



Newton Conservators E-Bulletin *Friday, January 27, 2023*

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



Winter Fun!

Winter of 2023 seems to not be able to make up its mind yet to be cold and snowy or warmer and rainy. This weekend, Newton Conservators, in conjunction with [Newton Community Pride](#), is participating in the [Second Annual Newton WinterFEST](#) by leading a walk on Sunday morning at Cold Spring Park. Check out this and the other WinterFEST-ivities below!

We just had our final webinar in our Fall-Winter Webinar Series on animal tracks, but in case you missed any of them, you can view them on our [YouTube channel](#). The Winter 2022-2023 issue of the Newton Conservators Newsletter has been recently mailed and is also available on our [website](#).

We have lots more events, webinars, and news in this issue below - including the detailed results of the Newton Christmas Bird Count!

If you received our membership mailing, you can join or renew by mailing the membership card back in the provided envelope or you can visit our "Ways to Give" page to join, renew, or donate online at <https://newtonconservators.org/ways-to-give/>

Newton WinterFEST 2023



Sunday, January 29, 10:00 am-11:00 am

Cold Spring Park Guided Winter Walk – WinterFEST 2023

Cold Spring Park, 1200 Beacon St, Newton, MA

Join Newton Conservators and Olaf from Frozen, for a family-friendly, dog-friendly FREE guided winter walk around Cold Spring Park's 1.5-mile trail as part of NewtonCommunityPRIDE's annual WinterFEST celebration. Barbara Bates and Sam Corbin, who have organized our spring and fall kid's nature events, will be leading the walk and discussing "The Nature of Cold Spring Park." Learn about the plants, birds, animals & tracks you might see! Please meet at 10:00 AM at the 1094 Beacon Street entrance and proceed around toward the left at the trail entrance near the sports fields. Dress warm for the weather!



Small Door Veterinary will be providing free hot chocolate, coffee, and donuts from Black Bird Donuts - along with a portable dog bowl, delicious dog treats, and a discount code on membership for your favorite four-legged friend! (Limited quantity, first come first serve.)

Check out the other WinterFEST events on the Newton Community Pride WinterFEST page at <https://newtoncommunitypride.org/winterfest/>

Follow up the morning walk with more festivities on Sunday afternoon from 12 to 4 pm at Newton Centre Green, 1221 Centre Street, Newton Centre featuring:

- Ice Sculptures & Live Demonstration by Images In Ice
- Winter Market
- Performances:
 - Elsa from Frozen
 - Lion Dance by Wu An Marital Arts,
 - Calpulli Coyoxochitl Dance Group of Newton
 - Far and Wide with Tom Pugh,
 - "Women in White" roving dancers
 - A Capella from Newton North's Melocotones and Northern Lights
- Special Guests: Olaf and Friends and Officer Leo - the super pup
- Free Hot Chocolate provided by The Trike
- Photo Booth by Wicked Booth
- Winter Blanket Collection Drive *

*NCP has partnered with Welcome Home, a Newton non-profit providing families experiencing hardship with high-quality household items. Please bring new or gently used full, queen or king blankets (no rips or stains please) to the Newton Centre Green and drop off at the Welcome Home table during WinterFEST hours.

And be sure to check out what is happening in WinterFEST the day before on Saturday at the Hyde Community Center, 90 Lincoln Street, Newton Highlands from 5:30 to 7:30 pm!

Bundle up at the outdoor WinterFEST Soup Social at 5:30 pm hosted at the [Hyde Community Center](#). Enjoy a complimentary hot bowl of soup provided by [O'Hara's Food & Spirits](#), [Lincoln Street Kitchen](#), [Otake](#), [Grape Leaf](#), [Dining Car](#), [Buttonwood](#), [Avenue Deli Beacon Street](#), [Walnut Grille](#), and [Dunn Gaherin's](#), and served by several Newton notables including Mayor Fuller, Congressman Auchincloss, and members of the City Council!

Bring your dancing shoes because from 6:00 - 7:00 pm [The Eli Cash Band](#) will perform at the Hyde Bandstand and keep you moving and entertained!

More fun includes an interactive public art piece - [Brighter Ignited](#), a special appearance by Olaf & Friends, a member of the [Boston Hoop Troop](#) with glow-in-the-dark hula hoops, glow sticks, and [Cacao's](#) hot chocolate!



