



Citizens for Lexington Conservation

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Eileen Entin, President

APRIL 2024

Ruth M. Ladd, Editor

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CLC BOARD

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Secretary	Pamela Lyons
Membership	Priya Krishnan
Walks Coordinator	Gali Diamant (NEW!)
Newsletter Editor	Ruth Ladd
Website Management	Rita Pandey and Keith Ohmart
Archivist	OPEN (see description below)

CLC WELCOMES OUR NEW WALKS COORDINATOR: GALI DIAMANT

Gali has lived in Lexington since 2001. She is a software engineer and in her free time likes to travel, hike, sketch and cook. She tries to spend time outdoors every day, and feels very lucky that we have many options to explore right here in town. Her favorite conservation areas are Meagherville, Whipple Hill and Daisy Wilson Meadow.



CLC IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!

Help support our expanding set of projects and activities

Archivist (this is a board position) The archivist is responsible for ensuring that important digital CLC information is preserved on our server. Examples are Conservation Restriction documentation, including original DEP application forms, photo files and annual site visit monitoring reports.

What is a Vernal Pool?

Vernal pools are bodies of fresh water filled by melting snow and spring rains that typically dry out over the summer, providing habitat for specialized vertebrate and invertebrate species.

This unique seasonal environment, devoid of fish, is vital to a variety of specially adapted species, including some that are listed as threatened or endangered.

Many of these creatures spend the dry season as seeds, eggs, or cysts.

When the pools fill with water, amphibians such as spotted salamanders and wood frog migrate from forested uplands to vernal pools where they breed and lay their eggs.

Ferocious salamanders usually lay about 100 eggs that cling to the underwater plants and form egg masses. When the eggs hatch, the larvae are born with breathing gills. In ten to four months the larvae lose their gills and become juvenile salamanders that leave the water and move to terrestrial forests, where they live in the shelter of leaves or burrows.

During the breeding season, male wood frogs can be heard calling day and night. Females lay masses of 1,000 to 5,000 eggs which hatch between 9 and 30 days later and reach maturity in one to two years. A wood frog is most distinct characterized by the black markings across its eyes, which has been said to resemble a mask.

Fairy shrimp live their whole lives in one short season. The eggs they lay will not hatch until they have dried out and then become wet again in another season.

Where else in Lexington can you find a vernal pool?

LEARN MORE ABOUT VERNAL POOLS

Signage Coordinator CLC has begun an ambitious project to put information signs in a variety of conservation areas throughout Lexington. Thus far, we have installed an information sign about vernal pools in Hayden Woods and a sign about habitat variety in Parker Meadow. The conservation department installed a sign about wetlands at Cotton Farm and CLC will be working with the conservation department to install a sign in Willards Woods. We are seeking individuals who will help identify other locations where an informative sign would be mean-

ingful and work with a small group to develop the content for these signs. We urge people who have particular interests in and knowledge about aspects of our conservation habitats that they would like to share to join us in this ongoing project. We envision this project as continuing over several years, with the goal of developing two new signs each year.

Conservation Restriction Organizer and Monitors A Conservation Restriction (CR) is a legal agreement between a landowner and the holder of the restriction. In Massachusetts, the CR is approved and accepted by the state and recorded at the Registry of Deeds. CLC has agreed to hold the CRs for several conservation properties in Lexington that were purchased by the town at least in part using Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds. To formalize a CR, we must prepare CR documents that are submitted to the state for approval. Once the CR is approved, CLC is required to inspect the property annually and report any violations to the property owner – in this case the Town of Lexington. A small team of CLC members are in the process of completing the applications for three properties, and are seeking people who are interested in joining the team to help develop the application documents for the remainder of the properties. We are also seeking individuals who will be responsible for annual monitoring of the properties

Public Relations Materials Developer CLC is sometimes asked to participate in fairs, displays, and other activities held by other groups in town. We are seeking one or two individuals who can develop a set of materials that are appropriate for different activities and audiences, including both information and interactive materials, that are readily available for use at Discovery Day, fairs, school events, and other types of community activities that whoever is participating in the activity can use.

Please consider whether you can help us fill any of these open positions.

