



*Working to preserve open space in Newton for 44 years!*

## *the Newton Conservators*

# NEWSLETTER

Holiday Issue

[www.newtonconservators.org](http://www.newtonconservators.org)

November / December 2005

## ANGINO FARM OPERATOR IS SELECTED

The Angino Farm Commission has selected Newton Community Farm, Inc. (NCF) to operate the farm for a period of three years, with two option years for a total of five years. The selection was made at a meeting of the Farm Commission on Thursday, November 3, after having issued a formal Request for Interest (RFI). NCF was the only organization to respond to the Commission's RFI.

The Farm Commission will now negotiate a contract with NCF, covering the responsibilities of the farm operator and the expectations and requirements of the city. This will include farm practices, insurance and liability, repair and maintenance of buildings and equipment, fundraising, public relations, community involvement, educational programming, traffic issues and other such matters. A contract is anticipated to be in place by mid-December.

This will enable the farm operator to move forward with plans to plant this spring (their schedule is outlined in an article that begins on page 2).

NCF is a non-profit corporation formed this summer and awaiting its 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS. Its board and mission are listed on page 3.

The condition of the farmhouse and barn has been much studied both during and after the decision to purchase the property. The most recent assessment was made by Newton's Public Buildings department and their recommendations are listed on page 4.

Finally, an extensive fundraising program is needed to launch Angino Farm. Giving opportunities and other details are described on page 4.

*Doug Dickson*

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## *Are the Conservators All Wet?*

Election time in Newton brings a range of topics to the forefront. Several interesting letters to the editor were published in The TAB over the last several weeks. One of the candidates was basing his campaign for mayor on spending priorities and called the Newton Conservators "All Wet" with respect to our interest and success in preserving a significant portion of Kessler Woods. This candidate claimed that the city purchased a "swamp," his characterization of wetlands, and in the process wasted \$5 million CPA funds. The position put forward by this candidate was that developers would have been restricted in their ability to build houses on this area because of the wetlands. (The Conservators' reply was published in the November 10 issue of The TAB.)

I believe that it is naïve and shortsighted to think that Kessler Woods would not have been completely consumed by developers. The land planner employed by the city indicated as much. Builders would have constructed many more houses under existing zoning than were negotiated as part of the city's purchase of the property. And of course, whoever owned the property would not have granted free access by Newton residents to the relatively small sections of the land on which wetlands laws would have limited construction. The flora and fauna of the area would

*(Continued on page 2)*

*All Wet, continued from page 1*

have been open only to the new homeowners. This is an issue that many critics of open space purchases fail to realize.

The other point overlooked by this candidate's position is that most of the land the city acquired was buildable upland property, not wetlands. The purchased portion includes nine acres of open space adjacent to the existing Saw Mill Brook Conservation Area on the south side of Vine Street, and another three acres on the north side of Vine Street. NStar projected that 21 homes could be built "by right" (no special permits required) on these sections of Kessler Woods and 50 or more apartment or condo units would have been possible in a 40B proposal.

A significant portion of the developer's (Cornerstone) land will ultimately be granted to the city, either outright or by conservation easement. This additional land straddles Saw Mill Brook and a tributary, South Branch, which are the wetlands to which the critic of the purchase refers. Connecting the existing 20-acre Saw Mill Brook Conservation Area and the 5-acre Bald Pate Meadow Conservation Area with the more than 25 acres of upland and wetland portions of Kessler Woods will create over 50 acres of wildlife refuge, groundwater recharge and other environmental benefits along with several public hiking trails that will be extended into and through this property.

Several of us have taken walks through Kessler Woods starting at Vine Street and ending up at the new Millennium Park in Boston. The walk continues after Kessler Woods and Saw Mill Brook Conservation Area through two cemeteries, the Brook Farm DCR land in West Roxbury and into Millennium Park. We use the two-car method where one car is left at Millennium Park and the other takes us to the starting point on Vine Street (or vice versa). This allows us to walk through the woods at our own pace, observing the vegetation, birds and other creatures in these areas without concern for the trip back.

Our ability to enjoy this contiguous series of green spaces did not come from a decision to acquire a swamp, but rather from decades of planning and hard work to be ready when the opportunity finally presented itself. This is true at both ends of this corridor—Kessler Woods in Newton and Millennium Park in Boston. Thanks to the vision of some, this continuous trail is now available for the long-term enjoyment of all.

