



Newton Conservators
E-Bulletin
Wednesday, September 4, 2024

... preserving open space and connecting
 people to nature since 1961

Fall Activities with Newton Conservators!

As usual, Newton Conservators has a great lineup of free events for the fall season, including webinars, walks, tours, invasive pulls, community fairs, and more! Check out the details in our calendar listings below or on our website [Events Page](#). All of our Newton Conservators Fall events are FREE - what a bargain! Many of our events have registrations in order to help plan and to make sure they are not too crowded for our volunteer leaders.

If you are interested in plant identification, come out this Sunday to our BioBlitz at the Auburndale Cove with naturalist Zach Shein and learn how to use the fantastic iNaturalist ID tool in the field. And next weekend, in conjunction with the Newton Community Pollinator Project, we have a series of three great pollinator related events. It starts off on Saturday morning (9/14) with our 4th Annual [Monarch Festival](#) at Wellington Park with lots of kids activities, free seeds and milkweed plants, and of course caterpillars and butterflies! Following on Sunday afternoon (9/15) is our 2nd Annual [Newton Pollinator Garden Tour](#) with even more gardens than last year! Maps will be provided ahead of time to registrants so you can visit these mostly native plant gardens at your own pace. And if these events inspire you to plant more native plants, you can acquire some at the Cold Spring Park Farmers Market [Native Plant Pop-Up Sale](#) on Tuesday (9/17) afternoon from a number of wonderful native plant suppliers!



Our walks this year start off a week from Saturday (9/14) with a [Circumnavigation Tour of Webster Woods](#) led by naturalist teacher Barbara Bates. Other walks will take you to Saw Mill Brook, Houghton Garden, Cold Spring Park, Nahanton Park, and the Riverside Greenway and even include birding and stargazing! Our [webinar series](#) takes on fall colors, the night sky and lighting, urban forests and more. Our invasives team can always use more help if you want to get physical with removing some undesirable plants like black swallow-wort.

The Fall issue of the Newton Conservators newsletter is now available on our [website](#), in case you don't elect to receive the printed edition in your mailbox.

Our [volunteer web page](#) lists current opportunities to help with walks, conservation restrictions, invasive plants, biodiversity, community events, photojournalism, publicity, and even helping with this e-Bulletin! To volunteer for any of these, or talk to us about sharing skills or interests we haven't already listed, please check out <https://newtonconservators.org/volunteer/>

Lastly, Newton Conservators is in the process of culling our email lists to remove old and inactive email addresses. In addition, you will be seeing some changes in the e-Bulletin in the near future where it will likely look different and will be coming via a different mail provider (MailChimp). We want to make sure that it goes to those who are truly interested in keeping up with the nature and open space happenings in and around Newton. If in the future, you find you are not receiving the e-Bulletin but want to, or you know someone else who may want to subscribe, please direct them to our subscription page - <https://newtonconservators.org/follow-us/>

Hope to see you out and about in Newton's open spaces or at one of our many free events this Fall.

Fall Events Calendar

Sunday, September 8, 2024 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Flowed Meadow and Auburndale Park BioBlitz
Auburndale Park, 104 West Pine Street, Auburndale, MA, 02466
 Registration:

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/flowed-meadow-and-auburndale-park-bioblitz/>

Come explore the plants of Flowed Meadow and Auburndale Park and improve your plant identification skills. These BioBlitz events are part of a larger effort by the Newton Conservators to document, and raise awareness about the great diversity of plants and animals that inhabit Newton's open spaces. Auburndale Park has a wide variety of attractions including river frontage, fields, wooded areas, and much more. Flowed Meadow Conservation Area is an adjacent 28-acre parcel, much of which is wetlands. It has a kettle hole containing a vernal pool. At the beginning of the event, we will give a brief tutorial on the iNaturalist app, which we use to document species and as an identification aid. The leader for this event is naturalist Zach Schein. For questions, email Jonathan Regosin: jonathan.regosin@gmail.com. Parking is at the Cove parking lot on West Pine Street in Auburndale. Registration is requested and registrants will be notified by email in case the event is canceled due to rain. This event was originally scheduled on Sunday, August 4 which was canceled due to rain. If you booked for the original date, you don't have to re-register.