If you would like to learn more about any of these positions, please send a message through the CLC website (CLCLex.org), and one of CLC's Board members will respond. Or, if you prefer, please call Eileen Entin at 781-862 6418.

BOOK REVIEW

Ruth Ladd

***Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest* by Suzanne Simard**

Part autobiography, part botanical treatise, and part photo documentation of trees and forestry practices: this book ends up as a very readable book about the harm caused by clear-cutting trees. It is documented by the author through personal observation from childhood through her doctoral and post-doctoral research as a forest ecologist which proved that trees DO "talk" to each other, using both intra- and inter-species communication via mycorrhizal connections. Sounds dry; it's not! The story and science take place mostly in British Columbia but also in the northwestern U.S. yet both her personal story and the story of the trees are relevant far beyond. Dr. Simard is perhaps the foremost forest ecologist in the world yet is also a woman facing personal challenges, both emotional and physical. I found it captivating and moving.



EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS ON CONSERVATION LANDS

Note that Eagle Scouts cannot do projects on their own; they need to prepare materials to gain approval of the project (from the Conservation Commission in the following cases), enlist the help of others (often other scouts), raise the funds, purchase materials, and execute the project. It is an impressive effort for a prospective Eagle Scout to prepare for and complete a project.

Bike Racks at Parker Meadow and Cotton Farm

Scout Lucy Ekrem Installed three bike racks adjacent to the Minuteman Bike Path and one at Cotton Farm in 2023.

Signs



Scout Andre Frohman added an entrance sign to the parking lot for Parker Meadow on Revere Street and two signs for the Burns Parcel in 2023. The former shows the trail is universally accessible. The latter were to reduce illegal dumping there.

Boardwalks

Scouts Ian Lewis, Ian Miller, and Jackson Monks built 54 feet of boardwalk in the Meagherville conservation area in 2022. This work connected to previous boardwalk installations by scouts. The ends of the boardwalks were sloped to make them accessible for bicycles.



Fire Pits

Scout Ethan Showalter replaced two Willard's Woods fire pits in 2021. The old fire pits were in poor repair, one was in a poor location and the other had overhanging vegetation. 12" high and 35" diameter field stone fire rings meeting U.S. Forest Service standards were constructed. He also posted an informational flyer, approved by the Lexington Fire Department, about fire permits in the Kiosk near the parking area.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

4th Annual Native Pollinator Plant Sale

The Town of Lexington Conservation Department's 4th annual Native Pollinator Plant Sale is now open to everyone!

The sale will include a Sun Kit with plants that thrive in sun to partial sun (Golden Alexanders, Cardinal Flowers, Slender Mountain Mints, and Sweet Goldenrod) and a Shade Kit with plants that prefer filtered light to shade (Foam Flowers, Wild Columbines, Wild Geraniums, and Heart-leaved Asters). Each kit will include three plants of four different species for a total of 12 beautiful and healthy plants.

There are also six plants being sold individually, all of which are included on the [flyer](#) (Northern Blue Flag, Pink Tickseed, Foxglove Beardtongue, Woodbine, Smooth Blue Aster, and Pennsylvania Sedge).

Payment is accepted by credit card only. Plants will be available for pick up starting Saturday, May 11, at the Lexington Public Services Building at 203 Bedford Street.

Anyone interested in buying a kit will need to use an existing [My Rec Account](#) or set one up. Once logged in, scroll down the programs page to find "Conservation."

Contact [Amber Carr](#) or [Lexington Living Landscapes](#) if you have any questions.

April 10, 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Protecting Our Night Skies, Mass. Sierra Club Advocacy Hour. More info [here](#).

April 10, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Resilient Landscapes for a Changing Climate with Trevor Smith. Massachusetts Pollinator Network. More info [here](#).

April 11, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Coexisting with Coyotes in Suburban Communities with Dave Wattles. Newton Conservators. More info [here](#).

April 18, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Native Edibles for Cities with Dan Jaffe Wilder. Native Plant Trust. Fee. More info [here](#).

April 18, 7:00 pm

Ecological Approaches to Garden Design and Management with Harland Patch. Connecticut Horticultural Society. Fee. More info [here](#).

