

AMERICORPS CAPE COD, 2010-2011

Dear Reader,

Whether battling invasive species, educating the Cape's children or responding in disasters, AmeriCorps Cape Cod has been a presence in the Cape Cod community – now for the 12th year. Each year, the staff is again amazed and inspired by the commitment and spirit of our corps members. This Year 12 group is no exception. Twenty-six corps members have committed 11-months of service to the Cape and, in the process, have discovered themselves and their own unique paths.

During a time of tight budgets and financial crisis, AmeriCorps Cape Cod has continued to support the County, the towns, Cape Cod National Seashore and community non-profits with dedicated service. Of course, we are only able to provide that support because the Cape Cod community continues to support us! Without funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service, Massachusetts Service Alliance and Barnstable County, we wouldn't be able to continue to bring talented young people to the Cape for this year of service. Without housing provided by Barnstable County and the Cape Cod National Seashore, we wouldn't be able to support our corps members. And without the continued support of the Barnstable County Commissioners and Assembly of Delegates, the Cape Cod National Seashore, the AmeriCorps Cape Cod Advisory Board and all of our Service Partners we wouldn't be able to meet the critical environmental and disaster needs of the Cape. We are so grateful to everyone who has supported us through twelve years!

Each year, our corps members bring their own unique talents and skills to the program. Year 12 has brought an incredible work ethic that is truly inspiring. Even in the face of the grayest February days, these corps members have been excited to serve! They have taken initiative to develop new education programs in the community, to expand our key volunteer events and build new service relationships in the community. They have been a remarkably talented and dedicated group of people to serve with.

This year has also been a year of transition for AmeriCorps Cape Cod. While we are sad to lose some of our beloved staff members (and they're sad to say goodbye!), we are excited to see them exploring new endeavors. I am among the staff members called on to new opportunities, although I'm only an office away as a new Barnstable County Resource Development Officer. I am honored to have been a part of this program for the past 5 years. Like every other corps member who gets Cape Cod sand in their shoes, I fell in love with this place and these people and consider myself lucky to be a part of this community. And like so many members and staff before me, serving and working with this program undoubtedly changed the course of my life.

Year 12 Members: You'll leave this program with lifelong skills that will aid you in your independent journeys and with lifelong friends and memories. You should also leave knowing that you contributed to something much larger than yourself. You have each done your part to protect the valuable natural resources of the Cape Cod we all love so much. Your service has and will continue to make a real difference in this community.

In this annual Report to the Community, we can read about the various projects and undertakings of this year's Corps members. Whether it's education, volunteer engagement or work in the field, the projects of this year were no small feat. Please join me in congratulating corps members on this year of service and wishing them luck in their future endeavors.

In Service,

Rebecca Wolfson
AmeriCorps Cape Cod
2006-2011

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AMERICORPS CAPE COD

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Program Specialist

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Program Supervisor—Bourne House

Lisa Buchs

Program Supervisor—Wellfleet House

Ashley Look

Program Coordinator through December 2010



The AmeriCorps Cape Cod program is funded through grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Massachusetts Service Alliance and matching funds from Barnstable County. Housing is provided by Barnstable County and the Cape Cod National Seashore .



AMERICORPS MEMBERS



BOURNE HOUSE

Andrea Brown

Matthew Lepere

Sheila Comerford

Riley Mofatt—Member Leader

Kevin Denney

Laura Notarangelo

Yashika Dewani

Amy Ranum

Michael Evans

Emma Snellings

Rebecca Gillis

Thomas Vohoska

Keith Hopkins



AMERICORPS MEMBERS



WELLFLEET HOUSE

Brigit Arell

Stefanie Kramer

Erik Boyer

Monica Lambert

Alisha Caron

Mark Pfeifer

Erin Daniels

Caroline Walden – Member Leader

Sarah Drerup

Eva Ward

Michael Easter

Vadim Zhernokleyev

Shivani Kakde

COMMUNITY IMPACT 1999-2011



Environmental Conservation Projects:

- 2137 land and water-based conservation projects completed

Disaster Preparedness and Response Activities:

- Presented 316 community disaster preparedness education classes
- Response to 28 residential fires
- Participation in 19 disaster simulations and drills
- Response to 114 marine mammal strandings
- Assisted with 31 marine mammal necropsies
- Response to 2003 Buzzard's Bay oil spill
- Response to January 2005 winter Blizzard
- Response to December 9th, 2005 winter/wind storm
- Response to the 2005 Hurricane Katrina evacuees in Operation "Helping Hands"
- Response to November 2007 Nor'easter
- Opened 4 shelters in November 2009 winter storm
- Response to flood damage in spring of 2010

Environmental Education:

- Over 2,000 activities in environmental education—ranging from vernal pools to invasive plant species—directed towards approximately 46,000 residents and visitors
- Run 89 Project Wet Festivals for over 12,000 students
- Developed the recycling puppet show, "The Green Ribbon"
- Performed the "The Green Ribbon" puppet show 43 times to 4,937 adults and children

Fostering an Ethic of Service:

- A contribution of 24,161 hours of community service by 7,122 volunteers
- 232 presentations given about AmeriCorps, national service, community service, and civic engagement

Community Events: Organization and Participation in annual events such as:

- AmeriCorps Week
- Canal Clean-Up
- Earth Celebration
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service
- Nauset Cares Day
- Harwich "Blitz" Week
- National Trails Day
- Chatham Youth Service Day
- Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge Clean Up
- Finch Skate Park Clean up
- River Days
- Pilgrim Bark Park
- Cut and Run—Trail Clean up and Race
- Highland Center Celebration
- Junior Solar Sprint
- Arbor Day

Community Collaborations: Collaborations with over 150 groups including:

- Federal, state, county, and town departments
- School, community, and faith-based groups
- Non-profit organizations

Building the Cape Cod Community:

- 97.7% of ACC Members have successfully graduated from the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program
- 84 alumni have stayed or returned to work on the Cape after graduating from the program
- 34 alumni have worked for Barnstable County or a Town department (12 currently)
- 33 alumni are presently working full-time on Cape Cod
- 32 alumni have gone on to become Service Partners, Advisory Board Members and Trainers for the Program

ESTIMATED PROGRAM VALUE = \$10,509,557

TOTAL MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED = 530,555

* THE 2010 INDEPENDENT SECTOR VALUE OF VOLUNTEER LABOR IS \$21.36/HOUR

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Marine Mammal Stranding Response with IFAW

Growing up in the Midwest, my exposure to the ocean was limited to the occasional family vacation. So having the opportunity to spend Tuesdays and Wednesdays with IFAW's Marine Mammal Rescue and Research (MMRR) team, responding to strandings and considering scientific data relevant to this very unique science, has been an incredible opportunity.

Every day is a learning experience, and I am constantly challenged by the tasks assigned to me, whether that be compiling data on Harp Seal sightings and strandings on the Cape or going out in the field with the staff to assist a stranded dolphin. To say that there is never a dull moment when it comes to working in the field of marine mammal stranding response is an understatement. I have particularly enjoyed being able to share my experiences out in the field with other members of the program. In one such instance, the mass stranding of dolphins required the assistance of AmeriCorps Cape Cod members, who came out to help in the process of caring for the stranded mammals.

On Wednesday, March 10th, members of the Wellfleet House joined the IFAW MMRR Team and volunteers from the community to respond to four stranded Atlantic White-Sided dolphins in Wellfleet. Eight members car-pooled to the stranding site and immediately began efforts to assist staff and volunteers in moving the two live dolphins into the IFAW trailer, as well as collect data from the two dead mammals.

However the day did not end with the members' response to those four dolphins. Upon getting the two live mammals into the trailer, a call was received by the MMRR staff that a pair of common dolphins was stranded in the mud near Uncle Tim's Bridge in downtown Wellfleet. Vehicles were moved and waders re-donned for another stranding response.

The members' hard work was rewarded at the end of the day when the two live mammals from the first stranding and the pair of common dolphins from the second were able to be successfully released at Herring Cove in Provincetown.

- Alisha Caron



Members Stefanie Kramer, Vadim Zhernokleyev and Monica Lambert assist with a dolphin stranding.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Highlands Center Cleanup

Armed with tools, work gloves, and a spirit of service, the members of the Wellfleet house joined community volunteers and Cape Cod National Seashore (CCNS) staff to undertake spring cleaning projects at the Highlands Center during the annual Cleanup Day. Formerly the North Truro Air Force Station, the Highlands Center is now an emerging venue for arts, science, and education.

