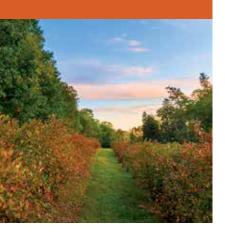


## **SUPPORT** Greenbelt's **Annual Fund**

**YOUR GIFT: OUR IMPACT** 



PRESERVING LOCAL LAND FOR FARMING & ENJOYMENT



When the Patton family changed their plans for this property they called Greenbelt to see if we'd like to purchase the land, and we accepted. In the few months that followed, we were overwhelmed and humbled by the outpouring of support for the project.

#### Fall 2019 Newsletter

# Protecting Green Meadows Farm and Vineyard Hill

148 ACRES OF IDYLLIC FARMLAND, WOODS & TRAILS - A PRIORITY "GREEN BELT" CONNECTOR

Located in the heart of thousands of acres of protected land, Green Meadows Farm & Vineyard Hill exemplify all that Greenbelt strives to achieve in conservation.

Since the 1980s, when former Greenbelt President Ed Becker toured the property in the back of Major General Patton's pickup truck, the land that is Green Meadows Farm and Vineyard Hill has been a high conservation priority for Greenbelt. For decades, neighbors, community members and visitors have appreciated the beauty and bounty of this land.

**GREEN MEADOWS FARM** was known for years as one of the few certified organic farms on the North Shore, raising vegetables, fruits and heritage breeds of livestock; 59 acres remain in agricultural production today.

VINEYARD HILL across Asbury Street from the farm has an incredible ridgeline trail well-loved by equestrians, runners, hikers and nature enthusiasts. Trails throughout the 89 acres on Vineyard Hill connect directly to Greenbelt's Shaw Field, the adjacent Brick Ends Farm, Bradley Palmer State Park and beyond.

**GREENBELT'S VISION** for the property includes continued agricultural production on Green Meadows Farm, and permanent protection and maintenance of the extensive trail network on Vineyard Hill. Working with partners, we will explore the possibilities for new trail connections linking this vast network of protected land.

Greenbelt was able to permanently protect Green Meadows Farm and Vineyard Hill thanks to incredible support from generous individuals near and far

Bradley Palmer Greenbelt's **Ipswich River** Wildlife Sanctuary Patton Brick Ends Homestead Vineyard Hill Reservation Patton

> who love this land for so many reasons: its trails, farmland, watershed land, riverfront, habitat, scenery and history. We are grateful to these donors, as well as the Institution for Savings, and to the Patton family for providing the opportunity to purchase and conserve the property.

"Projects like this highlight the importance of patience and taking the long view, while still being nimble so we can move rapidly when the time comes." Kate Bowditch

President

ecga.org/greenmeadowsfarmvineyardhill













IERRY MONKMAN



#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chair Philin Lake Hamilton Vice Chair Alison Falk Vice Chair Annie Madden West Newbury Vice Chair David Tory Essex Treasurer Kent Wosepka Hamilton Asst. Treasurer Brad Aham Newbury Secretary Peter Loring Prides Crossing

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#### **GREENBELT STAFF**

Kate Bowditch Accounting & Operations Sable Weisman

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**Essex County Greenbelt** Cox Reservation Headquarters 82 Eastern Avenue Fssex, MA 01929 978 768 7241 ecga@ecga.org

ecga.org





As I walked at Castle Neck River Reservation on a recent fall morning, with the golden sunlight slanting through the trees and the fog lying on the green meadows and wetlands, I felt a surge of happiness. To live in a place where the landscape can thrill you with these scenes is marvelous.

Intellectually, I know that the fog is created by the cool air of the night passing over the warmer, moist field, and that the low angle of the sun means the light is scattered, so more red, yellow and orange reach my eyes.

I know the field and the split rail fence the fog pushes through are there because of the constant effort of land stewards, Greenbelt's own, and those who worked the fields before us. But what I feel is emotional, a connection to the land and nature that is more of the body than the mind.

This experience is at the heart of Greenbelt's work. We conserve land so that people will be able to experience the joy of natural places forever, whatever pressures come from development and climate change in the future.

