

BROAD BROOK COALITION

Volume 25, Issue Number 1, SPRING 2013

FLCA Is Getting Larger

2013 is shaping up as a banner year for expansion of the Fitzgerald Lake Conservation Area. As the city was closing on the purchase of the 84-acre Broad Brook Gap parcel in February, Wayne Feiden, director of Planning and Sustainability for the city, reached agreement on 21.4 acres owned by the Vollinger family. The property is a long, narrow woodlot on the north side of FLCA. Both properties fill in major gaps in the conservation area.

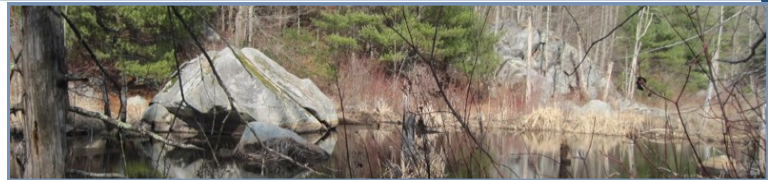
These acquisitions, following on the heels of the addition of 36 acres with the city's purchase of the Forest Legacy property off Boggy Meadow Road last year, will increase the Fitzgerald Lake Conservation Area to roughly 780 acres. FLCA is the largest conservation area in the city and one of the most ecologically diverse.

The city will buy the Vollinger parcel for \$21,400, using \$20,100 in Community Preservation Act funds. The Vollingers will retain limited timber rights on the land for the next five years. The cutting must be approved by the city to ensure that it is consistent with the long-term health of the forest.

In keeping with its practice of supporting the preservation of open space, Broad Brook Coalition will donate \$4,300 to the Vollinger purchase and associated soft costs. The city depends on a portion of private funding for land purchases. BBC members, with your generous gifts to our Land Fund, play a vital role in expanding Fitzgerald Lake.

We're grateful to Grace Vollinger and her family for their commitment to preserving forested land .

~Margaret Russell



"Each protected habitat helps make it possible for wild plants and animals to endure change in human environments around them."

Daily Hampshire Gazette editorial

LATEST ACQUISITION CREATES OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW ACCESS

The BBC Trail Committee will start work this spring on a trail into the latest addition to Fitzgerald Lake, the Broad Brook Gap parcel on Coles Meadow Road. The trail will provide pedestrian access, with no parking area, into the 84-acre parcel acquired by the city on the east side of the conservation area. Public access is a requirement of the state LAND grant and Community Preservation Act, which funded most of the \$535,000 purchase price.

The trail will skirt a large forested swamp and connect to an existing network of old logging and farming roads on the property. There will also be a link to the FLCA trail network, so visitors arriving by car will be able to park at the Marian Street and North Farms Road entrances to explore the Broad Brook Gap parcel.

Once the Conservation Commission and Department of Planning and Sustainability have approved the trail plan, the Trail Committee, led by Dave Hershops, will begin clearing the trail.

~Margaret Russell

FITZGERALD LAKE, PART OF THE BROAD BROOK GREENWAY

Visitors to Fitzgerald Lake will soon see new signs at two entrances: one of the signs will announce the traditional name of the Fitzgerald Lake Conservation Area; the other will identify the Broad Brook Greenway. The two signs are a reminder that FLCA is a part of a larger natural system, the Broad Brook watershed.

The two are interrelated. The several hundred acres of open space surrounding Fitzgerald Lake help protect the Broad Brook watershed. In turn, a healthy watershed is vital to the conservation area. The BBC management plan points this out: “the condition of the surrounding area has a fundamental influence on the quality of habitat and diversity of species that FLCA can support.”

As part of its open space plan, the city has started naming conservation areas after natural features, such as a watershed. Wayne Feiden, director of Planning and Sustainability, defines the Broad Brook Greenway as part of the watershed that is permanently protected from the headwaters of Broad Brook near the Haydenville line to the point where Broad Brook leaves Northampton at the Hatfield town line. Broad Brook flows through FLCA.

