

Report to the Community **15th Year Anniversary Edition**







Our Mission

The Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod program is dedicated to serving the critical environmental and community needs of Cape Cod through natural resource management, disaster preparedness and response, community education, and volunteer engagement.





Dear Members of the Community,

On behalf of the Barnstable County Commissioners, Mary Pat Flynn, Sheila Lyons and William Doherty, and the County Resource Development Office, I would like to acknowledge and commend the efforts of the 32 AmeriCorps members who have notably provided service to the communities of Cape Cod this year. Their continued initiative, creativity, and dedication have acutely enhanced our program's breadth and depth of service, raising the bar for the next year of member service and community strengthening and involvement.

This year, AmeriCorps National is celebrating its 20th Anniversary. Since its inception, more than 820,000 women and men have taken the pledge, serving more than one billion hours of service.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod is also proud to be celebrating its 15th year of service to our community. Over four hundred men and women have served as AmeriCorps Cape Cod members dedicating more than 676,000 hours of service to Barnstable County communities.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod is a four-time national award winning program recognized by the United States Congress, Massachusetts State Senate and the American Red Cross as one of the most innovative and accomplished programs in the United States, having also received the National Association of Counties' "Acts of Caring Award" and twice won the Innovations in Civic Participation's "Transforming Communities through Community Service" award. The program has been awarded federal funds through the Massachusetts Service Alliance from the Corporation for National and Community Service to continue AmeriCorps Cape Cod programming over the next year.

In September, AmeriCorps Cape Cod will begin its 16th year of service to our community. We are fortunate to have dedicated support here on Cape Cod comprised of service partners, advisory board members, alumni, volunteers, and staff leaders. Barnstable County, Cape Cod National Seashore (National Park Service), and the Cape Cod and Islands Chapter of the American Red Cross continue to serve as key program partners. Barnstable County and the Cape Cod National Seashore annually donate AmeriCorps member residences to the program, without which we would struggle to find viable, affordable member housing. These organizations and individual leaders have been instrumental in strengthening our connection to the community.

The AmeriCorps Cape Cod program was designed to provide quality year round community service to protect and sustain the natural resources of Cape Cod for the use and enjoyment of future generations, and by reading through the pages of this report as a program and community we reflect on the impact of this year's service. This report begins by introducing key environmental needs of the community, elaborating on our natural resource management projects, the accomplishment and success of our FireCorps initiative with the Cape Cod National Seashore and advances in the field of disaster preparedness and response. The report also includes accomplishments of the Resource Development Office and highlights our continued successes in community education and our volunteer engagement events, finally concluding with a town-by-town listing giving an account of all the service we have performed this year throughout Barnstable County. As you will soon see we have been very busy this year and will continue to work towards improving the delivery of efficient, effective services to our community.

Having completed more than 676,000 hours of service over the past fifteen years, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members and volunteers share a common spirit of service, dedication and idealism. Today, the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program stands as a proud example of how the power of community service can help change and improve the community and ultimately the world in which we live. "Together we grow" and continue to serve and make a difference in our community now and into the future.

Respectfully,

Darlene Johnson-Morris Manager, Resource Development Office Director, AmeriCorps Cape Cod











Henry Lind Eastham Conservation Foundation

Sheila Lyons *Barnstable County Commissioner*

> Heather McElroy Cape Cod Commission

Lauren McKean Cape Cod National Seashore

Steve McKenna MA Coastal Zone Management

Diane Murphy *Cape Cod Cooperative Extension/SEMAC*

> **John Ohman** Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates, Town of Dennis

Brian Carlson *Town of Provincetown*

Jessica Erickson Whritenour The 300 Committee

Peter Freeman *Attorney at Law*

Hillary Greenberg Lemos *Town of Wellfleet*

Michael Lach Harwich Conservation Trust

Chuck Lawrence *Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School*

Nolan Leroy *Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School*

Ryan Burch *Town of Brewster*

The AmeriCorps Staff would like to thank the Advisory Board for all the support and assistance they provided us throughout this program year. They are the driving force that helps advance and improve the benefits that ACC provides to the local community and its corps members.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to Henry Lind, Chuck Lawrence, and Nolan Leroy. After years of support and dedication they will all be stepping down from their role on the ACC Advisory Board.





Darlene Johnson-Morris Resource Development Office Manager AmeriCorps Program Director

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Philip Burt Resource Development Officer

Julie Ferguson Resource Development Officer

Katherine Garofoli Resource Development Officer

Priscilla Ellis Administrative Assistant

Frances Weidman-Dahl Resource Development Officer

Sebastian Wheeler Resource Development Officer

Ashley Look Resource Development Officer

AMERICORPS CAPE COD

Christin Marshall Program Coordinator

Amy Henderson Program Specialist

Michael Sousa Program Specialist

Adam DeVito Program Supervisor—Bourne House

Brittany Quaglieri Program Supervisor—LeHac House

Erik Boyer Program Supervisor—Wells House

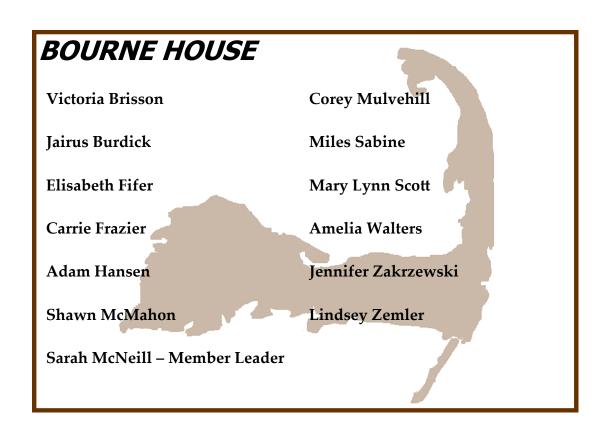


The AmeriCorps Cape Cod program is funded through grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Massachusetts Service Alliance and matching funds from Barnstable County. Housing is provided by Barnstable County and the Cape Cod National Seashore.





AMERICORPS MEMBERS







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COMMUNITY IMPACT 1999-2014

Environmental Conservation Projects:

- 2,720 land and water-based conservation projects completed
- Completed service on over 400 acres and 54 miles of conservation land and water in the 2013-14 program year.

Disaster Preparedness and Response Activities:

- Presented more than 457 community disaster preparedness education classes
- Participation in 22 disaster simulations and drills
- Response to over 130 marine mammal strandings
- Assisted with 46 marine mammal necropsies
- Response to 2003 Buzzard's Bay oil spill
- Response to January 2005 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
- Response to storm damage on Liberty and Ellis Island in NY after Hurricane Sandy in October 2012
- Opened 3 shelters in October 2012 for Hurricane Sandy
- Opened 3 shelters in February 2013 in response to Super-storm Nemo

Environmental Education:

- Over 2,090 activities in environmental education ranging from vernal pools to invasive plant species -directed towards approximately 49,700 residents and visitors
- Hosted 124 Project Wet Festivals for over 16,000 students
- Developed the "The Green Ribbon" recycling puppet show and performed it over 50 times to 6,362 adults and children

Fostering an Ethic of Service:

- A contribution of 26,650 hours of community service by 7,760 volunteers
- 244 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
- Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge Clean Up
- Highland Center Celebration
- Junior Solar Sprint
- . Arbor Day
- Orleans Green Week
- Mayor's Day of Recognition for National Service

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

ESTIMATED PROGRAM VALUE = \$18,260,425 TOTAL MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED = 676,312

* THE 2013 INDEPENDENT SECTOR VALUE OF VOLUNTEER LABOR IS \$22.55/HOUR

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



Smokey the Bear and AmeriCorps members hanging out at Marconi Fire Cache.



Anja Hogan using a Drip Torch during a Prescribed Fire.