Other Upcoming Events of Interest

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

The Nature of Oaks

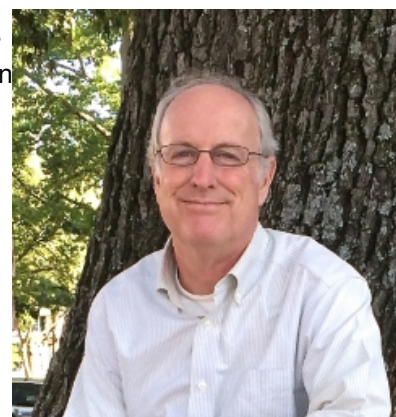
Doug Tallamy, Author, *The Nature of Oaks*, *Nature's Best Hope*

[Grow Native Massachusetts - Evenings with Experts Series](#)

Free Zoom Webinar

Register [HERE](#)

Scary headlines about the decline of the natural world that serves as our life support have spurred people across the country to take action by planting natives to help reverse this trend. No plant will achieve this faster than one of our 91 species of oaks. Oaks support more species of animals, sequester more carbon, protect our watersheds, and nourish soil communities better than any other plant genus in North America. Doug will illustrate these capabilities by sharing his observations of the many fascinating things that are happening on the oaks in his yard each month of the year. His hope is to impart knowledge about oaks that will generate interest in them, and, with any luck, compassion for these magnificent trees.



Doug Tallamy is a renowned advocate, researcher, best-selling author, and a professor at the University of Delaware. He is the co-founder of Homegrown National Park, a non-profit dedicated to

galvanizing individuals and communities to regenerate biodiversity and ecosystem function by planting native plants, with an initial goal of 20 million acres of native plantings across the U.S.

Thursday, February 2, 7 pm - 8 pm

[Mammals Caught on Camera!](#)

Virtual Fireside Chat with Ron McAdow

Lincoln Land Conservation Trust Zoom Program

Register [HERE](#)

Join Lincoln Land Conservation Trust for this free zoom program with Ron McAdow. In this slide presentation, Ron will show photos and videos of fox, bobcat, coyote, fisher, beaver, otters, and other species, recorded in Lincoln and nearby towns. He will explain the challenges posed by this equipment and share the results he has obtained over the years. After his presentation, there will be an opportunity for questions and conversation.



Active mostly at night, alert and skittish in the daytime, wild mammals are seldom observed in the field. Motion-activated cameras give us glimpses of these animals as they rove our conservation land and our neighborhoods. Ron McAdow started using this equipment in 2000, when images were still recorded to film. He co-chaired a team appointed to monitor activity in the wildlife tunnels installed beneath the re-built Route 2. In recent years Ron has used these cameras to record mammal activities in Adams Woods and at Farrar Pond.

Ron McAdow served as the Executive Director of the Sudbury Valley Trustees from 2003-2013. He is a writer, photographer, and leader in the conservation world. Ron's most recent publications are a guide to Mount Misery (2021) and an illustrated edition of Emerson's Nature (2022). These great guides to the Lincoln and Concord area can be purchased locally at Something Special and online.

Saturday, February 4, 2023, 1 to 2:30 pm

Charles River Walk to Forest Grove Park

Leader: Sonja Wadman, Executive Director, Waltham Land Trust

Waltham Land Trust Walk

Watch Factory Parking Lot by Brelundi Restaurant

185 Crescent St., Waltham, MA 02453

Join WLT Executive Director Sonja Wadman for a walk on the pathways and neighborhood streets along the Charles River from Prospect Street to Forest Grove Park on the Newton line. Learn about the extensive history of the area, check out the [Miyawaki-inspired mini-forest](#) planted in June and restored woodland areas of Woerd Woods while looking for visiting waterfowl and resident birds such as Great blue herons and raptors. Here's a [trail guide](#) to whet your appetite.



Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 7-8 pm

The Importance of Bees - Native Bees and Honey Bees

Lindsay Barranco (vanEnglesdorp Bee Lab, University of Maryland)

Newton Free Library - Zoom Webinar

Join Lindsay Barranco from the vanEnglesdorp Bee Lab at the University of Maryland for a talk on the importance of bees - native bees and honeybees. This program is cosponsored by Newton Free Library, Green Newton and Newton Conservators. The program will cover:

- A description of native bees (both ground nesting and tube nesting)
- What individuals can do to enhance their environments through floral plantings and optimizing sites for native bee nesting.
- Challenges native bees and honeybees face
- The history and biology of honeybee colonies and how they are utilized in commercial agriculture for pollination in the U.S.