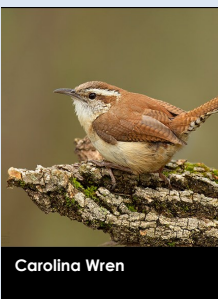
Mr. Feiden’s goal is to continue protecting land abutting Broad Brook. “We have preserved a majority of the land, but there are some gaps that we still need to complete,” he said recently. “There are adjacent lands that we need to protect to tell a story of habitat preservation and, finally, we want to extend at least fingers of open space to roads to provide access for passive recreation.” ~Margaret Russell

*From the President-*WINTER BIRDS, SUMMER BIRDS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

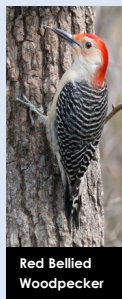
With the winter feeding season winding down, memories of the multitude of birds that arrived every day for a snack or a glut are fading, with a bear or two sniffing around for the leftovers. I offered a full smorgasbord at our backyard feeders --millet, corn, sunflower seed, thistle and suet--which collectively attracted 26 species this winter. My favorites were the red-bellied woodpeckers, red-breasted nuthatches and Carolina wrens. Then there were the redpolls in their chattering, nervous flocks, never predictable but in good numbers this year, and the northern flickers, a species that I've never had at my feeders before, dropping in for a sizable chunk of suet. Of special pleasure was the ringing song of the Carolina wrens almost every day at dawn, even when the temperature hovered near 0°, and the persistent wickering of the flickers, never far off. All of this led me to ponder how these birds, as well as those due to arrive in the coming month or two,



Red Breasted Nuthatch



Carolina Wren



Red Bellied Woodpecker

were responding to climate change.

The slow, inexorable increase in global temperatures that our planet is now undergoing is shaping the migration, distribution and even the existence of many of the bird species that frequent our region. Documentation of changes in bird *phenology*, broadly defined as the relationship between climate and periodic biological phenomena such as migration, has been made possible largely by amateur birders. These "citizen scientists" have reported millions of observations over many decades to the National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count and, more recently, to the Great Backyard Bird Count, Focus on Feeders, and eBird, sponsored, variously, by National Audubon, Massachusetts Audubon and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology¹. Anybody with a bird feeder can join in these activities to help promote an understanding of the way in which the patterns of bird distribution and migration are changing.

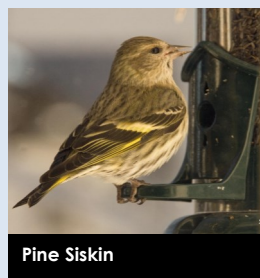
WINTER BIRDS, cont.

The winter ranges of many bird species are steadily advancing northward. For some species, like the tufted titmouse, Carolina wren and red-bellied woodpecker, this advance has been taking place since the early to mid 1900's, significantly before the recent cycle of global warming captured our attention. Interestingly, the increase in overwintering titmice is often attributed to the growing presence of bird feeders dating to the early 1900's. A study based on data from annual Christmas Bird Counts indicates a wider and more dramatic march northward; over the past 50 years, the average "center of abundance" for over 300 species has moved north by 35 miles², while the wintering grounds of others have advanced by as much as 200 (robin, goldfinch), 300 (house finch, pine siskin, fox sparrow) or 400 (wild turkey, purple finch) miles!

At the same time, the arrival of neotropical migrants, including most of our familiar songbirds who winter in South America, Central America and the southernmost parts of the U.S., have been found to arrive on their breeding grounds earlier and earlier. A recent and widely cited study³ has shown that over a dozen species of common birds arrive at their breeding grounds throughout North America almost one day earlier for every °C increase in average spring temperature, with some arriving as much as six days earlier. While arrival time is surely the result of many factors, both innate and environmental, it is strongly correlated with temperature. The way in which birds respond to environmental condi-

tions such as weather is unknown but an optimistic view is that the availability of the plants and insects upon which birds feed will also advance northward in synchrony due to the effects of the warming climate.