As part of my placement with CCNS, I helped to organize this annual day of group service to prepare the site for the upcoming busy season, which will include concerts, theater performances, scientific research, and educational programming. This year, we undertook several special projects such as refurbishing the entry to the North Atlantic Coastal Laboratory by removing old garden beds, planting a patch of native high bush blueberry, and adding stone gravel to the existing walkway.

CCNS staff also installed a new wayside about coastal changes at the platform that overlooks the cliffs to the Atlantic Ocean. This interpretive panel, created by last year's AmeriCorps member Kaelyn Modrak, is the third in a series that the past several AmeriCorps placements have created to provide visitors with more information about the site, such as the role the former base played in the Cold War and the day-to-day life for the airmen stationed there.



Finally, AmeriCorps members and CCNS staff built a raised garden bed and three benches for an educational garden for children that will be planted with the historic varieties of corn, squash, and beans later this summer. Thanks to the successful collaboration between AmeriCorps, community volunteers, and CCNS, the Highlands Center is now ready for another great summer.

- Eva Ward

Member Stefanie Kramer poses with newly built benches and garden beds at the Highlands Center.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Community Green, Housing Assistance Corporation

The Community Green in Sandwich, owned and operated by the Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC), exists to provide an alternative response to housing problems on Cape Cod by giving formerly homeless and low-income people the opportunity to live, learn, and work in a socio-economically diverse community. One major component of the project is the Community Green Farm. The five acre farm will produce crops and livestock that will be consumed by residents and those still in shelters. Additionally, it will be sold in farmers' markets and through Community Supported Agriculture shares (CSA's). The farm will also be used as a way to train the recently homeless in agriculture and culinary arts so that they will be able to find stable and meaningful employment on Cape Cod.

Since October of 2010, I have been serving one day a week at the farm with agricultural director Kristie Kapp. In fall the farm was nothing more than two acres of recently cleared forest. Throughout late fall and winter, with a lot of help from the rest of AmeriCorps Cape Cod, Kristie and I worked to clear the field of stumps, rocks, and debris, till and manage the soil, plant a late fall cover crop, and make an aggressive plan for the upcoming spring and summer. After a long and cold Massachusetts winter the ground began to thaw and we were able to start preparing the farm for planting. Throughout March and April the combination of AmeriCorps group service projects, an AmeriCorps individual placement, and volunteer effort has installed fencing around most of the field, prepared garden beds with compost and other soil amendments, and begun to put the first seeds into the earth. Lots of hard work lies ahead for the rest of spring and summer. The planting, weeding, and harvesting of produce will be the main focus with some time being set aside to keep improving the facilities and surrounding lands for future use.

Personally, my time serving at Community Green Farm has been a powerful and life changing experience. I always knew that I enjoyed gardening and was interested in sustainable and local agricultural movements but when I began my service at the farm I discovered it was a serious passion of mine. This passion was nurtured by the dedication of my service partner Kristie Kapp, who made sure to treat me as an equal as we laid out our vision for the farm. Kristie and AmeriCorps have also been amazing in providing opportunities for additional training and experience, including funding my enrollment in the Barnstable County Beekeepers Association (BCBA) bee school where I learned how to build and take care of the three bee hives that will be arriving at the farm later this spring.

Community Green Farm, while still needing lots of hard work, provides the opportunity to address some of the Cape's toughest social, economic and environmental problems in a new and creative way. In tough times like the ones facing us now, projects like Community Green offer hope that there are still new and progressive ways of solving some of our oldest problems.

- Riley Moffatt

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

725 Main St., Town of Barnstable



725 Main Street Phytoremediation Nursery

In 2001, the Town of Barnstable utilized Land Bank Open Space funds to acquire the former Gulf station located at 725 Main Street, Hyannis. The purpose of the acquisition was to cultivate a community space to serve as a mitigation nursery while using phytoremediation methods to remove toxins below grade. Overall, the Town hoped to generate a positive environmental impact and create sustainable land management. The perennials chosen for this site are unique in that their root systems pull pollutants from the ground as they grow. Such plants include Russian Sage, Liriope, Blue Lyme Grass, Lamb's Ear, Dogwood Trees, Day Lilies, Gay Feather, Cat Mint, and Black-Eyed Susans. Brownfield sites and other properties within the Town benefit from the 725 Phytoremediation Nursery as the plants grown there have been, and will continue to be, split and transplanted to other locations within the Town to assist in pollution control.

In November 2010, AmeriCorps members transplanted fifteen plants from the nursery at 725 Main Street to Bay Shore Road, a Ways to Water site in Hyannis managed by the Town of Barnstable. The Catmint and Day Lilies planted at Bay Shore Road will serve to beautify the area and also clean soils as they have done at 725 Main Street. In addition, AmeriCorps members have assisted in three seasonal cleanup projects at 725, two in Fall 2010 and one in Spring 2011, under the direction of Alisha Parker from the Town of Barnstable's Property Management Department. During these cleanups, members pulled weeds that had become overgrown in the planting beds, removed trash from the site, and prepared plants that will be transplanted to other sites within the Town later this year.

The maintenance projects at 725 will help to restore the beauty of the site, encourage greater traffic through the nursery as tourism increases this coming summer, and make 725 a cornerstone of Main Street in Hyannis. Due to its location, the nursery serves as a gateway to the community of Hyannis, and its maintenance is crucial to preserving the overall aesthetics of the area.

AmeriCorps members, specifically the Individual Placement with the Town, will continue to maintain the nursery at 725 to ensure that it stays beautiful, and to continue the transplanting of perennials to other locations within the Town of Barnstable.



Members Emma Snellings and Amy Ranum serve at the 725 Main Street Site.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Beach Grass Planting with the Army Corps of Engineers

On April 11, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members and students from the Sandwich Montessori School joined to assist the Army Corps of Engineers with erosion control on Mashnee Dike. Mashnee Dike is an Army Corps of Engineers property, created from dredged materials removed during the creation of the Cape Cod Canal. Planting beach grass and erecting beach grass fencing to prevent erosion is important because this manmade structure would erode otherwise. Mashnee Dike connects Mashnee and Hog Island to mainland Cape Cod, and is being actively preserved as a heathland habitat and as the home for several rare species. AmeriCorps Cape Cod involvement on Mashnee Dike in the past has included installing beach grass fencing and cutting down trees to preserve the heathland.



Member Keith Hopkins plants beach grass at the Mashnee Dike.



Member Mike Evans works with Army Corps Ranger John Pribilla to install dune fencing.

The week before the group service project, members Yashika Dewani, Mike Evans, Erin Daniels, and Emma Snellings gave students a lesson on erosion and the importance of dunes, as well as information on planting technique and safety in preparation for the event. That morning, after a safety reminder from Mike Evans, groups of first through fifth grade students planted grass on a section of beach. AmeriCorps Cape Cod members supervised and served with the students while fixing beach grass fencing in the vicinity that had fallen over during the winter. Lunch was provided by the Army Corps of Engineers, who also showed the “Canal Story” to the Corps and students, a film about the creation of the Cape Cod Canal. In the afternoon, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members continued their service by installing more beach grass fencing and planting beach grass on undesignated paths leading from Mashnee Road to the beach.

- Michael Evans

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Harwich Blitz Week—Planting at Bank St. Bogs Nature Preserve

During the first day of the 10th Annual Harwich Blitz Week, all AmeriCorps members were hard at work at Bank Street Bogs Nature Preserve. The day's projects included clearing debris and downed trees from the waterway, trail maintenance to prevent erosion and transplanting cedar trees.

The primary project of the day was planting native saplings along Cold Brook which runs from Grass Pond through the Preserve. AmeriCorps members planted two hundred and fifty-six saplings of Inkberry, Cranberry Viburnum, Sweet Pepperbush, and Blueberry. These wetland shrub species will shade the water and provide a cooling effect, improving the habitat for migratory fish. This is part of a larger Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program grant (WHIP) administered by Natural Resources Conservation Services, a part of the USDA. These plants also provide food for migrating birds and help with erosion control along the banks of the brook.



Members Caroline Walden, Mike Easter and Alisha Caron move mulch at Bank St. Bogs.



Members Vadim Zhernokleyev and Caroline Walden transplant a cedar tree at Bank St. Bogs.

Spirits were high and the sun was out, making for a productive and memorable day for everyone. During the rest of the week, members served at Thompson's Field removing invasive bittersweet and honeysuckle. Members provided service learning and environmental education to high school groups, girl scouts, and every fifth grader at Harwich Middle School. Once again, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members lived up to their motto of "getting things done."