*Bill Hagar*

## ***NCF CHOSEN TO RUN FARM***

Have you driven by the corner of Winchester and Nahanton Streets lately? For the first time in years the field looks like an active farm. Green winter rye planted in late September covers the 1.1-acre field. That green field is only part of the good news!

The group of Newton citizens, who with the Conservators a year ago encouraged the city to buy the Angino farm using Community Preservation funds, was recently selected to operate the farm on behalf of the city. Incorporated as Newton Community Farm, Inc. (NCF), this non-profit organization was established to:

- Preserve the cultural and historic landscape of Angino Farm,
- Grow organic produce for the benefit of Newton residents,
- Provide the Newton community a model and educational centre for sustainable land use and energy practices, and
- Use green or sustainable methods for renovation and operation of the farmhouse, the barn, and the fields.

The Angino Farm Commission, created by city ordinance to oversee the operation of the farm, requested proposals from non-profit organizations to operate the farm. On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Commission selected NCF to begin farming this spring. The city, after purchasing the farm and committing the funds to get the house on site habitable by a farmer, will turn over to NCF the financial responsibility of operating the farm and work with NCF to upgrade the house and barn to support educational and environmental activities.

The next step in the process will be the negotiation of a contract between the city Farm Commission and NCF, the operator. The goal is to complete this process by mid-December. Farm Commission Chair Peter Lewenberg describes the relationship between the Commission and NCF as a partnership that will accommodate the evolving program on site. The NCF will prepare a Landscape Master Plan for the site with the help of the many stakeholders with an interest in the success of the Newton Community Angino Farm.

NCF will depend on Newton citizens to make the vision of an organic farm and environmental center in

*(Continued on page 3)*

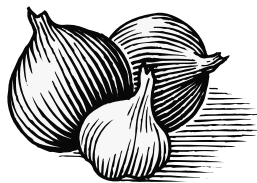
Newton a reality. The farm is small, with only about 1.5 acres of the site open to growing crops. NCF plans to sell produce on site, at the Newton Farmers' Markets and through pre-paid shares. The income from produce grown on site will not pay all of NCF's bills, especially the start-up costs of \$50,000 to purchase the equipment needed to farm the site and the \$200,000-300,000 to complete renovation of the buildings. In addition to the farm operation, NCF hopes that the site will become a center for environmental education and advocacy in Newton. We would like to invite the Newton Conservators and Green Decade Coalition to use the house for office space and to help plan environmental programs for the operation.

Many Newton citizens and members of the Conservators have expressed interest in supporting the farm. NCF will need significant financial support now to become operational by spring. A list of the items needed and their associated costs is included on the next page.

Assuming the contract with the city is in place by December as planned, the following schedule will commence early in 2006, leading to planting in the spring and operation of the farm this summer:

- In **January**, NCF will clean and paint the inside of the house, interview potential farmers and offer pre-sale of produce shares (more about that to come).
- In **February**, we will hire a farmer, order seeds, buy equipment, plant early crops in a portable greenhouse and set up a schedule for volunteer activities on the farm.
- In **March**, we'll plow under the cover crop we just planted (drive by and see the beautiful green field) and start more seedlings.
- In **April**, we will start garden bed preparation and begin putting plants and seeds in the ground.
- By late **May**, we will begin sharing the bounty and school children, volunteers and other Newton citizens will begin learning about farming, home gardening and sound environmental stewardship.

*Ted Chapman*



## *What and Who is NCF?*

The Newton Community Farm, Inc., organization grew out of the group that organized itself to plan and advocate for the acquisition of Angino Farm. The group has grown over the past several months and has worked steadily behind the scenes to help shape the process that has brought the farm to this stage of reality.

It has also engaged in fundraising activities, garnering \$37,000 in initial donations and pledges for \$65,000 more over five years. It has also identified more than 80 families and individuals who are interested in purchasing shares of produce grown by the farm. The group has incorporated and applied to the IRS for tax-exempt status.

NCF has developed initial planting plans and will continue to work on a landscape master plan that lays out the location of various garden elements, accounting for crop rotation, foot traffic and optimal use of the relatively small space. It has also collected a cultural history and worked to assess community interest and potential partners in its programming initiatives.

The **NCF mission** is to preserve the last operating farm in Newton as an historic and culturally valuable landscape. It plans to do this by pursuing the following goals: preserving the cultural and historic landscape of Angino Farm, growing organic produce for the benefit of Newton residents, providing a demonstration and educational model for sustainable land use and energy practices, and using green or sustainable methods for renovation and operation of the farmhouse, barn and fields.