With the great spring bird migration just getting underway, no one can predict whether the migrants will turn up earlier or later than usual this year. This will depend in part on the particular weather patterns that emerge over the next month or so. There can be little doubt, however, that the long-term trend is toward slow temperature increases that will advance the arrival time of birds and, in the long run, affect their health and reproductive success.



Pine Siskin



Fox Sparrow

1 Christmas Bird Count: <http://birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count/>; Great Backyard Bird Count: <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>; Focus on Feeders: www.massaudubon.org/focus/; eBird: <http://ebird.org/content/ebird/>

2. National Audubon Society: <http://web4.audubon.org/bird/bacc/index.html>

3. Hurlbert, A.H. & Liang, Z. (2012) *PLoS ONE*, 7, e31662.

~Bob Zimmermann

CPA Funds BBC Work to Control Invasive Plants

**Wanted dead, not alive
INVADING SPECIES**

Common Buckthorn, *Rhamnus cathartica*;
Glossy Buckthorn, *R. frangula*



Alaines, Unknown

Efforts to control the spread of invasive plants at FLCA will continue, thanks to a grant of \$7,400 in Community Preservation Act funds. The funding will enable BBC to hire the services of Polatin Ecological Services, Inc. over the next three years to combat three extremely invasive species.

The invasive plants targeted with the CPA grant are Glossy Buckthorn at Cooke's Pasture, Spotted and Brown Knapweed at Cooke's Pasture and the dam at Fitzgerald Lake, and a stand of Japanese Knotweed near Marian Street. If left unchecked, these invasive species will crowd out native plants, causing significant damage to the native vegetation and animal habitat.

FLCA is listed as Core Habitat by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. Protecting this valuable habitat from the threat of invasive plants is one of the primary functions of BBC's Stewardship Committee, led by Bob Zimmermann. and the volunteers and donors who have made it possible. Stay tuned.

Stewardship, Including Conservation Restrictions, Ensure Long-Term Protection for Conservation Land

Wayne Feiden, FAICP, Director of Planning and Sustainability

The City is proud to lead the charge to permanently preserve open space, working with the Broad Brook Coalition and other partners. Our *Open Space, Recreation and Multiuse Trail Plan* (2011-2018), adopted by eight city boards including City Council, sets a goal that 25% of the city should be preserved primarily for habitat purposes. We are currently at just over 18%. The plan also sets other goals for working farms and landscapes, parks, recreation, and neighborhood conservation.

At the same time, the plan sets goals for improved stewardship of the land, which includes permanent monitoring to ensure that the land is preserved forever, even in an era of dwindling resources. Yet the City's total annual budget for conservation maintenance is less than \$2/acre.

How do we address land preservation, stewardship, and dwindling resources? There are increased legal expectations and duties of care. Our management partners, funders, abutters, the IRS, and our risk managers are all demanding more from us.

There are four answers:

First, we focus our acquisitions to minimize future maintenance demands. Back woods have very little maintenance needs, but large trees abutting neighbors, dams, parking lots, and improvements create new burdens.

Second, we cultivate new and stronger partnerships. After 25 years, Broad Brook is still our most active partner. We also partner with three state agencies, one federal agency, five non-profits, and several informal neighborhood and friends of groups. Our goal is that our resources go into land preservation and a few capital projects, and our partners do most of the day-to-day management.

Third, we invest in monitoring to reduce the long-term costs and manage our risks. Most new purchases involve surveys and a host of due diligence steps. Working with various partners, we have an aggressive signage and boundary line surveying and marking program underway.