- Stefanie Kramer

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Regional Emergency Planning Committee

Dozens of professionals and volunteers work hard everyday to prepare Cape Cod for disasters that they hope will never happen. Much of the process for planning for disasters starts at the Barnstable County Emergency Planning Department. This department is a division of the Health Department, and includes the Regional Emergency Planning Committee, the Incident Management Team, Hazardous Materials reporting and planning, and the Medical Reserve Corps.

The Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BCREPC) is a federally certified emergency planning committee that was formed after 9/11 to coordinate preparedness and response efforts on a regional level. The committee is comprised of representatives from public safety departments, town officials, healthcare organizations, regional transport, the National Park Service, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, animal rescue groups, volunteer response agencies, and a host of other organizations involved in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

My Individual Placement project at the Emergency Planning Department has been working with the hazardous materials planning and reporting program. Any business, municipal department, or other organization that meets certain hazardous materials thresholds has to submit a report with details about the material on an annual basis. It was my task to compile these reports as well as update the actual plans for responding to any potential release. Early this summer there will be an exercise involving a chemical spill in Barnstable. We hope that the plans will be used for a successful response to the simulated event.

Yes, the plans are well done and Cape Cod visitors and residents should know that Barnstable County is perpetually planning for emergencies. But the men and women of fire departments, police departments, the health department, and hundreds of dedicated volunteers want you to take some personal responsibility and prepare yourself and your family for emergencies. Learn First Aid and CPR, know where the nearest shelter is, make a disaster kit, check your fire extinguisher and smoke detectors, and teach kids how to call 911. We encourage everyone to contact your local fire department, police department, Red Cross office, or emergency planning department to find out how to get a fire extinguisher inspected, how to make a disaster kit, how to make a family emergency plan, and what to expect if you need to go to a shelter or evacuate. If there ever is a disaster, Barnstable County asks you to call 211 or listen to local media to find out where shelters are opened, evacuation information, and other important information. Cape Cod is a vulnerable place. Be prepared.

- Kevin Denney

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

West Barnstable Fire Department—Fire Maze

I continued my placement with the West Barnstable Fire Department for my second term with AmeriCorps Cape Cod. I was excited to learn that we would be having our construction training at the West Barnstable Fire Department constructing a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Maze. The purpose of the maze is to provide training for the Fire Department.



The Bourne House shows off a completed section of the maze at their carpentry training.

When the Bourne House arrived at the Wbfd, we were given an overview of all the tools, a safety talk, and the plans for the SCBA Maze project. The SCBA Maze consists of 10 different sections that were made of 4×8 foot sheets of plywood for the side panels, secured with three top and two bottom braces. Each section has a different plan and challenge. For example, Section 4 was a roof/ceiling collapse simulator. As soon as the firefighter enters this section, the roof/ceiling, weighted with a section of three-inch hose, would collapse on top of him. Each section would fit together in an order from 1 to 10 or have the ability to be mixed and matched to ensure a different experience every time. The unique thing about this SCBA Maze is that the plans called for it to be portable, which means it would be able to be broken down, transported or stored.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod was excited to be a part of this unique project. Since this was one of our trainings and took place in the first month of our month program, it was a very memorable project. It was one of our first opportunities to work together as a team and by the end of the day we were proud of what we had accomplished.

As my Individual Placement is with the Wbfd, I am always excited to tell anyone who works with the maze that AmeriCorps Cape Cod was part of its construction. The Maze was completed and used for multiple trainings with the firefighters, the Junior Fire Department, and even as a fun Halloween maze for our Community Halloween Fun Day Event.



The SCBA Maze sections at the West Barnstable Fire Department.

- Amy Ranum

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

American Red Cross—Disaster Response



This year has marked many significant changes for the Cape Cod & Islands (CCI) Chapter of the American Red Cross. In February we said goodbye to our Director of Disaster Services, Jenn Benoit-Carlson and welcomed our Interim Director Ed Robertson. And as of this May we will wish our Executive Director, Glen Beasley, a happy second retirement. Through all these changes we have maintained a dedication to completing our goals for the Cape & Islands.

The CCI chapter is partnered with the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BCREPC) to offer Cape Cod Residents emergency shelter at the time of

Red Cross members work on the inventory.

a disaster. It has tasked Sheila Comerford and me with updating all of the regional shelter's facility surveys and agreements as well as inventorying the 7 Conex Boxes throughout the Cape. The Conex Boxes hold supplies to support individuals in all the regional shelters. The BCREPC was awarded a \$100,000 grant and will be allocating materials to the 7 Conex Boxes to further prepare the regional supplies, at which time the AmeriCorps members will be organizing and distributing that inventory.

On March 11th, 2011 a 9.0 magnitude earthquake caused a tsunami to engulf Japan's Eastern coast. More than 13,000 people have been reported dead, and over 14,000 missing. It is the largest natural disaster that Japan has had on official record. The American Red Cross has sent \$10 million to the Japanese Red Cross and continues fundraising today. The CCI chapter has received many donations, and support from the community and local schools, and would like to thank everyone for their generosity.

- Shivani Kakde



Red Cross members Sheila Comerford and Andrea Brown working on the inventory.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Marguerite E. Small Elementary School Garden

As the local food movement continues to grow, schools across the country (and the Cape) are realizing the educational benefits of having a school garden. This year AmeriCorps Cape Cod has received a number of proposals requesting help in getting school gardens up and running, as well as requests for supplemental environmental education to go along with the garden building process. Members have gone to a handful of schools across the Cape (including elementary schools in Wellfleet, Sandwich, and Barnstable) to teach students about gardening, worms, and compost.

During the winter, the principal of Marguerite E. Small Elementary School submitted a proposal for AmeriCorps members to come to the school during the spring to get involved with the afterschool garden club, which meets every Tuesday for an hour. Fresh off of planning a successful MLK Day of service, Eva and I jumped at the opportunity to dig in the dirt with some eager students. Throughout the winter months, we kept thoughts of spring alive by planning a series of garden activities and lessons to do with the students. Now that spring is finally here, we have done four lessons with the students that stress the importance of growing one's own garden. While snacking on beets and carrots, we played a game and discussed where the food in the grocery store comes from. Over popcorn, we discussed seeds and plant anatomy. After a few chaotic afternoons outside with tools, we decided that tool safety and garden rules were an important topic to cover. After the classroom portion of the lesson, we head outside so that the students can turn the compost (a favorite activity), weed the garden bed, and water the existing plants. An hour goes by in a flash, but there is always next week and always more weeds to pull.

Being able to return to the school on a weekly basis has been a rewarding experience; we have gotten to know the students and they have gotten to know us. With four more lessons ahead of us, we look forward to seeing the fruits of our labor. With any luck, the beans we planted will be harvested by the end of our last lesson in June.

- Caroline Walden



Member Caroline Walden poses after working at the garden.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Worm Farm—Education Lessons

Environmental education, one of AmeriCorps Cape Cod's four focus areas, has been a successful means of educating the community and protecting Cape Cod's natural resources. Past educational programs ranged from recycling lessons to pizza gardens in Dennis and organic farming enrichment clusters in Barnstable in 2010. Programs like this have taught thousands of students in Barnstable County the importance of understanding and protecting the fragile environment and natural resources of Cape Cod.

This year one of the most popular programs is our worm farm. For those who do not know, a worm farm is basically a container of any size where certain organic materials can be composted by worms. This process is also known as vermiculture. The worms are very efficient at breaking down organic materials which results in a reduction of waste and the creation of a highly potent organic fertilizer. The AmeriCorps worm farm is basically two recycling bins, one sitting inside the other. The top bin holds the soil, worms, and organic material, which then drain into the bottom bin. The worms live at one of the two AmeriCorps houses and are fed a plentiful diet of food waste from the members.

The educational lesson associated with the worm farm aims at teaching elementary age students about soil, composting, recycling, and biology in a hands-on way. The lessons typically last about 30-45 minutes and are taught by one or two members. First the students are given a brief introduction to worm anatomy, soil, and composting, which is followed by a quick lesson explaining which food products are healthy for the worms and which are not. Then the students, who are shockingly excited to see a big box of worms and trash, are given a close look at the farm so they can see the soil, waste, and worms in action. The students also get to take an up close look at the worms when AmeriCorps instructors put them on plates to be examined by students under a magnifying glass. After the worms are put away the lesson ends with a short game testing the students' knowledge of the material.

After the lesson is over the students are always full of questions and comments about the worm farm. To see young children so interested and excited about worms and soil is a wonderful thing. Teachers also enjoy the lesson, giving positive feedback about the lesson plan and often thanking members for bringing such a fun and interactive activity into their school day. Between the reaction of the students and the feedback from the teachers, it has become clear that the worm farm lesson successfully engages students in a fun way while teaching them a little bit about an important subject.



