

NEWS from Mill Cove Conservancy

Vol. 2, No2

February 2004

**MILL COVE CONSERVANCY
ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 4
WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY
7 - 9 P.M.**

We have invited the President of the Rhode Island Land Trust Council to speak at our Annual Meeting. This will be preceded by a short film, FOR THE COMMON GOOD: PRESERVING PRIVATE LANDS WITH CONSERVATION EASEMENTS by the Land Trust Alliance.

There will be short up-to-date reports on all that has happened since our last meeting, followed by a short business meeting and a birthday celebration, complete with cake!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS
& COME!**

**BUCKEYE BROOK
& MILL COVE CLEANUP**

8:00 a.m., SATURDAY, APRIL 3

**Sign up and receive an assignment
Knight's of Columbus Hall
Sandy Lane and Warwick Avenue**

Sponsored by
The Buckeye Brook Coalition & Mill Cove Conservancy

JOIN NOW

Mill Cove Conservancy yearly dues are **ONLY \$10 per individual—\$20 per family**. Make your (tax deductible!) check payable to Mill Cove Neighbors. Mail to Rick Young, MCC Treasurer, 41 Spadina Avenue, Warwick RI 02889.

We are actively seeking others to join the Board of Directors or Steering Committee for the election at the Annual Meeting.

MCC STEERING COMMITTEE MEETS

The MCC Steering Committee last met on Sunday, February 15.

MCC has ascertained through a Professional Engineer that the foundations of most of the newer homes in our neighborhood fail to meet the federal requirements, as specified in the FEMA regulations. In the event of a severe storm or hurricane this puts not only the owners of these homes at risk, but all other homeowners, as well.

To call attention to this issue, MCC appealed the building permit granted to one of these lots. We believe the City has broad exposure and liability in this matter. (Stay posted for date and time of this appeal and hearing!)

The Committee discussed MCC's strategy on an application before the Zoning Board for permits to build on two undersized, nonconforming lots on Economy Avenue. (Here we go again!) These lots did not appear, as scheduled, on the Zoning Board's February hearing, but were continued. (Stay posted for date and time of the new hearing!)

WONDERING?

John Deluca, head of the Warwick Sewer Authority, says residents on the north side of Mill Cove should receive sewer connection cards next week and can begin to connect to the sewer system a week or two after that. D'Ambra crews will return in the spring to do the final cleaning up, removing the black plastic silt fences they built to protect the wetlands, and finish paving the streets.

The odor of Glycol from the airport has been detected again in Mill Cove. Who should you call? DEM: Dave Choppy - 401/222-4700.



**We work to build the Mill Cove
Neighborhood
We work to build within
Federal, State and City Regulations
We work to preserve the environment**

NOW IS THE TIME TO SHOW US YOUR SUPPORT

As we become a land trust, we move into an important time. We will discuss the amazing benefits of that at the Annual Meeting on March 4.

We are now talking with several foundations. The more support you show us, the more support they will give!

There are three easy ways for you to do this!

Join now, if you haven't already.

Renew your membership, if you already haven't.

Make a donation to support our daily work.

If you have already given us a gift, give again!

Your contributions are tax deductible!

Send your check today to

Rick Young, MCC Treasurer
41 Spadina Avenue
Warwick RI 02889

Thanks, Tom Wilson, Chairman of the Board

CONGRATULATIONS to the Buckeye Brook Coalition for receiving the 2003 Environmental Conservation Award from the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association!

DON'T PUT IT IN THE COVE OR IN THE BAY!

We don't live on the coast; we live on a peninsula. We know where the pollution from all of our non-point sources goes. That is why it's particularly important to be careful of the lawn care products we use. Lawn fertilizers contain a large amount of nitrogen and smaller amounts of other nutrients. Here are some tips:

Unless the soil texture is sandy, nutrient deficiencies are unlikely and you may not need to fertilize at all. If in doubt, have your soil professionally tested.

Grass clippings left on the lawn can provide most of the fertilizer.

If you need to fertilize, use natural fertilizers or slow-release fertilizers, such as sulfur- or polymer-coated urea. These products release nutrients slowly over a longer period, allowing the grass to absorb nutrients more efficiently.

The best times to fertilize tall fescue lawns are March, May, October and November. Fertilize sparingly or not at all during hot summer weather. The best times to fertilize Bermuda grass and Zoysia are April, May, September and October.

Toxics Information Project (TIP), P.O. Box 40441, Providence, RI 02940. For further info, contact TIP (401-351-9193. E-Mail TIP@toxicsinfo.org. Website: www.toxicsinfo.org)

During the first week of February, we found a dead swan on the north side of Old Mill Boulevard. The City was quite prompt about removing it. It does not seem to have been one of our pair of long residing swans, whom member Carolyn King has named Albert and Victoria.

Mill Cove Conservancy
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IN CASE YOU WONDERED WHO WAS DOING WHAT AT MCC...

- CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
Tom Wilson
- MCC PRESIDENT
Bill Derrig
- TREASURER
Rick Young
- FUND RAISING – FOUNDATIONS
Leslie Derrig
Kevin Miller
- WEB SITE
Bill Derrig
Kevin Miller
- DEVELOPMENT OF LOTS ON THE ECONOMY SIDE OF MILL COVE
Hearing Strategies
Dawn Dowgal
Laura Conlin
- LOT MONITOR – Check City Records To See What Lots Are Being Developed.
Dawn Dowgal
- RESEARCH – On Going Research on Lot Ownership, Tax Sales, etc.
Tom Wilson

MEMBERSHIP MATERIALS

- Dawn Dowgal
Paola Ferrario
Laura Conlin
Bill Derrig
 - NEWSLETTER & COMMUNICATIONS
Leslie Oh
- ADD YOUR NAME TO THE ABOVE LIST!**

EVENTS

February 25. - LAND TRUST ALLIANCE, Standards and Practices, Nature Conservancy. No Cost.

February 26 – AQUIDNECK ISLAND LAND TRUST Annual Meeting – Stephen Small speaks about Conservation Easements. He wrote the IRS regulations on this topic. (\$5)

March 7 – SAVE THE BAY Annual Luncheon Meeting - Governor Carcieri and Cornelia Dean, author of AGAINST THE TIDE, will speak. (\$45)

March 20 – RI LAND TRUST, RI RIVER'S COUNCIL, RI ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS – Rhode Island Land & Water Conservation Summit (\$25 in advance)

Not blind opposition to progress, but opposition to blind progress.
The Sierra Club slogan