

Newton Conservators E-Bulletin

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

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



This Week:

Buried Streams, Crystal Lake, Monarchs, a Village Fair

Tonight (9/14), be sure to check out our first Fall webinar on Newton's Buried Streams online from 7 to 8:30 pm featuring Newton's Chief Environmental Planner, Jennifer Steel. Find out the answer to such questions as "Where does Cheesecake Brook come from?" Register online this afternoon for this FREE Zoom webinar at https://bit.ly/3QuuBE8.

On **Thursday** (9/15) evening at 6:00 pm, there will be a public online <u>Community</u>

<u>Meeting to discuss the future of Crystal Lake Park and Beach</u> organized by the Newton Parks, Recreation, and Culture Department. Register online at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN SqHojUUGQZOpUCc5FFwpVq

On <u>Saturday (9/17) from 9 to 11 am</u> will be our <u>Second Annual Monarch Festival</u> held at Wellington Park in West Newton featuring lots of kids activities, free milkweed seeds and plants, pollinator garden tours, caterpillars and monarch release. See details below.

On **Sunday (9/18) Noon - 4 pm**, look for our Newton Conservators table (under a red tent) at Newtonville Village Day. We will have the latest walks and webinars

schedules, our trail guides, coloring for the kids, nature info, and more.

With the decline of the Newton Tab, an alternative well organized source of local news and events has emerged called <u>Fig City News</u>. Each week they put out



two emails. Monday's is devoted to a compendium of all the city related news and meetings while Wednesday's covers everything else - including many of our Newton Conservators events. You can subscibe to one or both for free at www.figcitynews.com.

Newton Conservators has been hard at work on a great number of Fall events including walks, webinars, neighborhood fairs, and more! See our quick summary below followed by our more detailed Upcoming Events calendar (which can also be found on the events section of our website.)

Newton Conservators Events Summary

Fall 2022 Walk Series - We kicked off our Fall Walk Series last Saturday at Cutler Park. We have 5 more walks scheduled, three of which are kid-oriented (and require pre-registration.) The walks are now listed on our Events Page and full details are provided in this e-Bulletin below. A handy one page schedule of walks is available HERE. Please notet that walks are at different times and some trips are weather dependent.



- Saturday, September 24, 2022, 10:00 am 11:30 am
 Kids- Nature Adaptation Games
- Saturday, October 1, 2022, 10:00 am 12:00 pm (Rain Date: Sunday Oct 2)
 Notable Features of Webster Woods
- Saturday, October 8, 2022, 10:00 am 11:30 am
 Kids- Riverside Adventure

- Saturday, October 22, 2022, 8:00 am 11:00 am
 Birding at Cold Spring Park
- Saturday, November 5, 2022, 10:00 am 11:30 am
 Kids- Discovering Natural Changes

Fall 2022 Webinar Series - Enjoy Nature... with webinars from Newton Conservators! Join us for our fall/winter webinar series online from September through January. Each program will begin at 7 pm and last approximately one hour. You may register for the programs using the links below or by going to the event listing at newtonconservators.org. You will receive an email confirmation after you have registered. A handy one page schedule of our Fall Webinar Series is available HERE. See full details below. Many of our past webinars are now available on our YouTube channel.

- Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 7:00 pm 8:30 pm
 Newton's (Buried) Streams: Now You See Them ...Now You
 Don't
- Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 7:00 pm 8:30 pm
 Darkness in Distress Light Pollution
- Wednesday, November 16, 2022, 7:00 pm 8:30 pm
 What Is a Native Plant Ordinance and How Can You Get One?
- Thursday. January 12, 2023, 7:00 pm 8:30 pm
 Reading the Stories Told by Animal Tracks and Signs

Public Festivals and Fairs - We will be having information tables at a number of other public events this Fall including those listed below. We would love to have some volunteers to assist at our tables at these various events for even an hour or two. Please contact our Public Events coordinator, Margaret Doris (text to 617-462-6161)

- Saturday, September 17, 9 am 11 am
 Newton Monarch Festival
 Wellington Park, Kilburn Rd, West Newton
- Sunday, September 18, 2022, Noon 4 pm <u>Newtonville Village Day</u>
 Walnut Street, Newtonville
- Sunday, October 2, 2022, 11 am 2 pm
 Newton Upper Falls Village Day
 Chestnut Street / Upper Falls Greenway
- Monday, October 10, 2022, 11 am 5 pm
 Newton Indigenous Peoples Day
 Albemarle Park / Playground
- Sunday, October 16, 2022
 Newton Harvest Fair
 Newton Centre Common

