

Rain!

It sure has been rainy this year! Due to expected rain this weekend, our **Late Season Pollinators BioBlitz event on Saturday, September 23, has been CANCELED**. In addition, the Newtonville Village Day, where we were expecting to have a booth on Sunday, September 24th, was postponed to Sunday (October 8th). Sorry for the inconvenience and hope you will join us at one of our other great events this Fall. See our updated Events schedule through October below. Thanks to those who came out to our recent Monarch Festival, Pollinator Garden Tour, iNaturalist webinar, or one of our Invasive sessions!

Saturday, September 23, 2023, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
CANCELED - Late Season Pollinators and More at Hammond Woods
Leader: Jon Regosin, Naturalist
Hammond Pond Reservation, Newton, MA
<https://newtonconservators.org/events/late-season-pollinators-and-more-hammond-woods/>

Note: This event has been canceled due to expected rain and cooler weather for pollinators. It is not being rescheduled for this season. However, if you are interested please see the similar event - Nahanton Park BioBlitz on the following Saturday, September 30, 10 am - 12 pm!

Are you interested in learning more about how to identify native plants? Or maybe you are more interested in birds or butterflies? Did you ever wonder how many species of plants and animals inhabit Newton's Parks and Conservation Areas? Maybe you have developed skills for identifying ferns or pollinators and you want to share that knowledge with others? Or perhaps you are just curious to learn more about nature in Newton? If this piques your interest, join us for an upcoming Newton BioBlitz event! We will spend a few hours surveying plants and animals, learning, and posting our observations to iNaturalist. You do not need to be an experienced naturalist or expert to participate. Families are welcome.



Monday, September 25, 2023, 9:30 - 11:30 am
Invasive Removal at Dexter Woods
25 Dexter Road, Newtonville
<https://newtonconservators.org/events/invasives-pull-2023-09-25/>

Join the Conservators' Invasives Team for a two-hour work session at one of Newton's parks and conservation areas. Weather permitting, the team meets on Monday mornings and Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 or so. We tackle a variety of invasive plants, depending on the season and the needs of the park area. If you wish to join us and find out the specific site we'll be working on, please email Invasives@newtonconservators.org and we will email you back with the details. Check out our [Invasives Resource Page](#). An invasive Black Swallow Wort pod is shown to the right.



Thursday, September 28, 2023, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Why We Should Remove the Watertown Dam
Lisa Kumpf & Robert Kearns, CRWA

Newton Conservators Fall Webinar Series

Sign Up: <https://bit.ly/3YnRjT7>

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/webinar-why-we-should-remove-the-watertown-dam/>

Did you know, each spring, thousands of migratory fish return to the Charles river to spawn in the lakes, ponds, and tributaries? Across Massachusetts, there is a growing movement to remove aging, defunct mill dams and restore free-flowing, climate-resilient rivers. There are numerous benefits and considerations to dam removal, including reinstating migratory fish passage, restoring the ecosystem, and protecting downstream communities from catastrophic flooding. Join us for a webinar talking about this extraordinary migration and learn why we should remove the Watertown Dam to restore the ecosystem.



Speakers include Lisa Kumpf and Robert Kearns. Lisa is the River Science and Restoration Program Manager at the Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA), where she oversees the water quality monitoring programs. Her vision for the River Science program is to collect reliable water quality data that is both communicated clearly to the public and used to support CRWA's advocacy goals. Lisa received her B.S. in Geology in 2013 from UMass Amherst, and conducted her graduate research at Boston College.

Robert serves as CRWA's Climate Resilience Specialist and works with the team to implement Climate Resilience 101 virtual training sessions for local officials, helps manage the Charles River Climate Compact, and works to further the organization's advocacy and community engagement goals. Prior to joining CRWA, Robert served as Youth Education and Community Engagement Coordinator with Mass Audubon's Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary through the Americorps program, TerraCorps. Robert holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he focused upon the intersection of the environment, policy, and law.

Saturday, September 30, 2023, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Nahanton Park BioBlitz

Nahanton Park Nature Center, 471 Nahanton Street, Newton, MA

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/nahanton-park-bioblitz/>

Are you interested in learning more about how to identify native plants? Or maybe you are more interested in birds or butterflies? Did you ever wonder how many species of plants and animals inhabit Newton's Parks and Conservation Areas? Maybe you have developed skills for identifying ferns or pollinators and you want to share that knowledge with others? Or perhaps you are just curious to learn more about nature in Newton?



If this piques your interest, join us for a Newton BioBlitz event at Nahanton Park! We will spend a few hours surveying plants and animals, learning, and posting our observations to iNaturalist. You do not need to be an experienced naturalist or expert to participate. Families are welcome. Read more about the BioBlitz effort in Newton in our Summer 2023 Newton Conservators Newsletter in an article by Jon Regosin - Newton Biological Survey – Surveying Plants and Animals in our Parks and Conservation Lands.

Learn how to use the iNaturalist app to take pictures for documenting what lives in Nahanton Park. Download this free and useful identification app to your phone or tablet beforehand from the Apple App Store for iOS or the Google Play Store for Android.