Finally, we will no longer purchase a piece of property if we have not pre-funded the minimal stewardship costs. Any fee-simple (we buy the land) acquisition with Community Preservation Act funds (almost all of our land purchases now) requires that we grant a conservation restriction on the land. A conservation restriction permanently protects land from development or other changes in use, and it comes with the requirement that an agency or non-profit take responsibility for ensuring that the land remains as is. That involves an extensive survey of the natural resources, called baseline documentation, followed up with annual monitoring.

In a few cases, we have found a non-profit partner willing to hold such restrictions for no cost. Generally, however, we work with the Kestrel Land Trust and fund a one-time \$100 an acre stewardship fund to cover their permanent obligation to ensure that the land is never converted out of conservation. At the same time, to meet our own obligations to monitor the land, we will only purchase land when \$200 an acre (for fee-purchases) or \$100 an acre (for city-purchased conservation restrictions) is placed in Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts Northampton Open Space fund to endow these costs. This is similar to the duty of care practiced by most responsible land trusts and is part of our commitment to sustainability, only making commitments that we know that we can honor forever.

BBC Funds Support Acquisition, Stewardship

Acquiring land for open space does not guarantee it will remain protected forever. BBC supports the city's policies – and the requirements of the Community Preservation Act – to ensure that protection.

In light of these additional costs of establishing baseline surveys and yearly monitoring, BBC recently voted to designate 80% of its contributions to the city for the land purchase and 20% for stewardship costs. This means that land acquired with our support in the Broad Brook watershed will be permanently preserved for future generations.

THOSE HANGING PURPLE BOXES



Last summer, did you happen to notice the triangular purple object hanging from a tree above the North Farms Road parking lot and wonder what it was? What you saw is an insect trap placed there by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) as part of a program to de-

tect the possible presence of the emerald ash borer (EAB), a beetle which has been decimating ash trees. The traps are purple, about 24 inches long, and made from corrugated plastic. They are coated with a botanical oil from the Manuka tree which is native to New Zealand and southeast Australia. The combination of the purple color and the oil act as a lure to attract the EAB. The traps do not encourage the spread of the EAB from distant locations, rather they indicate the presence of EAB's that have spread to the area. The traps are set out in May and monitored by DCR during the summer months. About 435 traps will be installed in Massachusetts this summer, excluding Berkshire County. There will be 29 traps in Hampshire County.

The EAB, which is native to Asia, was first discovered in Michigan and Ontario, Canada in 2002. It is now present in 19 states from the Midwest to New England as well as in parts of Canada. The EAB was recently found in Massachusetts in August 2012 in Dalton, just east of Pittsfield. In order to control the spread of the EAB, the DCR has placed a quarantine on hardwood firewood less than 48 inches long, ash nursery stock and untreated ash lumber, originating in Berkshire County.

The EAB is about ½ inch long and 1/8 inch wide and has a metallic green color. There are several insects that look similar, including the bronze bush borer, the six-spotted green tiger beetle and the two-lined chestnut borer. The EAB has a 1-2 year life cycle with adults emerging during the last part of May. They lay eggs about two weeks later which hatch into larvae in another one to two weeks. The larvae bore through the

ash bark and feed until fall. They overwinter in the outer wood or bark and emerge as adults the following

spring. If there are sufficient ash trees in an area, the annual range for adults is about ½ mile, but otherwise the range can extend up to five miles.

Symptoms of trees that have been attacked by EAB include dieback, initially in the upper canopy, vertical splits in the bark, sprouts growing on the lower trunk and roots, and evidence of woodpecker cavities. Also, the larvae create serpentine-like tunnels under the bark. The EAB prefers stressed ash trees but will also lay eggs in healthy trees. The feeding by larvae on the inner bark destroys the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients, and trees may die within 1-2 years after becoming infested.

Ash comprises about 7-8% of the local hardwood forests and closer to 18% in Berkshire County. In addition to being important for wildlife, ash is used for a wide variety of commercial purposes including baseball bats, hockey sticks, tool handles, paddles, furniture and flooring.

