



Lachat Town Farm Commission Meeting Agenda

Meeting Held Remotely via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85952747874?pwd=d29SM2hFWmZwa2NmeG1BV1dDZkdqdz09>

**Phone:** 1 301 715 8592 **Meeting ID:** 859 5274 7874 **Passcode:** 426786

**Date:** 3/1/22

**Time:** 7:30pm

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes from 2/1/22
3. Discussion and Decisions:
  - a. Invasive Removal Presentation: Guest Speakers Sarah Hutchison, Lisa Brodlie and Cynthia Fowx
  - b. Spring Fundraiser: Guest Speakers Nicole Copans and Anita Dinwoodie
  - c. Tractor Repair: Review Proposal and Vote for possible use of Maintenance Fund
  - d. Ski Tow Discussion
  - e. Offutt Education Center Update
4. Audience of Citizens: 3 Minutes or less per person
5. Motion to Adjourn

Unapproved Minutes-Lachat Town Farm Commission  
February 1, 2022

Attendance: Elizabeth Zeppernick, Terry Cho, Carol Baldwin, Ellen McCormick, Christina Koether, Erica Reiner, Vickie Kelley, Katherine McConnaughey, Stirling Collins, Nick Bell, Alisa Stoltz

Meeting called to order at 19:30

Motion made to approve the January 4, 2022 minutes as is. Elizabeth made the motion, seconded by Terry

Elizabeth: Anita Dinwoodie has accepted the role as full time Program Manager of the farm. Workgroups, along with the defined roles is online. We are in need of a stronger fundraising presence.

Vickie offered to work on getting mores sponsorships.

Carol: Offutt Educational Center Update- a permit to begin demo of the office was turned in. The Attorney Generals office decided that the farm activities and new building were in keeping with the deed and we may proceed.

The new tenant moved in today. It was stressed that she is not a farm manager.

Ellen: Demonstration kitchen update. Ellen, along with Claire Gordon gave a detailed analysis as well as a compiled list of the things that will be needed for the Kitchen in the new Offutt Education Center.

Stirling: the tractor is being picked up on Wednesday for maintenance.

Kat: Quick update on bunny and chicken housing.

Motion made to adjourn at 20:47. Motion made by Kat, seconded by Carol

Next meeting will be held an March 1, 2022 at 19:30

JOIN IN & HELP REMOVE INVASIVES AROUND WESTON

# Pulling Together

Sign Up Here →



Presentation to The Lachat Town Farm Commission

March 1st, 2022

# WHAT?

*Restoring wetlands and establishing pollinator-friendly habitats and food sources for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects and wildlife*

- We are a community-oriented volunteer group, who are pulling together to remove existing invasive plants and replace them with native trees, shrubs and perennial plants, on wetlands on Weston public land.
- Our goal is to educate our neighbors and show them how to restore existing wetlands, create rain gardens, decrease erosion, reduce flooding damage, improve wildlife, stream habitat, and protect water quality.



## Save the Date:

February 2nd, Noon to 1 p.m.

***World Wetlands Day  
and Kick-off for the  
50th Anniversary of the  
CT Inland Wetlands and  
Watercourses Act!***

The event will feature a panel that discusses the role of IWWA in our State Water Plan and include a brief history of wetland protection in Connecticut. Join us to learn more about this year long celebration!

This will be a Virtual Event - Registration coming soon!  
The State Water Plan is an initiative of the Connecticut Water Planning Council.  
Hosted by the State Water Plan Outreach and Education subgroup.



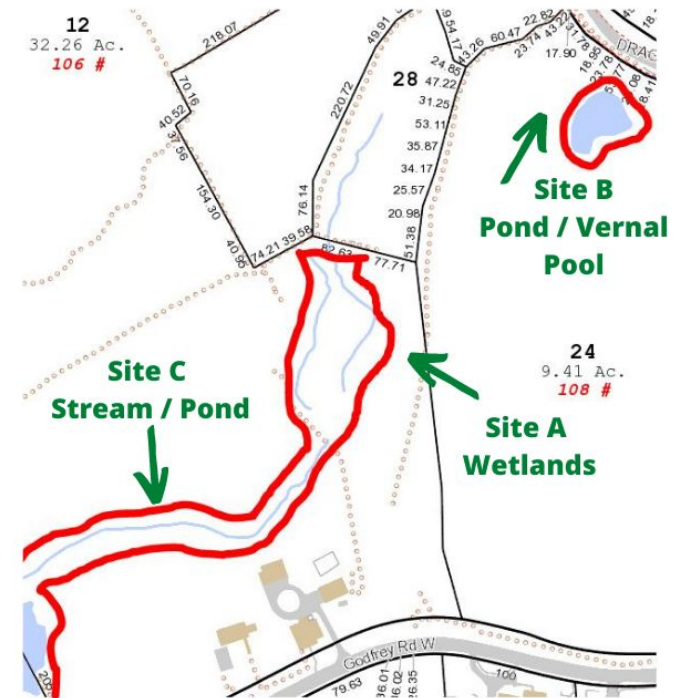
**2022 Marks the 50th Anniversary of the CT  
inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act**