Bird Walk at Nahanton Park

Leader: Haynes Miller

Sunday, October 1, 2023, 8:00 am - 10:30 am

Nahanton Park, Winchester Street entrance

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/bird-walk-at-nahanton-park/>

Join Haynes Miller in a leisurely walk through Nahanton Park, Newton, looking especially for migrant warblers and sparrows. Binoculars and waterproof shoes are recommended. Cancelled in case of steady rain. Cosponsored by Friends of Nahanton Park. Meet at the lot o* of Winchester Street. The trip leader is Haynes Miller (617-413-2419) who birds at Nahanton quite a lot and has led this trip in the spring and fall seasons.

Sunday, October 1, 2023, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Upper Falls Village Day
1225 Chestnut Street, Newton Upper Falls
<https://figcitynews.com/2023/08/upper-falls-village-day-oct-1/>



PHOTO: KEEN MALLORY

Look for our new Newton Conservators GREEN tent at Newton Upper Falls Village Day, where you can pick up the latest schedules, try some crafts for the kids, or learn about volunteer opportunities from our board members.



Upper Falls Village Day will take place on October 1, 11AM-2PM, by the Upper Falls Greenway and the foot of Chestnut Street (1225 Chestnut Street, Upper Falls). There will be booths for local businesses, food, live music, and kid activities. The event is organized by the Newton Upper Falls Area Council and Newton Upper Falls Community Development Corporation.

Monday, October 2, 2023, 9:30 - 11:30 am
Invasive Removal at Cold Spring Park
25 Dexter Road, Newtonville
<https://newtonconservators.org/events/invasives-pull-2023-10-02/>

Join the Conservators' Invasives Team for a two-hour work session at one of Newton's parks and conservation areas. Weather permitting, the team meets on Monday mornings and Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 or so. We tackle a variety of invasive plants, depending on the season and the needs of the park area. If you wish to join us and find out the specific site we'll be working on, please email invasives@newtonconservators.org and we will email you back with the details. Check out our [Invasives Resource Page](#). An invasive Black Swallow Wort pod is shown to the right.



Saturday, October 7, 2023, 9:30 - 11:30 am
Invasive Removal at Awtrey Dell
Access via 35 Sargent Park, Newton Corner 02458
<https://newtonconservators.org/events/invasives-pull-2023-10-02/>

Join the Conservators' Invasives Team for a two-hour work session at one of Newton's parks and conservation areas. Weather permitting, the team meets on Monday mornings and Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 or so. We tackle a variety of invasive plants, depending on the season and the needs of the park area. If you wish to join us and find out the specific site we'll be working on, please email invasives@newtonconservators.org and we will email you back with the details. Check out our [Invasives Resource Page](#). Invasive Japanese Knotweed is shown to the right.



Sunday, October 8, 2023, Noon - 4:00 pm
(rescheduled from September 24)
Newtonville Village Day
Walnut Street, Newtonville
<https://figcitynews.com/2023/08/newtonville-village-day-sept-24/>

Look for our brand new Newton Conservators GREEN tent at Newtonville Village Day, where you can pick up the latest schedules, try some crafts for the kids, or learn about volunteer opportunities from our board members.

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. There will be a variety of more than 75 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.

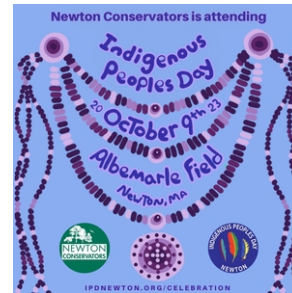


Mayor Fuller will be present to cut the ceremonial cake (from Icing on the Cake), and as always, general admission is FREE!

Monday, October 9 2023, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Indigenous Peoples Day
Albemarle Field, Newtonville
<https://www.ipdnewton.org/celebration>

Look for our brand new Newton Conservators GREEN tent at the Indigenous Peoples Day celebration where you can pick up the latest schedules, try some crafts for the kids, or learn about volunteer opportunities from our board members.

All are welcome to this free, family-friendly, Indigenous-led, volunteer-run event to enjoy great music, check out various performances & cultural presentations, meet local Indigenous vendors, & eat delicious food.



Sunday, October 15 2023, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Newton Harvest Fair / Green Expo
Newton Center Green

<https://www.newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/cultural-development/events-fairs-and-festivals/harvest-fair>

Look for our brand new Newton Conservators GREEN tent in the Green Expo area of the Newton Harvest Fair celebration, where you can pick up the latest schedules, try some crafts for the kids, or learn about volunteer opportunities from our board members. The GreenEXPO, organized by [Green Newton](#), showcases representatives from sustainability-focused companies, community organizations, and city departments to share information and answer questions. With 1200+ visitors to the GreenEXPO and the Harvest Fair, it's a great day for families to learn how to live greener while enjoying a day outdoors. The Harvest Fair features a Kiddie Carnival, Rides, Food, live Music, and loads of vendor booths. It's a wonderful family event. Drop by our booth and say hello!



