 million towards portions of the Riverside Greenway. We have also supported many other DCR projects, including the proposed Commonwealth Ave roundabout and carriage lane proposals near the Marriott (on

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the former site of Norumbega Park), a trail along Quinobequin Road, and the pedestrian- and bike-friendly redesign of Hammond Pond Parkway. (see lead article by Dan Green).



Dredging at Houghton Pond.

We worked closely with the Chestnut Hill Association and Conservation Commission to support a major project at historic Houghton Garden in Chestnut Hill, which included hydro-raking, vegetation clearing along the stream, new accessible paths, and planting restoration. We continued planting to restore our Dexter Woods hillside property in Newtonville and have improved plant and trail maintenance in our lovely Ordway Park in Newton Centre.

Our finances are strong. Financial statements have been sent to all board members and show an impressive base for future endeavors. You can learn more on our website at <https://newtonconservators.org/financial-and-related-reports/>.

Hopefully, this brief discussion of Conservators' activities over the past year will set the stage for others to join us and help protect and enjoy our environmental blessings. As Rachel Carson reminded us: *"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts."*

Bill Hagar Chris Hepburn

Bill Hagar and Chris Hepburn
Co-Presidents, Newton Conservators

MISSION

Newton Conservators, Inc.

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.

The Newton Conservators was formed as a not-for-profit organization 61 years ago in June 1961.

The Newton Conservators' Newsletter® is published four times each year by the Newton Conservators, Inc., in June, September, December, and March. Deadlines for these issues are the second Friday of the month before the issue is published.

We welcome material related to our mission from any source. Send proposed articles or letters by email in MS Word or rich text format to articles@newtonconservators.org. Digitized photographs, maps, and diagrams are also welcome.

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Thanks to the following contributors to this edition of the Newsletter: Daniel Green, Ken Mallory, Alice Ingerson, Bill Hagar, and Chris Hepburn.

Annual Meeting 2022



**NEWTON
CONSERVATORS**

**Working to preserve
open space in Newton
since 1961**

NewtonConservators.org

Welcome!

61st Annual Meeting

May 4, 2022

Newton Conservators' Co-President Chris Hepburn introduced the 61st annual meeting by acknowledging that Newton and the open spaces that we promote and steward are located on the historical current and unceded territories of the Massachusett. "We acknowledge that the Massachusett people's stewardship of this land kept its ecological communities vibrant, strong, and interconnected for thousands of years. Newton Conservators hopes to build authentic relationships with the Massachusett, and we recognize that there is much work to be done. Our simple land acknowledgment is only our imperfect first step."

The annual meeting was held online because of the persistence of Covid cases in our area.

Chris thanked our annual meeting sponsors for their generous support of this event. These include Paddle Boston, Lalor and Patricia Burdick, Crystal Lake Conservancy, the Village Bank, and Lucy Caldwell-Stair.



Mayor Ruthanne Fuller was the first speaker, remarking on the extraordinary group of awardees and thanking the leadership of the Conservators for all their good work. "Preserving, protecting, and increasing the amount of open space is vital to Newton's future," she said "and it was a pleasure working with so many of you." She also acknowledged the keynote speakers for the evening,

Sagamore Faries Gray and Tribal Elder Elizabeth Solomon of the Massachusett tribe at Ponkapoag, saying "it is a thing of beauty that you are here for us to learn from. You and your tribe have done so much to be stewards of this land, and I know we still have so much to learn from you."

NOMINATING COMMITTEE



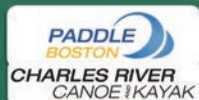
Nominating committee chair, Pete Gilmore, presented the slate of officers and directors, and it was voted on and elected by the membership. Pete said that Chris Hepburn and William Hagar will continue as Co-Presidents, Alice Ingerson will continue as Vice President, Michael Clarke as Secretary, Katherine Howard as Treasurer, and Ted Kuklinski as our Past President. The Board of Directors consists of David Backer, Peter Barrer, Barbara Bates, Dan Brody,

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Annual Meeting Sponsors

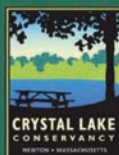
*Thanks very much to our friends for their
generous and continuing support!*



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Crystal Lake Conservancy
The Village Bank



Newton Community Farm Harvester
Lucy Caldwell-Stair



Bonnie Carter, Samantha Corbin, Margaret Doris, Henry Finch, Pete Gilmore, Dan Green, Ken Mallory, George Mansfield, Nyssa Patten, Larry Smith, and Beth Wilkinson.

2022 NEWTON CONSERVATORS' AWARDS

Environmentalist of the Year



The Environmentalist of the Year Award, first presented in 1981, goes to the individual or group that has made the greatest contribution to the protection of Newton's environment. The award this year goes to **Ted Chapman**. As described by Conservator Co-President Bill Hagar, "Ted has been a force in environmental advocacy for the past two decades..."

