



**Citizens for
Lexington
Conservation**

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<http://www.clclex.org>

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Citizens for Lexington Conservation is a non-profit 501(c)3 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 2014," you are up to date. If it says "Dues paid 2013" (or earlier), then it is time to renew your membership for 2014. 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 in time become dues-paying members. **To join CLC or renew your membership**, please send \$20.00 to Citizens for Lexington Conservation, P.O. Box 292, Lexington, MA 02420-0003. Dues may also be paid by credit card through PayPal from a link on our web site, <http://www.clclex.org>.

There is an electronic version of the CLC newsletter, sent as a link to the newsletter by e-mail. The e-mail version of the newsletter has illustrations in color and live links. It also arrives much sooner than the snail mail version, saves paper, and costs CLC about \$1 less per copy. In addition you don't have to slit open the nasty seals the post office now requires on our snail mail copies. If you are currently receiving your newsletter by snail mail, but would like to get it by e-mail, (or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list) contact Kate Fricker at kfricker@alum.swarthmore.edu.

CLC Annual Meeting

THE AMAZING WORLD OF CATERPILLARS

Date: Wednesday, April 30 2014, 7:00-9:00 pm
Location: Cary Memorial Library, Lexington,
Large Lecture Room (lower level)
Speaker: Sam Jaffe, Naturalist-photographer



Naturalist-photographer [Samuel Jaffe](#) will introduce you to the amazing world of local caterpillars through his artful close up photographs. Sam will share details on the fascinating defensive adaptations of caterpillars, and stories of how he finds, rears, and photographs these native creatures. He will also discuss his work in fostering a new generation of aware and passionate naturalists through his educational programming. As part of his presentation, Sam will display various specimens for the group to view.

Samuel Jaffe grew up in Eastern Massachusetts chasing birds, mucking through ponds, and turning over leaves. Over the last five years he has developed a project to raise and photograph all of the more charismatic native caterpillars. The project has blossomed and expanded into caterpillar exhibits, shows, walks, and talks, culminating in the creation of [The Caterpillar Lab](#) in 2013. Sam is currently working towards a Masters in Environmental Education at Antioch University of New England. His work is currently being exhibited in the hallways of Antioch University New England in Keene NH. For a preview of Sam's work, go to www.samueljaffe.com

A short business meeting to elect CLC officers for the coming year will precede Sam's talk. Light refreshments will be served. The meeting is free and open to the public. Please join us for this exciting hands-on presentation.

CITIZENS FOR LEXINGTON CONSERVATION 2014 SPRING WALKS

Saturday, April 19, 10 – 11 AM Butterfly Walk at Arlington's Great Meadow

Participants will meet in the parking lot at Golden Living Center – Lexington, at 840 Emerson Gardens Rd. (off Maple Street) in East Lexington. The parking lot is on the right side of the facility, and drivers should park at the far end. This walk will be co-sponsored by Citizens for Lexington Conservation and the Massachusetts Butterfly Club. Butterfly enthusiast Tom Whelan will lead a walk to see two species of spring butterflies, Brown and Henry's Elfins. These small, easily overlooked butterflies are found in many parts of the United States and Canada. Since these species overwinter in the chrysalis stage, their lives as adults begin early in the spring. We also may see Mourning Cloak and Spring Azure butterflies. If time permits, additional insects will be sought at adjacent Infinity Pond, a certified vernal pool. People of all ages are welcome; children must be with an adult. Please sign up for the walk in advance, preferably by email (tom@whelanphoto.com) or phone (781-915-9988). Walk Leader: Tom Whelan, will notify those who sign up if the weather requires cancelling the event.

