



The BEAT News

Because an informed and engaged public is
the environment's best defense.

January 22, 2019

Well we had to cancel our much-anticipated MLK day kiwi clip and pull due to *unreasonably cold temperatures* and *winds reminiscent of the arctic* on Monday. So, [this Saturday we're going to give it another try](#). Please join us at 11am at Burbank Park!

The next day, Sunday, we'll be with our friends from the 4 Freedoms Coalition at BCC for their day of activism, inspiration, art-making, and more - [Democracy in Action : Celebrating Freedom](#). Come on out!

On Monday, [Indivisible Pittsfield is hosting special guests](#) Adam Hinds, Tricia Farley-Bouvier, and Smitty Pignatelli at the Berkshire Athenaeum to talk about the upcoming MA legislative session.

That's it for now, folks,

Thank you for all you do to protect the environment,
Jane, Elia, Rose, Jake, and Elizabeth



Please support this newsletter. Thank you!

[CONTRIBUTE TODAY](#)

The single-use plastic water bottle ban and GB on TAP : A Progress Report

BY BERKSHIRE WOMEN'S ACTION GROUP | THE BERKSHIRE EDGE

We, the Environment Committee of the Berkshire Women's Action Group, are a small volunteer committee fully committed to upholding the will of the people as expressed in two successive votes in favor of the bottle bylaw in Great Barrington... We are working as hard as we can to lay the foundations for the smooth unfolding of the bylaw and our accompanying GB on TAP program. We want to do everything we can to support our Selectboard and the town to help them begin the enforcement of this bylaw as soon as possible. [READ MORE](#)

Five things activists should know about the Weymouth Compressor Station

BY ROB GALBRAITH | EYES ON THE TIES

The proposed gas compressor station in Weymouth, Massachusetts, a community on the South Shore of Boston, has become a flashpoint in the debate over the Atlantic Bridge fracked gas pipeline project. Despite strident local resistance, the compressor station has the backing of Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, whose administration recently issued an air quality permit for the project. [READ MORE](#)

Sue Morse releases newly expanded *Wildlife & Habitats*

FROM KEEPING TRACK

Yip-yip hurray! Our new, expanded Wildlife and Habitats book is now available for purchase! It contains over 80 of Sue's illustrated wildlife essays from Northern Woodlands magazine. Many are expanded from the original, too. Sue covers some 24 species with fascinating facts and anecdotes. You'll also find the largest published collection of her award-winning wildlife photos to date. [READ MORE & ORDER INFORMATION](#)

Coyotes investigating beaver lodges

BY MARY HOLLAND | NATURALLY CURIOUS WITH MARY HOLLAND

Over the past century beaver trapping has declined and beavers have returned to many of their former habitats. Wolves also have come back in a few areas (not the Northeast yet) — but most places where beavers now live remain free of wolves. As a result, the beaver population has continued to increase, limited only by a few predators, primarily humans and Eastern Coyotes. [READ MORE](#)

Plastic trash from 'sachet economy' chokes the Philippines' seas

BY BONG S. SARMIENTO | MONGABAY

Freedom Island is drowning in garbage. The last coastal frontier in the Philippine capital provides refuge to migratory birds and a thick mangrove forest there serves as a natural typhoon barrier for millions of city dwellers. Yet empty plastic water and soda bottles protrude from the sand, tattered clothes and plastic sheets hang

over mangrove branches, and heaps of shampoo, toothpaste and soy sauce sachets litter the coastline. [READ MORE](#)

Global warming is helping to wipe out coffee in the wild

BY SOMINI SENGUPTA | THE NEW YORK TIMES

Aaron Davis, a British botanist, has spent 30 years trekking across forests and farms to chronicle the fate of one plant: coffee. He has recorded how a warming planet is making it harder to grow coffee in traditional coffee-producing regions, including Ethiopia, the birthplace of the world’s most popular bean, arabica. He has mapped where farmers can grow coffee next: basically upcountry, where it’s cooler. He has gone searching for rare varieties in the wild. [READ MORE](#)