The details of what we do – the complex real estate transactions, the planning and mapping, the trail making, the fundraising – all these disappear when we go for a walk in the woods, across a field or out to a marsh.

A sampling of the amazing array of projects Greenbelt is undertaking is highlighted in this fall's newsletter - from the purchase of Green Meadows Farm and Vineyard Hill to the new trail in Amesbury created by an Eagle Scout. Some of the beauty of our work is captured here as well in the photographs taken by our staff and volunteers. I hope you learn something new and are excited by what you read. Most of all, I hope you're inspired to get outside and enjoy!

> Kate Bowditch President

## Your Gift: Our Impact SUPPORT OUR 2019 ANNUAL FUND

Protecting local farmland, wildlife habitat and scenic landscapes takes sustained, focused committment. We can't do it without you. Your gift to the Annual Fund directly supports the work that we do, and increases the impact our experienced staff have on protecting and caring for land across Essex County.

#### 2020 Greenbelt Calendar FREE WITH YOUR ANNUAL FUND GIFT of \$150 or more

#### SUPPORT OUR WORK

Donate today with the enclosed envelope or online ecga.org/annualfund

Considering a gift of stock? Contact Cathy. ccl@ecga.org, 978 768 7241 x13



12 months of spectacular Jerry Monkman photography taken exclusively for Greenbelt over the years!

# Staff Outing to Lillooet Sheep & Cheesery Proves Delicious

Greenbelt had a glorious day at Lillooet Sheep & Cheesery in Boxford this summer. On these 100 acres of conserved land, sheep and goats graze, regenerative farming is practiced and delicious cheeses are made. Thank you, Nathaniel and Gillian, for an informative tour and delicious cheese tasting!



#### STAFF UPDATES



**SABLE WEISMAN**Accounting & Operations
Coordinator

Sable Weisman joined Greenbelt this spring as our new Accounting & Operations Coordinator. Sable has a degree in Finance and Accounting from Northeastern University, and is currently Chairman of the Board for Boston Young Professional Volunteers. She can often be spotted biking to and from work, and loves day hiking, trail walks and backpacking.



**DAVE HEACOCK**Geographic Analyst &
Trails Coordinator

Although Dave Heacock became Greenbelt's newest staff member this summer, he first began his work here as a Research Fellow in the spring of 2018. Now Greenbelt's Geographic Analyst and Trails Coordinator, Dave helps our Land Conservation team prioritize its efforts and supports our Land Stewardship team with his custom-designed software to collect and report their monitoring data.

# Summer Interns Invaluable to Greenbelt

The Cox Reservation was bustling this summer with the activities of three interns who added tremendous value across all sectors of Greenbelt's operations.



FIONA HILL Supported the Land Stewardship crew with property maintenance and Osprey data management.



**SOPHIE HARMON**Assisted the Development & Engagement team with events, outreach and communications.



**KAYLA DOREYSTER**Worked with Land Conservation to produce a Virtual Story Map of Castle Neck River Reservation.

#### CONSERVATION

# Greenbelt's conservation record is undeniably strengthened by dedicated community support and collaborative partnerships.

#### **GENEROUS GIFT**

# Amesbury Conservation Restriction Protects Powwow River and Farmland

**VAN BOKKELEN GIFT PROTECTS 17.3 ACRES** 

Greenbelt completed its second conservation restriction (CR) in Amesbury in November, almost 30 years after we received our first CR in this community, the Capp CR, in 1991. This second CR is a generous gift from Jocelyn Van Bokkelen, and it protects the Amesbury portion of Heron Pond Farm and woodlands along the Powwow River. The Van Bokkelen CR has over 1,000 feet of frontage on the Powwow, which provides drinking water to the City of Amesbury and feeds Lake Gardner, popular for paddling and

fishing.