Saturday, May 3, 3 – 4:30 PM Enjoy Spring at Hennessey Field and Paint Mine

Meet at the power line parking area on Turning Mill Road. Let's look around and see what's happening in the field, forest and wetland of Hennessey Field and the Paint Mine as spring moves toward summer. We'll stroll through these areas for about an hour and a half—maybe more if we find really interesting things to look at. Wear good walking shoes. Severe inclement weather will cancel the walk—drizzle will not. Walk Leader, Alex Dohan (amdohan@gmail.com; 781-863-5882)

Wednesday, May 7, 8 -10 AM

Bird Walk at Dunback Meadow

Meet at the Allen Street entrance to Dunback Meadow. In early May we are in the midst of several weeks of migration as many species of birds quickly head north to their breeding grounds as well as the many birds who come to this area to spend the summer. In addition, we may find some of our residential birds, such as woodpeckers and hawks. Although the ground is slightly rough, the pace is slow so the walk is accessible to most. Children with adults and beginners are welcome. We will enjoy a varied habitat, including mixed woods, open fields, and a stream. Bring binoculars if you have them. Boots are recommended if there has been rain recently. Rain or lightning will cancel the walk.

Walk leader: Bobbie Hodson (robertahodson@comcast.net; 781-861-9421)

Saturday, May 10, 8 – 10 AM

Warbler Walk in Lower Vine Brook

Meet at 116 Vine Street; call if you are lost. Check out the spring warbler migration in the Lower Vine Brook conservation area. Warblers are small, beautiful tropical birds that come north to breed. Many different species of warbler stop off in this sheltered area on their way to the forests in northern New England and Canada. Some stay, but as trees leaf they are more difficult to see. In the spring, depending on the weather and the foliage, you can sometimes find a dozen species in a morning. Children with adults are welcome. Bring warm clothes, boots if it's wet, binoculars, and a bird book. No dogs. More than light rain or lightning will cancel the event. If the weather is uncertain call the leader. Walk Leader: Harry West (hwest2020@gmail.com; 617-461-9500 mobile)

Saturday, May 17, 8 – 10 AM**Birds of Willard's Woods**

Meet at Willard's Woods parking lot off North Street. We will hope to catch the peak of the spring migration with opportunities for warblers and flycatchers. We'll also look for nesting residents such as Indigo Bunting, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Pine Warbler. Willard's Woods has good trails on level ground. We will stop early if we encounter heavy rain. Walk Leader: John Andrews (jandrews166@gmail.com; 781-862-6498)

Thursday, May 22, 2 – 3 PM**Pond Exploration at Parker Meadow**

Geared for children in grades K – 5 accompanied by an adult.

Meet at the Revere St. entrance to Parker Meadow. Limited parking is there; additional parking is available on neighborhood streets across Revere St. Join Emily Schadler for a prowl around Parker Meadow to look for signs of beavers, bugs, tadpoles, frogs and toads. We'll dip a net into the water to see what kinds of critters are wriggling around below the surface. Bring rain boots if you have them, and be prepared to get dirty. If you have a small bug box or magnifier, bring it along. Rain or lightning will cancel the event. Walk Leader: Emily Schadler, Conservation Stewardship Program Coordinator (eschadler@lexingtonma.gov; 781-698-4532).

Sunday, June 8, 2 – 3:30 PM**Walk at Cotton Farm – Upper Vine Brook**

Meet at the parking area at Cotton Farm (entrance at 121 Marrett Road). Parking is limited, but you can park along Marrett Road. Kids old enough to enjoy the walk are welcome. We will walk through the apple orchard, along the pond, through the gladed area and up through the Upper Vine Brook woods to Highland Avenue. After returning to the parking area, for those who have additional time, we will cross over Marrett Road to Dunback Meadow and walk up to "four corners" and back. At Cotton Farm, the shed by the pond has a new roof and the apple orchard rehabilitation is well underway. Full sized apples were picked by visitors this past fall. For the longer-term direction of Cotton Farm, Mass Audubon has been engaged to develop a design plan to assist with the management of the property. This walk will be an opportunity to share your thoughts. Rain or lightning will cancel the walk.