# HOW?

*The Weston Pollinator Pathway received a grant from the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) for Riparian Restoration.*

- This Grant Provides **\$5,000 in native plant materials** to restore wetland habitat.
- We identified Lachat Town Farm as the project site for this project due to community partnership, public access and wetland areas in need of restoration.
- We are fortunate to have the following local advisors / experts:
  - The Nature Conservancy
  - CIPWG Members \*
  - Master Gardeners \*
  - Landscape Designers \*
  - William Kinney Associates Ecological Services
  - Bill McKinney Habitat Restoration \*
  - Dr Tom Failla, Weston Conservation Officer

**\*Steering Committee Members**



**Lachat Town Farm  
Invasive Removal and Habitat Restoration Project**

**1500LF / 1.5 ACRES of wetland area  
2 natural ponds  
1 vernal pool**

# WHO?

- Michael Aitkenhead - Environmental Science Teacher, Weston High School
- Lisa Brodlie - Invasive removal specialist, CIPWG member, and Nature Conservancy volunteer
- Bill McKinney - Habitat restoration specialist with license in arboriculture, certified NRCS conservation planner, CIPWG member and Kiwanian
- Karin Feingold - Master Gardener, Landscape Designer, Garden Club and Pollinator Pathway volunteer
- Sarah Hutchison - Sustainable Weston Town Appointed Committee, Weston Pollinator Pathway Steering Committee, Weston Garden Club Member



**October 2020 - Weston High School Green Team students partnered with Weston Pollinator Pathway Volunteers and the Weston Tree Warden, to remove garlic mustard, mugwort, oriental bittersweet and multiflora rose from the Weston Intermediate School.**

**Photo: Sarah Hutchison**

# WHY?



1. In the US, Invasive plants are found on 133 million acres (as big as California and New York combined), in federal, state, and private ownerships.
2. Invasive plants cause harm to the environment, our economy and our human health.
3. During our initial invasive removal days in 2020/21, we mainly encountered the following TEN invasive plants in our targeted project areas:

- **JAPANESE BARBERRY**
- **ORIENTAL BITTERSWEET**
- **MUGWORT**
- **GARLIC MUSTARD**
- **AUTUMN OLIVE**
- **WINGED EUONYMOUS**
- **MULTIFLORA ROSE**
- **JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE**
- **BUSH HONEYSUCKLE**
- **COMMON PRIVET**



May 2021 - Weston High School Interns partnered with Weston Pollinator Pathway Volunteers to remove garlic mustard, oriental bittersweet and Japanese barberry from the meadow connector trail at Lachat Town Farm.

Photo: Sarah Hutchison

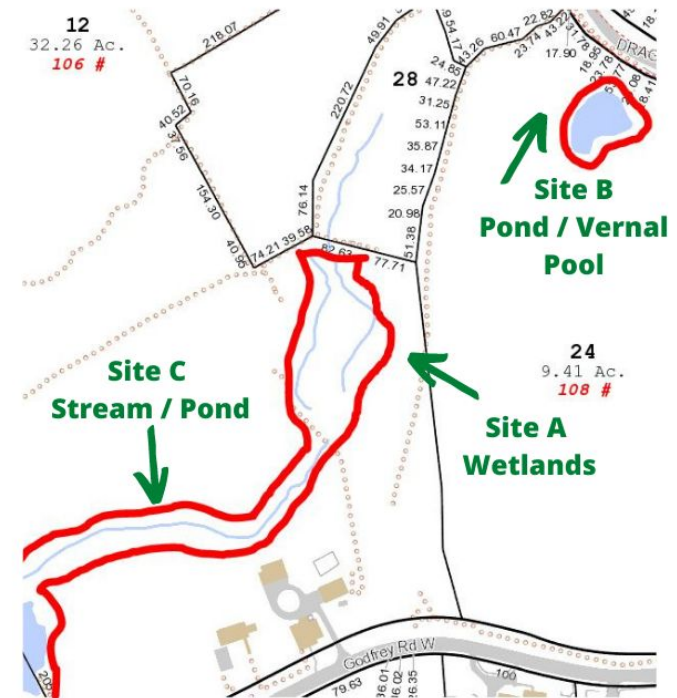
# WHERE?

