



**Citizens for  
Lexington  
Conservation**

PO BOX 292, LEXINGTON, MA 02420-0003

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Eileen Entin, President

**IN THIS ISSUE**

<a href="#">CLC Publications</a>	2
<a href="#">Fall Walks</a>	3
<a href="#">CLC Annual Meeting</a>	4
<a href="#">Ron Colwell</a>	5
<a href="#">Win a Prize for Recycling</a>	5
<a href="#">Help CLC Save Paper and Postage</a>	5
<a href="#">Do you know something about Butterflies or Dragonflies?</a>	5
<a href="#">Meadow Reports From Nell Walker</a>	6
<a href="#">CLC Applauds Success of Big Back Yard Program</a>	7
<a href="#">A Thank You to Walk Leaders</a>	7
<a href="#">Arlington's Great Meadows Report</a>	8
<a href="#">Western Greenway Walk</a>	8
<a href="#">September 11</a>	8

**Page**



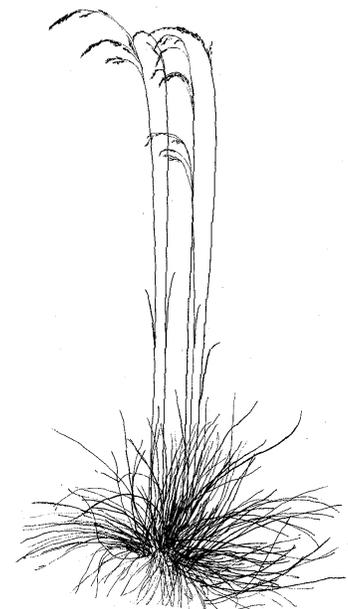
Citizens for Lexington Conservation is a non-profit organization that relies on dues paid by members to cover its expenses. Look at your mailing label to check your membership status. If it says "Dues paid 2001," you are up to date. If it says "Dues paid 2000" (or earlier), then it is time to renew your membership for 2001. If it says "Complimentary Copy," you are receiving a complimentary copy of our newsletter because you are a Town Meeting Member or other public official in Lexington. We hope that those who receive complimentary copies will find our organization of value and will become dues-paying members. To join CLC or renew your membership, please send \$7.00 for a regular membership or \$10.00 for a sustaining membership to CLC, P.O. Box 292, Lexington, MA 02420-0003.

