



The BEAT News

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

January 30, 2019

This Saturday our very own Elia Del Molino will be leading a [wildlife tracking workshop](#) with our friends over at Helia Native Nursery as part of their Ecological Gardening Series.

Coming up next Thursday, February 7th, we've got the first of our tree workshops. Jay and Yoni from DCR will be leading [Understanding Urban Trees](#) at Hotel on North from 5:30-6:30pm and it's going to be a blast. [Send us a note](#) to say you're coming and we'll see you there!

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](#)

IN THE NEWS

Great Barrington's water bottle ban raises enforcement questions

BY HEATHER BELLOW | THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE

Last spring and summer, town voters twice said they wanted to ban the sale of single-use plastic water bottles in town. But come winter, town officials and residents are wondering how all this will work. "Why did we vote on this last year when none of this was put in place?" Laura Keefner asked the Select Board on Monday. Keefner ran an opposition campaign against the ban on water bottles, sized 1 liter or less, citing the financial harm it would do to businesses for which the bottles are a revenue staple. [READ MORE](#)

Conservation Commission kills Stockbridge Bowl herbicide test plan

BY CLARENCE FANTO | THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE

A plan to fight the rapidly expanding weed infestation in Stockbridge Bowl with an herbicide has been shot down over concerns about its effectiveness. The town's Conservation Commission on Tuesday rejected an application by the Stockbridge Bowl Association to combat the infestation with a limited, low-dose test of an herbicide this spring. Members voted 4-0 to deny a permit for a fluridone treatment by Solitude Lake Management on a 40-acre portion of the state-owned lake's southern shoreline area, as recommended by Robert Kortmann, a commission-hired scientist. [READ MORE](#)

Life in a Cubic Foot of My Lawn

FROM CHARLEY EISEMAN | BUGTRACKS

Late last March, I noticed some neatly cut goldenrod stems in my lawn. Or I should say, what used to be my lawn; five years earlier, it was a "proper" lawn (shown here), but it is now more of a meadow, interspersed with young fruit trees, berry bushes, strawberry and asparagus patches, vegetable gardens, and so forth. Anyway, you can see three of the cut stems in this photo: [READ MORE](#)

Rethinking the Future

BY TONY SEBA

Tony Seba's opening keynote at the 70th annual Conference on World Affairs in Boulder, Colorado, April 9th, 2018. The Clean Disruption will be the fastest, deepest, most consequential disruption of energy and transportation in history. Based on Seba's #1 Amazon bestselling book "Clean Disruption" and Rethinking Transportation 2020-2030, this presentation lays out what the key technologies and business model innovations are (batteries, electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles, ride-hailing and solar PV), how this technology disruption will unfold over the next decade as well as key

implications for society, finance, industry, cities, geopolitics, and infrastructure. [WATCH FULL PRESENTATION](#)

Perennial grains could be a key weapon against climate change. But not quite yet.

BY TAMAR HASPEL | THE WASHINGTON POST

As climate change climbs the chart of existential threats, soil is getting a lot of attention. Back when it supported forest or grassland, before we cleared it to grow crops, it stored an awful lot of carbon. By farming the land, we released the carbon. Now, there’s a major push to figure out how to put at least some of it back. The Land Institute, in Salina, Kan., is on it, and I visited them last fall. “We lost about half the carbon in the first few decades after putting crops on prairie,” said Land Institute President Fred Iutzi, who was showing me around. [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 ←

[Seasonal Property & Stewardship Assistant](#) | MassAudubon | Lenox, MA

[Field Botany & Native Plant Internship](#) | Farmscape Ecology Program | Ghent, NY

[Entomology Internship](#) | Farmscape Ecology Program | Ghent, NY

[Trails Coordinator](#) | Berkshire Natural Resources Council | Pittsfield, MA

[Organic Gardener](#) | Berkshire Greenscapes | Pittsfield, MA

[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 30
[The Boulders Hike - Dalton](#)
[Expressing Your View with Photography - Northampton](#)
[Microplastics: An Emerging Threat to Global Ecology & Public Health - Webinar](#)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31
[Organic Certification; The story behind the label - MCLA - North Adams](#)

