



March Notes from the DCLT

Branch Out with Spring Cleaning!



Have you been out to see what our stormy winter has left behind? It's likely that some of you have already been out with chain saws or have carted away downed limbs and branches. But many of us are just beginning to assess the damage and debris as the most recent snow melts. What should we do with all that wood?

Here are some ideas to consider. If you have others, please let us know at info@dennisconservationlandtrust.org.

- Small twigs and branches make great kindling for wood stoves and outdoor fire pits. Just be sure to store them so they stay dry.
- Small twigs can be assembled into fairy gardens for the children in your life.
- Straight branches up to 3 inches in diameter can be used to make trellises for flower or vegetable gardens. If you're feeling more creative you can make decorative sculptures to add structure to your gardens.
- Sections of larger wood from trunks make great edging for native plant gardens or walkways. Cut in small sections and set in the ground vertically, they can even contain raised beds.
- Woods chips make excellent mulch, and wood chips from your yard are a much more sustainable option than imported and packaged bark mulch. Ask your tree removal company to leave these.

Repurposing the wood on your own property is an ecologically sensitive option. At DCLT, we are happy to provide more habitat for our four-legged and winged friends for their new nests and dens. We often leave downed trees and wood piles for this purpose.

If you lost a favorite tree, use the opportunity to plant a new one! Click on either of these links for more information: [Cape Cod Native Plants](#) or [N. American Native Plants \(UMass\)](#).

With branches in trees still unstable from winter storms, please be careful out there. And while you're out gathering up sticks and branches, watch for signs of spring! Native red maple is one of our earlier bloomers.



March's Walk!

Join DCLT staff for casual walks at conservation areas across town. Explore, observe, and mingle with us!



Tuesday, March 8th at 10 AM

**Dorothy Connors-Bell Conservation Area
at Grassy Pond, East Dennis**

Just a few spots left!

Follow rolling terrain just above Grassy Pond and neighboring Clay Pond. Descend down a small hill and you can see Clay Pond first through the trees, where skaters enjoyed winter games in decades past. Arrive at a bench and kiosk with QR codes to hear recordings of family members and those on town boards who helped conserve this beautiful rolling landscape.

[Click for info / to register!](#)

Lunch and Learn!

Tune in to brief lunchtime webinars focused on nature and conservation, with ample time for questions.



Thursday, March 17th at noon

**The Native Land Conservancy:
Protecting Land and Promoting
Indigenous Access**

Diana Ruiz, Ph.D. - Director, NLC

The Native Land Conservancy is the East Coast's first Indigenous-led conservation organization, founded right here on Cape Cod. Tune in to learn about the NLC's land-saving mission and exciting successes, including forming partnerships with organizations like the DCLT to expand Indigenous access to ancestral homelands across the region.

[Click for info / to register!](#)

More on our [website!](#)



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