Member Mike Easter works with children in Orleans.

- Riley Moffatt

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

American Red Cross—Disaster Education

So far this year we have reached out and given presentations to over 600 community members. Presentations have covered a plethora of disaster preparedness topics, anything from creating your disaster go-bag to the family escape plan. The goals of these presentations are to raise community awareness of the potential disasters that can affect Cape Cod, and the importance of preparing now.

On March 19th, 2011, the American Red Cross sponsored a national day of awareness, Save A Life Saturday. The event honored Representative Gabrielle Giffords, who was rescued using life-saving CPR on the day of the Arizona shooting. The training was led by six AmeriCorps members and was held at various locations throughout the Cape. Training included hands only CPR, controlling external bleeding, and treatment of shock. The event was a great success, with over 50 community members participating.



Members Emma Snellings and Alisha Caron demonstrate first aid for the Scout Fair.



Boy Scouts watch an emergency preparedness puppet show.

Earlier in the year, The Cape Cod and Islands Chapter of the Red Cross

sponsored the 4th Annual Scout Emergency Preparedness Fair. The event, which was held on January 8th, 2011 at the Barnstable Senior Center in Hyannis, provided the opportunity for Wolf, Bear, and Webelos level Boy Scouts and Junior Girls Scouts to learn and practice the skills necessary to earn their Emergency Preparedness Awards. Skills covered included disaster preparedness, basic first aid, hands only CPR, and water safety. Booths were led by AmeriCorps members and included other volunteer community groups such as the West Barnstable Fire Department, the Barnstable Police Department, and the Medical Reserve Corps. The fair was a success with over 300 scouts, scout leaders, and their parents in attendance.

- Shivani Kakde and Andrea Brown

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

One Hundred W.E.T. Fests



This year, the Wet and Wild FUNDamentals of Water Festival, popularly known as WetFest, celebrated the 100th festival since its start in 2001. The Cape Cod Groundwater Guardian Team and the Cape Cod Commission created the Festival, and AmeriCorps members staff each event.

The Festival is targeted at 4th, 5th and 6th graders, and involves bringing about 20 different water-themed activities to the school. AmeriCorps members run each activity, bringing their enthusiasm and energy to each fun educational opportunity. This year, we held 11 festivals from Falmouth to Wellfleet, involving 15 different schools and approximately 1,500 students.

Members Keith Hopkins, Matt Lepere and Andrea Brown lead students in the Water Cycle Boogie.

Some new activities this year include “The Good, the Bad, the Algae,” a musical chairs style game where students learn about different types of algae and how it can bloom, and “The Great Sea Turtle Rescue,” a relay race to save sea turtles from the damaging affects of oil spills. The most popular booths this year are Edible Aquifer, where students model an aquifer with soda, ice cream and sprinkles, and Bubble Booth, where students are put in a huge bubble and learn about adhesion and cohesion.

Since 2001, 17,000 students have participated in a WetFest under the guidance of Commission Hydrologist Gabrielle Belfit. To commemorate the 100th WetFest, March 25th was declared Barnstable County Aquifer Protection Day by the County Commissioners, and the proclamation was presented to members at a celebratory lunch with the Commission.



Member Mark Pfeifer teaches fish identification techniques at the booth “Scales and Tales.”

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT



VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Community Volunteers with the Cape Cod National Seashore

Many Cape residents see evidence of the National Seashore Wildland Fire Crew: teams of people working with chainsaws, large fields and forest floors scorched black by controlled fires, smoke rising into the air, bright orange signs along the road. If anybody outside looks even briefly, they can see the fire crew or their work. If they looked closer however, they would see something that most people don't notice: the amount of volunteers working with the crew. While the five-man, National Seashore employed fire management crew does the majority of the work in the area, a sizeable chunk of the work done in the National Parks is done by volunteers working alongside the fire crew.



Members and fire crew staff keep an eye on a burn pile at the Marconi Heathlands.

Since AmeriCorps Cape Cod has had their individual placement with the Fire Crew, the placements have facilitated over 3,000 hours of volunteer service for fire management activities. This year in particular, volunteer teams have become a crucial part of the fire management plan for the Cape Cod National Seashore. Every Tuesday and Thursday, volunteer groups like Boy Scout troops, high school classes, Girl Scouts, the Appalachian Mountain Club, elementary school students, and the Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore volunteer their time. These volunteers have completed projects near trailheads, around historic houses, at the base of the Nauset Lighthouse, at the Wellfleet Audubon, in the Marconi Heathlands, and around many other areas of the Outer Cape. The hard work of volunteers has been essential in completing large swathes of project areas, areas that the crew alone could not have completed.

A volunteer's experience with the crew depends on what kind of group they are a part of. If the volunteer group is a Cub Scout pack for example, there would be a focus on education, a slower pace to ensure safety, and good engagement of all the scouts. If it is a high school Science class, there would be a focus on teaching fire as an efficient disposal method for cut vegetation, proper fire management techniques, and fire as an important part of the ecosystem, all through hands-on work. Regardless of what the volunteer group is, every group gets hands-on experience with the fire crew, working directly with a crew member in every aspect of the project: cutting vegetation, lighting and tending a burn pile, controlling a fire's spread on the ground, and using the fire engine's hoses to put out the fire. Each group project generally lasts about 3 hours, beginning and ending with a full group briefing and debriefing to ensure safety, efficiency, and volunteer satisfaction.

- Michael Easter

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service has always been recognized as a national day in which important needs from the community are addressed. Our Tuesday COD (Community Outreach and Development) team was quite honored to hear that we were going to plan, organize, and execute this day of service. During this difficult financial time, there were several scattered needs from the community, towns and non-profits. After the Request for Proposals was submitted, we were able to zero in, recognize, and categorize what the Cape community was looking for. The project became a multifaceted volunteer fair with three primary elements: emergency preparedness, winterization, and housing.

The organization of the event was divided into three teams. The emergency preparedness team worked on CAPE (Carry All Personal Essentials) Bags with the Harwich Council on Aging. CAPE Bags would later be distributed to seniors in the area, to be used in case of a need to evacuate from their homes during a natural disaster. Volunteers along with staff helped fill bags with items like rechargeable flashlights, notepad paper, and file of life identification cards.

The next team was the winterization team. Working with the CACCI (Community Action Committee of Cape Cod and Islands), AmeriCorps members planned and organized winterization improvements for selected families. Winterization kits and energy saving devices were delivered and installed by volunteers. Other diligent volunteers were busy making more draft stoppers back at headquarters.

Finally, the housing team was out at other sites working with the Barnstable Housing Authority. Teams of volunteers put on a fresh coat of paint at three housing developments. Volunteers were happy to help and residents were excited to see some new paint on the old walls.

Volunteers and staff wrapped up the day with a community lunch, thanks to the Olive Garden, back at headquarters (Mattacheese Middle School). It was truly a productive day and a rewarding experience to serve with other volunteers!



Members and staff celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service!

- Mark Pfeifer

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Canal Cleanup 2011



Members Eva Ward and Monica Lambert were on bike patrol during the cleanup.

On April 23rd, 2011 AmeriCorps Cape Cod members and staff partnered with the Army Corps of Engineers to host the 11th Annual Canal Clean-Up Event!

After two months of planning, the Thursday Community Outreach and Development Day group's efforts came to fruition. The rain did not deter the 144 volunteers from braving the winds and weather. Volunteers removed over 200 pounds of trash and 25 pounds of recycling from the canal bank.

Despite the weather, volunteer groups were able to participate in various projects, an addition to the event schedule as of this year. Groups such as Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, environmental clubs, and community groups turned up to make our earth a better place in honor of earth month. The beautification projects completed included trail maintenance to the Sagamore Hill and Bourne-dale Trails, and placing mutt mitt dispensers near the walkway. Other projects were planned, but could not be completed due to inclement weather.

While seeking shelter from the elements, participants were given BPA free water-bottles, hand crafted recycled bags, snacks and t-shirts with which to tie-dye. Face paint and recycled seed planters were also available to children and adults alike in an effort to educate individuals about gardening and to have some fun in the process. Local businesses donated food and beverages which made the cold day more bearable for volunteers. This year Covanta Energy sponsored the event by way of providing t-shirts for the volunteers.

Area environmental groups such as the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies were scheduled to participate in our education tent; however, due to the weather, such booths were cancelled but will hopefully participate next year.

Thank you again to our sponsors Barnstable County, Massachusetts Service Alliance, Covanta Energy, and the Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, a special thank you to donors Starbucks, Cape Cod Bagel, Trader Joe's, Taylor Rental, Wal-Mart, and Target for their generous contributions.



