



PHOTO: HEATHER MCCARGO

Fritillary on swamp milkweed

Thursday, June 15 ... Gardening for Habitat

Gardens are habitats, but the degree to which they support local wildlife depends on how we plant and manage them. Our plant choices determine who visits, stays, or passes by as creatures look for food, shelter, to nest and lay eggs. When and how we decide to clean up leaves or cut plants back affects life cycles of salamanders, bees, birds, moths, and butterflies. Emily Baisden will explain how to create habitat in the garden year-round while balancing your workload and garden aesthetics.

Prior to joining Wild Seed Project in 2022, Emily served as Entomologist and Educator at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. She has an extensive background in native horticulture and environmental education, and focuses largely on using native plants to support food webs and biodiversity. She holds a BS in Environmental Science from the University of New England and an MS in Entomology from the University of Delaware. She lives in Brunswick, Maine, where she spends most of her time adventuring with her partner and their dog, and establishing wildlife habitat in her yard.

Sign up: <https://bit.ly/3Zfnao5>

Save the Date! — Newton Conservators' First-Ever Outdoor Annual Dinner Meeting Wednesday May 24, 2023

We will hold our Annual Meeting at the Mount Ida Campus of UMass Amherst. We will meet under a tent for a buffet dinner, a short business meeting with elections and awards, and a keynote speaker. Access starts at 5 PM.



Norman Smith preparing to release a snowy owl while children inspect the owl.

Our speaker this year is Norman Smith, Raptor Specialist from Mass Audubon. Mr. Smith will present his work (which started in 1981) observing, capturing, banding, and relocating Snowy Owls at Logan International Airport and how this project developed in an unusual way to include research on Saw-whet Owls. His slides, sense of humor, and depth of knowledge are remarkable.

Save the Date! — NewtonSERVES is Sunday May 7.

We will host 4 events: Nahanton Park Trail Maintenance, Cold Spring Park Invasives, Dolan Pond Invasives, and Houghton Garden Invasives. Registration starts March 15 at:

<https://newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/newton-serves>