April 22 and following

Gardening for Pollinators. An online, safe-paced course from the Native Plant Trust. Fee. More info [here](#).

April 24, 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Rethinking Gardening with the Wild Seed Project. York Public Library. More info [here](#).

April 25, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Native Plants and Birds in New England with Evan Dalton. Native Plant Trust. Fee. More info [here](#).

May 8, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Gardening Among Hungry Mammals with Nancy Lawson. Grow Native Massachusetts. More info [here](#).

May 20, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Ecological Gardening 101: How to Select, Install, and Care for Native Plants with Mary Chieppo. Grow Native Massachusetts. Fee. More info [here](#).

May 23, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

In the Life of Nocturnal Pollinators with Emily May. Xerces Society. More info [here](#).

PHOTOS FROM NORTH STREET CONSERVATION AREA

March 2024



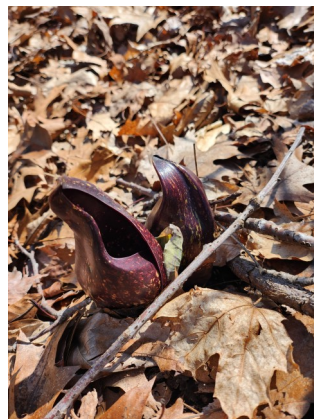
Overview of large pond



Red maple swamp (pit and mound topography)



*Burl on
Black
locust*



Skunk cabbage



Brilliant green mosses—in March!

BIRDING IN DUNBACK MEADOW

Bobbie Hodson

While there are many beautiful and varied conservation areas in Lexington, Dunback Meadow (DM) has been, and remains, my favorite for birding in all seasons. Not only does it have a varied habitat of woods, fields and water; but it also has a rich possibility of birds. Nearly 200 species of birds have been located here, including many breeders.

There are several trails which intersect midway in what birders call “the four way intersection.” One trail starts at the Allen Street entrance and crosses Clematis Brook on its way to Bacon Street. The other main trail runs from Clarke Middle School through several meadows and woods until it reaches Bowman School. Preferred entrances are via Allen Street and Clarke Middle School where parking is ample. From Clarke one can also take a shorter trail, one of the ACCESS Lexington trails through pine woods, which then joins the Allen Street trail.

In late summer and early fall, DM has many ruby-throated hummingbirds gathering for a final intake of food before their long migration south. Also, coming through in a more leisurely travel than in the spring are the warblers, vireos, and thrushes which are migrating south as the supply of insects decreases. Once October arrives, sparrows of many varieties start to appear in small flocks. They are eating the many different seeds from the grasses and weeds. Several of these sparrows, including Dark-eyed Junco, American Tree Sparrow, and White-throated Sparrow, stay with us for the winter.

Throughout the fall DM has many residential birds, such as Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, Downy Red-bellied, and Hairy Woodpeckers, Mourning Doves, and Blue Jays. Flocks of Bobolinks are often in the meadows in early fall. Cardinals grace the trees with their vivid red feathers throughout the year. Often the pine woods has several varieties of owls, such as Barred, Screech, and Great Horned. In unusual times, Long-eared Owls and Northern Saw-whet Owls are a joy to observe. And there are coyotes, turtles, foxes, and deer within this area. These are best observed in early mornings.

The better areas for birding are within a few hundred yards around the 4-way intersection. Here there is water, meadow and woods, and birds thrive in edges where there is food and safety more readily available. Going up the hill to Allen Street offers a rich birding habitat with catbirds, jays, warblers, and the usual residents. Going toward Bacon Street or toward Bowman School, one can find land birds such as hawks, goldfinch, sparrows, and in fall the Connecticut Warbler, a rarity seen most falls.

Dunback’s birding changes from day to day. By walking in this relaxing conservation area, even if the birds are not plentiful on one day, enjoy the walk and come back the next day.