This screenshot of the farm, taken via GIS mapping, identifies the 3 work areas as follows:

- **Site A - Wetlands.** This area is adjacent to the trail connecting the upper and lower meadows and is overgrown with Japanese barberry and oriental bittersweet.
- **\*\*Site B - Vernal Pool / Pond** area at entrance to upper meadow.
- **\*Site C - Stream** leading to pond at Walden Woods. This area is overgrown with multiflora rose, garlic mustard and mugwort.

*\*This project would commence after the new building project is complete.*

*\*\*We do not intend to disturb the wetlands / vernal pool area in early Spring*



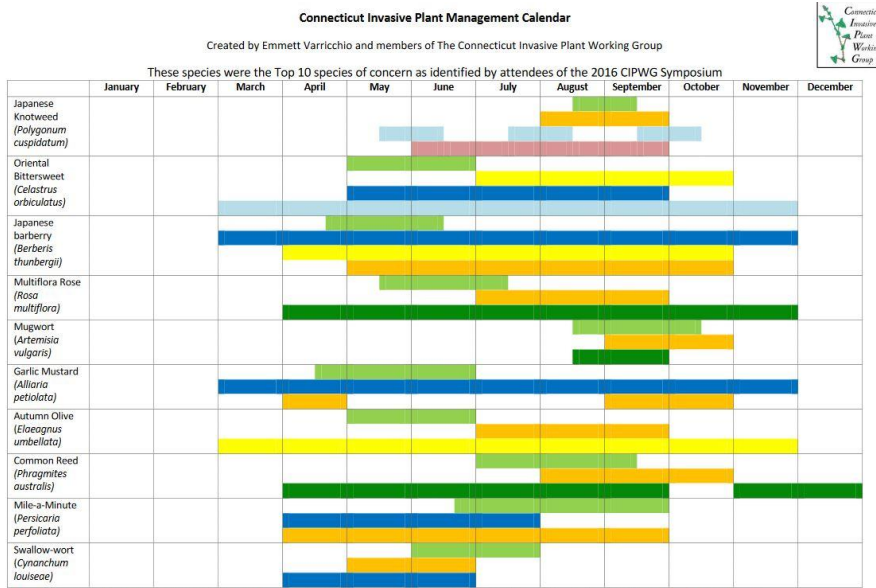
**Lachat Town Farm  
Invasive Removal and Habitat Restoration Project**

**1500LF / 1.5 ACRES of wetland area  
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1 vernal pool**



# WHEN?

- We will refer to the [Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group calendar](#) for invasive removal as follows: (No Chemical will be used, we will be using clippers, loppers and weed wrenches.)



Note this calendar serves as a working draft of best management practices for managing invasive plants in Connecticut.

Please use proper safety practices when working with herbicides and equipment.

For additional information please visit <https://slaww.uconn.edu/> and download the 2018 Symposium Presentation titled Connecticut's Invasive Plant Management Calendar "The Top 10 Invasive Plants".

## Pulling Together



**Weekly invasive removal workshops!**

**Meet at the upper meadow of Lachat Town Farm - Ladder Hill Road Entrance**

**SIGN UP VIA THE QR CODE BELOW**



- We will create regular community workshops at the farm, depending on access / availability of volunteers:
  - Sunday mornings at Lachat Town Farm.

# METHOD?



## Methods of disposal of slash from invasives removal on Town Property:

1. We have several options for disposing of the cuttings from the removal of barberry, euonymus, wineberry and other invasives.
2. The first is to build brush pile habitats for the protection of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles. The brush pile can serve as cover and protection for animals crossing an open space or stand in for a home for smaller creatures. The brush pile could also serve as a barrier to prevent dogs / humans from accessing critical habitat.
3. The second option is to chip the slash to turn it into mulching material. This could be used to augment planting material for the many new bushes and trees we are installing on the property. **We would require assistance from town employees for this option.**
4. A third option is to have the town cart the slash to a depot accepting garden refuse. The amount would be greatly reduced due to its use as mulch and brush piles as above. **We would require assistance from town employees for this option.**
5. Coinciding with the above will be the removal of the few remaining berries and seeds placed in plastic bags to be removed from the property by the volunteers.
6. Distribute attendee requirements / information that will be issued with each sign up, then brief all volunteers at the start of each session.