Lindsay Barranco is a graduate student at the University of Maryland who has wide ranging experience with both honeybees and native bees - for a time she was a beekeeper and apiary inspector for the State of Maryland and currently focuses more on native bee issues and is doing a thesis dealing with ground nesting bee substrates, researching different surface types for the benefit of ground nesting native bees.

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Override Vote on Tuesday, March 14, 2023

As you probably are aware, Mayor Fuller has proposed an override which will be voted upon on Tuesday, March 14. Portions of the override funds will be used towards fields, parks, courts, playgrounds, and trees. Question 1 of the [override proposal](#) asks the question:

"Shall the City of Newton be allowed to assess an additional \$9,175,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding Public Schools for student needs, street and sidewalk paving and safety improvements, tree planting and maintenance, park and recreational facility improvements and maintenance, improvements to Horace Mann Elementary School, sustainability and climate resiliency actions, and Senior Services programming and operations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023?"



Here are a few links to help you understand the override better:

- [CITY OF NEWTON OVERRIDE 2023](#) (best source of information from the City)
- [Parks, Fields, Courts and Playgrounds](#) (city information on this aspect)
- [Trees](#) (city information on this aspect)

- [Primer on overrides and debt exclusions](#) - *Fig City News*
- [Override basics: history, meaning, cost](#) - *Newton Beacon*

Newton Christmas Bird Count 2022 Results

by Liane Hartnett



The Christmas Bird Count (CBC), sponsored by the National Audubon Society, takes place every year around late December. A tradition that originated 150 years ago as the “Christmas Bird Shoot” where hunters would go out and shoot as many birds as they could, it was transformed into the Christmas Bird Count by the Audubon society in 1920 and has continued as a count ever since. The count provides data for

ornithologists to assess the general numbers of various species of birds by making use of “Citizen Science” volunteers.

The Newton count, a subset of the Greater Boston count, covered a prescribed circular area centered around Boston, one of the many count circles in the United States. This year, the count day (Sunday, December 20) was clear and cold, and 17 birders went out in groups to assigned areas of Newton to perform the bird census. The groups were led by experienced birders, but all members participated in counting the birds.



The counters found 197 Canada Geese, 146 Mallards, 117 Dark-eyed Juncos, and 140 American Robins as the top numbers. There were some rarities as well: an Orange-crowned Warbler was found by the group counting by the Charles River, a Yellow-bellied sapsucker was seen in Newton Cemetery, two Swamp sparrows were spotted by Chandler Pond, and a Brown Creeper was seen by the group in Webster woods.

One of the new members of the group was asked to describe her experience, and she wrote:



“I am a novice bird-watcher, having started quite casually observing interesting ducks on Bullough’s Pond as I walked my dog. This year, I finally put up a bird feeder and have been amazed and delighted by the daily shenanigans of the winged critters and the other wildlife that benefit from the spillage.

Today was a next step—I participated in the Christmas count with three experienced birders. It was a cold but sunny day, starting out slowly with only a bit of bird activity, even the mallards were snoozing. But as the sun grew a bit stronger, so did the sounds and sight of a diverse range of birds.

My companions were very patient, spotting and then explaining how to train my binoculars in the correct direction. We laughed a lot and found many woodpeckers (including a yellowbellied sapsucker!) and a few rarer beauties such as an eastern bluebird.

I did not see every bird that my companions spotted, but it was a fun challenge, peering through the woods, bushes, and around the ponds, seeing flashes of white, blue, red, and browns and trying to anticipate their movements quickly enough to see the being. “

So, if you are interested in joining next year and are not on the email list, send your contact info to Liane Hartnett lianehartnett26@gmail.com and you will receive notification of next year's count.