GARLIC MUSTARD CONTROL

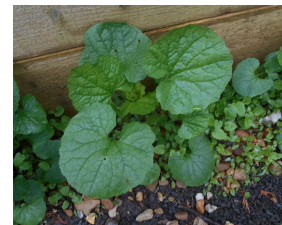
By Keith Ohmart

Garlic Mustard ranks with Oriental Bittersweet as one of the most invasive plants in Lexington. It thrives in open woodlands, sunny gardens, and almost everywhere else, where it shades out desirable plants and poisons the soil for other vegetation due to the allelopathic secretion from its roots. It produces hundreds of tiny seeds that get caught in animal fur, shoes, and clothing, and then drop off everywhere. It has no natural enemies, so we can only hope to control it and keep it from dominating the landscape.



The second year adult plant can be recognized by its many small white flowers, which have four petals.

The first year plant is harder to identify but with practice can be spotted by its distinctive leaf rosettes hugging the ground.



Control is best done by manually pulling the plants out by the roots in mid April through the first half of May before the plant has set seeds. Gently pull at the base of the stem being careful not to break it off leaving the root in the ground which will allow the plant to regenerate. If the plant has gone to seed it is best to not to remove it as this will only scatter the seeds far and wide, greatly increasing the amount of infestation in subsequent year.

Collect the plants in black plastic bags which can be disposed of as garbage along with household trash, or seal the bags tightly and leave them for weeks in the hot sun to kill the seeds and plants. DO NOT place the bags for pickup for composting with other yard waste. An alternative to bagging the plants if they have not yet set flowers is to snap the roots off and spread the stems on a flat surface in the sun to dry out and bag the roots for disposal.

Returning to the same area in subsequent years is important, as the other insidious nature of this plant is that its seeds can remain viable in the ground for up to seven years. Returning to monitor whether new plants sprout in subsequent years should gradually show a reduction in new growth to the point where victory can usually be achieved.

Opportunities to participate in scheduled garlic mustard removal efforts locally are as follows. Wear gardening gloves and bring your own water:

May 5, 9-11 am:

DPW parking lot, 201 Bedford Street
Seasons Four parking lot, 1265 Mass Ave
Waldorf School parking lot, 739 Mass Ave
Bow Street parking lot at the Bikeway

May 5, 2-4 pm:

Lincoln Park opposite Bridge School, Middleby Road

DELICIOUS SUPPLEMENT TO GARLIC MUSTARD CONTROL

Ruth Ladd

Before you dispose of the plant as explained in the previous article, strip off the leaves and make GARLIC MUSTARD PESTO. What's better than removing an invasive plant and then getting revenge by eating it!

GARLIC MUSTARD PESTO

- 4 cups chopped, tender, young garlic mustard leaves
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese (or Romano or Asiago)
- 1/2 cup pine nuts (or walnuts, or pepitas)
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 Tablespoon lemon juice

Wash and dry garlic mustard leaves and roughly chop. Add the garlic mustard, cheese, your nut of choice, and the olive oil to a food processor. Pulse until the texture is smooth but still grainy. Add lemon juice then pulse again until the pesto is smooth.

The pesto freezes well and since garlic mustard is so plentiful, I freeze multiple tiny containers (I save the small container with take-out for salad dressing, coleslaw, etc.) to use throughout the year. I add the cheese before freezing. Some people don't and add it after thawing.

INTRODUCTION TO Sustainably

Last year, Sustainable Lexington Youth (Sustainably) became a fully-fledged subdivision of the Sustainable Lexington Committee (SLC). With this new group, Lexington High School students gained direct influence on environmental issues within the town through delegate representation at Select Board meetings and the Town Meeting. Sustainably's main goals are to educate youth about climate change and take action towards developing environmental resilience in the community. The group advises the town on policies surrounding waste disposal, resource conservation, and clean energy, while connecting with residents so that they can have a say in the Town's environmental concerns.

So far in the 2023-2024 academic year, Sustainably has completed numerous projects. In October, they supported the SLC in hosting a Clean Energy Fair, an event designed to encourage Lexington homeowners to transition to green energy. With their unique role as youth representatives, members of Sustainably hosted fun trivia games and craft opportunities to teach students about the importance of young voices in the fight against climate change. Later in the year, Sustainably began an ongoing campaign to encourage local restaurants in Lexington Center to partake in compost programs. *Participation in these compost programs would significantly reduce Lexington's waste footprint and move the town towards zero waste. Finally, the group recently initiated an effort to increase youth turnout for the annual town elections and encourage LHS students to become more involved in local politics and policymaking.*

With Earth Day coming up, the group is organizing presentations with community members at the Earth Day Service at First Parish Church. Beyond this, they hope to host another session of their successful sustainability workshop for elementary students at Cary Library. By showcasing their unique paths to environmental engagement and interacting directly with residents and students, Sustainably hopes to inspire others to become similarly engaged in sustainable practices.