Walk Leader: Bob Hausslein (rhausslein@rcn.com; 781-862-9102)

*All walks are free and open to the public
Maps of conservation lands can be found at*

<http://www.lexingtonma.gov/conservation/conland.cfm>

Photo Credits

Kate Fricker, p. 1, 9, 14

Sam Jaffe p. 2

Rebecca Hargrave, p. 4

Wikipedia, p. 5

A Plea from Kate Fricker

In case you hadn't noticed, I have reached an age where manipulating numbers and databases has become increasingly confusing. I am in danger of sending the wrong message to the wrong people the wrong number of times. If you have the youth and the time to take over the CLC database, I beg you to offer before I make any embarrassing mistakes. You can contact me at kfricker@alum.swarthmore.edu.

Tick Talk

By Kate Fricker



This article is a brief summary of a March 23 lecture given by Sam Telford, an epidemiologist specializing in diseases carried by arthropods, especially ticks. Sam's Curriculum Vitae is impressive, and would have filled the rest of the space allotted for this article.

In Lexington the tick of concern is the black-legged tick, known also as the Deer Tick. It carries the bacteria for Lyme disease, a disease that should be avoided if possible and recognized and treated if not. Long-term avoidance must center on controlling the explosive growth of the deer population, since deer are essential hosts of the Deer Ticks. This is not rocket science; it will happen when people decide that the risks of Lyme disease are greater than their love for Bambi. Getting rid of the mice, who are the main carriers of infected ticks, would also control the tick population, but it's almost impossible to do, it would be very expensive, and it would be harmful to the environment and to pets.



In the short term, those who like and need outdoor exercise have two main approaches. One can use repellants, and/or one can walk on trails that don't encourage deer ticks. For the former, Sam recommends wearing clothing treated with Permethrin (such as Insect Shield), and/or applying Deet to exposed skin. He says the most effective Deet product is Ultrathon, which lasts longer on the skin and isn't absorbed very much. Care should be taken with the use of Permethrin, as it is highly toxic to cats.



Sam had advice for trail workers. Ticks need moisture. Without it they shrivel up and die. Trails, therefore, should be kept free of damp leaf litter. When ready for a meal, ticks climb up on grasses and bushes and hang out to hook onto their victims. They don't jump or fly, so they will be found on bushes no higher than the deer they depend on for survival over the winter. In summer they are lower down, waiting for mice and other mammals. Trails should be clipped close to the ground and cleared of duff. Hedges should be cut back from where people walk. Individuals wishing to reduce tick populations on their own land could clear brush and leaf litter around the edges of their property



Just in case you might have picked up a tick in spite of taking precautions, do a tick check after walking in the woods. If you find a tick, don't panic. Pull it off right away and save it in a bottle for identification, if needed. If it's not engorged with blood, you are probably ok, since the Lyme disease bacteria are not transferred until the tick has been in place for at least one day.



Symptoms of Lyme disease infection can vary. Often one gets a rash, sometimes but not always, shaped like a target. Even if not shaped like a target, the Lyme disease rash moves from day to day. You can mark the area of any rash you find with a ball point pen and check to see if it moves. The victim feels sick, has a fever, and has aches in muscles and joints, but there are none of the respiratory symptoms seen with

flu. The usual treatment for Lyme disease is a single dose of Doxycycline as soon as possible after the diagnosis.

For more information on Deer Ticks and Lyme disease, do a Google search for “Tick Management Handbook”, an excellent free online book by Kirby C. Stafford III.



Can We Save the Ash Trees in Lexington?

By Jane and Wayne Warren

Ash trees are handsome and valuable for wildlife. Two species of ash trees are native to Lexington: white ash (*Fraxinus americana*) and green ash (*F. pennsylvanica*). White ash may grow to a height of 50 to 120 feet with a trunk up to 4 feet in diameter. The green ash grows to a height of 30 to 75 feet, possibly more, with a trunk up to 20 inches in diameter. The branches and the leaves are opposite. The trunks of ash trees are unusual; the ridges in the bark form a diamond pattern. The compound leaves of white ash grow to 12 inches long, usually with 7 leaflets (5 – 13) each about 4 inches long. The leaves of green ash are usually 9 inches long with 5 to 9 leaflets each about 3½ inches long. In the fall, the leaves of white ash turn yellow and then purple. The deep-green leaves of the green ash just turn yellow.