## CLC PUBLICATIONS

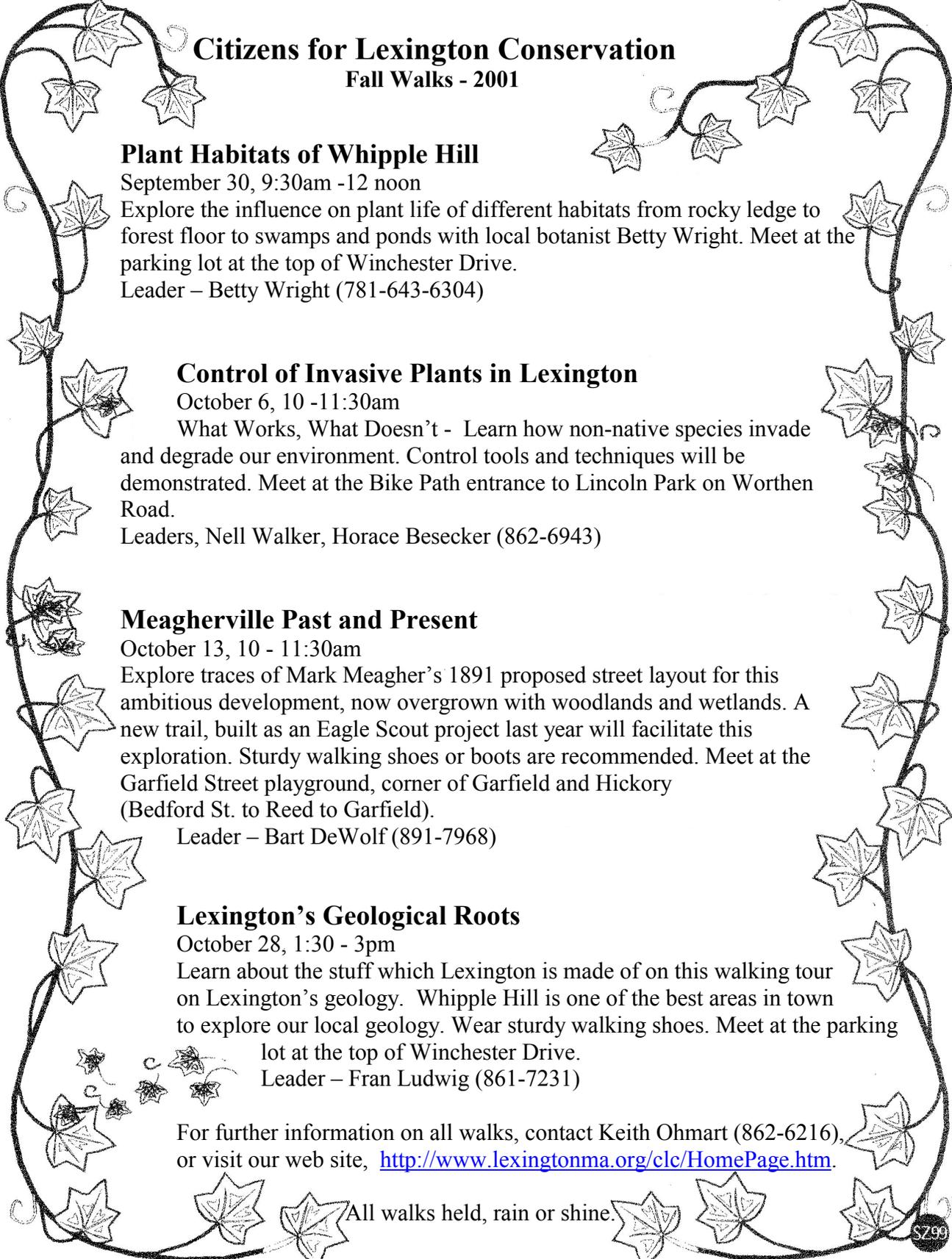
Over the years CLC has encouraged members to write guides to the open spaces in Lexington. These guides have now been scanned and are available at no charge on our web site, <http://www.lexingtonma.org/clc/HomePage.htm>,

The files are saved as Adobe Acrobat .pdf files, and require the free Acrobat Reader. You can obtain this reader at <http://adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>

A Wildflower Walk at Whipple Hill
Birds of Dunback Meadow
Birds of the Great Meadow
Birds of Whipple Hill
Building a Brushpile
Checklist of Lexington Birds
Discovering the Paint Mine
Ferns of Whipple Hill
Flowers and Shrubs of Whipple Hill, 1982
Flowers and Shrubs of Whipple Hill, 2000
Geological History of Lexington
Guide to the Great Meadows: A Walking Tour
Gypsy Moth
Insect Pests of Shade Trees
Introduction to Hayden Woods
The Red Fox in Lexington
Wildflower List for Lexington
Winter Feeder Checklist



If you want copies of the guides and do not have access to the Internet, you will find computers available at Cary Memorial Library, now temporarily located at Cary Hall, 1605 Massachusetts Ave.



**Citizens for Lexington Conservation**  
**Fall Walks - 2001**

**Plant Habitats of Whipple Hill**

September 30, 9:30am -12 noon

Explore the influence on plant life of different habitats from rocky ledge to forest floor to swamps and ponds with local botanist Betty Wright. Meet at the parking lot at the top of Winchester Drive.

Leader – Betty Wright (781-643-6304)

**Control of Invasive Plants in Lexington**

October 6, 10 -11:30am

What Works, What Doesn't - Learn how non-native species invade and degrade our environment. Control tools and techniques will be demonstrated. Meet at the Bike Path entrance to Lincoln Park on Worthen Road.