- Important benefits of conserving this land:
- Intact native riparian forests help preserve clean water
- Wetlands help retain floodwaters during high rainfall, protecting areas downstream
- The Heron Pond Farm land in Amesbury will always be available for farming

#### PROJECT UPDATES

WEST NEWBURY

## Brown Spring Farm

This fall, thanks to generous support from local residents and beyond, the fundraising goal to conserve Brown Spring Farm in West Newbury was met. Completion of this multi-faceted project is anticipated before year's end - stay tuned!

ecga.org/brownspringfarm

## River Road Property

Greenbelt's newest reservation in West Newbury includes 31 acres of wooded upland and two lovely sections along the Merrimack River. Next steps are to create a woodland trail, and seek permitting for modest parking and a riverfront path for a car-top boat launch. We echo the remarks of John Dodge, West Newbury Open Space Committee chairman:

"River Road ... adds to West Newbury's large and expanding portfolio of conserved, publicly-accessible acreage. This community is committed to maintaining its rural character and heritage. These 31 acres of wildlife habitat will not disappear. Deepest thanks to all who contributed their time, energy and money to preserve the River Road parcel." John Dodge

#### ecga.org/riverroad

# Underscoring Climate Change in Conservation Strategies

INNOVATIVE TOOL EVALUATES RESILIENCY

Our land conservation team has developed a unique mapping analysis using data from The Nature Conservancy and other sources to better prioritize Greenbelt's land conservation work. In addition to agricultural, habitat and scenic value, land parcels are now also being evaluted based on their capacity to mitigate the impacts of climate change such as the ability to store floodwater, support biodiversity in a warming climate and produce natural cooling effects.

According to Conservation Planner & GIS Manager Abby Hardy-Moss, the added prioritization lens provides "a unique perspective for us and allows us to look at the region in a new way."

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE EXHIBIT**

Greenbelt exhibited our work at the Cox Reservation this fall, including detailed prioritization maps. In conjunction, graduate students and Professor Stephen Young from Salem State University's department of Geography and Sustainability exhibited satellite imagery and models of the impact of sea level rise in the Great Marsh.



#### **PUTTING PRIORITIZATION TO WORK**

In the coastal communities of Essex and Gloucester, Greenbelt is piloting a collaboration with municipal leaders on land conservation and climate resiliency, creating customized maps identifying priority parcels to inform local conservation strategies.

Many thanks to New England Biolabs Foundation, Toward Sustainability Foundation, The Land Trust Alliance, Open Space Institute and the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management for their generous support.

#### **CURRENT PROJECTS**

# Help Us Conserve the Last Piece of Glennie Dairy Land

**9.2-ACRE HISTORIC WOODLOT**NORTH ANDOVER

Partnering with North Andover residents, Greenbelt is working to protect the historic Glennie Woodlot on Dale Street. A few steps into the Glennie Woodlot feels like stepping back to over a century ago when this was a rural farming community interspersed with woodlots like this one.

#### Conserving this Land:

- Preserves the last woodlot of the Glennie Dairy Farm, part of North Andover's farming heritage
- Creates new parking and trail access from Dale Street to the Town Farm Conservation Area
- Protects North Andover's drinking water



North Andover residents voted unanimously at Town Meeting to approve \$200,000 in Community Preservation Act funds (thank you!) towards the purchase of this property. Now Greenbelt is raising the remaining \$50,000 needed to acquire the land. Please consider a generous donation today.

LEARN MORE/DONATE
ecga.org/glenniewoodlot



# Battis Road, Merrimac – Building on Success 15 ACRES ADJACENT TO BEAVER POND RESERVATION

**MERRIMAC** 

Greenbelt is working to conserve another 15 acres on Battis Road across from our new 23-acre Beaver Pond Reservation that Greenbelt and the Town conserved earlier this year. We need your help to protect these woodlands and significant wildlife habitat.





#### Allowing this Land to Remain Natural Will:

- Keep Cobbler's Brook clean and healthy
- · Enhance important wildlife habitat
- Help mitigate the impacts of climate change
- Expand public access to Beaver Pond Reservation and Merrimac Town Forest

**LEARN MORE/DONATE** ecga.org/battisroadmerrimac

## Parker River Conservation Projects

**CAVANAGH & CREED PROPERTIES** | BYFIELD

Greenbelt has the opportunity to conserve two parcels on the Parker River in Byfield. Together they represent over 30 acres of beautiful, rich habitat and intact marsh and upland that are important for climate resiliency as sea level rises.

On Middle Road, Greenbelt is partnering with the landowner and MassWildlife to conserve the Cavanagh property. If successful, MassWildlife will purchase and conserve 13.8 acres, and Greenbelt will purchase a conservation restriction on 2.9 acres that will permanently remain with the existing historic homesite.

