Fall 2020

# **Green Hill Park Coalition**

WWW.greenhillparkcoalition.org



Upcoming Events

Do your part by cleaning your yard, your neighborhood and the park.

#### We're on the Web!

See us at: www.greenhillparkcoalition.org The Green Hill Park Coalition 1998-2020. 22 years young!

# **Green Hill Park News**

Unfortunately, we had a problem with our post office box (P.O. box 323) that led to mail being returned to members and others. The problem has **been resolved!** You can now send in your memberships. Thank you.

**Construction at Memorial Grove, the Memorial to Worcester's Honored Dead of World War 1 has been completed and is open to visitors**. The Grove has seen many visitors during the Covid spring and summer, and the feedback has been very favorable. This World War I memorial now proudly takes its place with the Massachusetts Vietnam Memorial, also in Green Hill Park.

We replaced another 14 trees in the Grove a few weeks ago. The deer population within the park is growing and they treat our trees poorly causing significant damage and death to the trees. We planted only Tulip trees this year as the species is doing very well in the Grove. 14 volunteers assisted including Coalition members, Tower Hill volunteers, veterans and environmentally conscious people.

Once again, along with Park Spirit and Park Steward volunteers we cleared the 4 acres of invasive brush that was somewhat obscuring the delineation of the rows of trees. We then proceeded to the 4-acre UMASS triangle, adjacent to Plantation Towers and cleared the invasive growth there as well.

We are looking forward to working with the American Chestnut Tree Association to establish additional orchards in the park. 7 of the 15 trees we planted 4 years ago are doing very well. We were told that our trees are growing much faster and are healthier than any other trees in other parks or nurseries. To date we gathered two harvests of Chestnuts. These nuts will be used to grow trees that are hopefully immune to the blight that in the early 1900's killed billions of trees across the United States.

In other news, the park has been remarkably busy all summer. The Covid pandemic forced people to get outdoors to enjoy the sun, wind and fresh air. Green Hill Park was a beneficiary of that activity even though the farm was and is still closed. With miles of hiking trails, fishing, kite flying and meeting spaces the parking lots were often filled to capacity.

To continue to protect the environs of the park we tested the water in the large pond and the reflecting pond at the Vietnam Memorial. We selected the test that is used for certifying drinking water because it looks for the most common contaminants. The sampling did detect coliform contamination, but this was expected as this pond is home to fish, ducks, geese, etc. The good news was that chemical contamination was not detected, including a total lack of fertilizer contamination, a possibility because of the proximity of the golf course.

I hope you like the attached photographs of the pond, the Massachusetts Vietnam Memorial and Memorial Grove.



#### The mission of the Green Hill Park Coalition

The Green Hill Park Coalition is a non-profit (501.C.3) neighborhood organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the park's natural and cultural resources. We hope to ensure the future of the park and its use by Worcester's citizens for generations to come. Please join and help us to complete our mission.

## Join us today! Please help us to protect, preserve and enhance Green Hill Park

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Our website: www.greenhillparkcoalition.org	

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