Ecology of Fire By Anja Hogan

Fire is a necessary contributor to the health and renewal of forest, prairie, and savannah habitats. Some plants require fire to germinate or reproduce, and the absence of fire eliminates these species as well as animals that might depend upon them. Suppression of fires has also contributed to a build-up of flammable debris that can increase the risk of losing structures and other culturally and historically significant areas if there were to be a wildfire.

Cape Cod had, for centuries, benefited from wildfires in this revitalization process. With increased settlement came increased fire suppression, and ecosystems on Cape became overgrown and cluttered with dead and potentially dangerous fuels. As part of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod FireCorps, it is our job to help implement the Fire Management Plan overseen by the Cape Cod National Seashore. We gladly assist in prescribed burns (also known as controlled burns) which mitigates the risk of wildfire and the risk of a wildfire negatively impacting buildings and lands. We also use prescribed burns to restore habitats (like heathlands) and reduce fuels. An example of a fire-adapted species that we are trying to encourage the growth of is broom crowberry (*Corema conradii*) a small flowering shrub found primarily in eastern North America, and notably on Cape Cod and Nantucket. It grows in openings of the forest that are created by burning away the canopy and it helps form heathlands. In Massachusetts it is listed as a Species of Special Concern and there is research being done on the broom crowberry within the Cape Cod National Seashore.

Not only can you often find the FireCorps burning on Cape Cod National Seashore, but we have also assisted towns within Barnstable County, Joint Base Cape Cod, Nantucket, and Saratoga National Historical Park with the implementation of their prescribed burn plans.



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Caring for Kettle Ponds By Elizabeth Migliore

The freshwater kettle ponds of the Cape Cod National Seashore are a unique habitat formed up to 13,000 years ago by retreating glaciers. They support a wide variety of species including fish, frogs, and turtles. Unfortunately, these ecosystems are fragile and have been degraded after years of high levels of visitor use at their beaches. The kettle pond beaches are typically packed on hot summer days, and visitors unknowingly cause erosion by trampling vegetation (which eventually kills the plants), creating new social trails, and continuously walking on steep banks.

Management of the Seashore's kettle ponds is highly complex due to the interactions between privately owned land, individual placements, the Seashore, as well as between various departments within the Seashore. Actions to restore the kettle pond shorelines have only taken place in recent years, following a complete assessment of the condition of these ponds. AmeriCorps has taken on a major role in helping with pond management, through monitoring done by the seashore's Planning Assistant placement, as well as through group service days. The LeHac house had



Members plant native species as part of the pond management project.

two service days in April and May to help restore ponds in Wellfleet and Truro. Projects included Duck Pond, Dyer Pond, Great Pond Truro, Ryder Pond, Snow Pond, Spectacle Pond, and Slough Pond Triangle. Restoration work involved the placement of jute netting and native plants in order to hold soil in place on steep banks and return native vegetation for wildlife. Fencing and signs were also installed in order to keep people out of restoration areas and to explain regulations designed to help protect the pond resources.



Members install jute netting in order to hold soil in place.



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



The puller team lifting cultch bags out of the Mashpee River.

The Mighty Oyster By Victoria Brisson

Crassostrea virginica, popularly known as the eastern oyster, has tremendous benefits to the bays of Cape Cod. As a filtering bivalve the oyster helps to remove particles and excess nutrients in our local water bodies from natural influx and human impacts. Not only does this small animal help solve an increasing water quality problem in the bays, but it also provides a great food source and contributes to the growing aquaculture industry here on Cape Cod. With all good things come some downfalls, however. The natural oyster population has rapidly declined as overfishing and disease has increased. To continue to keep these oysters thriving in our waters, we must grow and harvest them through aquaculture in order to foster new growth and restore natural reproduction. The growing of oysters is an extensive process and requires a lot of maintenance in which AmeriCorps Cape Cod plays a vital role. Through either Group Service days or Individual Placements, ACC is constantly working to

keep these mighty shellfish happy, so they can continue growing and filtering the excess nutrients out of the water.

There are various departments that grow and harvest oysters, that ACC is involved in. AmeriCorps Cape Cod has worked extensively with Rick York, who oversees the Shellfish Department in Mashpee. The service day consists of the Bourne House and occasionally all houses working in the Mashpee River to open several thousand oyster cultch bags. This is a technique of growing oysters that have set on cultch (recycled shell) in a mesh oyster bag. These bags were made during AmeriCorps Week in Mashpee last year by Year 14 members. The bags with oysters growing on the shell were placed in trays on the river bed. The Bourne house has been tasked with opening all these bags and spreading the oysters so that they can continue to grow in a less dense environment. When we wader up we have two teams in the river, the pullers and the openers. The pullers lift the bags out of the

trays using rebar hooks, and transfer them into fish totes (large black bins), which are then transported to the opener team. The openers, situated on a float for a working surface, then cut open the mesh bags using box cutters and dump the recycled shell and the attached growing oysters into the fish totes. Once the tote is full, the team brings it to a now empty tray on the river bed and empties it within. The oysters are then spread by feet to evenly cover the tray. The goal is to spread the oysters evenly, so that they are not overcrowded and competing for the limited food that flows through the water. The bag opening is a dirty job as we get very muddy from the ripping of the oysters out of the mesh bags. It has also proven to be a rather dangerous job as oysters are sharp and walking through the deep muck in waders is not easy. By the end of the day we have very happy, feeding oysters, and a clean river. The members, however, are wet, sunburnt, and covered in mud -a successful day on the Mashpee River.





A Whale's Tale By Lindsey Zemler

If you happened to be driving on Route 6 Westbound on an opportune day in January, just as the overnight 6-inch snowfall was melting, you may have witnessed a truck and trailer making its way in the slow lane with an enormous, black tail protruding over the side. You may have been one of the many people to do a double-take and peer into the truck's cab to see what kind of people might be inside.

Catching a glimpse in-person or reading the local news gives the public an idea of how active the professionals in the field of marine mammal stranding science are on Cape Cod. Yet even beyond the more easily-sighted events which take place on the beach (such as a live dolphin or seal stranding), the IFAW Marine Mammal Rescue and Response (MMRR) team regularly performs postmortem exams on seals, whales, dolphins and porpoises that wash up dead or die as a result of stranding.

The conspicuous black tail belonged to a pilot whale which was stranded alive on Hardings Beach in Chatham. After an unsuccessful attempt to use heavy machinery to re -float the animal, the staff and veterinarian determined that euthanasia was the most humane option for the aged and thin animal. Due to the size of the animal, the rescue attempt and subsequent carcass removal required lateral thinking – a specialty of the MMRR team. While securing, moving, and transporting the carcass, a necropsy (postmortem) was arranged to take place in the location of its ultimate burial; the landfill in Bourne. A number of local people contributed to the outcome of this event which spanned the Cape – including the good-humored drivers of tractors and excavators and the enthusiastic volunteers who are truly 'all-weather' contributors.

A necropsy is ideally performed in a controlled environment such as a lab, but this team will go to impressive lengths to gather accurate data. Ten-degree weather and flocks of scavenging seagulls won't deter their consistent professionalism (or enthusiasm). Data collection, meant to gain valuable information on life history and cause of death, increases understanding of the individual deceased animal, its species, and the overlap between marine mammals and human activities. For example, the

Continued on next page ...



The pilot whale tale hanging over the trailer getting ready to be transported to the necropsy site.





A Second Year Member's Viewpoint By Kristy Grace



Kristy modeling her Nomex gear.

I am the first member in the history of the program to have experienced both the general and FireCorps. During year 14, I lived in the Bourne house, and my individual placement was at the Cape Light Compact in Barnstable. As a technical assistant I analyzed results from residential energy audits and generated a map depicting the location of residential customers on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard. Having graduated with a background in psychology, I was not familiar with this industry. However, I had a very helpful and knowledgeable service partner and learned a lot. I learned so much in fact, that I am now considering a career in sustainable architecture.