A NATIVE PLANT MEADOW ALONG THE BIKEWAY

Charlie Wyman

Wondering what all the little red flags are on the north side of the Minuteman Bikeway about 1,000 feet east of Woburn Street?

Three years ago this was a solid patch of Japanese knotweed, an invasive reminiscent of bamboo that can form dense thickets up to 8' high, crowding out native plants. Given a chance to establish itself on disturbed ground, it spreads aggressively via underground rhizomes that can reach 50 feet in length. Sadly it is found extensively along the bikeway.



The volunteers of Lexington Living Landscapes thought this particular patch of ground, with its good sun exposure right next to the bikeway, would also be a good location for a native plant demonstration meadow. The fact that it was already occupied by the knotweed made the location even better, as it offered the opportunity to replace an ecological desert with what they hope will be a thriving little hub of biodiversity.



The property is part of the Brown Homestead Conservation Area owned by the town, so the Conservation Commission's permission was needed. Jean Devine of Devine Native Plantings in Belmont signed on to help with the design. The volunteer team decided to avoid pesticides and do all the knotweed control by hand, cutting the stalks every time they reach a foot or more, so as to slowly starve the roots. A knotweed expert in Vermont advised that it could take 10 years of diligent cutting, but they'd begin to see the stand lose vigor in just 2-3 years, which they have.

In June of 2021 the team filled two dumpsters full of knotweed, and spread annual buckwheat seed to provide a cover crop. As they continued to cut, they also began planting native perennials that do well in northeastern meadows. Many of the early plantings have now established themselves, and new ones (both plants and seed) are being added each year. The cutting of the knotweed also continues, along with some weeding out of other nonnatives that have taken advantage of the bare ground. Seeds of Partridge Pea, a native annual that is a bee magnet, has also been sown to occupy bare ground while the perennials fill in.

If you visit, you'll find a little semicircular woodchip path that takes you through the heart of the meadow, with a number of species labeled. Look for Foxglove Beardtongue, Common Milkweed, Butterfly Weed, Broadleaved and Narrow Leaf Mountain Mint, Anise Hyssop, Showy Goldenrod, New England Aster, Obedient Plant, Wild Bergamot, and several grasses (Little Bluegrass, Prairie Dropseed, Purple Love Grass, and Switchgrass), among others. The red flags help the volunteers remember where the new arrivals are while they're settling in, so they aren't accidentally weeded out.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, write the folks at Lexington Living Landscapes at lexliv-ingland@gmail.com.

CITIZENS FOR LEXINGTON CONSERVATION 2024 SPRING WALKS

All walks are free and open to the public

Spring 2024 Walk Leaders Appreciation

CLC would like to thank the thoughtful people who've agreed to lead our spring walks. They are not compensated and give freely of their time and expertise to introduce one and all to Lexington's wealth of outdoor resources.

Butterfly Walk, Arlington's Great Meadows

Sunday April 21, 11 am

This 183-acre wet meadow is the largest piece of undeveloped land in the Arlington/Lexington area. The meadow is home to host plants for many overwintering insect larvae/pupae. Target species: Henry's Elfin, Brown Elfin, and other early spring butterflies. Attendees may continue on to Horn Pond Mountain in Woburn for more Brown Elfins and other butterflies. Co-sponsored by the Mass Butterfly Club. Park at the marked trail access spaces entrance to Lexington Meadows townhomes at the end of Emerson Gardens Rd. (Use Emerson Gardens Rd. for overflow parking.) More than light rain cancels.