Leaders, Nell Walker, Horace Besecker (862-6943)

**Meagherville Past and Present**

October 13, 10 - 11:30am

Explore traces of Mark Meagher's 1891 proposed street layout for this ambitious development, now overgrown with woodlands and wetlands. A new trail, built as an Eagle Scout project last year will facilitate this exploration. Sturdy walking shoes or boots are recommended. Meet at the Garfield Street playground, corner of Garfield and Hickory (Bedford St. to Reed to Garfield).

Leader – Bart DeWolf (891-7968)

**Lexington's Geological Roots**

October 28, 1:30 - 3pm

Learn about the stuff which Lexington is made of on this walking tour on Lexington's geology. Whipple Hill is one of the best areas in town to explore our local geology. Wear sturdy walking shoes. Meet at the parking lot at the top of Winchester Drive.

Leader – Fran Ludwig (861-7231)

For further information on all walks, contact Keith Ohmart (862-6216), or visit our web site, <http://www.lexingtonma.org/clc/HomePage.htm>.

All walks held, rain or shine.

\$2.99

# CLC ANNUAL MEETING

featuring

**Christopher Leahy**

speaking on

## **The Nature of Massachusetts**

Tuesday, November 6 at 8:00 PM

Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 1625 Massachusetts Ave.

Join us for an engaging visual tour across Massachusetts, from whales off the Massachusetts coast to Mount Greylock, with a focus on areas of particular relevance to Lexington. **Christopher Leahy** is the Director of Massachusetts Audubon's Center for Biological Conservation. In this position he is responsible for the ecological management of the Society's nearly 30,000 acres of wildlife sanctuaries and has developed and supervised research and conservation programs on coastal water birds, grasslands, aquatic ecology and butterflies, among others.

His interests in natural history are comprehensive and he is a recognized authority on birds and insects. His natural history books owe their popularity to his ability to describe the living world with clarity and wit. His published works include *The Birdwatcher's Companion* (Hill & Wang, 1982), *The First Guide to Insects* (Houghton-Mifflin, 1987), *Introduction to New England Birds* (Massachusetts Audubon, 1990 revised ed.), *An Introduction to Massachusetts Insects* (Massachusetts Audubon, 1983), and *The Nature of Massachusetts* (Addison-Wesley, 1996), and he is the editor of a series of authoritative books on the flora and fauna of New England.

Chris has designed and led natural history explorations to over 60 countries on all of the continents. He is especially fascinated with the world's great remaining wilderness areas and biodiversity hot spots such as Antarctica, Mongolia, Madagascar and Bhutan. He lives in Gloucester, Massachusetts with his wife and son.

### **Nominations for CLC Board Members**

A short business meeting to nominate and elect the CLC Board Members will take place before the featured speaker's presentation at the annual meeting. The Board of Directors of CLC consists of the officers and associate members who are appointed by the officers. Nominations for the Board for the coming year are listed below. Also included in this list is the area in which the Board member has primary responsibility. Additional nominations from the floor will be accepted at the meeting.

President:	Eileen Entin	Associate Members:
Vice President:	Keith Ohmart (Walks)	John Andrews (Legislative Issues)
Treasurer:	Rosemary Green	Kate Fricker (Newsletter)
Secretary:	Ann Schaffner	Alan Levine (Legislative Issues)
		Fran Ludwig (Education)
		Jill Stein (Health Issues)

**ADMISSION IS FREE**  
**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED**

We will have cups available, but to avoid waste, bring your own mug if possible.

## Ron Colwell

Ron Colwell, who died on September 4, was a former officer of CLC (he was on the Board when our organization was first incorporated) and a Town Meeting Member. Ron actively supported the town's conservation program. Most people in the real estate business believe that maximum development of open land is good for them and good for the community. Ron was unusual in realizing that land conservation was better for the community and the environment. CLC has given a donation in his memory to the Lexington Conservation Trust. We will miss him.

