



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE

Sharon Friends of Conservation

SHARE + MAINTAIN + PRESERVE + ENJOY

From the Desk of the SFOC President: Gaurav Shah

Hello to all members of the Sharon Friends of Conservation, and to our broader Sharon community! My name is Gaurav Shah, and I am the new president of the Sharon Friends of Conservation.

I'd like to start by talking about our outgoing president, Kurt Buermann. For so many years, he's shown extraordinary dedication and commitment to leading our organization, to preserving the nature of Sharon, and to sharing his love of it with all. We owe him our gratitude — Thank you, Kurt, for everything you've done!

My family and I moved to Sharon almost 20 years ago, and a big part of why we chose Sharon is the wonderful greenspace of this town. I've enjoyed the fruits of the work by Kurt and so many others, and it's time for me to give back. I care about the nature around us and promise to do my part in preserving it!



Many of you may have seen me on our local trails. I'm the guy in slightly ungainly, baggy clothes looking for insects and spiders in the under brush (avoiding ticks is the new black). I'll talk about bugs at length with anyone with very little provocation, so please consider this a warning!

There are many priorities on which we can collaborate. First of all, I want to increase our outreach, especially to younger members of our community. We need to preserve the natural land we have. Of course, we want to continue to have regular nature walks, and would like to have experts lead them to talk about aspects we may not have experience with.

I'm very interested in hearing what your own priorities are, and what you would like our organization to do for you. Please send your suggestions to sharonfoc@gmail.com. I look forward to learning from your input and using it to become better.

Gaurav Shah

Making the Most of Invasive Weeds: Garlic Mustard

by Jana Katz

Garlic mustard, *alliaria petiolate*, is a biennial, edible invasive common to fields and woodlands. According to the Introduced Species Summary Project at Columbia University, garlic mustard was first identified in the United States in 1868 in New York. It can now be found in 30 states and three Canadian provinces. Native to Europe, it is believed to have been used by

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Making the Most of Invasive Weeds: Garlic Mustard

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Humans for 6,000 years.

With a horseradish scent, it can give a kick to a variety of dishes. Although cyanide is present in the leaves in harmful amounts as the plants grows, young garlic mustard is safe to eat once it is chopped up. When foraging, collect garlic mustard in its entirety, roots and all, to combat growth which can inhibit native species' survival. Their roots are believed to release phytotoxins that kill healthy soil fungi, ruining the ecosystem for other species' growth. Due to its bitter taste, white-tailed deer and other herbivores do not eat garlic mustard in large quantities.

Taking two years to mature, the plant was formerly planted to curb erosion. Throughout its lifecycle, garlic mustard transforms its look. Sprouting in the summer and fall, garlic mustard's leaves are at first a green, short rosette. In its second year, leaves take on a jagged edge and heart shape. Four white petals blossom in the second year, as well, on stalks that can grow 2-3 feet high.

Garlic mustard is diuretic and high in vitamins A and C. Garlic mustard pesto is a flavorful addition to pizzas, pastas, and stir-fries. It can also be made into a wasabi substitute. The entire plant can be utilized. From roots to pickle and seeds to grind into a homemade mustard. Garlic mustard tinctures can be used topically to relieve itching from bug bites.

Buying in Bulk: Consumer Choice

by Jana Katz

I love laughing at a meme for the second time. Like bumping into an old friend, there's a familiarity that comes with the experience. It makes me want to high-five the screen. The other day, I saw the meme questioning the effectiveness of plastic bag bans at grocery stores when so much of what we consume is packaged in plastic already.

I get it. I read it with that *tone* I hear when talking to someone reluctant to feel empowered by consumer choice. Like it's some imposition for someone to change their habits, to try something new. I laughed at the meme again and then I paused. The

meme is ornery and succinct. I know many people who share the same sentiments. The meme is relatable.

Hard boiled eggs encased in hard, plastic shells, cellophane-wrapped bananas, they are unnecessary examples of one-time-use plastic. I'm glad to laugh while I think about the impact I make on the world with how I spend my money. Often, I find thinking about it overwhelming.

One way to experiment with the amount of plastic packaging you bring into your home is to buy in bulk. In 2019, Trent Hamm penned, "Here's When Buying in Bulk is Really Worth It," for U.S. News and World Report. Hamm says that if you can afford the cost up front, the items will cost less per piece than if you were not buying them in bulk. Storage can surely be an issue, but dry goods stored at room temperature can be a really convenient asset for your household.