White Ash Leaves

The fruiting period for ash trees starts in fall and persists through winter. About 8 species of birds feed on the seeds of the winged fruits from the white ash and about 10 species of birds eat the seeds of the green ash. Both of these ash trees are larval hosts of 6 species of butterflies. Both white and green ash trees provide cover and good nesting sites for birds.

Unfortunately, these wonderful trees have many pests, including several kinds of borers, mites, fungi, rusts, and cankers, but none are nearly as harmful as the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) (*Agrilus planipennis*). EAB is an exotic beetle 1/2 inch long and 1/8 inch wide when mature. It is “metallic green” with purple abdominal segments under its wing covers. The EABs are native to China, Japan, Korea, and parts of Russia. They probably came to the United States in wood packing material such as crates or shipping pallets originating in Asia.

The first discovery of the EABs in the US was near Detroit, Michigan, in the summer of 2002. EABs have now spread to more than 20 central and eastern states and parts of eastern Canada. They were found in 2012 in Massachusetts. The EABs have killed tens of millions of ash trees in southeastern Michigan alone and tens of millions more in the other eastern and central states, including other species of ash trees than green and white.

After the adult EABs emerge in May to August, they may feed on ash foliage but cause little damage. After mating, the female adult beetles seek to find an ash tree—nearby or somewhere up to 5 miles—to lay eggs on the bark, thus spreading the infestation. When these eggs hatch, the larvae bore through the bark and feed on the inner layer of the tree, thereby disrupting movement of nutrients and water. After 1 – 2 years of infestation the damaged passageways cannot provide enough water and nutrients to the roots and leaves. The infestation is difficult to observe directly because most of the beetle's life cycle occurs under the bark.

As the larvae continue to grow, they eventually mature into adults and drill their way back out through the bark. The 1/8 inch, D-shaped exit holes, where adult beetles emerge from the tree, are seldom noticed because they are small and most are above eye level. At this point an expert would be able to detect that the tree is infested. Within 2 – 3 years, the tree may attract many woodpeckers that eat the larvae under the bark. Sucker growth may come out of the crotches and branches of the tree, and even at the base of the trunk. Within 2 – 4 years the tree is likely to be too damaged to survive even with treatment. If an ash tree has lost more than 50% of its canopy, it is not likely that the tree can be saved.



Emerald Ash Borer

Understanding of how EAB can be managed successfully with insecticides has increased over the years. Scientists from universities, government agencies and companies are conducting research on insecticide treatments. Current options include systemic insecticides applied to the soil, sprayed onto the trunk or injected directly into the trunk. A tree has to be healthy enough to transport the insecticide throughout the tree for this to work. Another option is spraying protective insecticides onto the trunk, main branches and foliage to kill newly hatched larvae entering the bark and adults feeding on the foliage. Longer-term solutions such as introduction of natural predators are also being studied.

At this time, little can be done to protect or save trees from the EABs in a forest environment. The approach at the present time is to stop their spread while seeking a permanent solution. This past winter the EAB was discovered in North Andover and consequently Massachusetts has just placed Essex County under quarantine. Certain wood products are prohibited from being transported outside the county, including all hardwood firewood, all ash nursery stock, and any ash lumber that has not been treated to eliminate EABs. State and Federal agencies will continue surveying the area this summer to determine the extent of the infestation. Depending on the results, additional steps to control the infestation will be formulated.

As far as we know, Lexington is free of the EAB at the present time. However, the question is not whether the EAB infestation will spread to Lexington, but when. If you have any ash trees, you should watch vigilantly for thinning of the upper canopy, increased woodpecker activity, early leaf drop or small D-shaped exit holes in the bark. If your ash trees don't look healthy, consult an arborist while they can be saved.



