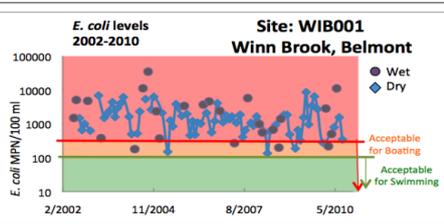




Friends of Alewife Reservation Newsletter



Wednesday, February 29

7:00pm Talks on Wildlife and Biodiversity of Alewife Reservation
Lesley University Amphitheater. Refreshments and slide show. ([more](#))

Keep up with events at FriendsOfAlewifeReservation.org



Friends of Alewife Reservation
see things differently



Join the Board

We have an exciting opportunity for someone to [join the Friends of Alewife Reservation Board](#). Comprising Arlington, Cambridge and Belmont residents, neighbors of the Reservation, scientists and recreational members, our Board plays a critical role in leading the organization. Bringing passion, experience and expertise to Friends of Alewife Reservation, as a trustee, you are placed at the forefront of our work to create a positive new relationship between humans and non-humans to preserve the wetlands and meadows within this unique urban wild on the U.S. Eastern Seaboard of this wonderful planet.

[If you are ready to share your skills, time and ideas, we'd love to hear from you.](#) We are particularly seeking individuals from communities and backgrounds that are currently under-represented within our Board structure, whilst having experience in finance, business, international relations or environmental advocacy/campaigning. We need people to provide the commitment and energy necessary to lead the preservation of a vital flood retention adaptation center, wildlife refuge and historical landmark at the DCR Alewife Reservation within the Boston metropolis' western corridor.

617 415-1884

Best wishes,
Ellen Mass, President



Cambridge Environmentalists Cite Need to Delay and Investigate Hotel Plan at Alewife (Department of Environmental Protection site visit). Cambridge Vulnerability Assessment on the way for June 2014

This past month, Department of Environmental Protection accepted a-10 citizen Appeal against Cambridge Conservation Commission's permit of 85 thousand sq.ft. for a 4 story hotel directly on the Alewife floodplain (see photos) at a time when Cambridge has begun its region-wide Vulnerability Assessment that will include Alewife and the Charles River watersheds. The Study is now on hold for another 6 months in anticipation of the ongoing Central Artery flooding study with Woods Hole Institute which pertains to climate control of this region. ([more](#))

Wednesday, Feb. 26th, 7pm

Talks on Wildlife and Biodiversity of Alewife Reservation

Lesley University Amphitheater. Refreshments and slide show. ([more](#))
Sponsored by Lesley University and Friends of Alewife Reservation

Excerpts from Six Comment Reports from January 15 DEP site visit participants on hotel development at Alewife Reservation area

Commenters to DEP extracted here are: [Kathy Johnson](#), [Anne Marie Lambert](#), [Lucia Lovison](#), [Ellen Mass](#), [Quinton Zondervan](#), [Councilor Dennis Carlone](#), [Anne-Marie Lambert](#). Other Commenters include legislators Representative [Dave Rogers](#) and Senator [Sean Garballey](#).

Dennis Carlone, Cambridge City Councillor

"The City's recognition that a vulnerability study is needed tells me that we need to be cautious in developing sensitive areas now under study. It makes great sense to wait for and learn from the vulnerability study recommendations before your Department's final determination is issued." ([full letter](#))

Ellen Mass, President of Friends of Alewife Reservation

"We will not be able to ascertain what future protections are required for this region of the Boston metropolis and our western corridor until the in-depth regional studies are done which will indicate massive flooding for this region during high hurricane level storms. The June 2014 Vulnerability Assessment, a state-wide initiative will either confirm or contradict the proponent's flood assessment predictions." ([full letter](#))

Kathy Johnson, Site Visit Proponent, Appellate, Neighborhood Resident

"Since a "Vulnerability Assessment" is in process in Cambridge with a long list of noted advisors and scientists and university advisors, I ask the DEP to hold off on permits related to flood storage and water elevation." ([full letter](#))