Saturday, September 14, 2024, 9:00 am - 11:30 am
Fourth Annual Newton Monarch Festival
Wellington Park, Kilburn Road, Newton, MA

Info and Registration:

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/fourth-annual-newton-monarch-festival/>

We all have a natural fascination with nature and butterflies. Our Fourth Annual Newton Monarch Festival is on Saturday, September 14 from 9 am - 11:30 am (rain date, September 15) in Wellington Park, West Newton (entrances on Kilburn Road and Princess Road). Attendance is FREE and preregistration is encouraged if you would like to be notified of any weather related changes or other pollinator related events. The Monarch Festival is cosponsored by Newton Conservators, Newton Parks Recreation and Culture Department, Newton Community Pollinator Project, Green Newton, Mothers Out Front, Friends of Cold Spring Park, and Friends of Wellington Park. There will be butterfly oriented kids games, activities, and crafts, a native milkweed seed and plant exchange, butterfly garden tours, live monarchs in various stages, butterfly and milkweed information, a monarch release and prize drawings for attendees. For full details and registration, please visit our website. Registration is requested and those who register will be informed of any weather related changes and automatically eligible for drawings if present.



Saturday, September 14, 2024, 9:30 am - 11:30 am
Circumnavigating Webster Woods
Webster Woods
Newton Conservators Fall Walk Series

Info and Registration:

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/circumnavigating-webster-woods/>

Join teacher-naturalist Barbara Bates for a two-hour walk that roughly circumnavigates Webster Woods, about 1.5-2 miles. We will see several different habitats, including upland woods, a granite/pudding stone dome, vernal pool, marsh, and a wetlands stream, and we'll discuss each habitat's natural history as we go. There will be rocky places, slippery leaves, and one steep section where you may wish to use trekking poles. Registration is required on our website, and a waitlist will be available if registration is filled. Meeting location and directions will be mailed to all registrants before the walk. This walk is co-sponsored by Arc'teryx



(<https://stores.arteryx.com/shop/375204/arteryx-chestnut-hill>), an outdoor clothing store in Chestnut Hill. The trip Leader is Barbara Bates (B.L.Bates@rcn.com).

Sunday, September 15, 2024, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Second Annual Newton Pollinator Garden Tour
Various Locations in Newton (Map Supplied)

Info and Registration:

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/second-annual-newton-pollinator-garden-tour/>



The Second Annual Newton Pollinator Garden Tour will be held on Sunday, September 15th,

2024 from 1 to 4 pm with a rain date of Sunday, September 22, 2024. Last year's inaugural tour was a great success and we saw a huge interest in folks growing their own native plant pollinator gardens. The tour will be focused on pollinator gardens with mostly native plants in Newton Center, Newton Highlands, and West Newton this year with a mix of both public and private gardens.

Preregistration is requested and maps and photos of the gardens and plant lists will be supplied to registrants ahead of time by email. With the map you can visit the gardens at your own pace. Most of the gardens on the tour will have gardeners to answer any questions you may have. Why pollinator gardens? Gardens with native plants can be both beautiful and functional at sustaining our pollinators. Our environment is at risk because of precipitous declines in native plants and the insects, birds, and other animals that depend on those plants. The tour is being organized by the Newton Community Pollinator Project in conjunction with Newton Conservators, Newton Parks Recreation and Culture Department, Green Newton, Friends of Cold Spring Park, Friends of Wellington Park, and Mothers Out Front Newton.



Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 1:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Native Plant Pop-up Sale at Newton Farmers Market
Cold Spring Park (1200 Beacon Street, Newton, MA 02461)

Plant Sale Info:

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/native-plant-pop-up-sale-at-newton-farmers-market/>

Market Info:

<https://www.newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/recreation-programs/farmers-market>

If you have been inspired by our Newton Pollinator Garden Tour to incorporate more native plants in your own garden, don't miss the Native Plant Pop-up Sale at the Cold Spring Park Farmers' Market. [Grow Native Massachusetts](#), along with at least two other specialist vendors, [Bluestem Natives](#) and [Lady Fern Farm](#), will have booths with some of your favorite native plants for sale! It's a great opportunity for the fall planting season, not to mention for picking up some fresh veggies and other goodies from the usual farmers market vendors!