Leader: Tom Whelan, 781-915-9988, tom@whelanphoto.com



Spring Bird Walk, Arlington Reservoir and Lexington Community Farm

Saturday April 27, 8-10 am



Join us at Arlington Reservoir to look for early songbird migrants (Warbling Vireo, first orioles, and numerous colorful Yellow-rumped and Palm warblers likely) and lingering migrant ducks (Green-winged Teal likely and maybe a Ruddy). Meet at the gym set area of Rindge Avenue Playground. We'll do a complete circuit of the reservoir and check Lexington Community Farm also. Bring binoculars. Wear footwear for possibly damp or muddy ground.

Leader: Chris Floyd, hchrisfloyd@outlook.com

Lexpress Walk Series #1 – Turning Mill/Willards Woods/Chiesa Farm/Parker Meadow

Tuesday April 30, 9:30 am-12 noon

Learn how to use Lexpress to expand Lexington's walking opportunities. This 3.5 mile/2.5 hour walk will traverse parts of 4 Lexington Conservation areas including Turning Mill, Willard's Woods, Chiesa Farm and Parker Meadow. We will board the 9:30 am Lexpress bus at the Depot in Lexington Center and return by foot to this location at the end of our walk. Steady rain cancels.

Registration is required – Call Lexington Community Center, 781-698-4840, or visit: www.lexbikewalkbus.org

Leader: Keith Ohmart, kohmart@verizon.net

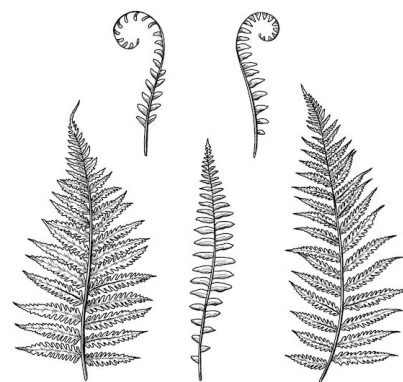
Fern Plus Walk

Saturday May 4, 1 pm

Focus will be on identifying ferns, but we will also “botanize” on anything else that captures our interest. We can also make entries into iNaturalist! There will be several 10x magnifying glasses available, or bring your own. Meet at the Hayden Woods trailhead behind 45-55 Hayden Avenue. A few parking spaces available there, or park along the access road behind 45-55 Hayden Avenue.

Walk is limited to 8 participants, registration required – check website.

Leader: Ruth Ladd, wetlandmom@aol.com



Garlic Mustard Pull at Lincoln Park

Sunday May 5, 2-4 pm



Garlic mustard seeds can take up to seven years to sprout, requiring repeated efforts to control and eradicate this aggressive invasive species. Come join CLC’s multi-year effort to pull this year’s crop from along the pathways in Lincoln Park. Bring gardening gloves. Steady rain cancels. Meet at the Fitness Path entrance on Middleby Rd across from the entrance to Bridge School, where you may park.

Leader: Keith Ohmart, kohmart@verizon.net

Spring Birding at Lower Vine Brook

Saturday May 11, 7-9 am



Lower Vine Brook can be a fantastic area to see a nice selection of warblers, beautiful small tropical birds that migrate north at this time of year. They will eventually reach the forests of northern New England and Canada to breed, but if weather and foliage are right, you may see a dozen species here in a single morning. Dress for the weather (boots if it’s wet) and bring binoculars and a bird ID book, or app. Children with adults are welcome. No dogs please. Rain or lightning will cancel the event; if conditions are uncertain, please call the walk leader. Meet at the entrance to Lower Vine Brook conservation area opposite 93 Vine St.

Leader: Harry West, 617-461-9500, hwest2020@gmail.com

Lexpress Walk Series #2 – Shaker Glen/Lower Vine Brook

Tuesday May 14, 9:30 am-12 noon

Session two exploring the use of Lexpress to expand Lexington’s walking opportunities. This 3+ mile/2.5 hour walk will wend its way through two of Lexington’s Conservation areas past a wide variety of habitats as well as the remains of a former crushed stone processing operation. We will board the 9:30 B Lexpress bus at the Depot in Lexington Center and return by foot to this location at the end of our walk. Steady rain cancels. **Registration is required** – Call Lexington Community Center, 781-698-4840, or visit: www.lexbikewalkbus.org