When covid hit, most stores stopped providing access to bulk dry goods. Supply Bulk Foods is a great local business that provides pantry staples and regional delivery. Founded by Alys Myers, Supply Bulk Foods is based in eastern Massachusetts with pickup locations from Carver and to Beverly. The nearest one to Sharon is in Norwood at Emerald City Plant shop.

Consider putting in an order with a few friends to supplement perishables. More information can be found online at: <http://supplybulkfoods.com/pages/pickup-locations>. There is a \$3.50 delivery fee and a monthly schedule which requires planning. Whether you feel like incorporating something new into your routine, sometimes it is refreshing just to see there are options you hadn't considered previously. The Supply Bulk Food website has a great visual for familiarizing yourself with order sizes when buying bulk.

Another great resource is the Northeast Organic Farming Association's Massachusetts chapter. For organic farmers and gardeners, NOFA is a great community resource. On January 1st, the NOFA Tri-State Bulk Order program opens. Planning ahead is required as pickup sites do not receive products until March and April. For the month of January, consumers are able to order online or by mail. For more information visit: www.nofamass.store/bulkorder.

NOFA also runs a database of organic food throughout the state: www.theorganicfoodguide.org. Contact information for farmers markets, direct farm ordering, and wholesale suppliers is available, as well as, community support agriculture programs. Searchable categories include food products, herbs, and flowers.

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Exoskeleton Safari: the arthropods of Sharon

By Gaurav Shah

Let's start by simply enjoying this photo. The chrome green is utterly spectacular; seeing a color like this in nature gives me goosebumps. This particular photo was taken at Moose Hill Mass Audubon.

This beetle belongs to the family Cerambycidae, the longhorn beetles.



It's not difficult to see how they got that name, just look at the length of the antennae! The longhorn beetles form a very large family of beetles, which themselves form a very large order of insects. There

are 35,000 known species of the longhorn beetles – to compare, there are just 10,000 species of birds.

Longhorn beetle larvae live in plant matter, preferably plant matter that's already been stressed by other factors. Finding this plant matter is a tricky thing, and mama Cerambycids have a wonderful sense of smell that helps them detect chemicals given out by plants when they are stressed.

But they have another, trickier strategy. There are other beetles, such as Scolytinid beetles, that also need to do the same thing. Why not let them do all the work? Instead of searching for the smell of stressed plants, many Cerambycid mothers search for the smell of Scolytinid larvae. There's a bonus from this policy: the Scolytinid larvae may then serve as food for the Cerambycid larvae.

Does it end here? Of course not, these are beetles we're talking about. There are in fact other beetles that try to search for the smell of Cerambycid beetles so they can do unto the Cerambycids as the Cerambycids do unto others. It's a universal truth: whatever "it" is, with bugs, it never stops.

To get more particular, this specific Cerambycid beetle belongs to the sub-family Lepturinae, the flower longhorn beetles; its Latin binomial is *Anthophylax cyaneus*. Cont'd on p. 4

Tech and Conservation

by Jana Katz

Technological advancements provide opportunities for regional connection and increase access to enjoying the outdoors. Interactive websites combine data from researchers and hobbyists alike. Pooling information from varieties of sources enhance everyone's ability to serve as environmental stewards. Collective input can increase safety on trails, educate people at their own pace, and assist in long term planning for communities and private landowners.

Released in November of 2022, *BioMap: The Future of Conservation in Massachusetts* is a comprehensive interactive site and database providing an incredible array of information on ecosystems throughout Massachusetts. MassWildlife and The Nature Conservancy jointly produced a user-friendly

portal designed to serve as a leader in promoting climate resiliency and conservation. MassWildlife is also known as the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, and serves as resource for outdoor recreation, land management, and endangered species protection. Dedicated to combating climate change, The Nature Conservancy's website celebrates the domestic and international successes in protecting biodiversity and increasing awareness about the power of personal choice in creating a future that helps instead of harms the environment.

Municipalities throughout Massachusetts are divided by county with a snapshot of relevant statistics related to natural landscapes, core habitats, and bioregional components. Updated as recently as July 28, 2023, BioMap also provides Cont'd on p. 5

Exoskeleton Safari: the arthropods of Sharon

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Now, back to the photo: look at the right antenna, near the base. Does something look a little unusual?



Now, That turns out to be a creature called a pseudoscorpion. The pseudoscorpions form an order of Arachnids, so they're related to spiders, ticks, mites and yes, to scorpions. I'll start off with the question everyone wants answered: they're not particularly closely related to scorpions, and they're harmless to humans, although if any of the readers of this newsletter are ants, mites, or other small arthropods, then *please* watch your step in their presence.