Thursday, September 19, 2024, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Green Newton's Environmental Leadership Celebration
Hibernian Hall, 151 Watertown St, Watertown MA

Info and Tickets:

<https://greennewton.networkforgood.com/events/73793-green-newton-s-environmental-leadership-celebration>

Celebrate Our Environmental Community & Green Newton's Urgent Work to Create a Sustainable Future. Attend the Environmental Leadership Celebration to celebrate Newton's hard-working environmental community and honor six outstanding leaders with our 2024 Louise Bruyn Environmental Leadership Awards. This year's honorees include Ruth Balsler (retiring MA State Representative, 12th Middlesex), Kay Khan (retiring MA State Representative, 11th Middlesex), Deb Crossley (Former Newton City Councilor), Alicia Bowman (Former Newton City Councilor and Newton Conservators board member), Fulfilled Goods (Low-waste Market & Refillery), and Friends of Cold Spring Park (Stewards of Cold Spring Park). There will be a cocktail reception from 6:30 with dinner and program at 7:20. Enjoy good company, raffles, and



Green Newton

more at this fundraiser to support Green Newton's urgent work to protect the environment and fight climate change from the local level. Register and buy tickets at the link above.

Saturday, September 21, 2024, 8:30 am -10:00 am
Nature Walk through Saw Mill Brook Conservation Area
Newton Conservators Fall Walk Series
Vine Street (close to 5 Hollywood Drive)

Info:

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/nature-walk-through-saw-mill-brook-conservation-area/>

We'll walk through upland woods and wetlands, and by old stone fences and dramatic puddingstone outcroppings. We will include the adjoining "new" section acquired in 2004 and blazed in recent years. We will walk from Vine Street to Marla Circle and return back along the brook, about 1.2 miles in total. We'll look out for the dozen ferns Don Lubin has shown us here before, and maybe see a fisher again! The trail is "natural," mostly flat, but uneven and rocky underfoot, and there are parts over wetlands that are traversed on wood planks called "bog bridges". Meet at the entrance on Vine Street, close to 5 Hollywood Drive. The walk will be canceled in the event of steady rain. Check the website or call the leader if in doubt. Trip Leader: Katherine Howard (617-721-2571). Find info on Sawmill Brook Conservation Area at <https://newtonconservators.org/property/sawmill-brook/>



Saturday, September 28, 2024, 8:30 am -10:00 am
A Visit to Houghton Garden
Newton Conservators Fall Walk Series
Houghton Garden, near 207 Suffolk Road, Chestnut Hill

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/a-visit-to-houghton-garden/>

This wild garden, tucked into Chestnut Hill and abutting Webster Woods, is on the National Register of Historic Places. Its paths wind around a stream and lagoon-like pond with water features designed by Warren Manning, who formerly worked for the Olmsted studio. Explore this hidden gem of a conservation area with its land steward, Michele Hanss of the Friends of Houghton Garden. The walk will be rescheduled in the event of steady rain. Meet at the park entrance near 207 Suffolk Rd. Trip Leader: Michele Hanss (617-285-9107)



Sunday, September 29, 2024, Noon - 4:00 pm
Newtonville Village Day
Walnut Street, Newtonville

Info: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/newtonville-village-day-2024-tickets-867995356477>

The Newtonville Area Council 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 over 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 on two stages. Come visit our green Newton Conservators tent at this fun fair!



Sunday, October 6, 2024, 8:00 am -10:30 am
Birding at Nahanton Park
Newton Conservators Fall Walk Series
Nahanton Park - Winchester Street Entrance (525 Winchester St)

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/birding-at-nahanton-park/>

Enjoy a leisurely walk through Nahanton Park, Newton, looking especially for migrant warblers and sparrows. Binoculars and waterproof shoes are recommended. Canceled in case of steady rain. Look for a gathering at the entrance to the path to the lower gardens at the Winchester Street entrance. Trip Leader: Haynes Miller (617-413-2419) Co-sponsored by [Friends of Nahanton Park](#).

Thursday, October 10, 2024, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Fall Color and Seed Dispersal - How Do They Do That?

Newton Conservators Fall Webinar Series

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/fall-color-and-seed-dispersal-how-do-they-do-that/>

Register: <https://bit.ly/4dObn7z>

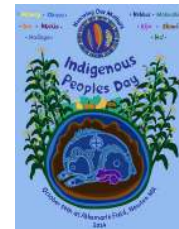
In New England, we prize our trees' fall color - the reds, yellows, oranges and purples. And starting in August, we notice how seedy our native plants become - falling nuts dent our cars; burrs make grooming pets a challenge. But how and why do they do what they do? Join Barbara Bates as she explores the mechanisms of fall color and seed dispersal timing and strategies. Barbara is a teacher, naturalist and Newton Conservators' board member. She loves all things nature.



