

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.



PHOTO: JENNIFER STEEL

South Meadow Brook

Wednesday, September 14 ... Newton's (Buried) Streams: Now You See Them... Now You Don't

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.

Jennifer Steel 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.

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



PHOTO: NASA

The City of Boston at Night

Wednesday, November 2 ... Darkness in Distress

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.

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



PHOTO: DAVID FALK

*The Morse-Kelly School
Pollinator Garden in Somerville*

Wednesday, November 16 ... What is a Native Plant Ordinance and How Can You Get One?

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.

Sign up: <https://bit.ly/3SOd8bb>



PHOTO: BARBARA BATES

Squirrel Tracks in Deep Snow

Thursday, January 12 ... Reading the Stories Told by Animal Tracks and Signs

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.

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