That's all well, but... what's it doing hanging onto the beetle? Well, if you were half a centimeter in size, one of your challenges would be getting around. Places several hundred meters away, or a few meters high, would be almost impossible to get to. And yet, there's plenty of wonderful food, and candidates to mate with, in those locations.

How do we overcome this barrier? Pseudoscorpions simply grab hold of beetles and flies and use them as buses, to go from one place to another, looking for food and for love. Why would you evolve wings yourself, when you can just use someone else's?

(This behavior is a type of mutualism called commensalism, wherein one of the organisms benefits, while the other isn't affected – the beetle (usually

doesn't really benefit, nor does it significantly suffer. In particular, using another organism as transport is called phoresis.)

But that's not all. Unbeknownst to the beetle, it's not just a bus, it's a party bus too. Since there are pseudoscorpions on the beetle anyway, they also take the opportunity to look for mates among the others who are also hitching a ride. The males fight with other males, and try to push them off, like sumo wrestlers, which is fairly funny when done by these awkwardly shaped little creatures a few millimeters in size. There can be a bustle of up to 20 or 30 pseudoscorpions milling around the beetle, with their own soap opera, their love and life and death, all while the beetle goes on with its own problems, equally dramatic.

Now: if you look a little closer, on the same antenna as the pseudoscorpion, a few segments further up, you can see another organism, perhaps an Oribatid mite, which is a hitchhiker itself. From the mite's point of view, there's yet more life and death drama: does it know that its natural predator is just a few millimeters away?

Homeschoolers at Moose Hill

by Jana Katz

MassAudubon is bringing an exciting program to Moose Hill. The 17-session curriculum aims to bring 9-12 year-olds together from October to May utilizing the local landscape to teach earth science. Taking place on Monday mornings, this is part of the programs for homeschooled children throughout the state. Moose Hill educators have run programs for school aged students throughout the academic year, but this will be the first ongoing program for home schooled students. Their popular summer camp brings in hundreds of attendees each summer. Students should expect to learn while outdoors in all types of weather. Additionally, there will be some portions of the program taught inside.

Shawn Moriarty, the Metro South Camp Director and Education Coordinator described an incredible union of topics revolving around the concept of Nature Journaling and phenology. Students will learn about geology, paleontology, climate science, plant lifecycles and more by observing the nature

Buying in Bulk: Consumer Choice

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In addition to connecting people with sustainable and organic farms, The Organic Food Guide has a list of restaurants throughout Massachusetts serving local, organic food. From the Berkshires to the Cape, NOFA has put together a comprehensive, easily searchable list of businesses committed to operating with strong commitments to environmentally-friendly practices.

Consumer choice can be a daunting and also powerful concept. Knowing there are businesses dedicated to reducing waste and promoting sustainable ways of living can be a comfort. Creating networks to promote these organizations increases awareness about our environmental impact in an accessible way.

Supporting business who prioritize these values shows entrepreneurs what matters to consumers.

The infographic below is from Supply Bulk Foods.



Tech and Conservation

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an interactive map layering data including soil composition, rare species habitation, and core habitat locations. Articles within the website provide information on habitat management and restoration.

Another great resource online (and listed on the SFOC website) is the Bay Circuit Trail and Greenway website. The Bay Circuit Trail connects Sharon with trails throughout eastern Massachusetts. Over 230 miles wind through suburban towns and cities from Kingston to Newburyport. Sponsored by the Appalachian Mountain Club, one notable feature (of many) on the website, www.baycircuit.org is an interactive storytelling map. Underground railroad sites are highlighted on the north shore. Ancestral burying grounds from indigenous communities are also located on the map, including Sharon's Moose Hill – reportedly the oldest Mass Audubon property. Practical functions abound on this website as well. There is a mechanism to report trail conditions and an entire system to evaluate the terrain on portions of the parcels.

The Sharon Friends of Conservation website (SharonFOC.org) is, of course, also a fabulous compilation of information. From local trail maps to local nature sightings, it brings people together. The ability to foster community on and offline is a gift we are fortunate to utilize in this day and age.

MAPC Seminars on Climate Resiliency

By Jana Katz

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council is hosting a series of webinars about Massachusetts' indigenous communities' approaches to climate resilience. The web series is being recorded and available online at www.mapc.org. *Rooted in Nature: Indigenous Knowledge and Climate Resiliency* aims to create partnerships between municipalities and local indigenous communities.