Webinar: Springers and Singers: The Art and Science of Observing Orthoptera
Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Matt Pelikan, Naturalist

Sign Up: <https://bit.ly/47lalxj>

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/webinar-springers-and-singers-the-art-and-science-of-observing-orthoptera/>

Widespread, plentiful, and in some cases really loud, Orthoptera (grasshoppers, crickets, and katydids) get surprisingly little attention from naturalists. But these insects are everywhere, if often extremely well camouflaged, and anyone can learn to find them and ID them by sight or sound. In this webinar, Matt Pelikan will introduce the basics of Orthoptera biology and ecology, discuss their diversity in eastern Massachusetts, and present a range of tips and tricks for finding and recognizing these interesting insects.



The Director of the Martha's Vineyard Atlas of Life project at BiodiversityWorks in Vineyard Haven, Matt, is a lifelong naturalist who has conducted a decade-long survey of the Orthoptera of Martha's Vineyard, documenting more than 50 species on the island. Matt's other interests include bees (his current obsession), butterflies (he compiled and maintains a detailed checklist for the Vineyard) and birds (he's a former editor of the Massachusetts journal Bird Observer). A Lexington native, he has lived on Martha's Vineyard since 1997. You can learn more about the Martha's Vineyard Atlas of Life at its website mval.biodiversityworksmv.org.

Sunday, October 22, 2023, 8:00 am -10:00 am
Birding at Cold Spring Park
Leader: Pete Gilmore
Cold Spring Park, Beacon Street Newton

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/birding-at-cold-spring-park-5/>

Participants will meet near the turnaround at the end of the left side of the Beacon Street parking area. This is an easy walk on woodland trails. We will look for resident birds as well as fall migrants. The latter may include warblers, thrushes, and vireos. We saw a Philadelphia Vireo on this walk three years ago. Beginners and children are welcome. Trip Leader, Pete Gilmore (petegilmore79@gmail.com) is an experienced birder. Check out Pete's webinar on Fall Birding at Cold Spring Park for a preview of what you might see: <https://youtu.be/cBm4Xr0l6ps>



Keep up to date on our events on our [website](https://newtonconservators.org/events/) at <https://newtonconservators.org/events/>

Newton Conservators Newsletter

The Fall edition of our Newton Conservators is now available on our [website](https://newtonconservators.org/) or you will be receiving it by USPS mail shortly.



NEWSLETTER

Preserving open space and connecting people to nature since 1961

NEWTONCONSERVATORS.ORG • FALL 2023

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Please Help to Protect Newton's Conservation Areas from Misuse and Abuse

By Jennifer Steel, Chief Environmental Planner, City of Newton

The Newton Conservation Commission cares for over 310 acres of natural open spaces in the city. Some of the larger conservation parcels

get a lot of use by walkers, joggers, birdwatchers, and dog walkers from all over the city and region; some of the smaller parcels tend to be used only by nearby residents. Newton's conservation areas and the other natural open spaces cared for by state agencies or the Newton Parks,

Recreation & Culture Department, are critical to the city's overall ecological health. These wooded areas provide habitat for native species, rainwater capture that feeds our streams and rivers in times of low rainfall, and biological and physical filtering of stormwater that removes pollutants from our environment. They all contribute to a cooler environment and the quality of life that city residents enjoy. They provide sanctuaries of tranquility and healing, opportunities for exercise, and safe spaces to share with family and friends.

Most users of these precious places respect and care for them. They abide by the land use regulations, pick up litter, help remove invasive plants, volunteer on workdays, and

donate funds and infrastructure to ensure that these public spaces are as nice as they can be for all to enjoy.



Dirt bikes at the Norumbega Conservation Area

Unfortunately, three of our largest and most cherished conservation areas are being actively damaged, not only by people who ignore protective regulations but even commit outright vandalism. Unleashed dogs have been a long-term problem in Webster, Saw Mill Brook,

and Norumbega Conservation Areas. Dog poop is often left in the woods and on the trails; dogs may erode stream banks, harass native wildlife, trample delicate understory plants, and frighten or dissuade others from using these parcels for tranquil enjoyment. Now fires, graffiti, motorized vehicles – from electric mountain bikes to dirt bikes (i.e., motorcycles) and outright vandalism are all becoming more common. The Conservation Commission needs everyone's help in stopping this escalation of damage.

In the Webster Conservation Area, graffiti has turned beautiful rocky cliffs and outcroppings and the rocks of the large vernal pool into blighted areas of spray paint (see photos next page). Webster Conservation Area

Continued on page 2

This Fall 2023 [issue](#) contains the following interesting features:

- [Protect Newton's Conservation Areas from Misuse and Abuse](#)
- [The Importance of Being an Arborist: Preserving Trees for the Health of Our Planet](#)
- [Newton Conservators' Trails Revolving Fund](#)
- [Enjoy Nature...with Webinars from Newton Conservators](#)
- [Fall 2023 Walks](#)
- [Invasives Update](#)
- [Third Annual Newton Monarch Festival](#)

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW YOUR NEWTON CONSERVATORS MEMBERSHIP



**NEWTON
CONSERVATORS**

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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