RESULTS

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Canada Goose | 197 | American Crow | 10 |
| Mute Swan | 8 | Black-Capped Chickadee | 65 |
| Mallard | 146 | Tufted Titmouse | 26 |
| Green-winged Teal | 1 | White-Breasted Nuthatch | 40 |
| Bufflehead | 4 | Brown Creeper | 1 |
| Common Merganser | 8 | Carolina Wren | 9 |
| Wild Turkey | 5 | Winter wren | 1 |
| Great Blue Heron | 2 | Golden-crowned kinglet | 4 |
| Cooper's Hawk | 1 | Eastern Bluebird | 4 |
| Red-tailed Hawk | 7 | American Robin | 140 |
| Ring-Billed Gull | 12 | Northern Mockingbird | 9 |
| Herring Gull | 1 | European Starling | 95 |
| Rock Pigeon | 2 | Cedar Waxwing | 2 |
| Mourning Dove | 71 | Orange-crowned Warbler | 1 |
| Eastern Screech Owl | 1 | Song Sparrow | 17 |
| Barred Owl | 1 | Swamp Sparrow | 2 |
| Great Horned Owl | 2 | White-throated Sparrow | 16 |
| Red-Bellied Woodpecker | 17 | Dark-eyed Junco | 117 |
| Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker | 1 | Northern Cardinal | 29 |
| Downy Woodpecker | 41 | House Finch | 61 |
| Hairy Woodpecker | 3 | American Goldfinch | 56 |
| Northern Flicker | 1 | House Sparrow | 89 |
| Blue Jay | 95 | | |

TOTAL SPECIES COUNTED45

TOTAL BIRDS COUNTED 1421

Check out this [item](#) on our website about winter bird watching in Newton!

Recent Animal Track Webinar Video Now Available

Reading the Stories Told by Animal Tracks and Signs

Presenter: Barbara Bates

Newton Conservators Webinar Series

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/OQ5-ZNQ1iv4>

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. She has been a teacher naturalist for Mass Audubon's Habitat Education Center & Wildlife Sanctuary in Belmont, MA. Before the pandemic, she led guided nature walks for all ages on a variety of subjects and presented programs at several Continuing Care Retirement Communities and Senior Centers. She serves on the Board of the Newton Conservators. Barbara has retired several times – first from a long career in the high-tech world and more recently from teaching negotiation and conflict resolution as an adjunct faculty at Northeastern University. She loves all things nature.

This presentation was originally given on January 12, 2023 as part of the Newton Conservators 2022-2023 Fall-Winter Webinar Series hosted by Newton Conservators board member Beth Wilkinson.

Watching this video would be a great way to prepare for the WinterFEST walk on Sunday!

Other Newton Conservators Fall Webinar Series Videos Available

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

Jennifer Steel - Newton's Environmental Planner

You Tube Video: <https://youtu.be/TLLI3oYw4u0>



Darkness in Distress - Light Pollution

Kelly Beatty (Sky & Telescope Magazine)

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/E1y6Kki1T0>



What is a Native Plant Ordinance

... and How You Can Get One

Renée Scott & David Falk (Green & Open Somerville)

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/p3oGhIOAzCE>



Recent Webinar Videos of Interest

[HERE](#) is a link to the *Mass Pollinator Network January Newsletter* which contains many more references to past and upcoming pollinator related presentations such as those listed below. Worth checking out!

Silent Earth: Saving Our Insects (1/21/23)

Dave Goulson, Professor of Biology, University of Sussex (England)

Cary Memorial Library Series - Massachusetts Pollinator Network

View on YouTube [HERE](#)

Insects are vital, fascinating, weird and wonderful. They are food, pollinators, recyclers, pest controllers, and much more, so we should be deeply concerned that they are in rapid decline. Dave Goulson explains the many causes of insect decline, and then turns to the solutions of this crisis. We can all help in many ways, first by turning our gardens and urban greenspaces into oases for life, and second by fundamentally changing the way we grow food, and the food we buy. Dave Goulson is Professor of Biology at University of Sussex in England, specializing in bee ecology. He has published more than 350 scientific articles on the ecology and conservation of bumblebees and other insects, plus seven books, including *Silent Earth: Averting the Insect Apocalypse* (2021).



Beyond Beauty: Establishing the Value of Urban and Suburban Trees (1/11/23)

David Bloniarz, Ph.D., USDA Forest Service

Cary Memorial Library Series - Massachusetts Pollinator Network

View on YouTube [HERE](#)

This presentation examines the many ways in which trees in urban and suburban landscapes improve our neighborhoods and quality of life. It introduces scientific methods that can be used to determine the benefits of such trees and calculate a monetary value for these ecosystem services. You will be shown how to determine the value of a single tree, or all of the trees in your own community during the presentation. Also, several i-Tree software tools are demonstrated. David V. Bloniarz, Ph.D. is a research scientist with the USDA Forest Service. He is the Project Coordinator of the Urban Natural Resources Institute, which aims to bring research findings, state-of-the-art tools and new technologies to users across the world.



