



Newton Conservators E-Bulletin

Saturday, September 8, 2022

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



Fall Fun!

There is lots to do this Fall inside and outside in Newton! If you like Birding, there is a [Fall Bird Walk at Nahanton Park on Sunday morning \(10/9\)](#) sponsored by Friends of Nahanton Park and led by experienced birder Haynes Miller. And later this month (**Saturday, 10/22**) Pete Gilmore will be leading a [Birding at Cold Spring Park](#). Catch those fall migrants while you can!

On **Monday (10/10) of this weekend** look for our Newton Conservators table (under a red tent) at [the Newton Indigenous Peoples Day Ceremonial Celebration at Albemarle Field](#). We will have relevant information on indigenous history, the latest walks and webinars schedules, our trail guides, nature info, and more. And next weekend, Sunday (10/16) find us at the popular [Newton Harvest Fair](#) held in Newton Centre which features loads of kids and adult activities including live music and the Green Expo.

[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](#).)

The [Fall Events](#), both in person and online so far have been extremely popular with almost record attendance. In case you missed it, Jennifer Steel's online webinar on **Newton's Hidden Streams** can now be views online on our YouTube channel

[HERE](#). Over 200 people attended our recent **Monarch Festival** at Wellington Park in conjunction with Newton Parks, Recreation, & Culture and you can read a brief account in the Fig City News [HERE](#).

Our invasive team has been out and about this fall keeping an eye out for black swallow-worm and other invasives. Recently, we held two walks to Dolan Pond for Newton's Athletes Unlimited program followed by pizza at Paddy's in West Newton.

Check out our remaining walks and webinars below! Hope to see you out and about in Newton's open spaces this fall among the colorful falling leaves!

Newton Conservators Events Summary



Fall 2022 Walk Series - We have 3 more walks scheduled, two of which are kid-oriented.

The walks are now listed on our Events Page and full details are provided in this e-Bulletin below. Please note that walks are at different times and some trips are weather dependent.

Note that the Kids Riverside Adventure was rescheduled from Saturday October 8 to Saturday, October 29. Also note that there is a Bird Walk on Saturday sponsored by the Friends of Nahanton Park in our events listings.

- [Saturday, October 22, 2022, 8:00 am - 11:00 am](#)
[Birding at Cold Spring Park](#)
-
- [Saturday, October 29, 2022, 10:00 am - 11:30 am](#)
[Kids- Riverside Adventure](#)
-
- [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 remaining fall/winter webinar series online 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. See full details below. Many of our past webinars are now available on our [YouTube channel](#).



- **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)

- **Monday, October 10, 2022, 11 am - 5:45 pm**
[Newton Indigenous Peoples Day](#)
Albemarle Park / Playground
- **Sunday, October 16, 2022**
[Newton Harvest Fair](#)
Newton Centre Common

Newton Conservators 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:



- [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

Sunday, September 9, 2022, 8 am

Fall Bird Walk at Nahanton Park

Leader: Haynes Miller

Nahanton Park - Winchester Street Lot

525 Winchester Street, Newton Highlands, MA, 02461



The Fall bird migration brings Wood Warblers, Kinglets, and a multitude of Sparrows through Nahanton Park every year. Join long time birder Haynes Miller for a stroll through the park looking for these special attractions on Sunday, October 9 at 8 am. This event is sponsored by the [Friends of Nahanton Park](#) and is free and open to all ages (children need to be with an adult). Waterproof shoes recommended. Please also bring a water bottle, binoculars, and dress for the weather. Cancelled in case of steady rain. Meet at the parking lot at the meadow near the community gardens off of Winchester St. The Trip Leader is Haynes Miller, 617-413-2419. (millerhaynes@gmail.com)



Sunday, September 9, 2022, Noon - 4 pm
Wellington Parkfest
Wellington Park, Kilburn Road, West Newton

Wellington Park, the site of the recent Monarch Festival, comes alive again on Sunday with its annual Wellington Parkfest (held since 1999) featuring neighborly camaraderie, music, pumpkin decorating, face-painting, glitter tattoos, a magic show, games, hot dogs, and more. The Parkfest is organized by [Friends of Wellington Park](#) and is being sponsored by Village Bank and Ryan Insurance. A special feature will be the MAPFRE / BCH helmet safety van with a limited supply of free helmets and fitting for kids. Come discover this West Newton park featuring a fun play ground, fields, courts, and outstanding gardens. Info at wellingtonpark.org.