## Win a Prize for Recycling

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will team up with the New England Patriots Radio Network this fall in an effort to encourage recycling. The Recycle & Win Super Bin Contest will run during the 2001 New England Patriots regular season, September 9 through December 22, 2001.

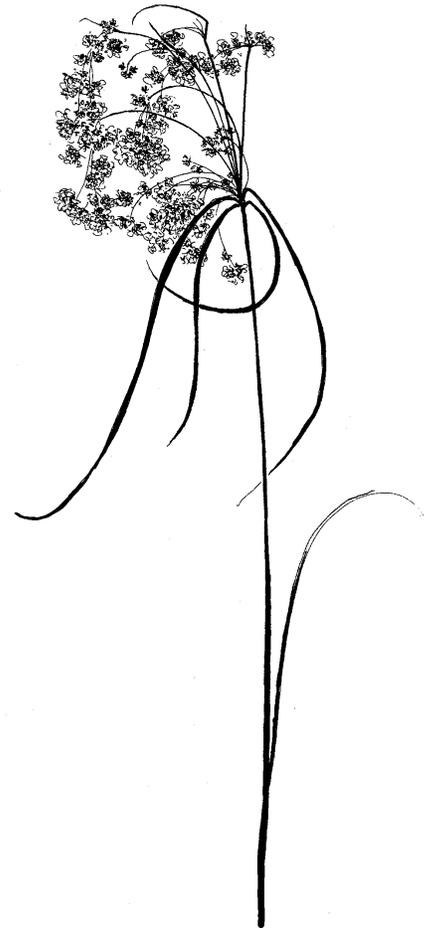
Massachusetts residents can enter the contest and obtain a participation sticker by calling 1-800-CLEAN-UP or via the web site, <http://www.cleanup.org>. Each week, beginning September 9 for sixteen weeks, one resident chosen at random, and found to be displaying their sticker and recycling according to their town's specifications, will be awarded tickets to an upcoming New England Patriots home game. One grand prize winner will win a four-day trip to "The Big Game" January 27, 2002 in New Orleans.

## Help CLC Save Paper and Postage

If you would like to receive your CLC newsletter as a PDF file attached to an email, ask Kate Fricker at [kfricker@alum.swarthmore.edu](mailto:kfricker@alum.swarthmore.edu). All formatting and graphics will be identical to the snail mail version, and you will receive your newsletter as soon as it is published. In addition to avoiding paper waste, CLC saves about one dollar per issue for each person who elects to receive the email version.

## Do You Know Something About Butterflies or Dragonflies?

There have been requests for CLC walks focusing on butterflies or dragonflies. If you have some background in either of these subjects, and would enjoy leading a small group of interested people, contact Keith Ohmart at 862-6216.



## Meadow Reports from Nell Walker

### Keeping an eye on Pat's Meadow in Lincoln Park

Last year, CLC provided funds to purchase plants to help foster a meadow in Lincoln Park as a memorial tribute to Pat Doherty, past president and long time member of CLC. We plan an official dedication of the meadow next year. In the meanwhile, we invite you to watch it grow.

About half of this summer's weedy items (Queen Anne's Lace, Bittersweet and Ragweed) have been rooted out, and more will be done next spring. Expect more blossoms next year. Here is what bloomed in the first year:

Ruellia  
Filipendula  
Liatris  
New England Aster  
\*Rough stemmed Goldenrod  
\*Calico Aster  
\*Heartleaved Aster  
Rudbeckia hirta  
Rudbeckia triloba  
Columbine  
Purple Prairie-clover  
\*Common Evening Primrose  
\*Yarrow

\*originally in the meadow



Liatris

### The Pine Meadows-Meagherville Trail

In April Eagle Scout Zach Griffith and his crew got in ahead of the mosquitoes and installed a connector trail from Ward Street to the path built last year by the Americorps. Some two dozen native species of trees and shrubs have been identified along the trail system. There are funds to put up arboretum-style signs on the larger specimens. Expect to see them next spring.



