Wild About Lincoln!

Get wild about Lincoln with the LLCT’s newest publication, a pocket naturalist guide to familiar species in Lincoln. Compiled by local experts, the guide includes more than 150 species of flora and fauna. While not exhaustive, *Wild About Lincoln* is an introduction to Lincoln’s wildlife, accessible to budding naturalists and long-time conservationists alike.

Funds raised during the 2017-2018 matching campaign hosted by Bob Davoli and Eileen McDonagh, and funds from the Preston Education Fund made this LLCT publication possible. LLCT also received grants from the Ogden Codman Trust, the Lincoln School Foundation, and the Lincoln Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

LLCT has distributed guides to each of the Lincoln Public School (LPS) libraries. “Teachers can check out a classroom set and use the guides outside with students on field trips, nature walks, and even recess!” says Keri Malm, LPS K-5 Science Content Specialist. LPS 6th graders also used the guide on a nature walk during their June 2018 field trip to DeCordova. Additionally, Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School received a set of guides for the science department.

LLCT extended the reach of this community resource to many others, including the Lincoln Nursery School, Magic Garden, Birches School, the Teddy Bear Club, the Walden Woods Project, and Farrington Nature Linc.

LLCT distributed guides at events throughout the year and as a membership gift in fall 2018. Guides are also included in the Nature Backpacks, available for checkout at the Lincoln Public Library.
In the fall of 2018, the Rural Land Foundation partnered with the Walden Woods Project, the Town of Lincoln Conservation Commission, and more than 30 neighbors and conservation friends to save a critical trail connection and parcel of developable land at the end of Granville Road. The purchase of these 4 acres of woodlands was also made possible by a grant from the Ogden Codman Trust and a bargain-sale offer from Doug and Trish Adams. An important wildlife and trail corridor, this land connects nearby conservation areas including Codman, Baker Bridge Fields, Adam’s Woods, Pine Hill, Flint’s Pond, and Walden Pond. Earlier in 2018, the Walden Woods Project purchased an adjacent 10-acre lot in the Granville Road neighborhood, expanding the protected lands behind their campus. This conservation initiative has brought the neighborhood together and showcases the important part each of us plays in Lincoln’s conservation legacy.

Win-Win-Win!

In 2018, Birches School completed renovations of the former Wang home, modifying the existing building into one that enhances their K-8 nature-based curriculum. Birches opened their doors in the fall and students quickly settled in. The athletic field will open in the spring of 2019 and both Lincoln Parks & Recreation and Lincoln Youth Soccer are eager to play on the new pitch. Meanwhile, 9 acres of land have been permanently conserved, preserving important habitat and trail connections to existing conservation areas including Flint’s Pond, Wheeler Farm, and the center of Lincoln.

Every Piece Counts

When it comes to conservation, even small parcels of land can play a big role. In 2018, Nancy Donaldson granted a .3-acre conservation restriction (CR) for the portion of her property off of Trapelo Road adjacent to the Donaldson Field, which was previously conserved in 2001 as part of the Lincoln Fields project. Her gift, along with those of four other neighbors who abut the field, are critical to preserving the integrity of the entire agricultural field, and the field edge habitats and scenic vistas that Lincoln treasures.
Stewardship & Land Management

Thank you to our volunteers and helpful neighbors!

LLCT, Town Conservation Staff, and volunteers pull garlic mustard in the spring.

Before

After

LLCT and Town Conservation staff and interns attend to the trails.

(Left) Our stewardship intern Mac Crispino, pulls water chestnut at Fairhaven Bay and Beaver Pond. (Right) Invasive plant management on conservation land is an ongoing effort. Common offenders include wall lettuce, buckthorn, burning bush, oriental bittersweet, and Japanese knotweed.

(Left) Planting Staghorn Sumac on conservation land.

(Below) Planting Butterfly Weed at the People for Pollinators meadow.

Prepping an area near the People For Pollinators meadow for pollinator friendly shrubs.
Through the Eyes of Birds

LLCT started the year with a special nod to our feathered friends. With standing room only, viewers enjoyed amazing footage of bird migrations in *Earthflight*. Dr. **Vincent Durso**, a local bird expert gave remarks. LLCT showed a second episode of *Earthflight* in March. In the fall, LLCT screened *Hummingbirds: Jeweled Messengers* and **Norman Levey** shared stunning footage he’d taken of a hummingbird nest in Lincoln. Our February screening of *A Sloth Named Velcro* was also a big hit.

In April and May, Trustee **Gwyn Loud** and other local birders **Vincent Durso, Nancy Hammond, Norman Levey**, and Trustee **Nancy Soulette** led the Spring Birding Series at birding “hot spots” around Lincoln. LLCT also held a well-attended fall birding walk this year, and attendees saw many birds heading south for the winter.

Fern-tastic!

In September, local fern expert and Trustee **Ellen Meadors** and her husband **Jim** gave a popular walk at Stony Brook South. Participants learned to identify more than ten types of ferns commonly found in Lincoln, as well as a few rare species.