Ted deserves this award for his energetic and productive advocacy for open space, including improved pedestrian and bicycle connections both within Newton and between Newton and its neighbors, and for his helpfulness to secure the Newton Community Farm for the City and to create the Riverside Greenway connection plan."

Charles Johnson Maynard Award



The Charles Johnson Maynard Award is given each year to recognize efforts "to improve biodiversity, habitat reclamation, and natural resource protection." Charles Johnson Maynard was a well-known naturalist, ornithologist, author, and publisher who was born and lived in

Newton from 1845 until his death in 1929. The 2022 award was presented by Conservator Co-President Chris Hepburn to **Jonathan Regosin** "for his expertise and years long work protecting endangered and threatened species of plants and animals and his leadership in conserving, enhancing, and rehabilitating wildlife habitat in Newton and throughout Massachusetts.

Jon has been instrumental in recent work to reclaim Woodcock Meadow at Nahanton Park as a grassland habitat for breeding woodcocks. He also leads educational nature walks, particularly to our vernal pool areas. Jon played an important role in the acquisition of the Angino Farm in

Newton and is an advisor to and a past board member of the Conservators."

Directors' Award



The Directors' Award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the preservation of open space in Newton. This year's award presented by past Newton Conservators' President Ted Kuklinski went to **Claire Rundelli**, Newton's Assistant Environmental Planner. Claire

is recognized for diligently supporting the work of the Conservation Commission, administering the volunteer Stewards Program for our conservation areas, and helping prepare Newton's Open Space and Recreation Plan. She is also recognized for shepherding Conservation Restrictions through the government process and supporting the Newton Conservators' CR monitoring and invasive removal efforts.

Lifetime Achievement Award



This award was presented by past Newton Conservators' President Beth Wilkinson to recognize **AnnaMaria Abernathy** for her leadership of Newton Conservators from the late 1960s through 2021 and her invaluable work in preserving and maintaining open space in Newton. AnnaMaria was also recognized for her success in preserving 13 acres of the

Norumbega Park Conservation Area and working to develop guidelines that strengthened the environmental mission of the Parks and Recreation Commission and set standards for land acquisition. As a result of that work, she received both the League of Women Voters' Jane Leighton Award and the Newton Conservators' Environmentalist of the Year award (for land-use activism in 1993). As noted by Beth, "everyone who enjoys the parks and conservation areas in Newton owes a debt of gratitude to AnnaMaria for her work to conserve them." ♦

Ken Mallory

Newton: Land of the Massachusetts

The keynote speakers at the annual meeting were two distinguished representatives of the Massachusetts Tribe at Ponkapoag: Sagamore Faries Gray and Tribal Elder Elizabeth Solomon.

Gray explained that his title of Sagamore can be translated as “war chief”, but that he is also one of the tribe’s historians. His primary responsibility today is protecting the tribe’s traditional lands, which range from the North to South Shores and inland around greater Boston. This is extremely challenging, as the past 400 years of history have systematically deprived the Massachusetts of their former rights in these lands and their resources.



Sagamore Faries Gray

Gray explained that indigenous people in coastal New England had interacted extensively with European explorers and traders for a century or more before European colonization began. The early explorers described the Massachusetts lands as a “paradise,” with “vast” planting fields, lush orchards, abundant fish and game, and trees big enough to be turned into *mishoons*, dugout canoes that could hold up to 100 people. The Massachusetts moved seasonally to manage all these resources sustainably, living inland in winter and along the coast in the summer. In the spring, as they moved from their winter sites toward their coastal planting fields and shellfish beds, they built weirs along the waterways to catch migrating herring and other fish.

In contrast to the French, who were mostly interested in trading for furs in areas well north of what became Boston, the English were interested in the land around what is now Massachusetts Bay, with a devastating impact on the Massachusetts themselves. By the time of the English landing in 1620 at what is now Plymouth, almost 90% of the indigenous population had died from introduced European diseases. In the succeeding decades, the English pursued control of the land ever more aggressively, including in the area controlled by the Massachusetts Sachem Chickataubut, which included the land that became Newton. By the 1640s, the English had excluded the Massachusetts from all their traditional summer coastal resources. By the late 1600s, the Massachusetts no longer had access to even their traditional inland winter resources. Most had been forcibly relocated to



new “praying towns” recognized by the colonial governments, where indigenous languages and spiritual practices were forbidden. The original Massachusetts residents of what is now Newton were “removed” to Natick.

Solomon focused on the different “ways of being in the world” of indigenous people and of Europeans, whose culture has become dominant in much of the world, and the implications of those differences for relationships between nature and people. She explained that

a fundamental separation between people and nature is basic to the European worldview — people are *outside* of nature, whether they want to own and exploit nature or want instead to protect nature. During the question-and-answer period,



Tribal Elder Elizabeth Solomon

Gray shared a recent experience illustrating this separation: during the Covid pandemic, he hoped to gather and share traditional medicinal plants with people, at no charge. But he could not access these plants easily because they were growing in a publicly owned conservation area.