Research on biological controls to combat EAB is being conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service. Three species of stingless wasps which are natural enemies of EAB have been identified in China and approved for release in the US. As of last year, about 500,000 of these wasps had been released in 14 states. Their effectiveness in controlling EAB is being monitored and further research is being conducted to find additional suitable biological controls.

Reports of finding the EAB should be directed to the DCR Forest Health Program staff at 413-253-1798.

~Bill Williams



CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT FLCA

DETAILS ON FOLLOWING PAGES

APRIL 27, 2013 *ANNUAL CLEANUP AT THE NORTH FARMS ROAD ENTRANCE*

Saturday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Contact: Dick Wynne at 584-7930

MAY 4, 2013 *SHRUB LAND HABITAT AND NATIVE PLANTS MAINTENANCE*

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon Meet at the former Moose Lodge parking lot at the end of Cooke Avenue at 8:30 a.m. or at the Fitzgerald Lake dam at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Bob Zimmermann at 585-0405.

MAY 5, 2013 *WELCOME SPRING -WELCOME BIRDS*

8a.m. for 2-3 hours North Farms Rd. Andrew Finch Magee-Naturalist, Birder, Illustrator

MAY 12, 2013 , MOTHERS DAY *SPRING WILDFLOWERS*

10 am to noon. North Farms Rd. Connie Parks-Botanist

JUNE 8, 2013 *TREE CLEAN UP IN COOKE'S PASTURE*

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon Meet at the former Moose Lodge parking lot at the end of Cooke Avenue at 8:30 a.m. or at the Fitzgerald Lake dam at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Bob Zimmermann at 585-0405.

JUNE 9, 2013 *BROAD BROOK GAP PARCEL WALK*

Sunday, 9:30a.m. Meet at Normal Hall, Laurel Park. Led by BBC president Bob Zimmermann and co-sponsored by BBC and the Laurel Park Association

JUNE 29, 2013 *DRAGONFLIES, DAMSELFLIES, BUTTERFLIES, BEETLES AND BUGS*

Saturday, 10a.m.- 3p.m., North Farms Rd. Dr. Josh Rose- Amherst naturalist. Rain date-June 30

JULY 14, 2013 *REMOVAL OF WATER CHESTNUT FROM FITZGERALD LAKE*

Sunday, 1 p.m. -4 p.m. North Farms Rd. Contact: Bruce Hart at 584-4176.

AUGUST 10, 2013 *REMOVAL OF WATER CHESTNUT FROM FITZGERALD LAKE*

Saturday, August 10, 9-12 a.m. North Farms Rd. Contact: Bruce Hart at 584-4176.

WORKDAYS AT THE FLCA : SPRING AND SUMMER 2013

Annual Cleanup at the North Farms

Road Entrance

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Join us for our annual cleanup at the North Farms Road entrance to the FLCA. We'll be pulling garlic mustard, digging lesser celandine and removing multiflora rose along the path to the Canoe Launch. No previous experience needed! We also plan to tidy up some of the branches that have fallen alongside the path and sweep up debris from the path itself. Contact: Dick Wynne at 584-7930

Shrub Land Habitat and Native Plants

Saturday, May 4, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon

We will spend the morning in Cooke's Pasture pruning the native shrubs we have planted over the past few years, cutting back the competing undergrowth, and replacing plants that have not survived the winter. Although tools will be provided, additional clippers are always welcome. Meet at the former Moose Lodge parking lot at the end of Cooke Avenue at 8:30 a.m. or at the Fitzgerald Lake dam at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Bob Zimmermann at 585-0405.

Tree Cleanup in Cooke's Pasture

Saturday, June 8, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon

Over the past couple of years, storms have toppled a number of trees and branches on the edges of Cooke's Pasture. We'll remove the deadfall to prevent these sites from becoming havens for invasive plants. We also plan to cut down several small pine trees that have grown up into the apple trees that dot the pasture. Tools will be provided, but we could always use some extra bow saws. Wear long pants and don't forget insect repellent. Meet at the former Moose Lodge parking lot at the end of Cooke Avenue at 8:30 a.m. or at the Fitzgerald Lake dam at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Bob Zimmermann at 585-0405.