This year, I have been training as a wildland firefighter with the Cape Cod National Seashore. Once again, I found myself signing up for something that I had little knowledge about. I have learned about fire behavior, the math and science required for calculations, and how to use equipment I had never picked up before, such as a chainsaw and wood chipper. And once again, I have learned and enjoyed so much, that I am considering going forward and applying for a job in forestry and wildland fire. I can't thank the program enough for teaching me so much that I never learned while in school.

The transition between the two sectors of the program was profound. Instead of loppers and waders, I was issued my own chainsaw and fire boots. Instead of my grey member t-shirt and Carhartt jeans, I wear green pants and yellow shirt made of flame-resistant Nomex material. Instead of thirteen housemates, I have six. In the general corps, my schedule was much more varied. With group service projects, my IP, and community outreach and development (COD) days, I rarely found myself working with the same group of people or at the same location two days in a row. In the FireCorps, I work with my roommates every day, sometimes for days at the same site. The general corps also consisted of a multitude of different types of projects, from invasive species removal to shellfishing to puppet shows. In the FireCorps, the service is much more specialized. I like to think of this past year as being divided into four seasons: chainsawing, Barnstable County outreach, pile burning, and prescribed burning.

In addition to a major shift in the nature of service projects, I am also living in a very different spot geographically. Last vear I resided in the very suburban town of Bourne, while this year I live in Wellfleet which is more rural. Last year, I lived in a house provided by Barnstable County. This year, I live in the Wells House right by Marconi Beach on National Park Service property. In Bourne, I lived just a short drive from the bridge to the Massachusetts mainland with Buzzards Bay within walking distance. In Wellfleet, I am much closer to the tip of Cape Cod and the Atlantic Ocean is practically in my backyard.

To say that I love one position more than the other is like comparing apples and oranges. Both have inspired me in ways that I can't even comprehend. I encourage any future members to take advantage of an opportunity to experience the best of both worlds that both the program and Cape Cod have to offer.

A Whale's Tale continued...

stomach may contain nothing – if the animal hasn't eaten in some time perhaps it was alone or weak and wasn't successful in hunting. Another scenario might produce a piece of fishing net from the stomach which indicates the animal had been feeding from fisherman's nets. Analysis of tissues for contaminants may indicate that the animal has been affected by pollution. These are single clues in a collection of evidence which compliment a broader picture of its life and death. All of this is also relevant while making decisions in live-animal standing cases because there is a great deal that cannot be known by external observation alone.

While examining the pilot whale, I was given the role of

photographer and data recorder. Photographs of organs, lesions, wounds etc. are later used in reports, for crossreference, submitted to pathologists, and stored in a growing database of necropsy data. Other staff members were "cutters" responsible for revealing and extracting organs and others were "samplers" who carefully collected small pieces of each organ to label and submit for testing.

To observe, handle and understand the anatomy of such spectacular animals has been a highlight and unique aspect of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod experience. Each necropsy I've assisted in has been remarkable in its own way and evokes more questions than answers. If you were one of the lucky people who had a more interesting drive to work that day on Route 6, imagine if the transport and necropsy of a 4 -ton whale *WAS* your day of work.





Outside the Comfort Zone By Austin Brandt



Members post with volunteers in front of the ramp project.

As a member of AmeriCorps Cape Cod, I feel like I'm an expert in "natural resource management." I've lopped and pulled invasive plants across the Cape, broadcast shellfish in ponds, planted trees, and cleared nature trails. Needless to say, I was a little surprised to find out that the year's service plan for National Volunteer Week wouldn't involve trees or loppers, but wheelchair ramps, drills, boardwalks, chop saws, raised garden beds, and hammers.

We served with the Brewster Department of Natural Resources and Department of Public Works to make buildings and natural areas throughout Brewster accessible for residents and tourists with mobility issues. As a member of the group responsible for planning the event and projects, I felt a little outside of my "comfort zone." Rather than our usual service we would construct and install wheelchair ramps, boardwalks, viewing platforms, and raised garden beds at different sites across Brewster.

This came with a unique set of challenges:

- Funding: Pulling up plants and clearing trails is free, but lumber and materials cost money.
- Experience: Though we had all been through carpentry training, none of us had the experience and expertise necessary to design and construct any of our planned projects.
- Logistics: It's challenging enough getting materials, tools, food, and people to one site it was going to be twelve times more difficult for us.

In terms of funding, we received a grant from the Massachusetts Service Alliance, which Barnstable County generously matched. Cape Associates, Inc. donated lumber for the Council on Aging wheelchair ramp. The Town of Brewster provided partial funding for projects where ours fell short, meaning we secured funds for all of our projects. Food donations were received by ACC to feed volunteers and members. We reached out to local foremen and contractors, who donated their time to help design the project structures, and oversee construction and installation. The Council on Aging ramp design was donated by A3 Architects.

Even with months of prior planning, everything did not run smoothly when the event finally came. Materials were missing or incorrectly ordered, projects ran out of supplies, tools broke, and sites weren't totally prepared on time. Despite these setbacks, AmeriCorps Week was a success, especially when measured in terms of our personal growth. Each of us learned something new during the planning and building process, and as a group, we accomplished things that no previous AmeriCorps Week had.

In the end, the most rewarding part for me was the appreciation of our work from the Brewster community. We heard many times how excited residents were about our projects because they allowed them to do things they had never done before, such as going on the beach in their wheelchair instead of viewing the ocean from the parking lot, or being able to garden without having the ability to bend over. This, along with the constant "Thank you so much for what you're doing!" from passersby while I was working on the Council on Aging wheelchair ramp, helped me realize that AmeriCorps Week may have had the greatest impact on the community of any service I've done with AmeriCorps Cape Cod. Great things can happen when you get out of your comfort zone.

A complete list of National Volunteer Week projects:

- Constructed a wheelchair ramp at the Council on Aging building
- Installed of 12 benches at 6 different Brewster conservation areas
- Constructed a boardwalk and viewing platform at Quivet Marsh
- Installed a MobiMat at the Brewster Whitecaps Field
- Constructed raised garden beds at the Brewster community garden and the Housing Assistance Corporation
- Painted steps at Brewster Ladies' Library and the Whitecaps Field
- Constructed a boardwalk and viewing platform at Linnell Landing
- Cleaned up Latham Centers' properties
- Constructed a boardwalk at Mant's Landing and Long Pond
- Made site improvements at the Grist Mill, Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, and Drummer Boy Park



VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

The Brewster Tag Team By Valerie Falconieri & Mawuenam "Enam" Mensah



Valerie and Enam posing with some of the tools they use in Brewster.

New to AmeriCorps Cape Cod this year is an Individial Placement that is home to two members. We, Mawuenam "Enam" Mensah and Valerie Falconieri, have the privilege of serving together in the lovely town of Brewster with the Department of Natural Resources. This Individual Placement has given us the opportunity to integrate the focus areas of AmeriCorps Cape Cod with the ethic of service in Brewster while working hand-in-hand with community volunteers on various projects.

What stands out to the both of us about serving in Brewster is the dedication of the Brewster Friends of Lands, Aquatics, Trails, and Shellfish (FLATS) volunteer group who help conserve the town's natural resources. If volunteers are needed to install new oyster cages at Mant's Landing shortly after sunrise, FLATS volunteers will be there. If hiking trails need to be cleared in the Punkhorn Parklands after a storm has blown through, FLATS volunteers are the people to call. And of course, FLATS volunteers are a delight to work with. With the help of volunteers we also have begun building and collecting information and photographs to include on new kiosks for conservation areas throughout Brewster.

