

Enjoy Nature... with Webinars from Newton Conservators

Join us for our **Spring Webinar Series** online from **March through May**.

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 @ CLAUDIA THOMPSON

Cedar Waxwing

Thursday, March 14 ... Creating Landscapes for Bird Diversity

Our landscapes have a tremendous impact on bird diversity, and with so many native bird populations in steep decline, understanding their needs is more important than ever. With her urban garden as a case study, Claudia Thompson will explore the essential principles for creating avian-friendly landscapes for a wide variety of land bird species — from song birds to owls, woodpeckers, and more. Native plants provide the foundation with healthy flora-fauna relationships that are essential for food and habitat. Also important is the structure of the landscape so that it offers varied canopy layers, protective cover, and water. Finally, she will consider the pros and cons of our human interactions with birds, using birdfeeders and nest boxes, and through the design of our built environment. Every landscape matters, and each of us can make a difference!

Ms. Thompson founded Grow Native Massachusetts in 2010 and served as the organization's President and Executive Director through its first decade. Her work as a landscape ecologist is also deeply informed by her personal experience over three decades, transforming her relatively small urban garden into rich habitat where she documented more than 80 species of birds. Her lifelong career in the environmental sector has included other notable roles, serving as Director of Education for the Appalachian Mountain Club, Director of Drumlin Farm for Mass Audubon, and on the board of the New England Wild Flower Society. This webinar is cosponsored by Friends of Cold Spring Park, Green Newton, and Newton Tree Conservancy.

Sign up: <https://bit.ly/49wvQM8>



PHOTO: BILL BYRNE

Eastern Coyote

Thursday, April 11 ... Coexisting with Coyotes in Suburban Communities

Eastern coyotes are found in nearly every town and city in Massachusetts, and they can thrive close to humans in a variety of habitats. Join this webinar to learn about eastern coyote biology, how coyotes use suburban areas, and how communities like Newton can take effective steps to coexist with coyotes. This talk will be presented by Mass Wildlife's Black Bear and Furbearer Biologist Dave Wattles, PhD.

Dave has been studying and working with large mammals in Massachusetts since 2006, when he began collaring and studying moose for his graduate work at UMass Amherst. He has 15 years of experience conducting black bear research and has been the Black Bear and Furbearer Biologist with the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (Mass Wildlife) since 2016.

Sign up: <https://bit.ly/4bAcKqc>



Sarah Evans

Thursday, May 23 ... Pesticides and Children's Health: How Can We Protect Our Community?

Sarah Evans, Assistant Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, will share the latest science on how pesticides impact health, children's unique vulnerability, and steps that families can take to reduce pesticide exposures.

Sarah Evans, PhD, MPH, obtained her doctorate in neuroscience from Weill Cornell Medical College and her master's degree in public health from Mount Sinai, where she also completed a three-year fellowship in Environmental Pediatrics. Her research focuses on how early life environmental exposures shape the brain and behavior. Dr. Evans is committed to translating research to action to promote safer practices and policies that protect families from toxic chemicals.

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