Annual Meeting & Mindfulness

In May at the LLCT annual meeting, members and friends enjoyed a fascinating and inspiring presentation by **Rand Wentworth**. Wentworth spoke about the future of land conservation and the important health benefits of being in contact with nature. Wentworth is a Fellow at Harvard University and President emeritus of the Land Trust Alliance. Many thanks to **Jennie Cook**, Parish Administrator, and **Selina Rossiter**, LLCT Education Committee Member, for helping to secure the beautiful meeting space at St. Anne’s-in-the-Fields. From the hall’s large windows, we all enjoyed views of the nearby fields!

Appropriately, LLCT and Lincoln’s Council on Aging brought back naturalist **John Calabria** for both a spring and fall series of gently-paced mindfulness walks. Started in Fall 2017 after the *Aging in Nature Panel*, these popular noticing walks now have a loyal following of those wanting to unplug and be present in nature.
Lincoln’s Local Talent

Trustee Gwyn Loud has written a monthly wildlife column for the Lincoln Journal since 2008, and this year LLCT began publishing the column online at lincolnconservation.org. Now with pictures, the column remains a popular way to keep up with wildlife sightings in Lincoln.

In the fall, LLCT hosted our second annual reception for our calendar photographers. The Open Spaces Calendar is an annual fundraiser and a way to showcase local photographers. We are ever grateful to those who contribute their talents for our publications and website. Photo submissions are accepted year-round!

Busy as a Bee at the People for Pollinators Meadow

In September, Tom Gumbart, Conservation Director for the Town of Lincoln, and Robin Wilkerson, Master Gardener, co-led a walk highlighting the native plants in the meadow and the pollinators benefiting from this habitat. Co-sponsored with Lincoln’s Conservation Commission, the walk created a renewed buzz of interest in the meadow!

Animals for Everyone

LLCT celebrated Earth Day with a full schedule of family-friendly fun. We started with a spring bird walk and then gathered at Lincoln Station for our annual vernal pool walk. Matt Burne, herpetologist and Conservation Director at The Walden Woods Project led the group to a nearby vernal pool to explore its unique ecology and wildlife. After the walk, attendees were invited to the LLCT offices for snacks and a fun movie Fabulous Frogs, accompanied by Gwyn Loud’s fabulous frog calls!

In June, LLCT brought a Drumlin Farm live animal program to the Hartwell Pods. More than 30 families enjoyed seeing a skunk, an owl, and a baby snapping turtle up close and personal. Fortunately everyone emerged smelling like roses!
This year’s race was BYO-Bottle. Volunteers organized numbered cubbies (repurposed banana boxes from Donelan’s) so racers could find their water bottles as soon as they crossed the finish line.

City Compost provided compostable cups and utensils for the food and drink at our post-race party.

Ted, resident at The Commons, completed the race in 2hrs and 25 minutes and received a special mention at the awards ceremony.

Thank you! See you on October 20, 2019
2018 Membership

Total Number of Members

- Leadership Level ($1000+)
  - 20
- Friend ($500-999)
  - 23
- Sustaining ($250-499)
  - 37
- Supporting ($100-249)
  - 125
- Family ($75-99)
  - 22
- Individual ($35-74)
  - 73

2018 Lincoln Land Conservation Trust Financials

Thank you for your continued support!

Photo by Bryn Gingrich
A New Twist On Coffee

Entrepreneurs C.J. and Christine Doherty have created a bright, modern coffee shop right here at Lincoln Station. After moving to Lincoln, C.J. and Christine fell in love with the iconic catalpa tree by the Library. This beautiful “twisted tree” inspired their café name and logo and emphasizes their commitment to The Twisted Tree Cafe as a “community gathering place.” The couple and their family are ecstatic to be in Lincoln and encouraged by how welcoming and supportive the town has been. “We are loving the opportunity to bond over food and drink with our neighbors and create this community space in Lincoln,” says C.J. Both C.J. and Christine love to greet new and familiar faces. Their three children are frequent “customers” and each have their own sandwich.

Twisted Tree serves up breakfast and lunch with artisan coffee, tea, and smoothies. Tasty and healthy sandwiches and lattes abound! Open daily until 3pm.

The “Real” Deal: Restaurant Opens in Lincoln

Meet Tom Fosnot, Ruth-Anne Adams, and Lindsey Parker. Tom and Ruth-Anne, a Sudbury couple with three children, are both chefs whose life long dream has been their own restaurant. Last year, Tom and Ruth-Anne met Lindsey Parker of Concord, whose background is in socially responsible investing, and together they formed a partnership to create Real. The restaurant opened in March 2019 and is serving up fresh eats, locally sourced meat and seafood dishes, seasonal veggies, and more! With a cozy and inviting interior, it’s also a great place to enjoy the ten beers on tap, a curated wine selection, and tasty appetizers.

With a focus on scratch cooking, Tom describes their menu as “approachable, sophisticated, and contemporary.” The team has also added a kitchen garden by the front entrance to add a really local flavor! Open every day for dinner at 4:30 p.m.

Did you know? Proceeds from the Mall at Lincoln Station support RLF’s land conservation work. Shop local to support Lincoln’s rural character!