Most importantly as a result of serving at the Department of Natural Resources and with the FLATS volunteers, we both feel that Brewster has become like a second home. Working on projects ranging from updating the FLATS website and newsletter to helping plan townwide events such as Beautify Brewster and Brewster Conservation Day has made us feel like a part of the community. We have been able to work with admirable FLATS volunteers who all show their dedication to the environment and love of Brewster in varied ways, and as a result, we've come to respect the town of Brewster and everyone who works together to make it a truly unique and special place.

In addition to the volunteer activities, we both value education and believe it is important in order to continue the environmental awareness and service ethic in Brewster. Along with other AmeriCorps volunteers, we've held recycling puppet shows, otherwise known as 'Green Ribbon Puppet shows,' in three Brewster elementary schools. Enam has implemented a shell recycling program with local businesses throughout Brewster. The shell recycling program engages the community to help reduce household waste volumes and encourage Pay-As-You-Throw. Enam has also created a FLATS Facebook page! Val is currently working on recruiting volunteers for the Summer Environmental Volunteer Program geared toward high school students. We were also very involved with "All -Access Brewster" during AmeriCorps Week, working on projects to make conservation areas throughout the town more accessible.

Once this year of service and our Individual Placements in Brewster come to an end, we both know that what we've experienced in Brewster will have a lasting impact on our lives. It is amazing what dedicated volunteers, a strong service ethic, and a love of one's community can accomplish.





Make It a Day On, Not a Day Off **By Amelia Walters**

From day one, the Tuesday Community Outreach and Development Day team was planning the MLK day of Service. We hit the ground running at full force. Food, location, advertising, volunteers, and don't forget the service projects! We were on the phone and emailing people endlessly to make sure it all came together.

The central location was at Mattacheese Middle School in Yarmouth. The "Hub," which we called it, was the

meeting place for the volunteers, where the craft projects were done, and where lunch was served. Our service partners included Cape Abilities, Community Connections in Mashpee, Kindred Elder Care in South Dennis, Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC), Community Action Committee, Safe Harbor, Lyme Disease Health & Wellness Center, AmeriCorps Vista at



Quaglieri, the LeHac House Supervisor who was partaking in the craft area that day. "The variety of crafts utilizing reused/recycled materials was refreshing and provided a good example of ways to keep those items out of the waste stream."

There were 112 volunteers in total. made up of families and younger volunteers who came with different school groups. "I was very impressed with Martin Luther King,

MLK Day of Service volunteers line up to snap a photo before setting off to their service sites for the day.

Cape Cod Community College, Family Pantry of Cape Cod, and Nam Veterans Association of the Cape & Islands.

AmeriCorps members and volunteers re-vamped offices for the NamVets, and painted walls at Safe Harbor, HAC sites, and at the Lyme Disease Health and Wellness Center. Cape Abilities had a project transplanting tomato plants and working in their greenhouses. Deval Patrick, the Governor of Massachusetts, even came out to volunteer at Cape Abilities. A few Girl Scouts went to Kindred Elder Care at Eagle Pond to make craft projects with clients there.

At the "Hub" there were numerous craft projects, such as MLK Quote ornaments and origami to represent the meaning of service to the volunteers. Reused plastic bottle flowers and shell jewelry were donated to Community Connections, an organization which gives opportunities and services to people with disabilities. There was also a winter clothing/coat drive and a knitting corner, both of which

Jr. Day and all of the many volunteers who came out to serve with us. There were so many families that came out to serve including my daughter and five grandsons. It warmed my heart to talk to coach Jonah Shea and his entire youth basketball team, Shea's Youth Basketball, who came out to serve. They love to play basketball at the Barnstable Community Center, but first they serve their community. They came out last year too," said the Director of AmeriCorps Cape Cod, Darlene Johnson-Morris.

donated items to the Family Pantry of Cape Cod.

individuals with an interest or strength in crafting to

"Having an indoor, slower-paced option allowed for

participate and get creative. The variety of art projects to

busy, too! I enjoyed it because it was well organized, but still pretty free-formed and informal," said Brittany

choose from in the craft area kept the children in attendance

As AmeriCorps members, we are fortunate to serve all of the time, but sometimes we forget the real meaning of service. Having a service day like this fosters member reflection on what it means to serve others. MLK Day 2014 was a success. Our binder of information for next year's members is complete. Remember to keep MLK's spirit of service within you.





Prepping the Next Generation of Volunteers: Canal Clean Up 2014 By Clare Murphy-Hagan

April 19th 2014 marked the 14th annual Canal Clean Up lead by AmeriCorps Cape Cod and hosted by the Army Corps of Engineers.

While I should probably tell you about the 150 recruited volunteers that participated, the mountain of bags full of trash removed from the 7 mile stretch of the eastern side of the Canal, the five education booths and Falmouth fiddlers group all arranged by AmeriCorps, or the absurd amount of What is a rain garden? Why are plants important? Why would we put a rain garden in this location? How should we arrange the plants given their wetness tolerance? What is a berm and why would we want one? These were all questions I asked the girls as we sat in a circle next to our plot. Their eager answers reflected intelligence and pride, and I knew the day would be a success.

The new rain garden at Buzzards Bay Recreation Area,

group all arrang food provided for volunteers thanks to the AmeriCorps donations team, I want to focus on a smaller part of the day. More specifically on the group of 8 pint-sized girl scouts from Mashpee.

When I agreed to take on a second grade Girl Scout troop as the volunteers for creating a rain garden, I neglected to think about the



which features an earth berm and 15 plants was not the only success of the

the day. Boston University's Global Day of Service participants also worked up a sweat installing fencing and grading walkways, and AmeriCorps members put up informational signage and led volunteers in invasive

Girl Scouts pose next to their completed rain garden located at Buzzards Bay Recreation Area.

size of a typical second grader. When it dawned on me later that none of my volunteers would be taller than the tools they were expected to use, I entered a slight state of alarm. However, one of the qualities of an AmeriCorps member is the ability to lead in a dynamic environment. Therefore, without missing a beat I changed my mentality towards the day's task. It was no longer about

getting the job done but rather making sure that at the end of the day those girls walked away with more knowledge than they arrived with and a positive attitude toward community service. Thus my role transitioned from foreman to educator.

removal and beautification projects. Enjoying the day's gorgeous weather, community volunteers gathered trash all along the canal and the Bournedale Trail.

While you can measure the day through projects completed and bags of trash filled, the true goal of Canal Clean Up is to encourage the public to take pride in their community through volunteerism. I know those girl scouts took pride in that rain garden, and I have faith that it will inspire them to do future acts of community service.





Scout Fair By Sumi Selvaraj and Mary Lynn Scott

Are you prepared for an emergency? The Boy and Girl Scouts of Cape Cod certainly are after attending the 7th Annual Scout Emergency Preparedness Fair that was held at The Parish of Christ the King in Mashpee on January 25th, 2014. Each year, AmeriCorps Cape Cod and the American Red Cross Cape Cod and Islands Chapter partner together to organize the Scout Fair to teach Boy and Girl Scouts about various emergency preparedness topics. The Scout Fair allows Boy and Girl Scouts of Cape Cod to earn merits toward specific badge requirements, such as the Ready Man Badge and the Junior Girl Scout Safety Badge. In order to earn the requirements, the scouts rotate through fifteen different activity stations taught by community volunteers and AmeriCorps members. At these stations, scouts learned about basic first aid, bicycle and car safety, swim safety, disaster preparedness kits, and fire escape plans. Overall, AmeriCorps succeeded in engaging over 80 Boy and Girl Scouts in addition to about 20 parents.

