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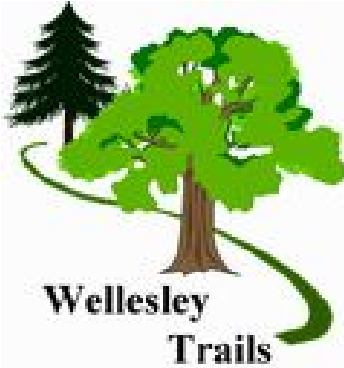
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Wellesley
Natural
Resources
Commission

Insights from Outside A Monthly Update from the NRC

July 2016



New Trails Near Track Connect Sections of Fuller Brook Park

Walking trails will now link two previously separate areas of [Fuller Brook Park](#) near Wellesley High School, providing a safer and more continuous pathway between Smith Street and Paine Street to stroll the town's historic two-and-a-half-mile linear park.

These new trails were part of the vision of the [Wellesley Trails Committee](#) to create walkways away from the roads around the high school track and athletic stadium. Construction of a trail running parallel to the small Smith Street parking lot near the track was completed earlier this summer. This pathway winds past State Street pond and behind the stadium, allowing walkers to view games as they stroll. A friendly reminder to anyone parking in that small lot to please keep your bumpers off the trail so as not to impede walkers.

A second trail, now under construction, will serve as the main walkway to the new stadium, and begins directly across from the main parking lot of the high school. An existing pedestrian footbridge was removed and the stream opened to daylight to allow for a wider, handicapped accessible footbridge. Workers are also trimming branches from trees along the pathway to widen that area.

Both the [Department of Public Works](#) and the [Playing Fields Task Force](#) are contributing to these projects. All of the pathways will be ready for walkers by late summer.



Pedestrian trail along Smith Street parking lot.



Pathway behind athletic stadium.



Opening marking the area where entrance to new athletic stadium will be built.



Daylighted stream where new footbridge will be built.

New Brochures Mark Nature and Running Trails

Thanks to the work of some dedicated volunteers, nature-lovers and runners can explore Centennial Reservation and Longfellow Pond without getting lost! Two new brochures are now available to guide residents through these areas.

As part of his Eagle Scout project, Michael Mahr and members of Scout Troops 182 and 185 renovated the half-mile long nature trail at Centennial Reservation. With the help of Wellesley Trails Committee members Denny Nackoney and Joan Gaughan, the Scouts repaired parts of the trail and researched points of interest in the area, creating a [Self-Guided Nature Trail](#) brochure for hikers to use independently.



**Eagle Scout
Michael Mahr
with nature trail
marker.**

In a separate project, student Elliot Davidson measured and marked the walking and running loop at Longfellow Pond as part of the Leadership Class at Wellesley High School, with guidance from Joan Gaughan. The [Measured Running Loop](#) guide includes directions and descriptions of the area.

Both of these brochures are available as printed copies in our office at Town Hall.

Weigh in on New Wetlands Regulations

We are revising our [Wetlands Protection Regulations](#) and would like your feedback. These regulations ensure the preservation and protection of our valuable natural resources and help the Wetlands Protection Committee make decisions on water supplies, flood control, erosion control, storm damage prevention, water pollution prevention, fisheries, wildlife habitats and more. Please [email](#) our Wetlands Protection Administrator with any comments.

Weeding Work Continues at Morses Pond



Weed harvester at work in the pond.

Maintenance at Morses Pond doesn't cool off during the summer months. The NRC is continuing its work to improve the water quality and maintain the banks of the pond, which is a favorite spot for swimmers, boaters and outdoor enthusiasts.

Results of an erosion study of the pond shoreline that was done earlier this year will help us develop a plan to get rid of invasive plants along the pond banks and identify areas of the shoreline that need restoration. This project is funded by the [Community Preservation Committee](#) and also supported by the Friends of Morses Pond.

An update on the work being done is available on our [website](#). Interested in learning more? Mark your calendars for the Friends of Morses Pond fall meeting:

- **Sept. 8 at 7 pm. in the Arnold Room, Wellesley Free Library**

Check Out These Upcoming Programs!

Dive into pond life with three new aquatic activities. The NRC is pleased to offer

these educational and recreational opportunities focused on watershed improvement. Check your emails from the [Recreation Department](#) for more details.

Make Art to Be Lake Smart

Location: Summer concert area, Wellesley Town Hall Green

Date: Wednesday, July 27 @ 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Water Monsters!

Location: Summer camps at Wellesley High School

Date: Friday, August 5

Times: Camp Quest (8- 10 years old) @ 9 - 10:15 a.m.

Camp Odyssey (11-13 years old) @ 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Paint-A-Lake

Location: Morses Pond

Date: TBD

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events

- **Saturday, July 16, [July Jubilation](#), 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, Wellesley Square.** Family activities and sidewalk sale; visit the NRC and Sustainable Wellesley tent to learn about current initiatives.
- **Thursday, July 21, NRC Meeting, 7:30 pm, Planning Office, Town Hall.**
- **Thursday, July 21, Wetlands Protection Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, NRC Office, Town Hall.**
- **Thursday, July 21 & Thursday, August 8, [Guided Bird Walks](#), 7 - 8 pm, Various locations.** Learn to use binoculars and identify local birds.

A Green Thumbs Up!

Local gardeners from the [Weston Road Community Gardens](#) are sharing their bounty. Growers from the 4C garden plot, profiled in last month's *Insights from Outside*, recently delivered fresh Chinese cabbage to the [Wellesley Food Pantry](#) to distribute to needy families.

[The Women's Lunch Place](#), a women's day shelter in Boston, also received a sweet donation - fresh-grown rhubarb which the chefs used to make strawberry rhubarb pie for residents and shared in this [Facebook](#) post.



4C garden plot.

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