Cotton Farm, 2013

By Carolyn Levi

Me and the other old farts, tired of mulching trees,
Stand eight of us around a Baldwin apple tree somebody
gave Mr. Cataldo. He didn't know when.
We take turns waving a jury-rigged picking basket on a pole,
Looking into the sun where we see the last apples.

The first ever Baldwin seedling
sprouted in a field a few miles from here.
There is a monument, so I believe this.
That tree did well for itself,
Became New England's apple, then New York's.

Night, February, 1934, the Baldwin empire fell.
Cold, cold, 1934. A bad time to learn your apples froze.
No more harvests, no crating, no shipping, no jobs,
Dust. Not blossoms.
Cold.

So, then, Jay discovers he can extend the pole,
vary his angle of attack, and he pockets the first apple.
Against hard times.

Our New Program:

Junior Ranger of Lexington Conservation Lands
By Bobbie Hodson

Promoting an appreciation of the outdoors is one of the goals of Citizens for Lexington Conservation. Because a deep love and enthusiasm for nature often starts in childhood, CLC is excited to begin its Junior Ranger Program to help create and nurture this love of our conservation lands among our children.

At the heart of the program is a 7-page booklet that can be downloaded from the CLC website. Intended for use by a child and a guiding adult, it includes a range of activities, including drawing, puzzles, and wildlife bingo; designed to nurture a child's observation skills and reflection during a visit to at least three Lexington conservation areas.

The booklet can be used flexibly by the child and guiding adult and there is no time limit for a child to complete the activities. However, when an adult feels the child has completed the activities appropriately for his or her age, the adult can sign the booklet and present the child with a "Junior Ranger of Lexington Conservation Land" certificate (available in mid-spring).

We encourage you to use the booklet with your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or friends' and neighbors' kids, and we welcome your feedback.



Trail Guide to Lexington Conservation Land

By Keith Ohmart

Quick show of hands. How many of you still have the venerable green jacketed, paper bound edition of trail maps for Lexington's conservation properties? Well you can now consign this copy to your historical archives. Last fall saw the publication of its successor entitled, *Trail Guide to Lexington's Conservation Land*.



Skunk Cabbage

This new trail guide makes use of current GPS/GIS technology to provide up-to-date and accurate maps for all of the town's 25 conservation properties. All maps are now standardized in terms of identified reference points such as entrances and parking locations where available, as well as features in the landscape including contour intervals. Surrounding streets are now shown which along with the overview map of the entire town, makes finding each of the properties significantly easier than in the old edition.

A facing page containing a description of the physical features of the property, as well as a brief historical summary accompanies each map. Mention is also made in the preface of the

several other parcels of open space in town open to the public that are owned and managed by the state (Beaver Brook North), the federal government (Minuteman National Historical Park) and other municipalities (Arlington Great Meadow, Hobbs Brook Basin/City of Cambridge).

The result is that there is now available in one handy edition, a comprehensive guide to all public open space in Lexington. The guide is spiral bound for lay-flat usability, and printed with coated paper end covers. About the size of a paperback book, these features make this guide durable enough to throw into a backpack for reference in the field. Copies of the guide are available at a cost of \$10 at Cary Library, the Visitor Center and the Conservation Office in Town Hall.



Western Greenway Summer Trail Maintenance

By Keith Ohmart

Many of our readers may be users or familiar with the Western Greenway Trail that runs through Lexington across the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Beaver Brook North Reservation. The trail presently originates on the property of Mass Audubon's Habitat Sanctuary in Belmont, enters Lexington at the Metropolitan Parkway North entrance to Avalon at Lexington Hills off of Concord Avenue, crosses Walnut Street, traverses the Lot 1 section of Beaver Brook North and exits Lexington across Trapelo Road into Waltham before ending at the Paine Estate in Waltham.