Landscaping for Pollinators and Birds at Home (12/6/22)

Dr. Desiree Narango, Vermont Center for Ecostudies

Cary Memorial Library Series - Massachusetts Pollinator Network

View on YouTube [HERE](#)

Desiree Narango speaks about her research studying how residential landscapes and gardening practices influence wildlife habitats. The talk focuses on Dr. Narango's recent work comparing how native and nonnative plant species vary in supporting species interactions. She talks about the relationships between plants and insects, why insects matter to birds, and small steps you can take to improve and restore habitat for wildlife 'at home'. Dr. Desiree Narango is a conservation scientist at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies in White River Junction, VT. Her research program focuses on understanding how global change impacts bird and insect populations and identifying biodiversity conservation solutions in human-dominated habitats. She's also an active naturalist and gardener who enjoys getting others excited about the natural world.



Other Newton News

Newton Community Farm CSA Signup

Applications will be accepted for Newton Community Farm's 2023 Summer Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Program started on January 23. Registration occurs in stages, starting with interested sharers who participated last year. Eat fresh, locally-grown produce from June through October for a cost per share of \$797 for weekly pickup or \$430 for alternate weekly pickup. All applicants must be a Friend of the Farm (FOF) to be considered. Go to <https://newtoncommunityfarm.org/produce/csa/> for all the details.



Dudley Road Estate

As you may know, the City of Newton was given the opportunity to make an offer on a large parcel of land between Dudley Road and Brandeis Road and solicited developers to put in proposals. The City selected one potential partner, NOW/Civico. If you are interested in following this process, the information is available on the city website [HERE](#). The NOW/Civico proposal is [HERE](#). Here is some of the salient info from the city website:



The City has been given the opportunity to consider potentially making an offer on an almost 15 acre piece of property located between Dudley Road and Brandeis Road adjacent to Newton South High School. The owners of this property have given the City advance notice of their intent to market the property for sale and have provided the City with an exclusive period of time in which to consider making an offer.

The Dudley Road Estate consists of three parcels – an approximately one acre parcel with a home at 85 Dudley Road (Lot 1), a 13 acre parcel of vacant land between Dudley and Brandeis Roads (Lot 2), and a third parcel with a residence at 132 Brandeis Road (Lot 3). The site is zoned for single family residence one (SR1) and single family residence two (SR2) development.

The City is now pursuing discussions with NOW Communities/Civico Development to explore their concept of preserving open space with clustered housing on 15 acres between Dudley and Brandeis Roads. The City's Review Team reviewed nine potential partnership proposals as we explore options for the land adjacent to Newton South High School. A summary of their review is available [here](#).

The NOW Communities/Civico Development proposal that the team chose is responsive to our goals. Their preliminary site plan, included in the above link to their submitted proposal, envisions open space with permanent conservation restrictions mixed with a new residential cluster of homes, pedestrian connections between Brandeis and Dudley Roads, and a set aside for City/school facility expansion needs. The housing idea contemplates 75 to 125 total units. There is a mix of single and 3-to-6-unit buildings of 1.5 and 2.5 stories, all of which would be for home ownership. Twenty percent of these units would be made affordable, with 10% available to households at 80% AMI and 10% to households at 110% AMI, in line with the City's Inclusionary Zoning requirements. Our next steps in the exploration phase includes further due diligence on the site, financial feasibility analysis by the NOW/Civico team, a continuing dialogue with the City on a potential partnership scenario, and conversations with the owner.

A New Walk Along the Charles in Upper Falls

An informal trail has long followed the Charles River shoreline north from the end of the Upper Falls Greenway, ending at a chain link fence bordering Bobby Braceland Playground. However, the difficulty of climbing the fence discouraged use of the trail. In 2022, the Parks, Recreation & Culture department installed a gate in the fence, allowing easy access to the trail.

<https://newtonconservators.org/a-new-walk-along-the-charles-in-upper-falls/>



Newton Conservators Social Media

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#). Our expansive and informative website is www.newtonconservators.org. You can easily access these Social Media accounts by simply clicking on the appropriate icons on our website's main menu strip.