Monday, October 14, 2024, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm 4th Annual Indigenous Peoples Day Ceremonial Celebration Albemarle Field, Albemarle Road, Newtonville

Info: <https://www.ipdnewton.org/celebration>

Join IPD Newton to celebrate & uplift Indigenous peoples & voices on Indigenous Peoples Day at Albemarle Field. This Ceremonial Celebration spotlights and celebrates the music, dance, poetry, and visual art of diverse Native artists who currently live in the Northeast and beyond. All are welcome to this free, family-friendly, Indigenous-led, volunteer-run event to enjoy great music, check out cultural dances & presentations, support local Indigenous vendors & non-profits, & eat delicious food. Come visit the Newton Conservators tent at this great fall event!



Saturday, October 19, 2024, 9:30 - 11:30 am Cold Spring Park Tour

Newton Conservators Fall Walk Series

Info and Registration: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/cold-spring-park-tour/>

Tour Cold Spring Park with Alan Noguee, President of [Friends of Cold Spring Park](#). See the difference between healthy areas of the park with indigenous plant communities that support local wildlife and degraded sections overrun with invasive species and see where we are working on ecological restoration. Learn some surprising park history. Meet at the kiosk at the end of the Beacon St parking lot. Registration is optional to hear of cancellation or rescheduling in bad weather. Trip Leader: Alan Noguee (617-821-1265). This walk is cosponsored by [Friends of Cold Spring Park](#).



Sunday, October 20, 2024, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm Newton Harvest Fair and GreenEXPO Newton Centre Green

Harvest Fair Info:

<https://www.newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/cultural-development/events>

GreenEXPO Info: <https://greennewton.org/>

The Newton Harvest Fair is a carnival with food trucks, live music, 100+ crafters/vendors, and free pumpkin decorating courtesy of Wegman's Chestnut Hill (while supplies last), organized by the City of Newton's Department of Cultural Affairs.

The GreenEXPO is held in conjunction with the City of Newton's Harvest Fair and organized by Green Newton. Come see the many options available to make your life greener. Available will be representatives from sustainability focused companies, community organizations, and city departments to share information and answer questions. Come visit our green Newton Conservators tent in the GreenEXPO portion of the fair!



Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm (Rain Date: Friday, October 25)

In-person Observation of the Night Sky

Cold Spring Park, 1200 Beacon Street, Newton, MA, 02461

Info and Registration:

<https://newtonconservators.org/events/in-person-observation-of-the-night-sky/>

The open space of Newton is beautiful by day and by night! Join local amateur astronomer and dark-sky defender, Kelly Beatty, on a tour of the evening sky. He'll provide us with some stargazing basics and show off some interesting sky sights through a small telescope. The sky that night will feature the bright planets Venus and Saturn, along with the Summer Triangle, Andromeda Galaxy, and the Milky Way! Bring your binoculars to enhance the experience and a dim, red-filtered flashlight if you have one.

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. After 43 years of pounding the keyboard, he retired from full-time work in early 2018 but remains actively involved in many S&T articles, tours, and other projects. 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 and presented "Darkness in Distress" for Newton Conservators in the fall of 2022. You must register for this event in advance! Limited attendance.



Saturday, October 26, 2024, 9:00 - 11:00 am

Riverside Trail Updates

with Ted Chapman, Riverside Greenway Working Group

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/riverside-trail-updates/>

Explore some of the many exciting trail and park updates happening in the Riverside area with Ted Chapman of the Riverside Greenway Working Group. The tour may include Riverside Park at the Lasell Boathouse pedestrian bridge, the Pigeon Hill trail, the Pony Truss trail, the Commonwealth Ave Greenway, or the Marty Sender Trail. The exact itinerary and meeting spot will be announced in advance on the website events page. The walk will be rescheduled in the event of steady rain. Trip Leader: Ted Chapman (617-680-5278).



