

April 2020

Pollinator **PATHWAYS**

Restoring Habitat, One Yard at a Time

Hello Everyone it's really Spring,
A very different Spring to be sure. I hope this find you all well and safe.

We are all staying in place and going out practicing social distancing. It's a pain and no one can say it isn't ...but it seems to be working.

With the idea of getting out of the house... think about the trails that towns have available to enjoy.

There is information on the Kingston Conservation site: www.kingstonnh.org/conservation-commission for three great trails to explore in Kingston:

Old Frye Farm Town Forest - accessed off the Old Johnson Rd (which is off Hunt Rd.) – South Kingston

Valley Lane Town Forest - accessed off of Hunt Rd. in South Kingston

Acorn Town Forest - accessed off of Ball Rd. in West Kingston.



On the Conservation Commission website page the provided QR Code next to the trail map (scanned with an iPhone) will give you a map of the trails.
(The app RedLaser is good for scanning)

At Valley Lane there is a wild flower garden that a SRHS class planted several years ago. It is a good example of the hardiness of wildflowers.

On all the trails there are spring plants coming up. See how many you can identify. PlantNet is a good app for identifying plants that you don't recognize. Another thing is to take a picture of the plant and use books when you get home.





Dandelions are *Bee*-utiful

1st Annual Contest for the Kingston Lawn(s) with the Most Dandelions

We have been challenged by Durham!

As part of Kingston's ***Pollinator Friendly*** Program, the Conservation Commission and Pollinator Pathways NH are sponsoring the 1st Annual Contest to encourage town residents to both recognize and demonstrate the importance of dandelions for honeybees and other pollinators. This will be the third year for Durham's contest and they expect to double their entries this year. *The town with the most entries will win the "Dandelion Town" crown.*

Here in Kingston, the lawn with the most dandelions wins our local prize.

Residents are invited to submit a photo(s) of their residential lawn where dandelions are either allowed -- **or encouraged!** -- to grow.

Send a photo(s) via e-mail to:

evynathan@comcast.net

Please include name, address, and phone number.

Based on a fair (but somewhat subjective) site evaluation, the lawn judged to have the highest density of dandelions will receive a gift certificate at Rick's Food and Spirits!



If you are near a vernal pool this time of year there are many things to discover. The Wood Frogs are singing. Ducks like vernal pools as do turtles. Sit quietly and you might see some of these. There will be all sorts of life emerging from the 'incubators of the woods' as Spring becomes Summer. Vernal pools have this name because they play a very important part in woods ecology. Salamanders and frogs hatch here and don't have to worry about being eaten by fish. . There are no springs in vernal pools so fish can not live here. It is also one of the most peaceful spots in the woods.

Things To Do

For all ages

'Things to do' is on the top of the list for everyone right now. But remember...The insects overwintering in your garden beds need at least 3 consecutive days over 50 degrees (day and night) before they will "leave" the leaf pile. If you can, wait to rake. While you are waiting perhaps some of the following can entertain you.

Things for kids of all ages to do

live cam – African animals – contains information as well as films.

<https://explore.org/livecams/african-wildlife/african-animal-lookout-camera>

Cornell Lab bird cams

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/cams/?utm_source=adgrant&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=BirdCams&utm_content=webcams&qclid=Cj0KCQjw4dr0BRCxARIsAKUNjWSWwOK858bl341Fy-oGb48WhzNLCDF-DKhQHNzkzj3LHfNtg5RryiUaAmn_EALw_wcB

A dozen animal cams from San Diego Zoo

<https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams>

Go to FaceBook and look at the Pollinator Pathways NH page. We're always looking for pictures and comments about our beautiful towns. Tell/show us what you have discovered on the walks and hikes you have taken.

If you want... give everyone a magnifying glass and go out in the back yard. What is contained in a square foot of your lawn? I think you could find interesting things. It's a backyard safari

Stay safe and enjoy this Spring

Marghi Bean
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Kingston Conservation Commission