Leading the charge during this formative period are the following members of the NCF board of directors:

**John Regosin**, president—a conservation biologist with the Endangered Species Program of the MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and a member of the Newton Conservators board.

**Rebekah Smillie**, clerk—a community activist, board member of City Sprouts, a Cambridge schools organic gardening program, and former educational researcher.

**Larry Burdick**, treasurer—former financial services executive and active on boards of the Trustees of Reservations, NE Wildflower Society and the Newton Conservators, among others.

**Jenny Outman**—counsel to the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture of

*(Continued on page 4)*

*Who is NCF?, continued from page 3*

the state legislature, who has assisted the Conservators and other land trusts with land conveyances and CRs.

**Ted Chapman**, chair of farming committee—longtime organic farmer, practitioner of homeopathic medicine and candidate for landscape design certificate from the Arnold Arboretum Landscape Institute.

**Ross London**, chair of fundraising committee—degrees in engineering and business administration and a long record of activism in neighborhood and school issues; longtime community gardener at Nahanton Park.

**Peter Barrer**, chair of building committee—professional engineer and founder of leading firm in energy efficiency consulting field.

**Elyse Rosenblum**—attorney who consults to foundations, corporations and non-profit organizations on educational programs and issues.

*Taken from NCF's Application to Operate Angino Farm*

## ***Giving Opportunities for NCF and Angino Farm***

A significant amount of money has been raised over the past several months but much more is needed to make Angino Farm a reality. We urge Newton Conservators members to become a part of this exciting community project. Listed below are specific giving opportunities, as well as other categories where help is needed. To learn more about how you can participate, contact Ross London, chair of the NCF fundraising committee at 617-332-2417. Tax-deductible donations in any amount are welcome.

Donate items on our start-up equipment wish list:

- First year compost, 1700 cu/yds, \$6,000
- Greenhouse, with heater and fans, \$4,595
- Tractor, compact utility type, 35 HP, \$15-25,000
- Imants spader, model 32SH-L (47"), \$6,630
- Wide sweep cultivators (2), \$1,000 each
- Compost spreader, \$6,475
- Bush Hog, \$3,000
- Tractor, cultivating type, \$3,000
- Basket cultivator, \$2,000
- Rototiller – 20", \$2,800
- Earthway row seeder, \$278
- Flame weeder, \$158
- Garden cart (2), \$109 each
- Wheel hoe, with accessories, \$2,500

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- Irrigation well, \$5,000
- Irrigation equipment, \$2,000
- Electric deer fence (solar powered), \$420

Donate services or financial backing for:

- Website development
- Bookkeeping
- Public relations
- Event coordination
- On-site programs

*List provided by Ted Chapman*

## **Rehab of the Angino Farmhouse**

At its November meeting, the Farm Commission heard a report by Nick Parnell, Commissioner of Public Buildings for the city, outlining the priorities he saw in bringing the house up to code so that it can be used as a residence for the farmer as well as for programs. About \$40,000 in CPA funds has been set aside to cover initial rehabilitation costs as part of the acquisition process. This amount was based on an initial assessment of what actions were needed and the discussion at November's meeting was intended to hear an updated version of priorities and their associated costs.

Based on that discussion, the Commission decided to fund the following list of construction projects, due to be completed by the end of the year:

- New roof, \$22,750
- Repointing and repair of masonry, \$7,920
- Upgrade of electrical service, \$7,500
- Structural evaluation of house and barn, \$5,000
- Asbestos abatement, \$3,750
- Boiler (heating) repair, \$450

In addition to these activities, the Department of Pubic Works will connect the house to the city sanitary sewer system and appropriate security and fire alarms will be installed in the house and barn.

Longer term needs in the house include some structural work under a portion of the building to replace wood sills weakened by powder post beetles and cosmetic work, including painting, floor refinishing, upgraded kitchen and bathroom fixtures. The barn will also require work and that will follow after a structural evaluation. It is not yet clear what is needed to make the barn safe for its intended uses.

*Doug Dickson*

## *Land Acquisition Report*

Where do we go after Kessler Woods and Angino Farm? The City of Newton, with the help of the Conservators, has made two of the most high-profile and important acquisitions of open space it has made in decades, greatly expanding protection for the land along Saw Mill Brook (where Kessler Woods is located) and saving the city's last working farm. Beyond these, we have expanded land holdings at Webster Conservation Area, at Dolan Pond, and in the riverfront area of Laundry Brook. Some of these were gifts or were low-budget and occurred without much controversy. Others became ammunition in the mayoral campaign and taught us the importance of communicating clearly to everyone in Newton how carefully the city's open space funds have been spent.