On Orchard Street, Greenbelt is working with the Creed family to preserve 15 acres that would become a new Greenbelt reservation, with a trail leading to a scenic overlook of the Parker River.



**HELP CONSERVE THESE NATURAL PLACES** ecga.org/cavanaughcreed

#### STEWARDSHIP

After Greenbelt conserves land for each new Reservation, the work of trailblazing, marking, preparing it for public access and enjoyment begins - now and for generations to come.



# Greenber



NEIL UNGERLEIDER

# Castle Neck River Reservation Made Ready

32 ACRES OF CONSERVED LAND | IPSWICH

For months before the offical opening, Greenbelt's stewardship staff was hard at work preparing this property for the public. After an abandoned building was removed, the Stewardship crew designed a welcoming parking area, installed signs, and completed trail work.

From the new parking area, the stewardship team created an all-access trail for visitors with a range of mobilities.

The path leads to a bench at the top of a small knoll; from there, visitors can pause to take in the expansive view or continue on to the one-mile Greenough trail loop.

We're delighted to see so many people enjoying this property.
We encourage you to experience it for yourself!



Enjoy a video tour of the Reservation with drone footage, property and conservation history, partnerships and more!

ecga.org/property/castle-neck-river-reservation

# Seine Field Now More Accessible NEW TRAIL WORK COMPLETED GLOUCESTER

Exploring Seine Field in Gloucester is now a bit easier thanks to a wide, newly-graded trail. Named for fishermen's nets that are occasionally spread out here to dry, Seine Field is a lovely place to meander and observe nature. We encourage visitors with a range of mobilities to enjoy this new quarter-mile loop that leaves directly from the parking area which is a stop on the Cape Ann Transportation Authority (CATA) route. Generous funding from the Gloucester Community Preservation Act made this work possible.

ecga.org/property/seine-field







NEIL UNGERLEIDER

# Mehaffey Farm Trail

#### A PUBLIC TRAIL ON 28 ACRES OF CONSERVED PRIVATE LAND | ROWLEY

Greenbelt now welcomes visitors to Mehaffey Farm Trail in Rowley, thanks to our Stewardship crew who completed the parking, signage and trail work there this summer. Hikers will enjoy this beautiful wooded trail that leads to a larger trail network in nearby Willowdale and Cleveland Farm State Forests.

#### ecga.org/property/mehaffey-farm

Public access not permitted off trail or on Mehaffey farmland itself.



# Osprey Enthusiasts Welcome Dr. Alan Poole

#### **LECTURE/BOOK SIGNING**

In August, Greenbelt was honored to host author and biologist Dr. Alan Poole at Cox Reservation for a presentation and signing of his new book Ospreys: The Revival of a Global Raptor. Thank you, Dr. Poole, for sharing your work about the natural and human impacts of Osprey around the world.



## Osprey Program

2019 was another successful season for Osprey, from Salisbury to East Boston. More than 25 volunteer monitors submitted over 1,000 reports during the year.

OSPREYCAM Thousands of viewers enjoyed watching the fledgling "River" via Greenbelt's live OspreyCam near Gloucester's LobstaLand. Many thanks to the folks at LobstaLand for "hosting" the webcam there.



**VIRTUAL OSPREY STORY MAP** Monitoring, research, tagging, migration and more. ecga.org/osprey-program

# Eagle Scout Creates New Loop at Whittier Hill

21-ACRE FOREST WITH VIEWS OF WOODSOM FARM

**AMESBURY** 

Greenbelt's Whittier Hill Reservation in Amesbury has a new and improved loop trail thanks to Eagle Scout Matt Freeman. Matt worked with Assistant Director of Land Stewardship Mike Carbone to lay out and flag the trail. Matt, his family, and members of Amesbury's Troop 4 spent two days preparing the trail for visitors. Thank you, Matt and Troop 4 for your hard work!

ecga.org/property/whittier-hill-reservation



#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# Our conservation community brings together like-minded people through outdoor activities, special events, celebrations and more!