Our Fall Newsletter is now available online HERE - and the paper version will be in your mailbox in the near future for those who prefer that method. Here are the articles contained in this issue:

- Watching of the control of the contr
- Are Pollinators Being Supported in Newton?
- Beautiful but Destructive: The Invasive Spotted
 Lanternfly
- Three Resident Warblers of Cold Spring Park
- Fall/Winter Webinar Series
- Fall Walks
- Remembering "Cris" Crisitiello
- Black Swallow-wort Alert

Social Media

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, and YouTube. Our expansive

and informative website is www.newtonconservators.org.

You can subscribe to this eBulletin by sending an email to ebulletin@newtonconservators.org or unsubscribe by clicking the unsubscribe line at the end of this email. Hoping to see you out and about soon in Newton's open spaces!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Newton's (Buried) Streams: Now You See Them ...Now
You Don't



Presenter: Jennifer Steel (Newton Chief Environmental Planner)

Newton Conservators Webinar Series

Sign up: https://bit.ly/3QuuBE8

Newton was once dotted with wetlands and criss-crossed by streams flowing to the Charles River. But one doesn't see many streams, marshes, or wooded wetlands nowadays.

Where did they go? Where does our rainfall go now?



Jennifer Steel will share her recent exploration

of Newton's "buried" streams. She is the Chief Environmental Planner for the City of Newton. Part of her professional responsibility is implementing the State Wetlands Protection Act and Regulations and protecting the few, precious, "natural" streams and wetlands that remain in Newton.

Thursday, September 15, 2022, 6:00 pm

Crysal Lake Park and Beach - Community Meeting

Newton Parks, Recreation & Culture Department

Register in advance for this webinar at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SqHojUUGQZOpUCc5FFwpVg

Newton Parks, Recreation and Culture invites you to attend an upcoming Community meeting to discuss the future of Crystal Lake Park and Beach! After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Please email Newton Parks, Recreation, and Culture with input, questions or concerns

at: CrystalLakeProject@newtonma.gov. For more
details on Parks, Recreation and Culture Projects, please
visit: https://www.newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/parks-

open-space.

Saturday, September 17, 2022, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Second Annual Newton Monarch Festival

Wellington Park, Kilburn Road, West Newton, MA

Cosponsored bu Newton Conservators, Newton Parks,

Recreation & Culture Department and Friends of Wellington Park

https://newtonconservators.org/events/second-annual-newton-monarchfestival/

Please Join us for the FREE Second Annual Monarch Festival on Saturday, September 17 from 9 am – 11 am in Wellington Park, West Newton (entrances on Kilburn Road and Princess Road). Monarchs were recently classified as endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Learn about local efforts to help the Monarchs at the Monarch Festival which will feature:



- Butterfly Oriented Kids Games, Activities, and Crafts
- Native Milkweed Seed and Plant Exchange
- Setting up a Monarch Waystation
- Pollinator Garden Tours at Wellington Park (9:15, 10:15 am)
- Live Monarchs at various stages from caterpillar to butterfly
- How to Raise Monarchs
- Monarch Tagging Demonstration
- Butterfly Release (9:55, 10:55 am)
- Free Drawing for Butterfly Related Prizes



Kids have a natural fascination with nature and butterflies and will enjoy seeing the live caterpillars, the chrysalis stage, and some just emerged adult Monarchs which will be tagged and released. The Newton Parks, Recreation and Culture Department will have a variety of butterfly themed games, craft projects, activities, and coloring sheets.

If you have milkweed plants, seeds, or seed pods to share please bring them along to our Exchange table. Please label seeds (in small bags or envelopes) and plants according to the type of milkweed. We will provide a general sheet with planting instructions and guidelines. Monarchs rely on Milkweed for their survival (for laying eggs and as food for their caterpillar stage.)



Tour the local gardens with native milkweed and other pollinator plants. Meet and learn from local Monarch experts – those who maintain official Monarch Waystations and who raise Monarchs free from predators for release using very simple supplies.

The Newton Monarch Festival is FREE to attend and is cosponsored by Newton Conservators, Friends of Wellington Park, and the Newton Parks, Recreation, and Culture Department. Parking is available on nearby streets. Find full info including directions

at https://newtonconservators.org/events/second-annual-newton-monarch-festival/.



