



The BEAT News

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

August 4, 2021

Hi Friend,

I want to personally thank you for the warm welcome to BEAT. We've been busy collaborating and developing new programs to build a stronger, greener community in the Berkshires.

Last week, we had sinkholes and flooding in Franklin county. In the Berkshires, we saw some of the poorest air quality in months, coming from the wildfires on the west coast. I firsthand experienced the devastation of the microburst storm in Lenox that uprooted large trees and destroyed powerlines (and a few homes). Now more than ever, **we must stand together**.

There are so many ways to **take action now**: educate, join events, share on social media, volunteer, donate - our voices are louder and stronger all together.

Thank you for all you do to protect the environment,
Sarit - Education and Outreach Coordinator



Speak out for Clean Air! Come join our 'Put Peakers in the Past Coalition' for this stand-out protest to let folks know about Pittsfield Generating's peaker power plant. They are filing for renewal of their Air Quality Permit, which would give them permission to keep polluting our air - we must stop it!

When: Every Friday, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Where: At the corner of Thorndyke and Dalton Ave. in Pittsfield

Contact Info: rose@thebeatnews.org

Read all about it at [No Frack Gas in Mass](#)



We couldn't do our work without you. [Click to contribute.](#)

In The News

As landfill space dwindles in Massachusetts, New Hampshire has become the state's dumping ground

DAVID ABEL | THE BOSTON GLOBE

In the rolling hills along the northwestern edge of the White Mountains, beside a nearly century-old state park and a serene lake where neighbors fish and swim, a waste management company plans to build New England's first new landfill in decades. The proposed Granite State Landfill, which has sparked protests across the North Country of New Hampshire, would bring more than 100 heavy trucks rumbling every day through small towns to dump nearly a half-million tons of trash a year on 137 acres of forested wetlands. [READ MORE](#)

Spadefoot success at Southwick WMA

MARION LARSON | MASSWILDLIFE

Six years ago, MassWildlife launched an effort to establish a secure population of the state-threatened eastern spadefoot at Southwick WMA. MassWildlife confirmed this population successfully bred for the first time in July 2021.... Its conservation is an especially high priority in the Connecticut Valley region of Massachusetts, where centuries of human activity have altered habitat so extensively that only three local populations are believed to remain. That number may now be four, as MassWildlife recently confirmed breeding activity for the first time at the site of its experimental population introduction at the Southwick Wildlife Management Area (WMA). [READ MORE](#)

Bayer to replace glyphosate from US lawn products by 2023

DOUGLAS FISCHER | INSIDE CLIMATE NEWS

German chemical company Bayer A.G. announced Thursday that it would replace the herbicide glyphosate from all lawn and garden products sold in the United States by 2023. The move is part of a five-point plan to address future glyphosate litigation risk. As part of the plan, the company also said it would set aside \$4.5 billion to cover the company's potential long-term exposure to lawsuits. [READ MORE](#)

Earth Overshoot Day Moves Forward By Nearly a Month

DEUTSCHE WELLE | ECOWATCH

The COVID effect didn't last. Earth Overshoot Day, the day humanity exceeds its yearly allotment of the planet's biological assets, is nearly back to its record high. What can be done to ease the burden? "With almost half a year remaining, we will already have used up our quota of the Earth's biological resources for 2021," said Susan Aitken, leader of Glasgow City Council, where world leaders will gather later this year for the [COP26 climate summit](#) in November. "If we need reminding that we're in

the grip of a climate and ecological emergency, Earth Overshoot Day is it." [READ MORE](#)

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

[SUBSCRIBE HERE](#)

More articles on climate and energy in the [Weekly News Check-In](#)

CALLING ALL WILDLIFE ENTHUSIASTS!

The new and expanded edition of Sue's *Wildlife & Habitats* anthology is out now!

Sue has taught over 60 Berkshire Wildlife Trackers for BEAT for the past 5 years.

The proceeds for which go entirely to [Keeping Track](#) a non-profit dedicated to monitoring potential habitats and threatened regions.

For more information and how to order.



JOBS

We list jobs related to the environment from a variety of organizations.

Email news@thebeatnews.org to submit an open position.

