



LEEDS LETTER

APRIL 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS 2016

APRIL 9

Crabapple Tree Pruning

Saturday, 2:00 - 4:00pm
Mulberry Street Garden
Corner of Mulberry and Front Street
Volunteers welcome

APRIL 12

LCA Meeting - all welcome!

Tuesday, 7:00 - 8:00pm
Leeds School teachers lounge
Come and share your ideas!

- Litter pick up
- Historical Walking Tour sign project
- Bike path wild flower seeding plan
- Village yard sale planning
- Hotel Bridge fundraising ideas
- Spring and Summer events

APRIL 30

Leeds Litter Pick-up

Saturday, 9:00 - 11:00pm
See article opposite

Leeds Civic Association

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Update - Roberts Hill Conservation Area

The Roberts Hill Conservation Area trail map has been updated! And, it is printed on the reverse side of the newsletter! All major and minor trails were recently GPS mapped by trail volunteer Dave Litterer. The blue trail leading to the summit from Musante Beach is now blazed. The easement connecting to the Emergency Fire Road off Water Street (see article below) has been identified and is currently marked with yellow ties. This easement trail borders private property so you MUST stay on the trail. There are also several small trails without blazes that have been added to the map. If you would like to print out a color version of the revised map, please visit: LeedsCivic.org.

If you spend any time on Roberts Hill you may have noticed the trimming of hanging branches at the intersection of the green and blue trails, and the opening up of the scenic view at the overlook. This work was done by the City's professional forester, and arranged by the Planning and Sustainability Department. For those who visit this area frequently, the amount of clearing may have come as a shock, once spring gets here the area will look less raw. If you would like to provide feedback to the planning department about the clearing you can contact Wayne Feiden at wfeiden@northamptonma.gov.

New Water Street Emergency Evacuation Route

The City's Emergency Manager and the Department of Public Works helped the LCA to establish a route for Water Street residents to use in the event of a weather or fire emergency. The fallen tree that had been blocking the route was removed late last month by the DPW. The new emergency route is "Old Newco Road," which is on the west side of Water Street and connects to Reservoir Road by use of the bottom portion of a private driveway. The road is only open to vehicle access during emergencies. A narrow easement off of Old Newco Road leads up to Roberts Hill. The easement borders private property, so please stay on the trail. The LCA, Dave Litterer, and the private property owner hope to blaze the easement trail in the future.

Beaver Brook Conservation Area

The preparation for access improvements to the Beaver Brook Conservation area are moving forward. Recently LCA members met to propose a small parking area for conservation area users on the adjacent Corrosion Control Facility property. We are looking for a designer/builder for the wildlife blind hopefully using non-native locust trees obtained from the site. We have had an offer for a local mill person to bring a portable sawmill to do the milling on site, which seems appropriate since part of this property was once a historic saw mill.

Crabapple Late Winter Pruning, April 7th, 2:00-4:00pm

Last year a crew of five volunteers helped Matt Verson prune the four Crabapple trees at the Mulberry Street Park (located at the bike path entrance at Front and Mulberry Street). The trees are due for their annual trimming – a wonderful opportunity to learn pruning techniques from an expert. If interested be sure to stop by and lend a hand.

Volunteer Spring Litter Pick Up - Saturday, April 30th, 9:00 -11:00am

Consider volunteering a couple of hours and help free Leeds' roadsides and trails of the winter litter. You choose where you want to pick up litter. Simply stop by the Leeds P.O. on Saturday morning, April 30th, starting at 8:45 and register your desired route and pick up trash bags. Fill the bags and leave them by the roadside. Our truck and volunteer will haul them away. Its that easy! Garden Gloves are recommended. Heavy rain cancels.

SAW MILL HILLS CONSERVATION AREA ROBERTS HILL SECTION TRAIL MAP

GREEN ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
 Historical Trail
 (1812 Stage Route to Albany)

BLUE - - - - -
 Hill Top Trail
 (Summit View)

ORANGE ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼
 Western Hill Trail
 (Summit View)

YELLOW
 Connector Trails

UNMARKED
 Unblazed Trails

0 400

FEET