This year, two AmeriCorps Cape Cod members serving at the American Red Cross—Mary Lynn and Sumi—planned and organized the Scout Fair. Both of these members secured donations, found a space for the event, conducted outreach to the Cape Cod Boy and Girl Scouts, prepared the activities, and recruited volunteers for the event. Key sponsors included Stop and Shop for snacks and the Parish of Christ the King in Mashpee, which donated the space for the event. All of the activities were run by AmeriCorps members and volunteers from the Mashpee Fire Department and American Red Cross Disaster environmental education. In exchange, many AmeriCorps Cape Cod members enjoy interacting directly with community for a change from weekly service projects that have less public engagement. It is crucial for AmeriCorps Cape Cod to continue its involvement with the community through events like the Annual Scout Emergency Preparedness Fair because they increase the resiliency of Cape Cod by preparing local Boy and Girl Scouts for all types of emergencies.



Members teach scouts about having an escape route in case of an emergency.

Action Team, who brought an Emergency Response Vehicle to the fair.

The driving force of AmeriCorps members has made this annual event a success and well-known among many Cape Cod Boy and Girl Scout troops who now rely on this event to help their scouts complete emergency preparedness badge requirements. The Scout Fair event increases the community's awareness of AmeriCorps Cape Cod's disaster preparedness and response initiatives, which are often overshadowed by the program's successes in natural resource management and



Scouts and parents moving through the stations at the Scout Fair.





AmeriCorps Residence, Bourne



Teaticket Park, Falmouth



Meetinghouse Farm, Barnstable



Highland Center, Truro



Taylor Bray Farm, Yarmouth

TOGETHER UE GROU 15 YEARS • 15 TOWNS • 15 TREES

ARBOR DAY TREE PLANTING PROJECT

During the week of Arbor Day, AmeriCorps members planted trees in all 15 towns on Cape Cod. The trees were planted in commemoration of both Arbor Day and the 15th Anniversary of AmeriCorps Cape Cod.

Members spent three days traveling around Cape Cod planting trees and ending the day with service at the County Tree Farm. The trees for the project were purchased from the Barnstable County Cooperative Extension's shade tree nursery. Trees were transported with trucks borrowed from the Barnstable County Cooperative Extension and Facilities Department.



Shore Rd, Chatham



Talbots Point, Sandwich

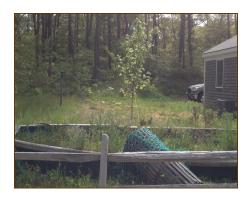


Lee Baldwin Woods, Harwich





Hamblen Park, Wellfleet



Conservation office, Eastham



Uncle Harveys Landing, Orleans

These project could not have been done without the support of the numerous service partners who contributed including:

Provincetown Conservation Commission Cape Cod National Seashore Planning Department Wellfleet Conservation Commission Eastham Department of Natural Resources Orleans Tree Department Brewster Department of Natural Resources Chatham Conservation Foundation Harwich Conservation Trust Dennis Department of Natural Resources Taylor Bray Farm Association Meetinghouse Farm Sandwich Department of Natural Resources Mashpee Conservation Department 300 Committee



Veterans Community Center, *Provincetown*





Shoop Community Garden, Dennis



Town Hall, Brewster



Pickerel Cove, Mashpee



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The staff of the Resource Development Office is comprised of four full-time Resource Development Officers who both write grant proposals and manage awarded grant funds. Specifically, these Resource Development Officers:

- ◊ Manage grant funds and other fiscal allocations received by the departments within Barnstable County.
- Provide county departments and local municipalities skilled assistance in researching, requesting and acquiring grants and other needed assets.
- ◊ Coordinate regional projects including the development, implementation and management of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program.

Examples of projects developed in FY13:

For FY 13 the Resource Development Office developed over 25 grant proposals requesting over \$2.7 million dollars in funds and receiving over \$1.2 million in awards for the county of Barnstable, yielding a success rate of over 40%.

- The Community Innovative Challenge Program, which funded a Great White Shark Research and Outreach program for the Town of Orleans and engaging (9) other towns on Cape Cod.
- Toxic Use Reduction Institute, which involves development and distribution of an educational suite to all MA towns regarding hazards in art supplies by Barnstable County Cooperative Extension.
- The Executive Office of Elder Affairs, which provides Barnstable County Human Services with a staff member devoted to assisting elderly residents in procuring Medicare benefits and coverage.
- The Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, for support to the Yarmouth Recreation Department in completing Phase II of the Flax Pond Recreation Area Restoration.
- Orleans Green Week, as part of The Massachusetts Service Alliance National Volunteer Week program, which allowed AmeriCorps Cape Cod to partner with over 20 local organizations in offering a collaborative week of service learning to the community of Orleans, including a major ecological restoration project on the grounds of the Nauset Regional Middle School.
- The Cape Cod Foundation, which provided funding for supplies and equipment to be used during AmeriCorps Week 2013 "Mission Mashpee," a week-long series of environmental education and restoration projects hosted by AmeriCorps Cape Cod in partnership with the Town or Mashpee Conservation Commission.
- The Massachusetts Service Alliance Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service, which supported a range of programming supporting veterans and individuals with developmental disabilities.

Examples of projects managed in FY14:

During FY14 the Resource Development Office successfully managed more than 50 contract and grant awards, totaling more than \$2.75 million in federal, state, local, and private funds.

- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Sea Grant Extension Program, which provides technical assistance to users of our region's marine and coastal resources while promoting wise utilization and conservation.
- US EPA Lyme Disease Study, which focuses on infection prevalence, vector population control and wildlife host visitation at deer feeding station sites on Cape Cod and the Islands.
- MA DEP Sustainable Material Recovery Program, which funds a Regional Waste Reduction Planner who provides technical assistance on waste reduction to Cape Cod municipalities.
- Prevention Wellness Trust Fund, which is a Prevention Network to identify and better manage the health concerns such as hypertension, diabetes, and risk of falls for adults and seniors.
- University of Massachusetts at Lowell's Hidden Hazards in the Art Studio grant, which provides funding to disseminate information to the public about art toxins through training workshops and a multi-media educational suite.
- Share Our Strength's Cooking Matters at the Store, which teaches healthy cooking, nutrition, and food budgeting to families at the US Coast Guard's Air Station Cape Cod.
- Mass in Motion, a project funded by the CDC, which helps expand efforts that relate to healthy eating and active living, as well as the promotion of healthy and safe physical environments.
- National Volunteer Week All-Access Brewster, which was a week of service funded by the Massachusetts Service Alliance (MSA) that engaged volunteers to make buildings and natural areas throughout Brewster accessible for residents and tourists with mobility issues.
- The Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, funded by the MSA, which recruited volunteers from the community to participate in activities reflecting on the "Meaning of Service."

The Resource Development Office also underwent some staffing changes during FY14. Philip Burt moved to a new position in the County Health and Environment Department. In the fall Fran Weidman-Dahl was hired as a new Resource Development Officer, focusing on financial management. While, in the spring, Katherine Garofoli moved on to a new position outside the County. As a result, the extensive grant writing assistance we typically offer has become temporarily limited, pending a return to full staffing levels during FY15.











Thursday, July 31, 2014

9am - 12pm • Year 15 Graduation @ Cape Cod Community College; Barnstable 7pm - 10pm • Bonfire & "Banana Boats" @ Sandy Neck Beach; Barnstable

Friday, August 1

10am - 2pm	Alumni Day of Service @ Meeting House Farm; Barnstable
	 Rock Garden Restoration (Family Friendly)
3pm - 5pm	• Service Appreciation Afternoon Picnic @ Taylor-Bray Farm; Yarmouth

Saturday, August 2

	 Open Houses; Bourne & Wellfleet ACC Opening Reception
, ,	"Together We Grow: 15 Years, 15 Towns, 15 Trees"
	@ Salt Pond Visitor Center; Eastham
	 Refreshments & Guest Speakers
8pm - 10pm	Bonfire & Smores @ Coast Guard Beach; Eastham

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Sunday, August 3

Enjoy the Cape your way!