Already online, the first seminar, "Session 1: For Our Mother, For Our Children: Introduction to Indigenous Worldviews on Climate Resilience," led by Ryann Monteiro. Exploring multifaceted approaches to acknowledging community specific cultures and traditions, she brought together her personal and professional experience as an MPH, public health educator, and indigenous health advocate. Just an under an hour-long, session 1 is on youtube.

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MAPC Seminars on Climate Resiliency

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The second seminar, “Indigenous Land Conservation, Water Preservation and Cultural Respect,” took place on September 29th. Wampanoag tribe member, Leslie Jonas, is a founding member of the Native Land Conservancy and advocate for clean water justice. Past speaking opportunities include events at M.I.T., Umass Amherst, Umass Boston, and the Conservation Law Foundation where she serves as an Advisory Board member.

On October 13th, Linda Coombs presented “Session 3: Wampanoag Ecological Perspective, Historical Resilience, and Climate Adaptation,” in conjunction with another MAPC speaker and grant program, *Accelerating Climate Resiliency Speaker Series*. Bret Stearns joined her in fostering exploration of both tradition and colonialism in an ecological framework. Both speakers are active in Wampanoag communities on Martha’s Vineyard and Cape Cod.

“Session 4: Restoring Indigenous Foodways for Climate Resilience,” will take place Thursday, October 26th from 12-1:30 in the afternoon. Speaker Kristen Wyman’s work encompasses local initiatives and global success as well as projects at the state and national level. Committed to protecting biodiversity, this seminar will address how municipal action planning can benefit from indigenous wisdom.

The fifth and final session, “Climate Change from the Indigenous Perspective,” is scheduled for Friday, November 3rd from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM.

Examining environmental impact on a personal level while working as a federal Grants Manager, Leslie Jonas has studied humans’ relationship to climate change throughout her career. She lives on Cape Cod where she is an eel clan member of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

The *Rooted in Nature: Indigenous Knowledge and Climate Resiliency* speaker series invites viewers to learn about local movements raising awareness about climate change and sustainability. The Metropolitan Area Planning Council seeks to bring together communities across Massachusetts to address issues facing cities and towns throughout the state. This online speaker series is a great example of accessible educational opportunities tackling complicated topics like climate change and community preparedness.



Pollinators on Mountain Street

Rita Corey
caught this
beautiful
sight in her
garden.

SFOC Board of Directors

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Homeschoolers at Moose Hill

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around them. MassAudubon plans to modify the curriculum each year so students can continue to participate after their first year in the program. Oak Knoll Wildlife Sanctuary in Attleboro also runs an interdisciplinary program for homeschool community members. On www.massaudubon.org there are also great examples of other homeschooling programs across the state including in Ipswich and Worcester.

The program also anticipates bringing students to area Audubon sanctuaries to supplement some of the lesson plans with nearby resources. Mass Audubon's Museum of American Bird Art in Canton houses a multi-disciplinary art-focused learning center known as "The Nest." Students will be able to connect with what they have been learning with advanced technology for self-expression including laser cutters and three-dimensional printers. Mass Audubon's Wildlife Care division at the Blue Hills Trailside Museum provides a refuge for many animals who would not be able to survive in the wild. The Moose Hill curriculum encompasses arts and animals throughout the session both at Moose Hill and potentially elsewhere.

While this year's program started in early October, interested families are welcome to contact Moose Hill to arrange field trips and register early for next year.



Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*

Photo Courtesy of Rita Corey

For budding naturalists, Shawn Moriarty recommends a variety of media to engage youth in science and nature.

<https://johnmuirlaws.com/>

Nature journaling with a free 90 page book.

<https://www.1000hoursoutside.com/>

Mapmaking with Children

David Sobel

The books by Joseph Cornell

Sharing Nature with Children:

<https://www.sharingnature.com/>

<https://www.childrenandnature.org/>

Keeping a Nature Journal

Clare Walker Leslie (Boston based)

Older Tussock Moth (*Euchaetes egle*) Caterpillars on Milkweed



Photo Courtesy of Rita Corey

Also known as the Milk Weed Tiger Moth caterpillar because of their striking appearance, they feed on milkweed. They are generally safe from predators because milkweed contains cardiac glycosides making them poisonous.