Where do we go from here? The Conservators' Land Acquisition Committee may want to go many places, to protect the riverfront area along the Charles or the lake shore at Hammond Pond. But we have only been able to do what we have because of the decisions of land owners – NStar, the Anginos – to bring their properties to market. The decisions aren't ours. We go where land owners allow. For the Conservators' land acquisitions, it has been important to be ready and, when land has been brought to the market, to react.

The city's Open Space and Recreation Plan gives us guidelines as to what properties are priorities for protection:

- riverfront parcels,
- a small pond, used by neighbors for skating and by frogs, fish, and waterfowl,
- land that comes alive in spring with vernal pools,
- woods of beech trees near Hammond Pond.

We approach land owners and let them know that we are available to help if they determine that the time has come to see their land formally protected. We need contacts with land owners. It is far easier to approach a land owner through a friend.

These have been good years for open space protection in Newton. Protection seldom happens without a will on the part of the land owner to see the process through. It is important for us to always respect land owners' rights and wishes. With the help of friends, we will continue our work to find protection for land.

*Eric Reenstierna*

## **Birding at Nahanton Park**



*A group of birders led by Cris Criscitiello at Nahanton Park on one of the Conservators' Fall Walks (photo by Bill Hagar)*

## ***Tracking Biodiversity in Our Parks and Conservation Lands***

Biodiversity is a measure of species richness and abundance. Each organism has its preferred habitat and Newton is blessed with numerous habitats from deciduous forest to wetlands, watersheds and rivers. One way of looking at the local environments is to follow the preserved land to see what lives there and to keep track of changes over time. This lets us know how to target our plans for the future, both with respect to acquiring additional parcels and managing appropriately what we now own.

To this end, the Conservators' Land Management Committee is working on an up-to-date inventory of natural life within Newton's parks and conservation areas. The last review of this sort was carried out in 1995 by John P. Richardson at the direction of city environmental planner Martha Aherin Horn.

Participants in the current survey are Beth Schroeder, Larry Burdick, Modestino Criscitiello, Florrie Funk, Maurice Gilmore, Debbie Howard, Ted Kuklinski, Don Lubin and Jon Regosin. This study will allow us to look at any changes which have occurred during the past decade, with special attention to any species that are disappearing and to invasive aliens threatening our native ones.

*M.G. Criscitiello*

## *An Old Man's Walk in Cold Spring Park*

*The following essay was received by board member Dan Brody, who supervises our Web site. In the essay, Professor Gene Vivian outlines the benefits of open space in an urban environment, focused in this case on Cold Spring Park. Some of his photos are included here and a detailed checklist of trees, shrubs, plants and wildflowers encountered on his walks in Cold Spring Park on posted on the Web site (see [www.newtonconservators.org/vivianessay.htm](http://www.newtonconservators.org/vivianessay.htm)).*

*His findings will be helpful to our ongoing effort to inventory species of flora and fauna in our parks and conservation areas (see previous article).*

*M.G. Criscitiello*

During May of 2005, I passed a 90th birthday milestone. Most of my life I have walked in woodlands, fields, swamps, marshes and meadows. Slowed down markedly following the placement of stents to prevent the rupture of a large abdominal aortic aneurysm, I initiated recovery with short strolls in Cold Spring Park, which is adjacent to my wife's home of 15 odd years on Terrace Avenue in Newton Highlands.

As is my lifelong habit, I made note of the species in the habitat into which my plodding feet took me. To enter the park from Duncklee Street at Beverly Road, one must ascend the side of Cochituate Aqueduct to find a well-worn trail, which soon descends from the top of the aqueduct to the north to an old farmstead bordering a ponded swampy wetland.

Atop the aqueduct, white pines, northern red oaks and Norway maples, which have been invading from the adjoining suburban area, shade the walking trail heavily used by younger men and women ranging from late teens to early forties, all jogging past me.

Male and female walkers shepherding leashed canines all greet me, many armed with plastic bags to retrieve pet droppings. Their appreciation of the park is further evidenced by the litter-free aspect of the trail and forest floor.

Cold Spring Park is an open depressed basin 40-50 feet above sea level with few contours as shown on the U.S. Geodetic survey map on the Boston South Quadrangle. The park's main entrance is from

Beacon Street featuring several play fields. A broad pathway on the eastern side leads from the parking area past the first two exercise stations of the Lenny Adelman Exercise Trail. The health trail is named to memorialize a young man remembered as one who greatly cherished Cold Spring Park and who aided in the layout and construction of the exer-trail.