Leader: Keith Ohmart, kohmart@verizon.net

Willard's Woods Ramble

Sunday May 19, 10:00-11:30 am

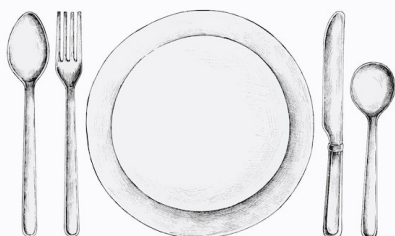
With 100 acres of former farmland, Willard's Woods provides an opportunity to explore a variety of areas, including open areas, a former livestock pond and peaceful pine groves. After a brief review of the area's history, we will proceed slowly along the paths to get a sense of the varied habitats and their plant and animal residents. Meet at the Willard's woods parking area on North St opposite # 44. Wear comfortable clothing appropriate for the weather along with sturdy footwear. More than light rain will cancel.

Leader: Barbara Tarrh, btarrh@gmail.com



Wild Edibles of Lexington's Waysides

Wednesday May 22, 6-8 pm



Once again, CLC is delighted to have Russ Cohen return for another walk to teach us about wild edible plants! Lexington is home to over 70 species of edible wild plants, both native and non-native, including plants considered to be weedy or invasive. Some are more nutritious and/or flavorful than their cultivated counterparts. Join [Russ Cohen](#), expert forager and author of *Wild Plants I Have Known...and Eaten*, on a two-hour ramble in and around Lincoln Park to learn about at least eighteen edible species. Russ will present information on identification tips, edible portion(s), season(s) of availability and preparation methods, as well as general guide-

lines for safe and environmentally responsible foraging. Steady rain cancels. Meet at the Fitness Trail entrance at the crosswalk on Worthen Road across from the Lexington High playing fields.

Leader: Russ Cohen, 781-646-7489, eatwild@rcn.com

Spring Goat Pasture Walk at Chiesa Farm

Sunday May 26, 12 noon-2 pm

Rain date: Monday May 27, 12 noon-2 pm

Come join the local Lexington goats for their daily pasture walk through the fields and woodlands at Chiesa Farm. Each season the land provides them with diverse plant life. The goats are very specific to what they need to eat depending on many factors. We will have two Lexington herds, totaling a dozen adult female dairy goats, plus a few new goat kids just born this spring. Learn how the goats in our town are working to keep the invasive plants from taking over. All adults and children are welcome. No dogs please. Parking is at Diamond Middle School or Fiske Elementary School parking lots. Meet us in the pasture. Note rain date.

Guides: Halé Sofia Schatz and Laurene Beaudette

Contact: laurene@iwebinsight.com



Spring walk at LexFarm and the Arlington Reservoir

Saturday, June 1, 1-3 pm

Rain date: Sunday, June 2, 1-3 pm

Tour the LexFarm fields and buildings to learn about its sustainable farming practices and explore the field edges where efforts are underway to remove invasives and introduce native plants. Next, walk the Arlington Reservoir path to the Cataldo Reservation, to learn about ongoing work in the past 6 years to control invasive plants and attempts to add in some natives. Meet at the kiosk next to LexFarm's parking lot, 52 Lowell Street. Walk takes place rain or shine, but heavy rain cancels. Cancellation announcements will be posted on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/lexfarm>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/lexingtoncommunityfarm/>).

Leaders: Mary Rose Scozzafava (maryrose@lexfarm.org) and Holly Samuels (hollygardendesign@gmail.com)

Across Lexington Route H

Sunday June 9, 10am - 12noon

Join this walk to discover Across Lexington Route H. This 3.8 mile loop goes through residential streets and several conservation areas including Idylwilde (community gardens) and Hayden Woods. The route goes on a very long boardwalk through some wetlands. Remains of stone walls used to mark boundaries can also be seen. The route is shared by runners and bicyclers and is not suitable for baby carriages.



The walk will start and end at the front parking lot of Bridge School, 55 Middleby Road. Parking available under the canopy and along the pavement. Wear comfortable clothing and walking footwear.

Thunder/steady rain cancels

Leader: Miriam Boucher, 781-248-6695, mdcb16@verizon.net

THIS-NOT-THAT POSTERS

Compliments of the Fairfax County Park Authority