This trail is maintained during the summer months by volunteer efforts on the part of Friends of the Western Greenway (FoWG). FoWG is presently recruiting interested volunteers willing to contribute 2-3 hours per month to assist in the maintenance effort for Lexington's portion of the trail. The work consists of using hand tools and weed whackers to prune back seasonal vegetative growth along the trail. DCR's budget has been cut by some 20% since 2008 with the result that DCR does not have the funds to maintain a summer trail crew for this portion of the Beaver Brook North property.

If you are interested in helping out this summer, please contact Laurel Carpenter (lcarp@rcn.com), ph 781-956-6084) who will be coordinating this effort.



It's Spring at Last. Get outdoors.

by Kate Fricker

Let ice and snow be just a memory. Now is the time to get outside and enjoy all the wildlife and greenery Lexington conservation areas have to offer. Here is a starter list, but you can add your own ideas.

1. Buy the Trail Guide to Lexington's Conservation Land downstairs at the Town Office Building. Explore a different conservation area each week.
2. April is the time to explore vernal pools and listen for the spring chorus. I like to drive slowly past Minuteman Tech on Route 2A at dusk with the windows open. When you

hear the loud peeping of the spring peepers you will know that the time is right for investigating vernal pools all over Lexington. One of my favorites is on Whipple Hill. There is another on Cranberry Hill. Listen also for the low chuckling sound of the wood frogs. There is more information at the web site below.

<http://greatkids.outdoors.org/2014/03/big-night-teaching-kids-about-vernal.html>

3. Take part in the 15th Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup on April 26, 2014, 9am to 12pm. The Waltham group is meeting in back of Shaw's supermarket at 130 River St.
4. Download the First Decade Report from the Friends of Arlington's Great Meadow's website: <http://www.foagm.org/documents/FoAGM%20First%20Decade%2>. Print out the map, and explore this great resource in the middle of Lexington.
5. Woodcocks usually start to claim their territories on open grasslands in March, but they well might be later this year. The males display for the females with wild dives toward the ground and "peent" sounds. Listen for them at dusk in open grasslands, such as Dunback Meadow (along Bacon Street), Arlington's Great Meadow, or Cranberry Hill. A Google search will give better directions.
6. Try keeping a record of seasonal events, such as first snowdrop blossoms, first spring peepers singing, first red maple blossoms, first warbler returning, or even the first appearance of poison ivy leaves. 

Book Review: *The Once and Future World*

By J.D. MacKinnon

Reviewed by Keith Ohmart

The population of sperm whales at present is in the neighborhood of 12,000, according to J.D. MacKinnon. Now imagine if you can a population of 120,000, the estimated pre-whaling population. Now do this same math for not only the remnant species of large animals that we know today but also the populations of large animals driven extinct within the time span of the human species on this continent. This in a nutshell captures one of the over-arching themes of this fascinating latest work by one of the pre-eminent naturalist journalists writing today.

MacKinnon goes far beyond the population of sperm whales as he makes the point that what is needed in today's society is a re-enchantment with the natural world if we are to have any hope of dealing with the twin looming catastrophes of species extinctions and climate change. The subtitle of MacKinnon's book is, *Nature As It Was, As It Is, As It Could Be*. In re-imagining the world of only a hundred or so years ago that contained 120,000 sperm whales, MacKinnon makes the point over and over again that as a society we are constantly re-setting the bench marks by which we measure the natural world. What we experience in our life-times becomes the new norm, which in the case of the natural world, is a norm of constantly diminishing populations. MacKinnon then moves us to imagine a re-wilding of our world as we know it today. To throw out just a tidbit still, on the sperm whale theme, he posits that the 12,000 sperm whales living in the Southern Ocean today draw fifty tons of iron to the surface each year in emptying their bowels. This in turn feeds the population of plankton which in turn feeds

the krill which in turn feeds the whales. 120,000 sperm whales would have drawn five hundred tons of iron to the surface each year. Scientists have had a hard time reasoning how the population of krill could have been large enough to feed such a large number of whales, but this cycle may have been the answer.