Note that we have recently added a video icon (Play Button) which will take you to our YouTube Channel. We also have an organized table of contents page for our YouTube channel which can be found at <https://newtonconservators.org/videos/>



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!

Newton Conservators Newsletter



**NEWTON
CONSERVATORS**
WINTER ISSUE

NEWSLETTER

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

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Levingston Cove: Improving Recreational Offerings, Enhancing Wildlife Habitat

By Luis Perez Demorizi, Director of Parks & Open Space, Parks, Recreation & Culture Department, City of Newton

Louise Levingston Cove is one of a few public parks along the shores of Crystal Lake. The crescent-shaped, linear park covers roughly one-half of an acre. It sits at the intersection of Lake Avenue and Lakewood Road and spans north a few hundred feet to the intersection of Lake Avenue and Berwick Road in Newton Highlands. To the east, the park is bounded by Crystal Lake (which is a Great Pond under the jurisdiction of the state), and it rises to Lake Avenue on the west.

Though small, Levingston Cove is bustling with passive and active recreation. The park also serves as habitat for a variety of wildlife. Blue herons, cormorants, painted turtles, and many other animals supported by the lake can be seen from its shoreline. People enjoy fishing from the fishing wall, and taking in the scenic views. The park also provides opportunities for sitting, nature study, sunbathing, picnicking, and walking.

The existing landscape at Levingston Cove is grassy, bare, and severely damaged by compaction and erosion. The park is home to many mature trees, including several oaks and an iconic American Elm. The shrub buffer at the shoreline is sparse. Some invasive plant species have been identified at the park, including glossy buckthorn and purple loosestrife. Circulation through the park occurs along a y-shaped network of pathways that run north-south with portions of the pathway running behind a large concrete retaining wall dating back to the 1930s. The wall does not adequately support the recreational fishing it is most popularly known for. The park pathways and entrances also are not clearly defined, which encourages users to create new access points at will. The current pathways are often muddy from the adjacent eroding landscape and failing retaining walls.

As a result of its popularity, topography, undefined circulation, and limited public open space around the lake, Levingston Cove has suffered significant degradation and can no longer sustain use. Previous attempts to address erosion are failing; recreational fishing space is narrow; and the barren landscape falls far short of its potential. In short, ecological

Continued on page 2



Existing conditions aerial photograph

The [Winter 2022-2023 edition of our Newton Conservators Newsletter](#) has been sent out for those who subscribe to the print edition. It is also available online [HERE](#) and contains the following interesting articles and features:

- [Levingston Cove: Improving Recreational Offerings, Enhancing Wildlife Habitat - \(Luis Perez Demorizi\)](#)

- [A Celebration of Monarch Butterflies in Newton \(Ted Kuklinski\)](#)
- [Marty Sender Trail and Riverside Greenway Updates \(Ted Chapman\)](#)
- [Final Fall/Winter Webinar](#)
- [Winter Invasives Update](#)

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW YOUR NEWTON CONSERVATORS MEMBERSHIP



We would be most grateful if you renewed your membership or joined us officially for the first time to support our important open space work! The challenges of protecting, enhancing and expanding open space in Newton continue. We hope that you will continue to support the Conservators efforts in these regards by renewing your membership for 2023 or joining us if you are not.

Perhaps consider renewing at a higher level, adding a new donation, or purchasing a gift membership for someone else who is passionate about open space. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, we also accept donations for a number of affiliated local open space groups. As part of the donation process, you can specify specific funds. This year we call your attention to our special "Trails Fund" in support of additional trails work in Newton. Thanks so much!

You can renew or join the Newton Conservators online at <https://newtonconservators.org/membership/>. Donations may be made at our securely via our website at <https://newtonconservators.org/ways-to-give/>.

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.

Newton Conservators is committed to fostering a sense of belonging for all people in Newton's open spaces by:

- *planning and evaluating all of our activities through a diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ) lens*
- *continually educating ourselves and our constituents about DEIJ issues*
- *building authentic relationships with regional organizations serving historically marginalized people*

- *working to include previously underrepresented people on our Board and among our members, program participants, and open space visitors*
- *diversifying all with whom we partner and do business.*

- E-Bulletin Editor: Ted Kuklinski, Newton Conservators (ebulletin@newtonconservators.org)

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