



SAVE *NEWSLETTER*

Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment, Inc.

www.saugus.org/SAVE - www.SaugusSAVE.org - www.SaugusSAVE.com

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July-August 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ann Devlin

On a recent, beautiful summer day, SAVE members, family, and friends went on an adventure to Boston Harbor to visit Spectacle Island. We had great fun, learned a few things about this island so close to us but one that few of us had visited, and only wish that more of our members were able to join us that day.

For those of you unfamiliar with all of the Boston Harbor islands, Spectacle Island is situated some 4 miles offshore of downtown Boston, a short 15 minute ferry ride. The island has a varied history, and today is a public park, forming part of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area. The island features a marina, a "green" visitor center with exhibits about the history and evolution of the island, a café, a life-guarded swimming beach, and five miles of walking trails that lead to the crest of a 157 foot-high hill (the tallest hill on the Boston Harbor Islands) which offers gorgeous panoramic views of the harbor, the other islands, and the City of Boston.

Spectacle Island has a varied history that included farming, a quarantine hospital, a glue factory, resort hotels and a garbage dump. The island was initially composed of two small drumlins connected by a spit. Beginning in the 1920s and extending until 1959, deposition of the city's garbage expanded the size and the island by 36 acres. After closure as a dump, the island remained a smelly, toxic blight in the middle of Boston Harbor until 1992, when it was redeveloped and served as the receiving ground for excavated material from the Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel Project. The island was then resurfaced with clay and topsoil, terraced with retaining walls, had deciduous and conifer trees--as well as meadow grasses--planted trails and buildings built, and a beach installed. The island reopened to the public in 2006 and is now part of the 34-island Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

SAVE members wanted to visit the island to see first-hand this wonderful example of "green" technology and reclamation. It was a fantastic experience! We explored the island, seeing many beautiful butterflies, birds, and wildlife (one of our members saw a wild turkey and a beaver), and just enjoyed ourselves immensely.

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One of our long-time members, Joyce Rodenhiser, summed our trip up perfectly as follows:

Riding with friends and sea breezes for 20 minutes,
enjoying a ride up to the top of the drumlin,
sitting with friends, having Brie, dark chocolate cupcakes,
walking through fields of wildflowers and butterflies and bees,
conversing with SAVE friends,
experiencing the visitor's center with exhibits and foods and lavs,
seeing folks swim and boat and fish in clean water,
finding pavilions with fresh water and seating,
wishing all our SAVE friends could be there,
Such was Spectacle Island!

SAVE's trip to Spectacle Island exceeded all expectations!



Photo courtesy of SAVE Board Member, Nancy Prag



LIVE OWL PROGRAM!

COME SEE LIVE OWLS AND LEARN ABOUT THESE SECRETIVE BIRDS OF PREY

**Saturday, September 29, 2012
11:00 AM
Breakheart Visitor's Center, Saugus**

SAVE is pleased to sponsor this very special event. Eyes On Owls and naturalist Marcia Wilson will be at the **Breakheart Visitor's Center** at **11:00 AM** on **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2012** to present a live owl program: **"Who's Watching You? Owls of the World."**

All who attend are in for some fun with educational close-up views of these secretive birds of prey. Wilson introduces the audience to owls found in New England as well as other parts of the world. A slide show begins the program by showcasing colorful wildlife photos by her husband, Mark Wilson. Marcia imitates the owls' calls herself, paying special attention to the more common owls that we might encounter in our area. After a hooting lesson and much audience participation, Marcia brings out the live owls one at a time. With each owl perched securely on her gloved hand, she walks out among the audience with six or seven owls. There's plenty of time for close-up views, photos and questions.

Each owl presented has a permanent disability which prevents him or her from surviving on their own in the wild. These non-releasable owls are legally permitted by state and federal agencies for use in environmental educational programs.

Which owl eats skunks? Can a little detective work reveal where owls live near you? What do pellets tell us about an owl's diet, the food chain and the web-of-life? How can we protect owls and their habitats? Wilson explores these questions and more during this fun, interactive program.

Join the fun and win a raffle prize! Eyes On Owls has donated an 18" x 24" fine art print of a Snowy owl in flight, photographed by Mark Wilson, to benefit SAVE.





SAVE 2013 OFFICERS ELECTED

At the 39th Annual Meeting and Dinner on June 13, 2012, the SAVE Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers who had signified their willingness to serve from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013:

Ann Devlin, President,
Margery Hunter, Vice President
Charles J. Bocchino, Treasurer
Pamela J. Goodwin, Secretary

With no nominations made from the floor, Nominating Committee Chairman Nancy Prag asked for a vote and each of the above-listed individuals were elected to serve as officers for FY 2013.

Many thanks to the members of the Nominating Committee -- Nancy R. Prag, Timothy R. Hawkes, and Ruth G. Mohr – for their hard work.