I don't purchase many books any more, preferring to use the extraordinary resources of our Cary Library, but this is one volume that I intend to acquire. And yes, I have returned the library's copy, making it available to the next interested reader.



ACROSS Lexington- Spring 2014 Update

By Rick Abrams

ACROSS Lexington will be a 40-mile network of very well marked walking, biking and trail biking routes that traverse virtually all of Lexington. ACROSS stands for Accessing Conservation land, Recreation areas, Open space, Streets and Schools. This article updates the September 2013 CLC article.



New Routes

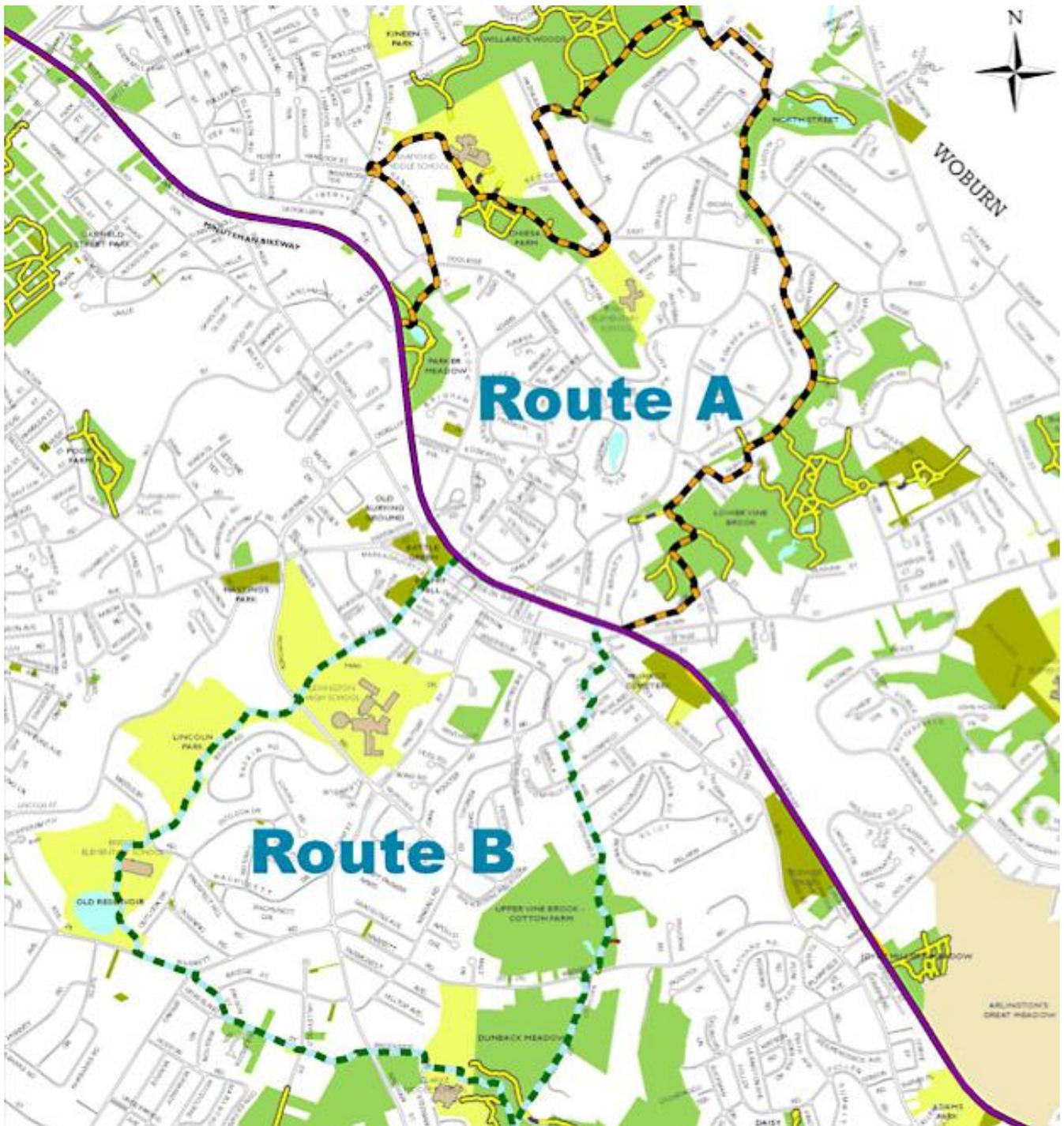
Route B was completed in October, 2013, and has been extremely popular. It goes by the LHS football stadium, baseball field, through Lincoln Park, Bridge School, the Old Res, Clarke Middle School, Dunback Meadow, Upper Vine Brook, some residential streets, Mass Ave and back to the Bikeway and the center. You will find beautiful scenery including an apple orchard (at Cotton Farm), 3 schools and important recreational facilities along the way.