Removal of Water Chestnut from Fitzgerald Lake

Sunday, July 14, 1 p.m-4 p.m. and

Saturday, August 10, 9 a.m.-12 noon

Although we've managed to keep water chestnut in the lake under control, we have to keep at it every year to prevent the resurgence of this aggressive invasive. As in the past, we will survey the entire lake and remove water chestnut plants by hand. We will need canoes and kayaks, as well as large plastic buckets/bags to collect the plants. Wear long pants and sneakers (no sandals) and bring water, sunscreen, hat and gloves. PFDs (personal flotation devices) are required. If you can contribute a boat, let us know. Meet at the North Farms Road parking lot at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 14 and at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 10. Contact: Bruce Hart at 584-4176.

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS, ARTISTS, AND WRITERS

Are you inspired by your experiences at Fitzgerald Lake? We would love to include your images and musings in our newsletter. Our digital age allows you to easily share your unique interpretations of FLCA. Contact the newsletter editor at:

igoldstein@williston.com

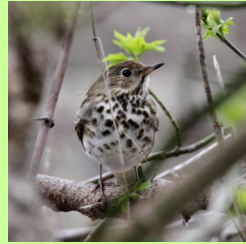
2013 FITZGERALD LAKE CONSERVATION AREA (FLCA) WALKS & TALKS

Brought to you by the members and the naturalists of the Broad Brook Coalition (BBC).

North Farms Rd. entrance is off Bridge Rd., N. off Mountain St. or N. Maple St. in Florence

Moose Lodge, (now closed), is off Hatfield St., which is above the WalMart/Big Y shopping center, to the end of Cooke Avenue. Park only on the right side.

Questions, 2nd start times, and program suggestions: Contact : bhart2000@aol.com



WELCOME SPRING -WELCOME BIRDS

ANDREW FINCH MAGEE
NATURALIST, BIRDER, ILLUSTRATOR
MAY 5, 2013, 8A.M. FOR 2-3 HOURS
NORTH FARMS RD.

This will be a beginner/intermediate bird walk to introduce people to the wonders of birding, and the habitat we've helped to preserve for both their and our entertainment and survival. This is during spring migration so it's a great time for a rich experience in the field. Andrew is a long time birder and the illustrator of *The Bird Finding Guide to Western Massachusetts*. All ages are welcome. Bring binoculars.



SPRING WILDFLOWERS

CONNIE PARKS- BOTANIST
MOTHERS DAY, MAY 12, 2013 10 AM TO NOON.
NORTH FARMS RD.

The month of May brings great changes in the appearance of the forests, fields, and wetlands of Lake Fitzgerald Conservation Area. We'll be looking for spring ephemerals trying to complete flowering before the canopy leafs out, and we'll use *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide* for identifying herbs and shrubs by flower arrangement, such as number of petals, and leaf arrangement and shape.

Connie lives in Florence and studies and teaches about plants and nature, edits science textbooks, and works toward building a conservation community in the valley.

BROAD BROOK GAP PARCEL

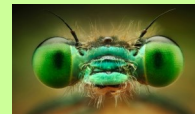
FLCA'S LATEST ADDITION

BBC PRESIDENT BOB ZIMMERMANN
SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 9:30 AM
NORMAL HALL, LAUREL PARK

Here's your opportunity to explore Northampton's latest land acquisition.

Laurie Sanders, a naturalist who did an ecological assessment of the Kubosiak property, reported that the land supports seven different habitat types, including one of the most unusual swamp forests in Northampton. The area also includes a marsh that contains some of the best black bear habitat in the state and includes a stretch of Broad Brook that is upstream from known habitat for three state-listed freshwater mussels, including one that is federally endangered, according to Sanders. This event is cosponsored by **BBC** and the **Laurel Park Association**.

