

THE OSPREY



Mashpee Land Stewards Newsletter *Spring 2018*

Upcoming Events

- [Mashpee Public Library STEM Grant Collaboration: Pollinator Event Saturday, July 7th](#)
- [Pollinator Garden Maintenance Days](#)
- [Trail Maintenance Days](#)
- [Nature Tours Every Saturday at 9:00AM \(schedule on website\)](#)
- [Volunteer Appreciation Events](#)



Conservation Department Quick Update

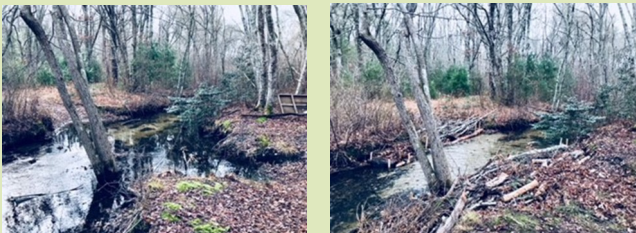
- NEW POLLINATOR GARDEN AT SANTUIT POND PRESERVE
- SIGNIFICANT STORM DAMAGE ON PARCELS FROM NOR'EASTERS/UNPRECEDENTED GROUNDWATER LEVELS
- JOHNS POND CLEAN-UP APRIL 22ND AND 28TH
- MASHPEE LIBRARY STEM GRANT COLLABORATION
- HERRING RUN SEASON APRIL TO JUNE
- AMERICORP LOSING BOURNE HOUSING, SEEKING OPTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR; IMPORTANT SPECIALIZED STEWARDS FOR US
- WORKING WITH TOWN OF BARNSTABLE TO FINISH MAPPING AND MARKING SANTUIT POND PRESERVE
- OSPREY POLE REPAIRED OFF MONOMOSCOY ISLAND
- INTERACTIVE TRAIL MAP AVAILABLE ON TOWN WEBSITE
- RECEIVED FUNDING TO REPAIR SAMPSON'S MILLS ROAD CULVERT TO IMPROVE SANTUIT RIVER AS FISH HABITAT, AND TO ASSESS JOHNS POND FISH LADDER; BOTH ARE PART OF THE CAPE COD WATER RESOURCES RESTORATION PROJECT
- PRESCRIBED BURNING OCCURRED ON TOWN-OWNED PARCELS OFF HOLLAND MILL ROAD IN MAY, PART OF NEW ENGLAND COTTONTAIL RESTORATION WORK, FUNDED BY MASSWILDLIFE'S HABITAT MANAGEMENT GRANT
- CHILDS RIVER RESTORATION/UPPER QUASHNET RESTORATION ARE MOVING FORWARD
- ONE-DAY/WEEK INTERN FOR SUMMER



IMPROVEMENTS TO CONSERVATION AREAS: *AMERICORP PROJECTS 2017-2018*



Quashnet River Bank Stabilization Project: *Using the technique developed by the Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition/Trout Unlimited, Americorp staked woody debris and backfilled with leaf/stick debris to stabilize a portion of the Quashnet River destroyed by ATV riders.*



Storm Damage Clean-Up: *We had many downed trees due to the wind storms over the winter, and the “four-easters” in March. Americorp helped remove the majority of these trees, and were more than happy to lend their services for this tedious endeavor.*

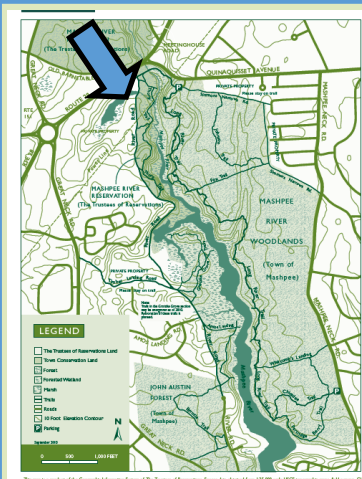


Santuit Pond Preserve Improvements:

Americorp added trail steps on the east side of the fish ladder, and fixed existing trail steps. We are also working with the Town of Barnstable on creating a trail map that marries both trail systems.