# Chris Van Allsburg to Celebrate Arbor Day with Greenbelt

**30TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK SIGNING** 

On Arbor Day, two-time Caldecott medalist and creator of *The Polar Express* and *Jumanji*, Chris Van Allsburg will read his lushly illustrated book *Just a Dream* and sign copies for the audience. An inspiring call to action for young environmentalists, this book has stayed relevant for thirty years. The book signing will be followed by a

ceremonial tree planting at Greenbelt's headquarters and each guest will be able to take home a free tree seedling of their own to plant.





April 25, 10:00am ecga.org/events
Registration required

#### IN MEMORANDUM

## Remembering Al Craig

Al Craig, a member of Greenbelt's Board of Directors for many years, passed away in September at the age of 82. Al was very helpful on the Greenbelt board as a bridge to the farming community; his perspective was instrumental in helping us understand local agriculture and the challenges faced by farmers. As the long-time manager of the Topsfield Fair, Al also helped strengthen Greenbelt's relationship with that institution.

Al was a neighbor across the Essex River at Cogswell Grant, where he raised draft horses. When needed, he generous-

ly loaned his farm equipment to Greenbelt, including his wonderful hay wagon used years ago at fall festivals here at Cox. Al will be fondly remembered for his many contributions to Greenbelt.





Honoring the Preservation of Haverhill's Anton Farm

**GENEROUS GIFT TO COMMUNITY** 

Greenbelt and members of the
Haverhill community filled the
barn at Willow Spring Vineyards
in May to celebrate the permanent
protection of Anton Farm. This
generous gift of a conservation restriction
from Janice Anton and Barbara DiSalvo
ensures that the 25.7-acre historic family farm

will always be available for farming, and helps protect Haverhill's agricultural heritage and future. Thank you, Janice and Barbara!

# Legacy Gift of Land Inspires

Greenbelt is extremely honored each time we receive a legacy gift of land. Last summer, Howard Hill of Groveland generously donated 22.7 acres of land his family has enjoyed for three generations. Hill and his cousin will continue to care for these beautiful woodlands and fields as long as they can. After that, Greenbelt will assume stewardship of the property and create a new reservation named the Ethel Vashti Hill Reservation in honor of Hill's grandmother. We are inspired by this generous gift that leaves a lasting legacy for all to enjoy.

If you are considering a planned gift to Greenbelt, including land or other, please contact us or visit our website to learn about a wide variety of legacy giving options.

LEARN MORE
ecga.org/planned-giving

Essex County Greenbelt

# Tour de Greenbelt 2019 CYCLE FOR LAND CONSERVATION



189 Riders

24 Volunteers

3 Routes

1 Big Party!

Close to 200 cyclists enjoyed a perfect

fall day for the 2019 Tour de Greenbelt. A sea of bright-colored jerseys marked the start of each ride, including the 25- and 50-mile road routes that passed more than 50 properties conserved by Greenbelt, and the 40-mile gravel grinder. Post-ride festivities at the Cox Reservation resonated with great food from The American BBQ, drinks from Harpoon Brewery and fantastic music by *Way to the River*. Thank you to all the riders, supporters and volunteers who came out to support our land conservation work!



"The Tour is one of my favorite days of the year. And a favorite fundraising event."

Ben Nutter, Team Benjamin Nutter Architects

# YOUR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT

# **Special Excursions**

FOR GREENBELT MEMBERS

#### 2019 EVENTS - A BIG HIT!

Our way of saying thanks for your membership.

A new and very fun benefit for Greenbelt Members is the chance to attend events designed just for them, as our way of saying thank you!

#### Great Marsh Natural History Cruise

On a lovely June evening, Members joined Greenbelt's Director of Stewardship Dave Rimmer for a guided tour of the Essex River. Due to popular demand, we hosted a second sold-out tour!



#### Full Moon Hike/Brewery Stop

In October, Members enjoyed a nightime hike up Whittier Hill in Amesbury, along a trail loop recently added by local Eagle Scout Matt Freeman. The group ventured to Brewery Silvaticus for lively conversation and a post-hike draft beer.

Stay tuned for the 2020 Members-Only events.

