

Friends of Adams Farm Newsletter

Summer 2022

Number 64

Upcoming Events at Adams Farm

The hot and sticky summer weather has arrived, but you can escape the heat at Adams Farm by enjoying a picnic lunch in the shade of the pavilion or taking a refreshing hike in the woods. And be sure to mark your calendars now for the remaining FREE Music in the Barn concerts funded by the Walpole Co-op Bank.

July

- 17 Community Garden Potluck Dinner
- 30 Music in the Barn Concert

August

- 14 Community Garden Potluck Dinner
- 27 Music in the Barn Concert

September

- 18 Community Garden Potluck Dinner
- 24 25th Anniversary Celebration/Music in the Barn Concert

November

- 6 Community Garden Closing Day

Dane Street Project, an acoustic trio featuring Dean Bagdasarian, Jennifer Robinson and Peter Wieselquist, will follow with a two-hour set starting at 2 p.m. Through interpretations of folk and pop, their goal is to leave you feeling nostalgic for an era when songs had purpose, emotion, and heart.

This year's concerts are funded by the Walpole Co-op Bank. Remaining concerts in the series are scheduled for August 27 and September 24. The final concert will be a part of the Adams Farm 25th Anniversary Celebration (see article below).

Help Plan 25th Anniversary Celebration

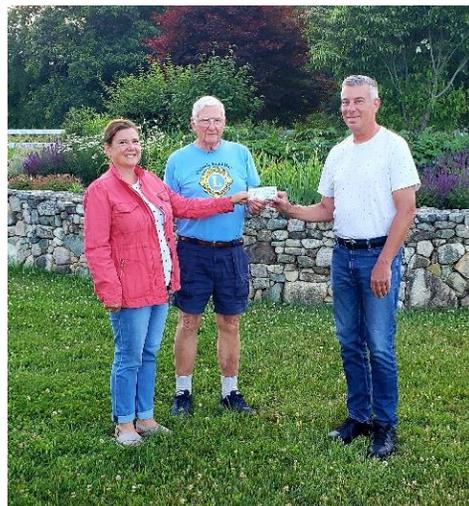
To commemorate the 25th anniversary of Adams Farm we'll be holding a special celebration at the Farm on Saturday, September 24. The celebration will kick off with a Music in the Barn concert from 12 noon to 3 p.m. and culminate with a bonfire at sunset. Other activities being considered are trail hikes, hayrides, and volleyball games. If you'd like to help plan the Adams Farm 25th anniversary celebration, please email your name and contact information to yvette@adams-farm.com.



Music in the Barn Concert on July 30

Another FREE Music in the Barn concert comes to the Farm on Saturday, July 30. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, a snack or a picnic lunch, and join us on the green surrounding the pavilion for an afternoon of great music.

Matt Tremble will open the concert beginning at noon. He plays guitar and sings with local band Groovy Situation that features hits from the '60s and '70s. Moonlighting as a solo performer gives Matt a chance to go outside this realm and play an eclectic mix of his favorite songs.



Sue Shocket presents a \$25,000 check from the Walpole Preservation Alliance to Jack Wiley and Roy Noepel of the Friends of Adams Farm.

WPA Donates \$25,000 to FOAF

by Sue Shocket, Walpole Preservation Alliance

Representatives of the Walpole Preservation Alliance (WPA) were on hand at the FOAF Board

Meeting on Tuesday, June 21, to make a donation to FOAF. Rudy Barajas and Sue Shocket presented FOAF President Roy Noepel and FOAF founding board member and Adams Farm Committee Chair Jack Wiley with a check for \$25,000 from the WPA to assist FOAF in its continued efforts to preserve, protect and enhance the Town-owned Adams Farm conservation land for the use and enjoyment of the public.

The money was allocated as a grant to WPA by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, at the request of State Representative Paul McMurtry and State Senator Paul Feeney, to help WPA continue its mission to promote, protect and preserve green space, historical and natural resources, and agriculture land in Walpole.

WPA has been working for the past five years to protect the Norfolk County-owned hayfields on North Street, which directly abut Adams Farm, from a major and oversized ground-mounted energy installation that would not only destroy the nature and character of that important resource, but also degrade the value of Adams Farm. WPA is also assisting the Town of Walpole in its defense of another related legal dispute involving the hayfields, in which Norfolk County has sued the Town for upholding the proper denial of a building permit for that industrial power project on land thoughtfully and appropriately zoned by Walpole residents for open space, agriculture and residential use.