PHOTOS FROM THE SAVE ANNUAL DINNER ON JUNE 13TH

SAVE honored one of its founding members, Ruth Mohr, at the Annual Dinner this year. Ruth and others, including member Wally McKenzie, shared their fond memories of the days when SAVE was first formed by a small band of dynamic and environmentally-conscious citizens to promote a better quality of life in Saugus through environmental concern and action.



SAVE 2013 OFFICERS (from left, Margery Hunter, Pam Goodwin, Ann Devlin, and Chuck Bocchino)



From left, Ruth Mohr, Wallace A. McKenzie Jr., and Florence Chandler

MEMBERS: PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE FOLLOWING UPCOMING EVENTS:

SAVE Table at Founders Day – Saturday, September 8, 2012, 9AM – 4 PM

Don't miss stopping by the SAVE table during Founders Day this year! We'll have a raffle for a compost bin! And you can help reduce your carbon footprint -- stop by and drop your worn-out athletic shoes (any brand) into our recycling bin as we participate again in the Nike Reuse-a-Shoe program. You can also bring button cell batteries, hearing aid and watch batteries, thermometers and thermostats to our "mercury drop-off" station at our table for recycling.

Next SAVE Board Meeting – Wednesday, September 12, 2012, at Breakheart Visitor's Center at 7:00 PM

All SAVE members, as well as members of the general public, are encouraged to attend and share your environmental concerns.

SAVE "It's New to You" SWAP at Breakheart – Saturday, September 29, 2012, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

SAVE is planning another "It's New to You" SWAP in the Fall at Breakheart, in conjunction with the Breakheart Fall Festival. In the meantime, why not start setting aside any still-usable items that can be brought to the SWAP for recycling. Don't forget to also bring your worn-out athletic shoes for drop-off in our recycling bin as we plan to once again participate in the Nike Reuse-a-Shoe program.

Remember, the purpose of this **FREE** swap is to keep still-usable goods out of the waste stream.

"EYES ON OWL" PRESENTATION – Saturday, September 29, 2012, 11:00 AM, at the Breakheart Visitor's Center

SAVE is pleased to sponsor this exciting and educational opportunity for one and all. Come join us for this live owl program to learn about and meet owls found in New England. Bring the cameras and don't miss the "hooting lessons."

SAVE Prankers Pond Day – Saturday, October 20, 2012, at 1:00 PM

We're doing something different this year! We thought that we would take advantage of the cooler weather in the Fall, as well as experience the wonderful changing colors of the trees and plantings around Prankers Pond, while we take a leisurely walk through the wooded area that surrounds the pond. SAVE will provide water and juice. Feel free to bring your lawn chairs and blankets, a picnic lunch or snacks, and join us to enjoy this hidden jewel in our midst.

MEMBERS:

We would love to hear from you regarding any specific steps that you are taking to increase your recycling efforts this year. Please share your environmental ideas / agenda at www.saugus.org/SAVE and click on the Facebook link. Or, if you're already on Facebook, you can simply "search" Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment.

ATTENTION MEMBERS – ALERT REGARDING VOLCANO MULCHING

The Saugus Tree Committee wants to alert you to the following:

Mulch Volcanoes Kill!

As beneficial as mulch is, too much will kill trees and shrubs. Unfortunately, North America landscapers are falling victim to a plague of over- mulching.

More than 2 to 4 inches is over-mulching.

Piling up mulch up around the trunk or stem, in a “MULCH VOLCANO,” will also kill the tree.

- Continuous moisture on the trunk will cause cankers and splits, and allow disease and pests to attack!
- Excess moisture in the root zone will stress the plant and cause root rot!
- Thick blankets of mulch can become matted and eventually PREVENT water and air from getting to the roots!
- The problems go on and on



**BAD BAD BAD
START OVER!**

“Mulch volcanoes” cause many
problems for trees

Do it right! Proper Mulching

-Check depth of mulch. If two to four inches is already there, just rake to refresh and break up mats.

-If mulch is piled against the trunk or stem, pull it back several inches so that the base of the trunk and stem crown is exposed.

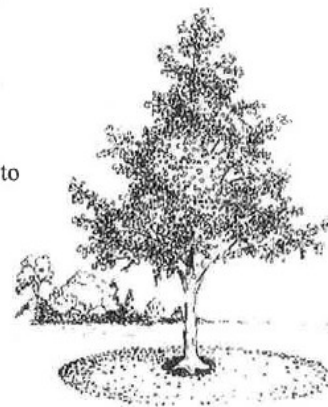
-Apply a 2 to 4 inch layer. Do not place mulch near the trunk. Mulch out to the tree’s drip line or beyond.

-Keep mulch flat, not mounded, so that water will not run off.

TELL YOUR LANDSCAPER!!!!!!