Ruellia

### Doran's Meadow

Although not town conservation land, Doran's meadow is a key open space along East Street abutting the Vinebrook bike path. This summer Barbara Kent has removed woody invasives, such as buckthorn and multiflora rose. She has also persuaded the condominium board not to do their traditional mowing in July. The result is the best stand of Little Bluestem, a native grass, in all of Lexington. Watch it turn a striking red in fall, topped by fluffy silvery-white two foot high seedstalks. A rotational prescribed burn in mid-spring for this and Pat's Meadow could yield many benefits to these young meadows.

## CLC Applauds Success of Big Back Yard Program

By Eileen Entin

*CLC, one of the early supporters of the Big Back Yard Program, has sent the following letter to Joanne Benton, Superintendent of Schools:*

Citizens for Lexington Conservation congratulates Lexington's elementary schools on the extensive success of the Big Back Yard program. CLC was among the groups that provided seed money for this program as it was getting started, and our members are gratified to know that it now involves over 2000 children and more than 200 parents at all the Lexington elementary schools.

An integral part of the Big Back Yard program is the availability of natural habitats right in the schools' back yards, areas that have allowed for projects such as the bluebird houses in Hennessy's field at Estabrook School and at Fiske School. Because of the importance of natural areas in close proximity to the schools for the implementation of this program, it is critical that new, expanded, and renovated schools continue to provide natural areas around the school that are easily accessible for outdoor classroom activities.

When plans are being developed, designers naturally focus on the structure and interior design of the school building, itself. But it is equally important to incorporate plans for maintaining and possibly supplementing natural areas around the school. Designers and planners need to think of the school grounds as an outdoor classroom, and be careful about the balance between construction of the school facilities, including the building itself, driveways, parking lots, and ball fields and the natural habitat in which the school is situated. Once an area is compromised, it cannot easily be restored. Landscaping plans should include a diversity of trees and other plants that will provide a varied outdoor classroom for students, and food and shelter for birds and other small animals.

As Lexington's schools expand, CLC looks forward to the continued involvement of school faculty members, parents, students, and the community at large in the ongoing study of nature in our midst. We are confident that the Big Back Yard program helps to foster love, respect, and concern for the natural world in all the students and adults who are participating in it.



### **A Thank You to Walk Leaders**

CLC extends a big thanks to the leaders of our spring walks: Keith Ohmart, who lead a garlic mustard eradication service walk in Lincoln Park; Betty Wright, who lead a highly successful and praised botanical exploration of Whipple Hill (with a follow-on walk scheduled for this fall); Rosemary Green and Fran Ludwig, who led a walk through the Great Meadow; Chris Floyd, who led a bird identification walk in the Great Meadow; and Arlayne Peterson who valiantly tried to do an art walk through Hennessy's Field, but was thwarted by rain (we'll try again next spring). We appreciate their support.

## **Arlington's Great Meadow Report**

There will be a meeting by the Arlington Conservation Commission to inform the public about the results of their recently completed Great Meadow report. It will take place on October 16 at the Robbins Library (next to the Arlington Town Hall on Mass. Ave.) at 7 pm.

### **Western Greenway Walk**

Habitat is sponsoring a three hour, three mile trek through the Western Greenway on Saturday, October 27, 9 am to 12: pm. Call 617-489-5050 to register.

Greenways are important pieces of connecting open space which provide wildlife corridors and extended hiking trails. The Western Greenway is a stretch of 6 miles beginning at Habitat in Belmont, passing through part of Lexington, and ending in Waltham. It includes land belonging to McLean Hospital, the MDC, the former Metropolitan State Hospital, and the Olympus Hospital (former Middlesex Hospital).

For a fascinating description and history of the various properties contained in and adjacent to the Western Greenway, look up the Waltham Land Trust web site at <http://www.walthamlandtrust.org/greenway.htm>.

### **September 11**

All of us are wounded by the atrocities that were carried out on September 11. CLC extends special condolences to CLC members and other Lexington residents who lost family or friends. We suggest a visit to any of Lexington's conservation lands as a place for reflection and healing.