Monday, October 10, 2022, 11 am - 5:45 pm
Newton Indigenous Peoples Day Ceremonial Celebration
Albemarle Park / Playground

[Indigenous Peoples Day Newton](#) (IPD) will take place on Monday, October 10, 11AM-5PM at Albemarle Field, 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.

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



Saturday, October 29, 2022, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

This event was rescheduled from Saturday,



October 8

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)

Saturday, October 29, 2022, 12:00 PM 8:30 PM

Halloween at the Park

Coletti-Magni Park, Watertown Street, Newton

Come to a Community Pumpkin Decorating + a Candlelit Pumpkin Walk. From 12-3pm, kids of all ages (from 2-92) are invited to bring your own pumpkins, paints and carving supplies — or use materials provided by organizers — to decorate a ghoulish Halloween gourd. Plenty of apple cider and snacks will be on hand to quench your creativity-induced thirst. Then,



from 7-8:30pm, come back to the park for some early trick-or-treating and a candlelit walk to admire the jack-o'-lanterns. Caution: there may be some spooks and sightings along the trail . . . Sponsored by [Friends of Coletti-Magni Park](#).

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

Darkness in Distress - Light Pollution



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 - 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 - 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



**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.



News

[Newton Tree Conservancy accepting group applications for 2023 Spring Community Tree Plantings](#) **Deadline November 15, 2022**

The [Newton Tree Conservancy](#) — a private nonprofit organization promoting the health of Newton's urban forest — is now accepting applications from groups of Newton residents to have trees planted at their properties, between the sidewalk and street, next Spring. Each neighborhood group must have at least 5 properties and at least 8 places for new trees, all within 1-3 blocks of each other, and someone from each property must be available on



planting day (April 29, 2023) to help out and resolve any questions. Property owners must then care for the new trees for the first two years after planting. There is no other cost, as the program relies on donations and grants from Newton Community Pride's Stella and Leo Levi Tree Endowment Fund. **Group applications are due**

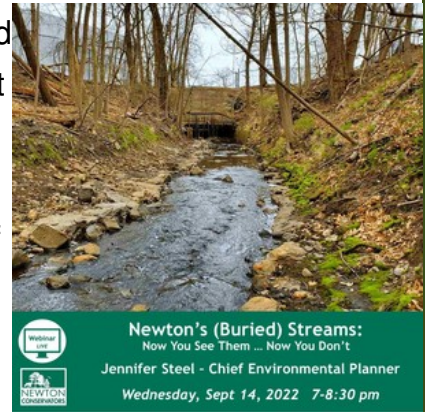
November 15, 2023 for the Spring planting, which will plant up to 150 trees. Another planting of 150 trees will be scheduled for Fall 2023. ([Fig City News](#))

Newton's (Buried) Streams - Now you see them . . . Now you don't!

Jennifer Steel - Newton's Environmental Planner
September 14, 2022

<https://youtu.be/TLLI3oYw4u0>

Newton was once dotted with wetlands and crisscrossed 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 shares her recent exploration of Newton's "buried" streams. She is the Chief Environmental Planner for the City of Newton, MA. 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. This presentation, "Newton's (Buried Streams - Now you see them . . . Now you don't)", was originally presented as part of Newton Conservators 2022 Fall Webinar Series on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 and is now available on our [YouTube Channel](#) at <https://youtu.be/TLLI3oYw4u0>

Crystal Lake Park and Beach Community Meeting Thursday. September 15, 2022

Newton Parks, Recreation and Culture recently had a Community meeting to discuss the future of Crystal Lake Park and Beach! For more details on Parks, Recreation and Culture Projects, please visit:



<https://www.newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/parks-open-space>.

