

Fall 2008



www.westfordconservationtrust.org



Forge Pond

Editor
Diane Duane

Join us for the Trust's Annual Meeting

When: Thursday, November 6th at 7:30pm

Where: Westford Museum - Westford Common

Wildlife & Conservation in Motion

A slideshow talk by Ron McAdow

Author, photographer, and conservationist **Ron McAdow** will deliver a slide-illustrated presentation featuring wildlife commonly found in our region. Using motion-triggered



cameras, Ron has captured native wildlife images not often observed in the wild. Of particular interest are photographs recording wildlife using four specially-designed passageways recently built under Route 2. Other motion-triggered images provide insight into nocturnal wildlife ramblings throughout surrounding conservation lands.

In addition to capturing exciting action-oriented wildlife photos, this technique provides a tool to better understand how wildlife adapts to man-made structures, moves about at night, and uses natural open space areas.

Ron has written canoe and walking guides that highlight natural and man-made history along the Concord, Assabet, and Sudbury Rivers, and the Charles River, and co-authored a book for the Appalachian Mountain Club about New England's most celebrated mountains.

Ron is a frequent contributor to local papers on wildlife matters. Ron is the Executive Director of Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT), a noted regional land trust serving a 36-town area west of Boston.

Please note we will also have a slideshow of Westford residents' photos of local wildlife!

Conservation Trustee Award

This year, the Trust is proud to announce that we will be awarding the **Conservation Trustee Award for 2008** to Westford Conservation Commission Chairperson, **Erich Fahle**. Having grown up on Cape Cod, Erich has

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**Saturday,
October 18th
9am**



*Richard Emmet Conservation Land,
Trailside Way*

Join Trust Directors **Lenny Palmer** and **Paul Cully** on an exploration of this beautiful area of protected open space. This should be a wonderful walk, at the height of fall foliage. Wear sturdy shoes as the area is relatively flat but rocky. This walk is appropriate for all ages, but area is not suitable for strollers. No dogs, please. Park at the Town parking area off the cul-de-sac at the end of Trailside Way.

**Saturday,
Nov 1st, 9am**



Greystone Pond

Join Trust Vice President **Bill Morton** for a brisk hike through this lovely conservation land adjacent to Greystone Pond. Wear sturdy shoes as the area is relatively flat but rocky. This walk is appropriate for all ages, but area is not suitable for strollers. No dogs, please. Park at the Greystone recreation area off Russell's Way.

**Saturday,
December 6th
9am**



East Boston Camps

Join Trust Vice President **Bill Morton** for a lovely hike through this unique jewel of open space. Wear sturdy shoes as the area is relatively flat but rocky. This walk is appropriate for all ages, but area is not suitable for strollers. No dogs, please. Park at the EBC lot off Depot St.

Conservation Trustee Award

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always had a deep appreciation for open spaces, bogs, wetlands, and coastal areas.

As a Senior Hydrogeologist with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), Eric has worked on numerous high priority technical projects. Between 2002 and 2005, Eric was tasked by the MassDEP to administer the Massachusetts Municipal Environmental Stewardship Grant Program. Westford applied and received a grant under this Program to establish a Town-wide Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM), for all Town-owned properties. Eric was the Conservation Commission's representative to the Stony Brook Master Plan Committee, the 40B Performance Standards Committee and the Pesticide Policy Committee.

He has worked to acquire East Boston Camps (EBC) and Hill Orchard and to have both placed in the care and custody of the Conservation Commission. He has served on the Westford Conservation Committee since 1994 (Chairman since 1997), Westford Master Plan Committee, Westford Conservation Trust and Environmental Protection Sub-Committee. Eric has worked tirelessly to uphold the principles and integrity of the state Wetlands Protection Act and the Westford Non-zoning Wetlands Bylaw. As Chairman, Eric has been able to strike a regulatory balance between wetlands protection and development.

Please join us as we celebrate Eric's tireless dedication and his many accomplishments!



**Saturday, January 3rd
9am**

Richard Emmet Conservation Land, Trailside Way

Enjoy the beauty of this large parcel of conservation land in the Silent Season with Trust member **Kate Hollister**. **Sociable dogs on leashes are welcome.** Be prepared for snow! Please park at the end of Trailside Way, off Powers Rd., in the Emmet Land parking lot.

****All walks are free, no signup required***

Special Town Meeting - Monday, October 20th Abbot School 7:30 p.m.

The Trust urges you to attend Town Meeting and hear the discussions on these and other important articles

Several articles of interest include the following:

Article 8 – Community Preservation Committee Recommendations

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, in accordance with the recommendations of the Westford Community Preservation Committee, to appropriate a sum of money from Community Preservation Funds;

Article 12 - Stepinski Parcel Subdivision, Change of Use and Transfer Plan

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to subdivide, change the use, and transfer portions of the so called Stepinski property.

The Trust has not taken a position on these articles but encourages members to attend Town Meeting to discuss these very important issues.

Pond Loop Trail *by Bill Harman*

While clipping the pond-loop trail near Main Street and Chamberlain Road, the Land and Trail Stewards have been impressed by the New England scenery there. It's a gorgeous location, and the trails are well connected in both directions. Walking south the trails lead to Buckboard Drive, the Tadmuck Divide Trail, and Mystery Spring. In the other direction, the trails lead to Swedes Crossing, Hill Orchard, and Cider Mill Pond.



Pond Loop Trail

Trails Stewardship Update *by Bill Harman*



For over a year, a group of trail stewards has been gathering on Tuesday mornings for trail improvements in various locations, including Greystone Pond, the Peace Trail, The Kingfisher Trail (Blakes Hill), Abbot School, and Snake Meadow Brook.



Peace Trail

Recently they re-assembled a large footbridge near Texas Road where flood water had separated the sections and floated some away. It's OK now. Anyone is welcome to join in the Tuesday morning group (call Bill Harman, 692-3907). If we get a deep

snow cover this winter like last year, the Tuesday gatherings will become winter walks on snowshoes exploring the many natural areas in Westford.

Join the Trust

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (optional)/Email _____

Check here if interested in volunteering for trail maintenance

Check here if interested in volunteering for educational efforts



Please make tax deductible check payable to : **Westford Conservation Trust**

Please mail to : **Westford Conservation Trust P.O. Box 255**

Westford, Ma. 01886

Or join online at www.westfordconservationtrust.org

\$25 Individual

\$40 Family

\$100-500 Friend

\$500-1000 Patron

\$1000+ Supporter

Other

Trust Meetings - Please join us for our monthly meetings. All members and other interested individuals are invited to attend the Westford Conservation Trust monthly meetings. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month and begin at 7:30 P.M. at the Roudenbush Community Center. You can contact us at info@westfordconservationtrust.org or 978-692-3907.

2009 Trust Calendar - The Westford Conservation Trust calendar features photographs of Westford's open space. Price is \$15 with proceeds to benefit the Trust. The calendar will be available to order at our annual meeting.



Westford Conservation Trust
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