Sharon Friends of Conservation Events

In our past SFOC Newsletters we have provided a list of upcoming events. We find that creating a list is a somewhat ungainly process. We have decided that instead of listing events for the year ahead, we will provide notice closer to the event dates. Accordingly, we will advertise our events on the SFOC Facebook page as well as on our website, www.sharonfoc.org and in emails to the SFOC membership.

To get SFOC updates and events, please send your e-mail address to

sharonfoc@gmail.com



spicebush butterfly

Join the Sharon Friends of Conservation or Renew Your Membership



Name: _____

Address: _____

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

Check one. Dues are \$25 per year.

Telephone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Would you like to volunteer? Special skills? _____

Send to SFOC, 45 Furnace St., Sharon, MA 02067 or join/renew online at www.sharonfoc.org/support/membership.html

*Please note: Sharon Friends of Conservation does **not** share or make your membership information available to anyone.*

2023 a Banner Year for SFOC Bluebird Monitors

By Kurt Buermann



The Bluebird season of this year has been a great success. Sharon Friends of Conservation maintains about thirty bluebird bird houses in several locations throughout town. Each year a group of volunteer monitors visit the bluebird houses (AKA boxes) weekly to check on their feathery residents. They report on nest building, eggs laid and activity around the house. At the end of the nesting season (mid-August) the monitors' data is collected and studied. This 2023 season the monitors made 654 visits to the bluebird houses. This is the largest data collection since we began monitoring in 2007.

Bluebirds are quite intertwined with human activity. They are cavity nesters (e.g. holes in trees) who prefer meadows and fields. Their diet is mainly insects. They did quite well back when e.g., farms were widespread in New England. Farmers noticed that bluebirds were very helpful in reducing insect populations and that they did not otherwise do any harm -- and even added a bit of cheer to daily life.

Bluebird numbers increased as fields provided ideal habitat. Even since colonial times people have made and put up bluebird houses. Farmers noticed that with bluebirds around there was much less insect damage to their crops.

After the Civil War however, things started to go against the bluebird. Returning veterans migrated westward after they discovered much better soil available there. (with far less rocks and boulders). Their old new England fields quickly reverted to forest--- a less than suitable habitat for Bluebirds.

Around this time someone got the bright idea of importing English House Sparrows for insect control. The House Sparrows were devastating for bluebirds. They would attack and take over a bluebird nest and kill the inhabitants. Further, it turned out that house sparrows' diet is mainly grains and seeds. Only 4% of their food is insects! It would've been easier and better to expand native bluebird populations than to import the house sparrows!

As time passed, more land was used and developed for cities and houses. Despite the lesson of the house sparrows, even more foreign birds were imported who competed with the bluebirds. DDT came on the scene and the tide turned against bluebirds. Around 1970 bluebirds were becoming scarce. Efforts were begun to reverse the decline. Groups formed, such as the North American Bluebird Society (and our Massachusetts Bluebird Society). Members built untold thousands of bluebird houses and installed them in suitable bluebird habitat. As a result, there have been increases in bluebird populations. Since 1966 a 2.4 % increase was noted. The Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Counts from 1980 to 2004 also show a three-fold increase in population.

Sharon's monitors find not only bluebirds but other avian species using our houses. Tree swallows live close to bluebirds and help defend the shared territory. Wrens and chickadees often use bluebird houses. Monitors welcome these non-bluebird tenants as well. A monitor not only helps bluebirds but also becomes aware of the interplay of a species and its environment. Monitoring can be a richly rewarding experience. Some of our SFOC monitors have been monitoring for year after year.

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2023 a Banner Year for SFOC Bluebird Monitors

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To find out about bluebirds we highly recommend this huge website:

www.sialis.org

If you are interested in being a monitor please see:

www.sharonfoc.org/need-bluebird-help

Homeowners Energy Makeover

By Paul Lauenstein

Paul and his wife Lottie helped their daughter in western Massachusetts perform an complete energy makeover for her home. Paul chronicled their journey with a level of detail that serves a guidebook for anyone exploring how to make their homestead more energy efficient. In the last newsletter, we printed a shortened version of Paul's writings about the incredible project. For a detailed report, please visit the complete article Paul authored and posted online.

Bikes Not Bombs Collection at HTLC Saturday October 21st 9-1

Bikes Not Bombs (BNB) will be coming to Holy Trinity to collect bikes and all things related to them. The organization provides transportation in the form of bikes for people around the world who do not otherwise have access to transportation. Bring your used bikes (children, adult) and spread the word to your relatives, friends, and neighbors. Parts, tools, accessories like lights and helmets are also accepted.

