



Belmont Citizens Forum

Belmont Citizens Forum's Sixth Annual Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day held in conjunction with the Judy Record Conservation Fund on April 28, 2018

Report to Belmont Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill
Submitted by Radha Iyengar, BCF Treasurer and Volunteer Day Organizer

Volunteers met at two different sites on the LTH property: at the Belmont Citizens Forum (BCF) green and white awning on Pleasant Street and at the white awning at the Mill Street Lone Tree Hill parking lot to conduct the following two projects:

1. Trash pick-up along Pleasant Street

On a picture-perfect sunny day, energetic volunteers collected a total 12 bags of trash, a big box of recyclables, one sneaker, a broken cast-iron pipe, and some heavy-gauge wire.

2. Planting white pines along the Pine Allee

At the Pine Allee, under the guidance of Tree Specialists, Inc., experts David Ropes and James Sacco, volunteers planted about 60 trees in record time. Thirty white pine saplings, about 3 to 4 feet tall, were purchased and donated by the Judy Record Conservation Fund. Volunteers also transplanted about 30 white pines from the Habitat property under the supervision of Habitat director Roger Wrubel. Going forward, the Judy Record Conservation Fund will also pay Tree Specialists to water the saplings.

Thank you

Many thanks to Tree Specialists who flagged the Allee and supervised and instructed the volunteers; Roger Wrubel for sending volunteers from their Habitat Annual Volunteer Day to lend a hand at the Pine Allee and supervising the harvesting and transportation of the white pine saplings from Habitat; Ellen O'Brien Cushman for ensuring that the downed trees at the Allee from the recent storms were removed by Volunteer Day; Michael Santoro, Department Public Works, Highway Division Manager, and his staff for picking up the trash; and last but not least, to Jeff North for helping to coordinate the Pine Allee work.

More than 50 volunteers worked on the above-mentioned projects. Among them were students from Belmont High School and Chenery Middle School, minors (18 or younger), Judy Record Conservation Fund Trustees, Belmont Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill members, and BCF board members.

Our corporate sponsors were Northland Residential, Ann Mahon Realty, Belmont Land Trust, Cityside Subaru, East Boston Savings Bank, Watertown Savings Bank, Artefact Home and Garden, Belmont Savings Bank, Cambridge Savings Bank, Century 21 Adams Lawndale, East Cambridge Savings Bank, Middlesex Savings Bank and Renaissance Realty. Our community cosponsors were Belmont Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill, Belmont Vision 21 Implementation Committee, Mass Audubon Habitat Sanctuary, and Sustainable Belmont.

Attached are some photographs from the event and a copy of the article from the BCF May/June newsletter.

P.O. Box 609, Belmont, MA 02478

www.belmontcitizensforum.org

*J. Grant Monahan, President, John Dieckmann, Vice President, Radha Iyengar, Treasurer,
Evanthia Malliris, Secretary, Sumner Brown, David Chase, Anne-Marie Lambert, Vincent Stanton Jr.*

Trash Pick Up - Pleasant Street



Pine Allee – Tree Planting



Another Successful Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day

More than 50 Volunteers Donate Time to Annual Cleanup and Planting

By Radha Iyengar

On Saturday, April 28, the Belmont Citizens Forum (BCF), in conjunction with the Judy Record Conservation Fund, held its sixth annual Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day. More than 50 volunteers of all ages, including students from Chenery Middle School and Belmont High School, donated their time on this picture-perfect sunny day.

At the Pine Allee, in just two hours, the efficient volunteers planted more than 60 white pine saplings (of which 30 were transplants from Habitat Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary). At the other end of the property, the volunteers collected 12 bags of trash, a big box of recyclables, one sneaker, a broken cast-iron pipe, and some heavy-gauge wire. This year single-use plastic bags, baby wipes, and cash-register receipts were among the most abundant items collected.

BCF is grateful to Sanctuary Director Roger Wrubel for sharing Mass Audubon volunteers and instructing them on how to handle saplings. We also thank David Ropes and James Sacco of Tree Specialists Inc. for supervising the planting, and the Judy Record Conservation Fund for funding their ongoing work and purchasing the trees. And a big shout-out goes to Jeff North for his help in coordinating the Pine Allee work; to Ellen O'Brien Cushman, chair, Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill, for ensuring the downed trees from the recent storms were removed by Saturday; and to Michael Santoro, DPW, Highway Division manager, and his staff, for picking up the trash.

Radha Iyengar is treasurer of the Belmont Citizens Forum and the organizer of BCF Volunteer Day.



SARA MCCABE

Roger Wrubel with Habitat saplings and volunteers.

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Community Cosponsors: Belmont Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill, Belmont Vision 21 Implementation Committee, Mass Audubon Habitat Sanctuary, and Sustainable Belmont.



David Ropes teaches tree planting to volunteers.



Belmont High student Chloe Park planting a sapling.



BCF directors Anne-Marie Lambert (left) and Evie Malliris with some of the 12 bags of trash collected.

Lone Tree Hill: What to do if you see a problem

Your help is vital to keep Lone Tree Hill safe and enjoyable for everyone. If you see any problems—such as downed trees, broken limbs, or dangerous or excessive trash—please report it to the Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill by sending an email to grimble.lmc@gmail.com. Emails are checked regularly, but not daily, so you can expect an answers in a few days. If this is a time-critical issue of safety, please dial 911.



Your email should be as specific as possible about location, what you observed, when you observed it, and any suggestion you may have for resolving the issue. A member of the committee will address the problem and get back to you. For more information, visit the Lone Tree Hill page on the town website at belmont-ma.gov/land-management-committee-for-lone-tree-hill.

If you witness a more serious or urgent public safety issue, such as a crime or fire, please report it immediately by calling 911.

And while you're walking on Lone Tree Hill, why not carry along a bag to collect and dispose of any trash you may see along the way?

Thank you for your assistance!