The park was acquired in the mid-1930s by the City. It was an undeveloped swampy forest depression with wetlands chiefly in its northeastern sector, a total area of 67 acres. From the Newton Conservators home page, I learned that the former wetlands (called Alcock's swamp) were partly drained by lowering the level of Cold Spring Brook, which still flows from the park. The playfields near Beacon Street were preserved from an earlier township landfill. The remainder of the land was obtained by gifts and tax liens.

On the trail that follows the ridge of the Cochituate



Aqueduct near Duncklee Street is a somewhat moist, shaded and cool forest floor with false Solomon's seal, bracken, Indian pipe, Canada mayflower, yellow celandine poppy, the invasive garlic mustard, northern blue violet and the wild lily of the valley (with leaves larger than those commonly seen in gardens). These forest floor herbs share space with shrubs such as maple-leaved arrow-wood, buckthorn, witch hazel, blue elder, and beaked hazel. Waiting to accompany you home are enchanter's nightshade, white avens, beggar's ticks and burdock, with their fruited hooks affixed to your clothing.

Many persons whom I encountered were cordial in their greetings and some were solicitous of my welfare, noting my cane and hunched "figure 7" posture or seeing me resting on a fallen log.

*(Continued on page 7)*

*Cold Spring Park, continued from page 6*

North of the exer-trail stop #16 is an old cellar hole proclaiming the former agricultural use of the land. Upslope just beyond is a formerly cleared old farm field edged with black-capped raspberries, flowering dogwood, wild black cherry, white ash, staghorn sumac and the ever present vines, such as wild grape, poison ivy and Virginia creeper. These are augmented by herbs like pokeweed, tansy, common milkweed, wild carrot, black eyed Susan and red clover.

At the old field, a well-used cross trail leads west through cool woodlands now overgrown from former agricultural use. It connects both with the large south central playfield area and also crosses a brook to join the exer-trail at station #8 and Plymouth Road. I suspect that this trail serves as the wet winter weather cut-off from the wetter pathway areas to the north toward Beacon Street.

Leading east from the old field, the cross trail takes one out of the park to Beaconswood Road and a cluster of streets surrounded by swamp areas featuring wetland denizens such as touch-me-not along with the showy invading purple loosestrife and sedge species. One of these streets leads back to the main park section and station #18 of the exer-trail.



Continuing north from the old field, the main exer-trail leads through a wetland, probably waterlogged in winter with wooden stepping platforms to aid the walker in wet conditions. A pleasant cluster of spinulose shield fern can be seen here. Other ferns visible are sensitive, cinnamon and interrupted fern species, all in the vicinity of exer-trail station #17. At trailside nearby is the bracted green wood orchis.

The cool forested semi-wet zones of the exer-trail traverse forests of red maple, slippery elm, ailanthus and black locust with both wild and bristly sarsaparilla. Herbs and minishrubs such as Vinca and the escaped English ivy are found in this old farm area. Shrubs in this vicinity include toothed arrow-wood, snowberry and winged euonymus.

I had been walking without binoculars, but my ears informed me of the occasional presence of several common woodland and suburban area birds beginning with wood thrush, robin, goldfinch, starling, purple grackle, house sparrow, downy woodpecker, white-breasted nut hatch, black capped chickadee, common crow, wood pewee, song sparrow, catbird, cardinal, northern flicker, blue jay, red-eyed vireo, mourning dove and crested flycatcher.

Where the cross trail meets the exer-trail at station #9, it circles south of the large playfield and finally ascends the Cochituate Aqueduct on the eastern forest boundary. In this vicinity, I first noticed a single white oak along with black walnut, pignut hickory, weeping willow, eastern cottonwood poplar and several fern species, notably New York and cinnamon ferns. Among the shrubs were burning bush and sorb-leaved sorbaria (probably escaped from nearby cultivation).

At this point in my rambles, I was forced to return to New Jersey and temporarily interrupt my wanderings in captivating Cold Spring Park.

*Text and photographs by V. Eugene Vivian, Ph.D.,  
Professor Emeritus, Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ*

**The Newton Conservators Newsletter**© is published five times each year by the Newton Conservators, Inc. Issues usually appear in mid-February, April, June, September and November. Deadlines for these issues are the fifth of each month in which an issue is scheduled to be published.