Visit our Monarch and Milkweed web page at https://newtonconservators.org/monarchs-milkweed/
where you can find links to lots of other Monarch and Milkweed information. Join us for free at this festival to learn how you can help the recently endangered Monarch Butterfly. For more information contact Ted Kuklinski from the Newton Conservators at tkuklinski@aol.com. You can download a PDF of the Newton Monarch Festival Flyer HERE.

Wellington Park is located in West Newton a few blocks north of West Newton Square. It is not directly located on any major streets. There are two entrances to the park – on Kilburn Road and another on Princess Road (near Princess and Lindbergh Ave). It should be noted that parking is only permitted on the southbound side of Kilburn Road since it is relatively narrow. Henshaw Street, Henshaw Place and Henshaw Terrace, Lindbergh Avenue, outhgate Park, Northgate Park, and Byrd Ave

are all nearby streets where you can find on-street parking.

Sunday, September 18, 2022, Noon - 4 pm <u>Newtonville Village Day</u> Walnut Street, Newtonville

Look for our Newton Conservators table (under a red tent). We will have the latest walks and webinars schedules, our trail guides, coloring for the kids, nature info, and more. Drop by and find out more about the wonderful open spaces of Newton. Here is what else is happening there:



Come to the Village Party of the year! The Newtonville Area Council (NAC) proudly presents its annual village day celebration - a day full of family, fun, food, music, and art featuring our local talent and businesses. We will have a variety of more than 70 craft and vendor booths, tasty treats from area restaurants, and family activities throughout the day. Games, crafts, and train rides will be available for the kids. Local musicians and student performers will entertain us on two stages. Mayor Fuller will be present to cut the ceremonial cake (from lcing on the Cake), and as always, general admission is FREE!

Saturday, September 24, 2022, 10:00 am - 11:30 am Kids- Nature Adaptation Games



Newton Conservators Walk Series (Kids)

Leaders: Barbara Bates & Sam Corbin

Webster Woods Conservation Area,

250 Hammond Pond Pkwy, Chestnut Hill, MA, 02467

Register **HERE**

Join Barbara Bates and Sam Corbin, Newton Conservators Board members, in navigating Webster Woods while learning about how its inhabitants survive in this environment! Open to children 5 and 9 years old accompanied by an adult. Registration for this event is required. Meeting location and directions will be emailed to all registrants before the walk. Please contact the



walk leader for permission before bringing children beyond this age group. Contact: Barbara Bates (b.l.bates@rcn.com)

Saturday, October 1, 2022, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (Rain Date: Sunday Oct 2)



Rock Walls, Cake Rock, the Beautiful Vale, Bare Pond,

Black Gum Stands, Gooch's Cove, and More!

Leader: Professor Richard Primack

Newton Conservators Walk Series

Webster Conservation Area - Elgin Street Entrance,

120-160 Elgin Street, Newton, MA

The Webster Woods has numerous special geological, botanical, historical and landscape features. Come discover this amazing area acquired by the city in 2019. Learn about them from Richard Primack, life-long Newton resident and Professor of Plant Ecology at BU. Meet at the end of Elgin Street on the edge of the woods. The Rain date will be October 2nd



for this event at the same time. Contact: Richard Primack (primack@bu.edu).

Sunday, October 2, 2022, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm Newton Upper Falls Village Day Chestnut Street at The Upper Falls Greenway. 1225 Chestnut Street. Newton.



Look for our Newton Conservators table (under a red tent). We will have the latest walks and webinars schedules, our trail guides, coloring for the kids, nature info, and more. Drop by and find out more about the wonderful open spacesof Newton.



Here is what else is happening there: Live Music, Magic, Food, Fun! Sponsored by Village Bank, the Newton Upper Falls Community Development Corporation and the Newton Upper Falls Area Council.