**May 2021 - Weston High School Interns removed garlic mustard, barberry and burning bush from Lachat Town Farm.**

**Photo: Sarah Hutchison**

# HELP?



## We would appreciate your help as follows:

1. Assist with the marketing and education of this program via LTF website and newsletter.
2. Assist with sign ups. (Current QR code leads to Google sign up, it would be helpful if LTF could help us to create a better method for managing attendees / waivers / safety information).
3. Identify any equipment that we can use:
  - Wheelbarrows
  - Tarps
  - Small Chainsaw
  - Crowbars
4. Volunteer with us! In the spirit of team building, we'd be delighted to volunteer with you all on this important effort. We appreciate your help in identifying volunteers (eg. High School Interns, Local Students etc. )



**May 2021 - Weston High School Interns removed garlic mustard, barberry and burning bush from Lachat Town Farm.**

**Photo: Sarah Hutchison**

# THANK YOU!



★ Grants received from



★ Local supporting organizations



Special thank you to the Green Team!



RO: 30082  
Invoice: Preview  
COD Date: 02/16/2022

LACHAT TOWN FARM  
106 GODFREY RD WEST  
  
WESTON, CT 06883

Year		Make/Model		Vehicle Identification			
Stock No	PO		Tag	Customer	Telephone		
				02025	203-571-8478		

Cond	OpCode	T	Description	Quantity	List	Net	Total
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RO Open Date: 02/16/22

001 NH TC30 TRACTOR  
D PICK UP TRACTOR FOR OIL LEAK AND SERVICE AND SEAT REPL  
CHANGED ENG OIL AND FILTER  
CHANGED FUEL AIR AND HYDRAULIC FILTERS  
CHECKED AND TOPPED OFF FLUIDS  
REPLACED SEAT  
FOUND OIUL LEAK COMING FROM HYD TUBE GOINT TO HYDROSTAT  
ORDERED AND REPACED TUBE BUT IT IS STILL LEAKING  
THE LEAK IS INTERNAL AND WE HAVE TO SPLIUT TRACTOR TO FIND LEAK  
WILL MAKE ESTIMATE TO SPLIT TRACTOR AND FIND OUT WHAT IS  
LEAKING  
REPLACED THICK HOCKEY PUCK STYLE WASHERS FOR MOWER BLADES  
SHARPENED BLADES WHILE WE HAD THEM OFF MOWER DECK

CL	L						780.00
	P	1348 OIL FILTER	1.00			14.38	14.38
	P	3264 FILTER	1.00			16.21	16.21
	P	WL10114 FILTER	1.00			43.66	43.66
	P	TA040-93230 ASSY ELEME	1.00			34.48	34.48
	P	TA040-93220 ASSY ELEME	1.00			25.77	25.77
	P	103728-1 OIL MOTOR	1.25			26.45	33.06
	P	SS SHOP SUPPL	1.00			21.00	21.00
	P	SA-1654B	1.00			293.00	293.00
	P	FREIGHT SHIPPING	1.00			17.63	17.63
	P	SBA340706633 TUBE	1.00			267.81	267.81
	P	SBA052100200 O-RING	2.00			4.41	8.82
	P	331953-1 134 HYD OI	3.00			17.50	52.50
	P	804-110C WASHER	3.00			12.32	36.96
Subtotal charges this section							1645.28

002 NH TC30  
D SPLIT TRACTOR AND REPAIR HYDRAULIC OIL LEAK  
D

CL	L	CUSTOMER LABOR					3120.00
	P	CLUTCH CLUTCH	1.00			386.00	386.00
	P	PP PRESURE PL	1.00			590.73	590.73
	P	PUMP	1.00			1131.73	1131.73
	P	SEALKIT SEAL KIT	1.00			543.03	543.03
	P	MISC MISC	1.00			350.00	350.00
	P	SS SHOP SUPPL	1.00			21.00	21.00

27 Broad Street  
Norwalk, CT 06851



Phone: (203) 847-2496  
www.wesco-inc.com

RO: 30082

Invoice: Preview

COD Date: 02/16/2022

LACHAT TOWN FARM  
106 GODFREY RD WEST  
  
WESTON, CT 06883

Year		Make/Model		Vehicle Identification		
Stock No	PO		Tag	Customer	Telephone	
				02025	203-571-8478	

Cond	OpCode	T	Description	Quantity	List	Net	Total
	P		331953-1 134 HYD OI	8.00		17.50	140.00
	P		FREIGHT SHIPPING	1.00		25.00	25.00
<b>Subtotal charges this section</b>							<b>6307.49</b>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS

NO REFUND WITHOUT THIS INVOICE.  
NO REFUND AFTER 10 DAYS.  
NO REFUND ON RETURNED ELECTRICAL PARTS.  
NO REFUND ON SPECIAL ORDERED PARTS.  
15% RESTOCKING FEE.

*Thank You For Your Business!!!*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

DESC	TOTALS
LABOR	3900.00
PARTS	4052.77
SUBLET	
MISC	
OTHER	
SUBTOTAL	7952.77
TAX	505.00
TOTAL	8457.77