AmeriCorps Cape Cod is 15 celebrating years of service to Barnstable County beginning July 31, 2014 with the graduation of its current corps members. After welcoming this group into the circle of alumni, AmeriCorps Cape Cod will host a series of alumni activities including a day of service at Meetinghouse Farm in which returning alumni will assist in the restoration of a perennial rock garden, as well as an art exhibition that will take place in collaboration with Cape Cod National Seashore at the Salt Pond Visitor Center. The exhibit titled "Together We Grow: 15 Years, 15 Towns, 15 Trees" commemorates the strong community partnership the program has formed with each town in Barnstable County and represents a series of 15 trees that were part of the 2014 Arbor Day initiative across the region. In gratitude for the years of support the event will honor the many alumni, service community partners and that have sponsors contributed to 15 years of programmatic success.





David Agger, Wellfleet Cemetery Commissioners Kristin Andres, Town of Chatham Dept of Health & Environment Red Bansfield, Barnstable Land Trust Maggie Brown, Eastham Elementary School Dick Hilmer, Eastham Department of Ryan Burch, Brewster Dept. of Natural Resources Matt Cannon, Harwich Conservation Trust Peter Carlow, Eastham Dept. of Natural Resources Brian Carlson, Provincetown Conservation Commission Nancy Church, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Dan Connolly, Orleans Highway Department Robert Cook, Cape Cod National Seashore David Crary, Jr., Cape Cod National Seashore Annie Curtis, Massachusetts Army National Guard Ron Dangemi, Lyme Awareness Center Dave DeConto, Sandwich Dept. of Natural Resources Justin DeForest, Cape Cod National Seashore Dick Delaney, Red Lily Pond Association Inc. Judy Desrochers, Meetinghouse Farm Lynn Donovan, Mattacheese Middle School Diane Driscoll, Laurel School Alex Etkind, The 300 Committee Brian Everett, Dennis Dept. of Natural Resources Mark Faherty, Wellfleet Mass Audubon Amy Fleischer, Wellfleet Mass Audubon Bay Wildlife Sanctuary Danise Fronius, Stonybrook Elementary School **Renee Gagne**, Chatham Shellfishing Mark Galkowski, Sandwich Dept. of Natural Resources Patty Gardiner, Barnstable Intermediate School Katherine Garofoli, Dennis Conservation Trust Ilona Geiss, Falmouth Service Center Kathleen Giorgio, Dream Day of Cape Cod Hilary Greenberg-Lemos, Wellfleet Health and Conservation Department CT Harry, International Fund for Animal

Welfare George Heufelder, Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment Trish Hill, Oak Ridge School Natural Resources Don Hoffer, Falmouth Beach Department Rachel Hutchinson, Chatham Shellfish Dept. Betty Hyde-McGuire, Mattacheese Middle School Bill Iacuessa, State of Wellfleet Harbor **Conference** Committee Kate Iaquinto, Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge John Jannell, Orleans Conservation Dept. Bill Keto, Mary Barton Land Trust Allison Kochen, SPAT "Shellfish Promoting And Tasting" Michael Lach, Harwich Conservation Trust Diane Lang, The Trustees of Reservation Donna Lawson, Marstons Mills Public Library Krista Lee, Cape Cod National Seashore Liz Lewis, Orenda Wildlife Land Trust Scott Lindell, Marine Biological Laboratory Mike Maguire, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension Cathy Marques, Town of Falmouth Public Works Joseph Marshall, Barnstable Dept. Public Works Tom Marcotti, Barnstable Shellfish Department Cynthia McCann, Bourne Middle School James McCarthy, Dennis Conservation Trust Lauren McKean, Cape Cod National Seashore Drew McManus, Mashpee Dept. of Natural Resources Kelly Medeiros, Cape Cod National Seashore Scott Michaud, Cape Cod Commission Chris Miller, Brewster Dept. of Natural Resources Hal Minis, Brewster Conservation Trust Erin Mitchell, Wellfleet Elementary School

Susan Moeller, Woodside Elementary School Martin Murphy, Taylor Bray Farm Josh Nigro, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Sean O'Brien, Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment Dennis O'Connell, Wellfleet Conservation Trust Joe O'Keefe, South Shore YMCA Camp Burgess & Hayward Andrea Pluhar, Wellfleet Recycling Committee Deirdre Portnoy, Wellfleet Historical Society & Museum Rachel Potts, American Red Cross John Pribella, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Heinz Proft, Harwich Natural Resources Dept. Dave Quinn, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension Kris Ramsay, Orleans Conservation Trust Karen Reddish, Nauset Regional School Cathy Riebeshel, Falmouth School District Sally Rutledge, Monomoy School District Scott Schluter, Falmouth DPW Tim Seeth, Friends of Monomoy Kate Shaffer, National Marine Life Center Lara Slifka, Chatham Department of Health & Environment Francis Smith, Trout Unlimited Matt Spears, Cape Cod National Seashore Karen Stapleton, Forestdale Elementary School Brenda Swain, Falmouth Service Center Nicole Taylor, Cape Cod National Seashore Amy Usowski, Harwich Dept. of Conservation Lydia Vivante, Wellfleet Recycling Committee Renee Voorhees, Marstons Mills Public Library Patty Watson, The Family Pantry Jamie Whiddon, Quashnet Elementary School John Yonce, Hostelling International Richard York, Jr., Mashpee Shellfish Department Amy Zahn, Boy Scouts of America, Cape Cod & Islands Council



INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENTS

BOURNE HOUSE

American Red Cross—Cape Cod and Islands Chapter Education Coordinator

Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment Wastewater Treatment Researcher

Barnstable County, Regional Emergency Planning Committee Emergency Preparedness Assistant

Barnstable Growth Management Department Coastal Access and Ways to Water Project Coordinator

Barnstable Marine & Environmental Affairs Shellfish Propagation Specialist

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension WET Fest Coordinator and Hazardous Waste Assistant

International Fund for Animal Welfare Education and Outreach Coordinator

National Marine Life Center Marine Animal Rehabilitation and Environmental Education Assistant

Sandwich Department of Natural Resources Conservation Lands Stewardship Coordinator

Town of Falmouth Public Works Storm Water Education

Town of Mashpee Shellfish Department Shellfish/Water Quality Restoration Specialist

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Cape Cod Canal Natural Resource Specialist

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Environmental Education Assistant

WELLS HOUSE

Cape Cod National Seashore FireCorps

LE HAC HOUSE

American Red Cross Education Coordinator

Brewster Department of Natural Resources (Two placements) Community Outreach and Projects of Critical Concern Specialist

Cape Cod National Seashore Air and Water Quality Laboratory Intern

Cape Cod National Seashore Fire Management and Park Safety Placement

Cape Cod National Seashore Hydrology Monitoring Assistant

Cape Cod National Seashore Planning Assistant

Mass Audubon, Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary Ecological Research Assistant

Orleans Conservation Trust Land Stewardship and Community Outreach Coordinator

Orleans Tree Department Orleans Tree Inventory and Arboriculture Intern

Town of Chatham Conservation Land Stewardship Coordinator

Town of Chatham Shellfish Department Chatham Coastal Shellfish Survey

Town of Harwich Conservation Department and Harwich Conservation Trust Outreach and Stewardship Assistant

Town of Provincetown, Conservation Commission Project Coordinator for Health and Environmental Affairs

Wellfleet Health and Conservation Department and Wellfleet Conservation Trust Conservation Lands Stewardship Coordinator





<u>Barnstable</u>

County Tree Nursery Rehabilitation

Assisted with planting, pruning, thinning nursery stock and removing invasive vegetation.