If you would like to help process the bikes (remove pedals, turn handlebars 90 degrees, etc.) let Rita Corey know what time you are available.

Are you curious about what happens to the bikes that are donated? Here is the answer from their website:

"Each year we collect roughly 5,000 used bicycles and tons of used parts from our supporters around Greater Boston and New England. We ship most of these bikes overseas to economic development projects through our International Partnerships in Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

"Bikes that don't get shipped are distributed in Youth Pathways, where teens learn bicycle safety and mechanics skills in the process of earning bikes to keep for themselves. Staff and paid Youth Apprentices working in our retail Bike Shop & Training Center also recondition and sell some of the donated bikes that we receive.

"Profits from bicycle sales, parts sales, and repairs go towards funding our youth and international work."

For a complete list of what Bikes Not Bombs collects and doesn't collect, see the website:

www.bikesnotbombs.org

October 21, 2023

9AM-1PM

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

143 Lincoln Street

North Easton, MA 02356

This bike drive is co-sponsored by
Sharon Friends of Conservation

<https://www.nationalsolartour.org/tourmap/home-energy-makeover/>

Biodiversity on Beacon Hill

By Jana Katz

Governor Maura Healey implemented several initiatives solidifying the Commonwealth's status as a leader in environmental policy in action. National Climate week took place at the end of September inviting stakeholders at the statewide and local levels to come together and bring practical solutions to daily life that promote climate activism and realistic change.

Governor Healey created the first ever statewide, long term plan committed to addressing the pressing need to preserve biodiversity. With the goal of developing and meeting benchmarks for 2030, 2040, and 2050, the initiative brings into focus the need to consider future generations when considering the impacts of diminished biodiversity in regional ecosystems.

In addition to ensuring the Commonwealth there is a dedicated public framework dealing with the

environmental concerns throughout the state, recent policies have also been enacted to address the use of single-use plastic by state agencies.

Executive offices and state agencies will be prohibited from purchasing single-use plastic bottles that contain less than 21 fluid ounces. The policy was put into place at the end of September and aims to raise awareness about the environmental impact of consumer choice as well as reduce the presence of all types of single-use plastics in government buildings.

These successes public awareness and policy are exciting ways to continue the conversation about habitat restoration and human impact on the land. In addition to creating new criteria for public agencies and executive offices to adhere to, these moves brought together stakeholders in the private sector as well. Mass Audubon, the Environmental League of Massachusetts, The Nature Conservancy in Massachusetts and the New England Aquarium praised these efforts. As a coastal state, there is a diverse array of habitats throughout the state that will benefit from these changes to policy and priorities.

Upcoming Classes & Events

Sharon Community Education & Moose Hill

To register and for event information, please visit the Sharon Community Education website:

<https://sharoncommunityeducation.com/>

"A Mindful Outdoor Experience"

**Susan Novick
October 22, 2023
Mann's Pond**

"A Mindful Outdoor Experience"

**Susan Novick
November 6, 2023
Mann's Pond**

"Sunday Saunters"

**September 10th to December 3rd
Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary**

Friends of Borderland State Park

2023 Full Moon Hikes

Remaining Full Moon hikes in this calendar year will begin at the Visitor Center. Walks are 3 miles in length and are led by Borderland Park Staff.

Saturday, October 28, 2023 6:00 PM

Monday, November 27, 5:00 PM

Staff offer hikes at three different paces to widen the audience who may participate in this event. These are special evenings because the park is rarely open at night. Attendees must arrive by the start time with: appropriate footwear, a flashlight, bug spray, and weather-appropriate clothing.

Please visit the SFOC website for ongoing programs and updated schedules for upcoming hikes

www.sharonfoc.org

Sharon Friends of Conservation Hike

1 PM October 22, 2023 Hosted by Scutari

SFOC will sponsor a walk with local teacher naturalist Michael Scutarii. Adults & children 10-17 welcome. See a video of Michael exploring a Sharon Trail: www.youtube.com/watch?v=FeDlStoJKg

Sharon Friends of Conservation

45 Furnace Street

Sharon, MA 02067



Sharon Friends of Conservation was started in 1986 "to promote, encourage and foster the preservation, care and maintenance of all public lands, waters and wildlife in the Town of Sharon in order to further the recreation and enjoyment of the town's residents." It is a non-profit, 501(c) (3) organization.

We welcome all contributions this newsletter and we are eager for more, especially those of young people. Please write about a conservation issue of importance to you. We also welcome artwork, stories, and poetry.

SFOC Newsletter
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