NOT A MEMBER YET? JOIN TODAY! ecga.org/membership



# THANK YOU! Greenbelt Business Partners

GREENBELT MEMBERS ENJOY SPECIAL PROMOTIONS AT PARTICIPATING LOCAL BUSINESSES BY PRESENTING THEIR MEMBERSHIP CARD AT TIME OF PURCHASE.

Beverly Cycles, Beverly
Bicycle Shop of Topsfield, Topsfield
Birdwatchers Supply & Gift, Newburyport
The Bookshop of Beverly Farms, Beverly
Cape Ann Farmers Market, Gloucester
Cape Ann Museum, Gloucester
Digital House Calls, Rockport
Essex Bird Shop & Pet Supply Inc., Essex
Essex River Basin Adventures, Essex
Essex River Fishing Charters, Essex
Firehouse Center for the Arts, Newburyport

Gloucester Stage Company, Gloucester Gold Coast Mortgage Service Inc., Beverly iFarm LLC, Boxford Marblehead Architecture & Heritage Tours The Marblehead Inn, Marblehead New England Running Company, Beverly OrthoWell Orthopedic & Sports Physical

Therapy, Beverly/Newburyport Plum Island Kayak, Newburyport Prime Meats & Provisions, Beverly Project Repat, Boston Relay Power, Hudson
River Spirit Massage & Bodyworks, Topsfield
Riverside Cycle, Newburyport
Stonehearth Capital Management, Amesbury
True North Gallery, Hamilton
Wildlife Conservation Trust, Alstead, NH
Zumi's Esspresso & Ice Cream, Ipswich

# **CONNECT YOUR BUSINESS** ecga.org/business-partnership

Contact Rachel at rachel@ecga.org 978 768 7241 x22

# Get Outside!

**EXPLORE. HIKE AND LEARN WITH US** 

RSVP FOR ALL GREENBELT EVENTS

ecga.org/events

ecga@ecga.orq, 978 768 7241 x10

**UPDATES** Dates, times, and locations are subject to change due to weather or other unforeseen conditions. Please RSVP and check online for updates.

Join us for outdoor events and activities that educate, build community and inspire your commitment to the natural world

#### INTRODUCING...

## Greenbelt Book Club! Bring a Friend Along

Join the discussion with your fellow Greenbelt supporters! Choose our fiction or non-fiction option (or both!) to think deeply about land and look at conservation from a new angle.

Check titles and meeting dates:

ecga.org/events



#### **JANUARY**

#### Cross-Country Ski Tour

Willowdale Meadow & State Forest | Topsfield Monthly Walk

January 12, Sunday | 1:00-3:00pm Glide through the forest with Greenbelt to ring in the new year. FREE

#### Bringing It to the Table

by Wendell Berry

Hamilton-Wenham Library **Greenbelt Book Club** 

January 14, Tuesday 10:00-11:30am FREE

## **Snowshoe Excursion** Goldsmith Reservation

Andover

#### **Weekday Connections**

January 16, Thursday | 9:30-11:30am Enjoy stunning pond views and beloved woodland trails. FREE

BERRY

#### **FEBRUARY**

Snowy Woods Walk/Snowshoe Mehaffey Farm & Willowdale State Forest Rowlev

#### **Weekday Connections**

February 20, Thursday | 9:30-11:30am Explore new trails and old links with public lands. FREE



#### Winter Wildlife

Indian Hill Conservation Area | West Newbury **Family Nature Series** 

February 22, Saturday | 2:00-4:00pm Follow in the tracks of mice, deer, hawks, owls, and more! FREE

#### Winter Wander

Castle Neck River Reservation | Ipswich Monthly Walk

February 23, Sunday | 1:00-3:00pm Observe signs of wildlife in Greenbelt's newly conserved meadows, woods, and marshland. **FRFF** 

#### MARCH

#### The Overstory

by Richard Powers

Georgetown Public Library Greenbelt Book Club

March 10, Tuesday 10:00-11:30am FREE



Cox Reservation | Essex

**Family Nature Series** 

March 19, Thursday | 6:00-7:30 pm Encounter live owls up close in the barn! \$10 Greenbelt members

\$18 Non-members

# Discovering State Lands

Boxford State Forest | Boxford **Weekday Connections** 

March 19, Thursday | 9:30-11:30am

Visit our oldest reservation, Bald Hill, with natural and man-made sites of interest. FREE