725 Main St Community Garden Preparation

Removed the overgrown plots to make room for a community garden that will take its place in summer 2014. The hope is that these garden plots will be utilized by community members.

Fuller Farm Invasive Removal

Removed invasive species that were encroaching on a rare grassland habitat.

Long Pond Community Garden Winterization

Prepped beds for the winter season by digging bulbs, spreading mulch, cutting back invasive growth, taking down fencing, and stacking brush.

Long Pond Burn

The brush and invasive species that were stacked during the previous project were burned by a combination of members from all three houses.

East Bay Day Lilly Preparation

The Barnstable Land Trust utilized Bourne to remove invasive species from the edge of a pond. Later in the spring, volunteers planted over 1,000 day lilies to stabilize the bank with native pollinating flower species.

SUNI Sands Maintenance

The Coastal Mitigation Nursery was cleaned and pruned back for the winter by the Bourne House. This former AmeriCorps week project provides beach grass and native plants for Barnstable.

Estey Ave Dune Planting The newly created dune off of Estey Ave was planted with grass that the Bourne House harvested from SUNI Sands.

Eagle Pond Erosion Control

Eased erosion at Eagle Pond by carving a strategically positioned trail around native plants they planted in place of the old trail.

Marstons Mills Public Library Wildland Reclamation Began the process of removing an area of invasive species outside the library to provide useable space to the public.

Barnstable Shellfishing

Served with the Barnstable Department of Marine and Environmental Affairs to propagate shellfish, repair damaged equipment and perform general shellfish maintenance tasks.

Tree Blitz

Taught middle school students about soil, invasive plants and planting seeds.

Bourne

Bournedale Herring Run Cleaned out the Bournedale Herring run with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Sagamore Hill Restoration Selectively cut trees and removed invasive species from around the gun stations and surrounding trails.

Mashnee Dike Grassland Restoration Bourne members cut back scrub oak and cherry trees to allow for the grassland habitat to flourish.

Brewster

All-Access Brewster Built accessible boardwalks, ramps and viewing platforms for multiple conservation and recreation areas in Brewster.

Beautify Brewster Picked up debris on beaches and other town properties.

Brewster Conservation Day Helped with event logistics and taught environmental education lessons.

Mother's Bog and Hawksnest Park Removed small saplings at both sites to restore grassland habitat.

Upper and Lower Mill Pond Members cleared debris from herring run to help remediate stream conditions for spring herring run.

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

Tubman Farm Members removed invasive plants from property.

Quivett Marsh Removed invasive plants from property.

Windmill Meadow Removed invasive plants from property.

Punkhorns Parkland Cut back vegetation along fire roads in park.

Nickerson State Park Cut back vegetation along fire roads in park.

Chatham

Served with the Chatham Conservation trust to remove invasive species from the Flagship Property in Chatham.





Forest Beach Removed invasive plants.

Chatham Aquaculture Assisted with shellfish cage repair, shellfish broadcasting, and the spring and fall oyster culls.

Sylvan Gardens Removed invasive plants and cleared trails.

Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge Members assisted with horseshoe crab tagging and a beach cleanup.

Book and Media Swap Assisted with logistics at event.

Recycle Fest Taught environmental education lessons.

Tern Island Members helped create tern nesting areas.

Monomoy Tern Census A tern census was conducted on Monomoy Island to determine the number of nesting terns on the island.

Dennis

Sandy Pond Created a one mile loop trail at the Sandy Pond recreation area and created a new parking lot.

Osprey Pole Construction Raised an Osprey pole with the Dennis Conservation Trust.

Blackfoot Way Maintenance Removed invasive species from the roadway, bucked up a fallen trees, and enhanced the existing trail system.

Blueberry Patch Maintenance Maintained the blueberry patch located off of Fieldstone Avenue in Dennis.

Scargo Tower maintenance Removed invasive species from the Scargo Tower property and performed other general maintenance activities.

Princess Beach Cleared brush in order to reduce fuel load.

<u>Eastham</u>

Aquaculture Assisted with the fall oyster cull.

Hostel International Removed invasive plants and clear trails. Sandy Meadow Removed invasive plants from property.

Wiley Park Cleared brush to help improve trail access.

Herring Brook Removed debris from stream to improve herring run.

Falmouth

Falmouth Service Center Prepped the garden beds for winter, removed an old fence, and mulched the pathways in between the garden beds. General maintenance was performed on the grounds and in the butterfly garden.

300 Committee Invasive Removal The Dupee Parcel was cleared of invasive species through the combined efforts of the Bourne and Wells house.

Trout Unlimited Brush cut large sections of the Quashnet River and stacked the brush on the shore to create new banks. Trees were planted along the river for water temperature regulation.

Sandplain Grassland Restoration Restored grassland habitat at the Coonamessett reservation by burning brush piles as well as the invasive species that were pulled.

Matthew Souza Property Removed brush to help restore habitat to a meadow.

Coonamessett Preserve Removed brush to help maintain field habitat.

Frances Crane Wildlife Sanctuary Assisted MA Fish and Wildlife with a prescribed burn.

Harwich

Thompson's Field Removed woody vegetation to help restore the area to Sand-plain Grassland.

The Harwich Family Pantry Prepped garden beds for the winter season as well as performed general maintenance around the perimeter of the property.

Herb Day Assisted with event logistics.

Herring Run Removed debris to help clear herring run.

Town Beach Cleanup Worked with community volunteers to do a town-wide beach cleanup.

Lee Baldwin Woods Removed invasive plants from the property.







Live Wolf Show Assisted with the set-up and running of the Live Wolf Show for community members.

Harwich Aquaculture Center Helped winterize shellfish propagation facilities.

Owl Show Assisted with event logistics.

The Family Pantry Served in the garden, weeding, harvesting, painting, and installing fruit tree supports.

Thompsons Field Removed trees to help restore sand plain grasslands.

Orleans

Uncle Harvey's Town Landing Removed invasive plants from property.

Meredith's Canyon Removed invasive plants from a restoration area.

Orleans Elementary School Cleared brush to increase visibility for student safety reasons.

Orleans Watershed Removed brush to improve emergency vehicle access. Members also performed a prescribed burn to remove hazard fuels.

Mauch Gift Removed invasive plants from site.

Namequoit Bog Cleared vegetation and helped improve water flow in bog.

Nauset Beach Planted beach grass to combat erosion.

Sea Call Farm Helped remove invasive vegetation and clear vista.

Whites Lane Removed invasive plants from property.

Mashpee

Popponesset Bay Oyster Maintenance Opened over 300 cultch bags that had been placed in the river by past AmeriCorps members.

Mashpee River Woodlands Pruned trails and removed hazard trees.

Herring Run Cleanups The Mashpee, Quashnet, and Santuit Rivers were cleared of debris by the Bourne house. Pine Barren Maintenance The Mashpee Pine Barrens were cleared of illegal dumping

Besse Bog and Fitch Parcel Trail Building Created two new trails through the Besse Bog and Fitch Parcels.

Emergency Preparedness Scout Fair Boy and Girl Scouts were taught strategies to handle disasters that occur at home and in the environment, earning the scouts their respective preparedness badges.

Santuit Pond Cleanup Removed debris and other trash from the shore and shallow underwater areas.

Noisy Hole, Jehu Pond, and Harry Desrosier Parcel Maintenance Performed minor trail maintenance and debris cleanup.

Little River Oyster Maintenance Opened cultch bags and spread the oyster seeds into trays along the Mashpee River.

Provincetown

B Street Garden Assisted in garden maintenance.

Hawthorne Property Removed invasive plants from site.

Shank Painter Pond Planted native plants at site.

Sandwich

Lowell Holly Maintenance Removed dangerous widow-makers, chipped the debris, and spread chips around a small parking area.