In contrast, Solomon described the indigenous worldview of people as living in a reciprocal relationship *with* nature. Rather than force people to choose between exploiting and saving nature, this way of being allows for people to sustain themselves in ways that help all of nature sustain itself. Even the European concept of “stewardship” often sees nature as static spaces, set aside for human recreation and protected from the larger changes happening in the world around them. An indigenous approach might instead see conservation as creating and sustaining “a right relationship with the land” *throughout* larger, regional landscapes. ♦

— Alice Ingerson, Vice-President, Newton Conservators

For additional references for this article, see the Newton Conservators’ website under the article entitled *Newton: Land of the Massachusetts*. Additional Resources listed below:
Massachusetts Tribe at Ponkapoag, <https://massachusettstribe.org/>
Newton’s Indigenous Peoples Day organizing committee, <http://www.indigenouspeoplesdayma.org/newton/>
Historic Newton/Natick Historical Society online exhibit, “I Heard That Word...” A Closer Look at Indigenous Experiences in Early Newton & Natick, linked to www.newtonma.gov/OnlineExhibits

Get Involved with the Conservators - Volunteers Needed

The Newton Conservators needs member volunteers to help with various events this fall such as staffing tables at Newton's Village Days, the Harvest Fest, and others. These are fun events that give participants an opportunity to work with board members to learn more about Conservators' activities and to meet and distribute information about them to your neighbors. If you are willing to volunteer for a couple of hours at such events, it would be most appreciated. Please send an email to: president@newtonconservators.org and someone will contact you. Additional volunteer opportunities are listed on our website.

Thank you.

Support the Newton Conservators through your IRA

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Individuals 70½ and older can make a tax-free gift to the Newton Conservators directly from their IRA. Please consider a gift to the Conservators from your 2022 IRA distributions. The benefits to you include the reduction in income subject to tax, even if you don't itemize, and the amount donated counts toward the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

The benefits to the Conservators are immense and allow for us to continue to help preserve open space in Newton. Ask your IRA holder for a simple transfer letter or form. The Newton Conservators is a recognized 501(c)(3) organization.

— Thank you.

Newton Conservators, P.O. Box 590011, Newton, MA 02459



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR JOIN TODAY!

YES, count me in! I want to be a nature steward and help Newton Conservators protect and preserve the natural areas in our community.

Please renew/accept my tax-deductible membership at the level checked below:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Directors' Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Family Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 Patron | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Individual Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Donor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Student Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Sustaining Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Contribution \$_____ |

**Want to make an even bigger impact?
Help us support these special funds:**

Woodcock Meadow \$_____ Trails Fund \$_____
Ordway Endowment Fund \$_____
Land Stewardship Areas (Dexter Rd., Bracebridge Rd.) \$_____ Other \$_____

Memberships run for the calendar year. All new members receive *Walking Trails in Newton's Parks and Conservation Lands*.

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

☐ I would like to volunteer!
Please email me.

Please make checks payable to Newton Conservators, Inc. and send to P.O. Box 590011, Newton Centre, MA 02459, or visit newtonconservators.org/membership/ to renew or join online. Consider including Newton Conservators in your estate planning. Contact us at president@NewtonConservators.org.

Do You Use Amazon for Purchases for your Home or Business?



As explained in past newsletters, Amazon Smile is a program through which Amazon donates 0.5% of most purchases (yes, \$5 of every \$1000) to a nonprofit (501c3) organization of your choice (the Newton Conservators, we hope!).

How does one use Amazon Smile? Instead of going to Amazon.com, you go to Smile.amazon.com. On your first visit, you will be asked to choose a nonprofit organization to receive the bonus donation. Enter "Newton Conservators," and you are ready to go. The rest of your shopping proceeds exactly the same as if you had logged in to Amazon.com initially.

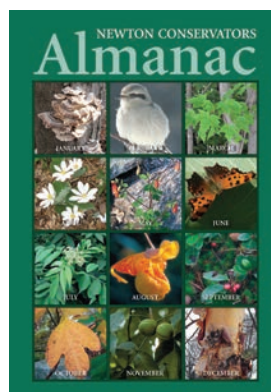
Even with relatively few members using the program so far, the rewards have grown. For the first quarter we participated in 2014, we received \$22.32. In 2018, we received \$171.04, and it has now grown to \$100 per quarter.

If you have any further questions about the program, check the FAQ page: <http://smile.amazon.com/about>.

Summer's here. Take a walk!

*Shop online at newtonconservators.org/publications/ to purchase Newton Conservators' publications. The *Almanac* is \$19.95 + shipping, and the *Trail Guide* is \$8.95 + shipping.*

- Members receive a discount from these prices when purchasing online.
- New members receive a trail guide free with their first membership.





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NEWSLETTER

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

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Female Black and White Warbler
photo by Haynes Miller

Go Green! ...and all the other colors of the rainbow. You can view this newsletter at newtonconservators.org/newsletters. To elect not to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, email us at membership@newtonconservators.org.