Keep up with the fight against fossil fuels at the No Fracked Gas in Mass newsletter

[SUBSCRIBE](#)

[JOBS](#)

→ click job title for more info & application instructions ←

- [Nursery Manager & Horticulturist](#) | Helia Native Nursery | West Stockbridge, MA
- [River Stewards of Tomorrow](#) | Housatonic Valley Association | Stockbridge, MA
- [Conservation Commissioners](#) | Becket Conservation Commission | Becket, MA
- [Seasonal Trail Crew \(2\)](#) | Berkshire Natural Resources Council | Pittsfield, MA
- [Seasonal Stewardship Crew \(2\)](#) | Berkshire Natural Resources Council | Pittsfield, MA
- [Program Assistant](#) | MA Dept. of Ecological Restoration | Boston, MA
- [MassTrails Grants Coordinator](#) | MA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation | Boston, MA
- [Production Manager & Vegetable Grower](#) | Red Fire Farm | Granby, MA
- [VT & NH Community Organizer](#) | Toxics Action Center | Vermont & New Hampshire
- [Plant Conservation Volunteers](#) | N.E. Wildflower Society | Framingham, MA
- [Conservation Internships](#) | N. E. Wildflower Society | Framingham, MA
- [Regional Planner](#) | Department of Environmental Protection | Boston, MA
- [Environmental Analyst](#) | Department of Environmental Protection | Boston, MA

[Environmental Analyst](#) | Department of Environmental Protection | Boston, MA
[Ecological Restoration Engineer](#) | Department of Ecological Restoration | Boston, MA
[Conservation Planning Coordinator](#) | Open Space Institute | based in New York City
[Chapter Director](#) | Sierra Club | Boston, MA
[Executive Director](#) | Hilltown Families | Williamsburg, MA

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANUARY 4 - FEBRUARY 8

[Talking Cloth: Kangas from East Africa - Turners Falls](#)

JANUARY 4 - FEBRUARY 22

[Homeschool Wilderness Skills Programs - Amherst](#)

JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 9

[Raptor Ramble - Berkshire County](#)

JANUARY 22 - MAY 1

[Sustainable Food & Farming Online Classes](#)

[Social Permaculture for Food Justice Online Course](#)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

[The Lost Forests of New England : Film Screening - Amherst](#)

[Winter Wildlife Tracking with Dave Brown - Northfield](#)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

[Nice and Easy Trail Hike - Lanesborough](#)

[Listening Session: Pittsfield Hazard Mitigation Initiative \(MVP\) - Pittsfield](#)

[Wetlands Assessment and Field Techniques Course - Amherst](#)

[Climate Change and Toxic Hazards: Before the Storm - Webinar](#)

[Farming on the Wild Side - Regenerative Production Practice Based on](#)

[Multifunctional Perennial Plantings - Webinar](#)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

[Free A Tree! Invasive Kiwi Pull - Pittsfield](#)

[Finding Your Way in Winter - Lanesborough](#)

[Kidleidoscope Story Hour: Who lives in a tree? - Turners Falls](#)

[Make It Happen Online Farm Business Class - Webinar](#)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

[Extra Special Massive Kiwi Pull - Pittsfield](#)

[Peter Tague's Greylock - Lanesborough](#)

[Monthly Volunteer Street Clean-up - Lee](#)

[Who's Been Here? - Turners Falls](#)

[Winter Ecology Walk - Ancram, NY](#)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

[Democracy in Action: Celebrating Freedom - Pittsfield](#)

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

[DEP Circuit Rider Call In Night](#)

[Finding Your Way In Winter - Lanesborough](#)

[Hinds, Pignatelli, Farley-Bouvier at Indivisible Pittsfield - Pittsfield](#)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

[Grow Your Own Micro-greens - North Adams](#)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

[The Boulders Hike - Dalton](#)

[Expressing Your View with Photography - Northampton](#)

[Microplastics: An Emerging Threat to Global Ecology & Public Health - Webinar](#)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

