



WELLESLEY NATURAL
RESOURCES COMMISSION

Insights from Outside

November 2019

Resiliency Planning In Action



Town staff and community leaders recently completed two **Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness** (MVP) workshops to identify and prioritize actions to build resiliency and reduce our risks against climate change. Now it's your turn to speak!



Attend the MVP public listening session on:

- Tuesday December 3
- Police Station Kingsbury Room
- 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Wellesley **was accepted to the MVP program** on July 26, and will be eligible for Action Grants from the State once our report has been submitted and accepted. **Contact the NRC** for more information.

Learning Where Our Water Comes From



Fifth-graders at Sprague Elementary are the latest students to take advantage of educational programs offered by the NRC. Students first learned about watershed contaminants like fertilizers, pesticides, and leaking car oil through in-classroom demonstrations. They then took a field trip to Morses Pond where Bill Shaughnessy, Wellesley's Superintendent of Water and Sewer, gave the students a tour of our wells and water treatment facility, and explained how Wellesley residents get their drinking water. A hike around the pond ended the day, where students saw real-life evidence of non-point source pollution, and viewed areas of the shoreline impacted by erosion. Students are now working on projects, videos, and written pieces to share what they learned. Many thanks to Bill Shaughnessy for giving such a great tour! Contact **Lisa Moore**, NRC's Education and Outreach Coordinator, to bring Project-Based Learning to your school or organization.

Eagle Scout Project Tackles Erosion at Morses Pond



Wellesley Boy Scout Michael Grosso led a group of volunteers as he completed his Eagle Scout project last month. For his project, Michael chose to combat erosion on the Morses Pond shoreline at one of the [Morses Pond Shoreline Stabilization Project](#) sites that was reviewed and approved by the Wetlands Protection Committee. By adding stairs, porous material, and some plantings, the volunteers helped decrease erosion and sedimentation that causes pond eutrophication. Thank you Michael for your efforts!

World of Wellesley Volunteers Pitch In



World of Wellesley volunteers organized a clean up effort at Longfellow Pond on October 12. The group spent several hours at the pond picking up trash. Thank you World of Wellesley for giving back to your community and taking the time to care for one of Wellesley's important natural resources.

If you or your group would like to organize a cleanup, [contact the NRC](#), we can help.

Help Save Trees: Cancel Unwanted Junk Mail

Groundbreaking News!



[Improvements](#) to the girls' softball fields are in full swing at Lee Field, shown above. Work at the Hunnewell 2/Multi-purpose Field is scheduled to begin this spring. Also this spring, Annual Town Meeting will vote on a warrant to [name that field](#) in honor and memory of Diane P. Warren.

There's still an opportunity to contribute to this worthwhile project. Visit the [Softball Field Improvement](#) website, or contact [Jill Creevy](#) for updates and more information.

Help Clear Leaves and Debris From Blocked Sewer Grates to Keep Storm Water Flowing



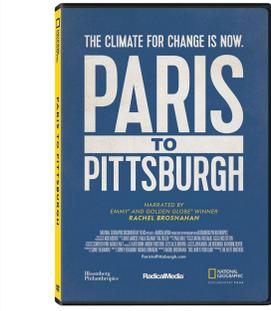
Help keep our streets safe from flooding: clear leaves and debris from around storm drains near your home. This simple act can have a huge impact in limiting flood damage in our neighborhoods. Consider "adopting" a storm drain near your home and remove leaves, sticks, and other debris on a regular basis to allow for proper storm water drainage. Thank you!

Movie Night: "Paris to Pittsburgh"



Looking for ways to make the holidays greener? Sick of all the junk mail you get during the holidays? Join the effort to Reduce Junk Mail & Help the Environment by signing up with [CatalogChoice](http://CatalogChoice.org).

The Wellesley 3R (Reduce Reuse Recycle) Working Group is asking residents to take part in a town-wide effort to reduce the number of mailed catalogs, credit card offers and coupons which contribute to unnecessary waste. Each year, more than 100 million trees become paper for mail that goes into trash or at best, into a recycling bin. An enormous amount of resources also goes into making and distributing junk mail. [Click here](#) to get started!



Don't miss this FREE screening of the new National Geographic film *Paris to Pittsburgh*:

- Thursday, November 14
- UU Wellesley Hills
- 309 Washington Street
- 7:00pm

From coastal cities to America's heartland, Americans are demanding and developing real solutions in the age of climate change. As the weather grows more deadly and destructive, we aren't waiting on Washington to act. Learn about these incredible stories and be inspired to create change in our own community! A discussion led by Sustainable Wellesley follows the screening. Co-sponsored by Sustainable Wellesley, UU Wellesley Hills and League of Women Voters of Wellesley.

[Visit Sustainable Wellesley's Web page for more upcoming events](#)

Fall is Tick Season



As fall envelopes New England and the temperatures drop, many people think tick season is finally over. Unfortunately this is not the case. Fall is tick season and these pests are not deterred by cold weather; some species even stay active through the snowy winter. Check out the [top ten things](#) everyone should know about ticks these days to help stay safe and protected from ticks and the diseases they can transmit.

Calling All School Parents!



Parents of schoolchildren are invited to attend the next Wellesley Green Schools meeting:

- Friday November 15
- Sprague School Cafeteria
- 9:00 am

Meet other parents and learn about initiatives to reduce car idling, single use plastics, food waste, and more! Contact [Michelle Foster](#) for more info!

Entertaining for a crowd? Check out their [SMART Event Guide!](#)

Please Properly Dispose of

Trails Committee News



Congratulations to our [Wellesley Trails Committee](#) for another successful series of fall walks! One hundred one people participated in guided walks through the North 40, Carisbrooke Reservation, and along the Guernsey Path. A special requested walk was held at the North 40 for the Garden Club of Wellesley, and forty-eight children participated in this year's Kids' Trails Day, which featured a treasure box hunt held at the Town Forest. (Thanks to Roche Bros and Whole foods for providing the cider and donuts!) More trail walks and events will be held in the spring. [Click here for a list of local trails to explore.](#)

Yard Waste



It's fall, and while it may be tempting to dispose of all those fallen leaves on nearby parks, forests, and conservation land, it is illegal under our town bylaws, see [Police Regulations, Article 49.2](#). Depending on proximity to water, dumping of leaves may also incur a wetlands violation.

Forests are sensitive eco-systems, and the introduction of extra leaves can smother nesting creatures, introduce diseases and invasive species, and in general disrupt the natural balance of the area.

Do consider raking leaves off of lawns and using them as natural mulch in garden beds or starting a compost pile. Turtles, and [over-wintering insects](#), (which baby spring birds rely on for food), use leaves for cover and habitat. For that reason, it's a good idea not to shred the leaves, either.

MEETING CALENDAR

Agendas [are posted](#) 48 hours prior to meeting time.

[Upcoming NRC Meetings:](#)

- Thursday November 21st: 7:00 PM
- Thursday December 5th: 7:00 PM

[Upcoming Wetlands Protection Committee Meetings:](#)

- Thursday November 14th: 6:30 PM, Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Station

[Upcoming Trails Committee Meetings:](#)

- Tuesday November 19: 7 PM, NRC Office, Wellesley Town Hall



Connect with us

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Website: www.wellesleyma.gov/nrc