## Forest Family Workshop

Cox Reservation | Essex

Family Nature Series

March 21, Saturday | 1:00-3:00 pm Use all your senses to find or renew your family's engagement with nature! FREE

#### Woods and Water

Mill Pond Recreation Area | West Newbury Monthly Walk

March 22, Sunday | 1:00-3:00pm Experience idyllic pond views and well-trod woodland trails. FREE

#### APRII

## Animal Tracking Workshop

with Laura Trudel

Rough Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary | Rowley Special Earth Month Event

April 1, Wednesday | 9:30-11:00am April 2, Thursday | 9:30-11:00am

Start in the classroom, then head outside to put your skills to the test! FREE

## Vernal Pond Field Trip

with Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team

Tompson Street Reservation | Gloucester Citizen Science Event

April 4, Saturday | 10:00-11:30am Identify obligate species and observe these special habitats with local experts. FREE

#### First Nations History Hike

Maudslay State Park | Newburyport Monthly Walk

April 5, Sunday | 1:00-3:00pm

Visit the sites of rare ceremonial earthworks created by ancient indigenous peoples. FREE

#### **Woodland Wander**

Glennie Woodlot & Town Farm Conservation Area | North Andover **Weekday Connections** 

April 16, Thursday | 9:30-11:30am

Meander through old farmland and reminisce about the history of these woods. FREE



#### Salamander Swarm! with Cell Signaling Technology Location To be Announced

**Family Nature Series** One rainy evening in April

Be notified of the salamander migration; join us with flashlights to see them swarm. FREE

#### **Book Reading & Signing**

**Just a Dream** by Chris Van Allsburg

Cox Reservation | Essex

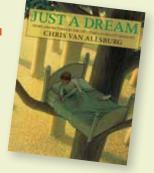
#### **Special Arbor Day Event**

April 25, Saturday | 10:00am-1:00pm 30th Anniversary reading, book signing & tree planting with author/illustrator Chris Van Allsburg.

FREE

#### **REGISTRATION REQUIRED!**

Books may be purchased at signing.



#### MAY

#### Stone Tower Hike

Lynn Woods | Lynn

Monthly Walk

May 2, Saturday | 1:00-3:00 pm

Climb to Dungeon Rock and summit the Stone Tower with an expert guide. FREE

### Global Big Day Bird Counting

All over Essex County!

Citizen Science Event

May 9, Saturday | All Day

Help break last year's record for the number of people birding on a single day: 34,000 worldwide! FREE

#### Birds, Bees & Butterflies

with Essex County Beekeepers' Association

Cox Reservation | Essex

**Family Nature Series** 

May 16, Saturday | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Learn about the lives of birds, bees, and butterflies at this fun family outing! FREE

#### Whale's Jaw Hike

Dogtown | Rockport

**Weekday Connections** 

May 28, Thursday | 9:30-Noon

Feast your eyes on the huge boulder at the heart of Dogtown. FREE

#### JUNF

#### National Trails Day

Cox Reservation | Essex

**Nationwide Celebration** 

June 1, Monday | All Day

Join thousands of people giving back to the trails they love! Activities TBD. FREE

#### Art in the Barn

Cox Reservation | Essex

#### 31st Annual Art Exhibit & Sale

June 12, Friday 10:00 - 3:00. 5:00 - 8:30 June 13, Saturday 10:00 - 5:00

Two-day exhibit & sale of paintings, sculpture, pottery, and jewelry benefits Greenbelt's land conservation work.

**FREE ADMISSION** 









## Food for Thought Dig deeper into the world of farming

Join us for unique films, lectures and inspiring workshops offered at a variety of Essex County venues.

ecga.org/filmseries

HERE'S A SAMPLE OF WHAT TO EXPECT WITH OUR 2020 FARM-FOCUSED SERIES:

#### Farm Stories

North Andover

March 26, Thursday | 6:30-8:30pm Real tales of historic and modern dairy farming in North Andover. FREE

Stay-Tuned for More Details!



82 Eastern Avenue Essex, MA 01929

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JERRYMONKMAN/ECOPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

