

# Friends of Adams Farm

## Newsletter

Fall 2023

Number 69

### ***Annual Meeting Invitation***

Come join us in the barn at Adams Farm for the FOAF Annual Meeting which will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24. We're always interested in hearing your ideas for new programs we could offer or suggestions for improvements to the property. We encourage FOAF members to attend this meeting where we'll also vote on FOAF board members for next year and discuss upcoming events and projects at the Farm. All are welcome!



### ***Upcoming Events at Adams Farm***

Cooler fall temperatures and bright colored leaves make it the perfect time to escape to the Farm for brisk hike in the woods or a mountain bike ride on the trails. Have some extra time to kill? Head out to the back of the property on the Red Trail and check out the boardwalks winding along near the power lines. For those looking for a shorter hike, the Monarch Trail will reopen in early November.

#### ***October***

- 7 Music at the Barn Concert
- 22 Cub Scout Pack 44 Meeting
- 24 FOAF Annual Meeting
- 26 Eagle Scout Board of Review

#### ***November***

- 4 Community Garden Closing Day
- 12 Cub Scout Pack 44 Meeting

#### ***December***

- 10 Cub Scout Pack 44 Meeting

### ***Vandalism at Adams Farm***

Over the last several weeks we have experienced several acts of vandalism at Adams Farm including:

- Partial removal of several boards from the easterly boardwalk on the Blue Trail.
- Removal of the sign posting the fines for off-leash dogs.
- Cutting of the supports for the banner asking people to keep their dogs on leash as well as pick up after their dogs.
- Cutting of the support for the temporary fencing on the entrances to the Monarch Field behind the barn. This fencing was installed to enhance the Monarch Butterfly population which has been successful this year. There were people who were letting their dogs loose in this field which affects the ground-nesting birds as well as the Monarch Butterfly. This fencing will be removed by the end of October.

As a result of this vandalism, the Adams Farm Committee is offering a \$1,000.00 reward for information leading to the person or persons responsible for these actions.

### ***Donating Appreciated Investments: A Win-Win for Donors and Charities Alike***

*by Ed Jastrem, FOAF board member*

If you're looking for a way to make your charitable dollars go farther and make more of a difference to a cause you care about, consider donating appreciated investments directly to the Friends of Adams Farm portfolio. A charitable contribution of long-term appreciated securities – i.e., stocks, bonds and/or mutual funds that have realized significant appreciation over time – is one of the most tax-efficient of all ways to give. By taking advantage of the applicable tax incentives, donors can significantly increase the amount of funds available to them for charitable giving. Your tax-deductible gift is an important resource to FOAF for major projects and improvements to the Farm. For more information on donating securities to FOAF, contact Yvette at [Yvette@adams-farm.com](mailto:Yvette@adams-farm.com).

## ***Dog Ban Update***

*by Jack Wiley, Chair of the Adams Farm Committee*

The Adams Farm Committee has been pleased with the response from most dog walkers who are heeding the Town leash law at Adams Farm and keeping their dogs on leash as well as picking up after their dogs. The trails are much cleaner which is to everyone's benefit.

It is imperative that all dog walkers continue to keep their dogs on leash so that dogs do not have to be banned from Adams Farm. We are asking that all dog walkers be responsible dog walkers so everyone can enjoy Adams Farm. Thank you for your cooperation.



## ***Bumper Crops in the Community Garden***

*from the Community Garden Management Committee*

The 2023 season of the Adams Farm Community Garden will close on November 4 after a surprisingly productive season. In spite of all the rain (or maybe because of it?), many gardeners had bumper crops of tomatoes, cucumbers, Swiss chard, beans, squash, and flowers. Monarchs hatching in the Monarch Field behind the barn found their way to the zinnias and other blooms. And honey bees from the Farm hives, bumblebees, and tiny "billie" bees could be seen everywhere, especially on borage plants and sunflowers.

This is the last year of leadership for current Garden Managers Nancy Borg and Liz McAfee, as new garden leaders will take over the many tasks required to keep the Garden organized and running in 2024. Nancy and Liz thank the task group leaders and the gardeners who have generously given time and energy to compost management, vegetation management, equipment maintenance, vacation watering, path mowing, mentoring, and hospitality. It's been a truly great group effort.

As this season comes to a close, it looks as though there will be some plots available in the 2024 season. If you're interested in having an approximately 20' x 20' garden space in the Community Garden when summer comes around again, look at the Garden welcome/rules and regulations packet available on the

Friends of Adams Farm website and complete the Garden registration form (see links below). The rental fee for a plot in the Community Garden is \$30.00 for the season/year. New gardeners may apply for a plot beginning on January 1, 2024.

Happy gardening!

**Welcome packet/rules and regulations packet**

<https://adams-farm.com/wp-content/uploads/Welcome-to-the-2024-Season.pdf>

**Garden registration form**

<https://adams-farm.com/wp-content/uploads/2024-Community-Garden-Registration.pdf>

## ***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 the Walpole Town website <https://www.walpole-ma.gov/adams-farm-committee> and click on "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.