[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**](#)

[Tree Care for Gardeners - West Stockbridge](#)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

[Developing Winterscapes & Wildlife Tracking - West Stockbridge](#)

[Wildlife CSI: Understanding Animal Track & Sign - Lenox](#)

[Lenox Mountain Summit Hike - Lenox](#)

[The Planted Garden with Arne Maynard - Lenox](#)

[Winter Lecture: The Planted Garden w/ Arne Maynard - Lenox](#)

[The Nolumbeka Project: Full Snow Moon Gathering: An Island Perspective on Wampum](#)

[Wildlife Camera Workshop - Ashfield](#)

[Make Your Own Weather Stick - Cropseyville, NY](#)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

[**BEAT Tracking Club - Clarksburg**](#)

[Breakfast & Winter Birds - Hinsdale](#)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

[Fire in Landscape Management - Webinar](#)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

[Sustainable Landscape Care & Garden Maintenance - W. Stockbridge](#)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

[Planning for the Next Successor on Your Farm - Amherst](#)

[Half Day Discovery Day: Winter Survival - Turners Falls](#)

[It's Happening. It's Now. The 2018 Climate Reports w/ Michael Oppenheimer - Webinar](#)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

[**Understanding Urban Trees: Free Workshop - Pittsfield**](#)

[Circuit Rider Call In Night](#)

[Cows Save the Planet: Soil, Climate, the Promise of Regenerative Ag. - North Adams](#)

[From Seed to Shade: Managing a Municipal Nursery - Webinar](#)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

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

[Kidleidoscope Story Hour: Rabbits - Turners Falls](#)

[Great Falls Coffeehouse: Christ Devine & Michael Nix - Turners Falls](#)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

[Animal Tracking Workshop - Lanesborough](#)

[Native Perennial Seed Starting - Stockbridge](#)

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

[Winter Explorations : Ecology Walk - New Lebanon, NY](#)

[Grafton Tracking Club - Grafton, NY](#)

FEBRUARY 10 - 14

[Investigation Station: Who Do You Love? Valentines for Wildlife - Turners Falls](#)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

[Berkshire Backyard Beekeepers - Stockbridge](#)

[Mini Film Fest: 6 Short Environmental Films - Chesterfield](#)

[Winter Birds with Dave Small - Northfield](#)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

[The Interfaith Council of Franklin County: Who is Our Neighbor? - Turners Falls](#)
[Green Night - Northampton](#)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

[Realizing the New England Food Vision - North Adams](#)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

[Kidleidoscope Story Hour : Porcupines - Turners Falls](#)

[SEE OUR FULL CALENDAR](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR

January 23, 2019

[*The Environmental Monitor*](#) provides information on projects under review by the [Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act](#) (MEPA) office, recent MEPA decisions of the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, and public notices from environmental agencies.

Berkshire Index

- **Sandisfield** - [Notice of Public Hearing \(pdf\)](#) - “Sandisfield State Forest off Beech Plain Road” declare surplus and give an easement to Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. - meeting Wednesday, February 20 , 2019 at 4:00 P.M. at the Sandisfield Public Library, 23 Sandisfield Road, Rt.#57, Sandisfield, MA
- **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

Pioneer Valley Index

- **Agawam** - [Tennessee Gas Pipeline 261 Upgrade Projects](#) - DEIR - comments due 2/8/19
- **Easthampton** - [Ferry Street Mill Redevelopment](#) - ENF - comments now due 2/5/19
- **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 Certificate - Adequately and Properly Complies with MEPA - issued 1/11/2019
- **Hampden** - [Rockwell Pond Dredging](#) - ENF Certificate - Does not Require an Environmental Impact Report - issued 1/4/19
- **Amherst** - [Applied Golf Photovoltaic Power System \(opens in new page\)](#)- 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 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](#)

Follow Us!



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.

[Subscribe to the BEAT News](#)



Robly