Saturday, October 8, 2022, 10:00 am - 11:30 am Kids - Riverside Adventure

Leaders: Barbara Bates & Sam Corbin
Newton Conservators Walk Series (Kids)

Register HERE

Join Barbara Bates and Sam Corbin as we explore the Charles Riverside Park and learn about migration by playing games focusing on environmental interactions, food selection, and more! Open to children 5 and 9 years old accompanied by an adult. Registration for this event is required. Meeting location and directions will be emailed to all registrants



before the walk. Please contact the walk leader for permission before bringing children beyond this age group. Contact: Barbara Bates (b.l.bates@rcn.com)

Monday, October 10, 2022, 11 am - 5 pm Newton Indigenous Peoples Day Ceremonial Celebration Albemarle Park / Playground

Indigenous Peoples Day Newton will take place on Monday, October 10, 11AM-5PM at Albemarle Park (map), celebrating the music, dance, poetry, and the visual art of diverse Native artists who currently live in the Northeast. It's an outdoor, family-oriented, cultural and spiritual celebration that is open, accessible, and welcoming to all residents of Newton and neighboring towns. Spend the day in





celebration, ceremony, and support of the rich Indigenous traditions that are an enduring and vibrant facet of our community.

After Newton officially adopted IPD in 2022, Indigenous Newton residents founded a committee to plan, organize, and carry out a ceremonial celebration to honor Indigenous people on that day. Over 40 artists, performers, speakers, vendors, and community organizations will attend. Refreshments can be purchased from onsite food trucks. The event is funded by grants from MCC, Newton Cultural Council, The Harmony Foundation, local businesses and individual donations. (Land acknowledgement)

Look for our Newton Conservators table (under a red tent). We will have the latest walks and webinars schedules, our trail guides & , coloring for the kids, nature info, and more. Drop by and find out more about the wonderful open spacesof Newton.

Sunday, October 16, 2022, 11 am to 4 pm Newton Harvest Fair Green Expo 2022 Newton Centre Green, 1221 Centre Street

Look for our **Newton Conservators** table (under a red tent). We will have the latest walks and webinars schedules, our trail guides, coloring for the kids, nature info, and more. Drop by and find out more about the wonderful open spacesof Newton.

For over 40 years Newton has celebrated the change of seasons and gathered as a community at the Harvest Fair in Newton Centre. On Sunday October 16th from 11am – 4pm, come by to share good food, peruse unique hand- crafted goods and



learn about local businesses. Stop by the Green Newton Expo and discover ways to create an environment in better balance with the natural world. Enjoy some great food listening to live music on 2 stages. And of course, don't miss seeing the delight of the kids enjoying the ever-popular caterpillar rollercoaster at the Cushing Carnival! For more information contact Newton Cultural Development at pgannon@newtonma.gov.

Saturday, October 22, 2022, 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Birding at Cold Spring Park

Leader: Pete Gilmore

Newton Conservators Walk Series

Cold Spring Park, Beacon Street, Newton

Join Pete Gilmore and the Brookline Bird Club for an easy walk on flat woodland and meadow trails, looking for fall migrants including confusing fall warblers. In case there is a large turnout, we may split into smaller groups. Be advised, If it rains the walk can be muddy. Pete Gilmore is an avid birder and board member of both the Newton Conservators and the



Brookline Bird Club. Contact: Pete Gilmore (petegilmore79@gmail.com)

Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

<u>Darkness in Distress - Light Pollution</u>

Presenter: Kelly Beatty (Sky & Telescope Magazine)

Newton Conservators Webinar Series

Register: https://bit.ly/3pfojvU

Light pollution, simply put, is any unnecessary or excessive outdoor illumination. Sadly, it's become a pervasive and ugly consequence of modern 24/7 society. Light pollution robs us of the night sky's beauty, negatively affects the ecosystem, and creates an in-your-face waste of energy. But a new mindset and new technology are poised to slow — and perhaps reverse — this



bane of modern life. Come learn how you can safely light up your home, business, and community without wasting energy, disturbing your neighbors, or creating an unhealthy environment for humans and wildlife.

Kelly Beatty has been explaining the science and wonder of astronomy to the public since 1974, when he joined the staff of Cambridge-based Sky & Telescope magazine. An award-winning writer and communicator, he holds a Bachelors degree from the California Institute of Technology and a Master's degree in science





journalism from Boston University. Kelly has been active in efforts to reduce light pollution for more than 30 years.

Saturday, November 5, 2022, 10:00 am - 11:30 am Kids - Discovering Natural Changes

Leaders: Barbara Bates & Sam Corbin

Newton Conservators Walk Series (Kids)

Webster Woods - 199 Boylston St, Chestnut Hill, MA, 02647

Register **HERE**

Join Barbara Bates and Sam Corbin, Newton Conservators Board members, as they explore how Webster Woods is preparing for winter!
Open to children 5 and 9 years old accompanied by an adult. Registration for this event is required. Meeting location and directions will be emailed to all registrants before the walk. Please contact the walk leader



for permission before bringing children beyond this age group. Contact: Barbara Bates (b.l.bates@rcn.com)

Wednesday, November 16, 2022, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

What Is a Native Plant Ordinance and How Can You Get
One?



