



Belmont Citizens Forum

Belmont Citizens Forum's Ninth Annual Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day held in conjunction with the Judy Record Conservation Fund on April 22, 2023

Report to: Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill

Submitted by: Radha Iyengar, Belmont Citizens Forum Treasurer and Volunteer Day Organizer, co-chair Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill

Volunteers from Girl Scout Troop 82027, Subaru employees, M&T Bank employees, the Sai Group employees, and citizens from Belmont and the surrounding communities met at three different work sites on the Lone Tree Hill property to: 1) plant white pines along the Pine Allee, 2) plant native plants in the meadow adjacent to the Pine Allee and remove invasive plants, and 3) clean up the trash along South Pleasant Street and to hand-pull garlic mustard, 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 40 store-bought white pine saplings. The saplings were planted to either replace the large, downed trees along the Allee and/or to replace the saplings planted during the 2017 through 2019 and 2022 Volunteer Days that had not survived.

2. Trash pick-up along South Pleasant Street

The volunteers collected 20 bags of trash and invasive garlic mustard. The trash included rusted sheet metal and an old bed frame. The volunteers also closed an unauthorized bike route and dismantled an abandoned improvised house.

3. Planting of native plants

At the meadow adjacent to the Pine Allee, volunteers planted slender leaf mountain mint, short-toothed mountain mint, wild bergamot, white wood aster, blue wood aster, New England aster, and butterfly weed (70 plant plugs of each species).

Thank You

Thank you for funding the ongoing work of Tree Specialists, Inc., including tree purchasing.

Thanks to Tree Specialists, Inc., experts David Ropes, John Craig, and Sergio Tavares for supervising the planting. A big shout-out goes to Joe Hibbard for purchasing the native plants and marking the location for their planting ahead of Volunteer Day, to Joe and Jeff North for supervising the plantings, to Leonard Katz for supervising the garlic mustard removal and closing the unauthorized bike trail, to Vincent Stanton for supervising the volunteers dismantling the improvised house, to Anne-Marie Lambert and Nancy Kougeas for greeting and directing the volunteers at the bottom of Coal Road, to Sandy Vorce for sending volunteers to help with the plantings, to Michael Santoro, DPW Highway Division manager, and his staff for picking up the trash.

Our sponsors were:

Platinum Level Sponsors: Cityside Subaru, M&T Bank, and Northland Residential

Gold Level Sponsors: Anne Mahon Realty, Belmont Land Trust, Rockland Trust Bank, and Watertown Savings Bank

Silver Level Sponsors: Artefact Home and Garden, Cambridge Savings Bank, and Renaissance Realty

Community Cosponsors: Belmont Helps, Clean Green Belmont, Girl Scouts Troop 82027, Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill, Mass Audubon Habitat Sanctuary, and Sustainable Belmont

Attached are photographs from the event as well as copies of the flyer advertising the event and the Belmont Citizens Forum's May/June 2023 *Newsletter* article.

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, Vincent Stanton, Jr.*

9th Annual Belmont Citizens Forum Volunteer Day in conjunction with Judy Record Conservation Fund



Girl Scouts Troop 82027
volunteers



Sai Group and members of the
community



M&T Bank Volunteers



CitySide Subaru volunteers with
Leonard Katz



Volunteers planting a white
pine



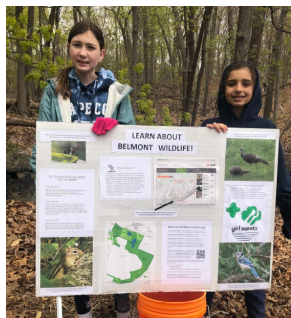
Dave Ropes demonstrating
white pine planting



Joe Hibbard instructing
volunteers on planting native
plants



Volunteers planting Native
plants



Girl scouts with their Belmont
Wildlife poster



Trash and garlic mustard from
Mill Street site



Trash from improvised shelter



350 native plants ready for planting



Belmont Citizens Forum and Judy Record Conservation Fund

9th Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day

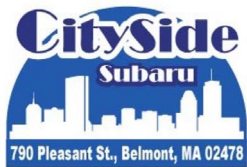
Saturday, 4/22, 9 am–noon, rain or shine!

Pine Allee Tree Planting, Planting of Native Plants, Invasives Removal, and Trash Pickup

★ ★ Students Earn Community Service Credits ★ ★

- ✓ For Pine Allee and native plant work, meet at the green & white BCF tent, Lone Tree Hill Parking lot, Mill Street
- ✓ For invasives removal and trash pickup, meet at BCF table on S. Pleasant St. at Coal Road kiosk (across from Star/Artefacts parking lot)

Platinum Level Sponsors



M&T Bank

NORTHLAND RESIDENTIAL

Gold Level Sponsors



BELMONT LAND TRUST



Silver Level Sponsors



Community Cosponsors:

Belmont Helps ★ Clean Green Belmont ★ Girl Scouts Troop 82027 ★ Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill ★ Mass Audubon Habitat Sanctuary ★ Sustainable Belmont

Questions? bcfprogramdirector@gmail.com belmontcitizensforum.org

Volunteers Plant, Clean Up at Lone Tree Hill

By Radha Iyengar

The Belmont Citizens Forum (BCF), in conjunction with the Judy Record Conservation Fund, held its ninth annual Lone Tree Hill Volunteer Day on Saturday, April 22, an overcast and cool day.

Volunteers included Girl Scouts Troop 82027, employees of Cityside Subaru, M&T Bank, and the Sai Group, and residents of Belmont and the surrounding communities. Many hands made light work.



JEFFREY NORTH

JEANNE MOONEY



BREDA ZIMKUS



At the Pine Allee, efficient volunteers planted forty white pine saplings. The new plants replaced the Allee's missing trees and some of the dead saplings from previous volunteer day plantings. At the adjacent meadow the volunteers planted slender leaf mountain mint, short toothed mountain mint, wild bergamot, white wood aster, blue wood aster, New England aster and butterfly weed — 70 plant plugs of each species.

At the other end of the property, the volunteers collected twenty bags of trash, and garlic mustard. The trash included rusted metal sheets and an old bed frame. The volunteers also closed an unauthorized bike trail and dismantled an abandoned improvised house.

BCF is grateful to David Ropes, John Craig, and Sergio Tavares of Tree Specialists, Inc. for supervising the planting and to the Judy Record Conservation Fund for funding their ongoing work and purchasing the trees. And a big shout-out goes to Joe Hibbard for purchasing the native plants and marking the location for their planting ahead of the volunteer day, and to Joe and Jeff North for supervising the plantings. We thank Leonard Katz



for supervising the removal of the garlic mustard and the closing the unauthorized bike trail, and Vincent Stanton for supervising the volunteers dismantling the improvised house.

We would also like to thank Anne-Marie Lambert and Nancy Kougeas for signing-in and directing the volunteers at the bottom of Coal Road, Sandy Vorce for sending volunteers to help with the plantings, and Michael Santoro, DPW Highway Division manager, and his staff, for picking up the trash. It took a village to have a successful volunteer day.

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



Thank You to Our Sponsors

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New plantings at the Pine Allee.