Saugus Tree Committee

Source: International Society of Arboriculture



**GOOD GOOD GOOD
GOOD JOB!!!**



SAVE ANNUAL DUES AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Just a reminder that it is that time of year again –

time to submit your Fiscal Year 2013 annual dues and membership renewal.

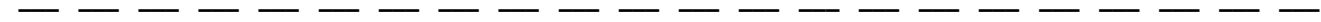
(SAVE’s 2013 Fiscal Year runs from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013)

Again, many thanks to any members who have submitted their dues to date or who have joined as new members – and to those who so generously included additional monies earmarked for either the SAVE Scholarship/Educational Fund or the Environmental Fund.

Dues continue to be just \$5 per year for the first family member to join, plus \$3 for each additional family member who joins. Student dues are only \$1 per year.

Our Treasurer, Chuck Bocchino, has developed the tear-off sheet below so that those members who have not already done so can submit their annual dues and indicate whether they wish any additional monies submitted with their dues to be applied to the SAVE Scholarship/Educational Fund, or to the SAVE Environmental Fund.

This is also a great time to update any email / telephone or cell phone / address revisions that need to be made to help us maintain current and correct information.



**Enclosed is my check for membership dues for fiscal year 2013
(from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013).**

**Annual Dues are \$5 for the first family member to join,
and \$3 for each additional family member. Student dues are \$1.**

Name(s)E-Mail

Name(s)E-Mail

Name(s)E-Mail

Address.....

TelephoneCell Phone

Amount enclosed for dues.....\$ _____

Contribution enclosed for Scholarship/Education Fund (if any).....\$ _____

Contribution enclosed for Environmental Fund (if any).....\$ _____

Total Amount enclosed\$ _____

Please make check payable to SAVE, Saugus, and mail to: SAVE Treasurer, Chuck Bocchino, 41 Great Woods Road, Saugus, MA 01906

While SAVE annual dues have remained extremely low, your financial contributions are an important source of income that help support our ongoing efforts to promote a better quality of life in Saugus through environmental concern and action. These funds also make it possible for us to publish our newsletter, hold local Environmental Candidates' Nights, and grant an annual college scholarship to a local high school graduate or sponsor an environmental educational event.

Your continued support is most appreciated. Please direct questions regarding SAVE membership to Ann Devlin at adevlin@aisle10.net or at 781-233-5717



IMPORTANT REMINDER

SAVE is sponsoring a live owl program on **Saturday, September 29, 2012**, at 11 a.m. at the Breakheart Visitor's Center. Please plan to join us when naturalist Marcia Wilson and her husband, Mark Wilson, present "Who's Watching You? Owls of the World."

The program includes a slide show showcasing colorful wildlife photos by Mark Wilson, an owl hooting lesson, and live owls. There will be plenty of time for close-up views, photos and questions.

Please join us on September 29th! For more information on this event, please visit www.saugus.org/SAVE

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO: REDUCE,
REUSE, RECYCLE**



BOTTLE BILL BATTLE, CONTINUED

MASSPIRG reports that, despite unprecedented and overwhelming public support (77%), the Massachusetts Legislature failed to pass the Updated Bottle Bill before their session ended on July 31.

As a result of tremendous support from the public, together with 208 cities and towns that passed resolutions, 90+ local and state organizations, 360 small businesses, and activists and allies from all walks of life, the Senate included the bottle bill update in its version of the jobs bill as part of the budget. The House did not. The Joint Conference Committee, which reconciled the differences between the House and Senate Jobs bill, filed its conference report, which struck the amendment.

Janet S. Domenitz, MASSPIRG Executive Director, stated: "In my 30+ years doing this work, I've never seen such broad and deep support for any legislative measure. ... When asked by a reporter what's next, I told him: "We're looking at all the options, except one: giving up."

And so the battle continues...

REMEMBER: As each of us looks back through the years at the diligence and commitment of SAVE members since our organization's inception, we also look forward to continued vitality and dedication to SAVE's founding principles, with special emphasis on the two themes of "THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY" and "REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE" that have been a common thread throughout SAVE's history.



Don't miss naturalist Marcia Wilson's live owl presentation, "Who's Watching You? Owls of the World" on Saturday, September 29, at 11:00 AM, at the Breakheart Visitor's Center, sponsored by SAVE.

REMEMBER: SAVE was organized and incorporated in 1973, "to promote a better quality of life in Saugus through environmental concern and action."

For over 39 years, SAVE has been an instrumental part of the national grassroots environmental movement. By spearheading local campaigns and participating in statewide initiatives, SAVE is an effective advocate for the protection of our community's health and its natural resources.

SAUGUS ACTION VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Post Office Box 908
Saugus, Massachusetts 01906



THINK GLOBALLY...ACT LOCALLY!
Remember to: **REDUCE - REUSE - RECYCLE**