Trail Steps off Timberlane Drive to Kayak Landing on Santuit Pond: *Continuing a project from Eagle Scouts, Americorp helped finalize the kayak landing at 95 Timberlane Drive for residents to use.*



Mashpee River Woodlands Improvements:

Americorp cleared the Thorpe Trail on the west side of the MRW. You can access this trail from the Quinaquisset parking lot, where you cross the river near Route 28/power lines.

Quashnet River Culvert Clean-Up: *Frequently trash accumulates along culverts, and can find their way into our rivers and eventually, the ocean. Americorp helped clean the culvert under Route 151 where the Quashnet River runs.*



IMPROVEMENTS TO CONSERVATION AREAS:



Ron's Excavating
81 Echo Road, Unit 1
Mashpee, MA 02649
Septic Systems
Septic Repairs
Title V



Office:
508-477-0177
Cell:
508-737-2669
RonsExcavating@aol.com

Mashpee Land Stewards Johns Pond Earth-Day Clean Up. Part of "Keep Massachusetts Beautiful: Great Massachusetts's Clean-Up" Events. PARTNERS: Mohawk 4x4, Ron's Excavating, and Zoe's Pizza. Johns Pond is in the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge.



DPW helped scoop up some difficult piles with their front end loader after these clean-ups.



Filled Over a 30-yard roll-off with trash, over 10,000 pounds!



Map of area. Red line is route taken by AMC.



The Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) also cleared trail side trash on April 22nd. With our combined efforts, this 300+ acre parcel will be the cleanest it has been in years!

LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

We planted 7 crab apple trees and 7 viburnum shrubs at the Santuit Pond Preserve parking lot, and added more plants to the pollinator garden under the sign. These species were chosen for their survival and value to wildlife.



We are hosting Olivia MacFarlane (see picture above right), a recent graduate from the Upper Cape Tech, this summer for a once-a-week internship! She will help promote the Land Stewards and Herring Count Programs, and learn about our vast and varied habitats within Mashpee. Her focus in college will be secondary education and ecology; she wants to make the science behind the environment accessible while highlighting the relevance of these principles to our livelihood.

FEATURED CREATURE

THE RINGNECK SNAKE

(DIADOPHIS PUNCTATUS)



This snake was observed late June at the Pickerel Cove Conservation Area, part of the Mashpee NWR.

found in moist wetlands (abundant in Mashpee), where it eats red-backed salamanders (see upper right). This snake is slender and small, usually measuring from 10-15" long. It lays up 3-10, one-inch long eggs, in the spring or fall. It has smooth scales and a grey back. *Info from MassAudubon.org



AMERICORP APPRECIATION COOK-OUT

WAQUOIT BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE

*HOSTED BY WBNERR, THE FRIENDS OF THE MASHPEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE,
AND THE TOWN OF MASHPEE CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEPART-
MENTS. WE COULD NOT MAINTAIN THE CONSERVATION AREAS WITHOUT SUCH A
DEDICATED AND HARDWORKING GROUP OF PEOPLE, THANK YOU!*



THANK YOU AMERICORP!

**YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU WILL FIND ON OUR CON-
SERVATION LANDS AND POLLINATOR GARDENS.....
.....*CHECK IT OUT!***



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE MASHPEE LAND STEWARDS,
PLEASE CONTACT ASSISTANT CONSERVATION AGENT KATELYN
CADORET AT (508) 539-1400 EXT. 8538, OR AT
KWCADORET@MASHPEEMA.GOV.**

**YOU AN ALSO SIGN UP ONLINE AT :
[WWW.MASHPEEMA.GOV/CONSERVATION/MASHPEE-LAND-
STEWARDS-PROGRAM](http://WWW.MASHPEEMA.GOV/CONSERVATION/MASHPEE-LAND-STEWARDS-PROGRAM)**