

The Green Way

KINGSTON GREENWAYS ASSOCIATION

A NEW JERSEY NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

www.kingstongreenways.org

Spring 2018 No. 31

Spring is a time of renewal! Please renew your membership now with the enclosed remittance envelope. You may also go directly to our web site to join or renew online: <http://www.kingstongreenways.org/forme.html>

You are invited to join us at these coming events:

EARTH DAY CLEANUPS

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Celebrate Earth Day with us by tidying up our shared roadsides, neighborhoods, and public lands!

Morning session: 9 to 11 AM: Cleanup of Laurel Avenue and vicinity of Rockingham Historic Site, from just above the village of Kingston up to Route 518. Meet at the Rockingham parking lot, 84 Laurel Avenue.

Afternoon session: 2 to 4 PM: Trash collection in the Mapleton Preserve, Cook Natural Area, and in areas adjacent to Mapleton Road, Division Street, Heathcote Road, Ridge Road, Greenwood Avenue, and Railroad Avenue. Parking for the event is along Railroad Avenue off Ridge Road.

Grabbers, gloves, orange vests, and garbage bags will be provided. Wear sturdy boots and clothing! For more information, please call 609-750-1821.

FRIENDS OF PRINCETON NURSERY LANDS ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 28, 2018–2 to 4 PM

Join the Friends of Princeton Nursery Lands for an educational tree planting and a walk in the Mapleton Preserve, to appreciate the many flowering trees that are the legacy of Princeton Nurseries. All are welcome!

<http://fpnl.org/>

Photo of redbud by Vicki Chirco



KGA ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM ON TICKS AND TICK-BORNE DISEASES WITH DR. ALVARO TOLEDO OF RUTGERS

Thursday, May 10, 2018, 7:30 PM

Kingston Firehouse, 8 Heathcote Road, Kingston

Ticks are the most important vectors for infectious diseases in the northern hemisphere, and second after mosquitoes worldwide. As a result, there is an increasing public health interest in tick-borne pathogens. Ticks are parasites that feed on the blood of different vertebrate species. Typically, ticks have 4 stages (egg, larvae, nymph and adult) that feed on three different hosts in a two-year life cycle. Importantly, ticks can transmit different diseases including Lyme disease, Human granulocytic anaplasmosis and Babesiosis among others.

Lyme disease is by far the most prominent tick-borne disease in New Jersey, with over 3000 cases per year. The causative agent of Lyme disease, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, is a spirochete and is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected ticks. Typically, Lyme disease patients have symptoms such as fever, headache, fatigue and a skin rash known as erythema migrans. If the infection is not treated in the initial stages, it can disseminate and affect joints, the heart, and the nervous system. Laboratory testing is useful if used correctly and performed with validated methods. Most cases of Lyme disease are treated successfully with a 3-4 weeks antibiotic therapy. Methods to prevent Lyme disease include the use of insect repellent, pesticides and removing ticks promptly.



Our speaker, Dr. Alvaro Toledo, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Entomology at Rutgers. His primary focus is to establish a research program on Lyme disease, ticks and the vector-borne pathogens at the Center for Vector Biology.

TICK ADVISORY

If you are reading this newsletter, you are probably someone who has a love of the outdoors. Please take all possible precautions to protect against tickborne diseases. A concerned member has provided this valuable reference—the CDC 2017 Tickborne Diseases of the United States-- from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which includes excellent photos of ticks and symptoms they may cause. On page 20, you will find concise suggestions for tick prevention and tick removal. <https://www.cdc.gov/lyme/resources/TickborneDiseases>

RECENT EVENTS

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Sunday, December 17, 2017

Count leader Karen Linder had this report:

Birds were few, but the grasses and winter weeds in the seedbeds were lovely. Things livened up when the sun came out and it warmed up a bit. Six bluebirds shining 15 feet away on the ground was a nice reward for the dry birding. Then messes of yellow rumps, cedar waxwings. We saw a fox, six deer, raccoon tracks, possible possum tracks, and some wonderful tiny bird tracks. Raptors were few--a red tail and the Barclay Square Coopers Hawk. One vulture. Four great blue herons, and a cormorant. No spectacular masses or notable numbers but a rewarding and lovely day, with 35 species total. The neatest view was of a chickadee, popping in and out of a cavity that was just his size. [2017 Christmas Bird Count Results, Kingston segment](#)

FALL FOLIAGE WALK

Sunday, October 22, 2017

This year's walk, co-sponsored by the Kingston Historical Society and led by railroad historian John Kilbride, did not go quite as we planned! We headed out along the former Camden & Amboy Railroad right-of-way toward Railroad Avenue, crossed Ridge Road onto the Rail Trail, and walked as far as the turn to the Cook bridge. Shortly thereafter, our guide experienced a spell which resulted in his being whisked away in an ambulance!

We are grateful to trustee Karen Linder for grabbing the baton to finish with a more traditional nature walk. A good number of participants carried on, roughly following the former Kingston Branch/Rocky Hill Railroad right-of-way to end at the Kingston Lock-tender's House, where model builder Paul Kayne talked about and demonstrated his models of the Kingston lock and the "A" frame bridge (once at Kingston).

The good news is that John Kilbride had fully recovered by the next day, and to finish what he started, recorded this virtual tour with illustrations, lasting about sixteen minutes. [A Walk through Kingston's Railroad History](#)

PIPELINE POSITION

Along with hundreds of other organizations, KGA has signed on to a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission about its policies on certification of natural gas pipelines. Collectively, we are calling for reforms that include demonstrating an end-use need for projects, respecting state and local authorities' findings regarding impacts, removing bias from the process by no longer hiring consultants with demonstrated conflicts of interest, and not approving pipeline infrastructure and/or allowing any element of construction to proceed until all state and federal reviews/permit processes have been finalized and approvals/permits granted.

The full text of the letter may be read here: **C:\home\kga\FERC Letter January 2018.doc**