



# NEWSLETTER

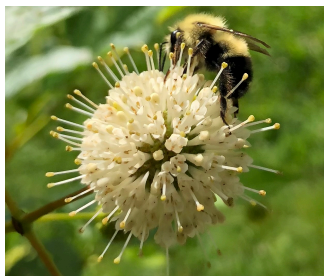
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## *Common Ground at Greenville Pond: Work Continues*



*Above:* Thanks to the 5 seniors from David Prouty High School who helped remove invasive plants and replant with native plants and trees at Greenville Pond.

*Below:* **Buttonbush** is native to shorelines, with fantastic white orb flowers that supply copious pollen and nectar to many different native bee species.



### *Welcome New Members*

*Wendy Joubert*

*Richard & Christine Jaquith*

*Patricia Wynne*

There’s been lots of activity at Greenville Pond this year! This was our third year of treatment to control the “wall” of invasive Japanese Knotweed that blocked access to the shoreline on River Street. Unfortunately, some Knotweed still remains after 3 years of treatment, so we will probably need to continue treatment into 2024. Our goal now for Greenville Pond is to restore the shoreline with native plants and trees, as well as create areas for families to picnic in a shady glade near the water.

### *Pollinator Plantings*

We held several work sessions this fall, aided by 5 David Prouty High School seniors, to continue removing invasive plants (honeysuckle, Asiatic bittersweet vines, and buckthorn, to name a few) and replant with native plants important for pollinators. 15 shrubs and trees have been planted so far, including buttonbush, meadowsweet, steeplebush, purple-flowering raspberry, northern bush-honeysuckle and Canada redbud, and 28 native perennials including beardtongue, rose milkweed, Joe Pye weed, boneset, New England aster, smooth blue aster, showy goldenrod, downy wood-mint, wild strawberry and wild bergamot. All these plants provide special value to native pollinators including 3 species of bumble bee that are in steep decline in New England. Next year, we’ll plant more bird and pollinator-friendly shrubs at Greenville Pond and Kettle Brook Path trailhead, including winterberry holly, elder, sweet-pepperbush, serviceberry and blueberries!

### CGLT's Mission

As an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, our mission is long-term preservation of natural resources in Leicester & Spencer for natural ecosystem services, food security, recreation and educational benefits for town residents and the region.

Contact us at:

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Visit our website at:  
[COMMONGROUNDLT.ORG](http://COMMONGROUNDLT.ORG)

### CGLT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Jan Parke, *President (L)*
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  - Bill Dobson *(S)*
  - Sandy Snow *(S)*
  - Patricia Faron *(L)*
  - Jeremey Snow *(S)*
  - Merriellen Standish Moroney *(S)*
- L=Leicester, S=Spencer*

### New Board Member

Welcome to **Merriellen Standish Moroney**, who was voted onto the CGLT Board of Directors at the CGLT Annual Meeting. Merriellen grew up on Bear Hill Farm (McCormick Rd in Spencer), and in high school (1977-78) she contributed to the building of the trail system at Buck Hill, as a member and youth leader in the Youth Conservation Corps. She lived in Shrewsbury for many years, but has returned to Spencer to live once again on her family's old farm. CGLT is excited to have Merriellen aboard to continue her long legacy of maintaining and protecting open space in Spencer!

### Grants Received

*We would like to thank the **Greater Worcester Community Foundation's** Leicester Savings Bank Fund for their \$700 grant to purchase equipment for property maintenance and invasive plant control.*

*We are also grateful to the **Town of Leicester ARPA Community Grant Program** for granting us \$1272 to purchase native plants for Common Ground at Greenville Pond and Kettle Brook Path.*

### Annual Meeting Report

Thanks go out to Spencer Fish & Game for donating the use of their outdoor pavilion for the CGLT Annual Meeting on Oct.15th. If you didn't make it, you missed an interesting presentation by Teá Montagne, a doctoral candidate in Entomology at UMassBoston, who has been researching Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths) at Sibley Farm for many years. Have you ever noticed glowing nighttime lights up in the fields at Sibley Farm? From May to September, Teá uses lights to attract night-flying moths for her research into Lepidoptera species abundance and diversity across Massachusetts. About 435 different Lepidoptera species have been recorded at Sibley Farm, which is very good news for local nesting birds, who rely on enormous numbers of insect larvae (caterpillars) in the spring and summer to feed their nestling babies!