Lucia Lovison-Golob, GISCI, Engineering Geologist and Geophysicist, Friends of Alewife Reservation (FAR) consultant and FAR Board Member

"[I recommend] to wait for the vulnerability study ... while asking to BSC Group to increase the storage tanks to cover for a 10.8 feet NGVD 88 (NOT 10 feet ... as they are designed now)" ([full letter](#))

Quinton Zondervan, President of Green Cambridge

"The climate is changing and we need to change our ways of deciding where to build what. At the very least, we can wait to permit large new buildings in the floodway until the vulnerability study has been concluded. I've added my name to a citizen's petition asking the Department of Environmental Protection to overrule the Conservation Commission's decision." ([full letter](#))

Anne-Marie Lambert, Belmont Town Meeting Member, Precinct 8

Based on information available at this site visit, my concerns about this project revolve around flooding risk to residents in our precinct. *Stormwater drainage, Siltration, Little River flooding, Atlantic Storm Surge*: A Category 2 hurricane can produce a tide of 15.5 feet, which would breach the [Amelia Earhart] dam and flood this site.



Contact

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February/March 2014

Volume 1, Number 2

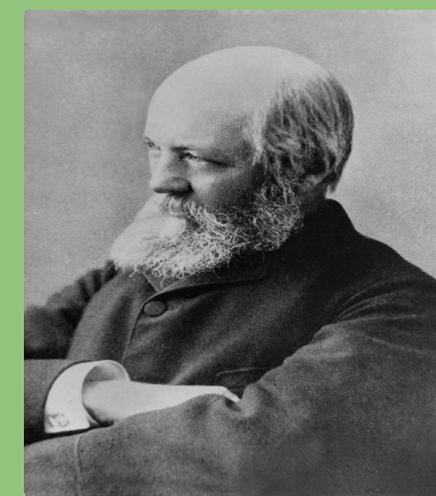
[Search the FAR Web Site](#)

[Upcoming Events \(on web site\)](#)

In This Issue

- * Join the Board
- * Cambridge Environmentalists Cite Need to Delay and Investigate Hotel Plan at Alewife.
- * Floodplain Forest Posters Depict Youth Visions of Conservation at Alewife Reservation

Buckland State Forest Friends invite outdoorsmen and women to join them on a Conservation pilgrimage across public conservation lands May 17. Call 802 2587845



Frederick Law Olmstead 1822-1903
Responsible for Alewife Greenway Design

Donate



Help save the Silver Maple Floodplain Forest in Belmont and Cambridge, Ma., a critical part of our environmental safety net.

Get Social!

- Like us and talk to us on Facebook.
- Follow and talk to us on Twitter.

Forward this message to a friend!

Send us your photographs, drawings, experiences, and poetry.

About Friends of Alewife Reservation

The Alewife Reservation is a unique natural resource for the communities of Belmont, Arlington and Cambridge. It is home to hundreds of species, including hawks, coyotes beavers, snapping turtles, wild turkeys and muskrats. It moderates ever-more-frequent flooding in this time of climate change. Friends of Alewife Reservation works to protect and restore this wild area and its surrounds for water quality, native plants, animals and over 90 bird species. We lobby for and help maintain Alewife Reservation for walking, running, biking, recreation, research, and classroom education. We regularly steward and preserve the Reservation area for wildlife and for the enjoyment of present and future generations.



[\(video\)](#)

TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR

[View the wildlife-rich North Trail](#) of Alewife Reservation.

Alewife Master Plan

Review the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) 2003

[Master Plan for Alewife Reservation](#).

Save the Silver Maple Forest Poster contest

Students from the 2012 Friends of Alewife Reservation Contest at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School.

Creative Design Teacher: Michele Watson Maxwell. Contestants:

Wilkins Lambert, John Francis, Julissa Gonzalez, Carl Graham, Keisha Lamarre, Christopher West, Khalid Allen, Asa Benjamin, Dashawn Loney Bailey, Shaniece Cooper, Marc DaCosta, Melissa Grajeda, Kevins Means, Moussa Seck, Jr., Spencer Santos, Maria Santiago, Carlos Santos.