The video of the meeting is available [HERE](#) and the presentation slides [HERE](#).

Newton Monarch Festival Saturday, September 17, 2022 [Fig City News Article](#)

In Newton, over two hundred people showed their concern by participating the Second Annual Monarch Festival held September 17 – a peak time for monarch migration here. Appropriately, the festival activities were adjacent to the monarch butterfly garden at Wellington Park in West Newton, which also happens to be an official registered “Monarch Waystation,” one of seven in Newton. The festival was cosponsored by Newton Conservators, Newton Parks, Recreation, and Culture, and Friends of Wellington Park to help raise awareness of the monarchs’ plight and what steps can be taken locally to help.



Update on Marty Sender Greenway Restoration Phase II Thursday, September 29, 2022

Newton Parks, Recreation and Culture recently held a virtual community meeting for an update on the Marty Sender Greenway Restoration Phase II Project. For more details on Parks, Recreation and Culture Projects, please visit www.newtonma.gov/parkprojects. The video of the meeting is available [HERE](#) and the presentation slides [HERE](#)



State Agricultural Officials Ask Residents to Report Sightings of the Invasive Spotted Lanternfly Hampden County Find Indicates Species Is Continuing to be Found in New Areas August 9, 2022

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) today announced that an infestation of the invasive insect known as spotted lanternfly (SLF) was found in the City of Springfield last week. Agricultural inspectors are in the middle of performing surveys in the area in order to determine the extent of the



infestation. While MDAR has not been able to determine the origin of this new find, cities like Springfield with large industrial areas are at especially high risk for spotted lanternfly introductions, since this pest can hitchhike on trucks and other methods of transportation that come from infested states. Urban and industrial areas often harbor large populations of the spotted lanternfly's preferred host plant, tree-of-heaven.

“With new populations of the spotted lanternfly likely to pop up more and more frequently as the invasive pest becomes established across the northeast, it is critical that we all remain diligent in identifying them early on,” said Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux. “Anyone who sees this pest is asked to report it promptly. Early detection will help limit the spread of spotted lanternfly and give orchards, farms, and other growers time to prepare.”

MDAR is urging the public to be on the lookout for this pest, especially if they live or work in the Springfield area. Spotted lanternflies may be found on sides of buildings, in or on vehicles, or on host plants, including tree of heaven, grape, maple and walnut. Anyone who has recently received goods or materials from states where SLF is known to have been introduced (including Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia) should also be on the lookout. Additionally, if a spotted lanternfly is found, the public is asked to take a photo or collect the specimen, and report the sighting using MDAR's online reporting form.

The public should look for both adult insects (large, gray bugs, about one inch long, with black spots and red underwings), as well as nymphs (younger, wingless insects that are red with black and white markings). Spotted lanternfly is a sap-feeding insect that has caused significant impacts to vineyards, orchards, and other agricultural commodities in states where it has become established. SLF not only harms grapevines, maples, hops, blueberries, and over 100 other host plants, but has the potential to negatively impact outdoor recreation through the swarming behavior that occurs during mating season.

To report any sightings, go to <https://www.mass.gov/spotted-lanternfly>

Newton Conservators Newsletter

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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)

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



Pollinator garden at Wellington Park; Richard and Selby making observations



Honeybee visiting milkweed flowers

First, the Newton Conservators and 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 next decade.

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 educational value.



A group of researchers from Boston University, Tufts University, and University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth meet in Newton Centre to discuss bees and pollinator gardens.

However, some residents are concerned that 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 survive?

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](#)

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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