Member Emma Snellings shows off her face paint: the Cape Cod Canal!

- Monica Lambert

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

AmeriCorps Week 2011: Operation Orleans

On May 9th 2011, AmeriCorps Cape Cod in conjunction with the Orleans Tree Department (OTD) and Orleans Conservation Trust (OCT) kicked off AmeriCorps week with projects taking place at Uncle Harvey's Town Landing, OCT's Mauch Property, and Orleans Elementary School. To start the week AmeriCorps members joined Tree Warden Dan Connolly and the 192 students of the elementary school for an Arbor Day tree planting ceremony. AmeriCorps members served at the school for the remainder of the day, working with students in the school's garden to plant native fruit bearing plants. AmeriCorps members also removed invasive plants from the Mauch Property and planted native trees at the Uncle Harvey's site.

Uncle Harvey's Town Landing is a town-owned conservation property that is an ecologically valuable site, as there are a number of American elm trees and stands of Red maple and Eastern red cedar trees that are native to Cape Cod. This site is one of many fragmented forests on Cape Cod which have been threatened by invasive species. The site had been overgrown with invasive privet, Japanese bush honeysuckle, and Asiatic bittersweet. Last year the OTD and AmeriCorps, with the help of volunteers and students, began to remove the invasive plants from the site and planted native plants in the area that was cleared. The overall goal of the project is to restore the landing to a more manageable native habitat.

Throughout the rest of the week AmeriCorps members, local students and volunteers removed invasive plants at Uncle Harvey's Landing and planted native plants. This is the second year of a three year restoration project taking place at the landing.

During the week over 600 plants were planted at the site and close to 21 tons of invasive plant material was removed from the 3 sites during the week. 175 students and volunteers served with AmeriCorps throughout the week. Grants from NSTAR, the Massachusetts Service Alliance, and matching funds from Barnstable County funded the project.

This project would not have been possible without the support of the Orleans Tree Warden Dan Connolly, Orleans Conservation Trust, Orleans Highway Department, Orleans Water Department, Orleans Conservation Commission, Orleans Planning Department, Orleans Pond Coalition, Orleans American Legion chapter, and the volunteers who gave their time and energy to the project.



Members and staff celebrate a successful AmeriCorps Week at Uncle Harvey's Town Landing!

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT



CELEBRATING SERVICE

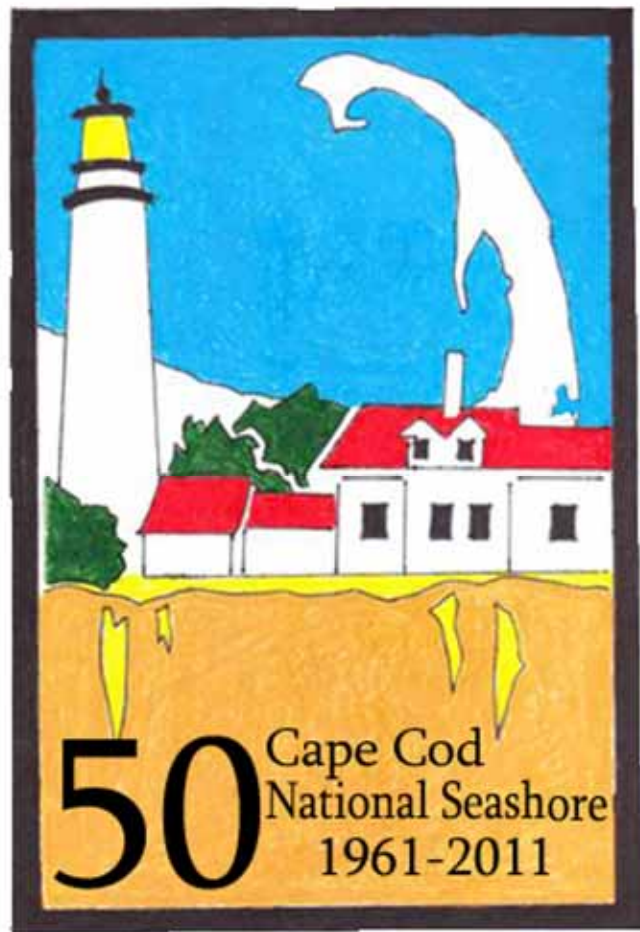
Cape Cod National Seashore - 50th Anniversary

On August 7, 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed the legislation that created Cape Cod National Seashore (CCNS). Over the past fifty years, CCNS has preserved over 44,000 acres of natural resources, such as the White Cedar Swamp in Wellfleet, as well as many cultural resources emblematic of Cape Cod, for example the Penniman House in Eastham.

This year, CCNS is celebrating its 50th throughout the year and throughout the Seashore. In addition to a roving exhibit titled *Cape Cod National Seashore at 50* that will travel to towns throughout the Outer Cape this year, two new permanent exhibits were dedicated at Salt Pond Visitor Center in May. These exhibits showcase the cultural and environmental history of Cape Cod: first, “People of the First Light” features Wampanoag art, artifacts, photographs, and oral histories and second, the map exhibit interprets the ecological context of the Outer Cape within the Gulf of Maine. Additionally, the Friends of Cape Cod National Seashore are hosting a virtual Memories Album on their website until the end of September. Visitors from throughout the years can post pictures and thoughts to celebrate their memories of the Seashore. The anniversary will culminate with a Birthday Bash in August, complete with cake and commemorative postal cancellations at Salt Pond Visitor Center in Eastham and Province Lands Visitor Center in Provincetown.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod is excited to celebrate the CCNS and our partnership. The Seashore has been instrumental in the development of our program. Members serve in a variety of capacities with the Seashore. Members are also lucky enough to live in the Seashore owned “Le Hac” House in Wellfleet. AmeriCorps Cape Cod congratulates the Cape Cod National Seashore on its 50th birthday!

- Eva Ward



CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE



AMERICORPS CAPE COD ALUMNI

Year 2 Reunion

This fall, AmeriCorps Cape Cod was contacted by a former member to see if there were any service activities a group of Year 2 alumni from Wellfleet could participate in over Halloween weekend. About ten of them were going to be reuniting on Cape and were excited for a chance to relive the old days of serving the Cape's natural resource management needs...including getting reacquainted with a tool they surely missed – the lopper, and a topic that probably still gives them nightmares – invasive species. We were able to arrange for a morning of service at Taylor Bray Farm to help them meet some of the farm's land management goals. We were thrilled that they wanted to make service a part of their own reunion – Thank you for your contributions to the program, and congratulations on 10 years of accomplishments in your Life After



AmeriCorps!

“Our time living and working together in AmeriCorps was often challenging. But I was always, ALWAYS, proud to belong to a group of people living their ideals, working toward a common purpose, living a life rich with natural beauty. Ten years later, and I'm even prouder of who we've become. We are scientists, land stewards, teachers. We are on the front lines of wildlife and fisheries research in the aftermath of the Gulf Oil Spill. We are leading urban recycling efforts and developing new ways of engaging volunteers in ecological research. We are restoring longleaf pine forests and forging

innovative land conservation partnerships and mentoring middle schoolers. We're growing organic gardens, cultivating oysters, studying estuaries, walking in the woods with our children. Ten years later, and we're STILL living our ideals, working toward a common purpose, living lives rich with natural beauty.....still, as the t-shirt says, getting things done.”

-Brett Amy Thelen, Year 2

AMERICORPS CAPE COD ALUMNI

Alumni Weekend 2011

This June, past members of AmeriCorps Cape Cod gathered on the Cape for a weekend of service during the program's third alumni reunion.

On Saturday, June 11, over 20 alumni and volunteers joined the Year 12 staff and members in Pocasset for a day of service at the Bourne House and the nearby Valley Farm Community Garden. By the end of the project, volunteers had built three garden beds, cleared a large area of bittersweet, and helped with other landscaping tasks around the future site of the garden, which will open in 2012 as a joint project of the Bourne Historical Society, Bourne Society for Historic Preservation, and Cataumet Schoolhouse Preservation Group. In addition, members and alumni planted 8 trees and several shrubs at the program's Bourne House, expanded the house gardens, and improved planting areas in and around the program's greenhouse.



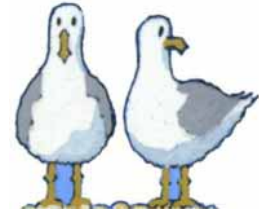
Thanks to all the alumni and supporters who braved the rain (and poison ivy) to join us in celebrating a dozen years of service on the Cape!

Former Bourne member Aimee Wang helps Brigit Arell improve the Bourne House gardens.