Saturday, November 2, 2024, 1:40 pm (Rain date November 9)

The Secrets of Bare Pond

Newton Conservators Fall Walk Series

Webster Woods, Elgin Street entrance

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/the-secrets-of-bare-pond/>

Bare Pond in the Webster Woods Conservation Area is a remarkable vernal pond that is home to spotted salamanders and other amphibians. It has many other unusual and surprising features of rocks, hydrology, topography, and trees. In this walk, Richard Primack will share what he has learned about the pond during an intensive study over the past nine months. Meet at 1:40 pm at the end of Elgin Street and walk from there.

Alternatively, meet at 2:00 pm at the bench at Bare Pond. Trip Leader: Richard Primack (857-636-8378, primack@bu.edu), Professor of Plant Ecology at Boston University and lifelong Newton resident. If you plan to attend, please let Richard know beforehand by [email](mailto:primack@bu.edu). The rain date will be November 9.



Thursday, November 21, 2024, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Floodlights and fireflies: Environmental sustainability starts in your front yard.

Newton Conservators Fall Webinar Series

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/floodlights-and-fireflies-environmental-sustainability-starts-in-your-front-yard/>

Registration: <https://bit.ly/3YQkz7e>

Insect populations around the world are declining rapidly. But why? While habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change all have something to do with it, Dr. Avalon Owens shows in this talk that light pollution is another important – but too often overlooked – bringer of the insect apocalypse. Light pollution interferes with the development, movement, foraging, courtship, and reproduction of diverse insect species, including many that we know and love to see in our gardens. Fortunately, light pollution can be cheaply, easily, and instantly eliminated. Doing so will help ensure that we live in harmony with our insect friends and neighbors for generations to come.

Dr. Avalon Owens is a research fellow at the Rowland Institute at Harvard. Her research group

studies the impact of light pollution on organisms and ecosystems, with a focus on firefly conservation and moth evolution. Avalon holds a B.A. in Integrative Biology from Harvard University, an M.S. in Entomology from National Taiwan University, and a Ph.D. in Biology from Tufts University.



Thursday, December 5, 2024, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

**Protecting Urban Forested Natural Areas:
Making the Case for Conservation
Newton Conservators Fall Webinar Series**

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/webinar-protecting-urban-forested-natural-areas-making-the-case-for-conservation/>

Registration: <https://bit.ly/4dvA4Wp>

Urban forested natural areas provide numerous ecosystem services and places for urban residents to recreate, interact with nature, and seek respite from the hustle of urban life. Despite these benefits, forests are often cleared and the consequences are severe. Join this webinar to learn more about the benefits of urban forested natural areas, the threats they face, and what you can do to help conserve these spaces. Sam Lawson, National Partnerships Coordinator at the Natural Areas Conservancy, has made a career helping people share information and support each other to build more resilient networks. He works with the Forests in Cities network, a national initiative to connect professionals who care for urban natural areas. Previously, he conducted community engagement at New York City's Department of Emergency Management. He holds a bachelor's from Bennington College and a master's degree in natural resources from Cornell University.



Thursday, February 13, 2025, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

**Animals Looking for Love on Valentine's Day - It's Not Just Humans!
Newton Conservators Webinar Series**

Info: <https://newtonconservators.org/events/animals-looking-for-love-on-valentines-day-its-not-just-humans/>

Registration: <https://bit.ly/4dRiH2q>

Winter is a cold time to find a mate and start a family, but it is also an ideal time for many animals. Join Barbara Bates for a look at some of Newton's larger animals looking for love in February and the myths that surround their quests. We will cover owls, groundhogs, skunks, beaver, foxes, coyotes, and bobcats. Barbara is a teacher, naturalist and Newton Conservators' board member.



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

Invasive Removal Events

The work of our invasives team continues. We will meet throughout the fall and also plan winter work. Join us for fun, educational, and much-needed work, giving back to our open spaces!

As the Mayor's newsletter recently highlighted, it is now prime black swallow-wort (BSW) season. Be on the lookout for this vine, a non-native invader infesting Newton, often hiding in hedges and shrubs. It reduces biodiversity and degrades our local environment, and, sadly, is fatal to monarch butterflies (it's in the milkweed family, and when monarchs mistakenly lay eggs on it, the larvae die because it is not the right milkweed). Right now, the small purple flowers have turned into large seed pods, which are starting to dry and open. The wind will disperse the seeds on white fibers to make the infestation even worse.