[Apprentice Farm Conservation Planner](#) | American Farmland Trust | Wareham (posted 8/1)

[Field Marine Biologist/ At-Sea Monitor](#) | East West Technical Services (EWTS) | Cape Cod, New Bedford, Gloucester (posted 7/30)

[Part time Enviro-Science Educator](#) | "e" inc. | Boston (posted 7/30)

[Internship in Nature-based Early Education](#) | Boston Outdoor Preschool Network | Boston (posted 7/30)

[Soil Health Program Manager](#) | American Farmland Trust | Northampton (posted 7/12)

[Conservation Easement Stewardship Manager](#) | American Farmland Trust | Northampton (posted 7/7)

[Conservation Coordinator](#) | The Nature Conservatory | Northampton (posted 7/6)

[Political & Legislative Coordinator](#) | Mass Sierra Club | Remote & Boston (posted 7/2)

[Property Worker](#) | Mass Audubon | Lenox (posted 6/28)

[Operations Manager](#) | Mass Audubon | Easthampton (posted 6/28)

[Community Engagement Coordinator](#) | Mass Audubon | Springfield (posted 6/28)

[Administrative Assistant](#) | Great Barrington Land Conservancy | Remote (posted 6/26)

[TerraCorps Openings](#) | TerraCorps | New England (posted 6/26)

[Executive Director](#) | Hoosic River Watershed Association (HooRWA) | Williamstown (posted 6/22)

[Deputy Director](#) | Community Action Works | Currently Remote

[Organizing Coordinator](#) | Community Action Works | Currently Remote

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

We list events from a variety of local and regional organizations and individuals.

BEAT events are in **bold**. Berkshire County events are listed north to south by location, out of county events are listed alphabetically by location. [Submit events to news@thebeatnews.org](mailto:news@thebeatnews.org)

JULY 26 - 29 and AUGUST 2 - 5

National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration

JULY 30 - AUGUST 18

Story Walk® The Busy Tree - Turners Falls

AUGUST 1 - 7

Potamogetonaceae: Diversity and Ecology of the Pondweeds - Maine

AUGUST 3 - SEPTEMBER 1

Broadening Our Landscape Vision: Ecology, Culture, and Art - Online

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

Weeding Wednesdays - Pittsfield

The World of Insects: Butterflies and Moths - Online

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

Housatonic Evening Paddle - Lenox

AUGUST 6 - SEPTEMBER 1

Great Hall Exhibit: Light, Breath, Form - Turners Falls

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

Put Peakers in the Past Stand-Out Protest - Pittsfield

Fighting the Barberry Beast - Chesterfield

Kidleidoscope Story Hour: Dragonflies - Turners Falls

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

Learn About Ferns - Windsor

Nature's Doorstep: The History of Edible and Medicinal Plants - Windsor

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 - 8

Pocumtuck Homelands Festival - Turners Falls

AUGUST 8 - 14

Native Bees: Biology, Ecology, Identification, and Conservation - Maine

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

Bartholomew's Cobble Trip: Sheffield

Birds of Prey: LIVE DEMO with Raptors - Adams

Bartholomew's Cobble Trip: Sheffield

Exhibit Reception: Light, Breath, Form - Turners Falls

Art & Play at the Riverway - Pittsfield

Literary Wanderings Across the Bay State with Max Grinnell - Adams

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

Building the Bridge (10 am & 2pm) - North Adams

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Housatonic Heritage - Semi-Annual Meeting: Summer 2021 - Online/Zoom

The Climate Activist Toolkit Pt. 2 - Online/Zoom

[Complete Community Calendar](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR

July 23, 2021

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:

- **Mount Washington - [Becker Pond Dam Removal](#) - SEIR Certificate** - Adequately and properly complies with MEPA - issued 7/2/21
- **Sheffield - [Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project](#) - use of drawdown for control of invasive species and flood control in Mill Pond** - posted 7/23/21

Pioneer Valley Index

- **Westfield - [West Parish Filters Clearwell and Backwash Pumping Station Project](#) - ENF** - comments due 8/12/21
- **Holyoke - [Notice of Submission of a Yearly Operational Plan](#) - City of Holyoke Gas & Electric to use herbicides to control vegetation** - posted 7/23/21
- **Ware - [Notice of Intent to Initiate an Aquatic Plant Management Program \(pdf\)](#) - Beaver Lake using herbicides** - posted 7/9/21
- **Ludlow - [Stony Brook Solar Project](#) - ENF** - remote site visit 7/21/21 - comments due 7/29/2021
- **Chicopee - [Chicopee Abbey Brook Restoration Project](#) - ENF Secretary's DROD - Secretary Proposes to Grant an EIR Waiver** - comments due 7/23/21

Statewide Index

- nothing new

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notices listed here are from a variety of sources, from town conservation commissions and select boards to state and federal 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](#)

How are we doing? We'd love your feedback on this newsletter. Send us your thoughts or suggestions by replying to this email. Also, send it to your friends, or tell them to subscribe here. Thanks!





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