Alumni, members, volunteers, and staff celebrate their day of service with a picnic at the Bourne House.

2010-2011 SERVICE PARTNERS



- Mark Adams**, Cape Cod National Seashore
Beth Albert, Barnstable County Health and Human Services
Megan Amsler, Cape and Islands Self-Reliance
Kristin Andres, Chatham Department of Health and Environment, Conservation Division
Red Bansfield, Barnstable Land Trust
Jaci Barton, Barnstable Land Trust
Glen Beasley, American Red Cross
Kat Beauchamp, Association to Preserve Cape Cod
Wendi Buesseler, Oyster Pond Environmental Trust
Ryan Burch, Brewster Dept. Natural Resources
Elisa Carey, US Army Corps of Engineers
Peter Carlow, Eastham Dept. of Natural Resources
Brian Carlson, Provincetown Conservation Commission
Jennifer Carlson-Benoit, American Red Cross
John Chatham, Harwich Conservation Commission
Maria Cbesky, Barnstable Housing Authority
Nancy Church, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Bill Clark, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
Nina Coleman, Barnstable Dept. of Natural Resources
Dan Connolly, Orleans Highway Department
Bob Cook, Cape Cod National Seashore
David Crary, Jr., Cape Cod National Seashore
Dave DeConto, Sandwich Dept. Natural Resources
Justin DeForest, Cape Cod National Seashore
Judy Desrochers, Meetinghouse Farm
Jack Duggan, Taylor-Bray Farm Preservation Association
Perry Ellis, Mashpee Harbormasters
Jess Erickson, The 300 Committee
Jacqueline Etsten, Barnstable Growth Mgmt.
Mark Faherty, Wellfleet Mass Audubon
Barbara Anne Foley, Harwich Council on Aging
James Gallaher, Brewster Department of Natural Resources
Mark Galkowski, Sandwich Dept of Natural Resources
Bill Geiss, Falmouth Service Center
Iiona Geiss, Falmouth Service Center
Bob Gennaro, Orleans Highway Department
Kathleen Giorgio, Dream Day of Cape Cod
Matt Gough, Barnstable Department of Marine and Environmental Affairs
Mike Gratis, Bourne Dept of Natural Resources
Hilary Greenberg, Wellfleet Health and Conservation Department
Becky Harris, Coastal Waterbird Program
CT Harry, International Fund for Animal Welfare
Lucy Helfrich, The 300 Committee
George Heufelder, Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment
Don Hoffer, Falmouth Beach Department
Jeff Hughes, Wellfleet Herring Warden
Rachel Hutchinson, Eastham Department of Natural Resources
Bill Iacuesa, State of Wellfleet Harbor Conference Committee
Kate Jaquinto, Monomoy Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
Ian Ives, Mass Audubon
Tony Jackett, Town of Provincetown/Truro Shellfish Constable
Matt James, West Barnstable Fire Department
Ellen Jedrey, MA Audubon Society
Doug Kalweit, Barnstable Department of Natural Resources
Kristie Kapp, Housing Assistance Corporation
Darcy Karle, Barnstable Conservation Commission
Bill Keto, Mary Barton Land Trust
Michael Lach, Harwich Conservation Trust
Tom Leach, Town of Harwich
Alison Leschen, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Scott Lindell, Marine Biological Laboratory
Matt Loo, Barnstable Shellfish Department
Gabe Lundgren, US Army Corps of Engineers
Mike Maguire, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
Vin Malkoski, State Division of Marine Fisheries
Karen Malkus, Town of Barnstable, Health Department, Coastal Health
Ryan Mann, Harwich Conservation Trust
Tom Marcotti, Barnstable Shellfish Department
Chuck Martinsen, Falmouth Department of Natural Resources
Joseph Maruca, West Barnstable Fire Department
Donna McCaffery, Cape Cod Commission
Lauren McElroy, Cape Cod Commission
Heather McKean, Cape Cod National Seashore
Drew McManus, Mashpee Department Natural Resources
Lisa McNeill, Cape Cod Volunteers
Kelly Medeiros, Cape Cod National Seashore
Scott Michaud, Cape Cod Commission
Chris Miller, Brewster Dept of Natural Resources
Bruce Mogardo, Falmouth Beach Department
Katie Mueller, Cape Cod Volunteers
Dennis Murley, Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, Mass Audubon
Diane Murphy, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension/ SEMAC
Josh Nigro, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Tara Nye, Association to Preserve Cape Cod
Sean O'Brien, Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment
Janice Parin, Lower Cape Outreach Council
Heinz Proft, Harwich Harbormaster and Natural Resources Department
John Pribilla, US Army Corps of Engineers
Kris Ramsay, Orleans Conservation Trust
Susan Rask, Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment
Mark Robinson, Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts
Jim Rassman, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Ed Robertson, American Red Cross
Margaret Russell, The 300 Committee
Sarah Sharp, Cape Cod Stranding Network
Paul Sieloff, Town of Wellfleet
Lara Slifka, Chatham Department of Health and Environment, Conservation Division
Alisha Parker, Town of Barnstable Growth Management
Francis Smith, Trout Unlimited
Brenda Swain, Falmouth Service Center
Terri Tarozzi, American Red Cross
Tom Telesmanick, Harwich Harbormaster and Natural Resources Department
Amy Usowski, Eastham Department of Natural Resources
Chris Walz, Massachusetts Audubon Society
Marlene Weir, Community Action Committee of Cape Cod and Islands
Craig Whitcomb, Chatham Shellfish Department
Karen Whiting, American Red Cross
Paul Wightman, Dennis Department Natural Resources
Richard York, Jr., Mashpee Shellfish Department

2010-2011 INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENTS

BOURNE HOUSE

American Red Cross
Education Coordinator

American Red Cross
Disaster Services

Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee
Emergency Preparedness Assistant

Marine Biological Laboratory
Cape Cod Biodiesel Program Assistant

US Army Corps of Engineers
Natural Resource Assistant

Bourne DNR
Natural Resources Associate

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Environmental Science Teacher

Barnstable Growth Management
Coastal Access Project Coordinator

Barnstable Coastal Health
Coastal Health Steward

Sandwich Dept of Natural Resources
Conservation Lands Assistant

Housing Assistance Corporation Community Green
Coordinator of Farm Activities

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
Household Hazardous Waste Program Assistant

West Barnstable Fire Department
Fire Mitigation and Operations Planner

Cape Cod Commission
Water Festival Coordinator

Barnstable County Dept of Health and Environment
Barnstable County Wastewater Treatment Assistant

WELLFLEET HOUSE

American Red Cross
Disaster Services

Harwich DNR/Harwich Conservation Trust
Environmental Initiatives Coordinator

Brewster DNR
Conservation Land and Water Management Specialist

Chatham Department of Conservation
Recycling Coordinator

Orleans Tree Department
Tree Inventory Specialist

Provincetown Conservation Commission
Natural Resources and Environmental Programs Specialist

Cape Cod Commission
Private Wells Mapper and Pathways Coordinator

Cape Cod National Seashore
Park Planning Assistant

Cape Cod National Seashore Fire Crew
Volunteer Coordinator

Cape Cod National Seashore
Hydrology and Water Quality Monitoring Assistant

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod
Salt Marsh Monitoring Program Assistant

Barnstable Marine and Environmental Affairs
Shellfish Propagation Assistant

International Fund for Animal Welfare Marine Mammal Response Team
Education and Outreach Coordinator

Wellfleet Health Department
Action for a Healthier Community Assistant

TOWN-BY-TOWN SERVICES

Barnstable

Children's Cove Holiday party
Members assisted with the Children's Cove Holiday party

Meetinghouse Farms Invasive Removal
Members removed invasive plants along the trail to open the trail and allow native species to grow.

Long Pasture Land Management
Members cleared trails and property at the Long Pasture Audubon Site.

Hazardous Waste Collections
Members helped to facilitate hazardous waste collections organized by the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension.

Tree Education Blitz
The entire 4th Grade class from Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School, over 400 students, were brought on field trips to Meetinghouse Farm in West Barnstable where AmeriCorps members gave educational tours and taught lessons related to trees, organic and worm composting, and the natural resources at the town-owned farm.

W.E.T. Festival, Hyannis West Elementary School
Members educated children about groundwater topics on Cape Cod using hands on activities.

W.E.T. Festival, Centerville Elementary School
Members educated children about groundwater topics on Cape Cod using hands on activities.

W.E.T. Festival, Barnstable Intermediate School
Members educated children about groundwater topics on Cape Cod using hands on activities.