WPA remains committed to continuing its work to preserve the hayfields with the goal of ultimately securing agricultural and/or conservation restrictions to preserve the property in perpetuity. In the meantime, WPA was pleased to make this contribution to FOAF, which will use the \$25,000 for important upgrades and maintenance projects at Adams Farm including repainting the barn, extending several boardwalks and adding new signage for the trails.

If you'd like to contribute to WPA's legal fund to assist with its continued legal expenses, please send a check payable to Walpole Preservation Alliance to Walpole Preservation Alliance, c/o Sue Shocket, 1340 North Street, Walpole, MA 02081. If you'd like to make a donation to the Friends of Adams Farm, please send a check to Friends of Adams Farm, P.O. Box 725, Walpole, MA 02081 or visit the Friends of Adams Farm website at adams-farm.com for a link to their PayPal account.

News from the Community Garden

from the Community Garden Management Committee

The Community Garden is in full swing. Gardeners and bees are humming and buzzing, and task groups (vacation watering, equipment maintenance, vegetation management, hospitality, mentoring,

composting, and path mowing) are getting organized, mapping out jobs to do and tackling the large and small challenges of a busy garden.

The Norwood Evening Garden Club continues its "Plant-a-Row" program that produces vegetables and herbs for the Norwood Food Pantry. And new this year is the Westwood Garden Club which, among other programs, is supporting high school students interested in learning about gardening.



Many gardeners were able to get an early spring start on their plots and are already harvesting peas and greens of all sorts. In May, chive plants throughout the garden were in full, lavender bloom, and groups of garlic stems are growing vigorously in many areas, their scapes now

starting to resemble swan necks.

Borage blossoms, blooming sage, and golden yarrow plants are all supporting healthy populations of bumble and honey bees, as well as the tiny bees often called "billy bees." It's a little early for the crowds of butterflies we saw last summer, but an occasional Monarch wanders into the garden from the Monarch Field in back of the white fence that runs behind the barn and Butterfly Garden, promising good things to come as the summer goes on.

Many gardeners are planting zinnias, cosmos, and other pollinator-friendly flowers and herbs to support these beneficial insects. Companion planting is popular this year, too. There are many plantings of tomato, basil, and marigold groups to help control pests that bother tomatoes. Several gardeners are planting ground covers like buckwheat as a way to replenish soil depletion that inevitably occurs when the plots are planted year after year.

This is a great time of year in the garden – a chance to grow good food and be with hardworking, generous and supportive fellow gardeners.

Fees for Photographer's Permits

A reminder that permits are now required for professional photographers who want to use Adams Farm for their photo shoots. The fees collected will be used for the care and maintenance of the Farm. Prices

are \$60 for a 6-month permit (July 1 to Dec. 31) or \$100 for an annual permit (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31).

To obtain an application for a permit, go to <https://www.walpole-ma.gov/adams-farm-committee> on the Walpole Town website and click "Application for Use of Adams Farm". The Adams Farm Committee suggests that photographers keep a photo of the permit on their cell phones to show if anyone asks for proof of their permit.



Monarch Trail Repair Begins

A small group of volunteers pitched in last month to begin the process of spreading a new layer of wood chips on the Monarch Trail. Created a number of years ago as a Boy Scout Eagle project, the trail quickly became a favorite of both hikers and bikers. Constant use causes its wood chip surface to break down, leaving bare patches that quickly turn to mud when wet weather arrives.

In the photo above, Diane DeMarco, a scout from Boy Scout Troop 44, and FOAF board members Jack Wiley and Alan Marshall take a break from moving wood chips from a large pile donated by Chris Galasso of G/T Equipment & Landscaping to a bare section of the Monarch Trail.



FOAF board member Yvette Morrill also helped out by spreading the chips and trimming back some large burdock plants that were invading the trail.

With the help of the Walpole DPW, work will continue during the summer spreading chips on the remainder of the Monarch Trail. If you'd like to

volunteer to help out with this project, please contact yvette@adams-farm.com.



Butterfly Garden Has a New Manager

At the FOAF Board Meeting in June we welcomed Diane Guilbert as the new manager of the Butterfly Garden. An experienced gardener who initially signed on to the Butterfly Garden volunteer crew, Diane agreed to take over as Butterfly Garden manager when that position opened up in the spring.