We have begun planning Route C (our third route), which will go past Lex Farm (former Busa Farm location), Whipple Hill and some other beautiful conservation land. It is anticipated that this 4+ mile route will be complete in the Fall of 2014. We will then have done 15 miles, and we hope to finish the balance in the next 3 years.

New Map

A new, easy and fun-to-use print map will be complete by Patriots Day. It will include the 2 completed routes along with over 16 points of interest that can be found along the routes. You will be able to walk and learn some Lexington history at the same time. We think families with young kids as well as people who have lived in Lexington for a long time will enjoy learning some little known facts. Some very knowledgeable Lexington residents provided the great information.

You will also find a subset of a terrific and newly updated map showing 27 historic buildings along Mass Ave, from the Battle Green to Pleasant Street. This resource was provided by the Lexington Historical Society and the Lexington Historical Commission. While we could only fit a portion of the full guide on this map, the entire document can be downloaded from: <http://acrosslexington.org/historic>



An additional wealth of resources and websites pointing to more trails and local organizations are also provided. The map will be distributed at the Visitor Center, Town Office Building, Cary Library and various stores in town. If you would like a map sent to you via the Post office, send an email and your mailing address to me: Rickya@me.com.

Free iPhone app

By Patriots day you will be able to download an updated version of the ACROSS Lexington iPhone App. This version will contain Route B and will have new points of interest. I would like to thank David Neal, the creator of the app, for all his hard work and dedication to this project. To find it, go to the App store, and search for "Across Lexington". Send all comments and suggestions for future versions of the app to me at: Rickya@me.com.

Bike Walk 'N Bus Week

We are busy organizing Lexington's second annual Bike Walk 'N Bus Week, which will take place from May 9 to May 18. There will be 3 walks on ACROSS Lexington routes including one (described above) that is now in the planning stages. For complete details about the walks and all of the activities, go to: <http://Lexbikewalkbusweek.org>.

Summary

You don't have to get in your car and travel for hours to enjoy the great outdoors. We have so much to offer right here in Lexington. Don't wait. Go do it.



Guide to Lexington's Open Space

By Keith Ohmart

Inspired by the publication of the new Trail Guide to Lexington's Conservation Land, the staff at Lexington Community Education (LCE) offered CLC the opportunity to create a course introducing Lexington's open space resources. This offer sparked a discussion among CLC board members on how to interest more people to visit and use our conservation resources.

The result was a task group that is now in the final stages of creating a one hour program that will have its premier on May 1 as part of LCE's spring semester. The program will provide a comprehensive overview of the range of conservation and other open space properties in town, covering their ecological importance, things to find and do on them, and the availability of maps needed to navigate through them. The maps and photographs assembled from the



Dogwood leaves

Trail Guide and an extensive archive of photographs taken by CLC members, Lexington Conservation Stewards and others, make this presentation a rich visual introduction to the extensive and varied natural resources in town.

Once the program is completed, CLC would like to take it on the road to any group or organization in town that would like to include it in a special event or a regular meeting. You can contact CLC through its web site (www.clclex.org) using the Contact Us button near the top of the home page for further information.