Survival Maze Construction
Members built a portable and reconfigurable maze for training use by the West Barnstable Fire Department.

Oyster and Quahog Propagation
Members assisted the Department of Marine and Environmental Affairs with shellfish propagation and gear maintenance and construction.

County Tree Nursery Rehabilitation
Members assisted with planting, pruning, and other tasks at the County Tree Nursery.

Buttonbush Swamp and Boardwalk Maintenance
Members cleared invasive plant species from a swamp and removed a seasonal boardwalk at Mass Audubon's Long Pasture Sanctuary.

Disaster Fair
Members delivered lessons on disaster preparedness and response with Barnstable County and the West Barnstable Fire Department.

725 Main Street Cleanup
Members served with the Town of Barnstable Growth Management Department to weed and cleanup the community space at 725 Main Street in Hyannis.

Disaster Supply Inventory and Organization
Members assisted the American Red Cross with inventory of shelter supplies.

Herring Run Cleanup
Members helped the Town of Barnstable to remove debris and brush from a herring run in Marstons Mills.

Scout Fair
Members delivered safety and preparedness lessons to local Boy and Girl Scouts with the American Red Cross.

Protective Shorebird Fencing
Members assisted Mass Audubon's Coastal Waterbird Program with installing protective plover fencing.

East Bay Road Cleanup
Members removed invasives at a Barnstable Land Trust property in Osterville.

Environmental Education Lessons
Members taught students at Barnstable Intermediate School, Barnstable Early Learning, and West Barnstable Elementary School about topics including soil, composting, and recycling.

Ropes Field and Bell Farm Land Management
Members removed invasives at two Mary Barton Land Trust properties in Cotuit.

Eagle Pond Trails
Members spread woodchips along a network of trails in the Eagle Pond Conservation Area.

River Day
Members performed the Green Ribbon Puppet Show and ran educational booths at the community event in Marstons Mills.

Project Forward Trail Maintenance
Members cleared trails and removed debris with the help of Project Forward.

Coastal Mitigation Nursery Maintenance
Members cleaned and weeded the Town's Coastal Mitigation Nursery.

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension Shellfish Relay
Members helped move bags of shellfish cultch to the nursery in Dennis.

Green Ribbon Puppet Show
Members performed a recycling puppet show at West Barnstable Elementary School and for the Barnstable Early Learning program.

Bourne

Hazardous Waste Collections
Members helped to facilitate hazardous waste collections organized by the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension.

Mashnee Dike Snow Fencing
Members assisted the US Army Corps of Engineers with installing snow fencing on Mashnee Dike.

Heathland Restoration
Members and the US Army Corps of Engineers removed woody material on Mashnee Dike to assist with the restoration of heathland habitat.

Valley Farm Community Garden
Members removed invasives and prepared the future site of a new community garden in Pocasset.

Beach Grass Planting
Members and students from the local Montessori School planted beach grass on Mashnee Dike to prevent erosion.

Bournedale Herring Run
Members removed obstructions and trimmed back overgrowth along the herring run.

Canal Cleanup

Members recruited 150 volunteers to remove trash along the Cape Cod Canal.

Brewster

Punkhorn Wildfire Management

Members thinned out standing trees, removed fallen trees and chipped debris to reduce wildfire risk.

Hawk's Nest Farm Restoration

Members removed and chipped trees and invasive plants and removed debris from the property.

Herring Run Clearing

Members removed overhanging branches and debris from the herring run.

Paine's Creek Sandbag Restoration

Members assisted with sandbagging to hold back storm erosion at Paine's Creek Beach.

Beach Cleanup

Members worked with volunteers to do a general beach cleanup for Brewster.

Nickerson Park Fire Fuel Reduction

Members removed and chipped downed trees to reduce the threat of wildfire.

Spring Oyster Cull

Members assisted the Brewster DNR with the spring oyster cull.

Wing's Island Restoration

Members removed debris and downed trees from the Wing's Island property.

APCC Salt Marsh Monitoring

Members helped collect data and specimens from the salt marsh.

Quivett Marsh Restoration

Members assisted with clearing the vista and trail at Quivett Marsh.

Paine's Creek Restoration

Members installed erosion fencing to protect the site.

Dream Day Camp Trail Maintenance

Members assisted with removing dead trees and clearing the trails at the camp.

Capewide

Martin Luther King Day of Service

Members created emergency kits for seniors in several Cape towns, assisted with winterizing homes, and painted local housing developments.

Chatham

W.E.T. Festival, Chatham Elementary

Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands on activities.

ChathamRecycles Book and Media Swap

Members helped to staff a ChathamRecycles event featuring a book and media swap.

RecycleFest 2011

Members assisted with a town-wide recycling effort to raise awareness of recycling efforts in the town.

Tern Island Habitat Restoration

Members removed beach grass in several areas to create habitat for local Terns. The grass was later replanted in dune stabilization efforts.

Sylvan Gardens Restoration

Members helped to remove invasive plants and build on existing property trails.

Chatham Aquaculture

Members raked and broadcast oysters, dug and broadcasted quahogs and cleaned cages.

ChathamRecycles Drop & Swap

Members helped with various recycling activities and educated the public on recycling efforts.

Captain George Harding Cleanup

Members cleared invasive plants and picked up garbage at the Captain George Harding Conservation Area.

Goose Pond Fire Mitigation

Members thinned and chipped trees along a stretch of trail to meet wildfire mitigation requirements.

Forest Beach Restoration

Members removed invasive lovegrass and bittersweet and seeded the property with native grasses.

Ryder Cove Restoration

Members worked to remove invasive plant material and clear a trail.

Horseshoe Crab Tagging

Members assisted Monomoy staff with the seasonal horseshoe crab tagging.

Green Ribbon Puppet Show

Members performed a recycling puppet show for students at Chatham Elementary School.

Dennis

Public Beach Plastic Disk Cleanup

Members cleaned up water treatment plant discs that were washing up along the shore.

Chapin Beach Fencing

Members installed erosion control fencing along Chapin Beach.

Fire Fuel Assistance Preparation

Members cut and split downed trees to be distributed to residents as fuel assistance.

Salt Marsh Monitoring

Members assisted the Association to Preserve Cape Cod with surveying fish populations at Quivett Creek.

Eastham

APCC Salt Marsh Monitoring

Members helped collect specimens and data from the salt marsh.

Eastham Aquaculture

Members cleaned barnacles and tunicate off of oysters and assisted with the summer oyster cull.

1651 Tree Measurements

Members helped collect growth data on marked trees and trimmed around the trees to promote growth.

Rock Harbor Marsh Cleanup

Members removed garbage and debris from the Rock Harbor Marsh.

W.E.T. Festival, Eastham Elementary

Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands on activities.

Nickerson and Wiley Parks

Members removed fire fuels as part of the Town's wildfire management plan.

South Eastham Conservation Area

Members removed fire fuels as part of the Town's wildfire management plan.

Winter Shellfish Gear Repair

Members repaired shellfish gear for use in the spring.

Falmouth

W.E.T. Festival, North Falmouth Elementary
Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands on activities.

Falmouth Service Center Garden
Members participated in fall and spring cleanups of the community garden, doing tasks including weeding, transplanting, tilling soil, and repairing structures.

Cranberry Harvest Festival
Members taught children a “Bog in a Cup” lesson during the community event.

Ashumet Holly Invasive Removal
Members assisted with the land management plan at Mass Audubon’s Ashumet Holly Sanctuary.

Peterson Farm Invasive Removal
Members served with the 300 Committee to remove invasives at Peterson Farm.

Menahaunt Beach Invasive Removal
Members served with the Falmouth Beach Department to remove invasives on a Town property off Menahaunt Beach.

Beebe Woods Educational Walk
Members took students from Morse Pond School on walks through the Beebe Woods Conservation Area, and taught them about topics including geology and topography.

Harwich

Harwich Blitz Week
Members assisted the town with recruiting school groups and volunteers to clear invasive plants on the Thompson’s Field property as well as Harwich Conservation Trust’s Bank Street Bogs property.

Bank Street Bogs
Members helped with management and removed small woody plants to restore heathlands habitat.

Live Owl Show
Members assisted with set-up and running of the Live Owl Show for community members.

Herring Run Clearing
Members removed overhanging branches and debris from the herring run.

Hazardous Waste Collection
Members helped to facilitate a hazardous waste collection.

Mashpee

W.E.T. Festival, Quashnet Elementary School
Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands on activities.

Oyster and Quahog Propagation
Members assisted the Shellfish Constable with various propagation projects and gear construction.

Fitch-Lopez Trail Maintenance
Members widened existing trails on Town conservation land, and created a new connecting trail.