[Nice & Easy Trail Hike - Lanesborough](#)

[Trees: A Rise Worth Taking \(most of the time\) - Webinar](#)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

[Free A Tree! Invasive Kiwi Pull - Pittsfield](#)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

[Wildlife CSI: Understanding Animal Track & Sign - Lenox](#)
[Lenox Mountain Summit Hike - Lenox](#)
[The Planted Garden with Arne Maynard - Lenox](#)
[Make Your Own Weather Stick - Cropseyville, NY](#)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

[BEAT Tracking Club - Clarksburg](#)
[Breakfast & Winter Birds - Hinsdale](#)

[SEE OUR FULL CALENDAR](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR

January 9, 2019

Berkshire Index

- **Otis, Stockbridge, (and Blandford)** - [Notice of Application for a 401 Water Quality Certificate \(pdf\)](#) - District 1 Culvert and Drainage Repair Project along Interstate 90 - posted 1/9/19
- **Western Massachusetts** - [Notice of Public Hearings for Vegetation Management Plan \(Eversource\) \(pdf\)](#) - posted 12/26/18
- **Cheshire** - [Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project \(pdf\)](#) - **Stafford Hill WMA Habitat Project** will be conducted on the Stafford Hill Rd and Jenks Rd section of the WMA in Cheshire. The project is tailored to enhance wildlife habitat using mowing, timber harvesting, vegetation control, and prescribed fire techniques. - posted 12/26/18

Pioneer Valley Index

- **Agawam** - [Tennessee Gas Pipeline 261 Upgrade Projects](#) - DEIR - comments due 2/8/19
- **Easthampton** - [Ferry Street Mill Redevelopment](#) - ENF - comments due 1/29/19
- **Southampton** - [Manhan River Restoration Project](#) - ENF - comments due 2/8/19
- **Blandford (& Otis, Stockbridge)** - [Notice of Application for a 401 Water Quality Certificate \(pdf\)](#) - District 1 Culvert and Drainage Repair Project along Interstate 90 - posted 1/9/19
- **Westfield** - [Westfield Turnpike Industrial Park](#) - Draft EIR - comments now due 1/4/2019
- **Hampden** - [Rockwell Pond Dredging](#) - ENF Certificate - Does not Require an Environmental Impact Report - issued 1/4/19
- **Amherst** - [Applied Golf Photovoltaic Power System](#) - ENF Certificate - Does not Require an Environmental Impact Report - issued 12/21/18
- **Northampton** - [Notice of Application for a Combined Chapter 91 License and 401 Water Quality Certification \(pdf\)](#) - **Paradise Pond at Smith College** - posted 12/26/18
- **Westborough** - [Notice of Tentative Determination to Issue Antidegradation Authorization for Proposed Cumberland Farms \(pdf\)](#) - posted 12/26/18
- **Western Massachusetts** - [Notice of Public Hearings for Vegetation Management Plan \(Eversource\) \(pdf\)](#) - posted 12/26/18

Statewide Index

- [Notice regarding Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act \(MEPA\) project submittals \(pdf\)](#) - posted 1/9/19
- [Notice of MASSDOT's Snow and Ice Program 6th Annual Report \(pdf\)](#) - posted 12/26/18

■ [Notice of Public Hearings for Vegetation Management Plan \(National Grid\) \(pdf\)](#) - posted 12/26/18

■ [Notice of Public Hearings for Vegetation Management Plan \(pdf\)](#) -

National Grid proposes to utilize herbicides to treat their Rights-of-Way throughout Massachusetts - comments due 1/18/19

PUBLIC NOTICES

We list public notices from a variety of sources, from conservation commissions and select boards to state and federal environmental agencies. These listings are for Berkshire, Hampshire, Hampden, and Franklin counties. Listings are only posted if they are environmental in nature. You can find all public notices for Massachusetts [here](#).

[BEAT Public Notices Page](#)

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The BEAT News is the e-newsletter of the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT). Please [support BEAT](#) so we can continue to work with you to protect the environment for wildlife in support of the natural world that sustains us all.

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