



Belmont Citizens Forum

Belmont Citizens Forum's Seventh Annual Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day held in conjunction with the Judy Record Conservation Fund on April 27, 2019

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

Volunteers met at three different work sites on the LTH property, one to plant white pines along the Pine Allee, a second to clean up the trash along South Pleasant Street in the area across from Star Market and Artefact Home and Garden, and a third to dig up knotweed, an invasive plant that has become widespread at the upper Coal Road

1. Planting white pines along the Pine Allee

. At the Pine Allee, the efficient volunteers planted 63 white pine saplings some of which were transplants from Habitat Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary. The new plants replaced some of the Allee's missing trees as well replacing some of the dead saplings from the last 2 years volunteer day planting.

2. Trash pick-up along Pleasant Street

The volunteers collected 5 bags of trash and two boxes of recyclable. The effect of the Belmont plastic bag ban was noticeable with few plastic bags being collected.

3. Invasive removal at the Upper Coal Road

Volunteers dug up numerous knot weed mud-lubricated rhizomes including a giant knot weed taproot.

Thank you

Many thanks to the Judy Record Conservation Fund for funding the Tree Specialists, Inc., ongoing work and purchasing the trees; Tree Specialists, Inc., experts David Ropes and Eric DePalo, who flagged the Allee and supervised and instructed the volunteers; Habitat Sanctuary Director Roger Wrubel for sharing Mass Audubon volunteers and instructing them on how to dig up saplings; Leonard Katz for supervising the removal of the knot weed shoots, rhizomes and roots; 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.

The volunteers included parents and staff from the Belmont Day School, Judy Record Conservation Fund trustees, and Belmont Citizen Forum board members.

Our sponsors were:

Gold Level Sponsors: Anne Mahon Realty, Belmont Land Trust, Cityside Subaru, East Boston Savings Bank, and Watertown Savings Bank

Silver Level Sponsors: Artefact Home and Garden, Cambridge Savings Bank, Century 21 Adams Lawndale, East Cambridge Savings Bank, Middlesex Savings Bank, Renaissance Realty, and The Great American Rain Barrel Company.

Community Cosponsors: 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 Monahon, 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



Knot Weed Removal - Upper Coal Road



Another Successful Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day

By Radha Iyengar

On Saturday, April 27, the Belmont Citizens Forum (BCF), in conjunction with the Judy Record Conservation Fund, held its seventh annual Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day. The volunteers braved the cold and windy weather, and the rain held off.

At the Pine Allee, the efficient volunteers planted 63 white pine saplings, some of which were transplants from Mass Audubon's Habitat Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary. The new plants replaced some of the Allee's missing trees as well as some of the dead saplings from volunteer day plantings over the last two years. At the other end of the property, the volunteers collected five bags of trash and two boxes of recyclables, as well as digging up numerous knotweed mud-lubricated rhizomes, including a giant knotweed taproot.

BCF is grateful to Habitat Director Roger Wrubel for sharing Mass Audubon volunteers and instructing them on how to dig up saplings. We also thank David Ropes and Eric DePalo 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 Leonard Katz for supervising the removal of the knotweed shoots, to Michael Santoro, DPW Highway Division manager, and his staff, for picking up the trash, and to the Belmont Day School parents and staff for volunteering.

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



JEANNE MOONEY



RADHA IYENGAR

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EVANTHIA WALLIS

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 answer 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.

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!