Bessie Bogs Trail Maintenance
Members cleared and widened trails in the Bessie Bogs Conservation Area.

Quashnet River Restoration
Members served with the local chapter of Trout Unlimited to reinforce and re-shape banks at the Quashnet River.

Brook Trout Survey
Members assisted the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and Trout Unlimited with tagging brook trout in the Quashnet River.

Orleans

Field Habitat Succession, Champlain Road
Members removed invasive vines and honeysuckle to restore a native field habitat.

Watershed Tree Removal
Members thinned standing and downed trees for improved access and management of the watershed areas.

Uncle Harvey’s Town Landing Restoration
Members removed invasive plants at the Town Landing site to restore native plant populations.

Little Sipson Island Osprey Pole Installation
Members moved and installed an osprey pole on Little Sipson Island.

Hopkins Garden Restoration
Members removed invasive species.

AmeriCorps Week: Operation Orleans
Members assisted with the ongoing restoration of Uncle Harvey’s Town Landing, removed invasives from other conservation lands, and planted trees and shrubs at Orleans Elementary School. Members celebrated Arbor Day with the students of Orleans Elementary and spent the week working with students and community volunteers.

Provincetown

Benches at B-Street Community Garden
Members built three benches for the B-Street Garden.

Hazardous Waste Collections
Members helped to facilitate a hazardous waste collection.

Old Colony Pathway Maintenance
Members removed debris and maintained the trail at Old Colony Nature Pathway.

B-Street Garden Expansion
Members built and installed 25 raised garden beds filled with soil, and worked on invasive Japanese knotweed removal.

Provincetown Beach Cleanup
Members worked with volunteers to do a general beach cleanup for Provincetown.

Shank Painter and Hawthorne Trail Clearing
Members removed invasive plants, weeded at Shank Painter and blazed a trail at Hawthorne.

Winthrop Street Cemetery Cleanup
Members removed invasive plants and downed trees.

Sandwich

W.E.T. Festival, Forestdale School
Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands on activities.

Community Green Farm and Garden
Members assisted with maintenance of a community garden, and helped to prepare the Housing Assistance Corporation’s educational farm for its first growing season.

Protective Shorebird Fencing
Members assisted Mass Audubon’s Coastal Waterbird Project with installing fencing at Springhill and Town Neck Beaches.

Beach Ecology Lessons
Members taught students at the Sandwich Montessori School about beach grass and coastal ecology and planted grass with them at Mashnee Dike in Bourne.

Beach Signage Installation
Members installed informational signage on Town Neck Beach.

Ryder Lands Invasive Removal

Members cleared a section of the Ryder Conservation Lands at the future site of a Town dog park.

Recycling Lessons

Members taught students at HT Wing school about recycling and creating recycled paper.

Truro

Town Beach Cleanup

Members worked with community volunteers to do a town-wide beach cleanup.

Wellfleet

Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary Heathlands

Members worked to restore coastal heathland habitat by removing woody plants.

Meadow Restoration at Jencks Property

Members helped to restore a meadow to its natural state.

W.E.T. Festival, Wellfleet Elementary School

Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands-on activities.

Family Preparedness Fair

Members educated community members about disaster preparedness.

OysterFest Recycling Team

Members helped direct festival attendees to recycling stations.

Audubon Experimental Oyster Reef

Members collected data on the experimental oyster reef.

State of the Wellfleet Harbor Conference

Members helped with set-up and clean-up of the conference.

Environmental Education Lessons

Members taught students at Wellfleet Elementary school lessons about soil, composting, recycling, and papermaking.

Hazardous Waste Collection

Members helped to facilitate a hazardous waste collection.

Historical Society Invasive Removal

Members removed invasive knotweed and bittersweet from the property.

Yarmouth

W.E.T. Festival, Mattacheese Elementary

Members taught students about the importance of water conservation using hands on activities.

Taylor Bray Farm

Members served alongside volunteers and program alumni to clear invasives and overgrown vegetation from the boardwalk area.

Environmental Education Lessons

Members taught students at ME Small Elementary School about seeds and organic growing.

Salt Marsh Monitoring

Members assisted the Association to Preserve Cape Cod with surveying fish populations at Parker's River.

Cape Cod National Seashore

Highlands Center Cleanup

Members built garden beds, cleared trails and did maintenance at the Highlands Center.

Highlands Fest Preparation

Members did maintenance and preparation for the Highlands Fest Celebration.

Highlands Fest Preparation

Members did maintenance and preparation for the Highlands Fest Celebration.

Highlands Fest

Members worked with community volunteers to paint a mural.

Marconi Site Heathlands

Members removed and piled scrub oak and pitch pine and burned piles to restore heathlands habitat.

Le Hac Restoration

Members cleared invasive plant species and downed trees at the Le Hac property.

Fort Hill Restoration

Members removed and piled scrub oak and pitch pine and burned piles to restore heathlands habitat.



THANK YOU CAPE COD COMMUNITY!

Project Donations

Agway of Chatham
Army Corps of Engineers
Bob Ranum
Buzzards Bay House of Pizza
Cape Cod Bagel
Cape Cod Potato Chips
Coca Cola Company
Covanta SEMASS
Craigville Pizza and Mexican Restaurant
Eastern Bank
Eastern Mountain Sports of Hyannis
'G' Green Design Center
Gray Gables Market
Home Depot
Hot Chocolate Sparrow
Kmart
Late July Organic Snacks
North Falmouth House of Pizza
Old Country Buffet
Nauset Disposal
Papa Gino's
Provincetown Stop and Shop
Shaw's Supermarket
Starbucks of Buzzards Bay
Surf's Up Pizza and Seafood
Target
Taylor Rental
The Daily Brew
Wal-Mart
Wareham Shaw's
Yarmouth Stop and Shop

Member Trainings

American Red Cross
Dan Connolly (Orleans Tree Department)
Dave Crary (Cape Cod National Seashore)
Diane Murphy (Cape Cod Cooperative Extension)
Donna McCaffery (Cape Cod Commission)
Gabrielle Belfit (Cape Cod Commission)
George Price (Cape Cod National Seashore)
Greg Powell (Resource Development Office)
Julie Ferguson (Resource Development Office)
Justin DeForest (Cape Cod National Seashore)
Mark Adams (Cape Cod National Seashore)
Mike King (West Barnstable Fire Department)
Mike Maguire (Cape Cod Cooperative Extension)
Patti Howard (Covanta SEMASS)
Peter Carlow (Eastham DNR)
Phillip Burt (Resource Development Office)
Phillip Kyle
Rachel Hutchinson (Eastham DNR)
Rick York (Mashpee Shellfish Department)
Sarah Sharp (IFAW)
Stacey Shipman
Tom Cambareri (Cape Cod Commission)



THANK YOU for your dedicated service!

Ashley Look

**Program Supervisor, Program Specialist and Program Coordinator
AmeriCorps Cape Cod, 2004-2010**

AmeriCorps Cape Cod thanks Ashley Look for her 7 years of dedicated service to the program. Ashley served as the Wellfleet Program Supervisor, the Individual Placement Program Specialist and finally as the Program Coordinator. Ashley has been an inspiring role model and an excellent example of leadership, hard work and dedication to AmeriCorps Cape Cod!

Ashley temporarily relocated to Denver, CO, where she received her certification as a natural foods personal chef. She is currently working as the chef aboard the SSV Corwith Cramer and will be returning to the Cape to pursue work in her new field. We wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors!

Rebecca Wolfson

**Program Supervisor and Program Specialist
AmeriCorps Cape Cod, 2006-2011**

AmeriCorps Cape Cod thanks Rebecca Wolfson for her 5 years of dedicated service to the program. Rebecca served as a Corps member in Year 8, the Bourne Program Supervisor, and has been the Community Outreach Program Specialist for the past 3 years. Rebecca's enthusiasm and passion for the program has been inspiring!

In May, Rebecca accepted a position as a Resource Development Officer with Barnstable County. While Rebecca no longer serves with AmeriCorps Cape Cod, we're happy that she's just across the hall! We wish her the best of luck in this new endeavor!

Gwen Pelletier

**Advisory Board Member
AmeriCorps Cape Cod, 2007-2011**

AmeriCorps Cape Cod thanks Gwen Pelletier for her 4 years of dedicated service to the program. Gwen has been actively involved in the development of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program and provided invaluable insight and input as the program has grown and expanded over the years. Gwen has been an amazing advocate for the program in the Cape Cod community!



This Report to the Community is dedicated to the memories of Sargent Shriver and Roland Dupont. We are grateful for their commitment to service.