The Butterfly Garden is thriving, with plants and flowering shrubs of all sorts now in bloom. Despite the lack of rain, the weeds are flourishing, too, so we welcome more volunteer gardeners to help keep the Garden looking its best. Tasks include weeding, watering, cutting back perennials after flowering, and pruning bushes and trees. If you're interested in joining the Butterfly Garden crew, please contact Diane at guilbert1212@verizon.net.



Image by [Akiroq Brost](#) from [Pixabay](#)

Help Protect Beach Wildlife

excerpted from the Summer 2022 issue of explore, Mass Audubon's members' magazine

Every year, thousands of people spend their summer vacations on the beautiful coastlines of Massachusetts. However, many species of wildlife also live, laugh (in the case of gulls), and love in these same spaces. As you enjoy splashing in the waves and soaking up the

sun, remember to be mindful of other creatures that inhabit beaches and coastal habitats.

At first you might not notice the little Piping Plover as it weaves between beach blankets, but these shorebirds are busy raising their young. Although Piping Plovers have slightly rebounded in the past couple of years, they are still listed as a threatened species on both a state and federal level.

Terns and American Oystercatchers also prefer the sandy, open beaches to feed, frolic, and raise their chicks. Terns live in colonies, with Least and Common terns seeking spaces to mate and raise their brood in small and large groups. Roseate terns are marked by their long white tail feathers that split into two strands. American Oystercatchers are hard to miss with their unmistakable red and orange bills.

Help protect the birds and wildlife that live on the shoreline while enjoying your day at the beach. Respect the post-and-twine fencing erected by Mass Audubon's Coastal Waterbird Program and other public and private beach managers. These fences are intended to keep people and pets away from bird nesting areas, because even well-behaved dogs can increase avian stress levels. For best practice, keep your dog off the beach or walk them on a leash along the water's edge.

The clumps of seaweed along the waterline may seem like debris but they are a vital source of food for birds. Small invertebrates can be found under the organic material, so try to resist the urge to throw away seaweed or clean up the beach of any natural materials.

Thinking about collecting rocks and shells to remember your trip? Removing them from the beach can further erosion and reduce habitat. With the increase in storm frequency and intensity from climate change, exposed beaches need rocks to stay protected from extreme weather events. Plants also need to stay rooted as they help support the dunes. Damage by foot and vehicles can undermine beach structure and erase the important barrier that dunes provide.

Garbage, however, can and should be removed from the beach. The leftovers from your sandwich or chips are irresistible to skunks, rats, and other predators that stalk the beach for shorebird eggs, adults, and chicks. Carry in and carry out your trash to dissuade predators from prowling and wildlife from ingesting or getting

tangled in it. Don't wait for someone else to pick it up; be a waste removal warrior by bringing a bag to clean up the coast.

Join a Mass Audubon education program to learn more about the wildlife and wildlands along the coast by visiting <https://www.massaudubon.org/>.

Time to Renew Your Membership

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to renew your membership for 2022! Your membership fee goes toward maintenance costs such as sanitary facilities, electricity, and haying the fields. It also allows you to receive our quarterly newsletters and other email updates about happenings at Adams Farm.

Currently, over 345 individuals and families are members of the Friends of Adams Farm. Please take the time to talk to others about Adams Farm and the benefits of open space, as well the many activities that take place at the Farm. Encourage your friends, neighbors and relatives to join the ranks of our members!

FOAF membership dues are as follows:

<i>Individual</i>	\$10.00
<i>Family</i>	\$15.00
<i>Sponsor</i>	\$25.00
<i>Patron</i>	\$50.00
<i>Other*</i>	\$100.00

**Larger contributions gratefully accepted!*

Membership forms are available on the Adams Farm website (www.adams-farm.com). If you choose to make a donation via PayPal on the website, you can fill out the membership form electronically and email it to yvette@adams-farm.com after making your donation. You can also print out the completed form and return it via regular mail to FOAF, P.O. Box 725, Walpole, MA 02081.

If you prefer to pay by check, you can send your completed membership form, along with a check made out to The Friends of Adams Farm, to P.O. 725, Walpole, MA 02081. Membership forms are also available in the map box at the Farm and in the Select Board's office at Town Hall.

Dedicated to the Preservation of Adams Farm

Adams Farm

Located at 999 North Street, North Walpole, MA

Friends of Adams Farm, Inc.

P.O. Box 725, Walpole, MA 02081