Meet at Normal Hall, Laurel Park; please follow signs and instructions to designated parking. We'll have snacks and then walk across Coles Meadow Road to our new parcel. Laurel Park is on Routes 5&10, just north of the state police station.



DRAGONFLIES, DAMSELFLIES, BUTTERFLIES, BEETLES AND BUGS

DR. JOSH ROSE- AMHERST NATURALIST
JUNE 29, 2013 SATURDAY, 10A.M.- 3P.M.,
NORTH FARMS RD.
RAIN DATE-JUNE 30

A walk at FLCA in 2011 documented 10 species of dragonflies, 7 of damselflies, and 7 of butterflies. We also photographed several strikingly beautiful beetle species and some distinctive moths, one of which was performing a dance routine. What will we find this year? Join Amherst naturalist Dr. Josh Rose and find out! Lunch at the dam. Be prepared for the weather, mosquitoes, ticks, and a couple of miles' walking; bring a lunch as well as plenty of water. Binoculars, cameras, and field guides are helpful as well.

About Us

Broad Brook Coalition (BBC) is a nonprofit, all volunteer community organization dedicated to the preservation of open space and the promotion of affordable housing. BBC co-manages the soon to be 780 acre Fitzgerald Lake Conservation Area (FLCA) in cooperation with the Northampton Conservation Commission. It organizes volunteer days for trail improvement and maintenance and invasive species removal, runs educational Walks and Talks at FLCA, raises funds for the expansion of FLCA, and monitors land conservation and affordable housing issues.

Broad Brook Coalition

Board of Directors

2011-2012

Bob Zimmermann, President
Dave Herships, Vice President
Margaret Russell, Secretary
Alan Marvelli, Treasurer
Bruce Hart
Frank Olbris
David Ruderman
Bill Williams
Dick Wynne

----- *Already a member? Consider passing this page on to a friend!* -----

Please Join Us!

If you're not already a member, please complete this form and return it with a check to:

Broad Brook Coalition, P.O. Box 60566, Florence, MA 01062

\$25 for Individual membership

\$35 for Family membership

(all contributions to BBC are tax deductible.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Please sign me up for a **Paperless** Newsletter

I've included an additional **tax deductible** contribution to the Land Preservation Fund

Please do **not** include my name in any listing of contributors to Broad Brook Coalition

Broad Brook Coalition needs your help, too!

We appreciate your membership dues, but want you to know that you can contribute in other ways, too.

Members and friends are needed to help carry out our goals. Please consider one or more of the following volunteer opportunities:

Trail maintenance and repair Invasive species removal Stewardship Committee; manages conservation area Clerical help/mailings Land Preservation/Acquisition Committee

Computer help BBC Board of Directors

Writer/reporter for newsletter Educational/recreational program planning or leadership

Fundraising campaigns Walks and Talks

Broad Brook Coalition

P. O. Box 60566
Florence, MA 01062

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AT:

www.broadbrookcoalition.org

To receive occasional email alerts regarding BBC Walks and Talks and Volunteer Days, go to the website and look for “join the listserv” under the “events” tab at the top of the page.

Many Thanks

Frank Bowrys with his #1 assistant Rain, who have been instrumental in keeping our bird houses up and running.

Cub Scout Pack 103 Webelos have hiked out to Cooke's Pasture, our Early Successional Habitat, to set up, repair and replace these houses that have added to the long term success of bluebirds and more at FLCA.

Phil and Wendy Cooper who have been the Cub Scout leaders for the past few years.

Thanks to all for their support for the environment.

**BBC CELEBRATES
25TH YEAR**

Incorporated in 1988 when the Fitzgerald Lake Conservation Area was roughly 170 acres, Broad Brook Coalition turns 25 this year! Plans are underway to celebrate the stewardship and expansion of FLCA, and the volunteers and donors who have made it possible, in the fall. Stay tuned.