The BSW vine has blue-green, glossy, opposite leaves, small purple flowers, and large seed pods that hang down like pea pods. (See our website for many other photos.) You can dig it up, cut it down, or pull off the seed pods to prevent further spread. Put everything into your trash, not into yard waste, to avoid further spread. For more photos and information about this and other common invasive species in Newton, see the invasive plant information on our website (listed under Resources), such as his link for BSW: <https://newtonconservators.org/black-swallowwort/>

Newton Conservators conducts many work sessions year-round to protect Newton's open spaces and

manage invasive species. If you would like to be on the email list for notices of our group activities, please email Invasives@newtonconservators.org. Thank you!

- Katherine Howard



Black swallow-wort pods in summer and fall



Black swallow-wort flowers

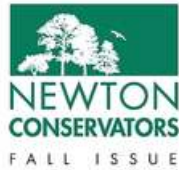
Newton Conservators Social Media

Please consider following Newton Conservators on our social media channels and join our followers on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The easiest way to get to our channels is from our website's home page menu bar (see the red circled area below). Just click on the small icons on the right of the website menu bar for Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube respectively.



Newton Conservators Newsletter

The Fall 2024 edition of our Newton Conservators is now available on our [website](#).



NEWSLETTER

Preserving open space and connecting people to nature since 1961

NEWTONCONSERVATORS.ORG • FALL 2024

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Newton's Tree Preservation Ordinance

By Marc Welch, Deputy Commissioner/City Forester, Newton



PHOTO: KEN MALLORY

Bullough's Pond with overlying tree canopies

In 1999 the City of Newton became one of two communities (Lexington was the other) in Massachusetts to regulate the removal of trees on private property. Over the next 20 years, Newton's Tree Preservation Ordinance was occasionally updated to address loopholes and to make minor language corrections. Two years ago, the Tree Warden, the Mayor's Office, and the City Council embarked on a significant update to the tree ordinance. The City Council met publicly many times over two years, conducted two public comment meetings, and received substantial amounts of input. The result was a more comprehensive ordinance that was passed in December of 2023, and that took effect on March 1, 2024.

The Tree Preservation Ordinance was originally established to protect the tree canopy in Newton, and the current improved version does just that. The ordinance establishes a procedure that requires all property owners to apply for a permit prior to removal of any tree with a trunk diameter of six inches or larger at breast height (slightly above 4 feet) to ensure review by

the Tree Warden and compliance with the established standards for the replacement of trees and the protection of existing trees. A tree permit is also required any time construction takes place regardless of whether or not trees are involved.

The tree canopy of the City of Newton is a valuable resource critical for the well-being of the city residents, visitors, and businesses. Trees mitigate the effects of climate change, improve air quality, provide habitat for wildlife, and improve physical and mental health. Preserving tree canopy and planting replacement trees is key to enhancing the quality of life and the environment of the city. It protects public health against climate change impacts such as heat, drought, and flooding. The tree ordinance helps preserve the character of wooded and natural areas, contributes to reducing energy consumption, protects air quality, and baffles noise. Wildlife habitat is preserved and enhanced, and topsoil erosion is reduced. Additionally, the tree ordinance and the protection of trees safeguard property values and ensure that trees are part of the character of the city.

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This [Fall 2024 Newsletter](#) contains the following interesting features:

- [Full Issue](#) - Ken Mallory (Editor)
- [Newton's Tree Preservation Ordinance](#) - Marc Welch
- [A Close Look at Bare Pond in Webster Wood](#) - Richard Primack
- [Enjoy Nature with Webinars from Newton Conservators](#) - Beth Wilkinson
- [Fall 2024 Walks](#) - Sam Corbin
- [Fall 2024 Invasive Plant Sessions](#) - Katherine Howard
- [Book Review: An Immense World by Ed Yong](#) - Pete Gilmore

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW YOUR NEWTON CONSERVATORS MEMBERSHIP

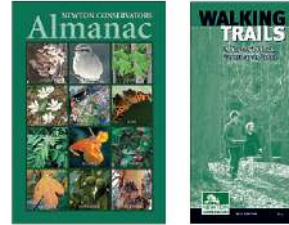


We would be most grateful if you renewed your membership or joined us officially for the first time to support our important open space work! The challenges of protecting, enhancing and expanding open space in Newton continue. We hope that you will continue to support the Conservators efforts in these regards by renewing your membership for 2024 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!

Our [Trail Guide](#) and [Nature Almanacs](#) make great holiday presents and are available on our website. The Trail Guide is included as part of your initial membership package.

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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