

# **Floodplain Forest and Floodway Development:** *Implications for Nearby Residents, Communities and Wildlife*



**April 28**  
**Temple Beth El**  
**Belmont**  
*Concord Ave. Blanchard Rd.*  
**7:30 - 9:30 p.m.**  
**Parking on site**  
*617 415-1884 for more information*

*Alewife's Natural Resources are threatened with development. Belmont Conservation Commission, Coalition to Preserve Belmont Uplands, and Friends of Alewife Reservation have appealed the DEP decision to displace a rare silver maple forest for housing. Experts feel the forest and surrounding open space are essential for protection of the 500 acre floodplain covering*

**Arlington, Cambridge and Belmont.**

## **Moderator**

**Kathy Abbott:** Executive Vice President of the Trustees of Reservations, former Commissioner of Department of Conservation and Recreation, former Asst. Secretary for Land Policy at EOEEA

## **Participants**

**Charles Katuska:** Forty years of state and corporate experience in wetlands and forestry. Former Conservation Commissioner of Carver and Southborough. Board of Directors of Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions; wetlands and wildlife scientist witness for Plaintiffs at DEP Hearings on the silver maple forest.

**Scott Horsley:** Hydrologist - President and CEO of Horsley and Witten, Inc., Professor Environmental Engineering, Principle Instructor- U.S. EPA workshops on watershed management. US-EPA He received the Environmental Innovator Award from EPA for his work in constructed wetlands and storm water treatment; Hydrology specialist for DEP Hearings-Town of Belmont.

**Thomas Bracken:** Founding partner of first dedicated environmental law firm in Boston; formerly Regional General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (New England Region), Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Agency for International Development and Chairman of Cambridge Conservation Commission. Represents Plaintiffs in Hearings and court proceedings for preservation of the silver maple forest.

**EkOngKar Singh Khalsa:** Executive Director Mystic River Watershed Association. 25 years experience in environmental design, planning, engineering and environmental restoration, hazardous waste investigation. Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Northeastern University, Boston University and the University of Alaska. Former Executive Director for Hallmark Companies. Broad understanding of public land use policy.

**Tino Lichauco:** Attorney in intellectual property law for fifteen years. Research Engineer at MIT and Livermore National Laboratory. Member of the Belmont Conservation Commission for four years. Represents the Commission in appealing the DEP order in Adjudicatory Hearings and in Woburn Superior Court in behalf of the silver maple forest.

**Annie Thompson:** A concerned East Arlington resident and MIT trained urban planner and regional economist will present the 2010 FEMA maps, discuss changes from the 1982 maps and describe the potential implications of additional planned development in the area.

**Sponsors:** Friends of Alewife Reservation, Coalition to Preserve Belmont Uplands, Cambridge Tree Stewards, Mystic River Watershed Association, Sustainable Belmont, Cambridge Climate Emergency Group, Arlington Land Trust, Belmont Land Trust, Groundwork Somerville, Belmont Citizens Forum Arlington Vision 2020 Environment Task Group, Greater Boston Group of Sierra Club