We welcome material related to our mission from any source. Send proposed articles by email in MS Word or rich text format to [dgdickson@rcn.com](mailto:dgdickson@rcn.com). Digitized photographs, maps and diagrams are also welcome.

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## MISSION

### Newton Conservators, Inc.

The 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.

*The Newton Conservators was formed as a not-for-profit organization 44 years ago in June 1961.*

## Living with Wildlife in Newton

Newton may be a lot wilder than you imagine. Many creatures, thought to be confined to more rural areas, happily visit or make their home in the Garden City. White-tailed deer, coyote, and fox have joined the squirrels, muskrats, rabbits, raccoons and skunks that we may be more familiar with. A wild turkey harassing a postal worker in Newtonville, a wild moose chase in Newton Corner, a fisher stalking squirrels at a local conservation area, a bald eagle feasting on freshly caught Charles River fish at Albemarle field and an otter cavorting in a swimming pool in West Newton, are just a few indicators that we share the city with some very diverse and unusual wildlife.

The Newton Conservators and the Newton Free Library hosted a presentation given by Colleen Olfenbittel, MassWildlife furbearer biologist, on the topic of "Living with Wildlife in Newton." The lecture included slides and materials related to wildlife species living in Newton backyards, neighborhoods and open spaces. The proximity of such wildlife sometimes leads to unexpected conflict. Those in attendance learned about the habits of their wild neighbors and ways to live with them. Also provided was natural history information and hints about how to keep wild things and people at a respectful distance.

Colleen Olfenbittel recently joined the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) in September 2005 as a wildlife biologist and their furbearer project leader. She earned her undergraduate degree in wildlife biology from Ohio University and her Master's degree in wildlife science from Virginia Tech, where she studied black bears in southwestern Virginia for six years. Besides black bears, she has conducted research on brown bears in Alaska, island foxes in California, white-tailed deer in Minnesota, raptors in Michigan and wolves in Montana and Wyoming.

If you missed the lecture, you still have a chance to see it as an upcoming episode of the Environmental Show, produced by the Newton Conservators. It was taped and will be edited and shown on NewTV in one of the programs co-produced with the Green Decade Coalition. Look for program notices on NewTV and in upcoming Conservators newsletters.

*Ted Kuklinks*



*Coyote crossing Winchester Street near Nahanton Park  
(Photo by Bill Hagar)*



## Walking Guides Make Great Holiday Gifts!



Looking for a holiday gift idea for a walker, snow-shoer, birdwatcher, naturalist or outdoor enthusiast, either committed or wannabe? Is there a family member or friend you would like to introduce to 27 of Newton's special places? The map guide put out by the Newton Conservators is a great resource for those who would like to explore Newton's open spaces.

"Walking Trails in Newton's Parks and Conservation Lands" may be purchased for \$7.95 at Newtonville Books and New England Mobile Book Fair. Or you can purchase it online at [www.newtonconservators.org](http://www.newtonconservators.org) or by mailing a check payable to Newton Conservators, Inc. to Newton Conservators, P.O. Box 590011, Newton Centre, MA 02459. Sales benefit the Newton Conservators, a nonprofit citizen advocacy organization, which actively promotes the acquisition, creation, and preservation of parks and open spaces for the people of Newton.

### GIVE A CONSERVATORS GIFT MEMBERSHIP FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Please send a Newton Conservators gift membership (\$25.00) to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send a card to the recipient acknowledging my gift.

**If you haven't paid your membership dues for 2005, there is still time. Please renew today!  
And consider a YEAR-END tax-deductible gift to support our work!**



*Celebrating 44 years  
of open space advocacy  
in Newton*

### Newton Conservators Membership Form

PO Box 590011, Newton Centre, MA 02459 • [www.newtonconservators.org](http://www.newtonconservators.org)

— YES, I'd like to start/renew my one-year membership with the Newton Conservators to help preserve open space in Newton. I'll receive informative newsletters and emails and be invited to participate in guided tours of local conservation areas, lectures, and other programs and activities.

— I'd like to make an additional tax-deductible contribution to support the work of the Newton Conservators: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Individual member	\$25
Family member	\$35
Sustaining member	\$50
Donor	\$75
Patron	\$100

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_ VILLAGE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ Make checks payable to **Newton Conservators, Inc.**



# *the Newton Conservators* **NEWSLETTER**

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**WATCH for the Environmental Science Program on NewTV in DECEMBER!  
CHECK OUT HOLIDAY GIFTS FROM THE NEWTON CONSERVATORS!**

*See page 9 for details*



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