Mill Creek Herring Run Restoration Cleaned the herring run, performed trail maintenance, and removed invasive species.

Sandwich Oyster Cage Cleaning Removed the three-tier oyster cages from the mud, separated the dead from the live oysters and replanted the cages in the water.

Camp Burgess and Hayward Maintenance The entire Corps worked at the South Shore YMCA to help maintain existing trails, build new trails, as well as prep an area for a future high ropes course.

Massachusetts Military Reservation Assisted with a prescribed burn.





Wellfleet

Hamblen Park Removed brush to create a scenic vista.

Canoe Rack Construction Built canoe and kayak racks for the Town of Wellfleet Beach and Conservation Department.

Duck Creek Cemetery Cleanup Removed brush and picked up debris.

Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Removed woody plants to restore heathland habitat.

OysterFest Recycling Team Helped direct festival attendees to recycling stations.

State of the Wellfleet Harbor Conference Assisted with Conference logistics.

<u>Yarmouth</u>

Woodside Cemetery Tree Planting Planted trees to replace those that were destroyed over the 2012-2013 winter.

Cape Cod National Seashore

Highland Center Cleanup Assisted with various maintenance tasks and planted native plants.

Ponds Project Installed jute netting to combat erosion, built split rail fences, and planted native plants at various ponds in Wellfleet.

Marconi Site Helped improve site access.

Highlands Fest Painted a mural and helped with event logistics.

Chequessett Neck Removed and pile burned invasive brush.

Pilgrim Springs Assisted in prescribed burn in order to enhance native habitat.

Griffin Island Assisted in prescribed burn.

Little Creek Picnic Area Assisted in prescribed burn.

Marconi Heathlands and Site Removed brush and assisted in prescribed burn to help enhance heathland habitat. Old Kings Highway Cut back vegetation on fire roads to improve emergency vehicle access.

Doane Rock Assisted with prescribed burn operations and pile burned to help enhance native habitat and site accessibility.

Fort Hill Helped with prescribed burn in order to maintain native field habitat.

Penniman House Cut brush and removed storm damaged trees in order to create a scenic vista.

Three Sisters Lighthouse Removed hazard trees and cleared brush in order to improve site accessibility.

Nauset Light Removed brush to improve site accessibility.

Tomahawk trail Removed vegetation to improve emergency vehicle access.

Salt Pond Visitor Center Removed vegetation to restore field habitat.

White Cedar Swamp Removed brush to improve site accessibility.

Truro Research Plots Assisted with a prescribed burn and cut treatments of research plots.

McCarthy, Stevens, Le Hac, and Barros House Removed vegetation around Seashore housing to reduce fire risk to building.

Highland Center Removed vegetation from around buildings to reduce fire risk to buildings.





WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU

Project Donations

Bagels & Beyond Box Lunch British Beer Company - Hyannis Cabo Cado, Vinnie Arnone Cape Cod Bagel Cape Cod Potato Chips Coca-Cola Company Cottage Street Bakery **Crock Nurseries** Dunkin Donuts - Hyannis Hot Chocolate Sparrow Idgy's Jack's Pizza Late July Mahoney's Mike's Pizza Nirvana Coffee Pinocchio's Pizza & More Shaw's Supermarket Starbucks - Buzzards Bay Stop and Shop - Dennis Stop and Shop - Hyannis Stop and Shop - Orleans Stop and Shop - South Yarmouth True Value - Orleans

<u>Member Trainers</u>

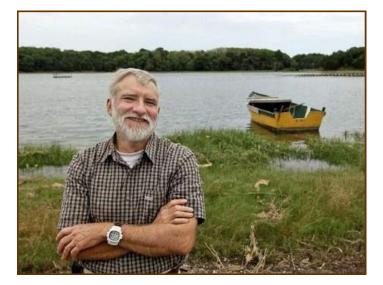
Alex Etkind American Red Cross Becky Alden Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps Dave Crary Gene Tully Jane Hoppe Jeffrey Rolke Joseph Daigle Justin DeForest Katherine Garofoli Larry Dapsis Liz Leory Margaret Tomseque Matt Loo Maura Weir Michael T. Whalen Nancy Church **Rachel Hutchinson Richard Porter Russ Norton** Tom Marcotti Jean Roma Philip Burt

THANK YOU!

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We will never be able to say good-bye to a person like Henry Lind. The AmeriCorps Cape Cod Program would not be what it is today without his soft-spoken guidance, dedication, direction, and service for fifteen years as a member of our Advisory Board. Henry retired after 34 years as the Director of Natural Resources, Shellfish Constable and Harbormaster with the Town of Eastham. He is a legend among those who work for and care about

Cape Cod's environmental health. Henry wore many hats over the years besides



Director of Natural Resources. He sat on multiple boards besides the AmeriCorps Advisory Board, including the state and

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county shellfish associations. He started the Eastham Conservation Foundation in 1978 and has served as its president ever since. When it comes to Getting Things Done, making a difference in our community, community service, and service as a solution there is no one who could better reflect a life of service than Henry. His life of service cannot be matched. We will miss you so much Henry. We will say thank you, but not goodbye!





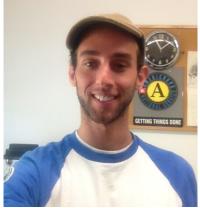
Katherine (Beauchamp) Garofoli

Katherine served as an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member from 2006-07. She worked with the Massachusetts Audubon-Coastal Waterbird Program in 2007-08 and also as a Project Specialist with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod from 2007-11. In June of 2011, Katherine began her work as a grant manager and grant writer for the Barnstable County Resource Development Office. Katherine served as the fiscal manager of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod Program and also brought in over a million dollars in grants. Katherine is now serving as the Administrator of the Dennis Conservation Trust. Katherine will be sorely missed and we are truly grateful for her hard work and dedication to the success of the Resource Development Office and AmeriCorps Cape Cod.

Erik Boyer

Erik Boyer served as a member of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod Program for two years from 2009-10 and 2010-11. Erik's outstanding service was recognized by the our state commission, the Massachusetts Service Alliance. In 2012, Erik returned as the Program Supervisor in Wellfleet. He worked for one year as the Wellfleet Program Supervisor and this past year was the Program Supervisor for the Wells House. Erik, a certified arborist, will be working as a Conservation Intern with the Department of Natural Resources in Dennis





Adam DeVito

From 2012-13, Adam served as an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member. He lived in the Bourne house and served with the American Red Cross. Adam joined the ACC staff as Bourne Program Supervisor for Year 15. Adam will be traveling to Ecuador with Mike Sousa to learn about permaculture, organic farming, yoga, and meditation.

Mike Sousa

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Mike Sousa served as an AmeriCorps Cape Cod member for two years in 2011-12 and 2012-13. During his second year he served as member leader at the LeHac House. Mike then joined the ACC staff as Program Specialist for Community Outreach and Development (COD) Day. From here, Mike will be traveling to Ecuador with Adam DeVito to learn about permaculture, organic farming, yoga, and meditation.



REPORT EDITED AND COMPILED BY:

Brittany Quaglieri WRITINGS BY:

Amelia Walters, Clare Murphy-Hagan, Austin Brandt, Victoria Brisson, Anja Hogan, Elizabeth Migliore, Sumi Selvaraj, Mary Lynn Scott, Lindsey Zemler, Valerie Falconieri, Mawenam Mensah, Kristy Grace

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Darlene Johnson Morris and the rest of the Resource Development and AmeriCorps Cape Cod staff for their assistance in gathering information, writing articles and proofreading the final document.







Barnstable County Resource Development Office AmeriCorps Cape Cod PO Box 427 3195 Main St. Barnstable, MA 02630 (508) 375-6869 americorps@barnstablecounty.org www.americorpscapecod.org