*Heather Lynn performing at Music at the Barn*

## ***Local Talents Headline September Concert***

Three local musicians shared the stage at the second Music at the Barn concert this season held on September 9. Fiona Campbell, who hails from Norwood, started things off, playing everything from

The Beatles to Taylor Swift. The audience joined in a sing-along for her final number, "Sweet Caroline".

Heather Lynn, another solo acoustic artist, took the stage next. Her music has taken the South Shore by storm; she's released three singles on 14 worldwide streaming services since 2020. Adding a country flair to the day's musical offering, her set featured a rousing rendition of Shania Twain's "Any Man of Mine".

Making a return appearance in the Music at the Barn concert series was Diandra Doble who closed out the show. She holds a degree in music therapy and performs in restaurants and bars in MA and RI. Showing off her musical versatility, she played a variety of tunes from the '60s to current hits, ending with an encore of Brittany Spears' "Toxic".

The final Music at the Barn concert took place on Saturday, October 7, and featured a return performance by The Dane Street Project and The Friends of Ledge. This season's free Music at the Barn concerts were sponsored by the Friends of Adams Farm and generously funded by the Walpole Co-operative Bank.

### ***Monarch Trail Reopening***

The Monarch Trail will reopen in early November. Many of you may have missed taking the trail, which was closed throughout the summer and early fall, either for a quick loop hike behind the barn or as a shortcut to the woods for a longer hike on the Blue Trail.



Allowing the area to remain clear of hikers, bikers and dog-walkers for five months to protect the Monarch butterfly habitat has made a world of difference for the milkweed plants and the Monarch butterflies and their caterpillars who feed on these plants. Additional milkweed plants were installed in the field behind the barn over the summer which we hope will

lead to more Monarchs visiting the Farm in the future.

If you spot any Monarchs when you visit the newly reopened Monarch Trail this fall, they'll be on their way to their winter home in the oyamel fir forests of Mexico.

### ***PayPal Donations Welcomed***

The Friends of Adams Farm now accepts PayPal donations. To donate, simply click on the QR code below this article or visit the Adams Farm website ([www.adams-farm.com](http://www.adams-farm.com)) and click on the Donate with

PayPal button at the bottom of the Home page to make your donation.

To help us track your donation, please fill out an electronic form (located under the Donations and Membership tabs on the website) to identify your payment as a donation, a memorial donation, a new membership, or a membership renewal and email it to [yvette@adams-farm.com](mailto:yvette@adams-farm.com). You can also print out the completed form and return it via regular mail, sending it to FOAF, P.O. Box 725, Walpole, MA 02081.



### ***New Manager Needed for Butterfly Garden***

Butterfly Garden Manager Diane Guilbert recently announced her decision to step down as head of the Butterfly Garden to spend more time with her family. After flourishing under her guidance, the Butterfly Garden is once again in need of a new manager. FOAF is very grateful for all the hard work Diane put in renovating the Garden, removing invasive species and adding many new plants, including several butterfly bushes with the help of Rich Knowles, our local Monarch expert.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in learning more about the volunteer position of Butterfly Garden manager, please contact Yvette at [yvette@adams-farm.com](mailto:yvette@adams-farm.com).

We've also hired a local tree service to remove the Bradford pear tree (another invasive species) and trim

some of the larger trees including the beautiful birch in the center of the Garden, the Japanese maple just behind it, and the two pine trees along the back fence. This will open up the Butterfly Garden and allow more sunlight in to help the younger plants thrive.

Volunteers are currently cutting back plants and pruning shrubs in the Butterfly Garden in preparation for winter. Any gardeners interesting helping out with this task should contact Yvette at [yvette@adams-farm.com](mailto:yvette@adams-farm.com).

### ***Saving Seeds for the Seed Library***

*by Susan Packenham, Walpole Seed Library Mgr.*

Did you know Walpole has a Seed Library? It is sponsored by FOAF and housed in the Town Library near the circulation desk. It is loaded with seeds in late February or early March and continually filled till the seed supply runs out, usually in late May.

### **How to Save Vegetable Seeds**

Root vegetables and greenery need to be allowed to bolt so that you can collect the seeds. Bolting means that you allow the plant to grow past the edible stage to the point that it grows flowers. Here's is how you can save the seeds from carrots, radishes, beets, lettuces, broccoli and even some flowers:

1. Allow the plant to bolt.
2. Let the flowers grow and die back.
3. Cut the flowers and once they've dried, use a white piece of paper (a paper plate works, too) to catch the seeds as they're removed from the flowers.

Every little seed you collect will produce another plant. It's incredible the multiplication that happens when saving seeds. By googling, you can get information on any type of seed you want to save.

Questions? Contact Susan Packenham at [Packy5@comcast.net](mailto:Packy5@comcast.net).

### ***Time to Renew Your Membership***

If you haven't done so already, it's time to renew your membership for 2023! 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 360 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 as 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:

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

*\*Larger contributions gratefully accepted!*

Membership forms are available on the Adams Farm website ([www.adams-farm.com](http://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](mailto: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**

[www.adams-farm.com](http://www.adams-farm.com)

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