

Logo Here

Width = 300px or less



Wellesley
Natural
Resources
Commission

Insights from Outside A Monthly Update from the NRC

March 2016



Reese Cycle models a reusable bag made from a t-shirt! Make your bag today with instructions on our website.

Support Builds for Proposed Ban on Plastic Check-Out Bags

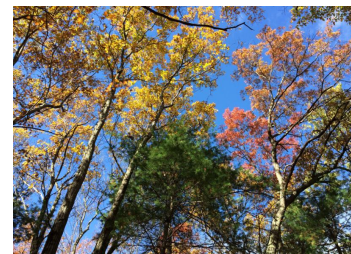
At Wellesley Annual Town Meeting this month, the NRC will propose a [bylaw](#) limiting the distribution of plastic check-out bags. The proposal has received strong support in town so far: Last week, the Advisory Committee voted unanimously to support favorable action on the bylaw. The Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Board of Public Works, the Sustainable Energy Committee, and State Representative Alice Peisch have also voiced their approval. The local independent grassroots group Sustainable Wellesley has been gathering signatures in support of the ban using an [online petition](#).

We hope to continue to build support among Town Meeting Members before Annual Town Meeting convenes on March 28.

Please visit the [NRC website](#) to learn about the key provisions of the proposed bylaw and for more information on the plastic bag ban.

2016 Tree Planting Program Digs In

The NRC is working closely with the Department of Public Works to select planting locations for residents who would like to participate in the town [Tree Planting Program](#) this spring. Through the program, the NRC and DPW plant trees in yards close to public roads and walkways to help maintain the



town's tree canopy, improve air quality, and enhance the natural beauty of Wellesley neighborhoods. Wellesley has been named a Tree City USA for more than 30 years in honor of the town's commitment to preserving our urban forest. Through the Tree Planting Program, residents can choose from native tree species in various sizes. Residents are responsible for the care and watering of planted trees, and the DPW provides technical help as needed. If you're interested in having a tree planted on your property, please [contact the NRC](#) before April 8, 2016, to arrange a planting site inspection. A limited number of trees are available; if you don't receive a tree this year, your name will be put on the list for next year.



Celebrate Earth Day with the NRC: Sign Up for the Annual Charles River Clean-Up!

Join the NRC for the annual Charles River clean-up on **Saturday, April 30, 2016**, from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. You'll receive clean up supplies, snacks, and an official 2016 Charles River Clean-Up t-shirt while supplies last! Bring some friends and come as a group -- or come on your own and join a crew. [Email](#) us to sign up and get the details on where to meet.

Put Some Spring in Your Step with Guided Trail Walks... and a New Photo Contest

Grab your hiking boots and step out with the [Wellesley Trails Committee](#) for the 2016 Spring Guided Trail Walks. Beginning on Saturday, April 17, committee members will host walks through the town's extensive trail system. Most walks are between 1.5 and 2 miles and are free and open to all. Stroll through Beebe Meadow, hike up Maugus Hill (one of the town's highest points), and celebrate National Trails Day by wandering through historic Fuller Brook Park; see our [flyer](#) for more details. And this spring, we're having a Trails photo contest! Take along your camera and capture pictures of local wildlife while you walk. Send your snapshots to the NRC and we'll post them on our [Facebook](#) page.

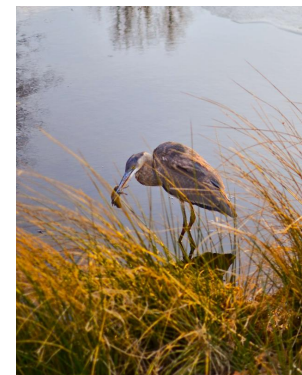


Photo by Tycho McManus

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events

- **Monday, March 21, NRC & [Wellesley Green Schools](#) Idling Awareness Celebration, 2:15 pm, Wellesley Middle School.** Celebration to encourage drivers to "turn off their key make WMS idle-free."
- **Tuesday, March 22, [Trails Committee Meeting](#), 7 pm, NRC Office, Town Hall.**
- **Thursday, March 24, [League of Women Voters Town Meeting Prep Session](#), 7:15 pm - 9:15 pm, Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Station.** Discussion of articles to be presented at Annual Town Meeting.
- **Wednesday, March 30, [Wellesley College Wilson Lecture Series](#), 7:30 pm, Alumnae Hall Auditorium, Wellesley College.** Presentation by Lisa Perez Jackson, Apple Inc.'s VP of Environment, Policy and Social Initiatives.

- Friday, April 1, [Babson Energy and Environment Conference](#), All Day, Babson College. Conference on "Redefining Consumption." Advance registration required, discounts available through [Sustainable Wellesley](#).
- Thursday, April 7, [Wetlands Protection Committee Meeting](#), 7:30 pm, NRC Office, Town Hall.
- Sunday, April 10, ["Just Bag It" Screening](#), 4 pm, First Parish in Needham UU. Free screening of award-winning documentary on food waste; co-sponsored by [Green Needham Collaborative](#).
- Sunday, April 20, [Wellesley Conservation Council Spring Program](#), 7 pm, Wellesley Free Library. Presentation by Ellen Mecray, NOAA Regional Climate Services Director for the Eastern Region on "Climate Change in the Northeast;" co-sponsored by Wellesley Free Library.

Give Your Input

The Board of Selectmen will host two public forums on the proposed [Reconfiguration of Route 9 and Kingsbury Street](#). We encourage you to attend and share your thoughts. The meetings will take place on:

- Tuesday, March 22, 7:30 pm., Wellesley Middle School Auditorium
- Thursday, March 24, 8:30 am, Great Hall, Town Hall

Members Wanted for the Wellesley Conservation Council

The Wellesley Conservation Council, a private land trust and conservation education organization, has openings. If you're interested in working with this great volunteer group, please visit their [website](#) or email board member [Michael Tobin](#).



Thank You! Volunteers Tidy Up Turner Road Vernal Pool

Trash, tires, car parts, snow plow parts, and old Christmas trees are just of some of the items collected by dedicated volunteers who cleaned up the area surrounding the vernal pool in the North 40 area, from the Weston Road Community Gardens to Turner Road. The team included Pete and Joanne Jones, Tom Fitzgibbons (pictured above), and Carl Sciple. The paths near the pool are now free of debris and obstacles, and the pool itself is a much more habitable place for wood frogs and salamanders.

[Web Site](#) [NRC Meeting Agendas](#) [Permit Applications](#) [Community Gardens](#)

[SIGN UP FOR EMAILS](#)

[SHARE THIS EMAIL](#)

The Natural Resources Commission for the Town of Wellesley
781-431-1019 ext. 2294



Copyright © 2016. All Rights Reserved.