Presenters: Renée Scott & David Falk (Green & Open Somerville)

Newton Conservators Webinar Series

Register: https://bit.ly/3SOd8bb

Renée Scott and David Falk, both founders of Green & Open Somerville in 2014, will walk you through why native plants are important and how they advocated for and helped author Somerville's Native Planting Ordinance. They will answer questions about the ordinance specifically and native plants in general. Renée grew up in rural Vermont and has a degree in Environmental



Planning and just completed a Master in Public Policy degree from Tufts University.

David grew up in Brooklyn. He started with the Audubon Society in Vermont and now works at the Native Plant Trust as a horticulturist.

Thursday. January 12, 2023, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Reading the Stories Told by Animal Tracks and Signs

Webinar LIVE

Presenter: Barbara Bates

Newton Conservators Webinar Series

Register: https://bit.ly/3pneHPC

Many animals are secretive, avoiding people and finding food at night. Snow and mud provide a canvas for these animals' tracks and enable us to see who has been out and, often, what they were doing. Join Newton Conservators' Barbara Bates to learn what tracks and animal signs you can find in Newton's open spaces as well as in your own



back yard. Barbara is a teacher, naturalist and Newton Conservators' board member.

Newton Conservators Newsletter



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

NEWTONCONSERVATORS.ORG • FALL 2022

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FALL ISSUE

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Are Pollinators Being Supported in Newton?

By Richard B. Primack (a life-long Newton resident and professor at Boston University), Selby Vaughn, and Katia Landauer (Boston University undergraduates)

s Newton — replete with public open spaces, private landscapes. and ever more pollinator gardens adequately supporting its native pollinators? Are non-European

honeybees competing with or harming our native insect pollinators? The City of Newton is asking these questions as it considers new regulations that would restrict honeybee numbers on public and private land. The questions emerge from two interrelated



First, the Newton the City of Newton, among others. are establishing pollinator gardens in public places and encouraging homeowners to plant native wildflowers favored by native insects. These gardens are intended to

support native pollinators that are declining in Newton and elsewhere in the region and around the world. In particular, certain native bumblebee species are declining, with three of the remaining species at risk of disappearing from Massachusetts over the

Second, some residents keep honeybee hives on their properties. For them, keeping honeybees is a satisfying, educational, and delicious hobby. Some beekeepers have permission to keep multiple hives on public land in Newton, in part because of their



sity, and University of Massachus, th meet in Newton Centre to disc and politinator gardens.

native pollinators and non-native honeybees might be competing for flowers. Will masses of honeybees consume most of the floral nectar and pollen the native insects need to

Continued on page 2

The Fall 2022 edition has gone to press and will be mailed shortly and also available online **HERE** and contains the following interesting articles:

- **Are Pollinators Being Supported in Newton?**
- **Beautiful but Destructive: The Invasive Spotted Lanternfly**
- **Three Resident Warblers of Cold Spring Park**
- **Fall/Winter Webinar Series**
- **Fall Walks**
- Remembering "Cris" Crisitiello
- **Black Swallow-wort Alert**

Black Swallow-wort

Please be on the lookout for the Black Swallow-wort (BSW) vine. It's a non-native invader now infesting Newton (you'll find it in many of your yards, and hiding in hedges and shrubs). It reduces biodiversity and degrades our local environment, and, sadly, is fatal to Monarch butterflies. Later this summer its large seed pods will open, and the wind will disperse the seeds on white fluffy fibers to make the infestation even worse.



The BSW vine has blue-green glossy, opposite leaves, small purple flowers, and large seed pods that hang down like pea pods. You can dig it up, cut it down, or just pull off the seed pods to prevent further spread. Put everything into a bag and into your trash, not into Yard Waste, to avoid further spread.

For more photos and information about this and other common invasive species in Newton, see the Newton Conservators invasive plant information on our website (listed under Resources), such as this link for BSW:

https://newtonconservators.org/black-swallow-wort/

To assist in our group activities to protect Newton's open spaces and manage invasive species, please email lnvasives@newtonconservators.org. Thank you!

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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