



### **Our friends at Waltham Fields Community Farm are in trouble and need our help!**

Waltham Fields Community Farm and seven other amazing nonprofits (including the Boston Area Gleaners, Mass Farmers Markets, and Grow Native Massachusetts) all operate on the same land called the "Waltham Field Station." They lease this space from UMASS and recently, the University notified them that they would be evicted at the end of 2019. The future of this vibrant community farm and its neighboring nonprofits may be in danger with this move.

Similar to Wright-Locke, these nonprofit organizations are dedicated to solving some of our most pressing issues: climate change, food insecurity, community resilience, ecological restoration, sustainable agriculture, and children's programming. They are important players in the fight for a better future.

A combination of leaders from all concerned organizations as well as a coalition of Waltham citizens are currently working to negotiate with all parties to find a solution that does not jeopardize the important work that these nonprofits do.

There has been an outpouring of community support to save the Waltham Fields Station - but the issue is far from resolved. We hope that you will advocate for Waltham Field Station just as you have advocated for Wright-Locke Farm. Preserving our rapidly disappearing open spaces and community farms strengthens all players in our local food system. We are all partners in building a better future.

[Learn more about the situation here](#)

[How can I take action?](#)

### **Upcoming Volunteer Needs (New!)**

*Welcome to our new section on upcoming volunteer activities! We'll highlight our volunteer needs here. \*Some activities will require you to already have an account in our volunteer system, others, you can sign-up without an account, but you will need to make sure that you have filled out [This Form](#) before the volunteer day.*

### **Youth Program Highlights**



#### **Spring After School Programs:**

Celebrate the Spring and get your kids out and exploring with our Spring After School Programs. We have opportunities for children ages 6 - 11. Programs run one afternoon a week for 6 weeks.

[Click here for more details and to register.](#)

### **Birding Workshop**



### 4/13 - Spring Farm Clean-Up Day

Every Spring, we need many hands to help clean up after the long winter. Tasks will include raking the lawns, clearing out flower beds and bushes, repairing the driveways, staining the picnic tables, and general clean-up. It's a great day to get outside, get your hands dirty, and bring a friend or meet some new people.

Bring work gloves if you have them, clothes you are okay with getting dirty, and your own water/snacks.

[Sign-Up Here](#)

(No Track-it-Forward account required for this event, but make sure you have filled out our [volunteer form](#) before arriving)

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[Click here](#) to learn more about the types of volunteer opportunities we offer.

### REUSE!

Have any of these items to give to the Farm?



1. If you have **wind chimes** you'd like to find a new home for, we are hoping to help orient our vision-challenged visitors by strategically placing wind chimes in several areas. You can leave wind chimes on the farmhouse front porch at anytime and we will find them there. They should be functional,



Join us for a guided walk through the farm property and into the woods with Ben Flemer to look for migrating spring birds. Ben is the Bird Banding Station Manager at Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Center. He'll teach the basics of birdwatching and help us to identify some common species. Please bring binoculars, if you have them, and dress for being outdoors, in the woods. Meet at the 1827 Barn.

**Date:** Tuesday, May 7th

**Time:** 8am - 10am

**Cost:** \$15 per person

For more information or to register [visit our website](#) or email [FarmEd@wlfarm.org](mailto:FarmEd@wlfarm.org).

## New! Teen Farmer Program



### Announcing a new program offering!

Wright-Locke & Lexington Community Farms Present:  
Teen Farmer Program - Summer 2019

Designed for teenagers with an interest in sustainability, environmental science, horticulture, or agriculture, this exciting, week-long program offers a hands-on introduction to the basic principles of organic farming.

Through a combination of activities and guided discussions, participants will gain a wide range of skills and a basic understanding of farm work, hand tools, and land stewardship utilizing two farm locations and their unique resources. They will learn the basic principles of organic farming as well as the differences between sustainable agriculture and the practices of our dominant food system.

**Ages:** 14 - 17

**Two sessions offered:** July 15-19 or July 22-26

**Time:** M-F, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

**Cost:** \$275/session

[Register here](#) or email [FarmEd@wlfarm.org](mailto:FarmEd@wlfarm.org)!

## Planning to Volunteer this Season?

and can be any size.

2. Have old lidded **kitty litter boxes** to move along? The farm is looking to use kitty litter pails as compost containers. Have some to donate?

Contact Adrienne at [farmer@wlfarm.org](mailto:farmer@wlfarm.org)

3. Do you have an overabundance of **plastic newspaper bags**? Do you know that they make great doggy clean up bags? Drop some off with us and we'll make sure they get used by the right crowd. Woof!

### Farm Stand Hours



We've still got a little ways to go until our Farm Stand opens up as part of our Spring Fling Weekend in May. So, hold tight!

For now, pop by the Farm Stand **Wednesdays** and **Saturdays** starting at 9AM to grab some of our farm fresh eggs.

We use an honor box system in the winter, so bring cash or check. Half-dozen = \$3

We try to keep the farm stand open until supplies run out for the day or until it gets dark.

### Support the All Seasons Barn



We are currently raising money to build a year-round facility at the Farm called the *All Seasons Barn*. Building this multi-purpose barn is a crucial step in ensuring the future of Wright-Locke Farm. The All Seasons Barn will allow us to operate all year-long and will expand and enhance our popular programming.



As most of you know, Wright-Locke Farm has a robust and engaged volunteer community (you may be part of it!). Our volunteers are crucial to our operations and are an important piece of our [mission](#).

This year, we are enhancing the systems we use to communicate with, engage, and organize our amazing volunteers. These systems will also allow us to track valuable volunteer hours, which will not only be useful for individuals who need to report hours, but will be useful for the Farm to track real volunteer impact and engagement for future grants and donors.

#### Returning volunteer?

Please [fill out this form](#) if you haven't already so we can update your info and get an account ready for you.

#### First time volunteer?

Start by exploring our volunteer opportunities on our updated [volunteer web page](#). Then fill out the form so we can get you started!

### Farm Reel



Volunteer Scott Gilmour helped Archie McIntyre, E.D. build beautiful new cold frames to extend our spring season. Seedlings kept outdoors in these protective boxes will get daily doses of full sunshine; the transparent cover and black landscape fabric capture heat to warm the seedlings; and the boxed walls protect them from cold and desiccating winds. We're excited that these season extenders will allow us to bring you flowers earlier than in previous years!

(Right) The "Flower Crew's" Art-in-Bloom piece next to its inspiration at the fundraiser last week. Thank you to Jackie Burchard, Eileen Bickenbach, Ruth Trimarchi, and August Westner.

(Below) The electric golf cart is always a contested farm vehicle. "Whose turn it is to use it now?" Hmm... I think our goats have gotten a bit too pushy about the matter. Our farmer mediates the negotiations.



[Learn more about the All Seasons Barn Project here.](#)

Campaign Progress

Goal \$3.2 Million

\$2.1 Million



\$2.1 Million Pledged So Far!

[DONATE HERE](#)

You can donate online or send a check to the Wright-Locke Land Trust at P.O. Box 813, Winchester, MA 01890

You can also show your support by sharing this information with your networks and getting more people involved in this effort. Spread your love of the Farm -- your enthusiasm is infectious!

 [Forward to a Friend](#)



[Support your Farm](#)

